

Italian fined by Swiss court for spitting on his dead mother

義國男子朝母親遺體吐口水 瑞士法庭判處罰款



An Italian who spat on the corpse of his mother for his unhappy childhood has been fined by a Swiss court for “disturbing the peace of the dead,” Swiss news wire ATS reported.

The man, who had spat on his dead mother at a hospital **morgue** in northern Switzerland, had told the court that he did it out of hate for his mother, who had often hit him while he was a child.

However, Swiss laws prohibit people from “profaning ... a human cadaver.”

The district court of Zurich therefore fined the 31-year-old man 400 francs (NT\$12,330) and sentenced him to a **suspended** term of 180 days at 90 francs a day.

Under Swiss rules, such terms allow the convict to choose to either to spend the relevant period in jail, or pay up the specified sum.

In this case, given the suspended term of five years, the Italian could avoid paying the fine or **serving time** altogether if he proves to be on good behavior during the **probation** period of five years. (AFP)

外電《瑞士通訊社》報導，一名童年不快樂的義大利男子朝母親遺體吐口水，結果被瑞士法院以「妨礙死者安寧」判處罰款。

這名男子在瑞士北部一間醫院的太平間對他母親的遺體吐口水，他在法院上供稱，他這樣做是出於對母親的怨恨，因為他年幼時經常被母親毆打。

然而，瑞士法律禁止人民「褻瀆...人類屍體」。

因此，蘇黎世地方法院判罰這名三十一歲的男子四百法郎（新台幣一萬兩千三百三十元）及拘役一百八十天，得易科罰金一天九十法郎。

根據瑞士法律規定，判刑確定的罪犯可選擇入獄服刑至期滿，或是繳清刑期折成的罰款。

在這個案例中，這名義大利男子被判緩刑五年，但五年緩刑期間若表現良好，就得以免繳罰金和入獄服刑。(法新社／翻譯：袁星塵)

A wreath sits at the Newseum Journalist Memorial in Washington DC on March 30, 2009, in honor of reporters, photographers and broadcasters who lost their lives reporting the news. PHOTO: AFP

二〇〇九年三月三十日，華府新聞紀念博物館中的一束花圈，紀念因播報新聞而喪生的記者、攝影師和節目主持人。

照片：法新社

TODAY'S WORDS

今日單字

1. **morgue** /mɔːrg/ n.

太平間 (tai4 ping2 jian1)

例: The body will be stored in the morgue until it's time for burial. (葬禮前，遺體會先安置在太平間。)

2. **suspend** /səˈspend/ v.

暫緩 (zhan4 huan3) · 使休學 (shi3 xiu1 xue2)

例: Mark was suspended from school for ignoring the dress code. (馬克因為沒有遵守校服規定而被勒令休學。)

3. **probation** /proˈbeɪən/ n.

緩刑 (huan3 xing2) · 試用 (shi4 yong4)

例: You will have to finish a three-month probation period before we offer you a contract. (通過三個月試用期後，我們才會和你簽約。)

LANGUAGE POINT

重要片語

serve time

服刑

You **serve time** if you go to prison. According to the article, the Italian man may have to **serve time** for spitting on his mother's body.

Examples: “Raymond **served time** for burglary but it hasn't made him change his habits,” or “The judge said that Paul would have to **serve time** for car theft.”

如果說你「serve time」，意思就是入獄服刑。上文中提到，這名義大利男子可能得因為對母親的遺體吐口水而入獄服刑。

例如：「雷蒙曾因竊盜罪入獄，但他仍本性難移」，或是「法官說保羅偷車必須入獄服刑」。