

Incipient steps of forensic odontology in Sudan

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ABSTRACT

Forensic dentistry played a major role in serving justice and community. As it was ages since Oscar Amoedo wrote his treatise on forensic odontology, this science was not recognized in Sudan until the last ten years. Although there were unpublished data about two cases of identification in Sudan by using teeth in the years 1986 and 1988. Changes in the Sudanese law in terms of adding Child Act in 2010 drew the judicial authorities' attention to the importance of setting a criminal age which became 18 years old. Age estimation had risen as a problem due to the lack of birth certificates database in all the States of Sudan. Criminal age estimation committee has been established since 2011 under the umbrella of the Ministry of Health. The first Sudanese forensic dentist was registered in the Sudan Medical Council in 2014. Few universities started after that to adopt forensic odontology in their undergraduate curriculum. In the last decade, many published and unpublished studies, reports and workshops had been conducted in Sudan to adopt the scientific evidence by which we can establish our guidelines, rules and regulations in forensic dentistry. In this paper we will review all these steps and guidelines in addition to pass through all the research work, studies and cases in the field of forensic dentistry that had been done in Sudan in the last ten years.