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Chinese researchers are studying psychics capable of such mind-over-matter feats as fogging photo film and generating pulses on electrical devices, an American scientist said Thursday.

Some of the experiments were described in a paper prepared for delivery Friday to the convention of the Parapsychological Association by Dr. H.E. Puthoff of the Radio Physics Laboratory in Menlo Park, California, who said he and other western observers had been shown data, including motion picture film, backing up the claim.

Puthoff, whose delegation went to China after a Sichuan newspaper reported that a 12-year-old boy could "read" printed Chinese ideographs with his ears, said the Chinese were very interested in "exceptional human functioning" - mentioned in ancient Chinese texts.

Puthoff's talk introduced a number of papers by invited Chinese researchers who said they were studying psychics who could fog photographic film and stimulate pulses on electrical devices -- with mental force.

One of the papers, submitted by Zhao Yun-Je of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, said the ability of humans to "see" without their eyes indicates "that in the natural world there exists an unknown radiation which is reciprocally connected with the life process.

"Compared with generally known physical radiation, this radiation has a more complex distribution in space and time," the paper said.

He Chongying, editor-in-chief of Nature Journal of Shanghai, said researchers at Peking University had trained children in psychic behavior.

"In some Chinese hospitals the clairvoyance function is being applied to help in diagnosis," the paper said. "Experiments with blind children also obtained results to some degree. Blind children have been induced to possess a clairvoyance function.

"Experiments in 'seeing' things under layers of soil and detecting hidden things were also quite satisfying," it said.

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