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Teacher gets 260 years, 24 strokes for sexually assaulting pupils

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KUCHING: The Sri Aman Sessions Court on Wednesday sentenced a 35-year-old primary school teacher in Engkilili to a total of 260 years in prison and 24 strokes of the cane for 64 charges involving physical sexual offences against eight girls aged between seven and 12.

Judge Iris Awen Jon convicted the man on his own guilty plea and ordered the sentences to run concurrently, meaning he will serve an effective prison term of 60 years.

In passing sentence, the judge also imposed a total of 160 strokes of the cane for all the charges.

However, the punishment was limited to a maximum of 24 strokes, as provided under Section 288 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

The accused was further ordered to undergo rehabilitative counselling throughout his detention period, in accordance with Section 26 of the Sexual Offences Against Children Act (Soaca) 2017.

He was also ordered to undergo two years of supervision under Section 27 of the same Act upon completing his prison sentence.

Of the 64 charges, 59 were brought under Soaca 2017, comprising 22 charges under Section 14(a), 23 charges under Section 5, and 14 charges under Section 10.

Another four charges were brought under Section 377CA of the Penal Code, while one charge was under Section 377C of the same Code.

According to the facts of the cases, the offences came to light after several parents and the victims themselves lodged police reports following revelations of the man's sexual misconduct, which took place between 2023 and January 2026.



The man is escorted by police from the Sri Aman Magistrates' Court. — Police photo

Investigations found that the offences involving the eight victims occurred at several locations, including the school's resource centre, classrooms, and teachers' room.

The man was found to have committed various sexual acts against the victims, including touching their private parts and inserting his fingers and a vibrator into their private parts.

He also pulled their hair and slapped their heads and cheeks, besides threatening the girls to prevent them from disclosing his actions.

One victim also shared that the man had offered various gifts, including a skateboard, a hand-held fan, a watch, and school supplies.

Investigations also revealed that the man had engaged in sexual communication with the victims, including showing pornographic videos to a group of pupils and recording sexual acts at several locations within the school compound.

In addition, forensic examinations of mobile phones, a desktop computer, and several hard drives seized from the man's residence uncovered photographs and videos suspected to contain child sexual abuse material.

The prosecution was conducted by deputy public prosecutor Jonathan Lim Hsi How, while the man was represented by lawyers Boston Ho and Clement Hii.

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