

# Man sentenced to 31 years, 12 lashes for trafficking cannabis



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**KUCHING:** The High Court here yesterday sentenced a 34-year-old man to a total of 31 years' jail and 12 strokes of the cane after he was found guilty of two counts of trafficking 590.05 grammes of cannabis seven years ago.

Judicial Commissioner Zaleha Mohd Yusuf Pan delivered the decision against Zul Akmal Jamaludin after ruling that the defence had failed to cast reasonable doubt on the two charges.

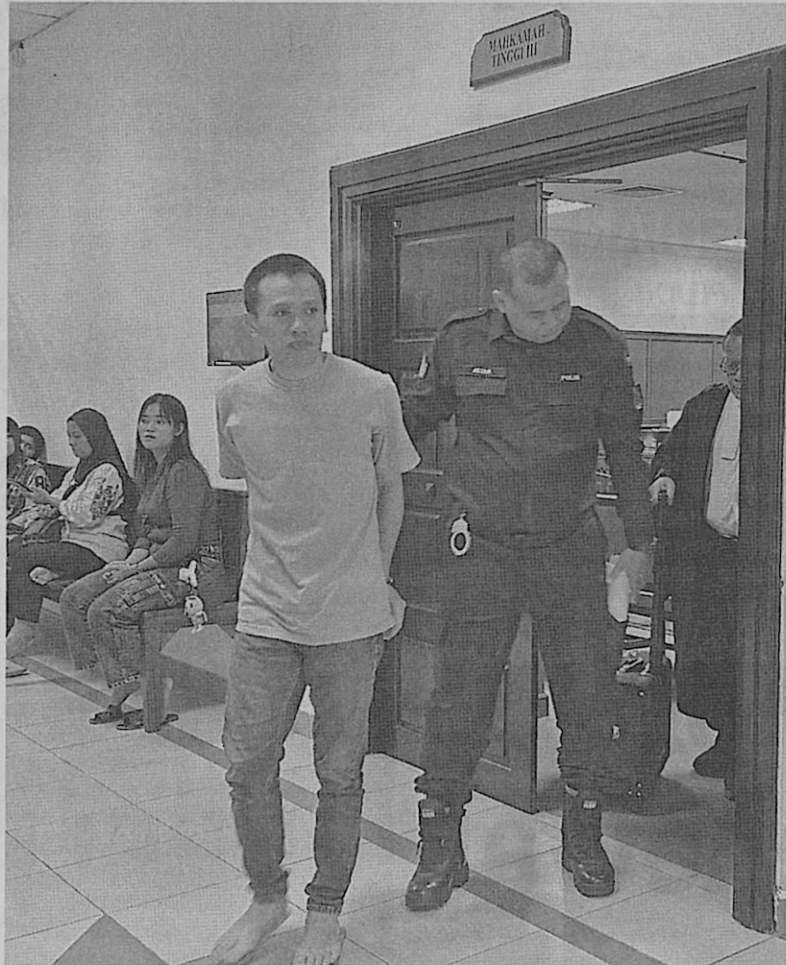
On the first charge under Section 39B(1)(a) of the Dangerous Drug Act 1952, punishable under Section 39B(2) of the same Act, the accused was sentenced to life imprisonment or 30 years and 12 strokes of the cane for trafficking 589 grammes of cannabis.

On the second charge under Section 6 of the same Act, he received a one-year jail sentence for trafficking 1.05 grammes of cannabis.

The court ordered the custodial sentences to run concurrently from the date of his arrest on March 19, 2019, meaning Zul Akmal will serve 30 years.

He committed both offences at a house on Jalan Astana here at around 7.15pm on March 19, 2019.

Earlier, deputy public prosecutor



The accused is led from the courtroom at the end of proceedings. — Photo by Desiree David

Aida Nurdiana pressed for an appropriate sentence in view of the seriousness of the offence.

However, defence counsel Osman Ibrahim requested the

court to take into account the quantity of drugs involved, the remand period served, as well as the fact that his client was a first-time offender.