

Sex Differences in Body Size and Shape among Santhals of West Bengal

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ABSTRACT With an objective of assessing intra population variation with a special reference to sex differences in a number of body size and shape measurements, a cross sectional sample of 800 adult Santhals (400 males and 400 females) were collected from the Bankura district of West Bengal. The study reveals that Santhals are short statured, dolichocephalic, mesorrhinae, and euryprosopic people. They are well adapted to their physical as well as climatic conditions. Sex difference is clearly evident in their body measurements, as Santhal males are significantly taller, heavier, possess greater bone breadths (except biiliocrystal breadth) and circumferences than Santhal females.