

Afghan child bride is tortured to death by her husband in a revenge killing after being forced to marry him in a traditional bridal exchange



From the Daily Mail. File photograph from [An Afghan child forced to marry](#) a man at least twice her age in a traditional bridal exchange was tortured to death by her husband in a revenge killing, officials said. The body of the girl called Hameya, whom authorities estimate was aged between

seven and 10, was found on Sunday night, Naqibullah Amini, police spokesman for the northwestern province of Badghis, said.

Hameya's husband was on the run from police and her father had been detained for questioning, Amini added.

Provincial governor's spokesman Jamshid Shahabi said Hameya was married under a tradition known as 'badal', when girls are exchanged between two families as brides. Badal enables both families to reduce the cost of marriage by avoiding paying a dowry.

After the other girl in the arrangement was killed by her own husband, Hameya's husband began to torture her in revenge and eventually killed her, Shahabi said.

Hameya's husband, whom officials said was aged between 20 and

30, already had at least one wife, according to Lailuma Noorzad, head of the provincial women's affairs department. Hameya had been married for six months, officials said.