
UNIT 13 ETHNIC DISTINCTIVENESS AMONG INDIAN POPULATION*

Contents

- 13.0 Introduction
- 13.1 Definitions of Race
- 13.2 Racial Criteria and Distribution
- 13.3 Relevance of Race in the World Today
- 13.4 Formation of Racial Groups
- 13.5 Classification of Sir Herbert Hope Risley
- 13.6 Classification of B. S. Guha
- 13.7 Classification of Eickstedt
- 13.8 Classification of S. S. Sarkar
- 13.9 Summary
- 13.10 References
- 13.11 Answers to Check Your Progress

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After going through this unit, you would be able to:

- understand what is Race and its relevance in the world today;
- describe the racial criteria and distribution; and
- know the racial classification given by Risley, Guha, Eickstedt and Sarkar.

13.0 INTRODUCTION

The term race was applied to varieties of Homo sapiens in the middle of the eighteenth century by Buffon. Prior to this time, race described breeds of domestic animals, their group membership or descent from a common ancestor.

13.1 DEFINITIONS OF RACE

Dobzhansky (1944): Races are defined as populations differing in the incidence of certain genes, but actually exchanging or potentially able to exchange genes across whatever boundaries (usually geographic) separate

* **Contributor:** Dr. Ajeet Jaiswal, Associate Professor, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, Central University of Tamil Nadu.

them. Race differences are objectively ascertainable facts; the number of races we choose to recognise is a matter of convenience (Jaiswal, 2013).

Hulse (1963): . . . races are populations which can be readily distinguished from one another on genetic grounds alone.

Garn (1960): At the present time there is general agreement that a race is a breeding population, largely if not entirely isolated reproductively from other breeding populations. The measure of race is thus reproductive isolation, arising commonly but not exclusively from geographical isolation.

E.A. Hooton (1926): A race is a great division of mankind, the members of which, though individually varying, are characterised as a group by a certain combination of morphological and metrical features [which ones?], principally non-adaptive, which have been derived from their common descent.

Brues (1977): A race is a division of a species which differs from other divisions by the frequency with which certain hereditary traits appear among its members. Among these traits are features of external appearance that make it possible to recognise members of different populations by visual inspection with greater or less accuracy. Members of such a division of a species share ancestry with one another to a greater degree than they share it with individuals of other races. Finally, races are usually associated with particular geographic areas.

Mayr (1963): considers the major divisions of humankind to be subspecies, which are aggregations of local populations of a species inhabiting geographic subdivisions of the range of the species and differing taxonomically from other populations of the species.

Factor responsible for the differentiation of ethnic groups are many but few of them, biological and cultural factors are very important. Man is a cultural animal and hence there is a need to study man as Bio-social creature rather than as only a biological or social animal (Jaiswal, 2013).

13.2 RACIAL CRITERIA AND DISTRIBUTION

As far as the race is concerned, it has now become a matter of controversy. But it is evident that human race can be distinguished morphologically. Racial classifications are made on the basis of certain genetic traits. Such types of traits used in classification of races are referred to as racial criteria. The racial criterion should fulfill certain requirements. Boddy suggested a few conditions which should be satisfied by criteria chosen for racial classification. The important requirements are as follows.

- A criterion should be non-adaptive, so that natural selection cannot play effective role.

- A criterion must be objective, so that different investigators do not show individual variation in identifying and classifying the concerned traits.
- A criterion should not be subject to a high rate of mutation. So that the nature of the trait does not alter frequently, otherwise the frequency of the trait in a population may show considerable variation from time to time.
- A criterion should be controlled by a known genetic mechanism. It is always better if the mechanism is simple.
- A criterion should not be modified to a large extent by environmental factors.

The criteria chosen for human classification may be divided into three different categories as follows:

In the first category we can include some common variable characters, whose heredity mechanism is not simple and therefore not very perfectly known, viz, skin colour, nose form, face, etc. Some of these characters are noted as colour of sin, nasal bridge, etc. Some other are observed with the help of instruments. For example, cross-section of hair is observed under microscope. Again, others require careful measurement by instruments, specially devised for the purpose (Chattopadhyaya, 2010; Jaiswal, 2013).

