

'Attackers wanted to sabotage Friday worship'

A picture of the Friday sermon inside the embassy posted to Instagram by Shaikh Fawaz.



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Manama

The group of individuals, who attacked the Bahraini embassy in London on Friday, intended to prevent worshippers from attending the Friday prayer held at the embassy premises, according to sources.

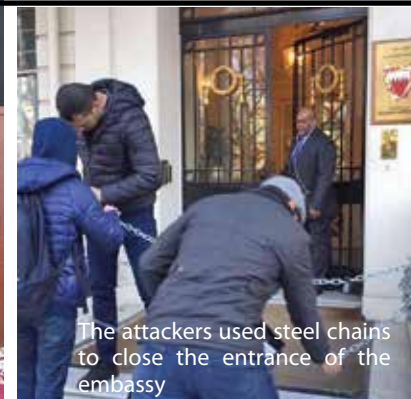
"The group of individuals gathered near the embassy to halt the work of diplomats and to prevent worshippers from attending the weekly Friday prayers. Some of the embassy staff interfered to stop them and move them away from the embassy," a source in the embassy told *Al Ayam daily*.

As reported yesterday, a video shared online showed the group

assaulting the embassy for the second time in less than a week. They closed the entrance of the embassy using steel chains before the embassy staff and British police removed it. Some of the individuals even verbally abused the staff.

"The embassy was not forcibly closed by the vandals and it resumed works regularly after the attackers were dispersed," the source said adding that the embassy is in the process of taking legal action against these groups.

The act was condemned by several politicians and rights groups who described the act as a violation to international pacts and agreements which instruct to protect diplomatic missions.



The attackers used steel chains to close the entrance of the embassy

Additionally, the Bahraini Ambassador to the UK Shaikh Fawaz bin Mohammed Al Khalifa confirmed that a female British staffer sustained a back injury in the incident.

"I extend my concern to a valued staffer subjected to harassment when entering Embassy premises," he posted on his official *Twitter* page.

The ambassador asserted that the assault violates the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, which safeguards the security and protection of diplomatic missions.

It is a weekly routine for the Kingdom's embassy in London to receive worshippers from Arab and Islamic diplomatic missions for sermons on Friday.



Asian man arrested with drugs worth BD236000

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Manama

An Asian man has been arrested with 288 capsules (around 2KG) of heroin and 19 capsules of Shabu, both worth around BD236000.

Criminal Investigation and Forensic Science General Director Colonel Abdulaziz Al Rumaihi said that the suspect

possessed the narcotics for drug dealing.

"Investigation led to identifying and arresting the suspect at his resident after a warrant was issued by the Public Prosecution. The narcotics were confiscated from his home," he said.

The General Director further added that legal proceedings are being taken to refer the case to the Public Prosecution.

Motorcyclists' safety campaign to continue till next month

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'Ridesafe' a campaign to ensure the safety of motorcyclists will continue holding awareness activities as planned until the end of February 2017, said the Traffic Culture Director.

"Various awareness activities will be held during the

campaign at shopping malls, camping areas and on public roads to reach out to the largest number of road users," he said.

He added that the latest awareness activity, held in the camping area tackled ways of ensuring their safety of motorcyclists. Helmets and awareness publications were distributed during the activity.

Nominations open for Insurance Award

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The 13th Annual Middle East Insurance Forum (MEIF 2017) has called for nominations for the MEIF 2017 Awards.

Key criteria to be covered by the applicants are sustainable growth in Premiums and Profitability, market share, sound business model and strategy, expansion of distribution channels, range and quality of products and services, product innovation, IT innovation and local and regional expansion of operations.

Nominations and submission materials should be sent to FinMark Communications by February 5. Submission will be evaluated by The MEIF Awards Committee and each nomination will be rated based on the supporting documentation presented.

Shortlisted nominees will be informed in advance with the winner announced at the Awards Ceremony to be held on February 20 during MEIF 2017.

More than 400 global and regional insurance and Takaful leaders and experts expected to attend this years MEIF 2017, taking place on February 21.



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