

## Couple jailed eight years for gang robbery

**SIBU:** The Sessions Court here yesterday sentenced a couple to eight-year imprisonment after they pleaded guilty to committing gang robbery.

Judge Musyiri Peet ordered both Iskandar Tukau, 27, and Nor Hellina Abdullah, 26, to begin serving their jail terms from the date of conviction.

In addition, Iskandar was sentenced to three strokes of the cane under Section 394 of the Penal Code read together with Section 34 of the same Code.

According to the charge, Iskandar and Nor Hellina, together with Johnson Bong, 28, and Maidy Carol Enting, 28, robbed and injured a kitchen assistant along Jalan Lebuah Tanah Mas at about 1.50am on Aug 2 this year.

Johnson and Maidy had pleaded guilty to the same charge on Sept 2 and were each sentenced to eight-year imprisonment and three strokes of the cane by the Sibu Sessions Court.

According to the facts of the case, the complainant was walking with a friend when the four accused approached them from behind and snatched the complainant's sling bag.

The group also punched, kicked and beat the complainant all over the body, causing injuries to the back. As a result of the incident, the complainant lost a mobile phone, two bank cards, an identity card and RM30 in cash.

Acting on a police report, police arrested Iskandar and Nor Hellina along Jalan Awang Ramli Amit at about 10.30am on Oct 9.

Investigations revealed that all four had jointly robbed the victim.

During the incident, Iskandar allegedly assaulted the victim and snatched the sling bag and mobile phone before handing the device to Nor Hellina. The couple also admitted to robbing the victim at the scene together with Johnson and Maidy.

In appealing for lighter sentences, Iskandar told the court that he worked as a security guard and needed to care for his elderly mother. Nor Hellina told the court that she was unemployed and had to look after her elderly grandmother.

The prosecution was conducted by deputy public prosecutor Cynthia Emmelda Jerry, while both accused were unrepresented.