

Court cancels marriage over lying about religion

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The First High Civil Court has cancelled the marriage between an American man and a Canadian woman of Arab origin over the fact that the Kingdom doesn't approve non-Muslim men marrying Muslim women.

According to court details, the woman lied about her religion to her husband, who is from Christian faith.

In the divorce complaint filed by the man, he said that he married the woman thinking she was a Christian and it was later proved that she is a Muslim and was lying about

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COURT

her religion.

"This marriage has no validity as Sharia laws prohibit marriages between non-Muslim men and Muslim women," the court observed, while issuing its judgement.

475 violate traffic rules, drive on hard shoulder

Interior Ministry urges citizens, residents to strictly follow traffic rules

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Mohammed Zafran

Four hundred and seventy five traffic violations related to driving on the emergency lane have already been recorded since the beginning of the current year, authorities announced.

Hundreds of motorists have been fined for illegally driving on the emergency lane, the Ministry of Interior revealed yesterday.

"The offence was driving through the emergency lane on all roads, mostly Shaikh Jaber Al Sabah Highway, Shaikh Khalifa bin Salman highway, Sitra Bridge and Shaikh Khalifa bin Salman Bridge during the rush hours in the morning and evening," the Ministry of Interior stated.

The ministry urged citizens and residents to be careful on the road and avoid such practices. "The General Directorate considers such violation as an uncivilised practise that could cause traffic accidents and jams. It could also hinder the movement of ambulance and rescue vehicles."

It asserted the continuation to monitor and take actions against all types of violations.

Meanwhile, owing to other violations, the director-general of traffic, Brigadier Shaikh Abdulrahman bin Abdulwahab Al Khalifa confirmed the suspensions of driving licences of 56 truck drivers in the first week of January for violating various traffic rules.



Traffic inspections have been stepped up to contain violations.

They will be banned from driving any vehicle for 30 days, their licences were withdrawn for periods ranging from a month to six months in case of repeating the offences.

The General Directorate of Traffic launched a campaign to monitor illegal driving practices by truck drivers, such as not

Such violations could hinder the movement of ambulance and rescue vehicles.

GENERAL DIRECTORATE

sticking to the right lanes and overtaking in a way that risk the safety of others.

The campaign also includes carrying technical inspection of trucks on various roads.

He said that some drivers continue to violate traffic rules without considering the threats of such behaviour on their lives and the safety of others.

He noted that illegal traffic practices cause accidents and hinder traffic.

Respite for police attack accused

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An appeals court has lowered the penalty handed down to the 13th accused in Nabih Saleh Police Outpost attack case.

The accused was among a group of 50 members who attacked the police station, according to court details.

They attacked the outpost with Molotov cocktails and firebombs, said Public Prosecution.

The convicts were handed

They attacked the outpost with Molotov cocktails and firebombs.

PUBLIC PROSECUTION

down sentences between seven and five years by the Lower Criminal Court.

However, the 13th accused received a respite as his five-year sentence was reduced to three years.

John Hopkins University delegation visits House

The delegation described the achievement as a positive index testifying to the advanced status attained by Bahraini women.

Manama

A delegation from the John Hopkins University, in the US, visited yesterday the Representatives Council where they met Head of the Financial and Economic

Affairs Committee Ali Eshaqi, the Deputy Head of the committee Ahmed Al Amer and member of the Representatives Council Kalthoum Al Haiki.

Discussions focused on the democratic experience in Bahrain and its achievements under the royal reform march.

Assistant Secretary General for Committee Affairs, Sessions and Parliamentary Support and Head of the Equal Opportunities Committee at the Representatives Council Secretariat General Dr Yasser bin Saqr Al Shirawi said the delegation which visited the coun-

cil, in co-ordination with the Supreme Council for Women, comprised four researchers.

They were informed closely about the parliamentary experience and legislative work mechanisms.

Dr Al Shirawi pointed out that the delegation expressed appreciation of the Bahraini women's success to reach the presidency of the Representatives Council through a free democratic practice.

They also hailed success of six women to win parliamentary seats through ballot casting in a transparent electoral

competition.

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status attained by Bahraini women.

Meeting stresses threats from Iran

Manama

Minister of Foreign Affairs, Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, received yesterday the US Special Representative for Iran and Senior Policy Advisor to the Secretary of State, Brian Hook.


The minister welcomed Mr Hook, affirming the deep-rooted historical strategic relations between the Kingdom of Bahrain and the

United States and the Kingdom's pride in the steady progress of bilateral relations across various political, economic and security levels, in light of the common keenness to enhance all aspects of bilateral cooperation for the benefit of the two countries and their friendly peoples.

He also stressed the Kingdom's full support and solidarity with all the efforts exerted by the United States in confronting the policies of the

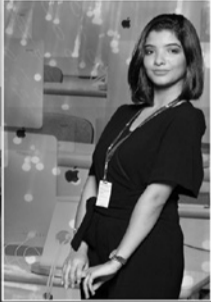
regime in Iran that undermine peace and security, countering Iran's interference in the internal affairs of the region's countries, as well as Iran's support for terrorism and its practices to escalate tension and violence across the region and the world.

Mr Hook expressed his pride in the deep-rooted relations between the two friendly countries, wishing the Kingdom of Bahrain further progress and prosperity.




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