

The Genetic Structure of the Population of the Koplik Municipality Calculated by the Isonomy

Ermira Hoxhaj^{1*} Zyri Bajrami^{1,2}

¹ Department of Biology – Chemistry, University of Shkodra, Shkodra, Albania.

*E-mail: hoxhajermira@mail.com

² Department of Biology, University of Tirana, Bulevardi Zogu I, Tirana, Albania

E-mail: zyribajrami@yahoo.com

Abstract

The main focus of this study is the human population of the Municipality of Koplik, in Albania. The city of Koplik is situated 17 km at the North of Shkodra city, in Albania. The genetic structure and connections among the inhabitants of Koplik, have been studied according to the distribution of the surnames of 18831 individuals, identified by 652 surnames, which resulted from the compilation of the genealogical trees. The coefficient of kinship was calculated, because of the isonomy of the case, along with evaluations of the α of Fisher as indicator of the surname variety, evaluations of F_{st} inbreeding coefficients and evaluations of the Karlin-McGregor's coefficient. The surname distribution has been calculated based on the logarithm of the surname number and the number of the times such surname is identified.

All these parameters have been calculated by means of the data extracted from the genealogical trees in three different methods, based on the surnames inherited from the father, from the mother and another one, based on casual distribution of the surnames of the same persons, but without considering the genealogical relationship. All these methods show a high value of kinship, but when the three methods are compared, the results have obvious differences. For instance, the value Fisher α was calculated by the Pedigree from the father $\alpha=98.27$, the mother $\alpha=61.478$, and from the casual distribution $\alpha=110.86$. The value of the α of Fisher ($\alpha=98.27$) for this population, indicates high rates of kinship among the population of Koplik. A lower value of the α coefficient from the mother side, can be easily explained with the fact that the kinship in the marriages starting from the mother, is much higher than the one started from the father.

Key Words: Koplik, Isonomy, surname, genealogical tree, inbreeding, genetic structure

1. Introduction

The study of the structure, dynamics and evolutionary tendencies of the human population, nowadays has become an important object of the research work.

The surnames are unique bio-cultural features, used to study the structure and the microevolution in the human populations. In our society, the surname is inherited in a patrilinear way (from the father individual). This observation has led to the thesis that the surnames are monophyletic and can be considered as genes related to the chromosome Y and therefore, their heritage is analogue to the heritage of the polymorphic genes related to the chromosome Y (Jobling M A. et al. 2001). The unbiological nature of the distribution of the chromosome Y is expected to be independent from the fertility and mortality, and is expected to be subjected to the neutral model of the evolution, (Kimura 1983). In compliance with this model, it is expected that the logarithm frequency of the surnames follows a linear trend (Barrai et al 1987). In spite of the fact that the latest studies have revealed a deviation from the expected linear trend (Barrai et al 1987). The deviations from the expected linear trend, come as a result of the excessive repetition of surnames (Barrai et al 2002). Most of the studies have been based on big samples, which comprise a whole nation or region, whereas concerning small populations like ours, such studies have been seldom conducted.

In this light, it would be interesting to examine the neutral distribution in the small countries, since the demographic events and the marriages, bring about major changes in the blood relations, by influencing the structure of surnames. Under these conditions, the surname neutrality might not be expected. A study in this field in Albania is done by Scapoli, Barbuani, Mamolini, Sandri, Carrieri, Mikerenzi, Xhina and Rodrigues-Larralde (2013) This is the first study of this kind in Koplik city.

2. Methods of the Study

The material for this study has been taken from interviews with autochthon inhabitants and also from newcomers from the villages around the Municipality of Koplik. The genealogic trees for 18831 inhabitants of the Municipality of Koplik were built by using the computer program SQL-SERVER, by exploiting the advantages of genealogic codification for each inhabitant. The value of casual isonomy has been calculated through three different methods, using the outcome data of the genealogic trees. Afterwards, based on the value of the casual isonomy, the values of the other parameters have been calculated as well. In the beginning the isonomy value for 18831 inhabitants has been calculated based on the distribution of surnames deriving from the father identified with 652 surnames, and on the surname of the mother of 15659 individuals identified with 592 surnames. There

are less individuals from the mother side because the father surname has been defined for the difference, but it was not possible to define the surname of the mother.

