



## **UAE storm claims four lives, disrupts flight schedules**

**Dubai, 20 April 2024, (GNP):** Recent heavy rains in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) resulted in four fatalities, as authorities confirmed, along with reports of flooded roads and disruptions at Dubai's international airport. Originating in Oman over the weekend, the storm inflicted substantial damage, claiming at least 20 lives, before reaching the UAE on Tuesday with record-breaking rainfall spanning 75 years of recorded data.

Among the casualties were two Philippine women, and two men, one of whom was in his 70s who lost their lives in vehicle-related incidents during the flooding, as reported by the government in Manila. Scientists attribute such extreme weather events to human-induced global warming.

Dubai International Airport, a critical transportation hub, encountered operational challenges following the storm, resulting in a backlog of flights lasting three days. Arrival restrictions were in effect for two days until Sunday, impacting numerous travelers. Emirates, a major international airline, suspended check-in for transit passengers via Dubai while maintaining operations for passengers with the city as their final destination.

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<https://apnews.com/article/uae-oman-rains-flooding-fatalities-7bf3881efbea998dfa4c1ed8d538217c>

Flight disruptions persisted, with approximately 30% of all flights to and from Dubai canceled since Tuesday, as reported by aircraft flight tracking website FlightRadar24. However, flight operations returned to normal in the UAE capital, Abu Dhabi, according to state carrier Etihad.

In affected areas such as Dubai and Sharjah, residents faced challenges including partially closed main roads and reports of individuals trapped in homes. Local media highlighted extensive damage to businesses. Although uncommon, the UAE experienced unusual rainfall, contrasting its typical hot desert climate known for soaring temperatures exceeding 50 degrees Celsius in summer.

The UAE's National Center of Meteorology cautioned of potential light rain by late Monday, with a chance of heavier rainfall in some areas on Tuesday.

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