Abstract

This bachelor thesis focuses on the irreplaceable role of forensic anthropology in dealing with the consequences of mass disasters. The thesis first classifies these disasters and then focuses on the application of identification methods with regard to the type of disaster and the degree of damage to the victims. It describes in detail the main identification methods, which include DNA profiling, dactyloscopy, and forensic odontology, and briefly discusses additional methods that can be used to complete information about a specific victim. The thesis also deals with all the main stages of the identification process, which include securing the remains at the scene, thoroughly examining them, collecting post-mortem data, collecting ante-mortem data, and then comparing them. The thesis also highlights the importance of international cooperation and multidisciplinary DVI (Disaster Victim Identification) teams, which make the identification process faster and more efficient. This thesis found that some types of disasters have similar character, which can facilitate the choice of identification methods and contribute to a more efficient process of identifying victims.

Keywords: forensic anthropology, mass disasters, DNA analysis, dactyloscopy, forensic odontology, DVI teams