

A Note on Ear Lobe Attachment Among The Kaibartas of Assam, India

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KEY WORDS Ear Lobe Attachment. Kaibarta. Scheduled Caste. Assam.

ABSTRACT Among Kaibartas of Assam, frequency of ear lobe attachment is observed 51.47 per cent among males and 42.95 per cent in females. They are showing intermediate position between population with Caucasoid affinities (low frequency of attached ear lobe) and Mongoloid affinities (high frequency of attached ear lobe type).

INTRODUCTION

The earlobe types, at first were studied by Hilden in 1922. Since then a number of studies on ear lobe attachment among various populations have been reported from India (Bhasin et al., 1992). A few studies are available on this trait from North East India in different populations. In the present study an attempt has been made to study the frequency of ear lobe attachment among Kaibartas of Assam.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

In the present study the variation of ear lobe attachment among the Kaibarta (Scheduled Caste of Assam) have been made. The present data was collected from various hamlets of Assam in 1989. The total number tested for the study was 757 persons out of which 375 were males and 382 were females.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The frequency of attached ear lobe type is high in Kaibarta males (51.47%) as compared to females (42.93%) but statistically sex differences are not significant (Table 1).

Table 1: Frequency of ear lobe attachment

Population	Sex	No.	Attached	
			No.	Per cent
Kaibarta	Male	375	193	51.47
	Female	382	164	42.93
Total		757	357	47.16

From various studies reported from Assam, it has been observed that the frequency of attached ear lobe is high among Kaibartas as compared to Baishya (24.20%, Deka and Das, 1973), Kumar (18.90%, Das and Ghosh, 1970), Brahmin, Kalita and Keot (20.60%, 22.22% and 18.10%, respectively, Deka and Das, 1973), Suri (21.00%, Das and Deka, 1960), Rajbanshi (26.00%, Das, 1967), Goria, Maria and Bihari (21.15%, 24.62% and 19.83%, respectively, Das, 1978-79), and Kalita (23.30%, Das, 1964) but low when compared with Deuri (66.00%, Sharma, 1962), Lalung (60.00%, Das and Sharma, 1968), Mishing (53.91%, Sengupta, 1981), Ahom (62.00%, Dutta, 1979), Sema Naga (63.00%, Phookan and Begum, 1976) and Miri (53.00%, Sharma, 1961) which show that Kaibartas are falling in between among the population groups with Caucasoid and Mongoloid affinities.

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