13.3 RELEVANCE OF RACE IN THE WORLD TODAY

The distribution and genetic analysis of particular traits in human population thus far investigated indicated that all living mankind's genes have been drawn from a common pool and suggests likeness rather than differences, or better it suggests variation in likeness. In the study of the population genetics of the human species we are concerned with the study of the variation of likeness rather than of difference. Populations differ from one another relatively and not absolutely in respect of the frequency of one or more genes. Among the findings emerging from the study of population genetics is the conclusion that human populations differ genetically one from the other almost entirely in the varying proportions of the alleles of the various sets and not in the kinds of allele they contain. All mankind draws its genes from a common gene pool. Thus all mankind constitutes a single species, the species *Homo sapiens* (Jaiswal, 2013; Khullar, 2014) The following points prove the relevancy of race.

- In matters of race, the only characteristics which anthropologists have so far been able to use effectively as a basis for classification are physical (anatomical and physiological).
- Available scientific knowledge provides no basis for believing that the groups of mankind differ in their innovative capacity for intellectual and emotional development.

- Some biological differences between human beings within a single race may be as great as or greater than the same biological differences between races.
- Vast social changes have occurred that have not been connected in any way with changes in racial type. Historical and sociological studies thus support the view that genetic difference are of little significance in determining the social and cultural differences between groups of men.
- There is no evidence that race mixture produces disadvantageous results from a biological point of view. The social result of race mixture, whether for good or ill, can generally be traced to social factors.

Check Your Progress

- 1) Write in brief about the race and relevance of race in the world today.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

13.4 FORMATION OF RACIAL GROUPS

We have seen that the single species, *Homo sapiens* comprise several varieties or races of man. Now the question is how these races were formed. Race formation is a complex process in which more than one factor is involved. These may be summarised as follows:

Mutation is an important process by which different forms of character are produced. It may be defined as the sudden change in a particular gene producing a new form of an old character. This change is permanent. Soon as a new gene appears it multiplies from one generation to another and becomes a distinctive characteristic of the particular, provided other conditions are favourable.

The use of the term "race" in speaking of such groups may be a serious error, but it is one which is habitually committed.

Human races may be and have been classified in different ways by different anthropologists. Most of them agree in classifying the greater part of existing mankind into at least three large units, which may be called major groups. Such a classification does not depend on any single physical character, nor does for example, skin colour by itself necessarily distinguish one major group from another. It gives no support to popular notions of any general "superiority" or "inferiority" which are sometimes implied in referring to these groups.

Most anthropologists do not include mental characteristic in their classification of human races. Studies within a single race have shown that both innate capacity and environmental opportunity determine the result of tests of intelligence and temperament, though their relative importance is disputed (Jaiswal, 2013; Chandana, 2015).

The scientific material available to us at present does not justify the conclusion that inherited genetic differences between the cultures and cultural achievements of different people or groups. It does indicate, on the contrary, that a major factor in explaining such differences is the cultural experience which each group has undergone.

There is no evidence for the existence of so-called "pure" races. Skeletal remains provide the basis of our limited knowledge about earlier races. In regard to race mixture, the evidence points to the fact that human hybridisation has been going on for an indefinite but considerable time. Indeed, one of the processes of race formation and race extinction or absorption is by means of hybridisation between races. As there is no reliable evidence that disadvantageous effects are produced thereby, no biological justification exists for prohibiting intermarriage between persons of different races (Jaiswal, 2013; Chandana, 2015).

Check Your Progress

2) What is Race?

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

3) Write short notes on Racial Criteria and Distribution.

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

3) Write an essay on formation of racial groups.

.....
.....
.....
.....

13.5 CLASSIFICATION OF SIR HERBERT HOPE RISLEY

Sir Herbert Hope Risley (1915) tried to classify the Indian population on the basis of anthropometric measurements. He had developed a clear-cut idea about the racial elements of India when he directed the operation of Census for India in 1901. Later, he took the help of anthropometry to affirm his assumptions and published the results in 1915 under the title 'The People of India'. He identified three principal racial types in India viz. The Dravidian, the Indo-Aryan and the Mongoloid. These three types were again got mixed in varying degrees in different provinces (States).

