

Course Outline

Lesson 1.

Historical Development of Criminal Laws in BD

Lesson 2.

Legal terms , meaning and definition under the Penal Code 1860

Lesson 4.

General Exceptions and Right of Private Defenses

Lesson 5.

Abetment and Criminal Conspiracy

Lesson7.

Offences Relating to Public Tranquilities and Justice

Lesson 3.

Punishments and rationale and Objectives

Lesson 6.

Offences Against the Sate

Lesson 8.

Offences Relating to Public Servant

Mid term Examination.....

Important Terms and Meanings ...

Crime

Murder, Culpable Homicide
Theft, Dacoity
Defamation, Criminal Force

Mens Rea

actus non facit reum, nisi mens sit rea,

Intention

It is the foreknowledge of the act, coupled with the desire of it

Motive

Ulterior intent is called the motive of the act.

Mistake of Law

"Ignorantia juris neminem excusat."

Mistake of Facts

An instance of it is to be found in the liability

Crime.

The word 'crime' has not been defined in the Penal Code. In its broad sense, however, it may be explained as an act of commission or omission which is harmful to the society in general.

Lesson 1.
Crime and Society

Lesson 2.
Crime and Sin

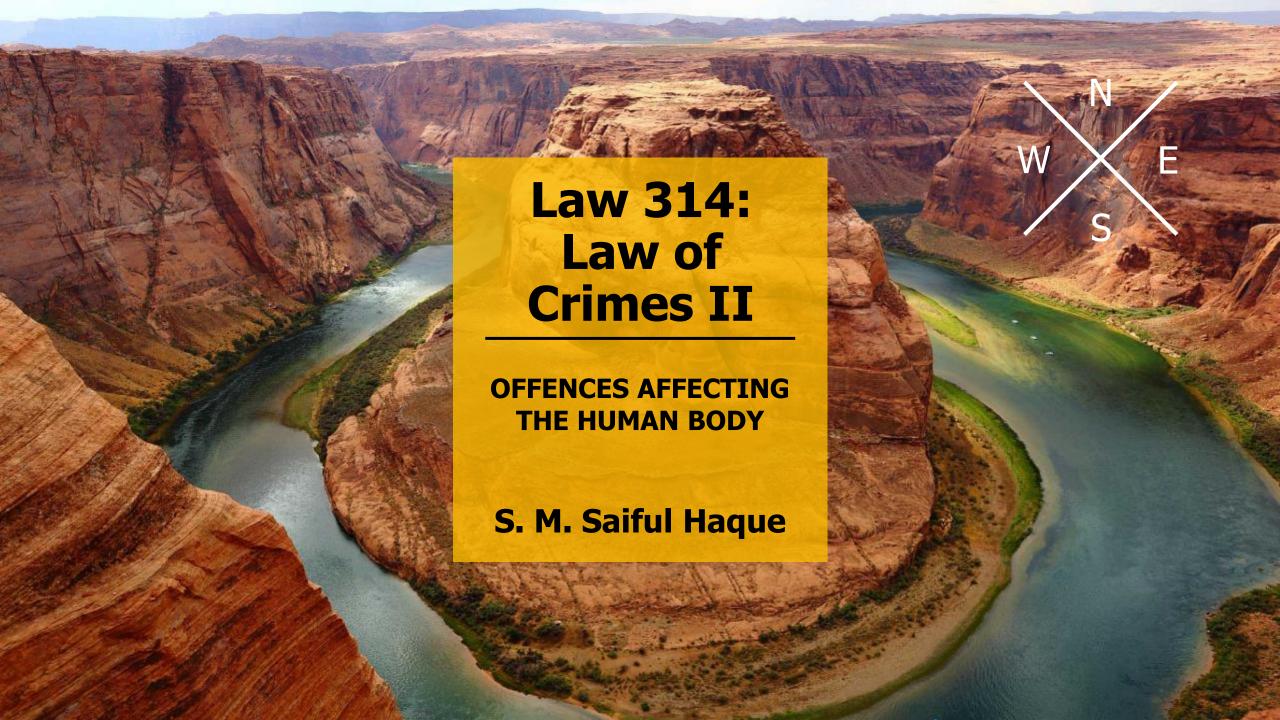
Lesson 3.

Types of Crieme

Lesson 4.
Nature of Crime

Crime and Criminal Administration of Justice for Peace

Lesson 5.



Homicide, Culpable Homicide and Murder

Differentiate in among the concepts and meanings







Mens rea.

It is one of the cardinal principles of the English Criminal Law that to constitute guilt there must be a guilty intent behind the act itself and that a crime is not committed if the mind of the person doing the act is innocent.

The principle is based on the maxim actus non facit reum, nisi mens sit rea, i.e. the act itself does not constitute guilt unless done with a guilty intent. Thus mens rea in the case of murder means malice aforethought; in the case of theft an intention to steal and in the case of receiving stolen goods knowledge that the goods were stolen.

