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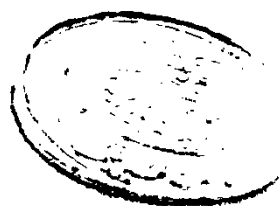
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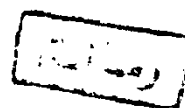
DRUG ABUSE

A Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment
of M.Sc. Degree in
Clinical Toxicology



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Under Supervision of



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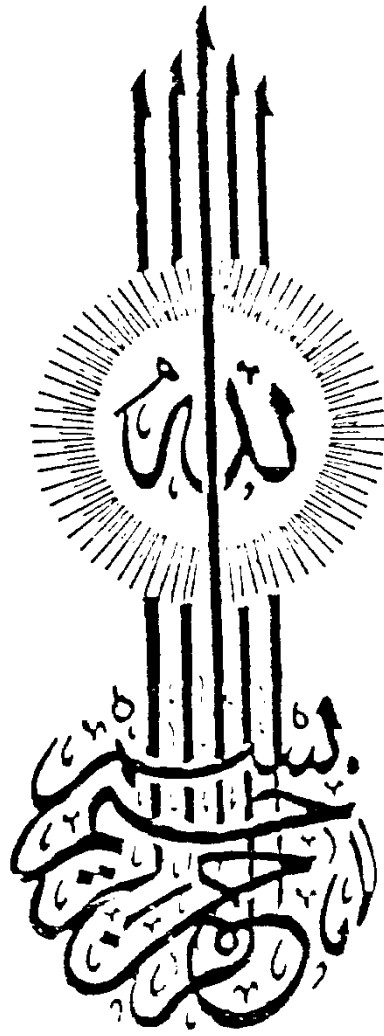
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قَالُوا سُبْحَانَكَ

لَا عِلْمَ لَنَا إِلَّا مَا عَلَّمْتَنَا إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ الْعَلِيمُ الْحَكِيمُ

صدق الله العظيم

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INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

As far back as recorded history, societies have used drugs that produce effects on mood, thought and feelings. Thus, the problem of drug abuse is as old as civilization itself.

Although drug abuse appears to be a worldwide problem affecting almost every society over the Earth, Egypt appears to be greatly exposed and involved in the problem.

This can be deduced from the huge amounts of addicting substances seized by the Egyptian Police. The annual Report of the Antinarcotic Squad in Egypt manifested that in 1986, alone, the total amount of narcotics seized by the Egyptian Police is as follows : 21289 Kg of hashish, 54 Kg of opium, 99 Kg of heroin, 81603 of cannabis trees, 2.433 Kg of cocaine, 7 Kg of psychoactive substances and 473163 of *papaver somniferum* (poppy) trees. It appears from the same report that there is a new wave trying to flood the Egyptian market with heroin evidenced by the sharp upstroke in the amount of heroin seized since 1983 onwards (Official Report in Okasha and Raafat, 1988).

Thus, Egypt in particular faces a new epidemic of drug abuse which can affect all the aspects of life on this country. This is because drug abuse results in many

medical, social, economic and security complications which can affect greatly our progress. This aspect constitutes the motive behind this study.

The objective of this study is to provide a digested information about the different aspects of drug abuse as far as possible and will include data about terminology, factors involved in drug abuse, epidemiology, psychopharmacology, clinical aspects and management of abuse of commonly abused drugs, influence on the newborn, immunological aspects, complications and clinical problems of drug abuse and prevention of drug abuse and role of medical profession in the problem.

Chapter (1)

Terminology

The various terms used in connection with drug abuse have been confusing and have undergone several modifications throughout years (Maurer and Vogel, 1973; Hofmann, 1975).

The term "drug" as used here, refers to "any substance other than those required for the maintenance of normal health, which by its chemical nature alters the structure or function of a living organism" (Kalant and Kalant, 1971).

Tatum and Seevers (1931), defined drug addiction as a "development of physical dependence to a drug, and when the use of this drug is reduced or stopped the withdrawal or abstinence syndrome is produced". They defined "drug habituation" as a state associated with psychological but not physiological involvement.

WHO Expert Committee (1950), defined drug addiction as "a state of periodic or chronic intoxication, detrimental to the individual and society, produced by the repeated consumption of a drug (natural or synthetic). Its characteristics include : (1) an overpowering desire or need (compulsion) to continue taking the drug and to obtain it by any means; (2) A tendency to increase the