

Eight killed in deadly UAE road smash

Mon, 2019-09-30 12:12

DUBAI: Eight people were killed and six injured in a crash on one of the UAE's busiest highways early Monday morning, Dubai Police spokesman said.

The smash, involving a minibus carrying 14 people and a heavy goods vehicle, happened shortly after 4:30 a.m. on the Sharjah-bound side of Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Road close to Mirdif City Centre.

Police say the bus drove into the lorry which was stationary on the hard shoulder of the highway.

Eight people in the minibus, including the driver, were killed and six were injured – two of them seriously.

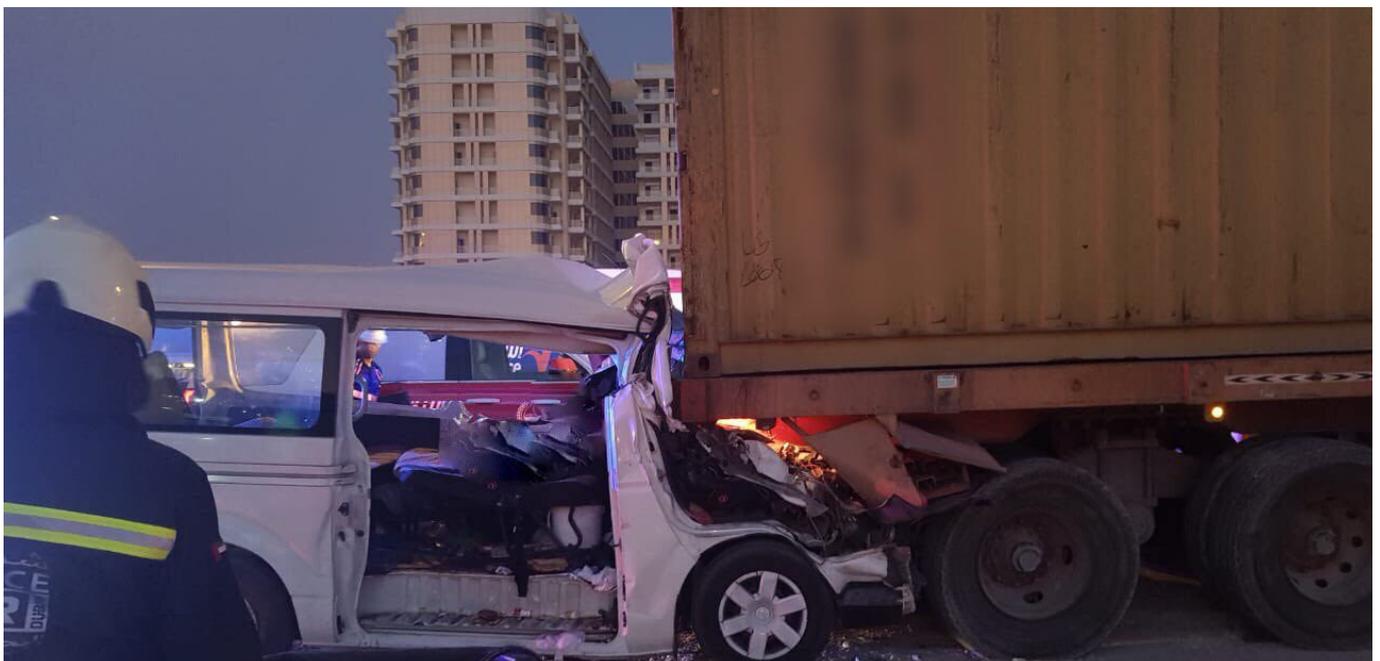
The bus driver and seven passengers died on the scene while two passengers sustained serious injuries and four others sustained mild injuries, all were taken to Rashid Hospital. The crash victims are all Asian nationals.

– Dubai Police شرطة دبي (@DubaiPoliceHQ) [September 30, 2019](#)

The road remained open while emergency services attended the scene, although traffic congestion caused delays in the area.

An investigation is underway in to what caused the road smash to happen.

Earlier this year, the UAE called for total ban on minibuses by 2023, amid concerns over their safety.



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[NGO accuses Israel of torturing Palestinian bombing suspect](#)

Author:

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Sun, 2019-09-29 14:51

JERUSALEM: An NGO accused Israeli security forces Sunday of torturing a Palestinian arrested on suspicion of leading a cell allegedly behind a West Bank bomb attack that killed an Israeli teenager.

Israeli police and the Shin Bet domestic security agency said late Saturday they had arrested three members of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine several weeks ago for the August 23 bombing.

The explosion near a spring close to the Jewish settlement of Dolev, northeast of Ramallah in the occupied West Bank, killed 17-year-old Rina Shnerb and wounded her father and brother.

Shin Bet identified the cell leader as Samer al Arbeed. It said the cell "was preparing other attacks when the arrests occurred, notably gun attacks and a kidnapping."

On Sunday, Palestinian prisoner support group Addameer said that Arbeed was hospitalized after suffering a "serious health deterioration due to torture and ill-treatment during interrogations."

