

No two human beings are exactly alike, but all human beings are alike in many respects. Physiologists say that cells which make up the human body are the same for all people. A biologist can compare certain cells of human beings with those of various animals, but he can not distinguish the cells of a Chinese, from those of Indian. Similarly, a biologist can compare human blood with that of lower animals. But many types of human blood can be found among all the stocks and races of mankind. Whatever be the definition, a race is a population having the unity of mankind from both social and biological viewpoints. Charles Darwin observes, "As man advances in civilization, the small tribes are united into larger communities, the simplest reason would tell each individual that he ought to extend his social instincts and sympathies to all the members of the same nation, though personally unknown to him. This point being reached, there is only an artificial barrier to prevent his sympathies extending to the man of all nations and races."

### Definition :

Now what is race\*? Haldane in his celebrated work "What is race" published by UNESCO writes (race) is a group which shares in common a certain set of innate physical characters and geographical origin within a certain area". In this way, a race lives in a definite geographical area and has some definite innate characteristics. The nature of race, as defined by eminent scholars, is as follows. According to A.W.Green

"A race is a large biological, human grouping, with a number of distinctive inherited characteristics which vary within a certain range while Kroeber states."

"A race is a biologically inherited group possessing a distinctive combination of physical traits that tend to breed true from generation to generation." In the words of Hoebel, "In a race one finds some common traits which continue through many generations and they vary very little, just as all Negroes are dark-skinned." According

\* Race is a confusing word because it means different things to different people. Mongoloids share certain physical characteristics and we speak of the Mongoloid race. Some Jews are born blue eyed, others are dark haired and brown eyed; all of them share a Jewish race. Greeks classify all mankind as either Greeks or barbarians. Race should not be confused with nationality. It is also not connected with language.

to A.F. Paul " "A race is a large division of human beings distinguished from others by relatively obvious physical characteristics presumed to be biologically inherited and remaining relatively constant through numerous generations."

The conference of expert sociologists, anthropologists and psychologists arranged by UNESCO arrived at the following conclusions about a race :

1. Fundamentally the entire human species has one origin and all men are homo sapiens.
2. National groups, religious groups, geographical groups, cultural groups, linguistic groups, etc., are all entirely unconnected with and unrelated to race. These groups do not give indication of any race.  
Distinctions can be made between different races on the basis of differences in physical characteristics but not on the basis of cultural characteristics.
3. The differences found to exist between the physical characteristics of men are due both to heredity and to environment. Differences in heredity arise due to the processes known as mutation and in-breeding.
4. Some races make claims of purity but this is not true. Today pure races cannot be found anywhere in the world. The process of mixing of races originated long back.
5. Human races can be classified but these classifications are based solely on physical traits. They have no relation of any kind with mental or intellectual superiority or inferiority.
6. The inner capacity for the development of mind and culture is found equally in every race. Hence distinctions between races cannot be based on cultural differences or levels of intelligence. Intelligent people are to be found in all races.
7. It is possible that in one nation the degree of racial difference may be greater while in another nation it may be of a greater or a lesser degree.
8. Evidence in support of the fact that the race has no important effect in the social and cultural differences between various human groups has been found in historical and sociological studies. By no stretch of imagination can one conceive of any relation between changes in racial forms and social changes.
9. That from the biological viewpoint, mixing of races is deleterious, is an essentially incorrect and invalid belief.

On the basis of these conclusions, we can say that race is a group of intermarrying people who are born of common ancestors, possesses similar physically traits and a 'we feeling'.

Lamarck said, "Divisions are only artificial names; for, in truth nature has formed neither classes nor orders, neither families, nor shorts, nor species". Kant also emphasizes the difference between natural and artificial divisions. It is especially clear that racial divisions are for the most part artificial, for the greatest anthropologists differ widely in the matter. For instance, Cuvier and Quatrefages put the number of racial divisions among mankind at three. Linnaeus and Huxley distinguish 11 human races, while Blumenbach 5, Agassiz 8, Topinard 18, Haddon 13, Deniker 17, Hooton 23 and Taylor 7. Even when two anthropologists agree as to the actual number, they disagree as to division. As a matter of fact, one might just as well assume that there were 1000 races; every individual, indeed, forms a race or a mixture of races. Even between races there exists innumerable transitions.

