

# 'Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned'

by **Ananda Jayasena**  
SSP(Rtd.)

Andapana Estate, is at Kamburupitiya, along the Mawarala road, about three miles away from Kamburupitiya Police Station. It came under the grama-sevaka division of Makandura.

The estate belonged to Senator Sarath Wijesinghe, who was good enough to give work only to men & women living in and around the estate and all the villagers held him in high esteem and reverence. At one time this estate produced the best of the low country tea.

There was a female labourer named Lansina, married to one Carolis in the village and both of them worked as labourers at Andapana estate. As Lansina's parents were dead, her only sister, Gimara, aged about 30 years lived with them and worked at the Andapana estate.

Lansina loved her sister, Gimara, very much. One morning on a Monday, Gimara started vomiting and purging and was admitted to Andapana hospital, which at that time was a peripheral unit. This hospital caters to the entire population in Kamburupitiya.

After five days of admission Gimara died, and the apothecary in charge of the hospital released the body and gave the cause of death as natural.

Two days later Gimara's remains were buried at the Makandura cemetery and everyone practically present at the funeral said that Lansina will also die soon being unable to bear the loss of her only sister.

After about a week or two later there was talk in the village that Gimara had died of poisoning.

One day an anonymous petition was received at the police station mentioning that Gimara had died of poisoning and a man who made her pregnant had administered the poison to her. Later two other petitions were also received.

Piyadasa Kandambiy, the Grama Sevaka of Makandura, told me that he had received five anonymous petitions with regard to the death of Gimara. And all these petitions stated that Gimara was given poison by someone and had died.

On my next court day when I went to the magistrate's court, Matara, the magistrate wanted me to see him in his chambers at the lunch break.

When I saw him in chambers he handed over to me three anonymous petitions received by him about Gimara's death and he wanted me to keep this episode secret and to bring the Grama Sevaka of Makandura and lead his evidence next Monday in courts. On Monday around 11.00 am the court house was cleared of litigants and I led the evidence of Grama Sevaka, Makandura, and the magistrate gave an exhumation order to Dr. V. Saravanapavanathan, Judicial Medical Officer of Galle, to exhume the body of Sudu Hakuruge Gimara and to hold the postmortem examination on her body and to give the cause of death to courts.

The magistrate's order was sent to JMO through a special messenger and he fixed the exhumation to take place the following afternoon, commencing at 1.00 pm.

There are certain procedures to be adopted in case of an exhumation:

- 1) The grave has to be guarded by the police from the time the order was given till exhumation takes place.
- 2) Two of the grave diggers must be present to be produced before the JMO to identify the grave.
- 3) Two men from the undertakers must be present to identify the coffin.
- 4) If the body has decomposed beyond recogni-

tion, two relations must be present to identify the wearing apparels of the deceased.

On returning to the station I met all the required personnel and made all necessary arrangements.

When the JMO came to the cemetery, there were about a hundred inquisitive visitors, men and women, right round the cemetery, and some of the youngsters were on treetops.

The local labourers started digging the grave for about an hour and the coffin was taken out and the body was placed on the temporary loft made at site.

The body had been well preserved and no decomposition had taken place, as it had been buried on a hilltop, sans water and humidity.

