

## **Morphological Variation of Certain Traits Among The Scheduled Caste Madigas of Andhra Pradesh**

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**ABSTRACT** The paper reports the morphological variation of earlobe types, cleft chin, and hypertrichosis of the ear and eye-brow types among the two Madiga groups, belonging to the same sub-caste of Gampadhompti Madigas: Madigas at Cuddapah District (MDCOP) and Madigas of Chittoor District (MDCTR). The proportion of persons with attached earlobe is lower in MDCDP (26.22%) than in MDCTR (38.79%), with highly significant sex difference in the latter group. The overall incidence of the trait of attached earlobe of the pooled Madigas is relatively lower than in other population. The cleft chin incidence in pooled Madigas is highly variable in male series (27.85%) with highly significant sex and intergroup differences, and shows larger variation compared to other populations. Hypertrichosis of the ear is found to be lower in MDCDP (20.38%) than in MDCTR (23.53%), and the overall incidence of pooled Madigas is somewhat higher than in other populations. Continuous eye-brow type is less common in the pooled Madigas (16.56%) with negligible group difference and significant sex difference in either group.