

Community: Forensic Case Johor

FRIDAY, JUNE 29, 2013

NEW STRAITS TIMES | PAGE 11

PRIME NEWS

Death sentence for 'cruellest' murderer

GUILTY: Accused 'caused a child to suffer a most painful death'

CHUAH BEE KIM
JOHOR BARU
news@nst.com.my

THE High Court yesterday found 26-year-old labourer Muidin Maidin guilty of murdering 4-year-old Nurul Nadirah Abdullah, affectionately known as Dirang, and sentenced him to death.

Judge Datuk Abdul Halim Aman ruled that the prosecution had proved its case beyond reasonable doubt against Muidin, who he described as "the most cruel of murderers".

The accused committed the offence at an oil palm plantation in Jalan Suria 47, Bandar Seri Alam, Nusa Damai, Masai, here, between 11.30am on March 1 last year and midnight the following day.

Halim said Muidin was a threat to humanity as he had caused an innocent child to suffer a most painful death.

"Your DNA was found inside the child, which means that there must have been some form of activity."

"She must have resisted, explaining the signs of pressure on her jaw, (which were) from your hand (when you tried) to stop her screams."

"After she had lost consciousness from the suffocation, you burnt her body to conceal the evidence."

"There is no punishment other than the mandatory death penalty for this heinous crime."

Halim asked Muidin how he would feel if a young family member had suffered the same fate.

"Are you devoid of feelings? You are the most cruel of murderers."

Halim also ticked off Dirang's stepfather, Lima Anak Medeng, 25, for allowing her to go out alone.

Muidin was represented by lawyers Mohd Daud Ismail and Mohamad Abd Kadir. Daud later said the defence would appeal.

DIRANG MURDER TRIAL

NST Digital Edition

For video, go to subscription.nstp.com.my

Muidin Maidin being escorted by a police officer out of the courtroom after he was given the death sentence by the High Court in Johor Bahru yesterday. Pic by Zulkarnain Ahmad Tajuddin

Figure 1: Newspaper article of the case

1. Introduction of the case

In the morning of March 1, 2012, Nurul Nadirah Abdullah, who was fondly called Dirang by her family, stepped out of her flats at Bandar Seri Alam, Pasir Gudang, Johor Bahru to a nearby sundry shop for instant noodles and eggs her mother had asked her to pick up. The obedient child did as she was told and left for the shop alone. Little did her family know, that was the last time they saw her alive.

When she did not return more than an hour later, her mother went over to the sundry shop in search of the girl but was told by a shopkeeper that she had left soon after buying the items. Police were alerted when Nurul, who was the younger child of two siblings, was nowhere to be found in the area and a massive search followed soon after. Witnesses claimed they had spotted a couple with Nurul not far from the sundry shop before her disappearance.

In the coming days, several people were arrested before investigators received a positive lead into the case, which led them to an oil palm estate within the township. A week after Nurul's

disappearance, police recovered a charred body of a child from a pit at the plantation. The victim was kidnapped, strangled to death before the body was put in a pit and burned in an abandoned residential area in Nusa Damai, Masai here. The unique features found in the teeth of a human body found in an abandoned house at an oil palm estate matched that of 5-year-old Nurul Nadirah Abdullah.

2. Suspect



Figure 1: Suspect

The suspect is a labourer named Muidin Mydin, aged 27 years old. He used to work at the plantation where the victim was found.

3. List of evidence found at the crime scene

There are several pieces of evidence that were able to link the suspect with the case.

- A) DNA: A post-mortem report showed DNA samples found in the girl's private parts was linked to the accused.
- B) Soil: The soil sample collected from the mudguard of suspect's motorcycle matched the soil sample taken from the construction site located between Tasik Flora Heights and Taman Nusa Damai, five kilometres from the oil palm plantation.
- C) Fabric: Remnants of the yellow fabric found on Dirang's remains was suspect's sarong as he only had one sarong, and after the incident, the yellow sarong could no longer be found at his house.

4. Motive of the crime

The suspect, who lives not far from the victim's house, claimed that he acted like this out of revenge after being insulted and looked down upon by the victim's grandmother.

5. Court's decision

Muidin was charged with killing Dirang in an oil palm plantation at Jalan Suria 47, Bandar Seri Alam, Masai here between 11.30 am March 1 and 12 midnight March 2 under Section 302 of the Penal Code which carries the mandatory death sentence.