

NATURE AND SCOPE OF QUESTIONED DOCUMENTS

DOCS:

What are Documents?

The word 'document' denotes any matter expressed or described upon any substance by means of letters, figures and marks, or by more than one of those means, intended to be used as evidence of that matter.

'Document is anything that conveys any sort of information' according to the Section 29 of IPC:

"The word 'document' denotes any matter expressed or described upon any substance by means of letters, figures, or any type of marks, or by more than one of those means, intended to be used, or which maybe used, as evidence of that matter."

Types of Documents:

- # **Genuine Documents:** Any type of document whose authenticity has not been challenged. [Ex: = ~~adhar~~ card, Pan card, Driving license]
In other words, there isn't any fakeness or counterfeit in that.
- # **Questioned Documents:** Any document whose authenticity is being challenged. A questioned document can be defined as material that contains marks, symbols or signs intended to convey a message in any printed, written or linguist or numerals written on it etc. [Ex: = Mark sheet, Passport, Property disputed papers, will etc.]
- # **Holographic Document:** A holographic document is a document which is entirely handwritten and signed by the same person

Q.D

What are questioned documents?

Document(s) that donot have any authenticity or genuineness and has been manipulated is called questioned documents. In other word questions has been raised on the integrity of that document.

A 'questioned document' is any signature, mark or handwritten, typewritten document whose source or authenticity is in dispute or is doubtful. Forensic experts can examine and verify all types of handwriting, signatures and all printed/typed matter involving counterfeiting, obliterations, erasure etc.

Questioned Document Examination is a branch of forensic science that deals with documents having a suspicious authenticity. Also called as forensic document examination, it involves the application

of scientific methods and principle of document examination. This helps to produce evidence about a questioned document that is admissible in the court of law to prove its legitimacy.

There are many types of questioned documents that are examiners such as cheques, wills, licenses, suicide notes etc. The various types of questioned documents and the methods are discussed in the following sections: