

LOCAL

Former labor office director sentenced to life imprisonment for human trafficking

Kuwaiti tourist beaten, robbed in Pattaya

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 6: Former Director of a labor office has been taken to the Central Prison to serve a life term after the Criminal Court found him guilty of trafficking in humans, reports Al-Anba daily.

The man was found guilty of bringing into the country menial workers in large numbers and had abandoned them on the streets of Kuwait to find jobs for themselves.

According to a security source, the Kuwaiti was seized from his office in downtown Kuwait City and served a notice which said the court had issued a verdict against him.

Giving details of the case, sources said the Kuwaiti brought scores of Kuwaitis under the sponsorship of his company and left them stranded following which the expatriates sought the intervention of their respective embassies for help because the company could not provide work for them.

Some of the expatriates complained to their embassy that each of them had paid approximately \$5,000 each service charges and the embassy communicated with the Ministry of Interior and the ministry discovered the suspect was the director of labor force in the company owned by him.

It is interesting and surprising that the convict had a lot of tweets in which he criticized the Ministry of Affairs for leniency in the flow of migrant workers to the country, leading to the imbalance of the demographics.

Kuwaiti tourist robbed: A Kuwaiti man (tourist), whose identity has not been disclosed, was beaten and robbed by three men at the beach in Pattaya in the early hours of Tuesday, reports Al-Rai daily



Mol photo
Kuwait National Guard (KNG) has signed a joint cooperation plan with the French National Gendarmerie.

KNG, French National Gendarmerie ink pact

Kuwait National Guard (KNG) has signed a joint cooperation plan 2020 with the French National Gendarmerie with the aim of enhancing cooperation in aspects related to training, qualifying, holding joint exercises and courses and exchanging visits.

According to a press release issued by the National Guard, the Undersecretary of the National Guard Lieutenant General Hashim Al-Refaei received in his office the Director of the National Gendarmerie's International Cooperation Department Major Gen-

eral Stefan Otaqi and the accompanying delegation.

Present at the meeting was the National Guard's Coordinator of Operations and Training Major General Faleh Shuja'a. They discussed ways to enhance military cooperation between the two sides.

quoting Reuters.

The tourist, who is believed to be in his 40s, was rescued by police at 3:30 am, given first aid and taken to the hospital with injuries to the face and bruises on the body.

Another Kuwaiti told police through an interpreter that three Thai men assaulted his friend and stole his money, a mobile phone and watch.

An employee at a beer bar told police the injured tourist had walked in and sought help and that he called police.

Shortly after, police received a tip-off that a group of men suspected of involvement in the attack were drinking alcohol on the beach; however, when the three men were questioned they denied any knowl-

edge of the robbery.

Later officers found the victim's mobile phone and watch covered with sand not far from where the suspects were who were later taken to the Pattaya police station and detained for questioning.

In the meantime, police are viewing the CCTV footage of cameras installed in area.

Other Voices

Rise of the rightists in Europe

"Whenever I see injustice in this world, I calm myself down by saying there is Hell waiting for the unjust!"
— Jean Jacques Rousseau.

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By Yousef Awadh Al-Azmi

IN most cases, the extremist right-wing parties manage to attract the minds and hearts of voters. Sometimes they even manage to influence values and principles to gain more followers under new circumstances that might have negative effects on the voters' lives particularly citizens.

In the year 2011, namely the beginning of the Arab Spring, a large number of refugees especially from Syria headed to Europe to flee the war. Many of them reached their destination and Germany opened the door to receive them but many other countries neighboring Germany shut the doors in the faces of the refugees.



Al-Azmi

Thanks to the vision and ideology of German Chancellor Angela Merkel, plans were set in place to accommodate a large number of refugees and take advantage of them to contribute in supporting the economy of Germany.

In 2016, Britain issued a referendum for the exiting the European Union. Such a referendum provoked noise both inside Britain and in other parts of the world. It was the reason behind the resignation of British Prime Minister David Cameron.

France witnessed the victory of the extremist right-wing "National Rally" political party led by Marine le Pen. The same happened in Italy, Hungary and Austria where extremist right wing parties gained unprecedented popularity, leading those parties to dominate the political scene for the first time after many decades.

Most of the analyses indicate that we are about to enter a new era that will witness the rebirth of the extremist right-wing currents. This means more obstacles will be placed in the path of the refugees and even immigrants who hold European passports but are not of European origin but that of Arab, Asian or Latin American.

The media campaigns organized by rightists highlight issues that affected the opinion of large percentage of the voters. The media campaigns promoted the concept that the immigrants from the East are not coming to Europe just for humanitarian reasons but also for eco-

nomie reasons.

Here, we can see that the campaigns focus on the standard of living of European citizens who suffer a lot due to high taxes.

The campaigns also focus on vital issues such as unemployment and others with the aim of frightening European Citizens about the negative effects on their day-to-day lives. They also highlight the negative consequences of the refugees on the countries' economic and political affairs.

