ANIL AGGRAWAL'S
Internet Journal of
Forensic Medicine and Toxicology
The world's first online journal devoted entirely to forensic medicine and toxicology · Published 1 January and 1 July

VOL. 15, NO. 1
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Book Reviews: Technical Books Section

...A HIGHLY RECOMMENDED READ ...Overall I found the book useful for undergraduates. I heartily recommend it to them...

Textbook of Forensic Medicine and Toxicology, 1st Edition, by Anil Aggrawal. Soft cover, 11" x 8.5" x 1.5".
Avichal Publishing company, 8 Industrial Area, Trilokpur Road, Kala Amb 173 030, Distt. Sirmour (HP), Delhi Office: 1002 Faiz Road (opp. Hanuman Murti), Karol Bagh, New Delhi 110 005. . Email - apcmedicalbooks@yahoo.co.in; vipinguptaae@gmail.com; manchanda_rajiv@yahoo.co.in; anil@anilaggrawal.com; dr_anil@hotmail.com. Publication Date Jan 20, 2014. 800 pages, ISBN-13: 978-81–7739-419-1. Price: Rs 795.00.

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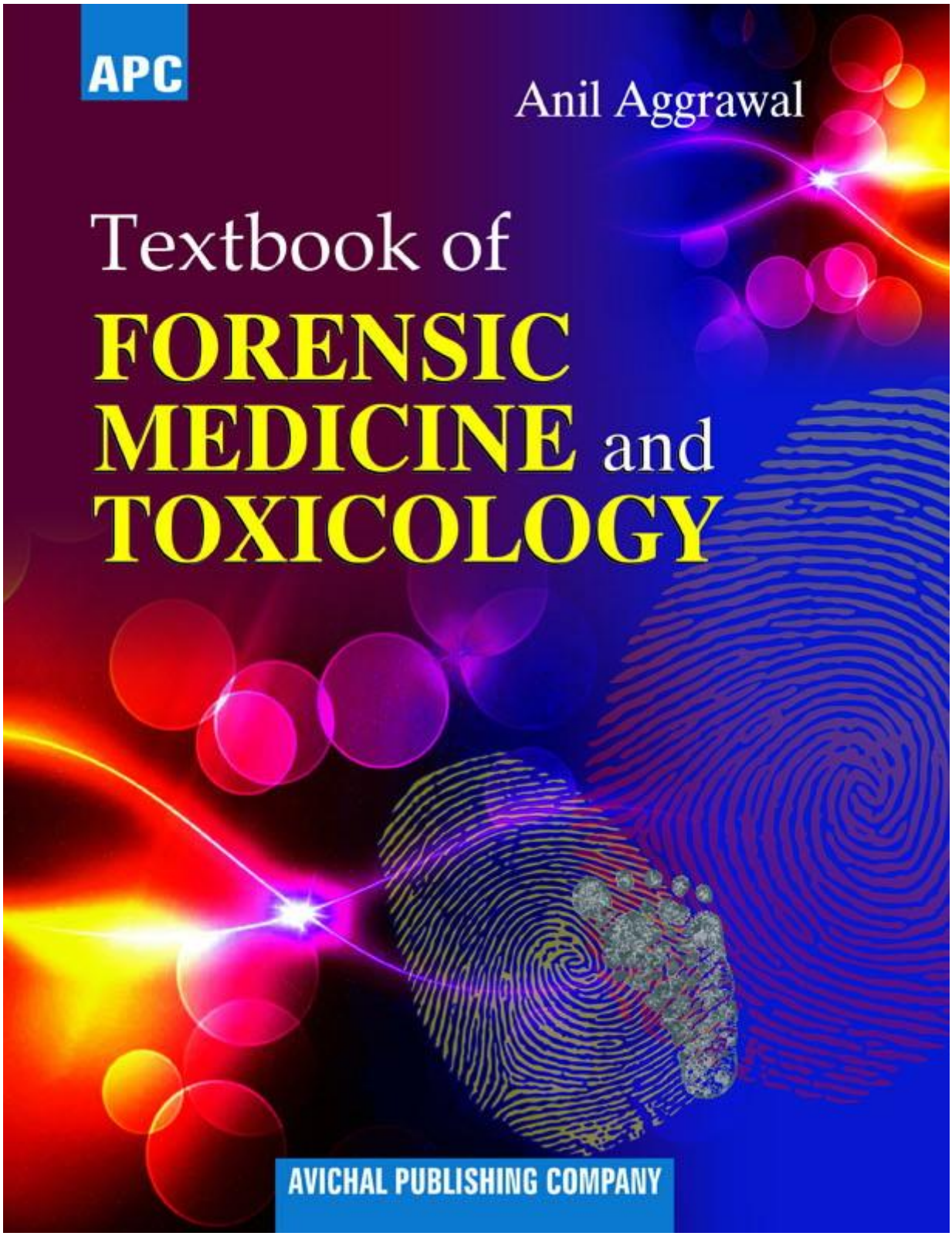

*T*his new textbook by Anil Aggrawal is primarily aimed at the overburdened undergraduate student. The book is a refreshingly new approach to the study of forensic medicine. The entire text has been rendered in two fonts – a larger font, which is essential for examinations and a smaller font, which primarily gives conceptual information, historical highlights and case studies. This approach appears good, because the student can quickly differentiate what is essential for his examinations and what is desirable to build up concepts.

The book gives crisp line diagrams for explanation of key concepts. There are several photographs which further add value to the text. A special feature is enlargement of small portions of photographs which are the key features photographs. For example in a photograph of a bullet showing primary and secondary markings, the latter have been shown enlarged alongside.

Some sample downloads are available above

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Memory aids and Mnemonics index
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Appendix 1, page 752

Extensive cross-references across the text avoid duplication of text. The book is slightly on the larger side than an average book the student has been reading so far. However it is mainly due to the incorporation of diagrams and photographs for better understanding, and also because of giving of additional information in small type. Thus a larger size appears justified. Moreover since the student can differentiate easily between the essential (larger font) and desirable (smaller font) information, he is at liberty not to read the smaller type.

One exclusive feature of this book is the mnemonics. These are unique and mostly devised by the author himself. Some of them are excellent and others ordinary; but all are extensively useful for students. For benefit of the reader, we are giving the complete index of memory aids and mnemonics index on the right hand side. Readers can also download some select pages from this book.

Overall I found the book useful for undergraduates. I heartily recommend it to them.

-Tanuj Ka
Dr. Tanuj
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