ABSTRACT

The aim of the present investigation was to find differences not only between criminals and psychosomatic patients as whole and their sub-groups with respect to anxiety and level of aspiration but also to compare criminals and sub-groups with normals.

The sample consisted of 300 subjects; 100 criminals, 100 psychosomatic patients and 100 normals. The criminals were selected according to nature of their crimes; crimes against property (N = 50) and crimes against person (N = 50) were randomly selected from the District Jail, Aligarh. Four groups of psychosomatic patients from Heart disease, Bronchial asthma, Peptic ulcer and Chronic gastritis were randomly selected from Holy Clinic, Gangoh (Saharanpur) and Devitra Hospital, Aligarh. The normals were selected randomly from Aligarh city population. The age range of the subjects was 25 to 50 years. Umaruddin, M. & Qadri, A.J. (1964). Aligarh Adjustment Scale, Sinha’s (1968) Anxiety Scale and Singh & Tiwari’s (1976) Level of Aspiration Scale, were used to measure these variables. The 't' test of significance of difference between means was applied to study the differences between above groups.

Results show that criminals and psychosomatic patients as whole groups as well as their sub-groups with regard to...
their total adjustment score higher than and differ significantly from normals. Psychosomatic patients except asthma patients are highest in this respect and are significantly different from criminals and their sub-groups.

The same trend of results with slight variations more or less holds true with respect to emotional, financial and social adjustments. In home and health areas of adjustment difference between both criminals and psychosomatic patients along with their sub-groups from normals is in the same direction and more or less same as above. However, comparative results of criminals and psychosomatic patients with regard to health adjustment show that both sub-groups of criminals neither score higher than nor differ significantly from two sub-groups, heart & asthma of psychosomatic patients. Although with other two sub-groups of psychosomatic patients the difference is significant. Interestingly enough in the home adjustment both criminals and psychosomatic patients are more or less equally maladjusted.

With regard to anxiety psychosomatic patients, except asthma patients, are highest scores, next come the criminals and normals are the lowest. Both criminals and psychosomatic patients are more anxious than normals. Criminals as a whole and their sub-groups in comparison to the whole group of psychosomatic patients and their two sub-groups, peptic ulcer
and gastritis patients are significantly less anxious but there is no difference with other two groups of patients.

In connection with level of aspiration criminals are lowest in hierarchy of scores. Next come the normals and again psychosomatic patients the highest. Although differences of normals with property criminals, psychosomatic patients as a whole and their sub-group of gastritis patients are insignifi­
cant. The criminals as whole and their sub-group have scored less than whole group of psychosomatic patients and their three sub-groups of heart and asthma and gastritis patients. The peptic ulcer patients more or less have same level of aspiration as the criminals have, criminals and peptic ulcer patients are over realistic in their aspiration while other psychosomatic patients are more unrealistic.