### Pure Race

There is no evidence for the existence of so-called 'pure' races. Skeletal remains provide the basis for our limited knowledge about earlier races. In regard to race mixture, the evidence points to the fact that human hybridization has been going on for an indefinite but considerable time. Indeed one of the processes of race formation and race extinction or absorption is by means of hybridization between races. As there is no reliable evidence that disadvantageous effects are produced thereby, no biological justification exists for prohibiting inter-marriage between persons of different races.

After the Great Age of Discoveries (15th to 18th centuries), man has become more mobile, migrating from one region to another and from one country to another. Consequently, at present, the Caucasoid sub-races have submerged the aboriginals and native peoples in North America, South America, and Oceania. Similar is the case in Asia, Africa and the islands of the Pacific, Indian and Arctic Oceans.

Fast mobility of man has led to intermingling of blood and cross-breeding and this in its turn has made the idea of pure race as futile. At present, admixture is probable, even in short span, that racial purity becomes a meaningless term. The anthropological ideas discussed above are scientific but limited; the categories are, to a large extent, abstract and very difficult to apply to small groups of people. Moreover, a layman has broadened the term 'race' until it has become almost meaningless. He has, in addition, often ascribed to his own race a 'superiority' – implicitly a mental superiority – for which there is no evidence. These misconceptions have led to many wars and tragic chapters in man's history. Thus, the word 'race' has undesirable overtones. Even then, a layman thinks in terms of black, yellow, red and white. Thus, from a layman's point of view, race is what people have been taught it is.

## BASIS OF RACIAL CLASSIFICATION

Any classification of the human species must be based upon observable or measurable bodily characteristics of a presumably inheritable type. For ethnological purposes physical characters may be said of two kinds- (1) The superficial or external, and (2) the Internal or structural. The former class, usually called descriptive or secondary characters, includes such points as the colour and texture of skin, the colour, and shape of eyes, the colour and texture of hair, and the form of face and features. The latter class, usually called biological, includes such points as blood groups, cephalic, nasal and stature indices. According to Sir William Flower, "Physical characteristics are the best, in fact the only true test of race, that is, of real affinity. Language customs etc., may give indications, but they are often misleading."

### A. Colour of Skin

According to Griffith Taylor, nationality and language, although they appeal forcibly to the layman in classifying peoples, have little bearing on the problem of physical or biological classification, which is just like a final court of appeal. The most obvious, but least satisfactory, of these physical criteria is the colour of the skin. Colour is the most striking superficial characteristics of human divisions. Three colours are most universally accepted by anthropologists and ethnologists. Cuvier divided the human groups into three races according to colour of skin : (1) Caucasian (white colour), (2) Mongoloid (yellow colour), (3) Negro (black colour). Fig. (II.6.1) shows the distribution of skin colour of Indian people.

### B. Colour and Texture of Hair.

Hairs may be straight, woolly, red or light brown. Heavy straight hair seems, on the whole, to predominate, but the wavy or curly character appears in much the same proportion as among the races of Europe. The Andamenese have woolly or frizzly hair oval in section and curly on itself so tightly that it seems to grow in separate spiral tufts.

For most races of the world, the colour of the hair is dark, although it varies through black, dark-brown, reddish-brown, light-brown, blonde, golden, and red (light, brick or auburn).

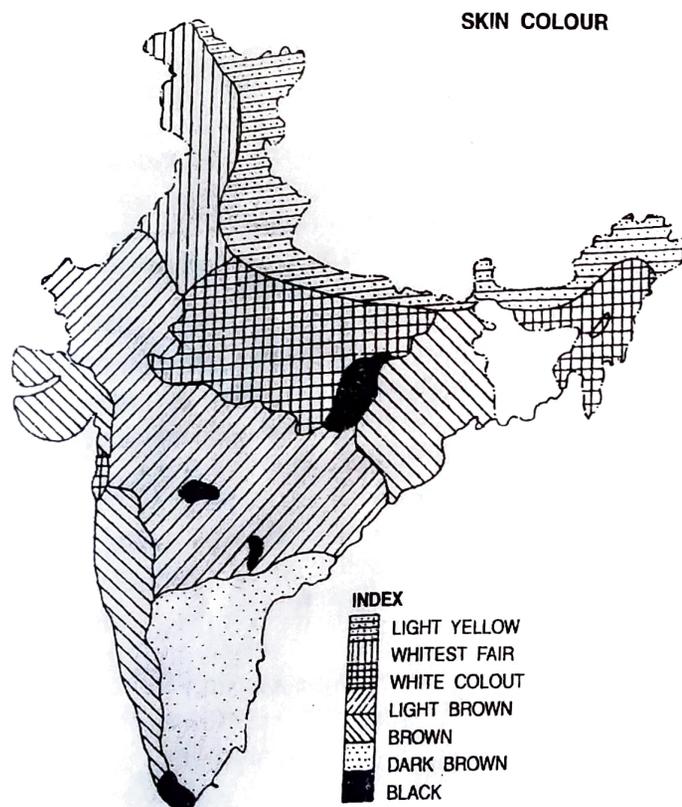
G.R. Gyayor has mentioned the following three types of hair :

