



Health and Nutritional Status of Indigeneous Populations

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**B.R. Publishing Corporation
Delhi-110 052**

Published by:

B.R Publishing Corporation

425, Nimri Colony, Ashok Vihar, Phase-IV, Delhi-110 052

E-Mail : brpc73@gmail.com

First Published 2019

© Editors

ISBN 9789388789318

Printed at Anvi Composers, Delhi

Publisher's note:

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Cataloging in Publication Data--DK

Courtesy: D.K. Agencies (P) Ltd. <docinfo@dkagencies.com>

"Indigenous People, Human Security and Sustainable Development: Emerging Challenges in the Present Global Context" (Conference) (2018 : Kolkata, India)

Health and nutritional status of indigenous populations / editors, Rajesh K. Gautam, Jyoti Jhariya, Subir Biswas, Premananda Bharati.

pages cm

"... papers presented in an international conference entitled "Indigenous People, Human Security and Sustainable Development: Emerging Challenges in the Present Global Context" held at Kolkata during 19-21 Jan 2018 ..."--About the book.

Includes bibliographical references.

ISBN 9789388789318

1. Indigenous peoples--Health and hygiene--India--Congresses.
2. Indigenous peoples--Health and hygiene--Bangladesh--Congresses.
3. Children--Health and hygiene--India--Congresses.
4. Children--Health and hygiene--Bangladesh--Congresses.
5. Women--Health and hygiene--India--Congresses.
6. Women--Health and hygiene--Bangladesh--Congresses.
7. Malnutrition--India--Congresses.
8. Malnutrition--Bangladesh--Congresses.
- I. Gautam, Rajesh K., 1970- editor.
- II. International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences. Commission on Human Rights, organizer.
- III. West Bengal State University. Department of Anthropology, organizer.
- IV. Title.

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Chapter - 2

Onset of Puberty and Status of Nutrition among Female Students of a Central Indian University

*Grażyna Liczbińska¹, Rajesh Gautam², Pragya Dubey²,
Ajay Kumar Ahirwar², Anurag Chaurasia²*

Introduction

The influence of socio-economic factors on biological variables, especially in developing countries, is an area of interest for many researchers (e.g. Bahreynian et al. 2015; Devakumar et al. 2018; Kirunda et al. 2015; Lee et al. 2016; Molina-Garcia et al. 2017; Yepes et al. 2016; Zhang et al. 2017a, b). A lot of studies have recently been devoted to the influence of economic changes, hence changes in the style and quality of life, in indigenous populations, especially the ones from the developing world (e.g. Adegbija et al. 2015 a, b, c; Adegbija and Wang 2014; Malina et al. 2013). In many countries of Asia and America the economic situation of indigenous people has changed along with economic and social transformations. It is obvious that these indigenous groups sooner or later respond to such changes. Malina and colleagues studied the secular trend in body height and body weight in the rural Zapotec Indian community in southern Mexico in the 1960s and at the beginning of the 21st century (Malina et al. 2004, 2007, 2013). Both height and weight increased