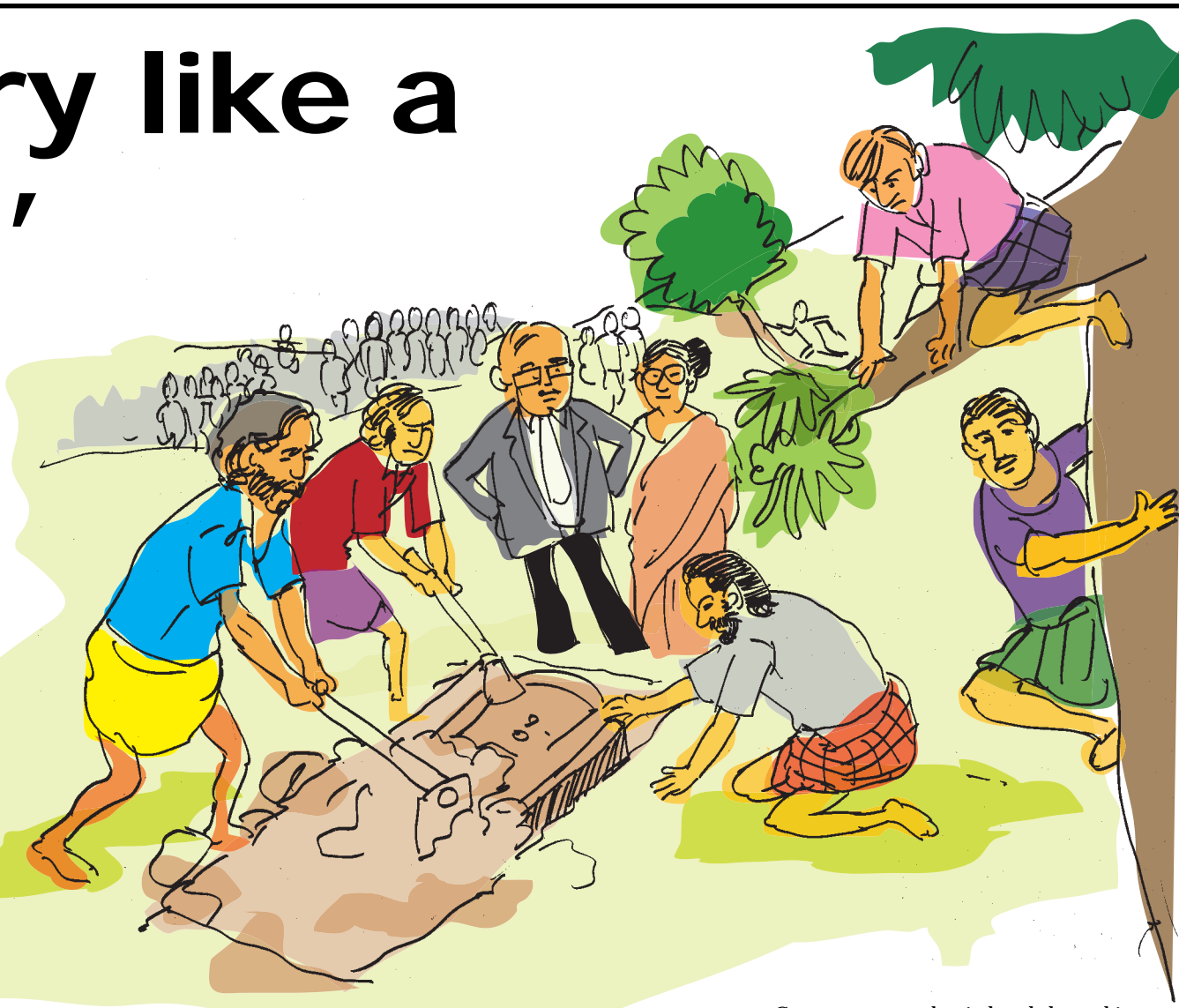
After identification, the JMO began cutting the body. A terrible stench started emanating, so much so men and women started receding finally the two grave diggers, the postmortem labourer of the JMO, the JMO, two constables and yours truly were only present.

At the end Dr. V. Saravanapavanathan took the specimen samples of the liver, kidneys and intestines to be forwarded to the Government Analyst, and his report was thus:

"I held the postmortem examinations on the body of a woman after exhumation, she was said to be one Sudu Hakuruge Gimara aged between 30-36 years, height 5' 1", well built had not been a virgin, there were no traces of a pregnancy or an abortion done. Bed-head ticket issued by the hospital stated that she has had fever, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea. Cause of death could have been due to Pulmonary Fibrosis. There were visible toxic changes in the liver, kidneys, large and small intestines. Samples from the liver, kidney, stomach and intestines were taken and sent to Government Analyst for examination and report", signed Dr. V. Saravanapavanathan JMO, Galle.

A week later Grama Sevaka Makandura informed that both Lansina and Carolis left their present house to reside at Belliatte. Subsequently GS Makandura informed me that one Magilin of Andapana Estate had told two women that Lansina had poisoned Gimara and killed her. Magilin was brought to the police station and she was grilled. She stated that about two months back Lansina told her that Gimara had one day complained that she was sick and opted to stay at home, while Lansina and her husband Carolis came to work. Around 10.30 am Lansina had noticed that her husband was not to be seen and she came to their house and saw the front door closed. She had waited in hiding. After about five minutes her husband was seen coming out of the house having opened the door. When he went away Lansina noticed that Gimara too coming out of the same house. Without making a fuss Lansina had kept quiet. After about a week Lansina had related this story to Magilin and had cried and said that she feels like poisoning her sister.