Ulotrichi- i.e, Frizzly hair is characteristics of the people of Negros, Bushmen, Negritos and Melanesians, Leiotrichi- i.e. Straight hair is found among the central and north Asia and American Indians while Cymotrichi-that is wavy hair is mostly confined to Ainus of Japan, Polynesian and some Causasoid stock of western countries.

A.C. Haddon is (1925), has used hair as the chief basis of classification of world races.

### C. Colour and Shape of Eyes.

The great majority of people have dark-brown eyes due to pigment scattered through the iris (*eye-colour index*). This pigmentation of the iris varies greatly among



**Fig.II.6.1**

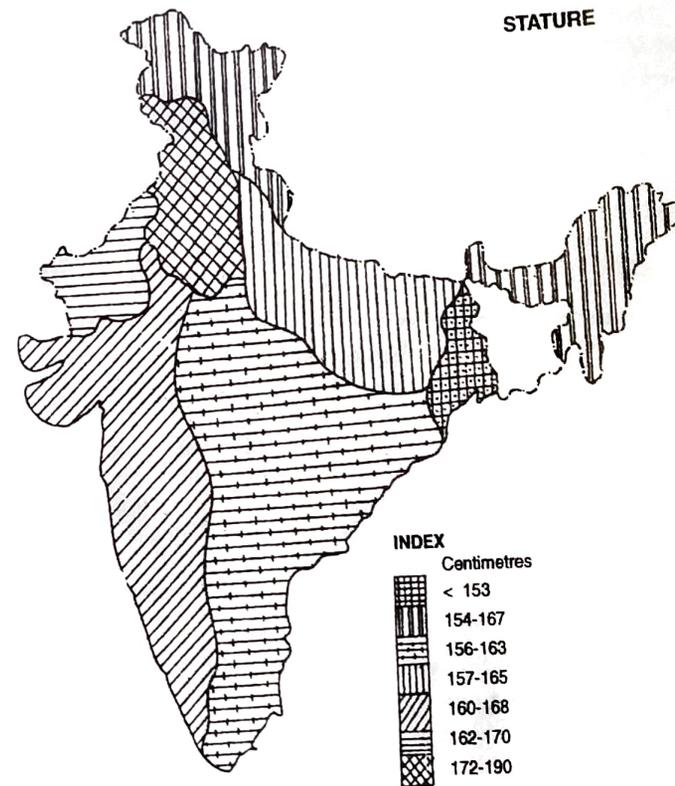
Distribution of Skin Colour

people of the world. ~~Beddoe~~ has made eye colour the chief basis for classification of races. He has combined this with hair colour and skin colour. For instance, grey eyes are common in central Europeans.

In Indian Republic, the eyes are almost invariably dark brown. However, occasional instances of grey are found among the Konkani-Brahmans of Maharashtra. The reddish blonde complexion is met with on the North-western frontier of the Malabar coast.

### D. Stature.

Topinard's classification of stature, which is generally accepted as racial classification, comprises four groups :



