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**POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE**  
**UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO**

**MD (FORENSIC MEDICINE) EXAMINATION – NOVEMBER 2016**

**Date :-** 28<sup>th</sup> November 2016

**Time :-** 9.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.

**PAPER I**

Answer all questions.

Commence each answer in a separate page.

Please write legibly.

1. Late one evening, you are called to the scene of death of a woman believed to be 35 years of age who had a reported history of drug and alcohol abuse. Neighbours informed police that they heard noises consistent with an argument 2 days previously and the woman had not been seen since. The body was discovered partly clothed in the living room of a small apartment which was not considered secure. Police noted a number of empty alcohol containers and drug paraphernalia, as well as signs of a disturbance (overturned furniture) and material on the walls and floor which had the appearance of blood.

- 1.1. Describe how you would proceed, having arrived at the scene.  
(20 marks)

- 1.2. Discuss how your observations/ findings at the scene may assist in the investigation of the death.  
(80 marks)

2. An obese 50-year old male was observed to be acting in an unpredictable and aggressive manner in a large city street and police were called. He appeared to be armed with a knife and attempts at restraint were made by police including deployment of lacrimation agents and Taser gun. He was disarmed and during a subsequent struggle in which handcuffs were applied, he was noted to be collapsed. No attempts at resuscitation were made until the arrival of an ambulance some 15 minutes later. Despite the attentions of ambulance officers he died at the scene. His past history comprised hypertension and insulin-requiring diabetes mellitus.

Discuss your approach to the medico-legal investigation of this man's death.  
(100 marks)

3. Exhumation of bodies for autopsy is a common occurrence in medicolegal practice prescribed under the provision of section 373 of Code of Criminal Procedure.
  - 3.1. Describe the circumstances under which bodies are exhumed for autopsy examination. (10 marks)
  - 3.2. Describe the difficulties/limitations of autopsies on exhumed bodies. (40 marks)
  - 3.3. Discuss the ethical considerations of expressing opinion by the pathologist in the investigation of exhumed bodies. (50 marks)
4. An 11-year old male child, resident of a foster care home, was admitted to a paediatric ward with multiple injuries and history of sexual abuse.
  - 4.1. Discuss the holistic medico-legal management of this case. (70 marks)
  - 4.2. Describe your recommendations/proposals regarding improvements of management of children at foster care in Sri Lanka. (30 marks)

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Y. Suman

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**PAPER II**

Answer all questions.

Commence each answer in a separate page.

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1. Describe the different aspects that should be considered in quality assurance of forensic medical practice in Sri Lanka. (100 marks)
2. Describe the importance of autopsy findings of burnt bodies in determining the cause of death. (100 marks)
3. Discuss the concept of 'Act done with intent to prevent a child from being born alive' in Sri Lankan and international legal systems. (100 marks)
4. Describe the application of 'diminished responsibility' in medico-legal practice. (100 marks)
5. A 15-year old girl is presented for medico-legal examination several months after the last of a series of sexual assaults.
  - 5.1. Describe the possible medical findings at the time of examination. (50 marks)
  - 5.2. Discuss the medico-legal significance of the findings described above. (50 marks)
6. Evaluate the use of ancillary investigations in the diagnosis of death due to drugs of abuse. (100 marks)
7. Describe the possible injury patterns seen in modified and locally made firearms. (100 marks)

8. Evaluate the expected autopsy findings in ascertaining drowning as a cause of death. (100 marks)
9. Describe how you would diagnose
  - 9.1. 'death due to mitral valve prolapse'. (50 marks)
  - 9.2. 'death due to cardiac channelopathies'. (50 marks)
10. Describe the use of special histopathological stains in forensic practice. (100 marks)