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**Distribution of Human-specific *Alu* InDel Polymorphisms in the
Brahmin and Rajput Populations of Kangra District of
Himachal Pradesh, North India**

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ABSTRACT The genetic constitution of two endogamous caste populations viz., the Brahmin (n=250) and Rajput (n=250) of Kangra district of the North Indian state of Himachal Pradesh was studied using six autosomal *Alu* InDel (insertion/deletion) markers viz., ACE, APO, PV92, CD4, PLAT, and TPA25. All markers were found to be polymorphic. Except for *Alu* APO and PV92 in the Rajput, genotype frequencies of other markers were in the Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium in both the populations. The average heterozygosity (*H*) was observed higher in the Brahmin (0.4134) compared to the Rajput (0.3809) and the degree of genic differentiation was low between them ($G_{ST} = 0.00898$). The genetic distance analysis revealed close genetic affinities of the present Rajput population with the Gaddi Rajput and Gaddi Brahmin populations reported earlier from the district but the present Brahmin population was found distant from them.