On the whole, Risley distinguished seven different 'physical types' in the Indian population in the following way He excluded the Negroids of Andaman Islands, as they had, according to him, little to do with the people of India.

13.5.1 The Turko-Iranian

The Turko-Iranians have broad heads and fine to medium nose, which is long and prominent. They are fairly tall, the average stature varying from 162 cm. to 173 cm. They have plentiful hair on the face. Their eyes are generally dark though grey eyes are also not uncommon and the complexion is fair. These people live in the Baluchistan and in Frontier province, which are now in Pakistan. The type is represented by the Balochis, the Afghans, etc. Risley suggests that this type was formed as a result of a mixture of Turkey and Persian.

13.5.2 The Indo-Aryan

They have long heads and in this character they markedly differ from the Turko-Iranians. Nose is long, narrow and prominent, complexion is fair; eyes have a dark colour. They have plentiful facial hair. They are tall-structure people. This type is found to predominate in Rajputana, the Punjab, and the valley of Kashmir. The Jats, the Khattris are some of the examples of this type.

13.5.3 The Scythio Dravidian

This type has medium to broad head, medium nose, fair complexion and scanty hair on face and body. They are medium-statured. They differ from the Turko Iranian in having larger heads, flatters face, higher noses and shorter stature. This type is the result of an Intermixture of two distinct racial elements, the Scythians and the Dravidians. They are distributed in the region extending from Gujarat to Coorg. The Dravidian element is more prominent in the socially lower groups of these regions, while the Scythian elements predominate among the higher groups of people.

13.5.4 The Aryo-Dravidian or Hindustani People

Their heads are long with tendency towards medium. Nose is generally medium but broad noses are also not unknown. The skin colour is also variable; it varies from light brown to dark. Stature ranges from 159 cm. to 166 cm. Thus they are differentiated from the Indo-Aryans in shorter and broader nose. This type is found in the Uttar Pradesh, Rajputana and Bihar. As the name implies, this type is a result of an intermixture of two distinct racial types the Aryans in the male and the Dravidians in the female line.

13.5.5 The Mongolo-Dravidian or Bengali Type

The members of this type have broad head with a tendency to medium, and medium nose with plentiful facial hair. Stature is generally medium, but short with plentiful facial hair. Stature is generally medium, but short stature also occurs quite frequently. They inhabit Bengal and Orissa.

Some of the representatives of this type are Bengali Brahmins, Bengali Kayasthas, etc. They differ from the Aryo-Dravidians and the Indo-Aryans in having broader heads. Risley suggested intermixture of the Mongolians and the Dravidians in this type, to which some Indo-Aryan strain were also added.

13.5.6 The Mongoloid Type

Head is generally broad. Nose shows a wide range of variations being fine to broad. Stature is short or below medium. They have characteristically broad Mongolian face with oblique eyes showing epicanthic fold. Skin colour is dark with yellowish tinge. Hair on the face and the body is scanty. This type is found in Assam, Nepal and Burma.

13.5.7 The Dravidian

They are short-statured people. Head is long. Nose is very broad and sometimes a depression is seen at the root of the nose. Skin colour is very dark; eyes also have a dark colour. Hair is also dark, it is plentiful and occasionally it tends to curl. They are found in the region extending from Ceylon to the Ganges covering the whole of South Eastern India, Madras, Hyderabad, Central Province and Chhota Nagpur. The Paniyans of South India, the Santhals of Chhota Nagpur, etc. are some of the best examples of this type. According to Risley they are the true aborigines of India and now they have been modified by an infiltration of Aryan, Scythian and Mongoloid elements.

Risley's classification had to face considerable criticism from different authorities, especially in respect on the Dravidians, the Scythio-Dravidians and the Mongolo Dravidians.

13.6 CLASSIFICATION OF B. S. GUHA

B. S. Guha's racial classification is based on anthropometric measurements, which were collected during his investigations from 1930 to 1933. Guha traced six major racial strains and nine sub-types among the modern Indian population.

