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Just RM5,000 to hire hit man

Fees vary based on risks, rank and profile of victim

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CONTRACT killers are being hired for as low as RM5,000 by those who want to have their enemies bumped off, *Harian Metro* reported.

It said that the rate varies depending on the risks involved.

Quoting a source, the report said that the killers would charge between RM5,000 and RM15,000 for a murder. The price would go up to RM100,000 if the target is a well-known personality or high-ranking person.

Police had not ruled out their involvement in several recent cases, including the murder of Customs deputy director-general Datuk Shahrudin Ibrahim who was gunned down while on his way to work on April 26.

Deputy Inspector-General of Police Datuk Seri Mohd Bakri Zinin

said a special team in its D9 Serious Crimes Division will track down these contract killers.

"We have personnel and officers who are experts in tracking assassins," he said.

> *Utusan Malaysia* carried an obituary on Malay intellectual Tan Sri Awang Had Salleh who died on Monday at the age of 79.

Awang Had was a former teacher who went on to serve as deputy vice-chancellor of Universiti Malaya, the director of Institut Teknologi Mara and Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia.

He had also helped establish Universiti Utara Malaysia, where he served as its first vice-chancellor from 1984 to 1989.

> *Sinar Harian* reported that actress and model Natasha Hudson

changed her newborn baby's name after realising that she had inadvertently chosen a name which in Arabic meant follower of the Syiah branch of Islam.

The Syiah teachings have been banned in Malaysia.

Natasha, 31, said that she and her husband had earlier named their daughter Naeema Taqiyyah.

After consulting experts, Natasha realised that the name also had a different connotation and decided to rename their baby Naeema Kalila.

