

Indonesian duo jailed 24 years for armed gang robbery; two accomplices claim trial

MIRI: Two Indonesians were each sentenced to a total of 24 years in prison after pleading guilty in the Sessions Court here yesterday to committing armed gang robbery.

Jaya Kurniawan, 52, and Syamsul Ariffin, 55, made the plea before Judge Afidah Abdul Rahman to two charges under Section 395 of the Penal Code read together with Section 397 of the same Code.

The Section provides for up to 20 years' imprisonment and whipping, upon conviction.

The judge sentenced both accused to 12 years in prison for each count – to run consecutively – but spared them from whipping as they are over the age of 50.

On the first count, Jaya and Syamsul were charged with robbing a senior citizen of RM3,900 in cash while armed with a machete, screwdriver and sharp tool, at a house on Jalan Hainan Hillstone 4 here at around 7.55pm on June 13, 2025.

On the second count, they were charged with robbing a 38-year-old man of RM18,700 in cash while armed with a machete, screwdriver and sharp tool, at a house in Taman Viana, Jalan Bakam at around 4am on June 19, 2025.

Meanwhile, the court set Aug 5 for case management for a local man and another Indonesian after they claimed trial to the same two charges.

Ling King Ai, 57, from Jalan Sena,

Lutong here and Hendra, 38, were not offered bail and ordered to be further remanded pending the date.

Separately, Judge Afidah sentenced Jaya, Syamsul and Hendra to six months in jail each after they pleaded guilty to entering Malaysia illegally.

Hendra was also ordered to be whipped three times, while Jaya and Syamsul were spared due to their age.

All three were also ordered to be referred to the Malaysian Immigration Department for deportation upon the completion of their custodial sentence.

They were charged under Section 6(1) of the Immigration Act 1959/63, punishable under Section 6(3) of the same Act, which provides for a fine not exceeding RM10,000 or up to five years' jail, or both, and up to six strokes of the cane, upon conviction.

The facts of the case stated that Jaya, Syamsul and Hendra were stopped for inspection on suspicion of being foreigners, at around 10.15am on June 19 at a lot in Desa Senadin here.

All three failed to produce any valid travel documents and were taken to the Miri Central police station for further action.

Deputy public prosecutor David Bakit Nung prosecuted all the cases, while none of the accused was represented by legal counsel.