

## Workshop to fight human trafficking

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The General Directorate of Criminal Investigation and Evidence, in collaboration with the Sunni Endowments Administration, organised a workshop focused on combating human trafficking.

The event aimed to heighten awareness about the critical need to address human trafficking crimes and to bolster Bahrain's ongoing efforts in this field.

During the workshop, His Eminence Dr. Shaikh Habib Al-Namliti, Head of the Research Group at the Sunni Endowments Administration, delivered a keynote speech titled "The Role of the Tolerant Islamic Sharia in Combating the Crime of Human Trafficking."

Dr. Shaikh Al-Namliti highlighted that Bahrain's Constitution and laws, derived from Islamic Sharia, explicitly prohibit human trafficking and exploitation.

He emphasised that human trafficking undermines human dignity and leads to significant moral, economic, social, and psychological harms.

Dr. Shaikh Al-Namliti stressed the necessity of addressing human trafficking by understanding its causes, recognizing its forms, and criminalising its practice.

He underscored the importance of upholding contracts, treating workers with respect, and ensuring that workers are not overburdened.

# A wake-up call for road safety

48% of traffic accidents in Bahrain result in severe injuries in June 2024

● 9% lead to death

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A recent report released by the Ministry of Interior has revealed a concerning trend in traffic accidents in Bahrain during June 2024.

The report highlights a significant number of serious injuries and fatalities.

The statistics reveal that 48% of traffic accidents in June resulted in severe injuries, while 43% caused minor injuries. Shockingly, 9% of accidents resulted in fatalities.

The report further delves into the leading causes of these accidents, highlighting a significant number of traffic violations.

Speeding violations accounted for 28% of all violations, followed by red light violations at 24%.

### Violations

Improper parking accounted for 11% of violations, while failure to wear seatbelts contributed to 3% of violations.

Additionally, 5% of violations were attributed to expired reg-



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istration certificates, 1% to using mobile phones while driving, and 28% to other violations.

The report also provides insights into the volume of traffic in the country. As of June 2024, there are 760,645 registered vehicles in use on the roads.

Furthermore, the report high-

lights travel statistics through various entry points.

### Passengers

The King Fahd Causeway witnessed a total of 2,887,927 passengers, with 1,431,932 arrivals and 1,445,995 departures.

Bahrain International Airport



The report also offers insights into the country's traffic volume, revealing that as of June 2024, there are 760,645 registered vehicles on the roads.

recorded a total of 486,498 passengers, with 213,032 arrivals and 273,466 departures.

Seaports saw a total of 3,582 passengers, with 1,912 arrivals and 1,670 departures.

The report also details the response rate of emergency patrols during June 2024.

The statistics show that 67% of calls received were for emergency response, 29% were for traffic-related incidents, and 4% were for security-related issues.

## Retired man awaits verdict for arson, drug possession

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A retired man will be sentenced by the Criminal Court for intentionally setting fire to a car and possessing cannabis.

The court scheduled the sentencing hearing for August 12, 2024.

The defendant was accused of setting fire to a car belonging to another individual, endangering lives and property.

He was also found to have possessed cannabis for personal use.

During the investigation, the car owner testified that he witnessed smoke coming from his car while leaving his home.

Upon approaching the vehicle, he saw flames erupting from the rear and managed to extinguish the fire. He then contacted the police, who arrived at the scene and took necessary action.

Four hours after the incident, the car owner checked his neighbor's security cameras.

The footage revealed that the perpetrator was the driver of a car that had been seen driving around the neighbourhood.

A person wearing a cloth glove, matching the one found at the scene, was seen exiting the vehicle.

The neighbour also testified that he had encountered the defendant earlier that morning while taking out the trash.

# Two Asian men on trial for e-signature fraud

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The High Criminal Court commenced the trial of two Asian men accused of electronic signature fraud, forgery of a private document, and unauthorised access to an information technology system.

The first defendant, a 46-year-old manager, is in custody, while the second defendant, a 42-year-old businessman, is currently at large.

The court has scheduled August 4th for the defendants to review the case and respond to the charges.

The case stems from a complaint filed by a financial company alleging fraudulent activities conducted through the electronic payment gateway of a commercial establishment.

The company detected 14 suspicious transactions involving foreign bank cards belonging to individuals outside of Bahrain, without their consent.

The perpetrators used the establishment's website to process the funds into the establishment's bank account.

Investigations revealed that the defendants were involved in



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the scheme.

They had rented the commercial registration from the owner of the commercial company, created a website for the establishment, and entered stolen bank card details to transfer funds into their personal bank account.

A witness from a financial services company testified that the company provides various electronic services, including electronic payment services for commercial establishments.

The service was provided to the establishment in question on June 12, 2022.



Forteen suspicious transactions totaling BD16,000 were identified, using foreign bank cards.

## Four women punished for human trafficking

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The High Criminal Court has delivered a strong message against human trafficking, sentencing four women to five years in prison and hefty fines for forcing victims into prostitution.

The Court also ordered the defendants to cover the costs of repatriating the victims and to be deported permanently after serving their sentences.

The Public Prosecutor, Head of the Human Trafficking Prosecution, confirmed the verdict, stating that the case stemmed from a complaint filed by the victims themselves.



They alleged that they had come to Bahrain seeking legitimate employment but were in-

stead coerced into prostitution by the defendants.

Upon receiving the complaint, the Public Prosecution immediately launched a thorough investigation.

The victims were interviewed and provided with shelter and support at a facility run by the National Committee for Combating Human Trafficking.

The defendants were interrogated, and police investigations corroborated the victims' accounts.

Based on the collected evidence, the Public Prosecution referred the case to the criminal court, which ultimately issued the harsh sentence.

## African man attacks friend over money

● Court sets hearing for August 6th

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An African man assaulted his friend after the latter demanded the return of money he had given him for renewing his residency.

The victim, who had given the defendant a sum of money to handle the renewal process, was met with refusal and delays in receiving his money back.

On the day of the incident, the victim went to the defendant's residence to confront him

and reclaim his money.

An argument ensued, leading to the defendant, along with unidentified individuals, assaulting the victim.

### Injuries

The victim sustained injuries, including pain and swelling in his right hand.

The police were called to the scene, and upon their arrival, they asked the defendant for his identification. He presented a card belonging to another person, claiming it was his. Upon realising the card was not his, the defendant fled the scene.

Further investigation revealed that the ID card present-

ed by the defendant was genuine and belonged to a person who had left Bahrain in 2022.

### Harm

The Public Prosecution has charged the defendant with misuse of a valid ID card belonging to another person for personal gain by presenting it to the police, and assault with intent to cause harm.

During his appearance in court, the defendant admitted to presenting the ID card to the police but claimed it was an accident.

He stated that the card was in his pocket and his vision was blurry at the time.