

# Woman jailed for abusing maid

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## Ex-real estate agent gets eight years and ordered to pay compensation to victim

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**KUALA LUMPUR:** A former real estate agent has been sentenced to eight years' jail for injuring her Indonesian maid with hot water, a hammer and a pair of gardening scissors.

Dressed in a *baju kurung* and grey headscarf to hide her identity, Hau Yuan Tyng remained stoic when sentence was delivered at a Sessions Court here yesterday.

The 44-year-old single mother was also ordered to pay the victim, Siti Hajar Sadli (pic), 34, a RM5,000 compensation.

Hau's two children — Tabitha, 13, and Joshua, 12, — were present in court.

Judge S.M. Komathy Suppiah said Hau had no compassion for Siti Hajar when she used those items to hurt the maid.

"The photographs which showed numerous wounds on the victim, including scald marks, were horrific, to say the least," said the judge.

She said Hau, who is currently a free-lance agent in an employment agency, also did not show any remorse for her actions as she did

not apologise to Siti Hajar or offer to compensate her.

Komathy denied an application from the defence for Hau to be granted a good behaviour bond as the case was of public interest.

In mitigation, Hau's lead counsel M. Manoharan said Joshua, who was suffering from autism, needed someone to take care of him as he could not shower by himself, read, write or speak.

"The best person to take care of him is his mother," he said, adding that Hau's mother died when she was three and she did not want a similar situation for her children.

Deputy Public Prosecutor Mohd Hafiz Mohd Yusoff, however, said the injuries on Siti Hajar were permanent according to medical experts who took the stand as witnesses.

DPP Anselm Charles Fernandis pointed out that the case was not a one-off incident as Siti Hajar had suffered "a prolonged infliction of injuries" when working with Hau from 2006 to 2009.

Hau was charged with two counts



of causing grievous hurt to Siti Hajar by using hot water and a hammer at the Lanai Kiara Condominium in Jalan Kiara 3, Mont Kiara between February and June 7, last year.

She also faced a third charge of hurting the maid with a pair of scissors at the same place at 2pm on June 7, last year.

Hau was sentenced to four years' jail for the first and second charge and another six months imprisonment for the third charge.

Judge Komathy ordered that the jail sentences for the first and second charges be served consecutively while third charge be served concurrently.

However, Judge Komathy allowed a stay of execution pending an appeal to the High Court.

When met later, Siti Hajar told reporters that although she was happy with the court's decision, she felt that the sentence was insufficient as she had suffered a lot.

Asked whether she forgave Hau, the mother of two from West Java said: "It is difficult to forgive her."



**Guilty:** Hau walking out of court after she was sentenced to eight years jail yesterday for abusing Siti Hajar