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## ***Two get death sentence for killing UiTM lecturer***

By: (Fri, 13 Nov 2009)

**KUALA LUMPUR (Nov 13, 2009):** The High Court here sentenced two friends to the gallows after finding them guilty of murdering former Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM) lecturer Bakarudin Busu seven years ago.

They are sales executive Sulkarnain Alias, 32, and forklift driver Noorman Ab Wahab, 31.

Judge Datuk Muhamad Ideres Muhamad Rapee said the defence had failed to raise reasonable doubt against the prosecution's case.

Muhamad Ideres also convicted a former Institut Kemahiran Bina Negara student, Azizul Azual Jailani, 26, and fixed Dec 11 to hear his behavioural report before passing sentence as the accused was only 18 at the time of the incident.

All the accused showed little emotion after the judge delivered the sentence and only looked at their family members who were seated at the public gallery.

On Aug 3, 2007 the same court acquitted a fourth accused, student Muhamad Zakwan Ahmad Zaki, 24, after the judge ruled that the prosecution had failed to establish a prima facie case against him.

A former UiTM student Siti Rahmah Azman Subramaniam, 28, was also charge with murdering Bakarudin but was given a discharge not amounting to an acquittal after the prosecution offered her to be its star witness. Siti Rahmah is Sulkarnain's former girlfriend.

All of them were charged with murdering Bakarudin, 35, at Jalan SS19/6, Subang Jaya, at 9.30pm on Feb 12, 2002.

Bakarudin's semi-charred remains were found in a drain in Subang Jaya.

During the trial, prosecution witnesses had told the court that Azizul had taken a decorative samurai sword from his elder brother's house, which was used in the incident.

Noorman meanwhile admitted to his friend Mohammad Qaiyyum Abdul Wahab that he had killed someone and Mohammad Qaiyyum confirmed this when he testified in court as a prosecution's witness.

According to evidence in court, police also recovered a SIM card belonged to the victim from Noorman several days after the incident.

In mitigation, Sulkarnain's lawyer Suzana Morlihan told the court that the accused had no criminal records.

Lawyer K. Vikneswaran, representing Noorman, told the court that his client wished to seek forgiveness from the victim's family.

Deputy Public Prosecutor Mohd Nordin Ismail told the court that Bakarudin's father had contacted him to express regret over what had happened.

Azizul Azual is represented by lawyer Mohd Hanif Khatri Abdulla.

During the trial, the prosecution had called in 30 witnesses including Bakarudin's wife, Mawarni Muhamad, 41, while the defence called in six witnesses. -- **Bernama**

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