It was held in the case of sherras vs. Do Rutzen that mens rea is an essential ingredient in every offence except in three cases:

- (1) cases not criminal in any real sense but which in the public interest are prohibited under a penalty, e.g. Revenue Acts;
- (2) public nuisance; and
- (3) cases criminal in form but which are really only a summary mode of enforcing a civil right.

The maxim has not so wide an application to the offences under the Penal Code; because the definition of the various offences contain expressly a statement as to the state of mind which Constitutes the mental element of a particular offence.

Intention.

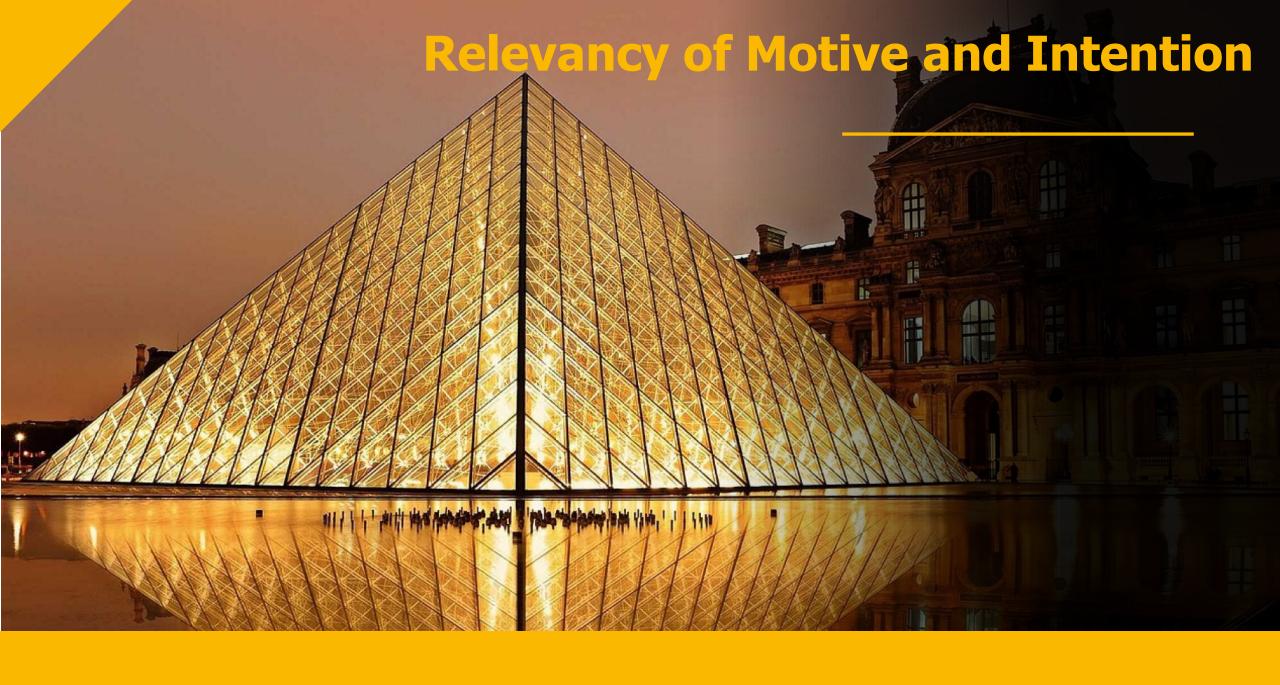
Salmond defined intention as the purpose or design with which an act is done. It is the foreknowledge of the act, coupled with the desire of it, such foreknowledge and desire being the cause of the act, inasmuch as they fulfil themselves through the operation of the will. An act is intentional if it exists in idea before it exists in fact, the idea realizing itself in the fact because of the desire by which it is accompanied.

Intention does not necessarily involve expectation. I may intend a result which I well know to be extremely improbable. So an act may be intentional with respect to a particular circumstance, although the chance of the existence of that circumstance is known to be exceedingly small.

• Motive.

Intention and motive invariable go together. An intention is the immediate desire and foreknowledge behind an act. Such a desire might be a means for another desire. Such ulterior intent is called the motive of the act.

For example, the immediate intent of the thief is to appropriate another's money, while his ulterior intent or motive may be to buy food with it or to pay a debt. Every wrongful act may raise two distinct questions with respect to the intent of the doer. Firstly, whither the act is done intentionally or accidently. Secondly, if the act is done intentionally, why it is done. The first question refers to the immediate intention of the man and the second question refers to the ulterior intent or motive of the man.



Mistake of Fact.

In English law mistake of fact affords an exemption from liability only in the sphere of the Criminal law, while in the Civil law liability is commonly absolute.

