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ABSTRACTS

A CASE STUDY THE MEDIEVAL AND THE PRESENT CATHOLIC POPULATION IN THE VILLAGE OF RACHITENI (IASI COUNTY). AN ANTHROPOLOGICAL STUDY

GEORGETA MIU, MARIA STIRBU, MARIA ISTRATE

The paper discusses the anthropological structure and biological evolution, in time, of the medieval population of Rachiteni (Iasi county), comparatively with the present-day population. Analysis of the morpho-physiognomic and bodily sizes and proportions has evidenced a similar biomorphological and typological structure. Thus, the skull of the two series is not different, being, on the average, brachycranic and respectively, brachycephalic, hypsicranic-hypsicephalic, metriocranic-metriocephalic, the forehead being eurymetopic and the occipital bone predominantly middle bulged. The face is generally mesenic, the nose leptorrhine with the old populations and incipiently chamaerhine with the present ones. Mention should also be made of other modifications that have appeared in time in the biological evolution of the Rachiteni population, expressed by a tendency of brachycephalisation and also by an increase in stature of the present population. Typologically, both populations are characterized by the same Dinaro-Mediterranean-North-European fund in which the Mediterranean elements represent an irrefutable proof on the presence of a native population in this region, as well as of its continuity along the centuries.

LE DEVELOPPEMENT METRIQUE CEPHALO-FACIAL DES ENFANTS SOURDS-MUETS D'UNE ECOLE SPECIALE BUCARESTOISE

ELEONORA LUCA, C. VULPE, MONICA PETRESCU, M. RADU, N. LEASEVICI, LACRAMIOARA MURESAN

The cephalo-facial metric development of deaf-and-dumb children from a special school in Bucharest. This paper is part of a medical-anthropological study on a sample of 165 deaf-and-dumb children between 7 and 17 years from the Special School no. 2 in Bucharest. The research was run between 2002 and 2003. The estimation of the cephalic segment development was realized comparing the metric phenotypes of deaf-and-dumb children with the average values from normal children in Bucharest ("Z") in relation with age and sex. The results emphasize that the cephalo-facial metric development of deaf-and-dumb children is generally good, compared with the average values of normal children. Only the deaf-and-dumb boys differ significantly by the facial index which illustrates a low face. The analyses of the metric cephalo-facial variability emphasize that the deaf-and-dumb children have an increased frequency of small and very small phenotypes especially for the height of the cephalic calotte and face evaluated as regards dimensions and conformation in both sexes.

LA STRUCTURE DERMATOGLYPHIQUE DES POPULATIONS DE TRANSYLVANIE

CORNELIU VULPE, ELEONORA LUCA

Dermatoglyphic structure of the populations from Transylvania. The study of the population sample described in this paper will contribute to the making up of a more complete dermatoglyphic picture of populations from Transylvania. Some relevant aspects of the digital dermatoglyphs are analysed from both palmar and plantar anatomical regions. Our research endeavour refers to the populations of 27 rural communities summing up a sample of 6031 subjects of both sexes. The majority of the data collected for this study are extracted from our previous papers, but we have also specified the data collected by other authors that have done research on populations from Transylvania. The conclusions of the present paper will be included in a chapter of the "Anthropological Atlas of Transylvania".

POINT DE VUE GENETIQUE SUR LA CLASSIFICATION DE TYPE «CLUSTER» CHEZ LA POPULATION DE TRANSYLVANIE – ROUMANIE

MARIA VLADESCU, RUXANDRA BALDESCU

Genetic point of view on the "cluster"-type classification in the population of Transylvania – Romania. 1777 male samples, coming from the same number of human communities from the Romanian province Transylvania, were classified in clusters by means of the Ward method. Having considered anthropometric values of nine cephalic-facial features and height, 4 taxonomic groups were determined, each of them differing by the number of its associated villages and by the specific typological particularities. The most important findings point out a clear distinction between populations characterized by a broad average low cephalic calotte and a well-developed facial massif and the populations featured by a narrow but obviously high calotte and a thinner facial massif.