- 1) The Negrito
- 2) The Proto-Australoid
- 3) The Mongoloid:
 - i) Palaeo-Mongoloid
 - a) Long-headed;
 - b) Broad-headed;
 - ii) Tibeto-Mongoloid
- 4) The Mediterranean:
 - i) Palaeo-Mediterranean;
 - ii) Mediterranean;
 - iii) Oriental
- 5) The Western Brachycephals:
 - i) Alpinoid;
 - ii) Armenoid;
 - iii) Dinaric
- 6) The Nordics
 - 1) **The Negrito**

They are considered to be the first comers and the true autochthonous of India. Their physical characteristics are: head is small; it is round, medium or long; nose is straight, flat and broad; stature is very short of pygmy stature, skin colour is dark brown to dark; hair is woolly; forehead is bulbous; supraorbital ridges are smooth. This type is represented by the Kadars, Puiayans (Cochin and Travancore), Irula and primitive tribes of the Wynad. In respect of the head form and hair structure the Indian Negritos are more close to the Melanesian Pygmies than to the Andamanese.

2) **The Proto-Australoid**

They are characterised by dolichocephalic head; markedly platyrrhine nose, which is depressed at the root, short stature, dark brown skin colour; wavy or even curly hair. Their limbs are delicate. The forehead is less developed and slightly retreating, supraorbital ridges are often prominent. They are closely akin to the Australian tribes. They markedly differ from the Negritos in having wavy hair instead of the frizzy or woolly of the latter. This element is

found in the Polayan women (Travancore), Urali (Travancore), Baiga (Rewa), etc. The tribes like the Mole Chenchu, Kannikar, Kondh, Bhil, Santhal, Oraon, belong to this group.

3) The Mongoloid

The Mongoloids are distinguished by scanty growth of hair on body and face; obliquely set eyes showing epicanthic fold, flat face with prominent cheek bones and straight hair. The Mongoloid people entered India probably through the north eastern routes in successive waves of migration. The Mongoloid comprises two types namely the Palaeo-Mongoloid and the Tibeto-Mongoloid.

- i) **Palaeo-Mongoloid:** The Palaeo-Mongoloids have again been subdivided into **long-headed type and broad-headed type.**
 - a) **The long-headed type:** The long-headed type possesses long head, medium nose, and medium stature. Their cheek bones are prominent; skin colour is dark to light brown; face is short and flat; supraorbital regions are faintly developed. They inhabit the sub-Himalayan region. This type is found in the tribes of Assam and Burma Frontier. The sema Nagas of Assam and the Limbus of Nepal are said to be true representatives of this type.
 - b) **The broad-headed type:** The other sub-division of the Palaeo-Mongoloid, the broad-headed, is represented by the Lepchas of Kalimpong. This type is found in the hill tribes of Chittagong, like the Chakmas, the Maghs, etc. Their characteristic features are: broad head, round face, dark skin colour, medium nose, obliquely set eyes which shows marked epicanthic fold.
- ii) **Tibeto-Mongoloids:** Among the Tibeto-Mongoloids, the head is broad and massive, face is long and flat; stature is tall; nose is long or medium, eyes are oblique having marked epicanthic fold; body hair and facial hair are markedly absent; skin colour is light brown. The Tibetans of Bhutan and Sikkim have these characteristics.

4) The Mediterranean

They comprise three distinct racial types. These are:

- i) **The Palaeo Mediterranean:** They are the most ancient people and in many characters they resemble the Proto-Egyptian type. Their distinctive characters are; long and narrow head with bulbous forehead, protective occipit and high vault; small and broad nose, medium stature, face is narrow; chin is tainted, body is slightly build. Their skin colour is dark and hair on face and body are scanty, at present the Dravidian-speaking people of south India show the preponderance of this type. The Tamil Brahmins and Madurai Nairs and Cochin and Telugu Brahmins form the best example.

