

# Recognizing Criminal Tendencies through Hand Analysis

Dr. Kanchana Kohombange

PhD, Department of Palmistry, Viswa Jyotish Vidyapith Kolkata, India  
Bharathiya Jyothisha Padana Kendram, Kerala, India

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**Abstract:** Criminologists and psychiatrists are generally in agreement that there are five main categories of lawbreakers: the instinctive type, the impulsive type, the habitual type, the passionate type and the criminally insane type. Whichever category they fall into, those who turn to crime must be regarded as somehow unstable and in a sense, therefore morally, mentally or emotionally unsound. Study of palmistry does reveal these violent and criminal tendencies. The main objective of this research is to make a study of the various hand signs in relation to animalistic trait and abnormal features indicate criminal tendencies. This work covers the study of various types of criminal handprints and also an equal number of handprints of common people. The percentage of each of the signs in both these categories is worked out and is shown here. A comparative change can be seen when we analyze the results. In conclusion I confirm that hand analysis can be used to recognizing criminal tendencies. For the police department results would be quite useful for its crime branch to understand the creation and working of the criminal mind.

**Keywords:** Chirognomy, Chiromancy, Dermatoglyphics, atavistic signs.

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## I. INTRODUCTION

Criminologist, F.B.I. and law enforcement agencies identify criminals by their fingerprints and palm prints. The study of palmistry does reveal criminal and violent tendencies. I hope this research will be used as guide towards dealing with and recognizing the different types of criminals. To recognize if they are born criminals or their environment is responsible for their actions.

## II. METHODOLOGY

Handprints of people who were involved with various criminals convicted and punished were taken into this research. Comparatively hands of the equal number of common people from all walks of civil society were also taken into this research. Various aspects were observed under 3 divisions of palmistry.

Chirognomical observation

- Skin type
- Nature of thumb and fingers
- Shape of the palm and the hand

Chiromantical observation

- Head line
- Heart line
- Union between these main lines
- Absence of main lines
- However the minor palm lines were not analyzed and just observe

## Dermatoglyphic observation

Skin texture

ATD angle

Pattern on palm specially mounts of moon and Venus

Patterns on fingers

Ridge counts

To confirm a person's tendency for crimes one must fulfill above aspects as indicated in the following proportions: Considering Chiromonomical observation 2/3, Considering Chiromantical observation 3/5 and Considering Dermatoglyphic observation 3/5.

Analysis was carried out using fingerprint ink CAT. NO. 231T (manufactured by SIRCHIE fingerprint labs, inc. 100 hunter place Youngsville, NC 27596 USA)

### III. RESULTS

**Table 1 - A comparative statement showing above that the position of signs on the hands of criminals and common people.**

Description of sign	Criminals in various categories %	Common people %
Same fingerprint pattern found more than 6 fingers	87	15
Patterns on the mount of Venus or Moon	55	38
Palmar ridge dissociation (broken skin ridges)	33	4
ATD angle less than 40 <sup>0</sup>	53	1
AB ridge count higher than (32-34)	8	-
Loop ridge count higher than (12-14)	1	-
Earth type skin texture	87	27
Simian line	36	20
Sydney line	30	26
Suwon line	20	6
Very short or unpleasant heart line	45	16
Narrow Quadrangle	50	13
Absence of Fate line	37	7
A short undeveloped thumb or low set thumb	96	17
Very abnormal line of Head	46	27
Practical hand type	81	24

1. Same fingerprint pattern was found in six or more than six fingers of criminals in majority.
2. Loops and whorls were found more frequently on the fingers.
3. The average loop ridge count was range 12-14.
4. Palmar ridge dissociation (broken skin ridges) was found in most hands of criminals.
5. Patterns were found on the mount of Venus and of Moon of criminals.
6. The average AB ridge count 34 was common in normal criminal hands. But AB ridge count was higher than in serial killers and special criminals.
7. ATD angle was found in between 30 – 38 degrees lower range on criminal handprints.
8. Triradius was not readable on all prints therefore ATD angle could not be determined for all prints. (Longitudinal apex ridges can be seen on these prints.)
9. Earth type skin texture was more frequent in criminals hand prints than those of the common people.
10. Chiromantically in contrast simian line, Sydney line and Suwon line were more frequent in criminal hands than in common people.

