



Importance of Physical Evidences in Crime Scene with Special Reference to Murder and Rape Case of a Rural Girl

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Abstract

Sexual abuses of female of all ages become most common crime in India. The proper examination of each and every small evidence can lead to reconstruct the sequence of events of the crime. This study highlights rape and murder case of a young rural lady who was reported missing from her residence. Her body was found 1 kms away in a secluded area. The clothing of her lower part was tied on her own legs with excess mud on the face were found. During the investigation of crime, sequence of steps involving searching of houses and males of aged 20-40 years involved, they were interrogated and examined in appropriate manner which align the story that revealed by the evidences. Finally, the suspected person was found guilty on the basis of collected physical evidences and the justice prevailed as life imprisonment under the section 302, and 376 of IPC.

Keywords: Forensic Evidences; Reconstruction; Asphyxia; Homicide; Sexual Assault

Introduction

The examination of physical evidences by a forensic scientist is usually under taken for identification, comparison and crime scene reconstruction. The physical evidence left behind at a crime scene plays a crucial role in constructing the events that took place surrounding the crime. The present study which is related to murder and rape of a lady in village describing the utility of available physical evidences for linking a person to a crime, identification of criminal, modus operandi and motive [1-5].

Brief History of the Case

Police Chauki, Jhagar of Police Station Dharnawada informed to the scene of crime unit, Guna MP that a dead body of 15 years old girl, Raji (Fake name), resident of village Jhagar, was

found in isolated place. She had gone to toilet at 12:30 PM but had not returned till 5:30 PM. Undergarments (underwear and salwar) were open till the knees. Neck was strangulated with her dupatta. Bleeding present from nostrils, mouth filled with mud and face covered with black soil like mud. On this report case crime No.283/2009 under section 302/376 IPC was registered in P.S. Dharnawada.

Forensic Observations at the Scene of Crime

Dead body of young girl aged 15 years was found in bada of local resident of village Jhagar in front side down position. Undergarments and clothing's (underwear and salwar) were open upto the knees. Salwar was in inverted condition appeared that it had been inserted in legs after sexual assault (rape). Abrasion marks were present on backside of the body. Neck was strangulated with her dupatta and its

knot was visible below the right ear. Mouth was filled with mud and face was covered with black soil like mud. Lota of deceased was found 105 feet on the North-West side of the dead body having chance finger-prints. Wet black soil was present on the road to the west side of the deceased and was having marks of digging soil by fingers and shoe prints

were also present. The slippers of deceased were found near Lota without any mud. Eyes of deceased were closed, nostrils were injured and bleeding was present. A blood stained injury was also present over left eye brow. On upper part of the body, the girl was wearing a kurta, sameez and a sweater (Photograph 1-4).



Figure 1: Photograph of deceased showing strangulation.



Figure 2: Photograph showing position of face.



Figure 3: Photograph showing close-up of face and position of knot.



Figure 4: Photograph showing position of clothings.

Results and Discussions

Physical evidences play an important role in solving crimes in this case circumstantial evidences deceased body suggestive of sexual assault followed by strangulation to hide identity. The study of scene of crime unit revealed that the accused was known to the deceased and was watching her daily activity. Motive of murder was rape. Cloth (Dupatta) around the neck of the deceased with a knot and bleeding from nostrils clearly indicate that the cause of death is asphyxia due to strangulation. Naked condition of body and condition of underwear and salwar where salwar was in inverted condition clearly suggestive of sexual assault which later confirmed by presence of spermatozoas in vaginal slide and vaginal smears examination. Crime scene unit suggested to the investigating agencies for searching of a person (criminal) aged between 20-40 years and a person (criminal) who is married and is living without his family near scene of crime. On this tip, a person known to the deceased, unmarried and aged 40 years residing between the scene of crime and house of the deceased was found. In due course of investigation, not only the accused confessed the crime (rape and murder) but also gave a typical reason of using mud. He filled mud in the mouth of the deceased to check if the deceased was still breathing and thereby confirming her death. The presence of physical evidences like fingerprint on lota, foot print, sleeper, mud print and spermatozoas were revealing and establishing the identity of the accused. Scene of crime ultimately helped in identification of criminal with the help of shoe prints found in black soil, finger-prints found on Lota, blood and seminal stains found on his clothes and black soil on his shoes by examination of physical evidences in Regional Forensic Science Laboratory, Gwalior, State Forensic Science Laboratory, Sagar and Finger-print Inspector, Rajgarh. The Honorable Court of Guna also convinces with the forensic opinion and passed life imprisonment judgement to the

accused on the basis of collected physical evidences from scene of crime and chemical examination reports of physical evidences.

Conclusion

Forensic evidences play vital role in the investigation of crime and create a link between the crime and the criminal which may be sufficient to reveal the truth about crime and criminal identity. In such types of cases where witnesses are not a living person but are the small potential physical evidences, the investigating officer must be that trained to understand criminal psychology and the small noticeable hint given by physical evidences present at scene of crime and let them speak in the court to induce a justifiable judgement as happened in this case.

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