

Visitor gets one year for stealing investor's Dh1m

Suspect denies being caught by the surveillance camera.

- By Bassam Za'za', Senior Reporter
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Dubai: An Ethiopian visitor faces one year in jail after a court convicted him of stealing an investor's Dh1 million although he waved a flag in court claiming he is innocent.

The Dubai Court of First Instance on Tuesday convicted the 25-year-old visitor, D.E., of robbing an Iraqi investor of a bag containing nearly Dh1 million and his mobile phone.

The defendant had pleaded not guilty and during an earlier hearing he waved a cloth on which he had written his defence in English and drawn UAE and Ethiopian flags.

Pronouncing yesterday's judgment, Presiding Judge Al Saeed Mohammad Barghout said the defendant will be deported after the completion of his punishment.

D.E. had walked into the dock of courtroom four wearing a white T-shirt, which carried handwritten words in red and green. He defended that he didn't steal and that he was not the suspect recorded on the surveillance cameras' footage, as claimed by prosecutors.

Some excerpts of his defence which he wrote on his T-shirt read "I am not guilty". The handwritten message on the T-shirt also read: "I am suffering emotionally and physically inside prison. I have been detained since April 15 and have been suffering since."

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