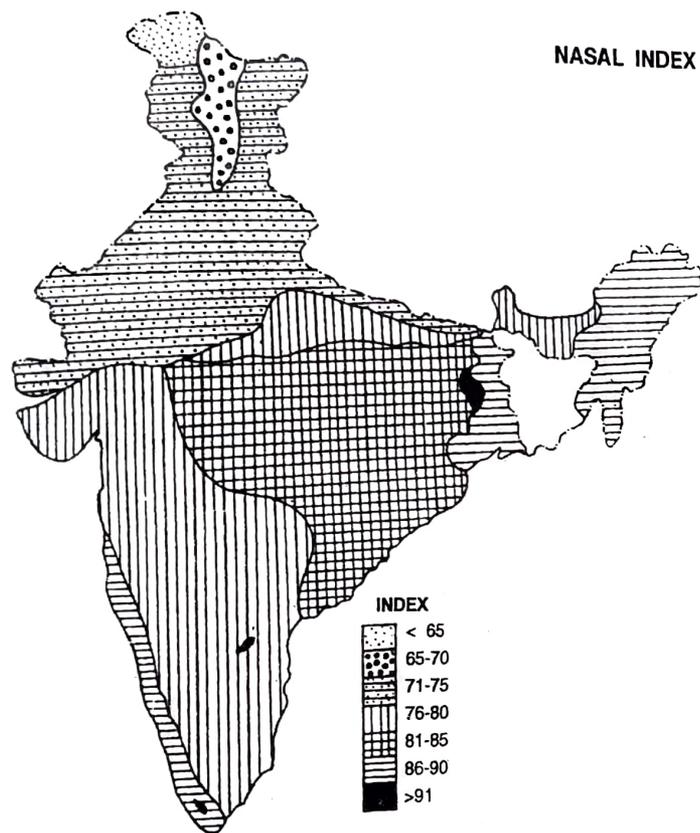
**Fig.II.6.2**

Stature of Man

- (i) **Tall stature** : 170 cm. and over.
- (ii) **Above the average** : 165 cm. and under 170 cm.
- (iii) **Below the average** : 160 cm. and under 165 cm.
- (iv) **Small stature** : under 160 cm.

Most probably, stature of 95% people of the world range between 150 cms to 165 cms. On the whole, the distribution of stature in the Indian sub continent shows

that race differences play a larger major part here than they do in Europe. In this sub-continent tallest stature are marked in Baluchistan and Rajasthan. It progressively declines as one proceeds down the valley of the Ganga to the hills bordering on Arunachal Pradesh. (Mongoloid people) and finally to Andaman Island (Onges).



**Fig.II.6.3**  
Nasal Index

### E. Blood Group.

Throughout the world, people can be divided into four types according to their red blood cells containing A, B, AB and O types. Every person can be placed in one of the four groups. The genes responsible for these groups are present throughout the world, although the proportions of these different genes differ somewhat from region to region and from race to race.

### F. Nasal Index.

Nasal index is one of the best criterion for racial distinction. The nasal index is the relation of the breadth of the nose to its height. Fig.II.6.3 shows the distribution of nasal index of the Indian Population.

### G. The Head Index or Cephalic Index.

The shape of the head is one of the first parameters, used scientifically for the division of mankind into races. It is relatively easy to measure, and has a high degree of accuracy. The shape of the head, expressed as an index of breadth over length  $\times 100$ . It is known as the *Cephalic Index*. The index may be obtained by the following formula :

$$C.I. = \frac{\text{Width of head} \times 100}{\text{Length of head}}$$

The resultant figure is often divided into three categories. The index under 78.5 is considered a long head, 78.6 to 82.5 is medium, and more than 82.5 is broad head (Fig.II.6.4).

Long head (Dolichocephalic) below 78.5

Medium head (Mesocephalic) 78.6 to 82.5

Broad head (Brachycephalic) more than 82.5

### Racial Classification. (Fig.II.6.4)

Let us now consider the different racial classifications as proposed by different anthropologists.

Cuvier has divided the human groups into three races:

1. **Caucasoid-** (White Colour)
2. **Mongoloid-** (Yellow Colour)
3. **Negro-** (Black Colour)

T. Huxley classified the human stock into five races. These are : 1. Australoid, 2. Negroid, 3. Mongoloid, 4. Xanthochroic, 5. Meanochroic races. A short description of these races is given below :-

1. **The Australoid-** This type is represented by the natives of Australia and some south Indian tribes. Physically they have chocolate brown skin, dark brown or black eyes, black hair, narrow head form, brow ridges strongly developed, projecting jaw, coarse lips and broad nose.

2. **Negroid**- These people are mostly confined to the deserts of Sahara, Madagascar and Cape districts of South-Africa. They are best represented by Negroes of Africa.

Negroids are divided into two **sub-divisions**:

- (a) Bushman of Kalahari desert.
- (b) The Negritos of Andaman islands, the penin.sular Malacca, the Philippines etc.

