

Prevalence of Intestinal Parasitic Infestations Among Two Squatter Settlement Populations of Calcutta

Subha Ray¹, S. Basak² and P. Mitra³

¹*Anthropology and Human Genetics Unit, Indian Statistical Institute, Calcutta 700 035, West Bengal, India*

²*Department of Microbiology, R.G. Kar Medical College and Hospital, Calcutta 700 004, West Bengal, India*

³*Department of Pathology, R.G. Kar Medical College and Hospital, Calcutta 700 004, West Bengal, India*

KEYWORDS Intestinal Parasite. Hindus and Muslim. Mothers and Children. Squatter Settlement

ABSTRACT Investigation on intestinal parasitic infestation has been carried out on 78 Hindus and 84 Muslim mothers, and on 91 Hindu and 97 Muslim children, living in a squatter settlement in Calcutta. The overall prevalence is higher among the Hindu mothers and children than their Muslim counterparts in general. But, the prevalence of *Ascaris lumbricoides* alone and in association with other intestinal parasites is higher among the Muslims mothers and children than their Hindu counterparts.