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**Woman dies after snatch theft stabbing**

By FADHAL ILLAHI ABDUL GHANI and MUZLIZA MUSTAFA  
KUALA LUMPUR, March 24:

**A mechanic who chased after two snatch thieves and retrieved a woman's handbag from them, was heartbroken yesterday when he learned that the victim had died.**

The victim, Liew Wuan Nie, 30, a cashier at a pub in Taman Cheras, was stabbed in the chest when she put up a fight with the two assailants about 2.30am. She was waiting for a ride home when the incident occurred.

The mechanic, identified only as Allan, 23, witnessed the incident and chased after the assailants in his Proton Wira. The 15 -minute chase ended with Allan ramming his car into the suspects' motorcycle.

The two suspects escaped but Allan managed to retrieve Liew's handbag.

He went back to the scene of the theft to return the handbag to the victim.

He even went to the Pantai Medical Centre nearby where Liew was taken to. Several minutes later, Allan was devastated to hear that the victim had succumbed to her injuries.

"This is so senseless. They killed her for a few ringgit," he told The Malay Mail yesterday.

Allan feels that his efforts were for nothing.

"I was not looking to be a hero. I just wanted to help the woman," he said.

Allan was talking to The Malay Mail on the telephone from Johor Baru where he has gone on office duty.

Recounting the incident, Allan said he was having drinks with several friends at a stall some 50 metres from the pub at 2.15am when he saw the victim standing outside and knew she was waiting for a ride home.

He did not pay any attention until he heard her screaming and when he turned to look, he saw the victim struggling with a man. Allan shouted and saw the man with a handbag jumping on to the motorcycle.

"I was just mad and decided to catch them. I got into my car and gave chase."

The chase ended near the Phoenix Plaza when Allan, in his heavily souped-up Proton Wira, crashed into the two suspects, causing them to fall off the bike. The two then escaped on foot.

Allan tried to look for them in the neighbouring housing estate but failed. When he returned to the crash site, he noticed that their motorcycle was also missing.

"I felt I did something right and was happy I managed to get back the woman's handbag. I felt proud when I returned it to her," he said.

IKLANMAYA

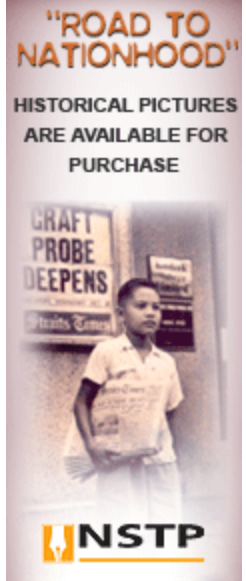
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Out of concern, Allan followed the victim and her friends to the Pantai Medical Centre. Less than 30 minutes later, the victim's boyfriend came out and broke the news that she had died.

"That really upset me. I am not concerned that my car is badly damaged and that the culprits are still at large," Allan said.

"I just feel terribly upset that a young woman had to lose her life for a few ringgit."

Police, meanwhile, said they have several leads on the suspects and a manhunt is now on to track them down.

City CID chief Datuk Karn Kam Peng said they have positively identified one suspect.

He also said police retrieved a helmet and a pair of slippers from the accident scene.

Karn urged those with information on the suspects to contact Rakan Cop at 03-21159999.

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