Dad, 16-year-old son charged with murdering youth, boy's cousin with evidence-tampering

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SIBU: A father and his 16-year-old son have been charged in the Magistrates' Court here with murdering a 19-year-old man at Taman Foochow, Jalan Gambir.

The teenager was the first accused, while the 42-year-old father was named as the second accused in the case under Section 302 of the Penal Code.

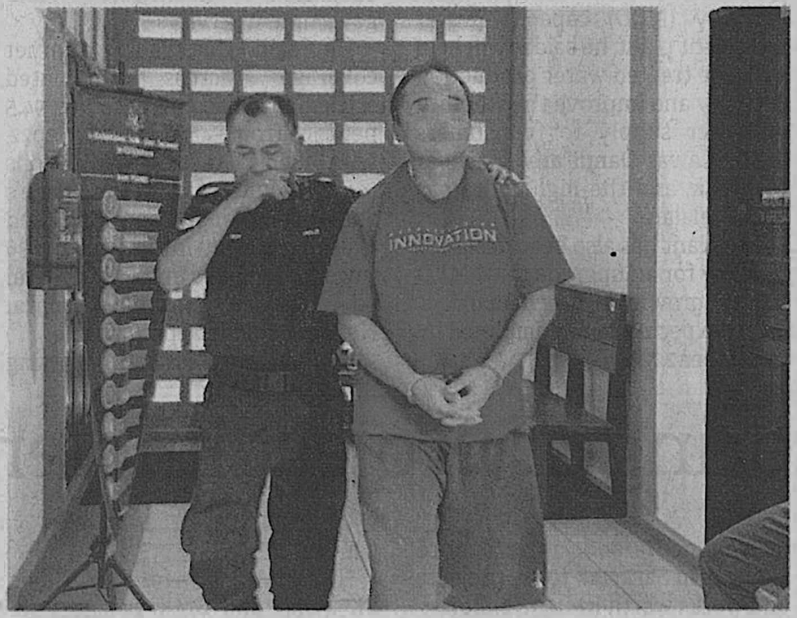
They are accused of committing murder by causing the death of Ryuichi Hii Shan Jie on Nov 7 at around 12.30am.

Magistrate Romario Jonoi did not record their pleas as the offence falls under the jurisdiction of the High Court.

Both accused are represented by lawyer Boston Ho.

The court ordered the teenager to be detained at Sekolah Tunas Bakti while the father will be remanded at Sibu Prison. Further mention was fixed on Dec 28.

Section 302 of the Penal Code provides for the death penalty or imprisonment of between 30 years and 40 years. If the death penalty is not imposed, the offender shall also be punished with not less than 12 strokes of the cane.



The second accused is escorted at the Sibu Court Complex.

In the same courtroom, the first accused's 15-year-old cousin was charged under Section 201 of the Penal Code with allegedly causing evidence of the murder to disappear.

He is accused of cleaning a folding knife suspected to have been used in the offence, wrapping it in transparent plastic and concealing it in a water-filled drain behind a furniture warehouse at Lorong Alan 5D here.

The alleged offence took place at around 7pm on Nov 7, with the accused allegedly acting with the intention of protecting the first accused from legal punishment.

The court allowed him to be released on RM2,000 bail without deposit, with his parents as sureties. Pre-trial case management was fixed for Dec 28.

He was represented by lawyer Tevaasiny Vijayakumar.

Deputy public prosecutor Mohd Syazani Izzaddin Abdul Muadzam handled the prosecution for both cases.

Separately, 20 other individuals previously detained in connection with the case were released on bail of RM3,000 each under Section 118 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

A total of 23 individuals, aged between 16 and 42, were arrested in connection with the case.

Sibu police chief ACP Abang Zainal Abidin Abang Ahmad previously said police received a report around 2am on Nov 7 regarding a fight in which a 19-year-old man was allegedly stabbed in the chest with a sharp weapon.

The victim was pronounced dead by medical personnel from Sibu Hospital while a post-mortem confirmed chest injuries as the cause of death.

A video of the incident was widely circulated on social media.