- ii) **The Mediterranean:** They are characterised by long head with arched forehead; long face, narrow and prominent nose, tall to medium stature, light skin colour, chin is well developed, hair is dark, eyes also show dark brownish to dark colour. They possess plentiful facial and body hair and slender build body. The Mediterranean types of people are found in Uttar Pradesh, Bombay, Bengal, Malabar Coast, etc. The true representatives are the Nambudurai Brahmins and Cochin Brahmins and Allahabad and Maratha ladies of Indore. The Bengali Brahmins also show this type of characteristics. Probably this type was responsible for the building up of Indus valley civilizations.
- iii) **The Oriental:** They are very closely resembling with the mediterranean in almost all the features except nose which is long and coned in the former, This type is found in Punjab, Sind, Rajputana etc. The typical representations are the Punjabi Chettris and the Pathans.

5) **The Western Brachycephalic**

They have been divided into three types.

- 5.1 **The Alpenoid:** Characterised by broad head with rounded occipita, prominent nose, medium stature, round face, skin colour is light; hair on face and body is abundant, body is thickly set. This type is found among the Banias of Gujarat, the kathi of Kathiawar, the Kayasthas of Bengal, etc.
- 5.2 **The Armenoid:** They are similar to Dinarics in many characteristics. In Armenoids the shape of occipital in nose is marked and the nose is more prominent, narrow and acquiring. The Parsies of Bombay show typical armenoid characteristics.
- 5.3 **The Dinaric:** These people have the broad face with rounded occipita, and high vault, nose very long and often convex; stature is tall, face is long, forehead is receding, skin colour is darker, eyes and hair are also dark. This type is represented in Bengal, Orissa and Coorg. The Brahmins of Bengal and Kanarese Brahmins of Mysore are also some of the representatives.

Both the Alpino and the dinaric people entered into India through Baluchistan, Sind, Gujarat, and Maharashtra. They penetrated Ceylon from Kannada. The presence of this type has been noted in the Indus Valley site, Tinnevalley and Hyderabad.

6) **The Nordics**

Their head is long with protruding occipital and arched forehead; they are tall structured people with long face, strong jaw and powerfully built body. Nose is fine, narrow and straight, complexion is fair, eyes often have bluish tinge. These types of people are found in different parts of northern India,

especially in Punjab and Rajputana. The Kho and the Red Kaffirs, the Khatesh are some of the representations of this type. The Nordics came from the North, probably from South East Russia and South-West Siberia, through Central Asia to India (Jaiswal, 2013; [http:// cms.gcg11.ac.in/ attachments/ article/210/TRIBES%20racial%20classification.pdf](http://cms.gcg11.ac.in/attachments/article/210/TRIBES%20racial%20classification.pdf)).

13.7 CLASSIFICATION OF EICKSTEDT

Fuherer von Eickstedt (1934) had made the German Indian Anthropological Expedition to India during 1926-29. He classified the Indian people in 1934, both from physical and cultural perspectives. Basically he was inspired by the variation in skin colour of the Indian people and suggested four main ethnic elements as constituents of the population in India.

- 1) **Weddid or Ancient Indians:** These are the primitive people living in the forest. Two sub-types are distinguished here.
 - i) **Gondid:** These people show dark brown complexion and curly hair. They are totemistic in belief and use mattock. Matriarchal influence is noticed among them. The Oraons, Gonds, Bhils etc. are the best examples of this sub-type.
 - ii) **Malid:** These people are characterised by curly hair with black-brown colour. Their culture is ancient but now they have been influenced by alien culture. People like Kurumbas, Veddas, etc. represent this sub-type.
- 2) **Melanid or Black Indians:** Racially it is a mixed group, which is divided into two sub-groups.
 - i) **South Melanid:** This sub-group is characterised by black-brown skin colour. These people live in the Southern most plains of India and possess strong matriarchal influence. The typical example of this group is the Yanaadi.
 - ii) **Kolid:** This sub-group includes the primitive people characterised by black-brown skin colour who live in the North Deccan forests. They hold strong totemistic beliefs and prominent matriarchal influence. The best examples are the Santals and the Mundas.
- 3) **Indid or New Indians:** These people are racially more advanced and occupy the open regions of India. They are further sub-divided into two sub-groups.
 - i) **Gracile Indid:** This sub-group is characterised by brown skin colour with gracile appearance. The people show strong patriarchal influence as found among the Bengalis.

