



Police at the scene where a woman was stabbed to death in Taman Sri Andalas, Klang, yesterday. — NST picture by Roslin Mat Tahir

# Mum stabbed in front of children

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**KLANG:** His daughters tried to stop him, but he slashed them with a knife and pushed them aside before chasing his wife down a back alley and mercilessly stabbing her to death.

He was caught six hours later as he was buying petrol. Police believe he wanted to use it to burn three of his children alive and also to commit suicide.

The 54-year-old odd-job worker was at home in Taman Sri Andalas here with five of his nine children when an argument broke out between him and his wife at 9.30am.

He rushed into the kitchen and grabbed a knife.

In full view of his children, he stabbed his 47-year-old wife in the stomach.

Bleeding profusely, she ran out of their rented single-storey house into the back lane, screaming for help.

Still holding the knife, the man chased her while two daughters, aged 23 and 17 years, tried to stop him.

He broke their hold and swung the knife at them,

slashing them on the arms.

He went after his wife, who had by then collapsed and was groaning in pain about 15 metres away.

He caught her, held her head and stabbed her four times in the neck and back. She died moments later.

The man ran back to the house and bundled his three youngest children, all boys aged 10, 11 and 13 years, into his white Proton Tiara car.

The two daughters again tried to stop him, but he brushed them off. Neighbours called the police and the two were taken to hospital where they received outpatient treatment.

Shortly before 4pm, police spotted the man's car at a petrol station in Jalan Sungai Jati near Taman Sentosa.

He was arrested but the children were not with him.

He later told police the children were at a friend's house in Taman Sentosa.

District police chief Assistant Commissioner Mohamad Mat Yusop said the motive for the killing was unclear, but it could be due to the couple's difficult financial situation.

He said the man was a contract worker in the construction industry and did not have a stable income while the woman was a housewife.

He said the victim was the man's first wife.

His second wife had committed suicide by hanging herself in the same house eight years ago, Mat said.

The man has six children with the first wife. Of his nine children, two are in university, two are in college and the eldest son is an army captain.

"The man may have mental problems," Mat added.

Police believe the man could have been jealous of his wife and had accused her of talking to other men.

Neighbours said the man was doing well in the engineering sector at one time and had also worked overseas.

"But it seems that things took a turn for the worse in the past 10 years when he lost his job," one of them said.

Another neighbour said the family rarely spoke to the neighbours and the victim had also told them that her husband did not want her to speak to other people.