

An empirical study on Blood Types and Personality

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Abstract— In Japan, a superstition similar to horoscopes, but based on blood type is very common. People strongly believe that the blood type influences one's personality, weaknesses and strengths. The belief was started in 1927 by Takeji Furukawa in a series of articles and books. The tradition is less popularized after Furukawa's death in 1940, but it was revived in 1970 by journalist Masahiko Nomi by a series of books that sold millions of copies, and that new popularity has lasted until today.

The basic idea of this paper is based on the same line. Primary data has been collected randomly from 100 people through questionnaire to reveal the similar linkages in India. The result shows that each blood group have distinct characteristic similar to Japanese perception.

Keywords- Blood Group, Personality, Traits, India

I. INTRODUCTION

Beginning in approximately 1930, the Japanese embraced the idea of matching personality traits with one's blood type. This phenomenon is as popular in Japan as the idea of matching horoscope with personality is in the United States. Almost all Japanese are aware of their blood type. The idea began when some in the west were touting the idea that the Asian peoples were more closely related to animals than humans, or lower on the evolutionary chain, since type B blood was the predominant blood type in Asians and animals. Almost every Japanese person knows their blood type due to physical examinations in school, and while even those who believe in it (mostly teenage girls) don't take it very seriously, the superstition is everywhere: people use it as a conversation starter and especially to determine compatibility of lovers and friends. As ludicrous and unscientific as this idea was, it was insulting to say the least. Modern science disproves this obviously faulted idea. In the 1930's Furukawa Takeji (1891-1940) set out to disprove this notion and a new idea was born (Shintaku, 2013). However, the idea of personality traits being influenced by blood type remains. Companies in Japan even had divided workers by

blood type. Interest in this lore tapered off after Furukawa's death in 1940, but it was revived in 1970 by journalist Masahiko Nomi by a series of books that sold millions of copies, and that new popularity has lasted until today.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

The history of the theory that blood type determines personality is actually a dark one. In 1900, Austrian scientist Karl Landsteiner discovered the four blood types. Like 19th-century scientists who used brain size (the larger the brain, the more advanced) to propagate theories of racial and gender superiority, many (white) scientists used the blood type theory as a way to push forward their own ideas of racial supremacy. Scientists from the west suggested (falsely, obviously) that Asians were inferior and sub-human since the vast majority of them like animals had type B blood. In 1927, Takeji Furukawa, a Japanese professor, introduced the theory to the Japanese public in a paper entitled, "The Study of Temperament through Blood Type." Even though he lacked the proper credentials and backed up nothing scientifically, the public embraced the idea of blood type as a determination of personality. The Japanese government even commissioned a study to determine if they could breed better soldiers. In the 1970s, a book by Masahiko Nomi revived the idea, which is still popular with the general Japanese public. In 2008, four books on the topic have hit Japan's top ten bestseller lists (Josef, 2012).

III. BLOOD TYPE & PERSONALITY

Each blood type has a personality profile (Masahiko, 2012). These profiles which are found with the literature available on World Wide Web, the Rh factor plays no role in the blood type/personality idea. The general belief of each blood type along with their traits according to Masahiko (2012) are-

Type A: People with blood type 'A' have a deep-rooted strength that helps them stay calm in a crisis. Situations when everyone else is panicking. However, they tend to avoid confrontation, and

feel very uncomfortable around people. Type A's are the most artistic of the blood groups. 'A' types are shy and sometimes withdrawn. They seek harmony and are very polite, but all the same feel that they never really fit in with others. 'A' types are very responsible. If there is a job to be done, they prefer to take care of it themselves. These people crave success and are perfectionists. They are also very creative, and the most artistic of all the blood types, most likely because of their sensitivity. People with blood type A are also likely to be considered classic "type 'A's": stressed and conscientious (Masahiko, 2012).

Type B: People with blood type B are the most practical of the blood groups. They are specialists in what they do. They are Goal oriented and strong minded. When they start a project, they spend extra time understanding and trying to follow directions than others might. When they are doing something, all of their attention is focused on it. They tend to stick to a goal and follow it through to the end, even if it seems impossible. They tend to be less than cooperative, as they like to follow their own rules and their own ideas. Type B's are individualists of the blood group categories and find their own way in life. B type people pay attention to their thoughts a little more than their feelings, and therefore can sometimes seem cold and serious. People with blood type B are often considered more relaxed, freewheeling, and unconventional than other types, although not necessarily to an unacceptable degree (Masahiko, 2012).

Type O: People with blood type O's are outgoing, energetic, and very social. They are the most flexible of the blood types. They are initiators; they easily start up projects but often have trouble following through because they give up easily. They are flighty and not too dependable. O types always say what's on their mind. They value the opinion of others and like to be the center of attention. Also, people with O blood are extremely self-confident. Creative and popular, they love to be the center of attention and appear very self confident. Type O, the most "average" blood type, is considered the best type in Japan (Masahiko, 2012).

Type AB: People with blood type AB are hard to categorize, they are the split personalities of the blood groups. They can have characteristics on both ends of the spectrum at the same time. For instance, they are both shy and outgoing. They easily switch from one opposite to another. AB people are trustworthy and responsible, but can't handle it when too much is asked of them. They

don't mind doing favors or helping out, as long as it is on their own conditions. People with this blood type are interested in art and metaphysics.