- ii) **North Indid:** This sub-group possesses light brown skin colour. People are patriarchal in nature. The best examples of this type are the Todas and the Rajputs.
- 4) **Palaeo-Mongoloid:** These people show certain incipient Mongoloid characters. The best examples are the Palayan of Wynad.

Eickstedt's classification is regarded as a proper attempt to classify Indian population. Although it was open to severe criticism, but it had a great scope. So, later it was extended with necessary changes and additions. Efforts of B. S. Guha made it more convincing

(<http://www.yourarticlelibrary.com/essay/anthropology/racial-classification-of-indian-people-by-different-anthropologist/41839>).

13.8 CLASSIFICATION OF S. S. SARKAR

S.S. Sarkar proposed a racial classification based on cephalic index. He suggested six ethnic elements as the main types in the population of India. According to him, India is predominantly a dolichocephalic country, followed by the racial types like mesocephals and brachycephals.

These are as follows.

A) **The Dolichocephals:**

1) **Australoids**

According to Sarkar at one time the Australoids were widely distributed throughout India and they formed the earlier substratum of the population of India. Sarkar is of opinion that the Australoids features are present among all castes of India through its greatest concentration is found among the lower castes.

The Australoid are short structured people having dark complexion. Their head is dolichocephalic and nose is platyrrhine. Their hair is wavy. The Australoids are known by different names, like Proto-Australoid, Pre-Dravidian, and Veda. The representatives of Australoids are Urali, Kannikar, Malapantran, Paniyan, Kadar and such other tribes, are to some extent preserving the original form of the Australoid.

2) **Indo-Aryan**

The physical type of the Indo-Aryan is quite distinct from that of the Australoid. The Indo-Aryans are tall in stature, lighter in skin colour and eye colour and even the head hair is not as dark as that of the Australoid. Their head is long and massive, their cranial capacity is higher than that and the Australoid. The Baltic of the Hindu-kush Mountains are the best example of the Indo-Aryan.

The Indo-Aryan are frequently met with in the Hindus in the Gangetic Valley in Western India. Their extension in an almost unbroken manner is seen upto Western Bihar beyond that region towards east the Indo-Aryan type is sporadic in distribution in eastern Bihar, Bengal and Assam. In these regions this type is mostly found among the higher castes only.

3) **Mundari-Speakers**

‘The Mundari-speakers’ as described by Sarkar are the sturdy, short height people with robust constitution. Other features include a dolichocephalic head, a skin colour lighter than the Australoids. The thick, straight, black hair is more or less similar to those of the Mongoloids.

These people are distributed in the river valleys and plateaus of Eastern and Central India. Chottanagpur plateau, Orissa, and Madhya Pradesh show the highest concentration. They have been migrated from the east and bear some affinities with the Mongoloids.

B) **The Mesocephals:**

4) **Irano-Scythian**

Almost at the same time during the Indo-Aryan migration to India, another ethnic element entered India from North West and that was Iran Scythian. They are medium structured people. Their head is mesocephalic but Indo-Aryan has dolichocephalic head. In Eastern Bihar, Bengal and Assam the long head Indo-Aryan element is replaced by the medium headed Irano-scythians. Among the Indo-Aryan the cephalic index vary round 73, while among the Irano-scythians it ranges between 77 and 79.

After entering India the Irano-scythians moved southward along the valley of the Indus to arrive at Gujarat, Bombay and Maharashtra. Their extension is seen up to northern Mysore, Deccan etc., also. Therefore, in the population and these regions this element is frequently observed.

C) **The Brachycephals:**

5) **Far Eastern**

There is no disagreement that the brachycephalic element came from Central Asia to India during Prehistoric period. The fact is that, the India had a connection with the Islands of Southeast Asia since ancient times and the cultural relationships have been continued till the historical period.

A Malayan element is observed in the coastal regions of Chittagung hill tracts. This Malayan strain is quite distinct from other ethnic elements. Dr. Sarkar had defined it in terms of brachycephalic head, short stature, tendency towards obesity and dark skin colour.