11. Normal lines were more frequent in the left palm than in the right, while the simian line was more frequent in the right palm than in left palm.

12. Suwon line was found surprising frequency among criminals opposed to normal population.

13. Very short or unpleasant heart line was a very common sign of criminals.

14. Absence of fate line was significant of criminals.

15. A short, undeveloped thumb or low set thumb was found noteworthy in the criminals.

16. Most of criminals have practical hand types.

Whenever we study handprints of criminals palm lines on the paper could not be appropriately analyzed due to poor printing conditions. In such cases the palm lines were regarded as a missing value.

**Notice:** *The hands of majority of criminals have abnormal features usually resembling those found on the hand of a monkey.*

#### IV. DISCUSSION

##### A. Considering of Chirognomical Observation:

###### Form of criminal hand:

In this research we can see most of criminals have practical hands. This type of hands belongs to the element of Earth. Chirognomically it is distinguished by a square palm and short fingers. It is usually heavy, solid, tending towards coarseness and in its less complex types. It marked only with three main lines of Heart, Life and Head. In its extreme form the palm is thick, large and heavy, with an emphasized mount of Venus, whilst the fingers are stumpy, unrefined and knotty. The skin is coarse and thumb, which is usually quite short, is in flexible and heavy. The palmar surface shows few lines, but they are usually strong and vital in quality. A palm print reveals well defined skin ridges and there is the characteristic 'thickness' representing the strong flow of energies found in this type.

This severe form of practical hand represents that when the hand is particularly elementary in appearance, it may be regarded as belonging to the lower grades of the human race. The short fingers give no love for details and a certain rashness of action is usually an aspect of their psychology, whilst the developed lower world indicates the animal-like direction of emotions. Knotty fingers in such hand are not a pleasant feature, for it adds persistence to unreason which leads to intolerance and crude irrational belief.

The clubbed thumb is rounded on the end, bulk shaped, full and tight, resembling a bludgeon. The nail is short and of a coarse structure. This thumb has been named the 'Murder's Thumb'. Because the person possessing this type of thumb is unreasonable and has a violent temper, they react without logic; carry out their pans regardless of the consequences. They are devoid of self-control. This thumb tip has always been associated with violent or criminal nature. This type of thumb was found on many murderers. People possessing a clubbed thumb with an elementary type hand are brutal and like animals.

Most of the criminals were found with longer palm than their fingers. And also low set thumb. These aspects denote the violent and aggressive nature. Also this aspect can be seen on chimpanzee's hand.



Figure 1 – Hitler's hand

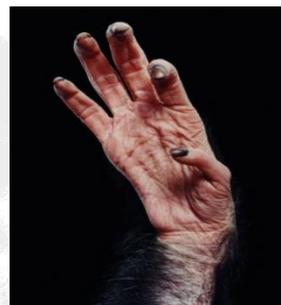


Figure 2 – Hand of chimpanzee

(<https://edwardmd.files.wordpress.com/2014/08/hitler-salute.jpg>)

### Minor Observations:

A twisted or distorted Pinky finger, very often hereditary, most palmists regard this as a sign of lying and trickery. When fingers show a marked twist or distortion they are a symbol of defeat, their owners tend to approach life in a wrong way and avoid facing facts. They are inclined to be evasive, suspicious and unduly cautious and seem unable to follow a straight path. They lack inner harmony. They hardly achieve anything worthwhile in life. If they do reach a measure of success it is generally due to underhanded and devious means. They in fact, tend to be immoral and deceitful.

**Notice:** A deformed finger of Mercury is an atavistic sign. In addition to that if 3<sup>rd</sup> phalange is nonexistent is always an atavistic marking, interestingly in that hands which showed all usual marks of degeneracy. I have seen few deformed finger of Mercury among criminals.

### B. Considering of Chiromantical Observation:

Chiromantically simian line, Sydney line and Suwon line are more common in criminal hands.