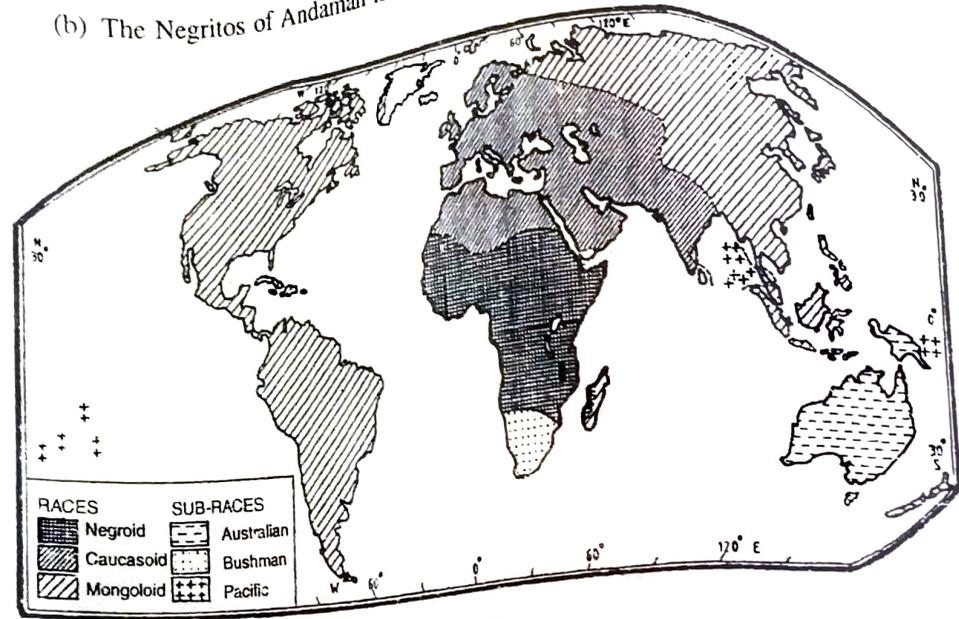


Fig.II.6.4  
Distribution of the World's Races

3. **The Mongoloid Type**- These people are short statured; with black eyes, hair texture coarse, hair form straight; skin colour varies from yellowish to brown, with flat nose and face and a great development of a typical Mongoloid fold of the eye. This type is represented by dolichocephalic Chinese and Japanese.

4. **Xanthochroic or Fair White**- They are tall in stature, with almost colourless skin, blue or grey eyes, hair colour straw to chestnut. They are mostly confined to north Europe, north Africa and eastwards in India.

5. **Meanochroic**- They are generally short in stature, brownish to olive in skin colour and the hair as well as eyes are dark coloured. They inhabit mostly in the southern Europe and Arabia. They are best represented by Spaniards, Greeks and Arabians.

Denikar, a Russian born French Anthropologist, attempted a detailed and finer division of races on the basis of hair. Denikar (1889) established six (hair woolly, hair curly etc.) major divisions, 16 minor divisions (Bushman, Negroid, American, Mandal etc.) which is further sub-divided into 28 separate races (such as Negrito, Malanesian, Littoral).

### DENIKAR'S CLASSIFICATION OF RACES

- |   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| <b>I. Hair Woolly, With Broad Nose</b>                                | <b>Negroid</b>        |
| 1. (a) Bushman  | 2. Negroid            |
| (b) Negrito   |                       |
| (c) Negro   |                       |
| (d) Melanesian (including Papuans)                                    |                       |
| <b>II. Hair Curly to Wavy</b>   | <b>Negroid</b>        |
| 3. (e) Ethiopian (Sudan etc.)   | East Africa           |
| 4. (f) Australian   |                       |
| 5. (g) Dravidian (South India)  | Veddoid               |
| 6. (h) Assyroid (Kurds, Armenians, Jews)                              | Armenoid              |
| <b>III. Hair Wavy Dark Caucasoid</b>                                  |                       |
| 7. (i) Indo-Afghan  | Hindu                 |
| 8. North Africa   |                       |
| (j) Arab or Semite  | East Mediterranean    |
| (k) Berber (North Africa)   | Mediterranean         |
| 9. Melanochriod   |                       |
| (l) Littoral (Atlano-Medit)   | Mediterranean         |
| (m) Western European  | Alpine                |
| (n) Adriatic (North Italy and Balkans)                                | Dinaric.              |
| <b>IV. Hair wavy to Straight, with Light Eyes</b>                     | <b>Fair Caucanoid</b> |
| 10. Xanthochroid  |                       |
| (o) North European  | Nordic                |
| (p) East European   | East Baltic           |
| <b>V. Hair wavy to Straight with Dark Eyes Caucasoid to Mongoloid</b> | <b>(Sub-Nordic)</b>   |
| (q) Ainu  |                       |
| 11. Oceanian  |                       |
| (r) Polynesian  |                       |
| (s) Indonesian (East Indies)  |                       |
| <b>VI. Straight Hair</b>  | <b>Mongoloid</b>      |
| 12. American  |                       |
| (t) South American  |                       |

- (u) North American
- (v) Central American
- (w) Patagonian
- 13. (x) Eskimo
- 14. (y) Lapp
- 15. Eurasian
  - (z) Urgan (Eastern Russia)
  - (zi) Turco-Tartar (South Western Siberia)
- 16. (zii) Mongol (East Asia)

*Characteristics of Major Races*

After Haddon, 1925 and Krogman, 1945.

