

Driver could face death after pleading guilty to drug charges

Man says he possessed 2kg heroin he intended to export

- By Bassam Za'za' Senior Reporter
- Published: 00:00 December 30, 2010



Dubai: A driver confessed in court on Wednesday to possessing 2 kilos of heroin capsules he had intended to export.

Drug prosecutors accused the 29-year-old Pakistani driver with possessing 157 capsules of heroin for promotional purposes.

"I am guilty. I did possess drugs," admitted 29-year-old F.K. when he confessed to his charges before the Dubai Court of First Instance yesterday.

When asked by Presiding Judge Dr Ali Al Galadari whether he could afford hiring a lawyer, F.K. said: "I cannot do so... I plead the court for mercy."

According to the charge sheet, prosecutors said the defendant possessed 117 capsules weighing 879g and 140 capsules weighing 1.123 kilos of heroin.

Chief Prosecutor Waleed Ali Khalifa Al Fuqaie, head of Drugs Prosecution, asked the court to implement the toughest punishment available — death — against the defendant.

An Emirati anti-narcotics police first lieutenant testified that an informant alerted Dubai Police's Anti-narcotics Department about the suspect's intention to hand the drugs to a person for export.

"When I questioned him, the driver alleged that a Pakistani person phoned him from Kuwait and asked him to collect the drugs from certain people...

"Then he was supposed to wait for instructions," he said.

Presiding Judge Dr Al Galadari adjourned the case to January 26.

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