#### Suwon line:

- Crossing the hand like a stiff bar, from side to side on a practical hand indicates unsympathetic nature.
- Sinking toward the line of head, with an exaggerate curve under the mount of Saturn or the Sun, thus making a very narrow Quadrangle indicates meanness of disposition.
- Sinking toward the line of head, forming a very narrow Quadrangle and with a prominent Mount of Moon indicates duplicity. Imagination added to a cruel, selfish disposition makes lying.
- If this Suwon line is very thin, it indicates murderous instincts. (Thinness is not a quality in the line Heart as it is in the line of Head.)

#### Sydney line:

With other unpleasant positions Sydney line indicates minor behavioral problems and intolerance nature.

#### Simian line:

The true Simian line is technically running together of the Head and Heart lines. Its name derived from the fact that it occurs so frequently on the hands of monkeys and gorillas. In general it is regarded as an atavistic sign of degeneracy. In cold statistics the Simian line in its pure form is not common and although figures vary about 3% of all hand types appear to be a fair estimate. However, I have observed that the simian line occurs in a high proportion of criminal types. So often this line appears in criminal class that has been taken as a sign of criminality.

In all cases it is composed of elements common to the line of Heart and the line of Head and it may be understood from one point of view as representing a conflict between these two. Head line moves from conscious sphere to the subconscious. These two natural tendencies are restricted in the simian line and the result is an enormous inner conflict.

It is to be expected that inner conflict should give rise to the criminal type. And in fact it is quite possible to define the criminal in terms of conflict. But to consider the simian line purely from this angle is to miss its true significance.

#### Heart line:

When the heart line is thick and heavy, such a line furrows through the palm like a very course crease. It gives the impression of a deep crack rather than a palm line. This is a symbol of animalism; its owners are ruled by a low physical type of love instinct. They lack emotional refinement, sense of culture, as a rule they are crude and rough. Their feelings border on the primitive and mainly center around coarse manifestation of sex.

An extremely short heart line betrays heartlessness. If the heart line starts in the middle of the palm they are people who are selfish, prone to be sensuous without being warm hearted. They seek satisfaction for their physical sexually appetites. They are unable to appreciate love and tend to be crude, rough and primitive.

Very short or unpleasant heart line was very common sign among criminals. It denotes emotional problems. Absent of the heart line (Simian Line) indicates extreme coldness of heart.

#### Head Line:

The head line is the indicator of the mental balance, control interests and the depth of our lives, our ability to concentrate, the degree of intelligence, creative imagination and memory. This line is also a great controller of our nature. It is helpful in detecting even minor variations in mental behavior and also psychological disturbances. The offender's mental traits play an important part in the determination of delinquency.

When the line of head starts from inside the line of life or the upper mount of mars, it is unhealthy and suggests great timidity, shyness and lack of confidence. Such a person has a vacillating nature. He will have a tendency to worry and be inconsistent. He is not likely to succeed in life. He is aggressive and frequently gets into trouble. Such a person can easily turn to crime at the slightest provocation.

When there is a wide gap between the lines of head and life at the beginning the line of head assumes certain significance. It indicates foolhardiness and overconfidence. It also indicates recklessness and conceit. The person with such a headline is egotistic and prone to anti-social conduct in both his public and private lives. This is also one sign of denoting criminal tendencies. In this research I found this sign very common on the hands of criminals

#### Minor Observations:

The three main transverse crease types, single radial base crease, double radial base crease and triple radial base crease of the criminals of various types were compared with the normal control. High frequency of single radial base crease type was found in criminals.

The absence of fate line was more frequent among criminals. It denotes loss or total lack of directional ambitious. Girdle of Venus is made up of a number of broken lines and can be seen when separate heart line was absent. It signifies that the pursuit of pleasure and self-indulgence will ruin person's career and reputation.

When the quadrangle is narrow in the center, it shows a disposition to injustice, malignity and deception a narrow minded person.

#### C. Considering of Dermatoglyphic Observation:

When seen in a handprint the different skin textures reflect the different degrees of space between the papillary ridges. The relative degrees of space found with various elemental skin textures are represented in below figures.

