

## RELEVANCE OF MOLES, SCARS, TATTOO MARKS, BIRTHMARKS AND DIMPLES IN ETHNIC GROUPS OF NAGPUR (MAHARASHTRA)

**VIJETA CHOUDHARY\* AND ANUP KUMAR KAPOOR\*\***

\*DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY,  
UNIVERSITY OF DELHI, DELHI.

\*\* PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY,  
UNIVERSITY OF DELHI, DELHI.

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### ABSTRACT

Forensic anthropology has been one of the fastest growing medico–legal disciplines both in its contribution to the practical needs of the legal system and research accomplishments. Identification problems are important for legal and humanitarian reasons, in solving criminal cases, problems of inheritance, marital status etc. The present study was carried out in different school and colleges of Nagpur (Maharashtra) with sample size of 326 (males=180; females=146) with age groups of 14-28 years. To study the identification marks on human body, General information (including name, age, sex, surname, caste, sub-caste, clan, education, occupation and type of food), Anthro- forensic variables like identification marks i.e. moles, scars, tattoo, birthmarks, deformities, extra fingers and extra toes and dimple with their location on body, shape, size, colour and psychological perceptions about identification marks have been taken into consideration. From the present study, it can be concluded that identification marks differ in their presence, shape, size, colour and location in males and females and can be helpful in identification of sex a person. On an informative note, no study has been carried out to see the role of identification marks among population group of Nagpur (Maharashtra). So, there is a dearth of literature to support the study but it gives a base line scenario for further research in future as well as opens up a new dimension for anthro-forensic world.

**KEY WORDS:** Anthro-forensic, Identification, Identification marks.

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