The third way of isonomy calculation was grounded on the casual distribution of surnames of the same persons, without considering the genealogic relations at all.

18831 individuals have been identified with 590 surnames. There are less surnames, than in the case of the calculation through genealogic trees, because there are 15 different surnames which identify 5120 individuals, who have only four descendants. There are also 82 surnames which are repeated from the pedigrees, which bear no genealogic relation but which are identified with 28 different surnames based on the method of casual distribution. Based on the distribution of surnames among the population, the casual isonomy within the population with regard to the same surname has been calculated. It is very likely that they belong to the same family. Thus, isonomy is an indicator of biological connection.

Different authors use different methods to calculate isonomy. In this study, the casual isonomy was calculated by the formula:

$I_{ii} = \sum \text{Pik}^2 - 1/ N_i$ based on the surname of the men, referred to Rodrigues-Larralde et al, (1993) where Pik – the relative frequency of each surname and N_i the number of individuals of the population. A high value of the isonomy is probable where we are dealing with few surnames while a low value of the isonomy is probable where the number of the surnames is big. The low value of the isonomy indicates recent migration.

$I_{ii} = \sum \text{qik}^2 - 1/ N_i$ based on the surname of the women

$I_{ii} = \sum \text{p}^i \text{q}^i$ based on the surname of men and women where P^i is the relative frequency of the surnames in paternal line and q^i is the frequency of the same surname in maternal line.

The inbreeding component within the population, which shows the value of kinship is calculate with the formula: $F_{st} = I_{ii}/4$ where I_{ii} is the casual isonomy as referred to Relethford (1998). Inbreeding which is based on the values of Isonomy allows conclusions concerning the rate of genetic differentiation.

The variety of surnames has been calculated through the coefficient Fisher's alpha which is used to evaluate surname diversity and as a consequence genetic diversity, is an indicator of genetic isolation and is calculated with the formula:

$\alpha = 1/ I_{ii}$ where I_{ii} is the casual isonomy evaluated according to Barrai et al. (1992)

A high value of α indicates high diversity of surnames and high level of migration, whereas its low value, indicates genetic isolation and high inbreeding.

Karlin-MacGregor's, which is used to evaluate the migration rate v , is calculated with the formula:

$V = \alpha / (N_i + \alpha)$ Zei et al. (1983)

The high value of the coefficient v indicates a high genetic diversity, because human migration affects genetic diversity for through the migration, new alleles can join in or leave the population. Thus, the coefficient v is in direct proportion with the coefficient alpha.

The surname distribution for all the population has been studied through the model Log-log (8). A chart has been built, where in the X values there is $\log_2 S$ where S is the number of surnames and in the Y values there is $\log_2 K$, where K is the number of the cases a surname is identified.

3. The Resultats and the Discussin

The parameters of isonomy in the Municipality of Koplik

3.1 The comparison among the three different methods used for the calculation of these parameters

The distribution of the number of the surnames of Koplik used in this analysis, and the main parameters deriving from the theory of isonomy calculated with the above-mentioned methods, have been presented in Table 1.