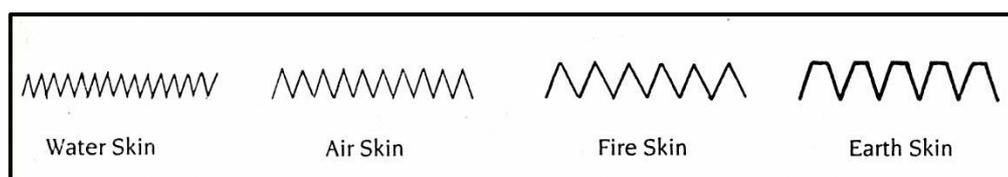


Figure 3 - the four elemental skin ridge patterns

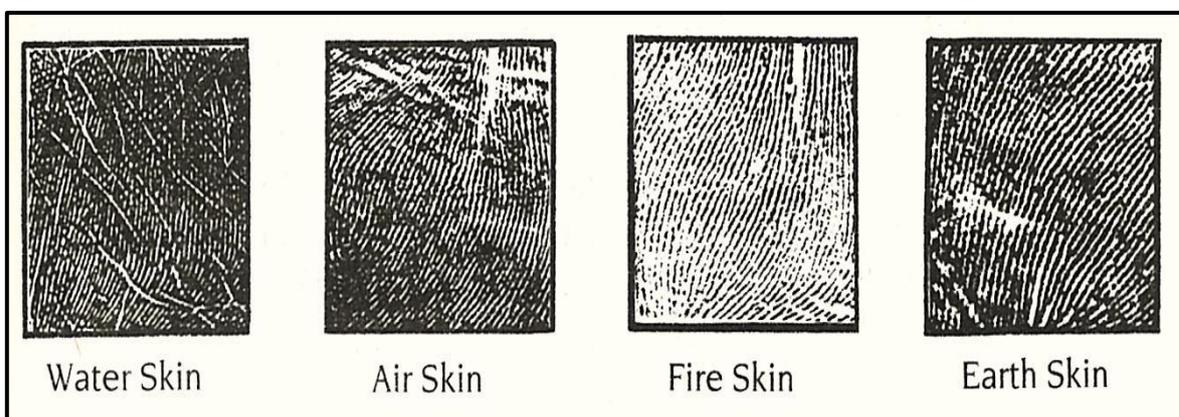


Figure 4 - the four elemental skin textures

Between these skin textures Earth skin texture and earth skin ridge pattern were more frequent in criminal handprints. Palmar ridge dissociation (broken skin ridges) was found in most hands of criminals.

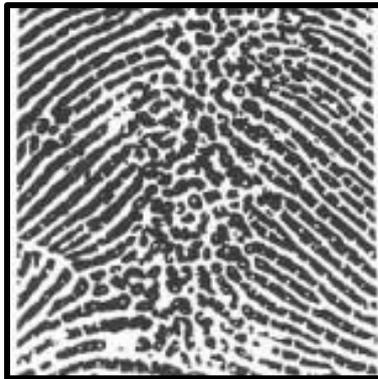


Figure 5 - Dissociated ridges

The normal degree of the ATD angle is around 40 - 45 degrees. In contrast to the hand prints of criminals and normal population, low value of ATD angle was significantly found in criminal hands. This is a special observation. Until today researchers have found low ATD angle only among autistic people. Considering all these we can come to a conclusion that this low ATD angle denotes complex behavior disorder including a variety of psychological problems.

