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## Canada turns away more foreigners

**DUBAI**  
BY STEPHEN N.R.  
Senior Associate Editor

Canada is further tightening its immigration policies by issuing fewer visas and turning away more individuals who arrive at its borders with official documents, according to a Reuters report.

The increase in rejections comes as Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's Liberal government seeks to reduce the influx of temporary residents and potentially permanent immigrants.

Border officers in Canada turned away an average of 3,727 foreign travellers per month during the first seven months of 2024, marking a 20 per cent increase of 633 people compared to the previous year. In July alone, officers deemed 285 visa-holders inadmissible, the highest monthly figure since at least January 2019.

Data from January, February, May, and June 2024 indicates that more applications were refused than approved. The number of approved study and work permits also fell from the record highs of 2023 and 2022.



WAM

Volunteers from UAE's Operation Chivalrous Knight 3 administer polio vaccine drops to children in Gaza as part of the urgent vaccination campaign rolled out by the UAE.

## UAE launches Gaza polio vaccination drive

**DUBAI**  
BY FAISAL MASUDI  
Assistant Editor

Bringing hope to the children of Gaza, the UAE has launched an urgent polio vaccination campaign, in line with the directives of President His Highness Sheikh Mohammad Bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

The undertaking plans to reach 90 per cent of the chil-

dren (amounting to 640,000 children) in the Strip, as a defence against the spread of polio.

The drive began on Sunday in central Gaza, in collaboration with the World Health Organisation, Unicef, and UNRWA. It will gradually move to the south and north of Gaza, the Emirates News Agency, WAM, reported yesterday.

Volunteers from Opera-

tion Chivalrous Knight 3 – the UAE's humanitarian mission in Gaza – played a key role in organising and supporting vaccination points.

Amid significant challenges in Gaza, including population displacement and the deterioration of health systems and water and sanitation networks, this campaign is a critical response to prevent the spread of epidemics and protect future generations.

## Bangladeshi rioters in UAE pardoned

57 EXPATS HAD BEEN SLAPPED WITH  
JAIL TERMS AND DEPORTATION ORDERS

**ABU DHABI**  
BY KHITAM AL AMIR  
Chief News Editor

President His Highness Sheikh Mohammad Bin Zayed Al Nahyan has ordered a pardon for the Bangladeshi nationals involved in protests and disturbances across several emirates in July. The decision includes cancelling the sentences of those convicted and arranging for their deportation, according to WAM.

In line with Shaikh Mohammad's directive, Chancellor Dr. Hamad Al Shamsi, UAE Attorney-General, has issued an order to halt the implementation of the sentences and commence deportation procedures.

The Attorney-General also called on all residents of the UAE to respect the country's laws, stressing that the right to express opinions is protected

by the state and its legal framework. He highlighted that the state provides lawful means for expressing views, ensuring this right does not turn into actions that could harm the interests of the nation and its people.

### Court judgement

The Abu Dhabi Federal Court of Appeal July 21 sentenced 57 Bangladeshis, who gathered and incited riots in several streets across the UAE. The court sentenced three of the accused to life imprisonment for calling for demonstrations and inciting riots to pressure their home government.

Another 53 defendants received ten-year prison terms, with one, who entered the country illegally and participated in the riot, being sentenced to eleven years. The court had also ordered their deportation at the end of their prison terms and the confiscation of all seized devices.

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