Tab 1. No. of individuals, no. of surnames S , Fishers' α , F_{st} , and Karlin-McGregor v , calculated with the three above-mentioned methods in Koplik.

| The methods | N_i | N_s | I_{ii} | α | F_{st} | v |
|---|--------------|------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| By genealogical trees | | | | | | |
| • From the father's surname | 18831 | 652 | 0.010176 | 98.27 | 0.0025 | 0.0025 |
| • From the mother's surname | 15659 | 592 | 0.016266 | 61.478 | 0.004 | 0.00391 |
| By casual distribution of surnames | 18831 | 590 | 0.009072 | 110.86 | 0.00227 | 0.00585 |

Fisher's alpha is used to evaluate the diversity of the surnames and as a consequence, the genetic difference among the population. If we compare the value of α with the three calculated ways, the one calculated from the mother side ($\alpha=61.478$), is comparatively smaller and indicates a higher genetic closeness among individuals based on mother's side, than on father's side ($\alpha=92.27$). This is quite reasonable to a certain extent, because not so much attention is paid to avoid the kinship resulting from the mother side, if compared to the father's side. This is mostly due to the fact, that female line relations are not as known as the male ones. The value of $\alpha=110.86$, calculated from the casual distribution of the surnames of the same individuals, (18831), identified with the same surnames (590), without considering the genealogic relations resulting from the genealogic trees,

changes in value especially considering the one calculated from the mother and the father as well.

The reasons of these changes can be as follows:

When the casual distribution is calculated, there are fewer surnames if compared to the tree calculation because 5120 individuals identified with 15 different surnames, have only 4 descendants if we follow the genealogic connections deriving from the genealogic trees.

Tab.2 The surnames which have the same descendant extracted from the genealogic trees, but which actually have different surnames.

| Common ancestor | Actual surname | Nr of inhabitants |
|-----------------|--|-------------------|
| Culi | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curri • Culaj • Fili | 694 |
| Bajrami | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bajramaj • Rrustemaj • Ramçaj | 1749 |
| Hoti | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hoti • Isufi | 787 |
| Mehi | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bajraktari • Semanaj • Avdyli • Kurti • Hysaj • Duli • Shabani | 1890 |
| Total | | 5120 |

There are also 82 surnames which are repeated, that if we trace the connections in the genealogic trees, they have no connection at all, which means they have different origins. Only 28 surnames are identified with the method of casual distribution.

Tab 3 Origins of surnames which appear more than once in different families.

| Nr | Surname | Origin1 | Nr. | Origin 2 | Nr. | Origin 3 | Nr | Origin 4 | Nr | Origin 5 | Nr | Total |
|----|------------|---------|-----|----------|-----|----------|-----|----------|----|----------|----|-------|
| 1 | Curri | Koplik | 117 | Lepurosh | 65 | Zagor | 13 | Bratosh | 8 | Goraj | 6 | 207 |
| 2 | Hasaj | Koplik | 24 | Repisht | 216 | Flake | 128 | Dodç | 24 | Rrjoll | 10 | 402 |
| 3 | Hysaj | Koplik | 271 | Polvar | 107 | Reç | 20 | Bajz | 20 | Grizhe | 17 | 435 |
| 4 | Ujkaj | Koplik | 78 | Sterbeq | 181 | Potgor | 52 | Vajush | 42 | Bajz | 36 | 389 |
| 5 | Bjaramaj | Koplik | 246 | Grizhe | 8 | Laç | 4 | Velipoj | 8 | | | 266 |
| 6 | Hoxhaj | Kaldrun | 189 | Repisht | 50 | Vajush | 43 | Zagor | 14 | | | 296 |
| 7 | Kurti | Koplik | 275 | Polvar | 175 | Linaj | 29 | Grizhe | 19 | | | 498 |
| 8 | Smakaj | Koplik | 230 | Lopç | 55 | Lohe | 42 | Grizhe | 73 | | | 400 |
| 9 | Çokaj | Dober | 20 | Koplik | 246 | Grud | 72 | | | | | 338 |
| 10 | Isufaj | Koplik | 166 | Linaj | 73 | Vorf | 17 | | | | | 256 |
| 11 | Kukaj | Koplik | 219 | Grizhe | 100 | Marshej | 100 | | | | | 419 |
| 12 | Rrukaj | Kamic | 85 | Marshej | 40 | Sterbeq | 20 | | | | | 145 |
| 13 | Zekaj | Koplik | 149 | Kaldrun | 175 | Grizhe | 73 | | | | | 397 |
| 14 | Zenelaj | Koplik | 182 | Kcar | 34 | Grizhe | 34 | | | | | 250 |
| 15 | Aliaj | Flake | 59 | Lopç | 19 | | | | | | | 78 |
| 16 | Bajraktari | Koplik | 208 | Grizhe | 11 | | | | | | | 219 |
| 17 | Çelaj | Reç | 92 | Postrib | 4 | | | | | | | 96 |
| 18 | Gjetaj | Koplik | 30 | Jubic | 21 | | | | | | | 51 |
| 19 | Hasanaj | Kaldrun | 101 | Grud | 46 | | | | | | | 147 |
| 20 | Hoti | Koplik | 283 | Polvar | 26 | | | | | | | 309 |
| 21 | Lekaj | Jubic | 152 | Reç | 52 | | | | | | | 204 |
| 22 | Luli | Kukes | 3 | Jubic | 1 | | | | | | | 4 |
| 23 | Metaj | Reç | 24 | Marshej | 46 | | | | | | | 70 |
| 24 | Memaj | Zagor | 62 | Reç | 48 | | | | | | | 110 |
| 25 | Mustafaj | Kçar | 54 | Kaldrun | 38 | | | | | | | 92 |
| 26 | Ramaj | Koplik | 199 | Reç | 31 | | | | | | | 230 |
| 27 | Rexhaj | Koplik | 82 | Grizhe | 27 | | | | | | | 109 |
| 28 | Zaraj | Kaldrun | 153 | Moçovil | 77 | | | | | | | 230 |

