

# **LIFE EVENTS AND PSYCHIATRIC DISORDERS**

Thesis

Submitted for Partial Fulfillment of the Master Degree in  
**Neuropsychiatry**

By

***Hanan Hussein Ahmed***

M.B.B.Ch.

Supervised By

***Prof. Farouk Lotaief Mahmoud***

Professor of Neuropsychiatry

Faculty of Medicine, Ain Shams University

***Dr. Mahmoud Haroon Ibrahim***

Assistant Professor of Neuropsychiatry

Faculty of Medicine, Ain Shams University

***Dr. Mohamed Youssef Abu Zeid***

Lecturer of Neuropsychiatry

Faculty of Medicine, Ain Shams University

Faculty of Medicine  
Ain Shams University

1998







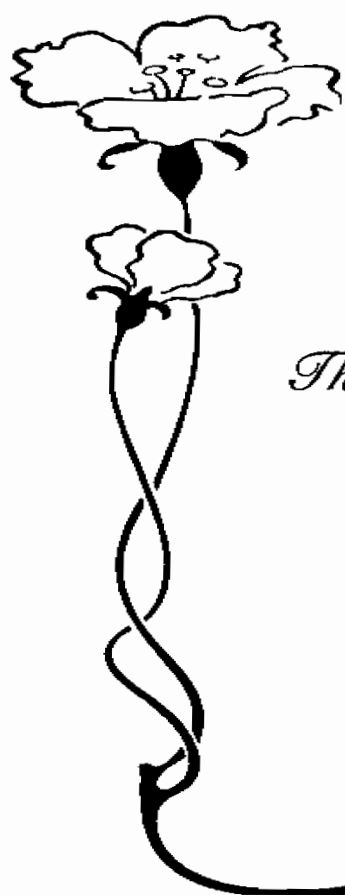
بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

وما توفيقى إلا بالله عليه توكلت

صدق الله العظيم

هود / آية ٨٨





*This Work is dedicated to ..*

*My Parents ,*

*and to ..*

*My Beloved Husband*



## **ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

*I would like to thank Prof. Farouk Lotaief, Professor of Neuropsychiatry, Ain Shams University, for choosing this interesting topic, his fatherly guidance and his supply of valuable literature not available elsewhere.*

*Thanks are also due to Dr. Mahmoud Haroon, Assistant Prof. of Neuropsychiatry, Ain Shams University for his assistance, support and meticulous revision of this humble work, without which it would not have been accomplished.*

*My special thanks go to Dr. Mohamed Youssef, Lecturer of Neuropsychiatry, for his continuous support, advice, and constructive criticism which brought this work to its present form.*

*I would like to offer my sincere thanks to all my senior staff and colleagues at the Department of Neuropsychiatry, Ain Shams University for their continuous support and advice.*

*My deepest gratitude goes to My Parents, My Parents In Law and My Beloved Husband for their support and encouragement all through the months of hard work.*





## **LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS**

- CRH : Corticotropin Releasing hormone.
- CSF : Cerebrospinal fluid.
- DSM : Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders.
- ECA : Epidemiologic Catchment Area.
- EE : Emotional Expression.
- GABA : Gamma Amino Butyric Acid.
- HVA : Homovanillic Acid.
- ICD : International Classification of Disease.
- LEDS : Life Events and Difficulty Schedule.
- OCD : Obsessive Compulsive Disorder.
- PD : Panic Disorder.
- POWS : Prisoners of War.
- PTSD : Post-traumatic Stress Disorders.
- RLE : Recent Life Events
- SESS : Self Evaluation and Social Support Schedule.



## LIST OF TABLES

Title	Page
Table (1): Arabic studies on the relationship between life events and psychiatric disorders .....	26
Table (2): Criteria for satisfactory life event inventory.	37
Table (3): Controlled comparisons of life events on the onset of clinical depression .....	58
Table (4): Criteria for high E.E. rating .....	94



## LIST OF CONTENTS

Title	Page
Introduction .....	1
Aim of The Work .....	4
Chapter I. Life events .....	5
Chapter II. Sociodemographic data of life events ...	15
Chapter III. Development of life event research .....	29
Chapter IV. Life events & psychiatric disorders .....	43
Chapter V. Life events & mood disorders .....	56
Chapter VI. Life events & non-affective psychotic disorders .....	84
Chapter VII. Life events & anxiety disorders .....	107
Chapter VIII. Life events & extremes of age .....	138
Chapter IX. Stress coping strategies .....	154
Discussion & Conclusion .....	178
Recommendations .....	198
Summary .....	199
References .....	205
Arabic Summary.	

