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Beware of new type of car fraud in UAE

ABU DHABI

BY ALI AL HAMMADI

ooking to sell your car? Be wary as fraudsters ✓are using new tricks to dupe residents.

The fresh warning came from Abu Dhabi Police, who have asked car owners to be vigilant against online offers to buy their vehicle in

Officials urged motorists not to part with their car until they have received the payment in full, verified the identity of the buyer and completed the required paperwork.

Some drivers posting their ad or announcement to sell their car on the internet, on social media mostly, have been contacted by criminals pretending to be interested buyers.

After inquiring about the car's details online and negotiating, they finalise the

buyer shows a screenshot or a receipt indicating that the money has left his or her account. Due to the pause in banking transactions - because of the weekend of some other public holiday - the transfer will be completed once the bank resumes normal business operations, the fraudsters claim.

FULL REPORT ON P3

Iran mourns president Raisi's death in helicopter crash

KHAMENEI ASSIGNS VICE-PRESIDENT MOKHBER TO ASSUME INTERIM DUTIES

TEHRAN

ranian president Ebrahim Raisi was confirmed dead yesterday after search and rescue teams found his crashed helicopter in a fog-shrouded western mountain region, sparking mourning in the Islamic republic.

Killed alongside Raisi were Foreign Minster Hossein Amir-Abdollahian and seven others, including the pilot, bodyguards and political and religious officials.

Supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who has ultimate authority in Iran, declared five days of mourning and assigned vice-president Mohammad Mokhber, 68, to assume interim duties ahead of elections within

UAE offers condolences

President His Highness Shaikh Mohammad Bin Zayed Al Nahyan yesterday expressed condolences to the Iranian government and people following the death of Raisi and Abdollahian.

His Highness Shaikh Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Mak-Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, also extended his condolences and sincere sympathy to the Iranian people and their leadership.

Earlier yesterday, state TV



 Rescue team members work at the crash site of a helicopter carrying Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi in Varzaghan, in northwestern Iran. Raisi (inset) was declared dead yesterday.

announced that "the servant of the Iranian nation, Ayatollah Ebrahim Raisi, has achieved the highest level of martyrdom" and broadcast pictures from Raisi's life as a voice recited the

Raisi, 63, had been in office since 2021, during a time that has seen Iran rocked by

mass protests, economic crisis deepened by US sanctions, and armed exchanges with arch enemy Israel.

Condolences flooded in from Palestinian militant group Hamas, Lebanon's Hezbollah and from Svria.

Khamenei had urged Iranians on Sunday, as the search

was still ongoing, to "not worry" about the leadership of the Islamic republic, saying "there will be no disruption in the country's work".

Iran's top nuclear negotiator Ali Bagheri was appointed as acting foreign minister.

SPECIAL REPORT P11

NATION

Sharjah leads book donation for disadvantaged children | P6

MIDDLE EAST

Battles rage as air strikes. and shelling hit Gaza's north and Rafah | P10

WORLD

Family in Himalayas gets own polling station as



BUSINESS

Al Maktoum International Airport project spurs realty growth | P8

Israel, Hamas reject bid before ICC to arrest leaders for war crimes

Warrants would mean ICC member states would be obliged to arrest Netanyahu

RAFAH

srael and Hamas yesterday both angrily rejected moves Lto arrest their leaders for war crimes made before an international court as heavy fighting raged on in the Gaza Strip.

The International Criminal Court's prosecutor Karim Khan said he had applied for arrest warrants against top Israeli and Hamas leaders over the bloody conflict.

Israel slammed as a "historical disgrace" the demand targeting Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defence Minister Yoav Gallant, while the Palestinian militant group Hamas said it "strongly condemns" the move.

Khan said in a statement that he was seeking warrants against the Israeli leaders for crimes including "wilful killing", "extermination and/or murder" and "starvation".

He also said that the lead-

International law and the laws of armed conflict apply to all. No foot soldier. no commander, no civilian leader — no one — can act with impunity."

Karim Khan

ers of Hamas, including Qatar-based Ismail Haniyeh and Gaza chief Yahya Sinwar, "bear criminal responsibility" for actions committed during the October 7 attack.

These included "taking hostages", "rape and other acts of sexual violence" and "torture", Khan added.

"International law and the laws of armed conflict apply to all," he added. "No foot soldier, no commander, no civilian leader — no one — can act with impunity."

If granted by the ICC judges, the warrants would mean that technically any of the 124 ICC member states would be obliged to arrest Netanyahu and the others if they travelled there, but the court has no mechanism to enforce its -AFP

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