

# Student insists in court he never assaulted teen

17-year-old schoolgirl claims she was kidnapped and raped.

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Dubai: An Emirati student denied in court yesterday the charge of tricking a compatriot teenager by claiming that he wanted to delete her pictures from his mobile phone before raping her.

"I didn't kidnap or rape her. That didn't happen," argued the 20-year-old student, M.S., when he pleaded not guilty before the Dubai Court of First Instance.

Prosecutors accused M.S. and another suspect [who later died, and the cause of his death is not mentioned in the prosecution records] of kidnapping the 17-year-old schoolgirl by deceiving her with an assurance that they would delete her photos from the mobile phone.

Prosecution records said the late suspect and M.S. forcibly prevented the girl from leaving the car and M.S. later raped her in his house.

"I cannot afford hiring a lawyer," contended M.S. when he addressed Presiding Judge Fahmi Mounir. The judge adjourned the case until a lawyer is assigned to defend M.S.

The schoolgirl alleged that M.S. kidnapped her after the late suspect tricked and convinced her that he would erase her photos from the mobile phone.

"I met them in front of a library wanting to erase the photos myself... they forced me into the car. Then they drove to M.S.'s house where he raped me," the girl claimed to prosecutors.

An Emirati employee testified that he met the girl at Dubai Festival City where she allegedly told him that she had been kidnapped and raped by someone.

"She claimed that she was raped and the rapists dropped her at the mall and that they were watching her," claimed the employee.