

# Dog mauls girl

**NEGLIGENT:** Owner fined RM500, faces criminal charges

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**T**HE owner of a dog, which broke loose and attacked a 7-year-old girl in Bandar Perda here on Sunday, has been slapped with a compound fine by the Seberang Perai Municipal Council (MPSP). He is also facing criminal charges.

MPSP president Mainunah Mohd Sharif said the dog owner was fined RM500 for failing to renew the canine's licence.

She added that the dog had been sent to the Veterinary Services Department for observation.

She said the animal, about the size of a police K9 unit dog, was expected to be held for two weeks before the authorities decided on the next course of action.

The dog, said to be a Rottweiler, had attacked Dhiya Qairina Muhammad Nur Akmal while she was out cycling in the neighbourhood.

The victim's father, Muhammad Nur Akmal Abdul Latif, 47, said Dhiya Qairina was attacked in front of their house in Lorong Perda Timur 9 here at 6.45pm, while playing with a friend.

The dog had broken loose from its cage and started roaming the neighbourhood when it pounced on Dhiya Qairina.

Muhammad Nur Akmal, an engineer, said the family had just arrived home from an outing and his daughter went out to play with her friend.

The victim, the youngest of four, was riding a bicycle when the dog suddenly knocked her to the ground before mauling her.

"I dashed out from the house

when I heard her screaming.

"I was shocked to see the dog attacking her ferociously," he said at a private hospital in Bandar Perda here, where his daughter was warded.

He said the dog was aggressive and he had to grab Dhiya Qairina's bicycle to chase it away.

The pupil of SK Bandar Perda underwent a two-hour procedure to treat her injuries.

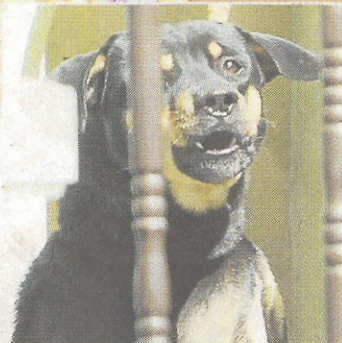
Muhammad Nur Akmal said the dog owner had apologised to his family and offered to foot the hospital bill. He said his family had consulted a lawyer and did not discount the possibility of taking legal action.

Seberang Perai Tengah district police chief Assistant Commissioner Azman Abd Lah said the case was being investigated for negligence, which carried a maximum six-month imprisonment and a fine of up to RM2,000 upon conviction.

Azman said police had recorded a statement from the complainant and the dog owner.

*"I was shocked to see the dog attacking her ferociously."*

*Muhammad Nur Akmal Abdul Latif  
victim's father*



Radziah Mohd Adas with her daughter **Dhiya Qairina Muhammad Nur Akmal** at a private hospital in Bandar Perda. The girl suffered injuries in an attack by a dog (inset). Pix by Mohd Kamil Rahim