6) Mongolian

The Mongoloids are distributed in the north eastern borders of India and the foothills of Himalayas. The skin colour among Mongoloids is slightly yellowish. Hair is sparsely distributed in their face and body. They exhibit Mongolian eye fold. By these and such other criteria the Mongoloids are easily distinguishable from the other populations in India (<http://www.yourarticlelibrary.com/population/populationof-major-racial-groups-in-india/19834>).

Check Your Progress

5) Write short notes on B. S. Guha's racial classification.

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

6) Write in brief about Western Brachycephalic.

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

1) Elucidate the important feature of a racial classification proposed by S.S. Sarkar.

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

13.9 SUMMARY

The term race was applied to varieties of *Homo sapiens* in the middle of the eighteenth century by Buffon. Races are defined as populations differing in the incidence of certain genes. A race is a great division of mankind. A race is a division of a species which differs from other divisions by the frequency with which certain hereditary traits appear among its members. As far as the race is concerned, it has now become a matter of controversy.

Racial classifications are made on the basis of certain genetic traits. The criteria chosen for human classification may be divided into three different categories. The distribution and genetic analysis of particular traits in human population thus far investigated indicated that all living mankind's genes have been drawn from a common pool and suggests likeness rather than differences, or better it suggests variation in likeness. Homo sapiens comprise several varieties or races of man. The use of the term "race" in speaking of such groups may be a serious error, but it is one which is habitually committed.

Most anthropologists do not include mental characteristic in their classification of human races.

Sir Herbert Hope Risley tried to classify the Indian population on the basis of anthropometric measurements. Risley distinguished seven different 'physical types' in the Indian population. Guha traced six major racial strains and nine sub-types among the modern Indian population. Fuherer von Eickstedt had made the German Indian Anthropological Expedition to India during 1926-2. S.S. Sarkar proposed a racial classification based on cephalic index. S.S. Sarkar suggested six ethnic elements as the main types in the population of India

13.10 REFERENCES

Chandana, R.C. (2015). *Geography of Populations*. New Delhi: Kalyani Publishers. pp. 99-109.

Chattopadhyaya, A. (2010). *Orthonaitik Bhugol O Sampad Sastrer Parichay*. Kolkata: T D Publications, pp. 676-679.

Guha, S. (1931). *Racial Classification of Indian Tribes*. Retrieved from <http://cms.gcg11.ac.in/attachments/article/210/TRIBES%20racial%20classification.pdf>

<http://www.yourarticlelibrary.com/essay/anthropology/racial-classification-of-indian-people-by-different-anthropologist/41839> (accessed on 10th May, 2020).

Jaiswal, A. (2013). *Human origin and variation: A comparative treatment of biophysical anthropology*. New Delhi: Heritage Publishers, India.

------(2013). *Glossary of Biophysical Anthropology Terms: A Comparative Treatment of Biophysical Anthropology*. New Delhi: Heritage Publishers, India.

Khullar, D.R (2014). *India: A Comprehensive Geography*. New Delhi: Kalyani Publishers, pp. 369- 371.

Population of Major Racial Groups in India. Retrieved from <http://www.yourarticlelibrary.com/population/populationof-major-racial-groups-in-india/19834>

Racial classification of Indian people (by Different Anthropologist) viewed at <http://www.yourarticlelibrary.com/essay/anthropology/racial-classification-of-indian-peopleby-different-anthropologist/41839>

Racial classification of Indian population. viewed at <http://www.yourarticlelibrary.com/population/racial-classification-of-indian-population/47345> (accessed on 14th April, 2020)

Racial groups of India. Viewed at <https://www.jagranjosh.com/general-knowledge/racial-groups-ofindia-1448688039-1> (accessed on 15th April, 2020)

13.11 ANSWERS TO CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

- 1) Refer to section 13.3
- 2) Refer to section 13.1
- 3) Refer to section 13.2
- 4) Refer to section 13.4
- 5) Refer to section 13.6
- 6) Refer to section 13.6
- 7) Refer to section 13.8

ignou
THE PEOPLE'S
UNIVERSITY