
Available at: Standard Book Company, 4/18 Morzaria Industrial Estate, Bannerghatta Road, Bangalore 560 029, Karnataka, India. Tele 91-80-25521554.

This book is written by an expert in the field of biomechanics of the human body. It is aimed to be a textbook for those studying biomechanics as an elective subject at the undergraduate level. It is a useful reference for disciplines that deal with the applied aspects of motion of the human body, like Aerospace Medicine.

The author introduces the topic well and lays stress on the principles of biomechanics. The text is structured into four parts such as, Biological Basis, Mechanical Basis, Application of Biomechanics and Qualitative analysis. The topics are written in a direct style that builds from familiar anatomical knowledge and builds on to biomechanical principles and their applications. New guiding principles have been proposed that make the application of biomechanics in the study of human motion more comprehensible. In this it is an improvement on older texts on this subject. There is an extensive use of graphs, photographs and illustrations throughout the book that make clear the important biomechanical variables and concepts that have been propounded. The figures also lend to a finer appreciation of the application of this science.

The stress in this book is on application that is mainly directed at improving human motion and preventing injury. A wide variety of examples of movement and also of real life case-studies have been expounded to demonstrate how biomechanical principles can be quantitatively applied to improve human movement in a variety of professions. The author has made an impressive effort in integrating the biological and mechanical foundations of human movement using new guiding principles. Qualitative analysis has been presented in a coherent reasoned style. Algebra level mathematics has been used to teach the mechanical concepts. The avoidance of rigorous mathematical treatment would appeal to the biology students.

It is a well indexed and referenced. There are extensive citations to provide support for the biomechanical principles that have been developed and give the student references for further study. Exercises, discussions and review questions that have been added at the end, enhance the teaching value in this book. Web links have also been given to augment the references.

The book would make excellent reading for the postgraduate students in Aerospace Medicine and they would obtain knowledge to apply in the field of Human Engineering.

Reviewed by Wg Cdr Satish Chowdhary

Call for Papers
45th ISAM Conference
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IAM, IAF, Bangalore.

Abstracts to be submitted by 20th August and full text by 15th September in 3 copies and also on a floppy to the Organising Secretary, 45th ISAM Conference, IAM, IAF, Vimanapura, Bangalore - 560 017.