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Reproductive Fitness and Selection Intensity Among Muslims of North India

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ABSTRACT North Indian Muslim populations occupy a position of historical, linguistic, and socio-religious significance in the Indian sub-continent, having a prehistoric and medieval intermixture of various ethnic groups. While the political dimensions of the demographic transition is still relevant, a genetic study of these populations can throw light on their origin, migration and selection forces operative in the region. We have reported incidence of marriage, reproductive fitness, reproductive wastage and selection intensity among women of high rank Muslims (Ashraf) and low rank Muslims (Ajlaf) by retrospective method. Significant effect of consanguinity and maternal age are also seen on fertility, mortality sterility and secondary sex ratio of the offspring. MAVA revealed significant F ratio on fertility, mortality and secondary sex ratio.