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Perspective

A Brief Note on Forensic Anthropology

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ABOUT THE STUDY

Forensic Anthropology is an important sub-specialty of Forensic Sciences that deals with the identification of human remains in a legal setting. With the development of modern techniques like as face reconstruction, radiographic and odonatological approaches, and DNA fingerprinting, forensic anthropology has developed as a formidable sub-discipline in the identification of human remains. This sub-discipline is currently recognized as a complete part in major worldwide forensic organizations such as the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, International Association of Identification, International Association of Forensic Sciences, and International Academy of Legal Medicine.

New studies are being undertaken all around the world to create 'Forensic Anthropology Data Banks' of various communities to aid in the identification of human remains. In addition to the accessible skeletal repositories, Computed Tomography (CT) the utilization of observations gathered on the aforementioned bone collections continues to provide problems for the study.

The identification technique for unknown and unidentified human remains necessitates a baseline data set of current skeletal cases. Most of these collections, however, are fairly old and, as a result of population secular patterns, cannot be compared to the database of present populations. It is apparent that these materials cannot be utilized as criteria for solving forensic cases involving the identification of persons from skeletal remains.

Furthermore, these skeleton collections belong to distinct populations that cannot be utilized on other populations throughout the world due to the wide difference in morphological and genetic traits of these diverse groups.

These demographic groupings are known as Genetically Different Populations (GDP). As a result, forensic criteria for each of these GDPs, as well as other populations globally, are required for effective identification processes. The conceivable answer to this challenge is the production of new databases for various demographic groups using Digital Radiographs, CT Scans, and MRI (Virtual Methods of Data Collection), i.e. skeletal databases using virtual methods.

As a result, e-skeletal repositories will be built for medical and forensic study, as well as forensic anthropological casework. These virtual approaches have shown to be highly valuable and simple data gathering tools on current populations, with several applications in medical and forensic studies.

Many studies have previously been conducted in this area, yielding several scientific publications that have been published in prestigious forensic and medical journals. Another step in this approach is the establishment of e-repositories/open access repositories; one such repository is the Virtual Skeleton Database (VSD) for biological study and cooperation. Such e-repositories will undoubtedly be valuable in forensic investigations, particularly in forensic anthropology casework and Disaster Victim Identification (DVI). However, the degree of accuracy and dependability of modern approaches in comparison to direct observations on skeleton collections may be questionable and should be studied. These procedures will be worked on indefinitely until they are entirely acceptable to forensic scientists at large. in the assessment of skeletal remains, first and foremost consideration must be given.

For sex assessment of human remains, forensic anthropologists usually use morphologic and metric approaches. Despite the advancement and success of molecular approaches, these methods remain extremely important in the identification process. The increased use of imaging methods in forensic anthropological research has made it easier to derive and amend population statistics.

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