So far as civil liability is concerned, it is the general principle of law that he who intentionally interferes with the person, property, reputation, or other rightful interests of another does so at his peril, and will not be heard to allege that he believed in good faith and on reasonable grounds in the existence of some circumstance which justified his act In Criminal law the mater is otherwise. Absolute criminal liability for a mistake of fact is quite exceptional. An instance of it is to be found in the liability of a person who abducts a girl under the legal age of consent.



Mistake of Law.

□lgnorance of law is no excuse. This proposition is based on the maxim "Ignorantia juris neminem excusat."

When a person has committed a wrong he will not be allowed to say that but for his ignorance of the law he would not have committed it.

The reasons for this rule, according to Salmond, are three in number" In the first place, the law is in legal theory definite and knowable. It is the duty of every man to know that part of it which concerns him; therefore innocent and inevitable ignorance of the law is impossible.

Men are conclusively presumed to know the law, and are dealt with as if they did know it, because in general they can and ought to know it. In the second, place, it would be very difficult for a Court of law to decide whether the person is really ignorant or he is making it an excuse and a ground of defence for his guilt.

In the hird place, the law is in most instances derived from and in harmony with the rules of natural justice. A person committing a wrong may be ignorant that he is breaking the law, but he knows very well that he is violating a right.



EXCEPTIONS TO MISTAKES OF LAWS

(1) Mistake of law can be pleaded as a defence under section 78 of the Penal Code.

This section provides that nothing which is done in pursuance of, or which is warranted by the judgment or order of, a Court of justice, if done whilst such judgment or order remains in force, is an offence, notwithstanding the Court may have had no jurisdiction to pass such judgment or order, provided the person doing the act in good faith believes that the Court had such jurisdiction.

(2) Under section 379 of Penal Code it was held that a mistake of law may be an excuse if the accused takes another man's property believing under a mistake of fact and ignorance of law, that he has a right to take it.



Lesson Task

We will cover these skills:

- Flipgrid
- Forum
- Lesson Development
- Sharing Session



What we learnt?

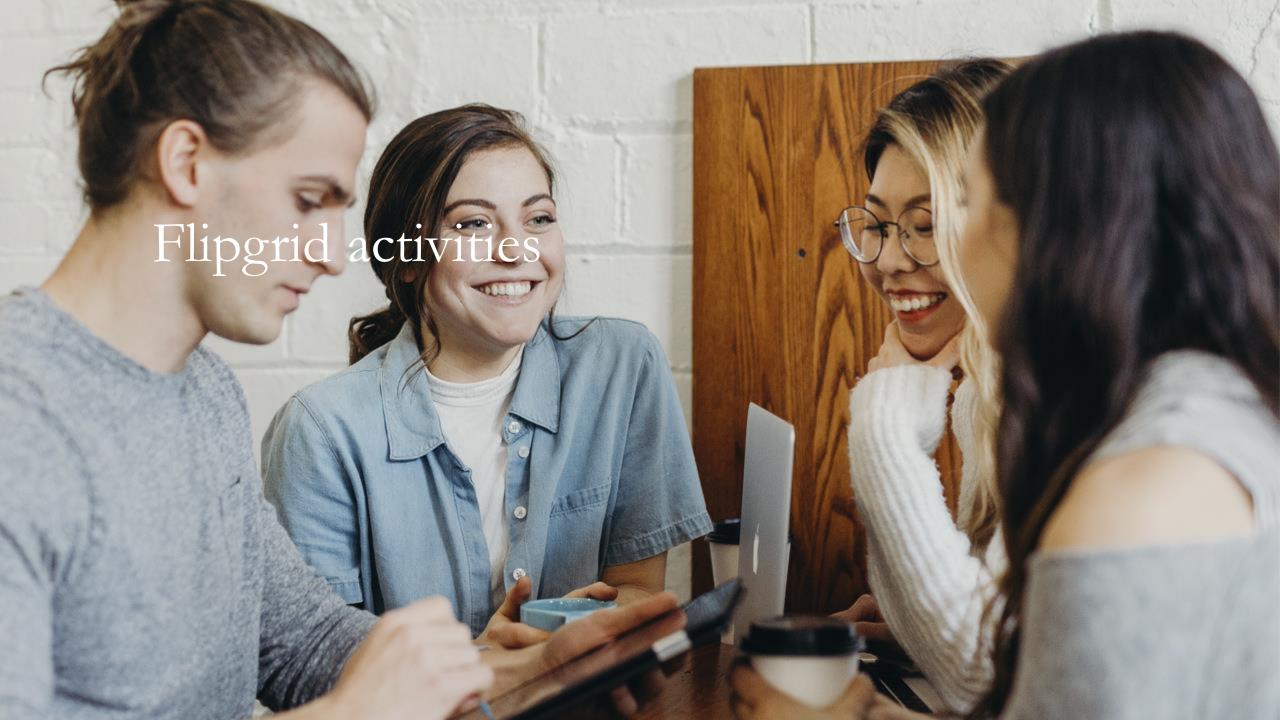












Forum in BLC

