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Murder Mystery Solved with the Help of Forensic Investigation

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Abstract. Crime scene reconstruction is the process of determining or eliminating the events that occurred at the crime scene by analysis of physical evidences. In one case, a lady left the house receiving a call on her cell phone. Since she did not return home till late evening, the husband and her children made search but could not trace out. Subsequently, a missing report was lodged in the local police station. At night, on the same day, the dead body of the missing lady was found lying in a bathroom of a Hotel along with a male dead body. The investigative and forensic team visited the undisturbed crime spot. Scrutiny of forensic evidence, crime scene dynamics, victimology and autopsy study could establish the case to be murder and suicide. At crime scene, on the basis of our observations the two cases were registered under murder and suicide IPC sections. The male murdered the lady in the bathroom and committed suicide near the dead body of the lady. This involved scientific crime scene investigation, interpretation of patterned evidence at the scene, laboratory testing of the physical evidence, systematic study of related case information, and the logical formulation of a theory gives the proper directions to the Investigating officer (IO). In this article, we have reported an interesting case for forensic aspect. The IO, was in this impression, it might murder. Our team, reveals the truth and case was solved at scene of crime.

Keywords: Crime scene investigation; Forensic sciences; Physical evidences.

1. Introduction

The Crime scene was reconstructed on the bases of scientific experimentation and experience of the forensic scientists. Its steps and stages followed basic scientific principles, theory formulation and logical methodology^{1,2}. During the reconstruction all investigative information with physical evidence analysis and interpretation incorporated which was molded into a reasonable explanation of the activity and

related events. During this logic, careful observation, and considerable experience, both in crime scene investigation and forensic testing played a critical role. All data concerning the condition of physical evidence, patterns and impressions, condition of the victim, etc., was reviewed, organized, and studied³⁻⁷.

Crime Scene visiting is so necessary for coming to a conclusion in some of the mysterious cases is a must, in Identifying a dead person, time since death & cause of Death. Suicide and murder cases, are committed, where firearm are used due to easy availability of firearm with them. In order to reconstruct the crime, physical evidence of shooting cases are referred for forensic examination along with scene of crime study, body of the victim to establish the crime. The determination of suicide is supported not only by the presence of close range wound but also by crime scene study, case history of the victim along with autopsy report⁸.

2. Case history

In the present case study report is unique and rare case of suspicious death, wherein the manner of death (suicide or homicide) was identified in the death scene of crime itself through available physical evidences. As per IO a lady left the house receiving a call on her cell phone. Since she did not return home till late evening, the husband and her children made search but could not trace out. Subsequently, a missing report was lodged in the local police station. At night, on the same day, the dead body of the missing lady was found lying in a bathroom of a Hotel along with a male dead body. We have been called by the IO for the scientific add. We have visited and gave the direction to the IO on the basis of our observations, case was solved at spot of occurrence (SO).

2.1 Observations

Crime scene is a treasure of information. Forensic expert should apply their knowledge and skill to identify the fact in the crime scene, so that the fact may be accepted by the sentencing authorities in the court⁹. The present case report provided valuable information in a suspicious death. The observations of our team at the spot are as under:

- 1) The room of the hotel was locked from the inside and there was no other key or gate or window to enter or exit from the room. As per the Hotel reception the

room was booked in the afternoon, not a single order for food/tea was received from this room.

2) The room was opened forcefully, and at the time of entry the floor of the room was smeared with blood drops and some partial barefoot impressions. One tool box and leather bag with tool was found near the double bed, on the tea table. Some blood drop were also present on the bag had been detected. All the blood spot were tested using prelim test.

3) After entering into the bathroom of the hotel room, where both the bodies were lying. One fired cartridge was found in the washbasin of the bathroom.

4) The lady had an injury near the ear and the male person had on the forehead injury. The country made firearm (Country made pistol CMP) found in between the fingure of the male hand. Some tattoeing and GSR might have possible on the hands of the male body, after applying the prelim test, GSR observed on the hand of the male dead body.

2.2 Photographs

Figures 1-8 illustrate the crime scene.



Figure 1. Hotel room forcefully open.

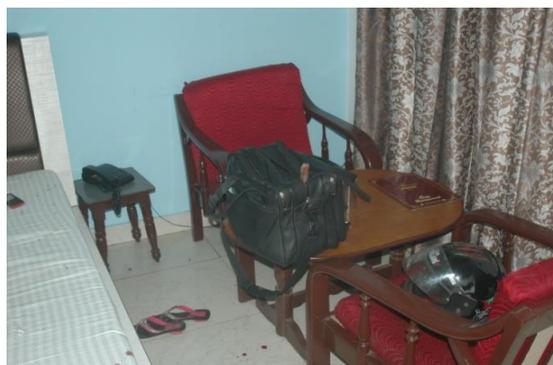


Figure 2. Tea table nearby blood detected



Figure 3. Black-coloured tool bag having blood drop on it.



Figure 4. Bare feet blood smeared impressions observed at the floor of the room.



Figure 5. Both the dead body lying the bathroom.



Figure 6. Hand-made firearm having a fired bullet in it.



(a)



(b)

Figure 7. (a) Photo of the fired blank cover in the bathroom washbasin; (b) zoom of the fired blank cover.

3. Discussion

On the IO was in doubt what might happen, who killed whom or it was a murder mystery. On the bases of our fourfold observations, 1) the entry of the hotel room was closed from the inside; 2) blood droplet on the tool bag of the person having blood drop; 3) one cartridge case was found in the firearm and one in the washbasin; 4) bare

foot marks of the male on the floor. On these observations, the dilemma was cleared and the report was explained point by point. The male first made sexual relation with lady, then in fired her with the CMP in the bathroom, came out in the room search for second bullet in his bag, using which he was planned to commit suicide for himself. Change the bullet at washbasin and fired own his own. The cases was resolved at the spot, the all the evidence collected have been send to the laboratory for further and necessary examinations, which are not included in the article.

4. Conclusion

It is established that evidence tells a story and helps an investigator re-create the crime scene and establishing the sequence of events at spot¹⁰, those related to firearms, GSR is the key evidence for it. If physical evidences (like blood stains, GSR and struggling marks) analyzed and interpreted properly, those will help to take the right path for investigation agency. These physical evidences are more reliable than testimonial evidences¹¹. On the basis of our spot observations, blood prelim test, GSR pretest and sequence of happening (reconstruction), we have given as proper direction of investigation to the IO and cases was resolved on the basis of Physical evidences¹².

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