

Family's Plea for Help

Desperate family calls for action as Bahraini handball player remains trapped in Kuwait over rent dispute



Bahraini handball star faces an unexpected crisis in Kuwait—his brother's urgent plea highlights a dramatic rent dispute with the club

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A Bahraini handball player has found himself stranded in Kuwait due to an ongoing dispute over unpaid rent that was supposed to be covered by his club.

Ahmed Al Maqaabi was stopped at the Kuwaiti border when officers informed him that he couldn't leave the country because of a case filed against him by a housing rental company. The company alleges that Al Maqaabi owes more than 20,000 Kuwaiti dinars in unpaid rent.

Back in Bahrain, his family, including his brother Nidal, is

deeply concerned and has called on Bahraini authorities to intervene and help resolve the situation. Al Maqaabi, who played for a Kuwaiti club between 2021 and 2022, has shared his side of the story, pointing fingers at his club for the predicament he's now in.

In an interview with Alayam, Al Maqaabi explained that the accommodation provided by the club was not up to standard, so he arranged for an alternative place to stay, believing the club would cover the cost.

"At that time, the club had also agreed to cover the costs of the accommodation I booked," he said. However, Al Maqaabi ad-

mitted, "I made the mistake of booking the accommodation in my name, instead of the club's." This oversight, combined with the club's failure to pay, has now led to the current standoff. Adding to the complexity, Al Maqaabi revealed that another

Bahraini player, Mohammed Habib, is facing a similar issue with the same club. Despite his efforts to communicate and resolve the matter with the club, Al Maqaabi says he has received no response. He mentioned that the rented accommodation was only

meant to cover the first four days after the issue arose, until the club eventually arranged temporary housing for him.

Nidal Al Maqaabi has criticized the club's handling of the situation, highlighting that they had initially promised to pro-

vide suitable accommodation and cover all related expenses, which they failed to do throughout Ahmed's tenure. The family's plea for help reflects their frustration and urgency in seeking a swift resolution to bring Ahmed back home.

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INTERIM CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the six months ended 30 June 2024					
Retail Bank, Bahrain					
INTERIM STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION					
as at 30 June 2024					
Bahraini Dinars 000's	30 June 2024 (reviewed)	31 December 2023 (audited)			
Assets					
Cash and balances at central bank	132,315	142,666			
Derivative financial instruments	8,012	8,244			
Loans and advances to banks	2,913	1,539			
Loans and advances to customers	361,673	300,237			
Investment securities	106,454	101,991			
Other assets	9,921	20,200			
Due from the Head Office and other branches	16,343	17,807			
Prepayments and accrued income	2,891	2,397			
Intangible assets	1,367	1,068			
Property, plant and equipment	3,666	3,675			
Total assets	645,555	599,824			
Liabilities					
Deposits by banks	11,448	14,361			
Customer accounts	505,694	478,365			
Derivative financial instruments	7,207	8,047			
Other liabilities	19,932	28,723			
Due to the Head office and other branches	33,279	10,467			
Accruals and deferred income	5,569	5,799			
Provisions for liabilities and charges	425	534			
Retirement benefit obligations	2,606	2,600			
Total liabilities	586,160	548,896			
Head Office funds					
Head Office assigned capital	10,743	10,743			
Other reserves	35,128	34,268			
Retained earnings	13,524	5,917			
Total Head Office funds	59,395	50,928			
Total Head Office funds and liabilities	645,555	599,824			
INTERIM STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS					
For the six-month period ended 30 June 2024 (reviewed)					
Bahraini Dinars 000's	2024	2023			
Net cash (used in)/generated from operating activities	(14,170)	21,233			
Net cash (used in)/generated from investing activities	(7,858)	16,121			
Net cash used in financing activities	(39)	(48)			
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents	(22,067)	37,306			
Foreign exchange adjustments	-	38			
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January	142,534	125,825			
Cash and cash equivalents at 30 June	120,467	163,169			
INTERIM STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN HEAD OFFICE FUNDS					
For the six-month period ended 30 June 2024 (reviewed)					
Bahraini Dinars 000's	Head Office assigned capital	General reserve	Fair value through other comprehensive income reserve	Unremitted profit to the Head Office/ (Accumulated loss)	Total
As at 1 January 2023	10,743	34,056	(964)	(9,582)	34,253
Profit for the period	-	-	-	10,572	10,572
Other comprehensive income for the period	-	-	623	-	623
Foreign exchange adjustment	-	-	-	38	38
As at 30 June 2023	10,743	34,056	(341)	1,028	45,486
As at 1 January 2024	10,743	34,056	212	5,917	50,928
Profit for the period	-	-	-	7,607	7,607
Other comprehensive income for the period	-	-	860	-	860
As at 30 June 2024	10,743	34,056	1,072	13,524	59,395
INTERIM STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS					
For the six-month period ended 30 June 2024 (reviewed)					
Bahraini Dinars 000's	2024	2023			
Interest income	19,819	17,804			
Interest expense	(4,889)	(3,104)			
Net interest income	14,930	14,700			
Fees and commission income	6,532	5,242			
Fees and commission expense	(2,708)	(2,610)			
Net fee and commission income	3,824	2,632			
Net trading income	2,750	2,089			
Other income	33	33			
Operating income	21,537	19,454			
Staff costs	(6,996)	(6,979)			
Premises costs	(363)	(345)			
General administrative expenses	(6,026)	(8,168)			
Depreciation and amortisation	(336)	(381)			
Operating expenses	(13,721)	(15,873)			
Operating profit before impairment losses	7,816	3,581			
Credit impairment	(209)	6,991			
Profit for the period	7,607	10,572			
INTERIM STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME					
For the six-month period ended 30 June 2024 (reviewed)					
Bahraini Dinars 000's	2024	2023			
Profit for the period	7,607	10,572			
Other comprehensive income					
Items that will not be reclassified to profit or loss:					
Equity instruments at fair value through other comprehensive income	83	39			
Items that may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss:					
Net valuation gain taken to equity	924	664			
Net impact of expected credit losses	(147)	(80)			
	777	584			
Other comprehensive income for the period	860	623			
Total comprehensive income for the period	8,467	11,195			

From breakup to blaze

Man Jailed, fined for Setting Ex-Girlfriend's Car on Fire



Representative picture

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A man has been sentenced to three years in prison for setting his ex-girlfriend's car on fire, following a dramatic breakup. The High Criminal Court also ordered him to pay BD 5,819 in damages to the woman.

The incident unfolded after the woman informed the man of her decision to end their two-year relationship and marry someone else. The news did

not sit well with the man, who accused her of infidelity and demanded the return of BD 800 he had given her.

Despite an agreed repayment plan, tensions escalated. The man, driven by rage, threatened the woman and ultimately set her car ablaze. Security camera footage captured him pouring gasoline on the vehicle before igniting it. The court, after reviewing the evidence, found the man guilty of arson.

Dr. Boutros Klink
Chief Executive Officer, Bahrain

Shaikha Tareef
Chief Financial Officer, Bahrain & Middle East

Reviewed by: Ernst & Young
Public Accountants

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