

Court upholds sentence for murder for Palestinian who killed girlfriend

Man was initially handed 10-year jail term for beating girlfriend to death with water bottle

- By Bassma Al Jandaly, Senior Reporter
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Sharjah: An Arab man is serving ten years in jail after the Sharjah Appeal Court rejected his appeal against his murder conviction.

The Sharjah Sharia Court had found the man guilty of beating his girlfriend to death.

The court sentenced a 26-year-old Palestinian identified as Z.M. to ten years in jail for beating his girlfriend to death and three months for adultery.

He will be deported after serving his prison term. The court also ordered Z.M. to pay "blood money" of Dh200,000 to the victim's parents.

Court documents revealed that Z.M., who will serve his term in Sharjah Central Jail, beat his girlfriend W.B. to death because she accused him of having a love affair with another Filipina girl.

Police said that Z.M. beat his girlfriend repeatedly, but she did not complain to police — or have her injuries treated in hospital — because she was an illegal resident in the country. The court found Z.M. guilty of premeditated murder.

The documents said Z.M. repeatedly hit W.B. on her head with a water bottle.

He also hit her with his hands, and kicked her.

Z.M. had also hit W.B. in public, and in front of other passengers in his car.

Police said that W.B. died because Z.M. beat her viciously and repeatedly for days. Z.M. told police that the victim had been his girlfriend for more than a year. Z.M. told the court that he beat her because she accused him of being in love with another girl and because she had "cursed" him. He had not meant to kill her, he said.

After her last bashing, W.B. was taken to hospital by her sister, who was advised by a doctor to report the matter to police.

W.B. died in the car while her sister was driving her to the police.

The Appeal Court upheld the sentence against Z.M

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