

R. K. Mukerji
Constitution and Temperament

Reading excerpt

[Constitution and Temperament](#)

of [R. K. Mukerji](#)

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**CONSTITUTION
TEMPERAMENT**
and a Chapter on
Morphology of Hands



Raj Kumar Mukerji

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Narayana Verlag GmbH, Blumenplatz 2, D-79400 Kandern, Germany

Tel. +49 7626 9749 700

Email info@narayana-verlag.com

<http://www.narayana-verlag.com>



CHAPTER I

Some Ancient Morphological Classifications

It was Aristotle who first made physiognomy a branch of natural history, of medicine and of philosophy. 'It is good', he said, 'to have a method in order to group together all that belongs to each type', and he described the particular signs of the individual, of diseases and of humours.

Galien first described human types as **Sanguin, Bilious, Phlegmatic** and **Nervous**. Most probably he was influenced by the oriental medicine—Arabic or Indian—because we find in our Ayurvedic system of medicine the same classification : Vayu, Pitta, and Kopf.

In modern times, it was Claude Sigaud of Lyon who studied these human types, basing himself on 'Man in function of the ambience.' His study of human morphology is known by the name of 'Morphologie de l'Ecole française'. His study was based on the observation of 20th century human beings and he has described these types 'in a language adapted to our modern conceptions'. It would be then better for us to give here a bird's eyeview of the type of Sigaud, without referring to the ancient masters : Aristotle, Hippocrates or Galien.

According to Sigaud, the human types are the following : *Respiratory, Digestive, Muscular* and *Cerebral*.

Before describing the types of Sigaud, let us describe the types of Galien in the shortest possible way which will help us to understand better the types of Sigaud.

Sanguin : This type has white skin with coloured taint ; short stature with a short neck having tendency to plethora, congestions, obesity and all kinds of haemorrhages (The Carbonic type which we will describe later on).

Apollo : He has a graceful appearance, He is physically resistant but has a certain nervousness.

He attains equilibrium in life, if the circumstances are favourable to him for realising his powerful, creative and fecund imagination.

He has hyperfunction of the pineal gland and a slight hyperthyroidism. He may have also a hyperfunction of the pituitary.

He is hypogenital and hypersexual.

Venus : He finds equilibrium only in sympathy.

He is clearly thyrodian and hyperfeminine. In women of this type the ovaries are overactive.



Venus

painful, that the reality is dry. He fails to get what he wants.

He fails to become what he wishes to become and as a consequence he recoils himself within himself. He is introverted,

I the Scizoid Type of Kreschmer.

I The **Hand of the Phosphoric**

The hand of phosphoric is long, elated and elegant, having a tendency of becoming oval.

The incisures are deep; fine

I and numerous.

Habitually plastic and supple.

The palm is tendinous.

The phalanges, specially the top ones, are long and conic with small cutaneous depressions, generally called 'water-drops'.

The fingers are graceful and less' thick, glossy, slender with fine, rosy and long nails having the form of almond.



Phosphoric

The **Fluoric Type**

The Fluoric type is essentially unstable and have an irregular built. He wants balance. In his posture, in his gestures, in his talks, everything in his life is irregular, without coordination. Sometimes he attracts, sometimes he repels. Sometimes he is brilliant, sometimes he is vulgar.

He is physically and mentally unstable.

The **Static**

His body built does not seem firm, it is undulated. He cannot hold **himself** straight.

The Fluoric type can never take a correct posture because of his deformed bones and laxity of ligaments and muscles. He enters into your chamber and breaks down into the chair.

The physical aptitude of the fluoric is great, if he is guided. Exercise is extremely necessary for him ; unfortunately, the fluoric has always a dislike of muscular effort. Short distance run race is very suitable to him.

His reactions are violent but not resolute.

The Psychic Dynamic

He is capricious, anxious, undecided, irregular and versatile. Very often, he desires to confuse others by his gestures. He has fits of fear without reason. He is intuitive, a good assimilate. He has depressing tendency.

He is irresolute, takes decision suddenly. He never thinks before any decision. He is intelligent but commits errors after errors, errors of speech, of movements, etc.

He has a great sense of inferiority feeling which leads him to a superiority complex. He wants to dominate, to become rich only to rule over others.

The fluoric type is afraid to remain alone. He feels the necessity of speaking, to exchange ideas, to agitate. He has the need of keeping himself busy to live his life, but he is afraid of death, of painful and miserable situations.

Orderliness is his enemy.

The Hand of the Fluoric

The hand of the fluoric is specially marked with the laxity of his ligaments, for which there is an exaggerated suppleness. A remarkable elasticity, specially of the thumb, which can be moved with extreme facility.

The veins of the hands are apparent.

The palm is soft with a loose skin over it.

The lines are generally numerous, superficial and fine.

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