

## **Growth Progression in Physical and Physiological Variables Among Jalaris of Visakhapatnam District, Andhra Pradesh**

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**KEY WORDS** Jalari. Physical Growth. Stature. Body Weight. Blood Pressure. Pulse Rate. Andhra Pradesh.

**ABSTRACT** A cross sectional study was undertaken on 834 jalari boys and 852 jalari girls aged between 0+ to 18+ years in urban schools situated in Visakhapatnam district of Andhra Pradesh (South India) during August 2000 to July 2001. In this paper data on body weight, stature, head, chest, abdominal, upper arm and calf circumferences and skin folds at triceps, biceps, sub scapular, supra iliac, abdominal, anterior thigh, medial calf, forearm sites and blood pressures are presented including patterns of change in these physical and physiological traits with advancement of age. It has been observed that there is progressively accelerating trend in all the dimensions with advancement in age except skin folds. The study reveals the highest peak velocity of girls (12+ and 13+) is attained earlier by two years than boys (14+ and 16+ years). Blood Pressure and pulse rate increased with advancement in age with few fluctuations. Analysis of the data reveals that all the measurements show significant differences by sex according to age. jalari boys and girls are taller and heavier than ICMR (1984) National standards. The findings of the study can be used as reference materials for jalarii boys and girls of Visakhapatnam district.

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