

'Sentence me on Sunday please'

A drug suspect, who wanted a speedy judgement after the weekend, ended up facing four years in jail

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Dubai: A drug suspect, who wanted a speedy judgement after the weekend, ended up facing four years in jail since his first appearance in court yesterday.

"I'm guilty of possessing and consuming drugs. I want a quick judgment, yet not today because it's a holiday. Your honour, please sentence me on Sunday," said the 23-year-old Emirati soldier while defending himself before Presiding Judge Hamad Abdul Latif Abdul Jawad.

Charges

Prosecutors charged the suspect, O.D., of possessing 8.8 grammes of hashish and half an amphetamine pill and consuming a mind-affecting substance, tetrahydrocannabinol.

When Presiding Judge Abdul Jawad meted out the drug charges against O.D. in courtroom four of the Dubai Court of First Instance's, the man said: "I'm guilty, I possessed and consumed drugs."

Quick ruling

When asked by the judge about what he wanted from the court, O.D. said he wanted quick ruling.

"How about sentencing you today?" the judge asked. The defendant replied: "No... sentence me on Sunday because today is a holiday."

However the judge replied "The verdict is at the end of the hearing."

Towards the end, Presiding Judge Abdul Jawad sentenced O.D. four years in jail.

An Emirati anti-narcotics second lieutenant testified that an informant had alerted them that O.D. was taking drugs in his vehicle in Al Qusais. Police raided his car and seized the drugs in his possession.

Thursday's ruling remains subject to appeal within 15 days.

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