

Fisherman fined RM11,000 for Facebook post insulting Islam

MIRI: A fisherman was fined a total of RM11,000 in default two weeks' imprisonment by the Magistrates' Court here yesterday for uploading offensive content touching on the sensitivities of Islam last month.

Anderas Agat, 62, pleaded guilty before Magistrate Ashok Linggam to charges under Section 298 of the Penal Code and Section 233(1) of the Communications and Multimedia Act 1998.

On the first charge under Section 298, he was fined RM1,000 in default one week in prison for deliberately wounding the religious feelings of a man by posting insulting remarks via a Facebook account under the name 'Andreas Derry'.

The offence was committed at 9.18am on March 22 at his home in Tudan Desaras Phase 6.

On the second charge under

Section 233(1), Anderas was fined RM10,000 in default one week in jail for initiating communication through a Facebook post using the same account, with intent to cause hurt to another individual, at the same time and location.

In mitigation, the father of three pleaded for a lenient sentence, citing it as his first offence.

He also expressed remorse and undertook not to repeat the act.

Deputy public prosecutor Mohammad Syafiq Samry, however, urged the court to impose a deterrent sentence, noting that the offence involved a deliberate insult to religion.

He said the accused had insulted Prophet Muhammad and had done so knowingly using his personal account which was publicly accessible.