

## **Woman, brother-in-law kill minor son to hide affair; arrested**

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The police have arrested a woman and her brother-in-law in Viramgam of Ahmedabad rural for allegedly murdering her eight-year-old son to hide their relationship.

*The police have arrested the woman and her brother-in-law for allegedly murdering her eight-year-old son (Image used for representation)*

**Gujarat (India):** A woman and her brother-in-law were arrested in Viramgam of Ahmedabad rural in Gujarat on Sunday for allegedly murdering her eight-year-old son about two years ago. The child had gone "missing" in September 2018 and a kidnapping report was filed on the same day. The police have now arrested the child's mother and uncle -- Josna Patel and Ramesh Patel -- for allegedly murdering him.

The family of eight-year-old Hardik Patel had filed an abduction report at Viramgam rural police station stating that the child went out to buy sweets and did not return. According to the Ahmedabad rural police, Josna Patel had an illicit relationship with her brother-in-law Ramesh Patel. The two killed Hardik when he came to know about it.

"Hardik came to know about their affair and fearing that the child would disclose their relationship to his father Jagdish Patel, his family and other villagers, the accused brought the child to a remote farmland in Jalampura village on September 28 2018, killed him by strangulation, burnt the body and buried it," read a statement released by Ahmedabad rural police.

"A few days later, Ramesh again went to the farmland and dug up the remains of the body and threw them in a sewage line in the village to destroy evidence. The two accused have been arrested under IPC 302 for murder and destruction of evidence. The accused are currently under police remand and further investigation is on," it said.

The police said the abduction case filed at Viramgam rural police station was investigated. "After interrogating the family members and villagers of Jalampura, we found many discrepancies in the statements of Josna and Ramesh who were present in the house at the time of incident," police said.

Josna and Ramesh were arrested on Sunday, two years after the crime.

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