There were two shops with permits to sell insecticides in the Kamburupitiya police area. One was



Hendrik stores and the other was Tissera Brothers. I went to Hendrik Stores and met the owner Siyadoris Appuhamy. He told me that he sold a 4 oz bottle of Gramaxone to Lansina about two months back, and when he questioned her as to why she wanted Gramaxone Lansina said that her husband had got a paddy field from Sirisena Sedere to work on a temporary basis. I recorded Siyadoris Appuhamy's statement and went in search of Sirisena Sedere and his statement was recorded and he denied having ever given any paddy field to Carolis to cultivate.

Gramaxone was buried and showed it to me. I took same as a production. I produced her in the Magistrate's courts, Matara, and got her remanded, also I produced the bottle consisting of Gramaxone which I had recovered from Lansina's garden and moved courts to send same to the Government Analyst to see whether contents of the bottle match the chemicals traced in the autopsy report that had been the cause of the death.

I prosecuted this case in the magistrate's courts in Matara and after a lengthy non summary proceeding the magistrate committed this case to be heard in Supreme Court, Galle. After lapse of about one and a half years this case came up in the Supreme Court, Galle, before Justice Ismail. The Crown Counsel who conducted this case had done his homework well. He first led the evidence of Piyadasa Kandambiy GS, followed by the JMO, Dr. V. Saravanapavanathan, the Government Analyst, Siyadoris Appuhamy, Magilin and lastly of yours truly and closed the case for the prosecution. The defense counsel did not call the accused to the dock to give evidence. The members of the jury were English speaking and Justice Ismail explained the privileges of section 27 of Evidence Ordinance to the jury, where it says "a policeman who records an accused statement and in the course of this statement if a weapon of offence or any such article is recovered, this is admissible in evidence if no threat, inducement or promise had been made to the accused." The jury retired and resumed after about 1 1/2 hour and the foreman of the jury informed court that the jury has brought an unanimous verdict of guilty. On the face of this Justice Ismail passed a jail sentence of 10 years on Lansina. When I went to attend magistrate's court two weeks later in Matara I met Grama Sevaka Makandura. He told me that about four days back Carolis, Lansina's husband, brought a new mistress to their old house at Makandura and are living there as husband and wife now.

## TV GUIDE

ETV	
A.M.	02.00 Record Breakers
06.00	Prime Time Morning
06.45	Debrief
06.55	Lanka Business Online
07.01	Money Report
07.30	Chanel News Asia
09.00	Money Report
09.30	Chanel News Asia
10.00	Telemarketing
10.30	Chanel News Asia
11.00	Telemarketing
11.30	Chanel News Asia
P.M.	09.01 The Bold & The Beautiful
12.00	YA TV
12.30	Telemarketing
01.00	VH1 Specials

ITN	
A.M.	03.00 Peyen Peya Puwath
04.30	Station Opening
04.35	Pirith Deshanaya
04.42	Jayamangala Gatha
04.46	Davase Siltuvithi
05.00	Thakshilawa
05.00	ITN Puwath
06.15	Davase Palithara
06.55	Jeevithaya Jayaganna
07.00	Hathveni Peya
08.00	Peyen Peya Puwath
08.05	Pahan Dora
08.30	Vaidya Sayanaya
09.00	Peyen Peya Puwath
09.05	Sai Mal Yaya
10.00	Peyen Peya Puwath (Sinhala)
10.05	Nimithra
11.00	Discussion
11.30	Quantum Tele Shopping
Noon	Noon News
12.30	Tele Drama
01.00	Shoba - Tele Drama
01.30	Hedakara Hendewa
02.00	Peyen Peya Puwath
02.03	Hedakara Hendewa
02.30	Geheniya



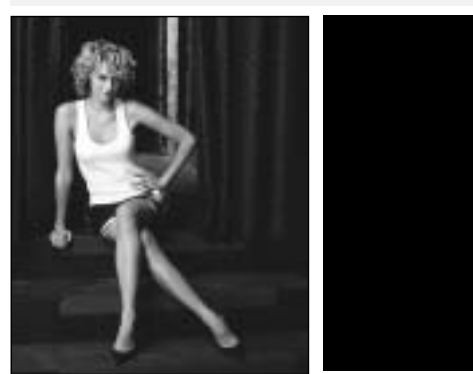
MSS 16 on ETV

CHANNEL EYE	
A.M.	01.00 En Thozhi En Kathail En
06.29	Station Opening
06.30	Talk for the Day
06.50	Classical Songs
07.03	Jayawiru & Sarasatha
07.15	Shanida Vasana
07.30	Naledugall Inru
08.00	Thirai Swarnagal (Tamil)
08.30	Kalai Wanakkam
09.30	Udaya Darshanam
11.00	Kanar Kanam Kalangal
11.30	Nagachuvai Neram
Noon	Lunch Time Music
12.00	P.M.