INTERPOPULATIONAL VARIABILITY OF THE AGE INVOLUTION OF THE DYNAMOMETRIC FORCE IN SOME POPULATIONS FROM MOLDAVIA

MARIA ISTRATE, GEORGETA MIU

The authors study the interpopulational variability of the dynamometric force according to sex and age in a number of 1777 subjects (792 men and 985 women) from eight rural communities from the Central Moldavian Plateau. It can be seen that in the synthetic series the average values of the dynamometric force decrease with age, practically in the same rhythm in both sexes, until the age of 60, after which men keep better this physiometric parameter. Illustrative for this phenomenon is the women percentage as to average men average, which is 62.76% in the 20-39 years phase, 62.86% in the 40-59 years period, and at the age of 60 this percentage decreases to 58.65%. The interpopulational variability of the average values of the dynamometric force is higher in women than in men. For the 20-59 period the amplitude of interpopulational variability is of 4.45 Kg force (T=4.7849) in men and 8.62 Kgf (T = 14.7288) in women.

Regarding the masculine synthetic series, significantly superior values have the men from Rachiteni (T = 4.6098). At the opposed pole, from the series with lower values only the men from Mircesti touch threshold of significance (T = 2.0266). In women, compared with the synthetic series, significantly superior average have the series from Prajesti (T = 8.3401) and Rachiteni (T = 5.8912). At the opposite pole, with significantly lower values are the series from Faraoani (T = 11.4509) and Gheraesti (T = 5.8912).

MODIFICATION - IN TIME - IN THE PUBERTY OF GIRLS FROM TWO DIFFERENT ECOLOGICAL MEDIA

MARIA STIRBU, GEORGETA MIU, MARIA ISTRATE

The study was developed on two groups of girls with ages between 11 and 16 years, one formed of 664 girls from the Iasi city, the other - of 723 subjects - from the rural area of the Iasi county. For each subject, menarche age was established (years and months). At the level of each group, the frequency of the pubertal and nonpubertal was calculated on classes of age, the average pubertal age being established for each of the two groups. The analyses have evidenced that puberty is slightly retarded in the girls from the rural area comparatively with those coming from the urban milieu. A comparison between the data obtained in the present study and those recorded on other batches - similar as to the subjects' origin and age - investigated between 1965 and 1985, showed that the average puberty age is accelerating in both ecological media, the process being more intense in the girls from the rural medium, comparatively with those from the city. Consequently the urban-rural difference as to the average pubertal age reduced from 1 year and 5 months in 1965 to 0 years and 5 months in 2000.

OBESITY FROM THE VIEWPOINT OF MEDICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

ELENA RADU, LUMINITA CIOTARU

The paper represents the synthesis of some anthropological researches in populations, conducted between 1980-1984 in most of the historical provinces of Romania, including almost 14,600 subjects from urban and rural areas. What is highlighted, from the medical anthropology viewpoint, is the prevalence of overweight and obesity varying with urban/rural environment, geographical area and profession. In the global sample one out of three Romanians is overweight; in a statistics by age, after the age of 50, one of two Romanians is overweight. Having considered the fact that obesity is a major risk factor in cardiovascular diseases, precocious tracing out by means of anthropometrical methodology will contribute to launching of prevention programmes, as a result of a responsible health politics.

GEOGRAPHICAL VARIABILITY OF OVERWEIGHT

LUMINITA CIOTARU, ELENA RADU

The study analyses the predisposition to obesity and proper obesity in geographically differentiated populations from all the main historical provinces of Romania. The data indicate differentiations in the body mass according to geographical location and within it age and sex. From the anthropological viewpoint among the studied populations, the Dobrogea population presents the strongest tendency of developing obesity and the highest frequency of obesity in a Quetelet index evaluation scale.