Trait	Caucasoid	Mongoloid	Negroid
1. Skin colour	Pale reddish white to olive brown	Saffron to yellow brown, some reddish brown	Brown to brown-black, some yellow brown
2. Stature	Medium to tall	Medium tall to medium short	Tall to very short
3. Head form	Long to broad and short, medium high to very high	Predominantly broad, height medium	Predominantly long, height low to medium
4. Face	Narrow to medium broad, tends to high, no prognathism	Medium broad to very broad, malars high and flat, tends to medium high.	Medium broad to narrow, tends to medium high, strong prognathism
5. Hair	<i>Head hair</i> : colour, light blonde to dark brown; texture, fine to medium; form, straight to wavy <i>Body hair</i> : Moderate to profuse	<i>Head hair</i> : colour, brown to brown black; texture, coarse; form, straight <i>Body hair</i> : Sparse	<i>Head hair</i> : colour, brown black; texture coarse; form, light curl to woolly or frizzly <i>Body hair</i> : Slight
6. Eye	Colour : light blue to dark brown; lateral eye-fold occasional	Colour : brown to dark brown, medial epicanthic fold very common	Colour : brown to brown black, verical eye-fold common
7. Nose	Bridge : usually high; form : narrow to medium broad	Bridge : usually low to medium; form; medium broad	Bridge : usually low; form : medium broad to very broad
8. Body build	Linear to lateral; slender to rugged	Tends to be lateral; some linerarity evident	Tends to be lateral and muscular
9. Blood group	More A than B	High in B	High in Rhe (cDe)

## A.C.Haddon's Classification of Races

Like Deniker, A.C. Haddon, (1925), has used hair as the chief basis of classification of races. Nevertheless, he has combined this with stature, skin colour and cephalic index. His classification is given below :

### 1. ULOTRICH OR FRIZZLY HAIR

#### Ulotrichi Orientals

Very short, dark skinned meso to low brachycephalic.

Negrito (Andamanese, Semang, Aeta, Tapiro).

Short or tall dark-skinned, dolichocephalic.

Papuan, Melanesian.

Ulotrichi African.

Very short, yellowish-skinned, mesocephalic.

Negrito (Akka, Ba Twa, Ba Mbute, etc.)

Short, yellowish-skinned, mesocephalic.

Bushman, Hottentot.

Short or tall, dark-skinned, dolichocephalic.

Negro, Nilotic, Bantu-speaking Negroid or Bantu.

### 2. CYMOTRICH-WAVY HAIR

#### 1. Dolichocephals

A. Dark-Skinned, short or medium stature.

(a) Platyrrhine.

Pre-Dravidian (Sakai, Vedda, Jungle-tribes of South India, Bhil, Gond,

Oraon, Kolarian etc.) Australian.

(b) Mesorrhine or Leptorrhine.

#### Dravidian, Hamite

B. Intermediate shades, or variable stature black hair, typically dolichocephalic.

Indo-Afghan, Nesiote or Indonesian Palseo-Amerind.

(c) Twany-white, complexion, black hair, medium stature.

Eurofrican, Semite Mediterranean (the Brown race).

## II. Mesocephals

- A. Tawny-White Complexion, black hair, medium stature, Pyrenean, Atlanto-Mediterranean.
- B. Fair skin and hair, tall stature.  
Nordic.
- C. Light brown skin, black hair, medium stature.  
Ainu.

## III. Brachycephals

- Twany skin, colour of the hair variable, medium or tall.
- I. Euroasiatic-Alpo-Carpathian (Cevnole; Slav; Pamiri or Iranian) : Illyric Anatolian (Illyrian or Adriatic or Dinaric)  
Anatolian or Armenian; Prospectores, Beaker-folk.

## 3. LEIOTRICH-OR STRAIGHT HAIR

## I. Dolichocephals

Brownish or reddish yellow skin, generally tinged with red, medium stature, Eskimo.

## II. Mesocephals

Yellowish-brown skin stature-short, medium or tall, Palaeo-arcticus or ugrian or Palaeo = Asiatic, Sinicus; Northern Amerind.

