



Indonesian court clears boy of bee prank

印尼男童抓蜂叮同學 法院判無罪開釋

An Indonesian schoolboy was cleared of serious abuse charges Monday for stinging a female classmate with a bee, a “crime” that took the country’s legal system a year to resolve.

Nine-year-old David Yusuf was charged with inflicting serious abuse and faced almost three years in jail.

But in a rare stroke of common sense, judge Sutriadi Yahya of Surabaya district court, East Java, **let** the third-grader **off the hook**.

“This case shouldn’t have been brought to court. It could have been settled **amicably** by the school and the parents involved because it’s about normal children’s naughtiness,” Yahya said.

“Because of that, we’re **acquitting** him of the charges... We leave it to the parents to guide him.”

The court heard that Yusuf had taken a bee from a swarm buzzing around a coconut drink stall near his school in March last year and planted it on his classmate Dian Nirmalasari’s left cheek, giving her a sting.

The girl’s furious parents reported him to the police.

Yusuf’s mother, grocery shop owner Any Sulistyowati, cried as the **verdict** was read.

“We’re satisfied with the judge’s decision. We will look after our child properly,” she told reporters.

Indonesia’s legal system is notoriously corrupt and inconsistent. A survey of foreign business executives by the Political and Economic Risk Consultancy in 2008 ranked Indonesia’s judiciary last against 12 other Asian countries.

(AFP)

印尼一名男童拿一隻蜜蜂去叮女同學，被依重傷害罪起訴，其「罪行」經該國司法系統一年的審理，週一獲判無罪開釋。

九歲的大衛·尤舒夫被依「加重傷害罪」起訴，可能被判處三年左右的有期徒刑。

但東爪哇蘇臘巴亞地方法院法官蘇崔亞迪·葉哈亞，卻罕見地依照常理判斷，放了這名三年級學生一馬。

葉哈亞說：「這個案子根本不該鬧上法庭，應該要由校方和雙

方家長心平氣和地解決，因為這只是一般孩子的調皮舉動。」

「因此，我們宣告他無罪釋放…我們將管教的責任交給他的父母。」

法院得知，去年三月尤舒夫在學校附近的椰子水攤捉了一隻蜜蜂，把牠放在班上女同學黛安·倪爾馬拉莎里的左頰螫咬。

這名女童的父母憤而報警。

法官宣告判決時，尤舒夫經營雜貨店的母親安妮·蘇里絲懷堤喜極而泣。

她對記者表示：「我們對法官的判決感到欣慰。我們以後會好好管教孩子。」

印尼的司法制度以其貪腐及判決標準不一而惡名昭彰。根據國際政經風險顧問公司二〇〇八年對外籍企業主管的調查顯示，印尼的司法系統在亞洲十三個國家中敬陪末座。（法新社／翻譯：袁星塵）

A bee drinks nectar from a flower in the eastern German town of Hohen Neuendorf on July 13, 2009.

PHOTO: AFP

二〇〇九年七月十三日在德國東部的霍恩諾伊恩多夫市，一隻蜜蜂在採花蜜。

照片：法新社

TODAY'S WORDS

今日單字

1. **amicably** /ˈæmɪkəbli/ adv.

友善地 (you3 shan4 de5)

例：Contrary to expectations, the meeting ended amicably.
(和我們預期的相反，這場會議是在一團和氣中結束。)

2. **acquit** /əˈkwɪt/ v.

宣判無罪 (xuan1 pan4 wu2 zui4)

例：Nigel was acquitted of speeding after a brief trial.
(奈吉爾超速案在簡短審訊後獲判無罪。)

3. **verdict** /ˈvɜːdɪkt/ n.

裁決 (cai2 jue2)

例：The judges will deliver their verdict tomorrow morning.
(法官明天早上會做出裁決。)

LANGUAGE POINT

重要片語

let off the hook
放過一馬

If somebody is **let off the hook**, they manage to escape or avoid a dangerous situation. In the article, the boy was **let off the hook** for stinging his classmate with a bee.

如果說某人「**let off the hook**」，表示他們從一個危險的情況中逃脫或躲過一劫。上文中提到，法官放了這個拿蜜蜂叮咬同學的男孩一馬。