

Quantitative Dermatoglyphic Variation among Five Reddi Populations of Southern Andhra Pradesh

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ABSTRACT Bilateral finger and palm prints of 1000 Reddi males, 200 each of five endogamous groups namely Pokanati (PNR), Pedakanti (PKR), Panta (PTR), Akuthota (ATR) and Palle (PLR), were studied for eight quantitative dermatoglyphic traits. The finger pattern intensity index (FPII) ranging from 12.74 (PNR) to 13.79 (PTR) shows higher values for right hands of all populations. With regard to mean ridge counts (RCs and SRCs) no clear trend is observed. The mean TFRC (132.81) and AFRCs (177.59) are higher in the PTR and PKR respectively. Transversality of ridges on right palms was found to be more as indicated by their uniformly and significantly higher main line index (MLI) values. The bilateral differences for a-b ridge count are insignificant. The five Reddi groups do not show considerable variation in the mean atd angle, the bilaterality being significant with the exception of ATR. F-Values for all traits were calculated to understand the between and within population variations. The distance calculated according to Mahalanobis D^2 between PLR and PKR was found to be more (0.1148) compared to the rest of the pairs of populations. The minimal cluster is formed between PTR and ATR showing lesser within cluster variability.