## III. Brachycephals

Skin yellowish-white to coppery-brown, stature short medium or tall Turki; Centralis, Tungus or Mongol; Pareocan or Southern Mongoloid; Polynesian : New-Amerind, Tehuelche Northwest coast Amerind.

## Hooton's Classification.

Ernest Albert Hooton made a detailed phytogenetic classification of races. His classification is based on purely anatomical characteristics, Ernest Albert.

Hooton has recognised three primary races corresponding to the usual primary human stocks. He distinguished white or Caucasoid, Negroid and Mongoloid races which are sub-divided into 23 sub-races. Indonesian and American are again sub-divided sometime Mediterranean, Australian, Indo-Dravidian, Negrito, Malynesian into morphological traits. His classification and description of the 23 groups may be usefully combined and represented by the following table :

Races and Subraces			
Primary Race/ Region	Sub-races	Composite Races	Residual Mixed Type
I. Caucasoid-White (European, Euro Africo-Asian)	1. Mediterranean 2. Ainu 3. Celtic 4. Nordic 5. Alpine 6. East Baltic	7. Armenoid 8. Dinaric	9. Nordic Alpine 10. Nordic-Mediterranean
		Predominantly White (a) Australian (b) Indo-Dravidian (c) Polynesian	
		Predominantly Negroid (a) Tasmanian	
II. Negroid (Africa, Asia, Pacific Islands)	1. African Negro (Niguri Forest Negro) 2. Nilotic Negro 3. Negrito	4. Malanesians 5. Papuans	Predominantly Negroid
		Secondary subrace 6. Bushman 7. Hottentot	
III. Mongoloid (Asia, Pacific Islands, North and South Americas)	1. Classic Mongoloid 2. Arctic Mongoloid (Eskimos)	3. Malaya Mongoloid 4. Indonesian Mongoloid 5. American Indians	Predominantly Mongoloid

## Griffith Taylor's Classification

According to Griffith Taylor the birth place of man was Central Asia from where they migrated elsewhere as a result of climatic changes. The gradual change of climate through later Tertiary times is first described by Mathew in 1914. The "climatic thrusts,"

according to Mathew, were firstly glacial and arid conditions later on. Incidentally, the yellow race, according to Griffith Taylor, seems to have developed later on.

Roland B.

The race is based on

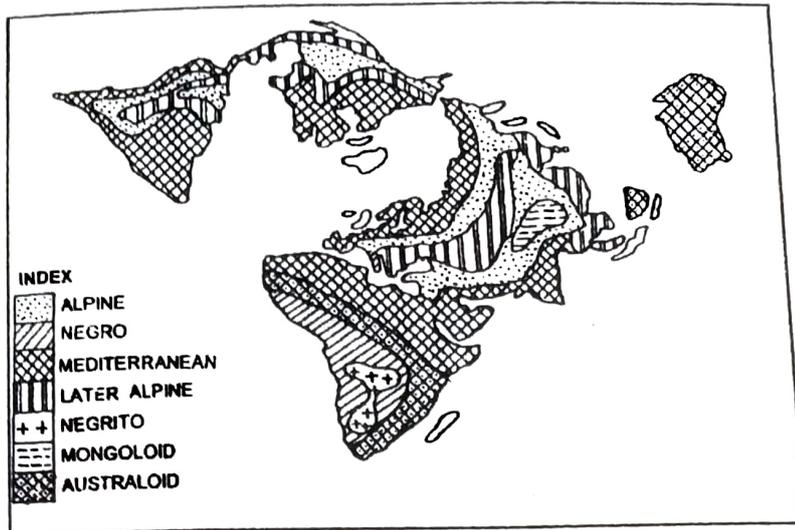


Fig.II.6.5 Griffith Taylor's Classification of Race

Cephalic index and other physical traits are the characteristic features of Taylor's racial classification (Table & Fig.II.6.5)

Table  
Griffith Taylor's Classification

	Cephalic index	Hair	Skin Colour	Habitat
Latest Migration (Late Alpine Mongolian)	88-83	Straight	Light brown & yellow	Extends from Swiss Alps to Manchuria.
Early Alpine (Mongoloid)	83-80	Straight and wavy	Light brown & white	Covers most of Asia and Central Europe.
Mediterranean	80-77	Wavy curly	Light brown to white	North Africa, South Africa and fringe of Northern Eurasia.
Australoid	76-73	Wavy to curly	Dark brown to black	Marginal areas of Peninsular India and Australia.
Negro	74-70	Frizzly	Black chocolate	South Africa & Melanesian Laos, Combodia, Thailand, Vietnam
Negrito	about 80	Frizzly	Usually black	Inaccessible forests of South East Asia & Africa.

