

Nine years in prison, caning for 49-year-old man convicted of sexually assaulting underage niece

MIRI: The Sessions Court here yesterday sentenced a 49-year-old man to nine years of imprisonment and two strokes of the cane, after he pleaded guilty to sexually assaulting his underage niece.

Judge Azreena Aziz imposed the sentence on the accused, under Section 14(a) of the Sexual Offences Against Children Act (AKSTK) 2017, which provides for

imprisonment of up to 20 years and whipping, upon conviction.

The Section was read together with Section 16(1) of the same Act, which upon conviction, carries imprisonment term not exceeding five years and at least two strokes of the cane.

For the offence under Section 14(a) of AKSTK, the court sentenced the man to seven years

in prison. Additionally, under Section 16(1) of the same Act, the man was sentenced to two years in prison, and two strokes of the cane.

The sentences were to run concurrently, starting on March 8.

The accused was also ordered to undergo counselling during imprisonment, and to be placed under police observation for two

years thereafter.

Based on the facts of the case, he sexually assaulted his niece after he took her to a local hotel on March 7, where he physically assaulted the girl by touching parts of her body.

The case was prosecuted by Deputy Public Prosecutor Muhammad Asymawi Ghazali, while the accused was unrepresented by counsel.