

Biomedical Anthropology in the Service of Mankind in the New Millennium: Are We Ready?

R.S. Balgir

*Division of Human Genetics, Regional Medical Research Centre (ICMR), Chandrasekharpur,
Nandan Kanan Road, Bhubaneswar 751 023, Orissa, India
E-mail: balaravi@sancharnet.in*

KEYWORDS Biomedical Anthropology. Health. Disease. Genetics. Environment. Quality of Life

ABSTRACT Biomedical Anthropology is one of the prominent advanced health and applied sciences in the world. Bio-medical Anthropology is at the crest of development in India regardless its slow pace in space and time and lack of enthusiasm. This paper differs from the traditionalism in Anthropology and highlights the dynamism and progressive adaptability to the changing world scenario in the context of advancement in newer technology. The changing human lifestyles have influenced tremendously the biology, values in society and quality of human life including the susceptibility to diseases in varied environment. Maternal influences, intra-uterine period and nutritional factors, all contribute positively to the outcome of genotype. However, the social constraints are the most predominant of all the factors. All these aspects of human beings are touched here with a view to revolutionize the discipline of anthropology.