

# Stephen Nolan convicted of murdering private hire driver

✘ A man who murdered his victim following an attack within an Edinburgh park has been convicted.

At the High Court in Edinburgh today, Stephen Nolan (pictured left) was convicted of the murder of Ebrahim Aryaei Nekoo in March last year. The 48-year-old met with Mr Nekoo at a petrol station in Westfield Road in the early hours of Saturday 24th March 2012. A short time later, the pair met at Saughton Park, where Nolan struck the 41-year-old with his taxi before driving off.

Lothian and Borders Police launched a major investigation ✘ into Mr Nekoo's death and a short time later Nolan was detained at Wester Hailes Police Station and subsequently charged with his murder.

He will now be sentenced on April 23rd in Glasgow.

Detective Inspector Stuart Houston, who led the investigation said:- "The loss of Mr Nekoo has had a massive impact on his wife and family both in Scotland and his native Iran. At the time of his death Mr Nekoo had established himself as a private hire driver and had settled in the city.

"As part of the police investigation it was established that prior to this incident Mr Nekoo and Nolan had a disagreement over a disputed insurance claim with no other previous contact. This appears to have been the catalyst for the events on that day.

"Following this conviction I hope that the family of Mr Nekoo can move forward in dealing with their tragic loss."