3.2 The distribution of surnames and the most frequent surnames in Koplik

There are 18831 individuals which go by 590 surnames based on the casual distribution. There are 49 surnames which have a higher frequency than 100, held by 10296 individuals, and that means 56% of the individuals. There are 329 surnames, which have an absolute frequency smaller than 10 and 5% of the population is identified with them. There are 133 surnames with an absolute frequency of 1. All the surnames belong to the Muslim faith besides the surname "Smakaj-Llazan" which belongs to the Catholic faith.

Tab 4. The surnames with an absolute frequencu higher than 100

| Nr | Mb | f | Nr | Mb | f | Nr | Mb | f |
|----|------------|-----|----|-------------|-----|----|-----------|-----|
| 1 | Kurtaj | 498 | 18 | Culaj | 214 | 34 | Hebaj | 138 |
| 2 | Hysaj | 435 | 19 | Curri | 207 | 35 | Selgjekaj | 133 |
| 3 | Kukaj | 419 | 20 | Hasmujaj | 205 | 36 | Smajlaj | 133 |
| 4 | Hasaj | 402 | 21 | Lekaj | 204 | 37 | Delaj | 124 |
| 5 | Smakaj | 400 | 22 | Mataj | 202 | 38 | Bushati | 123 |
| 6 | Zekaj | 397 | 23 | Kurtulaj | 201 | 39 | Balaj | 122 |
| 7 | Ujkaj | 389 | 24 | Lulaj | 198 | 40 | Bercaj | 121 |
| 8 | Çokaj | 338 | 25 | Bajrakurtaj | 186 | 41 | Semanaj | 121 |
| 9 | Hoti | 309 | 26 | Dulaj | 181 | 42 | Gjonaj | 119 |
| 10 | Hoxhaj | 296 | 27 | Ramçaj | 154 | 43 | Çukaj | 114 |
| 11 | Bajramaj | 266 | 28 | Hasanaj | 147 | 44 | Ramekaj | 112 |
| 12 | Isufaj | 256 | 29 | Haxhijaj | 147 | 45 | Memaj | 110 |
| 13 | Delishaj | 250 | 30 | Rrukaj | 145 | 46 | Mustalaj | 109 |
| 14 | Zenelaj | 250 | 31 | Brojaj | 143 | 47 | Rexhaj | 109 |
| 15 | Ramaj | 230 | 32 | Senaj | 143 | 48 | Avdyli | 106 |
| 16 | Zaraj | 230 | 33 | Rrustemaj | 139 | 49 | Dukaj | 102 |
| 17 | Bajraktari | 219 | | | | | | |

