ABSTRACT
The anatomy of the coronary vessels has been described in detail for at least 3 centuries. Detailed appreciation of the normal origin, course, branching and myocardial distribution of these vessels is vital so that variations of the normal anatomy can be more easily recognized and applied to clinical practice. Knowledge of normal anatomy and variations in the branching pattern of coronary arteries is very important to identify the cause of coronary artery diseases and to perform therapeutic, radio diagnostic and surgical procedures. Since the left main coronary artery system is the commonly affected vessel and is the first vessel to show blockages, this study was conducted. 93 formalin fixed hearts were collected in the department of anatomy over a period of 2010 to 2012 and dissected. Origin, length, number of terminal divisions and the area of distribution of left main coronary artery was noted. The present study showed that the left coronary artery originated from left posterior aortic sinus except in one heart where it originated from right coronary sinus. The mean length of left coronary artery is 9.2 ± 0.31mm, mean outer diameter was 4.64 ± 1.03. In 58.6% cases it bifurcated, in 35.48% cases it trifurcated and in 6.45% hearts it tetrafurcated. 
Keywords: Left main coronary artery, variations, tetrafurcation, angiographic anatomy.

INTRODUCTION
The incidence of coronary artery diseases has seen an increasing trend in developing countries in the last few decades. The study of variations of coronary arteries especially the left main coronary artery can be of immense help to clinician planning interventional procedures such as stenting, balloon dilatation or graft surgery, particularly when there are secondary changes of calcification, plaque formation and stenosis [1]. In the vast majority of people, there are two main coronary arteries, right and left, which arise from separate ostia in the ascending aorta [2]. Most of the area of heart is supplied by the left main coronary artery. The area irrigated by each of coronary arteries using postmortem angiography shows that the left main coronary artery irrigates 68.8% of the cardiac muscle mass, 41.5% by left anterior descending artery and 27.3% by the left circumflex artery[3]. These values may vary depending upon the coronary arterial dominant pattern. The left coronary artery arises from the left sinus of vasa and courses laterally between the base of pulmonary trunk and left atrium. The left coronary artery usually divides into two major branches, the left anterior descending and left circumflex arteries. A third branch originates between the angle formed by the left anterior descending and the left circumflex arteries and has various names, including “ramus