

## THE MUSSALMANS OF GOA.

(Anthropological Study.)

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BEFORE the Muhammadan invasion of the Deccan, in the latter end of the thirteenth century Islam had not made much progress there.

After this period the Deccan was overrun by Muhammadans. During the Bahmani Empire of the Deccan and Konkan (1347-1526) many foreign troops such as Arabs, Tartars, Afghans and Persians were introduced.

Some of these settled in the country and from them have sprung the Deccani Mussalmans and consequently the Goanese Muhammadans, either by a continued residence or by union with the women of the country.

The Goanese Mussalmans belong to the great group of the Deccani Mussalmans.

The anthropometric study on the Goanese Muhammadans concerns 100 individuals, of the masculine sex, inhabiting the territory of the Indo-Portuguese district of Goa.

Those subjects whose somatic measurements I have taken were all soldiers and motor-car drivers.

I have observed the following anthropometric data :

*Crucial Index*.—The global average is of 106,25 nearer to those which characterize the white race than to those of the negro race.

*Crural Index*.—The average is 50,46, indicative of a mesosquelic type.

*Horizontal Cephalic Index*.—The average is of 79,51 indicative of a mesocephalic type.

*Schmidt's Module*.—This average is of 157,74, indicative of medium-sized heads.

*Total Facial Index*.—The average is of 90,17, designative of the mesoprosopy.

*Superior Facial Index*.—The average is of 55,22, indicative of the moesenic type.

*Nasal Index*.—With an average of 70,95, indicative of the leptorrhinian type.

*Ponderal Index*.—With an average of 23,3, indicative of sub-normal ponderal type.

*Size or Height*.—It is of 1<sup>m</sup>, 656<sup>mm</sup> indicative of a group over than the medium type.

*Dynamometry*.—The bimanual dynamometric average to the pressure is of 36 Kilograms.

*Anthropo-typology*.—As for the disposition predominate the mixed and sanguineous physiological types, and concerning the noso-morphologic types preponderate among the Goanese Mussalmans the *mixed type* in the first place, and afterwards the *muscular type* respectively with the percentages of 48% and 30%, the remaining individuals belonging to the nervous and lymphatic types.

*Skin Colour*.—There prevails the XV, XVI, XVIII, XX and XXII of Von Lueschan's scale, that is indicative of whitish colour.

*General Morphological Aspect*.—Men of size over than medium type, regularly strong, dolichocephalic, leptorrhinian, well proportionate and little communicative.

*Hirszfeld's Index*.—Concerning the blood groups among them I have calculated the *Bio-chimic index of Hirszfeld* and I have found the average of 0,88, higher than that I have calculated for the Goanese Mahrattas.

*Conclusion*.—It seems to me that the Goanese Mussalmans are a mixed ethnic group, issued of the race crossing between the Arabs mostly, and the Hindus inhabiting the Malabar, Deccan and Konkan. The pure descents of Arabs firstly, and of the Afghans secondly, are very rare, and, practically it is quite impossible to find them in this country.