3.3 Distribution log 2 K-Log 2 S

Fig 1 and 3 shows the distribution of the logarithm of the number of surnames and of the number of the times they appear for husbands and wives in Koplík. Fig 2 and 4 show the graphic presentation between Log 2 S-Log 2 S of husbands and wives in Koplík.

The logarithmic distribution of men’s surnames in Koplík

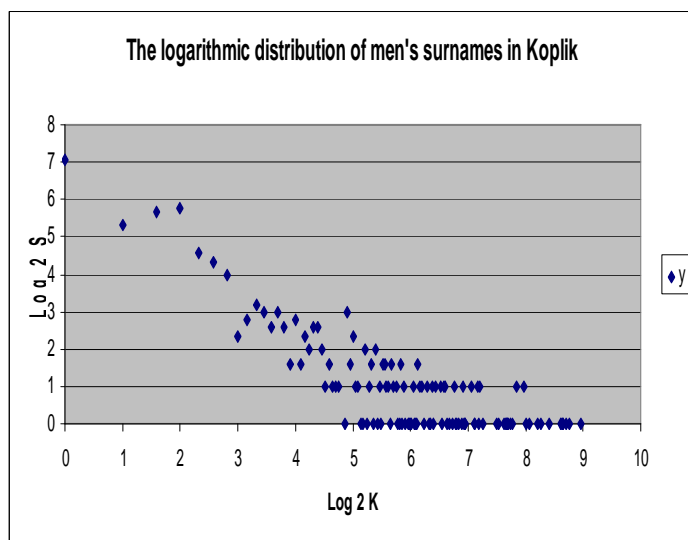


Fig 1. The logarithmic distribution of men’s surname S and the number of the surname which appear K.

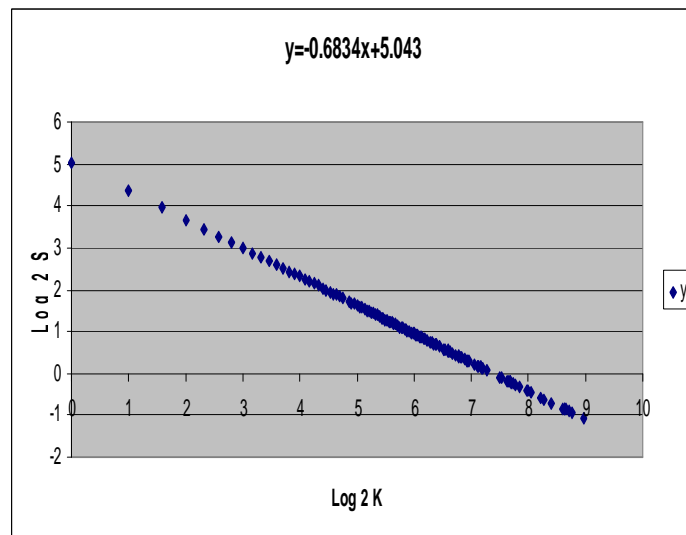


Fig 2. Graphic presentation of the regression between Log 2 S-Log 2 K for men.