TYPES OF ADAPTATIVE VARIABILITY IN CERTAIN INTRACRANIAL CALCIFICATION PROCESSES (PINEAL GLAND - CHOROID PLEXUS)

**CORNELIA GUJA, VOICU BOSCAIU, ADINA BACIU, ANA DUMITRASCU, ALINA PAVEI
MIRELA DEBRETIN**

Our study comprises the results obtained by investigating some samples of patients who underwent computerized tomographic examination (CT) of choroid plexus and pineal gland at the level of the ventricles (axial cranium). Our intention was to answer the following questions: why and with whom choroid plexus calcify under physiological conditions analysed correlatively with pineal gland calcification? What are the connections between calcification and associated pathology? We started from the hypothesis that the presence of these calcifications, not diagnosed as pathological (therefore considered physiological) plays an active adaptative metabolic part which depends on a multitude of factors, the individual constitutional ground included. The sample under study consisted of both sexes and included six intervals statistically significant ages; diagnoses were also grouped in other several categories. In order to systematize the calcification variants, we grouped eight types of possible calcification variants sensed by the CT images. After the anthropological statistic study the results demonstrate that there are interesting distributions and significant differences between the calcification of the choroid plexus and the calcification of the pineal gland within the two sexes on age groups and pathological ground. For type 1-totally noncalcified maximum frequency is around 70% with the 19 years old age group. For type 8 – totally calcified, bilaterally the maximum frequency is around 50% with the age groups of 48-59 and 60-71 years old. For type 4 – unilateral calcification only of choroid plexus we find a continuous rise from about 10% with the first age group up around 25% with the last group while for type 5- with calcification only of pineal gland, the frequency oscillates between 10% and 20% at the most.

UTILIZATION OF THE DERMAL CONFIGURATIONS IN THE CLINICAL DIAGNOSIS OF SEQUELARY INFANTILE ENCEPHALOPATHIES (IEP)

ANA TARCA

The authors develop - from a pathological perspective - an ample dermatoglyphic study on a number of 200 children and teenagers with various infantile encephalopathy (IEP) sequelae (such as hemiplegia, paraplegia,

tetraplegia, etc.), with ages ranging between 2 and 17 years, from whom a total number of 400 finger : palmary prints were taken over between 1995-2003. Among the complex clinical symptoms evidenced several of the affected people, mention should be made of the presence of epilepsy, autism and ocu affections, which were further utilized, along with the reference sample from Moldavia, where from all affected persons actually came, in the comparative analysis of the results obtained. One of the f observations to be made is that the dermatoglyphic picture of the patients with sequelary IEPs sho multiple anomalies or distortions with deep clinical significance, the frequency of which at the level of batch exceeds by far that of the reference sample, being instead much closer to, or even exceeding, the va recorded by us in the three above-mentioned congenital maladies. Present in both boys and girls, and on both hands of the affected ones, such “malformative sketches” support the assumption that, from etiological viewpoint, among the factors responsible for causing the disease, one should not leave aside genetic or teratogenic ones, which intervened in the first 3-5 months of intrauterine life (during the fi establishment of the papillary ridges), the lesions of the central nervous system (CNS) produced in the las months of pregnancy and the first two years of postnatal life being possibly considered only as releasi factors of the symptoms and of their amplification as well. However, if having in mind that the present stu is the first of this type initiated at a national level, although developed on a statistically well represen number of subjects, it is the author’s belief that the investigations of this type should be necessa continued and extended, to support and corroborate the present investigations.

ETHNICITY AND SOCIETY IN THE ZABALA VILLAGE (TRANSYLVANIA)

MARIN CONSTANTIN

The article deals with the study of ethnicity in a Transylvanian village. Three local ethnic groups – Hungarian, Romanian, and Gypsy – are analysed as to their demographic, genealogical, and cultural data. relating his own field information to that gathered by his colleagues, the author tries to outline the current realities of the village cross-cultural cohabitation, as a community framework within which the ethnic identity is maintained and reified through kinship and territorial, economic, and ritual behaviour.

PSYCHOLOGICAL TRAITS OF THE AGGRESSORS (FROM THE VIEWPOINT OF THE VICTIMS). A CASE STUDY

CORNELIA RADA, CRISTIANA GLAVCE

The Center for Anthropological Researches of Romanian Academy performed in 2003-2004, a study with subject “Domestic violence - an anthropological approach”. This paper partially valuates the results of this research, trying to identify the psychological profile of the aggressors while making a brief review of the better known explanatory theories regarding the aggressive behavior.