

MEDICAL JURISPRUDENCE AND JUSTICE ADMINISTRATION: A STUDY ON PSYCHIATRY, TOXICOLOGY, FORENSIC SCIENCE AND THEIR CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS EXECUTION OF JUSTICE

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There is a clear distinction between ‘Law’ and ‘Justice’. Law has a regulatory quality and Justice is seen as a moral yardstick to measure the rightness of a human act. The aim of Law is the attainment of justice. The utilization of the branches of forensic medicine namely forensic toxicology, forensic psychiatry and science are considered predominant in medical jurisprudence. The adoption of developing aspects of medical jurisprudence influences the development of law. The paper studies the nature of administration of law in Sri Lanka, procedures followed, the application of medical jurisprudence and scientific knowledge to legal problems. It analyses the branches of forensic medicine and the significance of each. The study discusses foreign and local cases and local legislations; criminal procedure code, civil procedure code, penal code and the evidence ordinance. The paper suggests developments for the medico legal sphere and the adoption of new technologies to increase the efficiency of administration of justice in Sri Lanka including both criminal and civil law. The imperativeness of medical jurisprudence is not a scarce purview but is far reaching. In the legal sense, ‘Medical Jurisprudence’ is read by the courts to solve civil or criminal cases. ‘Forensic psychiatry’ is the study of the subjectivities of the human being and deals with the management and treatment of mentally abnormal offenders and extends to a risk assessment of mentally disordered patients. Forensic toxicology studies poisons. DNA (Deoxyribonucleic acid) techniques are supportive for the administration of justice. DNA in human body is a mode of identification. The study is normative in nature. The author recommends that human and physical resources be developed, prioritizing technology and institutions such as European Network of Forensic Science Institutes (ENFSI), Combined DNA Indexed Systems (CODIS) for the advancement of medical Jurisprudence and the fair and equal dispensation of justice.

Keywords; Jurisprudence, Forensic Medicine, psychiatry, toxicology

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