According to a statement by Addameer, Arbeed was "harshly beaten" by the Israeli police who arrested him.

Shin Bet investigators "continued using torture and ill-treatment," the NGO alleged.

Arbeed suffered several broken ribs as well as "severe kidney failure," according to his lawyer, cited by Addameer.

Both Shin Bet and Addameer gave Arbeed's age as 44.

Police refused to comment on the nature of Arbeed's arrest, while the Shin Bet said that during his interrogation he said "he did not feel well."

"In accordance with procedures, he was transferred to medical examination and care at a hospital," the security agency said in a statement.

Shin Bet refused to provide further details since "the investigation of the terror cell was still ongoing."

Following Addameer's statement, Palestinian health minister Mai Al-Kaila appealed to international organizations to "intervene to save the prisoner." The Palestinian Prisoners Club called the incident "a crime authorized (by the Israeli) judiciary."



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Palestinian President Abbas calls for renewed peace negotiations with Israel Netanyahu, Gantz trade blame over breakdown in Israel coalition talks

[Turkey downs unidentified drone on Syria border: defense ministry](#)

Author:

Sun, 2019-09-29 19:40

ISTANBUL: Turkey's air force on Sunday shot down an unidentified drone on the Syrian border after it breached Turkish air space six times, the defense ministry said.

"An unmanned aerial vehicle which violated our air space six times (on Saturday)... was downed by two of our F-16s which took off from Incirlik" air base in southern Turkey, the defense ministry said, sharing pictures of the downed drone.

The ministry said it was not known who the drone belonged to but said it was grounded at 1.24 p.m. local time.

"The wreck of the drone was found at the Cildiroba base" by the Turkish gendarmerie in the Kilis province near the Syrian border, the ministry said. The Turkish air force shot down a Russian Su-24, aircraft, in the Turkey-Syria border area in 2015, sparking an unprecedented crisis in the two countries' relations.

That was condemned by Russian President Vladimir Putin as a "stab in the back" but the two countries later reconciled and worked together on the Syrian crisis although they remain on opposite sides of the conflict.

Turkey backs rebels seeking the ouster of President Bashar Assad while Moscow is one of the few remaining allies of the regime in Damascus.



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Turkey unveils safe zone rebuilding project amid criticismUS, Turkey stage joint patrols in northeast Syria

Al-Azhar launches child abuse campaign after young girl's death sparks outrage in Egypt

Sun, 2019-09-29 19:10

CAIRO: The case of a four-year-old girl tortured to death by her grandmother has triggered widespread anger in Egypt.

Reports said Jana, who lived in a village in Mansoura province, died on Saturday, days after she was admitted to hospital with severe burns.

The case has sparked outcry and drawn attention to the levels of child abuse in Egypt.

The police report said Jana was tortured using an iron "by her maternal grandmother" who inflicted burns on her body that led to blood poisoning, a severe drop in blood circulation and collapse of her respiratory systems, Al-Masry Al-Youm newspaper reported.

Her injuries were so severe that her leg had to be amputated three days before her death. The girl's aunt claimed in police investigations that Jana told her that the grandmother had burnt her around the genitalia.

The grandmother, now in police custody, denies the allegations, the reports said.

Sheikh Ahmed Al-Tayeb, the Grand Imam of Al-Azhar, said he had been deeply hurt to hear of the "brutal crime committed against the innocent girl Jana."

"What she experienced from torture and burning is a humanitarian disaster by all means."

In response, Al-Azhar, the top Sunni Muslim authority, is launching a campaign on Monday against child abuse and domestic violence. The awareness campaign aims to revive the importance of kindness towards children.



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Egypt court asks Grand Mufti for opinion on terror case sentences
Australia's Cardinal Pell sued for alleged child abuse in 1970s

[Egypt kills 15 militants in North Sinai shootout: ministry](#)

Author:

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1569758243033123700

Sun, 2019-09-29 11:52

CAIRO: Egyptian security forces have killed 15 suspected militants in a shootout in restive north Sinai, the interior ministry said Sunday. A militant group was "planning hostile acts targeting military and police forces...in order to destabilize national security," the ministry said in a statement.

It did not name a specific group, but said "terrorist elements" had been

hiding in a farm in El-Arish, the capital of North Sinai province. When forces approached, “the militants shot live rounds forcing troops to deal with them (and) leading to 15 deaths.” Graphic pictures of the bodies of the alleged militants were sent along with the Sunday press release. Authorities also said they found a small trove of stashed weapons including an explosive belt, several rifles and an explosive device. The ministry did not specify when the reported shootout took place, but Sunday’s announcement follows recent military operations in Sinai that authorities say killed 118 suspected militants. Nine soldiers were killed and one wounded in those “counter-terrorism” operations, a military statement said on Friday. President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi paid tribute to the dead personnel in a series of tweets late Friday, describing “terrorism” as a “cancer still trying to kidnap the nation.” In February 2018, Egypt’s military launched a nationwide offensive against extremist militants, focused mainly on North Sinai, where Daesh still has a significant presence. Some 665 suspected militants and around 60 soldiers have been killed since, according to official figures.



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