



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
3 FEBRUARY 2021**

SIGNIFICANT JAIL TERMS FOR SISTERS INVOLVED IN ABUSE OF VICTIM WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY

The Court has imposed a global sentence of 102 months' (eight and a half years) imprisonment on Haslinda Binte Ismail ("**Haslinda**") and 36 months' imprisonment on Hasniza Binte Ismail ("**Hasniza**"). The Court also imposed a compensation order¹ of S\$1,000, in default four days' imprisonment, to be paid by Hasniza to the victim.

Case against Haslinda

2 In submitting for nine and a half years' imprisonment, the Prosecution took into account Haslinda's role in the acts of abuse against the victim. Haslinda had exploited her position of trust and authority in inflicting gratuitous violence, and subjecting the victim to demeaning treatment.

3 The Prosecution did not seek a compensation order as Haslinda was assessed to not have the financial means to pay. She has been certified medically unfit for work and unemployed for more than a year, and her family was on social assistance. Under the law, a compensation order should only be made when an offender has the means to pay compensation within a reasonable time².

Case against Hasniza

4 For Hasniza, in submitting for 39 months' imprisonment, the Prosecution took into account that she was less culpable than Haslinda. None of the injuries found on the victim upon admission to the hospital were attributable to Hasniza.

¹ A compensation order refers to an order made by the court for a person convicted of a criminal offence to pay a sum of money to the victim. The sum of money to be paid will be determined by the court.

² *Tay Wee Kiat v PP* [2018] SGHC 114 at [10].

5 The compensation ordered against Hasniza was in respect of the injuries to the victim she was responsible for. The amount sought is in line with past cases where victims suffered similar injuries, and the guidance in *Guidelines for the Assessment of General Damages in Personal Injury Cases*, published by the State Courts and the Singapore Academy of Law. The Prosecution did not seek compensation for the victim’s medical expenses as they were largely covered by MediFund, and did not arise from Hasniza’s acts.

Case against Hasmah

6 Their mother, Hasmah Binte Sulong (“**Hasmah**”), faces the most serious charges. She faces a total of 17 charges, including three counts of voluntarily causing grievous hurt by dangerous weapons or means. The maximum punishment for voluntarily causing grievous hurt by dangerous weapons or means is life imprisonment. The case against Hasmah is still before the Courts.

7 A summary of the five concluded cases is found in **Annex A**.

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Annex A

Six individuals, including the sisters, were charged for their involvement in the abuse of the 27-year-old victim with mild intellectual disability. Five of these individuals have pleaded guilty, whilst the case against Hasmah Binte Sulong (“**Hasmah**”) remains before the Court.

Hasmah faces a total of 17 charges, including three counts of voluntarily causing grievous hurt by dangerous weapons or means, four counts of voluntarily causing hurt by dangerous weapons or means, one count of voluntarily causing grievous hurt and two counts of wrongful confinement.

Proceeded charges and global sentences for the five concluded cases³

| S/N | Name | Charge | Sentence imposed by the Court |
|-----|-----------------------|--|--|
| 1 | Haslinda Binte Ismail | s 324 of the Penal Code (voluntarily causing hurt by hammering the victim’s front teeth, causing her to lose two upper front teeth) | 102 months’ (Eight and a half years) imprisonment |
| | | s 324 of the Penal Code (voluntarily causing hurt by splashing hot water on the front of the victim’s lower body) | |
| | | s 326 read with s 34 of the Penal Code (together with Hasmah, voluntarily causing grievous hurt by twisting the victim’s toes with pliers, causing fracture and subsequent deformity of second left toe) | |
| 2 | Hasniza Binte Ismail | s 342 of the Penal Code (wrongfully restraining the victim by chaining her up at night) | 36 months’ imprisonment |
| | | s 324 of the Penal Code (voluntarily causing hurt with dangerous weapon by hitting her arm with a baseball bat) | \$1,000 compensation to be paid to the victim, i/d |

³ Charges taken into consideration for sentencing are not included in this table.

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|---|---|--|--|
| | | s 204A of the Penal Code (perverting the course of justice by briefing Iski to lie to the Police) | four days' imprisonment |
| 3 | Muhammad Iski Bin Ismail (“Iski”) | s 182 of the Penal Code (for providing false Police statement) | Eight months' imprisonment |
| | | s 204A of the Penal Code (perverting the course of justice by telling Iskandar to lie to the Police) | |
| 4 | Muhammad Iskandar Bin Ismail (“Iskandar”) | s 182 of the Penal Code (for providing false Police statement) | Two months' and four weeks' imprisonment |
| | | s 323 of the Penal Code (voluntarily causing hurt by slapping, punching, and tripping the victim) | |
| 5 | Hany Aboubakr Abdelkarim Abdelfattah | s 323 of the Penal Code (voluntarily causing hurt by slapping the victim twice on her face) | Three weeks' imprisonment |