

# Dubai Police want ban on road parades by motorists

Celebrations going overboard do more harm than good, says Dubai Police official

- By Sara Janahi, Staff Reporter
- Published: 00:00 December 8, 2010



Dubai: Police are suggesting that motorists be banned from staging celebratory road parades because of the hazardous behaviour of some participants.

"We will raise a request to the Dubai Police Chief to ban road parade celebrations that have done more harm than good. In the light of the recent National Day road parades, we noticed that some of the celebrating members of the parade have committed many acts which can be hazardous or distressing," Major General Mohammad Saif Al Zafein, Director of the General Traffic Department at Dubai Police, said at a press conference on Tuesday.

## Noise pollution

Dubai Police issued 661 fines during the National Day celebration. Some fines were issued to motorists in absentia.

All the fines were issued on December 2 and 3 between 10pm and 4am, with all of these fines issued on Jumeirah, Al Mamzar and Al Dhiyafa roads.

"We are considering banning the parades for several reasons. One is the havoc these road parades cause, second is the air and noise pollution that disturbs many of the residents and of course the littering left behind after these parades. The third reason is many people's lives were endangered by some of the reckless acts done in the name of the celebration," Maj Gen Al Zafein said.

Police statistics reveal that among the fines issued during the parades, 145 were issued for obstructing traffic, 108 for causing noise, 91 for over-decorating vehicles, 124 for driving in a dangerous and reckless manner that endangers lives and 37 for littering.

## Nuisance to residents

"The road parades have become such a nuisance to the residents and other users of the road. The parades obstruct traffic for hours, create pollution and endanger lives.

"I don't object to celebrating a festive occasion, but it should be done in a civil manner... If road parades were done in a civil manner without the dangerous acts done by some of the youth we wouldn't raise such a suggestion," Maj Gen Al Zafein said.

Dubai Police also reported impoundment of 147 vehicles for reckless or dangerous driving, over-decorating of vehicles and other offences.

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