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FACULTY OF MEDICINE
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FACULTY OF MEDICINE UNIVERSITY OF RUHUNA

Third Examination for Medical Degrees (Part II) – January 2013

FORENSIC MEDICINE - PAPER 1

Answer ALL FIVE Questions.

9.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon (3 hours)

Answer each PART in a SEPARATE BOOK.

Part A

1. An adult male with burn injuries was recovered from a burnt house and was brought to the hospital. He died at the OPD.
 - 1.1 List five important medico- legal issues relevant to this case. (20 marks)
 - 1.2 Describe the medico- legal investigation of this death. (60 marks)
 - 1.3 Briefly describe the features of *ante- mortem* burns expected to be seen in this case. (20 marks)

2. A young man was found dead following a struggle with a robber inside his house. After the autopsy the cause of death was given as hemorrhagic shock following multiple cut injuries inflicted by a heavy sharp cutting weapon.
 - 2.1 Describe how you would perform the examination of the crime scene in this case. (50 marks)
 - 2.2 Describe the medico-legal interpretation of possible blood stain patterns present at the scene of the crime. (50 marks)

Part B

3. A 32 year- old female was admitted to a teaching hospital with an alleged history of plant poisoning. The patient initially had nausea, vomiting and burning sensation in mouth. Subsequently she was found to have bradycardia with second degree heart block in the ward.
 - 3.1 List five common poisonous plants seen in Sri Lanka and their toxic substances. (20 marks)
 - 3.2 What is the likely poisonous plant involved in this case? (05 marks)
 - 3.3 Describe the mechanism of developing bradycardia with 2nd degree heart block in this patient. (20 marks)
 - 3.4 What are the medico-legal duties of a medical officer in the ward in this case? (25 marks)
 - 3.5 Describe the essential steps of the clinical management of this patient. (30 marks)

Part C

4. A group of youth were arrested by police in relation to an incident of mob violence following a protest march held in a major city. The detainees were produced before the Judicial Medical Officer (JMO) few hours after the arrest.
- 4.1 List the medico-legal issues related to this case. (15 marks)
- 4.2 What are the common methods adopted by police to control mob violence? (15 marks)
- 4.3 How would you examine a detainee for alleged drunkenness? (30 marks)
- 4.4 Describe how you would document examination findings of detainees. (40 marks)
5. A medical officer was summoned to give evidence in a high court case related to sexual abuse of a 14 year- old school girl.
- 5.1 List the sexual offences described in the Penal Code of Sri Lanka. (20 marks)
- 5.2 Describe the law of rape in Sri Lanka. (20 marks)
- 5.3 Describe the ethical principles to be followed during the medico-legal examination and reporting of this case. (30 marks)
- 5.4 Describe the principles to be followed when giving medical expert evidence in courts. (30 marks)

To:-
S. A. Librarian
Faculty of Medicine