AB is considered the worst blood type. In predictability-loving Japan, they're loose cannons. They also like to set their own conditions and reserve the right to drop out when things don't meet their expectations. They're known to be sensitive and considerate at times but it just isn't enough to balance out the flaws in this blood type. For a while, some companies tried dividing their employees into work groups based on blood type, and no one wanted to work with the AB group (Masahiko, 2012).

IV. METHODOLOGY

The basic intention of this paper is to correlate & compare this Japanese philosophy with Indian Blood Traits. As a pilot study Questionnaire was prepared considering different traits of personality along with annual income, Blood group and occupation of respondents. The questionnaire is distributed among 100 respondents to take their feedback out of which 90 responses have taken into consideration for further analysis. The data analysis has been done with the help of IBM PASW software using cross tabulation.

V. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Around 62% respondents are doing job while 38% are respondents are doing business. 26 respondents belong to 'O' blood group while 22,24,18 respondents belong to 'A', 'B', & 'AB' blood group respectively. Majority of Respondents from 'O' & 'A' blood group have preferred Job as their profession similarly, most of respondents from 'B' & 'AB' doing business.

Respondents belongs to 'B' type are reserved to talk freely with others. Most of respondents from 'B' & 'AB' always feel comfortable with people around, while respondents from 'O' & 'A' are only sometimes, they prefer privacy.

'AB' & 'B' type people are always ready to make social contacts, 'A' are quite choosy & 'O' prefer some times.

A person belongs to 'AB' Blood type adapts well in changing situations.

Respondents from 'B' blood type like to expressing ideas and feeling openly compared to other types while 'O' type prefer rarely.

Respondents belongs to 'O' & 'A' group always like to work hard.

'A' blood group people are perfectionist they always prefer to complete the task in their hand.

'O' type people always prefer to take initiative while performing task in a group, Similar

characteristics are also observed in Blood Type 'B', 'A' type are quite lazy in taking initiative while 'AB' type are not interested in taking initiative.

Blood type 'O' are always prefers to help people, 'B' people are quite choosy in helping people, 'A' are moody in helping people, while 'AB' are extremist.

In response to the question on 'Do you like to take help from others', 'O' type people rarely take help from others, 'AB' people are willing to take help from others, 'B' type people take help whenever necessary, 'A' type people sometimes take help from others.

'O' blood group respondents generally never jealous with competitor, 'A' type are generally jealous with competitor, 'B' people are rarely jealous with competitor, 'AB' people have very diverse opinion about jealousy.

Most of the time 'O' blood type are creative, sometimes 'B' are also creative. 'AB' people are angry birds; they get angry immediately, 'B' type people frequently get angry. 'A' & 'O' Sometimes get angry.

'A' blood type people are mostly punctual in their work, 'B' are average in punctuality, while 'O' and 'AB' are sometimes punctual.

'O' Blood group holders forgot things easily, 'B' blood type people have sharp memory.

'B' type blood group people are forgiver in case of others mistakes, 'A' type are quite tough to forgive others, 'O' and 'AB' are quite social they hold optimum mixture of forgiveness.

'A' blood type holder are high risk taker, 'B' blood type are moderate risk taker while 'O' and 'AB' are low risk taker.

People belongs to 'A' blood type are controlled by head than heart, 'B' and 'AB' are quite emotional, 'O' blood type people are situational.

'A' Blood group holder have very high patience while performing certain task, 'AB' blood type people have low patience, 'O' have moderate patience while performing certain task while 'B' blood type people's patience depends on intensity of task importance.

'O' blood holder rarely love animals; 'A' blood holders have high affections towards animals, 'B' and 'AB' possesses moderate affection towards animals.

'B' blood type people have good people readings; immediately trust people most of the times with their first impression, whereas 'AB' blood holder will trust people most of the time only after confirmation that they are trustworthy, 'O' and 'A' have similar responses regarding trust on people; most of the time they trust people after confirmation.

'B' and 'O' blood type holders prefer to live in peaceful or friendly environment, 'AB' are flexible in any environment, 'A' blood type people also like friendly or peaceful environment but sometimes expect lonely environment.

'O' type people are social butterflies; basically believes on hardwork, 'A' Blood type people are hardworking but somewhat shy. 'AB' blood people are social as well as hard worker, and 'B' blood group holders are blended mixture of social, shy, lazy & hard work; they seems to be a moody people.

Table showing frequency distribution of data Collected is attached in Annexure.

VI. CONCLUSION

The findings shows that each blood group have distinct characteristic, the finding may somehow differs from Japanese studies, but Indian culture, regional diversity, religion characteristic and poor family conditions have significant contributions in shaping individual personality. The characteristic of blood group with respect to personality as per the findings are -

Type O: A person belongs to 'O' blood type are the social butterflies. Often popular and self-confident, very creative personalities and always seem to be the center of attention. Always make a good impression on people and you're often quite attractive. Organized and determined, their persistence will helps to reach their goals. These people are good leaders & prefer to live in peaceful or friendly environment.

