**Basic Concept of Ballistics**

***Ballistics:*** the science that deals with the motion, behavior, and effects of projectiles.

***Forensic Ballistics***is concerned with the investigation of firearms, ammunition and problems arising from their use for purposes of legal evidence.

In general, it can be explained as, the study of a projectile in motion

* + Inside the firearm
  + After it leaves the barrel of the firearm
  + When it impacts the target

Forensic Ballistics can be subdivided into three main groups:

* Internal Ballistics- interplay of firearms & ammunitions.
* External Ballistics- phenomenon occurring after firing.
* Terminal Ballistics- study of the target (non-living) or the injury (living)

***Components of Ballistics*** comprises of three major elements.

**Key Terms:**

1. Firearms- A Firearm is a device by which a projectile or a number of projectiles can be hurled with great force. This force is supplied by expansion of gases , usually produced by the burning of propellants.
2. Ammunitions- It refers to cartridges, primers, propellants, projectiles commonly used in small arms.
3. Target- A person, object, or place selected as the aim of an attack.