

Horror movie 'screened' at summer camp for children

Parents upset over the unscrupulous act; seeks action

● The organising committee of the camp is now under scrutiny.

● Many summer camps are being held for the children of different ages, across the Kingdom.

TDT | Manama
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A summer camp has stirred up controversy after a horror movie was allegedly screened for children as young as five years old.

According to legal norms, horror movies can only be screened for those older than 17 and the movie screened was R-rated.

The organising committee of the camp is now under scrutiny after parents of many children became upset over the movie screening.

However, it is learnt that the organisers, instead of apologising removed the complaining parent's ward from the camp.

Speaking to Tribune, one of the disgruntled parents, said: "My son has been participating in the summer camp for the past few years and we have always been happy with the previous organising committees of the camp.



Summer camps are intended to offer lessons in new areas to children.

"However, what happened this year is deplorable. They aired a horror movie for young children to watch. The movie 'Annabelle' was screened for children as young as five years old.

"The camp was for children between the age of 5 and 15. When I questioned them about this they said that the children were given the choice to watch or not.

"This was ridiculous because children obviously want to watch movies and they would



A poster of the horror movie 'Annabelle'.

not think that a scary movie may affect their mental health," said the parent, who did not want to disclose her name.

"As a parent, I mentioned this issue on the camp's WhatsApp group. The group comprised all parents and many were upset about it.

"One of the organisers assured me that this would not happen again. However, to my surprise when my son attended camp four days later he was publicly humiliated by a sports teacher and was asked why his mom



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PARENT

wrote the complaint on the group chat.

"He was also told that the camp was the best summer camp in the Kingdom and was asked to leave if he doesn't like it. When I questioned the teacher, he refused to answer," she said.

"When I wrote this on WhatsApp group, demanding an apology from the teacher, I was blocked from the group. Later, I received a call from the camp reception office, informing me that I could collect 50 per cent of the fee paid for the camp.

"My son, 11 years old, was unwilling to attend that camp after becoming extremely nervous. He was too much scared after watching the horror movie. I am worried about kids who are much younger than him."

"I want authorities to take action as children should not be made to watch movies whose contents are not appropriate for their age."

Many summer camps are being held for the children of different ages, across the Kingdom.

House support for SMEs stressed Manama

Speaker of the Council of Representatives, Fawzia Zainal, yesterday received a delegation comprising chairman and members of the Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) Development Society.

The Speaker praised the SME's role in stimulating the local economy, noting Bahrain's interest in providing support and facilities to the new business owners of the youth in this vital area to contribute to achieving the sustainable development goals.

Ms Zainal confirmed the parliament's keenness to support the same enterprises by issuing legislation to keep pace with Bahrain's economic vision 2030.

Earlier, Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) hailed the stances of His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa for backing the small and medium enterprises (SMES), which play a vital role in spurring growth and supporting the national economy.

Speaking on behalf of the trade and industrial community, BCCI Chairman Sameer Abdulla Nass, he commended HRH the Premier's move, which will impact positively on small and medium businesses that represent the backbone of the national economy.

"HRH the Premier's directives will enable this vital and important sector to play its pivotal role in spurring growth and supporting all national economic sectors," he said, stressed the ability of the private sector to contribute to Bahrain's development momentum.

Minister reviews progress on Ma'ameer Waterfront Development Project

Manama

The Minister of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning, Essam Khalaf paid an inspection visit to check the progress on Ma'ameer Waterfront Development Project yesterday.

He was accompanied by Assistant Undersecretary of Joint Municipality Services, Wael Al Mubarak, General Director of Capital Municipality, Shawqiya Homaidan and Roads, Projects and Maintenance Director, Sayed Bader Alawi.

Mr Khalaf listened to an update on the stages of the project which includes developing Ma'ameer's waterfront, and constructing an entrance to the waterfront by paving a service road for the coast with direction signs for visitors. He instructed to work on the



Mr Khalaf along with Works Ministry officials review the project progress.

beauty aesthetic of Ma'ameer Coast by planting trees on the sides, floor implementation, providing seats for the coast and walkway visitors, as well as providing some recreational games



The project is considered an effort to achieve sustainable urban development.

MR KHALAF

for children and a number of sports activities in the space next to the waterfront.

The Works Minister stated that the Ma'ameer Waterfront Development Project is part of the Ministry of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning's determination to create waterfront and greenery projects for the public.

He added: "The ministry assures that this project extends for 720 meters, as long as the village's front, as a recreational

project, and at the same time it allows physical exercise with the walkway as well as other sports activities."

Mr Khalaf said that the waterfront will be linked with the surrounding roads network to facilitate arrival for visitors. "Approvals for constructing the road have been accepted and work is in progress."

The minister explained that the lightning used in the walkway will be powered by solar energy, as part of the ministry's approach to renewable energy in its current and future projects.

He also explained that the Ma'ameer Waterfront Development Project is considered an effort to achieve sustainable urban development by providing municipal projects that contribute to improving the urban environment for the area.



National Guard Commander, General HH Shaikh Mohammed bin Isa Al Khalifa, yesterday received the Religious Adviser to the National Guard's Hajj mission, Dr Shaikh Rashid bin Mohammed Al Hajeri, along with members of the mission, before their departure to the Holy Lands to perform pilgrimage. National Guard Commander's Office Director, Major-General Abdulrahman Al Saad, and Head of the Commander's Court Division, Colonel Mohammed Abdulla Rabiaie, were present. The National Guard Commander welcomed the members of the mission, and urged them to co-operate among themselves and with other pilgrims, adhere to the tolerant precepts of the Islamic religion, and represent the Kingdom and the National Guard in the best way.