Many questions come to our mind concerning the present and future of the new wave of refugees. Will the European Union be able to contain the consequent waves of immigrants? Will the ethnicities or religions represent an obstacle for the refugees to merge in their new societies? Is there any effect of the differences between the religion of the refugees – most of who are Muslims – and the local religions of the citizens of the receiving countries? Will the present and future activities of the European right-wing parties affect the immigrants? If the answer is yes, what would these effects be? Will such popular issues, as we can call, affect the political attitude of European citizens? Will the effects be temporary or permanent in terms of stopping the reception of refugees as well as immigrants?

However, it is a logical fact that civilized countries are capable of adapting to new situations. They can contain newcomers from different cultures and help them to merge in the new society in order for them to become a part of the local culture. In such case, we do not have to worry about any of the two parties – the refugees' homelands and the receiving societies.

The need to discuss this issue and find ways to deal with is really urgent due to the growing popularity of the extremist right-wing parties and their negative impact on the immigrants and refugees. This top-priority issue has affected the policies of the EU, which are reflected in some of its decisions.

As I said earlier, the refugees' issue has brought extremist right-wing parties back to life after decades of dormancy. The most negative effect is their influence on the voters.

According to some statistics, Germany has received more than one million refugees, and the rest are distributed to a number of other countries. As a result, the refugees represent a source of low-income workers, something that negatively affects the European labor markets. This issue is raised by some campaigns with the aim of enhancing the feeling of hatred against the refugees.

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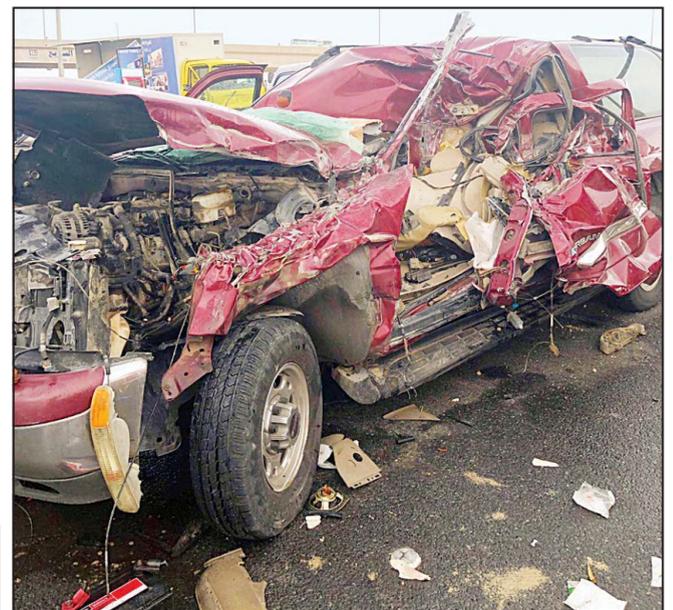


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KFSD photo

One of the vehicles damaged in the accident.

One hurt in 4-car crash

Four vehicles collided on King Fahad Expressway near Abdullah Port, resulting in injuries to one of the motorists.

According to a press release, firefighters rushed to the location with securitymen and paramedics after receiving information

about the accident. The victim, who was trapped inside his vehicle, was pulled out after cutting off some parts of the vehicle, and referred to paramedics for treatment.

The vehicles were removed from the road and the traffic was organized.

News in Brief

'Pervert' arrested: An Asian expatriate who works as a driver was arrested for taking pictures and videos of women without their knowledge and uploading them on social media.

In a press release, the Public Relations and Security Media Department of Ministry of Interior said the Cybercrime Unit of the Criminal Security Department conducted investigations and identified the owner of the social media account in which the pictures and videos of the women were uploaded.

He was arrested and during interrogations, he confessed to owning the social media account and uploading the pictures and videos.

He was referred to the concerned authorities for necessary legal action.

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Woman drowns in pool: An Asian woman in her 30s drowned in a swimming pool of a residential complex in Bneid Al-Gar area.

According to security sources, when the Operations Room of Ministry of Interior received information about the incident, securitymen and paramedics rushed to the location and examined the woman and discovered that she had died.

Her corpse was referred to the Forensics Department, and a case was registered.

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Fight over traffic priority: An unknown individual hit an Asian expatriate in Jahra area, and broke his mobile phone before fleeing the location, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

According to security sources, the suspect stopped the Asian man due to some misunderstanding over road priority. He asked him to step out of his car, and then took his mobile phone and hit him on his head, saying, "I want to teach you how to drive"

A case was registered and investigations have been launched with the details provided by the complainant about the suspect.

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Bid to kill citizen: Police are trying to identify a person who intentionally ran over a citizen in a suburb of Jaber Al-Ahmad area was taken to the Sabah Hospital in critical condition, reports Al-Rai daily.

A security source when the Operations Room of the Ministry of Interior was informed about the accident by pedestrian, paramedics rushed to the spot and rushed the victim to a hospital.