

# Wife acquitted of forging marriage papers

Court clears 28-year-old woman of forging a marriage contract

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Dubai: A court on Wednesday acquitted an Egyptian woman of forging a marriage contract in her country and using it before a sharia court in Dubai.

The Dubai Court of First Instance cleared the 28-year-old woman, A.A., of forging a marriage contract [issued in her country] and using it before a sharia judge in Dubai Courts.

“I didn’t forge the marriage contract,” argued A.A. when she defended herself in court.

Prosecutors said A.A. used the forged marriage contract before a Dubai Sharia Court’s judge as part of her lawsuit against an Emirati man to prove that he is the father of her baby.

Presiding Judge Fahmi Mounir Fahmi also dismissed the civil claim of Dh20,000 in temporary compensation lodged by the 31-year-old Emirati man against A.A.

The man claimed to prosecutors: “Two months after we married, A.A. claimed to me that she was two-month pregnant. I denied being the father to that baby. So she lodged a sharia lawsuit, before the Dubai Courts, against me to prove my fatherhood... she handed the court what she claimed to be a marriage contract issued from Egypt.

“The contract bore a date different than that of our official marriage date. I was not involved in that contract and I had not flown to Egypt or authorized anyone to sign on my behalf on the contract in question. We married in Sharjah and the contract was authenticated in Sharjah Sharia Court.”

According to prosecution records, A.A. claimed that her nephew was a witness to her marriage contract in Egypt. Meanwhile the nephew countered her claims and alleged that his aunt [A.A.] is married to a Pakistani person.

Wednesday’s judgment remains subject to appeal within 15 days.