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Asst. Professor. Dr. Kazhal M. Sulaiman

Genetics



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Genetic Terms

- 1. Haploid the condition of having only one set of chromosomes per cell (n)
- **2. Diploid** the condition of having two sets of chromosomes per cell (2n)
- **3. Gamete** a haploid (n) sex cell in plants and animals (egg or sperm)
- **4. Zygote** diploid (2n) cell resulting from the union of two gametes in sexual reproduction
- **5 Chromosome** structures within the nucleus of eukaryotic cells composed of chromatin and visible at cell division (condensed chromatin).
- **6. Chromatin** the complex of DNA, RNA and proteins that makes up uncondensed eukaryotic chromosomes.
- **7. Homologous chromosomes -** chromosomes that are similar in morphology (shape and form) and genetic constitution. In animals one set comes from the father and the other from the mother.
- **8.** Chromatids one of the two halves of a duplicated chromosome
- **9. Centromeres** specialized constricted region of a chromatid, that contains the kinetochore; sister chromatids are joined at the centromere during cell division
- **10.Recombination** exchange of genetic material between chromosomes

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- **11. crossover** the breaking and rejoining of homologous (non-sister) chromatids during early prophase I of meiosis, resulting in recombination
- **12. Synapsis** the pairing of homologous chromosomes during prophase I of meiosis.
- **13. Disjunction** separation of homologous chromosomes (or sister chromatids) during anaphase.
- **14. Genotype** the genetic make-up (the assemblage of alleles) of an individual.
- **15. Phenotype** the physical or chemical expression of an organism's genes.
- **16. Gene** a discrete unit of hereditary information that usually specifies a protein; a region of DNA (locus) located on a chromosome that specifies a trait (characteristic).
- **17**. **Alleles** genes governing variations of the same characteristic (trait) that occupy corresponding positions (loci) on homologous chromosomes; alternative forms of a gene.
- **18. Dominant allele** an allele that is always expressed when present, regardless of whether the organism is homozygous or heterozygous for that gene.
- **19. Recessive allele** an allele that is only expressed when the organism is homozygous for that allele and not expressed when heterozygous (when paired with a dominant allele).
- **20. Homozygous** possessing a pair of identical alleles for a particular locus (gene).

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- 21. Heterozygous possessing a pair of unlike alleles for a particular locus (gene).
- **22**. **Carrier** a heterozygous individual not expressing a recessive trait but capable of passing it on to its offspring.
- **23**. **Parent generation** (**P**) the generation that supplies gametes to the filial generation.
- **24**. **Filial generation** (**F**,) the generation that receives gametes from the parental generation.
- **25**. **Hybrid** an offspring resulting from the mating between individuals of two different genetic constitutions.
- **26**. **Dihybrid cross** a genetic cross that takes into account the effect of alleles at two separate loci (two different genes).
- **27**. **Monohybrid cross** a genetic cross that takes into account the effect of alleles at a single locus (single gene).
