

Child abuse couple probed for murder

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COPS INVESTIGATE: Doctor files police report on death of boy with multiple injuries

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A MARRIED couple are being investigated for murder following suspicion that the death of their 2-year-old son was the result of prolonged physical abuse.

The boy, who died shortly after being rushed to Miri General Hospital here early yesterday, had injuries including multiple burn marks on the body and

a fractured right leg.

The case came to light after the unconscious boy was rushed to a private medical centre here by his adopted mother about 10pm on Thursday.

Sources said the woman, 28, had told doctors that the child had vomited before losing consciousness. She had also claimed that the boy fell off a motorcycle four days ago but wasn't given medical treatment.

"Doctors weren't convinced by her explanation as they found marks on the boy's body

which suggested abuse."

The boy had at least 12 burn marks on his body, bruises and wounds on the limbs, as well as a number of old bruises on the left ear and cheeks.

"There was also an indication that the boy had fractured his right leg. Further checks also showed there was internal bleeding in both the victim's eyes," said the source, adding that the boy also had a lung infection.

The boy was transferred to Miri General Hospital when he fell into a coma on Friday and his condition

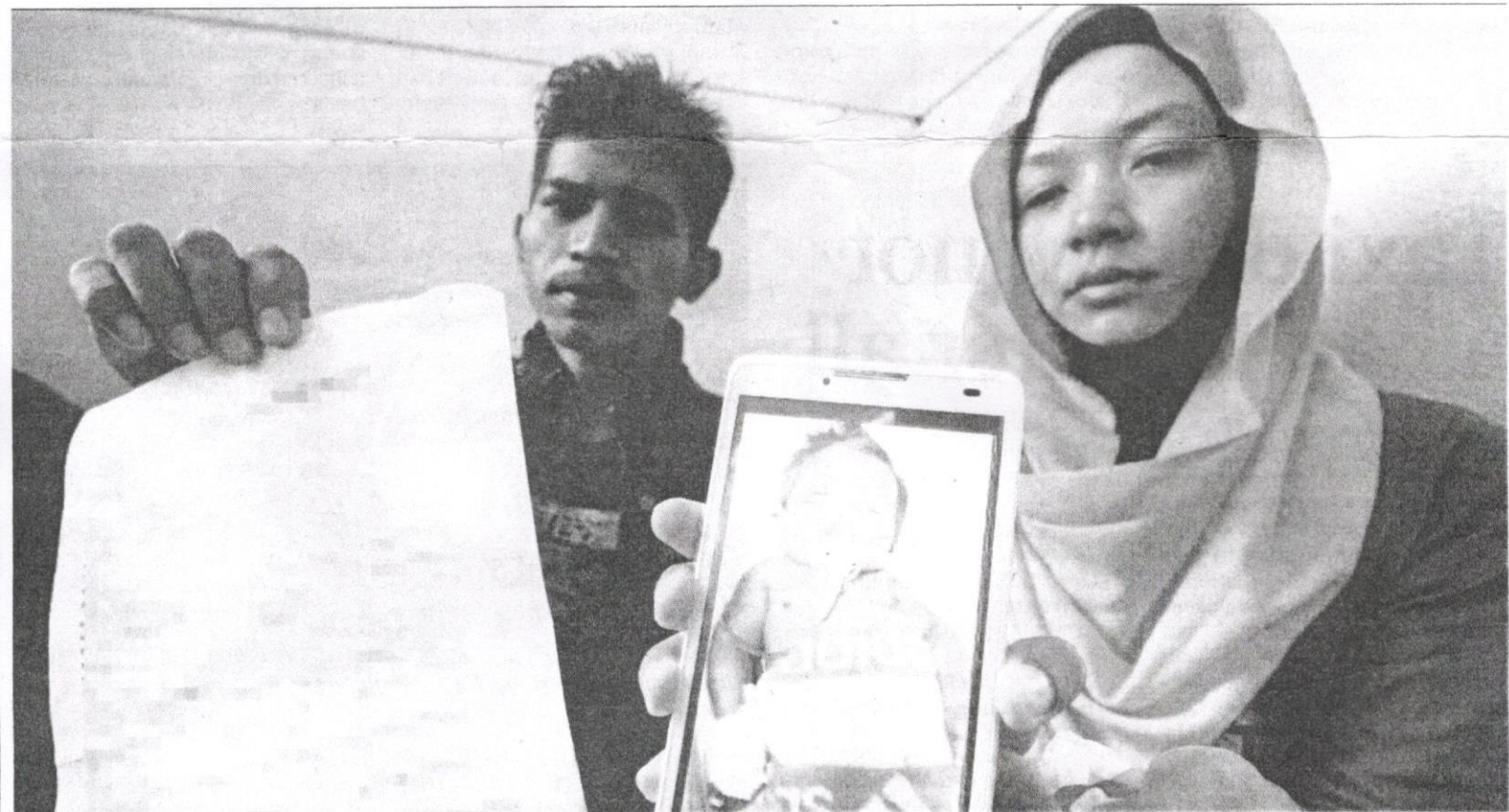
turned critical. He died 24 hours later.

A senior specialist doctor lodged a police report.

Miri district acting police chief Superintendent Stanley Jonathan Ringgit said the boy's adopted parents had been arrested to facilitate the probe.

He said the case was being investigated Section 302 of the Penal Code for murder.

It was learnt that the boy was adopted by the couple in December last year. They also have a 5-year-old child of their own.



Mohd Saifudin Seman and his wife, **Wan Nur Shafia Wan Zain**, holding up a police report and a picture of their daughter, **Putri Wafa**, who remains in a coma. Pic by Danial Noordin