

## Man Jailed for life after Brutal Murder of Wife



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BRADFORD, July 22 – A man who murdered his estranged wife in broad daylight while she pushed their baby in a pram has been sentenced to life in prison, with a minimum term of 28 years.

Habibur Masum, 27, was convicted of murdering Kulsuma Akter, also 27, in the city centre of Bradford in April last year. The attack took place in full view of passers-by as Ms Akter pushed the couple's seven-month-old child, who was unharmed.

Sentencing at Bradford Crown Court, Mr Justice Cotter said Masum carried out a “vicious and merciless” assault, stabbing Ms Akter 26 times, targeting her neck and ultimately slitting her throat. CCTV footage later showed Masum calmly fleeing the scene.

Ms Akter had been living in a women’s refuge since January, after Masum held a knife to her throat. In the days leading up to the killing, he stalked the area and sent threatening messages, trying to lure her out using fake texts.

On the day of the murder, Masum tracked her location using a phone app. After the stabbing, he fled to Aylesbury and was arrested near Stoke Mandeville Hospital.

Masum, a Bangladeshi national who came to the UK on a graduate visa, also pleaded guilty to manslaughter, stalking, assault, and possession of a bladed weapon. The Home Office will review his potential deportation three years before his earliest release date.

The court described him as showing no remorse, with prosecutors highlighting footage of him smiling on public transport while fleeing.

The case has prompted renewed calls for stronger protections for domestic abuse victims and improved safeguards around stalking and surveillance technology.