distribut  
of the

Mi  
The  
and is  
sense.  
not m  
minor  
sense  
preju  
T  
to a  
There  
area  
but  
thei  
in r  
to b  
as  
ma

## Ethnicity.

While the idea of race mistakenly implies something fixed and biological, 'ethnicity' is a concept that is purely social in meaning. Ethnicity refers to the cultural practices and outlooks of a given community of people that set them apart from others. Members of ethnic groups see themselves as culturally distinct from other groups in a society, and are seen by those other groups to be so in return. Different characteristics may serve to distinguish ethnic groups from one another, but the most usual are language, history or ancestry (real or imagined), religion and styles of dress or adornment. Ethnic differences are wholly learned, a point that seems self-evident until we remember how often some groups have been regarded as 'born to rule' or 'shiftless', 'unintelligent', and so forth. In fact, there is nothing innate about ethnicity; it is a purely social phenomenon that is produced and reproduced over time. Through socialization, young people assimilate the lifestyles, norms and beliefs of their communities.

For many people ethnicity is central to individual and group identity. It can provide an important thread of continuity with the past and is often kept alive through the practice of cultural traditions. Every year the excitement and virtuoso displays or Carnival evoke the Caribbean on the streets. Example is third-generation Americans of Irish descent may proudly identify themselves as Irish-American, despite having lived their entire lives in the United States. Irish traditions and customs are often passed down through generations of families and in the larger Irish community. Although it is maintained within tradition, ethnicity is not static and unchanging. Rather, it is fluid and adaptable to changing circumstances. In the case of Irish-Americans, for instance, it is possible to see how popular customs from Ireland have been maintained but transformed in the context of American society. The boisterous St Patrick's Day parades in many US cities are one example of how Irish heritage has been recast with a distinctly American flair. Similar examples can be found around the globe in cases where populations – as a result of migration, war, shifting labour markets or other factors – have mixed to produce ethnically diverse communities.

Instances are emigrated Bengalees who have settled in various states of India. Wherever there are a few Bengalees, they will flock together and will build one *Kalibari* (temple of goddess Kali) or *Durgabari* (temple Durga), such as Delhi Kalibari, Simla Kalibari and worship the goddess Kali or Durga once during festivals. During *Durgapuja*, all the Bengali assemble in Kalibari or Durgabari. They take food and participate in various functions there.

Sociologists often favour the term 'ethnicity' because it is a concept that is completely social in meaning. However, references to ethnicity and ethnic differences can be problematic, especially if they suggest contrast with a 'non-ethnic' norm. In Britain, for example, ethnicity is commonly used to refer to cultural practices and traditions that differ from 'indigenous' British practices. The broad term 'ethnic' is applied to realms as diverse as cuisine, clothing, music and neighbourhoods to designate practices that are 'non-British'. Using ethnic labels in this collective manner risks producing divisions between 'us' and 'them', where certain parts of the population are seen as 'ethnic' and others are not. In fact, ethnicity is an attribute possessed by all members of a population, not merely certain segments of it. Yet, in practice, ethnicity is most often associated with minority groups within a population.

**Spatial Diffusion and Distribution of Races.**

It has been postulated that originally mankind, consisting of a few thousand people, lived in the central zone bordered by mountain belt from Anatolia to Kamchatka and the deserts of North Africa and South-West Asia. Those who could move out into the outlying areas had to live in extreme environment for a long period leading to gradual racial modifications either by natural selection or by genetic drift. Thus, the diffusion process was extremely slow and modifications were gradual. Because each



Ularick Male



Alpine Male



Mediterranean Male



Mongoloid Male-China



Mongoloid Women-Japan



Mongoloid Male-Japan



Polynesia Somoa Male  
(Admixture of White  
Mongoloid-Negro)



Vedda Male



Kashmiri Male



Bushman Male



Nordic Male



Hotentot Male



Ainu Male-North Japan

such group got isolated in a particular environment where it lived for a pretty long period, it led to a gradual modification of their skin colour, hair form and colour, eye-fold and colour, shape of faces etc. While in the original central belt, which is conjectured as the belt of origin of mankind, people continued to maintain a pool of diverse hereditary factors.

It was only towards the last glaciation, when the climatic conditions became more favourable and hospitable, that there was more of intermingling of people of central