Forensic anthropology

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Human decomposition is a natural process that takes place within the body soon after death. It commences with various processes including those of predominately biochemical nature thus volatile compounds mainly fatty acids created by the breakdown of fats and DNA. We have therefore to consider the rate of this breakdown and those factors affecting it. The main factor is the environment because temperatures vary in different environments either naturally or artificially. Also environmental conditions change temporally. In normal temperature conditions the time since death can be determined from the degree of decomposition and the chemical compounds released. When the body has been fully decomposed and the remains are skeletal the forensic anthropologist can identify the corpse but again the environment plays a significant role at this stage. Therefore in this study we consider the oldest mummies in Egypt and what happened after the chemical process that the Egyptians used. We will additionally consider the natural mummification within the environment of high altitude sites like those in Peruvian Andes and after we learn how the bog bodies survived all those years. However natural catastrophes in the world like the earthquake tsunami or human mistakes like Chernobyl (Ukraine) can affect both data and process considering decomposition sequences?

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