

Five-year jail term for Asian drug smuggler

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The High Criminal Court penalised an Asian man with five years of imprisonment after he was apprehended at Bahrain Airport with a belt carrying over a kilogram of narcotic substances wrapped in a manner that is difficult to detect.

The court also ordered his permanent deportation from the country at the end of his sentence, in addition to fining him BD3,000 and confiscating the seized items.

The incident began with the defendant's arrival at Bahrain Airport from an Asian country. He was searched on suspicion while passing through customs but nothing was found on his person and he denied possessing any prohibited items. However, his features appeared suspicious.

Circular shapes

The customs officer transferred him to the X-ray room, where circular shapes were detected inside the folds of his clothes, suspected of being drug capsules. He was transferred to the Anti-Narcotics Directorate office.

Upon questioning, the defendant admitted to hiding capsules containing narcotic substances in pockets of his belt, intending to smuggle them to the Kingdom of Bah-



The defendant will be deported from the country at the end of his sentence.

rain.

The defendant took out approximately one kilogram of the narcotic substance. Investigations conducted by the Anti-Narcotics Directorate found that the defendant works for a network that smuggles drugs into Bahrain with intent of trafficking.

A lab test proved that the capsules contained methamphetamine and the defendant's urine sample contained hashish and diazepam.

The Public Prosecution charged the defendant with unauthorized procurement and possession of tramadol and methamphetamine with the intent of trafficking as well as unauthorized procurement of hashish and diazepam with the intent of using.

Bahraini family's request to add surname granted after long legal battle

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A local Bahraini family had repeatedly sought to add a surname to their official records over six years, but their requests were rejected multiple times by the court.

Their lawyer stated that her client, brother and nephews belong to a family with a surname traditionally at the end of their names, they wished to officially add this surname as they identify with this family.

Although they met all legal requirements to add the surname in 2017, the court rejected their lawsuit and ordered them to pay expenses. A second lawsuit was thus filed through another law firm.

To prove their case, the plaintiffs presented testimony from three family witnesses as well as other evidence. The defendant also responded.

While the court initially did not accept the case due to a prior ruling, memorandums submitted by the lawyer responded to this. The court



Image used for illustrative purposes only

then deliberated and found the competent committee's report to be satisfactory.

Ruling

The report concluded by accepting the plaintiffs' request to add the surname, fulfilling all conditions stipulated by law. The court subsequently ruled for the relevant authorities to officially register the surname addition for the plaintiffs.

After a long legal battle spanning six years and multiple rejected requests, the family's wish to formally recognise their traditional surname was finally granted.

Asian gang on trial for assault and robbery

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Three Asian men were stopped by police after assaulting and robbing others in the Central Market under threats of violence.

Details indicate the incident began when one victim was in the Manama central market and

suddenly felt someone grab his shirt from behind. He turned around to see three Asian men.

Moments later, they started beating him with their hands and kicking him with their shoes while one stole his phone from his pants pocket. During this, a nearby worker and his friend noticed the situation and

tried to intervene.

However, the thieves resisted briefly before fleeing. Suddenly, the three Asians caught up to the worker and his friend, demanding to see their identification cards. Out of fear, the worker complied and one of the men stole BD20 from his wallet before returning it.

'Lucky draw' turns into nightmare for shoppers

Scamming agencies exploit customer details for fraudulent tour packages

Zahra Ayaz
TDT | Manama

In a shocking turn of events, what was supposed to be an exciting lucky draw for shoppers in Bahrain's popular malls has transformed into a nightmare for some unfortunate individuals.

Saurabh, a 34-year-old man, recently came forward to share his harrowing experience, shedding light on a scam that has affected numerous unsuspecting victims.

Speaking to The Daily Tribune, Saurabh said, the modus operandi of this scam involved sales agents collecting personal details, including CPR numbers and contact information, from individuals visiting malls and other prominent shopping centers in Bahrain.

"These agents enticed customers with promises of winning gold coins through lucky draws. Many expats, lured by the prospect of winning valuable prizes, willingly shared their personal information to participate in the draws.

