

Boys detained for bullying

Trio attacked their victim at a school in Hamad Town

● The victim was seen helplessly crying and groaning with pain, as the three boys punched him, kicked him and even stomped on him.

● The victim's father lodged a complaint against the attackers after seeing his son being assaulted in the footage, which went viral.

Manama|TDT
Muhannad Mansour

Three minors were yesterday detained at a correctional facility for juveniles for brutally attacking another child in Hamad Town few weeks ago.

As reported by Tribune yesterday, the parents of the three boys were summoned by the Northern Governorate Police Directorate on Sunday. The directorate's statement confirmed that

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MR AL GHATAM

the case was referred to the Family and Child Prosecution.

This came after the attackers were seen in a video bullying and beating the victim after school hours. The victim was seen helplessly crying and groaning with pain, as the three boys punched him, kicked him and even stomped on him.

Family and Child Prosecution Chief Prosecutor Ahmed Al Ghatam explained in a statement released yesterday that the prosecution was notified about the incident by Hamad Town Southern Police Station on Sunday evening.

Mr Al Ghatam revealed that the notification mentioned that the three children physically assaulted the victim after school hours, while a fourth companion filmed the incident and spread it online.

According to Mr Al Ghatam's statement, the victim's father lodged a complaint against the attackers after seeing his son being assaulted in the footage which went viral on local social media



A screenshot of the video showing one of the attackers kicking the victim in his head.

networks.

“The prosecution immediately launched an investigation into the incident, summoned the children and questioned them. They confessed to their crime in the interrogation and they were referred to the Juveniles Court Judge.

“The judge ordered to refer them to the Juveniles Care Centre and tasked the Social Care Unit at the Centre to issue reports on their social status,” Mr

Al Ghatam added, without unveiling more details.

However, the Education Ministry didn't comment on the incident. The ministry had denied that any bullying cases were reported in Bahrain schools in a statement issued last year. A local daily quoting the ministry last July affirmed that “the ministry has implemented special programmes for students and teachers to combat bullying and curb such occurrences in schools.”

Bullying linked to learning disabilities, reveals AGU study

● The children who are exposed to bullying would feel frustrated, worried, inferior, helpless, failed, distrustful, and will fail in communication skills and skills of building social relationships, the doctor pointed out.

● For her part, Bahraini writer Mona Al Mutawa said that bullying is a crime against society and the person who practices it is an abnormal person who needs deterrent penalties and psychological rehabilitation.

TDT|Manama
Thamer Tayfour

The act of bullying has a direct link to learning disabilities among students, a

recent study conducted by Arab Gulf University (AGU) reveals.

The study said that 19 per cent of students at intermediary levels were subjected to bullying and 30pc of students having learning disabilities had bullying behaviour. The same statistics also applies students who are academically poor.

“Preparing and providing training courses for teachers is the one of the ways to tackle bullying. Parents also need special training.

“Schools should host special workshops for children to combat bullying. But the most important thing is to give special attention to children who are academically poor and suffer from learning disabilities,” the study said.

Speaking to Tribune, Chairman and Consultant Psychiatrist in Serene Psychiatry Hospital, Dr Abdulkarim Mustafa Awadhi, said bullying is nothing but a mental illness.

“The biggest problem here is we don't have any preventive measures when it comes to tackling mental diseases like the ones we have to prevent physical diseases like small pox or poliomyelitis,” he said.

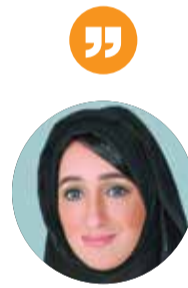
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destroy their lives.”

Dr Awadhi urged parents to play a bigger role in order to combat bullying at schools. “Parents must cooperate with schools to spare students from this problem and if they find negligence or neglect by the school administration, they have to resort to the educational departments to force the school to recognise the seriousness of this problem.”

For her part, Bahraini writer Mona Al Mutawa said that bullying is a crime against society and the person who practices it is an abnormal person who needs deterrent penalties and psychological rehabilitation.

Ms Al Mutawa said that bullying has new dimensions today, especially with the advent of social media. “According to a UN report, seven out of 10 people are subjected to electronic bullying and in some case the victims have committed suicide.”

“We need strong whole-hearted efforts to tackle bullying, both at schools and in the society. Awareness campaigns and community partnerships can create success in our fight against bullying.”

Welfare measures mullied to help kindergarten workers

TDT|Manama
Abbas Mughanni

The Labour Ministry is working on a project aimed at improving the lives of about 2,000 kindergarten workers in the Kingdom, it was learnt. Hundreds of women working in kindergartens have been seeking welfare measures including a minimum monthly salary of BD350.

According to the directives issued by Her Royal Highness Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa, Wife of His Majesty the King and President of the Supreme Council for Women, a committee headed by Shaikha Hessa bint Khalifa Al Khalifa was set up to address the issues faced by kindergarten and nursery workers.

Speaking to Tribune, Labour Ministry Undersecretary Sabah Al Dosari said the ministry is working hard to come up with a plan that would bring welfare to the kindergarten workers. “Soon their salaries will be raised to BD350 a month. Other welfare measures are also on cards.”



Members of Bahrain Odiya Samaj celebrated Raja Mauja 2018 with their families and children. Many fun-filled activities, musical shows and games for children were held as part of the event.