

Couple gets a year in jail for attempting to steal BD900 worth mobile phones from delivery boy

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In a robbery that went wrong, a man and his girlfriend landed in jail after a mobile phone delivery man managed to foil their plan and reported them to the police.

The unusual incident resulted in the couple receiving a year in jail from a Bahraini court.

According to police, the couple had ordered two mobile phones worth BD900 from a local shop and requested a home delivery.

They had also promised to pay in cash after delivery.

However, the person who came to deliver the phones finally had to fight with them to get the phone back as they refused to pay and tried to flee with the phones.



Representative picture

It was also later found that the couple used fake names to order the phones.

"On that day, as promised, I

went there to deliver the phones, and I took a friend with me," the delivery man told the prosecutors.

"I knocked at their doors,

and someone came out shrouded in a long cloth and asked me to wait in a female voice.

"However, from the physique,

According to police, the couple ordered two mobile phones worth BD900 from a local shop and requested a home delivery. However, the person who came to deliver the phones finally had to fight with them to get the phone back as they refused to pay and tried to flee.

I presumed the person was a man. "I waited at the doors as my friend stayed in the vehicle.

"A few minutes later, a woman came out and asked to hand over the phones.

She also said they had to check the phones before making payment.

"And I refused, as those were new devices and had to be billed first.

"However, the woman went ahead and tried to break the cover, forcing me to intervene.

"I demanded to return the

phones, but she refused and tried to close the doors.

"Just then, a man came out, and both of them forcefully tried to push me out.

"I, however, was lucky as hearing the commotion, my friend rushed to help me.

"We, somehow, snatched the phones from them and ran away.

"Then, we went to the police and reported the incident," he told prosecutors.

Police opened an investigation and arrested them after confirming their identity.

Court rejects appeal of public service employee held for embezzling BD8,000

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A public firm employee convicted of embezzling more than BD8,000 in government funds has had his appeal against the three-year jail term rejected by a Bahraini court.

Police had arrested the suspect on charges of forging documents to fake participation in seven training programmes to pocket BD8,000.

Public Prosecution ordered an investigation and later an arrest warrant against him based on a tip-off from his workplace on the misappropriation of funds.

Police found that the docu-



Representative picture

ments submitted by the suspect were all fake.

Besides, during interrogation, the suspect also confessed to his crimes. He told prosecutors that he took advantage of his official post to forge documents and pocket the fund given out as support for enrolling in training programmes.

This way, he said, he managed to take home BD8,235 from the exchequer.

Prosecutors pressed charges also taking into account witness testimonies, including that of his colleagues, confirming the forgery.

No plans to close Jidhafs Maternity Hospital: Al Fardan



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There are no plans to close Jidhafs Maternity Hospital, MP Mahmoud Al Fardan confirmed yesterday, rejecting social media claims that the ministry is closing down the hospital.

"I had assurances from Dr Jalila Al Sayyed, the Minister of Health on this, he said.

"Last week, I met Jalila Al-

Sayyed, the Minister of Health, and she assured me that the Ministry of Health would not close the Jidhafs Maternity Hospital," he said in a tweet.

Rejecting rumours, Al Fardan said the transfer of some people to Jidhafs Hospital was a temporary arrangement to reduce the pressure on elderly centres.

"This was done, as the hospital is not fully operational yet."

Health Minister, Dr Jaleela bint Al-Sayed Jawad Hassan, stressed the importance of integrated training and educational programmes for honing and developing the skills of Bahraini health professionals, praising the cooperation with the American University of Bahrain (AUBH) in training and scientific research. The minister was speaking while receiving AUBH President, Dr Bradley Cook, in the presence of the Assistant Undersecretary for Public Health at the Health Ministry, Dr Mariam Al-Hajri. Dr Cook thanked Health Minister and commended the fruitful efforts to deliver the best health services to the citizens and residents.



Hire more volunteer inspectors to check price manipulations, says MP Bukhamas

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A parliamentarian blamed "fraudulent practices and price manipulation" as one of the reasons for rising commodity prices alongside COVID-19 repercussions, as he also urged to hire more volunteer inspectors.

Hasan Bukhamas, a member of the parliament, claimed a large number of small stores in Bahrain's residential neighbourhoods are hiking commodity prices, blaming it squarely on the manufacturer.

"Doing so, they also claim that they cannot fix prices, while oth-



These unfair practices also show that control over them is weak, as the focus is only on large and central markets, where price manipulation is difficult

HASAN BUKHAMAS, MP

er sales outlets in the same street sell at a lower price.

"These unfair practices also show that control over them is weak, as the focus is only on large and central markets, where price manipulation is difficult."

The MP pointed out: "Efforts of the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Tourism will not yield results for they don't have enough inspectors and hence thousands of small commercial outlets are operating for years in the Kingdom without any oversight.

"I wonder what happened

to the volunteers selected and trained by the ministry during the COVID-19 pandemic.

There were 70 volunteers, and there were assisting inspectors before setting out for fieldwork.

"Does the ministry still benefit from these volunteers," asks the MP.

Dr Bukhamas points out there is an urgent need to appoint more, considering the situation.

"By employing more volunteers, the ministry can also contribute to reducing the unemployment rate among young Bahrainis," he stressed.