BOOK REVIEW

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A Review of Parikh's Simplified Text Book of Medical Jurisprudence and Toxicology

REFERENCE: Parikh, C. K., Parikh's Simplified Text Book of Medical Jurisprudence and Toxicology. Medical Publications, Colaba, Bombay, India, 1976, 975 pages, $16.95 surface mail, $24.95 air mail.

This work should be of interest to anyone who is a student of comparative forensic medicine and pathology as it offers a rather complete picture of the activities and problems found in India as a whole and in Bombay in particular.

The text covers more than 950 pages, with two major parts and an appendix. The first major part is related to medical jurisprudence, more properly understood by American readers as forensic medicine and pathology. In addition to pathologic findings, a very good discussion is given of the mechanisms of injury. Forensic science and criminalistics are covered, rather heavily in the area of firearms. The second major part deals with toxicology. There are many illustrations, most of which, unfortunately, are of limited value because of their poor quality. The diagrams and charts are excellent.

I would certainly recommend this book as a supplementary textbook for a large organization and for Indian nationals who may have emigrated to another country. I find this book an excellent addition to the Milton Helpern International Center of the Forensic Sciences. Students there have shown an interest in the book, especially those sections that present comparisons of methods and problems.

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