Type A: 'A' person belongs to 'A' blood type has very high patience but quite shy, basically controlled by head than heart. Perfectionist, hardworking & punctual; always prefer to complete the task in their hand but, quite lazy in taking initiative. High affections towards animals. Usually introverted personalities, jealous with competitor & choosy.

Type B: Type 'B' is impulsive individualists who often create their own path in life. They are very strong and optimistic & like to live in pleasant & peaceful environment. Moody, Outgoing and very charming, they are good at reading people and providing support.

Type AB: Not surprisingly, AB's can be quite dualistic, possessing both A and B traits. They are Hard worker but not interested in taking initiative, quite emotional & low risk taker. They are social personalities, always ready to make social contacts. Usually trustworthy and like to help

others. Comfortable with people around & adapts well in changing situations. AB blood type people may have low patience; they trust people most of the time only after confirmation that they are trustworthy.

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Annexure: Tables showing frequency distribution of data Collected

		Blood Group			
		O	A	B	AB
Occupation	Job	18	14	14	10
	Business	8	8	10	8
	Farm	0	0	0	0
	Industry	0	0	0	0
Do you like communicating freely with others?	Always	18	14	10	14
	Sometimes	8	8	10	2
	Rarely	0	0	4	2
	Not at All	0	0	0	0
Are you comfortable if more people are present around you?	Always	8	6	12	12
	Sometimes	14	12	8	4
	Rarely	4	4	2	2
	Not at All	0	0	2	0
Do you like making social contacts?	Always	8	10	16	14
	Sometimes	16	10	4	4
	Rarely	2	2	4	0
	Not at All	0	0	0	0
Do you adapt well to the changing situation?	Always	10	8	10	8
	Sometimes	14	8	14	10
	Rarely	2	6	0	0
	Not at All	0	0	0	0
Do you like expressing your ideas and feeling openly?	Always	6	8	12	6
	Sometimes	8	10	8	6
	Rarely	12	4	4	4
	Not at All	0	0	0	2
Do you like working hard?	Always	24	20	18	12
	Sometimes	2	2	4	4
	Rarely	0	0	2	2
	Not at All	0	0	0	0

		Blood Group			
		O	A	B	AB
Do you complete the work that you take in your hand?	Always	20	18	16	12
	Sometimes	6	4	4	6
	Rarely	0	0	2	0
	Not at All	0	0	2	0
Do you like taking initiative while performing any task in group?	Always	14	12	12	4
	Sometimes	12	6	12	12
	Rarely	0	4	0	2
	Not at All	0	0	0	0
Do you like helping people?	Always	22	18	16	16
	Sometimes	2	0	8	0
	Rarely	2	4	0	0
	Not at All	0	0	0	2
Do you like taking help from other peoples?	Always	0	0	2	2
	Sometimes	6	10	10	8
	Rarely	20	10	12	6
	Not at All	0	2	0	2
Do you fell jealous of your competitors?	Always	0	4	2	2
	Sometimes	2	10	10	4
	Rarely	6	2	8	6
	Not at All	18	6	4	6
Are you creative?	Always	10	6	6	8
	Sometimes	10	12	18	8
	Rarely	6	4	0	2
	Not at All	0	0	0	0
Do you get angry easily?	Immediately	2	4	4	6
	Frequently	6	2	6	8
	Sometimes	14	12	14	4
	Not at All	4	4	0	0

		Blood Group			
		O	A	B	AB
Are you punctual in your work?	Always	14	14	12	10
	Sometimes	12	8	8	8
	Rarely	0	0	4	0
	Not at All	0	0	0	0
Do you forget things easily?	Always	4	2	2	2
	Sometimes	16	10	8	10
	Rarely	6	8	8	6
	Not at All	0	2	6	0
Do you forgive people easily for their mistake?	Immediately	4	2	8	4
	Frequently	6	4	2	0
	Sometimes	16	14	14	14
	Not at All	0	2	0	0
What kind of risk taker you are?	High	2	8	6	2
	Moderate	20	8	10	8
	Low	2	4	4	4
	Not at all	2	2	4	4
Are you controlled by your head than your heart?	Always	2	10	8	6
	Sometimes	18	6	10	6
	Rarely	6	4	4	4
	Not at All	0	2	2	2
Do you keep	Always	14	16	10	4

patient white performing certain task?	Sometimes	12	6	12	12
	Rarely	0	0	2	2
	Not at All	0	0	0	0
Do you love animals?	Always	4	14	12	8
	Sometimes	10	6	4	4
	Rarely	10	2	4	4
	Not at All	2	0	4	2

		Blood Group			
		O	A	B	AB
How you trust people?	Immediately	10	8	10	4
	After Confirmation	16	14	12	14
	Dont Trust	0	0	2	0
	Not at All	0	0	0	0
Which environment you like the most?	Peaceful	8	6	10	4
	Crowdies	0	0	0	2
	Friendly	18	12	14	10
	Lonely	0	4	0	2
What kind of person you are?	Social	12	2	10	8
	Shy	0	4	2	0
	Lazy	0	0	2	0
	Hardworking	14	16	10	10