"Soon after providing their details, participants received calls from purported company representatives, notifying them of their supposed winnings and instructing them to collect their prizes from various locations."



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"These agents enticed customers with promises of winning gold coins through lucky draws. Many expats, lured by the prospect of winning valuable prizes, willingly shared their personal information to participate in the draws."

- SAURABH

He continued saying, "However, upon arrival, individuals were coerced into purchasing holiday packages ranging from BD250 to BD2,000. The packages allegedly included accommodations at luxurious 3 to 5-star hotels, tailored to the customers' preferences."

Saurabh himself fell victim to this scam. After winning a gift in the lucky draw, he received a call from a company, offering him an enticing tour package. Cautious of potential fraud, Sau-

rabh refrained from availing the offer.

However, a few months later, he received another call from a different company, offering a similar tour package. This time, Saurabh's excitement got the better of him, and he paid BD450 for the promised vacation.

Scam

Unfortunately, after making the payment, Saurabh never received any further communica-

tion from the company. It soon became apparent that he had fallen prey to the scam.

Determined to raise awareness and prevent others from similar ordeals, Saurabh filed a complaint with the authorities. Although both agencies involved have ceased operations and their owners have left Bahrain, Saurabh hopes that by speaking out, he can protect others from becoming victims.

Upon investigation, The Daily Tribune discovered that multiple individuals had fallen victim to the scam. The official website of the company revealed several Google reviews from disgruntled customers, further highlighting the fraudulent practices employed by the company.

Simarjeet Kaur expressed frustration at the lack of response to emails and phone calls, and Alan Pankaj urged fellow victims to explore legal recourse.

The Daily Tribune made several attempts to contact the company for comment, but there was no response from their end.

This alarming case serves as a reminder for shoppers to exercise caution when sharing personal information and participating in such lucky draws.

Court demands paternal proof of lineage for 10-year-old girl

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The Higher Sharia Court ordered to prove the lineage of a 10-year-old girl to her father after accepting her grandfather's lawsuit.

In his lawsuit, the child's guardian explained that his daughter had an undocumented marriage which resulted in having a baby girl. After delivery, he added, she left her baby with him and left the kingdom and never returned.

The grandfather indicated that his daughter's marriage took place with witnesses and a dowry, but it was not documented. In the hearing, the father acknowledged the girl's lineage to him.

The plaintiff's lawyer said that her client is the child's grandfather. She assured that



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her client's daughter got an undocumented marriage to the child's father in the presence of witnesses and a dowry of two thousand dinars (BD2,000), which was received by his daughter.

She added that the marriage resulted in his "granddaughter." In light of that common-law marriage - which was not doc-

umented and her lineage was not proven - he filed his lawsuit.

The "grandfather" and the girl's father appeared before the court, and the father acknowledged the girl's lineage to him based on the court's decision. A letter received from the Nationality, Passports and Residence Affairs (NPRA) directorate stated that the child's mother had

left Bahrain for several years and she has not returned.

Custom

The court said in the merits of its ruling that the "grandfather" filed his lawsuit by requesting to prove his granddaughter's lineage to the first defendant (her father), based on the fact that he married his daughter by custom, as he was her guardian, in the presence of witnesses, and a specified dowry amounted BD2,000 received by his daughter.

The court added that the two conditions of the marriage contract are the two spouses, the man - the first defendant and the woman - the second defendant, and the offer and acceptance were available in the contract intended to prove the girl's lineage.

Young man sets cars ablaze and flees on bike

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A young man burned two vehicles parked in a company lot, but his means of escape also exposed his crime.

Details show the 20-year-old man rode his bike to the parking area at around 1am. There, he spotted two cars near the company and opened their fuel tank

covers before lighting them on fire.

He then fled the scene, but a security guard on duty reviewing CCTV cameras witnessed the burning vehicles and person riding off on a bicycle. Rushing outside, the guard extinguished the flames with a water bucket before calling police.

Investigators analysed secu-

rity footage showing the suspect on his bike opening the fuel covers before igniting the arson. Using confidential sources, they identified the perpetrator and located him the next day in a nearby region, still riding the same bicycle.

Upon being stopped, the man resisted arrest but was detained by security personnel.