SIRASA TV	
A.M.	04.30 English Lesson
04.00	Pirith & Jayamangala Gatha
06.55	Jeevithaya Jayaganna
07.00	News and Current Affairs
07.30	Muthu Kirilli
08.00	Paba
08.30	Ithin Edta Passel
09.00	Nil Ahasa Oba - Tele Drama
09.30	News - Sinhala
09.50	Biz News
10.00	Thulawa
10.30	News - English
10.40	Thulawa - Contd.
M.N.	
12.00	News - Sinhala
12.05	News - Sinhala
12.30	Cartoon

MTV	
A.M.	05.00 Franny's Feet
05.25	Station Opening
05.30	Voice of America
06.30	News First
07.00	Good Morning Sri Lanka
08.00	Fox News
P.M.	08.30 Simpsons
12.30	News First
12.45	VOA
01.15	Fly Tales
03.00	Prof. Bubble

DERANA	
A.M.	01.30 Mix Songs
05.55	Station Opening
06.00	Cartoon
07.00	Derana Aruna
08.00	Suba Dawasak
08.30	Eka Dawasak Ude
10.30	Sedona
11.00	Sihili Sulan Ralle
P.M.	08.30 Sara
09.00	Doo Kumariyo
09.30	Vaada Pitlya
10.00	Ada Derana
12.30	Salthu Wila



AI 7 on ETV

SHAKTHI TV	
A.M.	06.00 Breakfast News
06.15	Filler
06.30	Good Morning Sri Lanka
08.30	Comedy Time
09.00	Piyamana Thozhi
10.00	Vasantham
10.30	Pukundha Veedu Porandha
11.00	Anandam
11.30	Kasturi
Noon	Penmanikkaga
P.M.	12.30 Pennagal Neram
01.00	Madya Seithigal

SWARNAVAHINI	
A.M.	03.00 Labal Apple
06.00	Ehi Passiko
06.30	Mul Pitwa
07.00	Loka Sithiyama
07.30	Cartoons
08.00	Hello Sri Lanka
10.30	Maayavi
11.00	Mahajana Sewaya Pinisai
Noon	Live @ 12
12.00	Live @ 12
P.M.	09.00 Avanka
12.30	Palithara Gedara
01.00	Hada Rendi Peya
02.00	Diyavangi

ART TV	
A.M.	04.30 Fraggie Rock
06.30	World Business Today
07.00	The State of Business
07.15	Music +
07.30	Anderson Cooper 360
08.30	Talk Asia
09.00	World Sport
09.30	Quantum Teleshopping
09.57	State of Business (3 min)
10.00	Telesen Marketing
10.30	CNN Today
10.57	State of Business (3 min)
11.30	CNN Today
11.57	State of Business (3 min)
P.M.	09.57 State of Business (3 min)
12.00	Telesen Marketing
12.30	CNN Today
12.57	State of Business (3 min)
01.00	Quantum Teleshopping
01.30	World News
01.57	State of Business (3 min)
02.00	SNM Special
02.30	Larry King Live
03.30	World News
04.00	Telesen Marketing

RUPAVAHINI	
A.M.	03.00 News
04.48	Station Opening
04.50	Homage to the Triple Gem & Karaniya Metta Sutta
05.00	G.C.E. (O/L) Exam Guide
05.55	Dina Asiriya
06.00	News
06.06	Sivudesa
06.30	Palithara Sirasthala
07.00	News
07.05	Aadaraneeya Yuvuvanaya
08.00	News
08.05	Nuga Sevana
09.00	News
09.05	Nuga Sevana - Contd.
10.00	News
10.05	Nuga Sevana - Contd.
11.00	News
11.05	Aluth Sri Lankawaka
Noon	Live @ 8
12.00	Mosam Ralla
P.M.	12.30 News
01.00	Hiru Viyana
02.00	News
02.05	Mang Hinda
02.30	A Documentary