

ABSTRACT

MODES OF EXECUTION OF DEATH SENTENCE IN INDIA-AN ANALYSIS

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An appraisal of the administration of criminal justice of ancient times reveals that death penalty was commonly used in cases of heinous crimes. However, there was great divergence as to the modes of execution. In ancient time, the common modes of inflicting death sentence on the offender were fructification, drowning, boiling, beheading, throwing before wild beasts, flaying or skinning off alive, Hurling the offender from rock stoning strangling, amputating, shooting by gun or starving him to death . Hanging the offender till death in public places has been a common mode of putting to an end to the life of an offender. These draconic and barbarous methods of punishing criminals to death were justified on the ground that they were the quickest and easiest modes of punishment and at the same time carried with them an element of deterrent and retribution. The present paper examines the modern humanitarian approach to penology, examines the constitutional validity of hanging in India and various modes of execution of sentence in India.

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