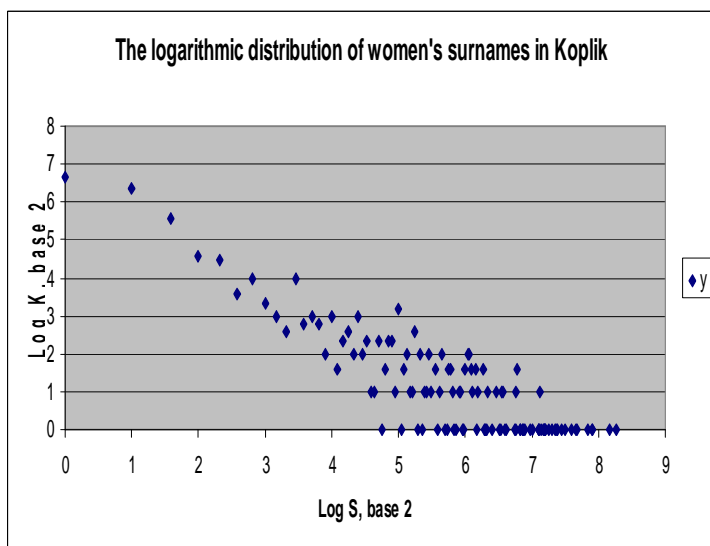


Fig 3.The logarithmic distribution of women's surname S and the number of the surname which appear K

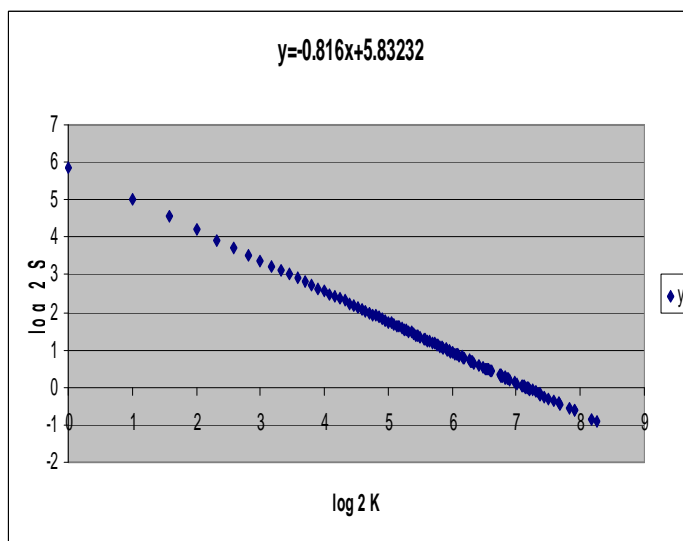


Fig 4.Graphic presentation of the regression between Log2 S-Log2 K for women

The graphic regression between these parameters clearly shows the linear trend in the distribution of surnames of husbands and wives. This indicates a compliance with the model of the neutral alleles (Kimura 1983). The values of Fishe alpha, casual isonomy, inbreeding coefficient and the Karlin-MacGregor's v which result from this paper on Koplik, compared to the results of the study done by Scapoli, Barbujani, Mamolini, Sandri, Carrieri, Mikerenzi, Xhina and Rodrigues-Larralde (2013) for Tirana and the District of Shkoder.

Tab 5. The results of this study compared to the result of the study for Tirana, the District of Shkoder and other cities.

| Rajoni | S | Iii | α | Fst | v |
|----------------|-------|----------|----------|-----------|---------|
| Tiranë | 18415 | 0.00095 | 1048 | 0.000239 | 0.00167 |
| Shkodra-Region | 7350 | 0.00152 | 658 | 0.00381 | 0.00275 |
| Shkodra -City | 6642 | 0.00157 | 637 | 0.000394 | 0.00355 |
| Pukë | 892 | 0.0081 | 123 | 0.0020036 | 0.00562 |
| M.Madhe | 1235 | 0.00384 | 260 | 0.000965 | 0.00671 |
| Koplik | 590 | 0.009072 | 110.86 | 0.00227 | 0.00585 |

If we compare the values of casual isonomy with the values of this coefficient calculated by Mikerenzi for the other cities of the District of Shkoder, it is seen that the isonomy is higher in Koplik, than in the other cities. This means, that Koplik is genetically more isolated than Shkodra or Puka.

