

# Trucks banned from UAE's highways during fog

Accidents blamed on poor visibility and recklessness

- By Iman Sherif, Staff Reporter
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Abu Dhabi: Trucks are banned from highways during heavy fog, a senior police official said.

The announcement came on the heels of several road accidents that took place on Sunday morning due to poor visibility and recklessness on the part of some motorists, police said.

Two people were killed and 15 sustained injuries in separate road accidents that took place on several main and internal roads in Abu Dhabi due to low visibility and heavy fog at dawn.

Injuries ranged between moderate to serious. Various teams in Abu Dhabi police rushed to the scene to rescue the injured, offer medical care and transfer them to hospitals for further care.

Two people died in a multi-vehicle crash that involved 18 vehicles on the Tarif - Abu Dhabi road, after Hamim Bridge towards Abu Dhabi. Two others sustained severe injuries and nine sustained minor injuries in the same accident. All the injured were rushed to Al Mafraq hospital while those with minor injuries were discharged after being assessed by physicians.

"According to preliminary police report, the accident was caused by a vehicle recklessly exiting the highway without paying attention to traffic in the adjacent lane. This led to the accident that caused a chain reaction of 18 vehicles," said Brigadier Hussain Ahmad Al Harthy, Director of Abu Dhabi Police's Traffic and Patrol Department.

Police patrols took preventive measures to avoid occurrence of more accidents. Police cleared the debris from the road and immediately issued a weather warning through live broadcast stations.

Brigadier Al Harthy said that many other accidents occurred due to poor visibility.

A six-vehicle crash took place before Al Inmaa bridge, another multi-vehicles crash took place at the Maqtaa bridge and one before Umm Al Nar bridge towards the city where a lane was closed down to clear the road debris.

## **Traffic safety guidelines**

If driving in foggy conditions follow these guidelines for your safety.

- Take your time. It is better to get to your destination late than suffer a personal injury from an accident.
- Use your fog lights. Fog lights allow for better visibility during foggy conditions and will help you see the cars ahead of you.
- Drive with extreme caution. Drive slower than you usually do and allow for a greater distance between you and the cars ahead of you to avoid getting into an accident.

## **Dubai bypass road: One dies in truck crash**

One person was killed and four others were injured in a three truck collision on Dubai Bypass road on Saturday, Police said.

The accident which occurred at 12:30pm on Dubai Bypass road behind Global village heading to Dubai resulted in the death of a 35-year-old Pakistani truck driver who was under a parked truck attempting to fix it, and the injury of four other compatriots.

"The parked truck was being fixed by the truck driver, he hadn't used precautionary measures such as using hazard lights or the sign indicating the truck was down. Another speeding truck lost control and hit the parked truck, killing the driver who was under the truck instantly and injuring his partner who was inside the truck," said Captain Mohammad Ibrahim, Head of the Difficult Tasks Section in the Rescue Department at Dubai Police.

According to Police sources, the parked truck hit another truck ahead of it injuring two more individuals. Two suffered from moderate injuries while the other two suffered from severe injuries as confirmed by Police sources.