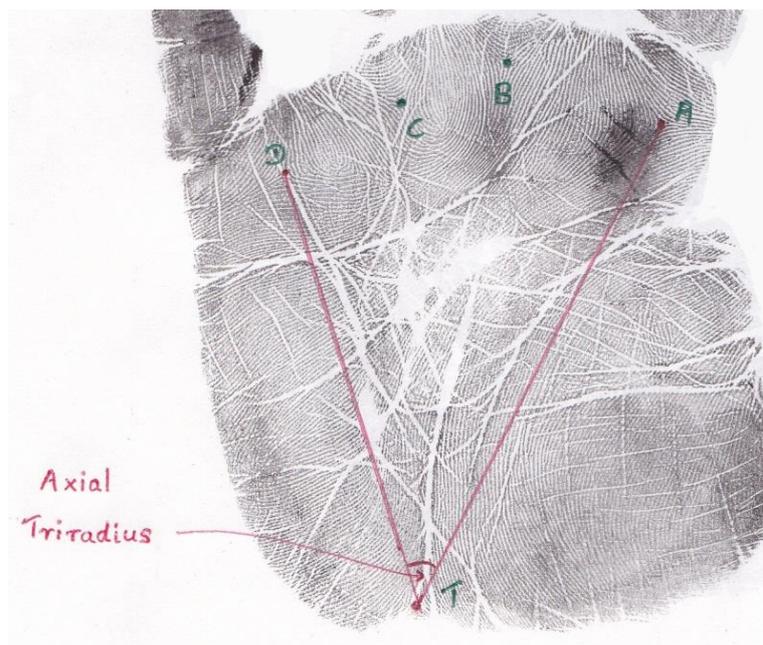


Figure 6 - normal ATD angle 45°

The high positioned axial triradius "t" or high ATD angle was found in few criminal hands. The combination of a high axial triradius presented with at least one of the four described variations (1 A simian crease, 2 a large interruption in one of the primary creases, 3 a twin-line, 4 a separated head line) in the three major primary lines. It represents significant clue in personality of a person.

Whorl and loop patterns on the Mounts of Moon and Venus were found in high frequency in hands of criminals. Chiromantically these mounts refer to the forms of imagination and the degree to which it plays a part in the person's attitude to life. Whorl and loop patterns on these mounts are always a sign of a strong tendency towards over imagination. They must be regarded primarily as atavistic markings, indicative of a basic instability. Such markings give undue predominance to the mount, separating the unconscious 'for special consideration' and the resulting instability is one in which the unconscious elements of the subject's life is not in tune with the conscious elements.



Figure 7 – whorl pattern on the mount of Venus



Figure 8 - A hypothenar whorl in the right hand of a macaque (*macaca fascicularis*), source: '*Dermatoglyphics: an international perspective*', p.58 (Mavalwala, 1978). Picture Taken by <https://handfacts.wordpress.com/2009/11/18/hands-five-major-differences-between-the-primate-hand-and-the-human-hand/>

*Notice - Whorl and loop patterns on the Mounts of Moon and Venus are rare in human hand, in the primate hand it is a common feature. From all available published statistics, there appears to be very high occurrence of whorl patterns on the hands of mental patients.*

Longitudinal apex ridges are not very common in human hand. But, this aspect can be seen in criminal hands. "longitudinal ridge alignment" which has been associated to represent "an atavism", because in most monkey- & ape species the path of the dermatoglyphics usually displays a much more longitudinal direction than usually seen in the human hand (Cummins & Midlo, 1943; p.174).

Most of criminal hands were found having whorls and loops on all fingers or more than six fingers. This aspect denotes restless, vacillating, sensitive, clever, eager for action and inclined to crime. *Notice - Monkeys have patterns of same type on all fingers, this signifies animalistic trait.*

The hands of the majority of criminals have abnormal features usually resembling those found on the hand of monkey. One must, however, be careful not to ascribe undue importance to this one sign without consideration of the hand type as

a whole. It is not uncommon to find one or even two atavistic signs in the hands of normal people. **The study carried out into the hands of 98% of criminals was fulfilled in keeping with the above proportions.** Considering all these facts we can conclude that, not only one or two aspects have tendency for crime but also majority of these aspects tend to criminal activities.

## V. CONCLUSION

The review has covered the scientific studies of the hand analyzing. Hence this article will be useful to those researches interested in validating the hidden truth which has not been scientifically authenticated. Palmistry consists of a balance of judgments relating to Chiromancy, Chirognomy, Dermatoglyphics and hand gestures into one study. Although each of these branches must be studied separately, they must be constantly inter related if valid judgments are to be made concerning the subject. Based on palmistic theories and other scientific theories I can emphasize that hand analyzing can be used for recognizing criminal tendencies in people.

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