The value α of Fisher in Koplik is lower, than the other cities, which shows a lower diversity of surnames, low migration, and as a consequence, higher genetic isolation than the other cities.

The inbreeding coefficient is higher if compared to the other countries and this is a feature of the small countries. The reason is maybe the cultural impediments concerning marriages, which in Koplik are more oriented towards endogamy.

References

Jobling, M.A (2001): In the name of the father. Surnames and genetics. Trends in Genetics nr.17.355-357
 Kimura M (1983) The neutral Theory of Molecular Evolution. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.
 Barrai I, Barbujani G, Beretta M, Maestri I, Russo A, Formica G, Pinto-Cisternas (1987) Surnames in Ferrara: distribution, isonymy, and levels of inbreeding. Ann Hum Biol, 14:415-423.
 Barrai I, Rodrigues-Larralde A, Manni F, et al (2002). Isonomy and isolation by distance in Netherland. Hum Biol, 74:263-283
 Barrai I, Rodrigues-Larralde A, Manni F, Ruggiero V, Tartari D, Scapoli C, (2003). Isolation by distance in Belgium. Ann Hum Genet, 68:1-16

- BARRAI, I., C. SCAPOLI, M. BERETTA, C. NESTI, A. RODRIGUEZ-LARRALDE, (1996) Isonymy and the genetics structure of Switzerland I. The distribution of surnames. *Ann. Hum. Biol.*, 23(1996)431-455.
- Crow, JF, Manage AP (1965). Measures of Inbreeding of the frequencies of marriages between persons of the same surnames. *Eugenics Quarterly*, 12:199-203.
- 3-Lasker Gw. 1991. Cultural Factor in the Geographic Distribution of Personal Names. Pseudogenetic Analysis of First Names Used to Estimate the Cultural Component of Coefficients of Relationship by Isonymy. *Human Biology* 63(2):197-202.
- Rodriguez-Larralde A, Gonzales Martin A, Scapoli C, Barraí I (2003). The names of Spain: A study of the isonymy structure of Spain.
- Rodriguez -Larralde, Barraí I, Alfonzo JC (1993) Isonymy structure of four Venezuelan states. *Ann Hum Biol*, 20:131-145
- Relethford JH (1988) Estimation of kinship and genetics surname from surnames. *Hum boil*, 60:475-492.
- Barraí, I., C. Scapoli, M. Beretta, C. Nesti, A. Rodriguez-Larralde, (1996) Isonymy and the genetics structure of Switzerland I. The distribution of surnames. *Ann. Hum. Biol.*, 23(1996)431-455.
- Brownberg RA, Dipierri JF, Alfaro EL, Barraí I, Rodriguez-Larralde A, Castilla EE, Colonna V, Rodriguez -Arroyo G, and Bailliet G. 2009. Isonymy Structure of Buenos Aires City. *Human Biology* 81(4):447-461.

The IISTE is a pioneer in the Open-Access hosting service and academic event management. The aim of the firm is Accelerating Global Knowledge Sharing.

More information about the firm can be found on the homepage:
<http://www.iiste.org>

CALL FOR JOURNAL PAPERS

There are more than 30 peer-reviewed academic journals hosted under the hosting platform.

Prospective authors of journals can find the submission instruction on the following page: <http://www.iiste.org/journals/> All the journals articles are available online to the readers all over the world without financial, legal, or technical barriers other than those inseparable from gaining access to the internet itself. Paper version of the journals is also available upon request of readers and authors.

MORE RESOURCES

Book publication information: <http://www.iiste.org/book/>

Recent conferences: <http://www.iiste.org/conference/>

IISTE Knowledge Sharing Partners

EBSCO, Index Copernicus, Ulrich's Periodicals Directory, JournalTOCS, PKP Open Archives Harvester, Bielefeld Academic Search Engine, Elektronische Zeitschriftenbibliothek EZB, Open J-Gate, OCLC WorldCat, Universe Digital Library, NewJour, Google Scholar

