

Hearing of 142 witnesses in the case of the Aqaba port explosion



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Khaberni - The judicial body concerned with examining the incident of the fall of a tank loaded with chlorine gas in the main port of the city of Aqaba at the Aqaba Criminal Court, headed by Judge Munawar al-Sarayrah, has finished hearing the 142 witnesses of the Public Prosecution Office in the case.

The court has held successive weekly sessions since the case was transferred to it on July 18, and referred 86 of the accident victims to the forensic doctor out of 142 people who were injured in the accident. They are notified officially and according to the law by the court.

Some of the injured said in their testimony to the court that they did not wish to file a complaint or pursue it, noting that 12 injured people of Vietnamese and Chinese nationalities were not re-examined because they left Jordan.

The Aqaba port incident dates back to June 27, when a tank loaded with chlorine gas, which was exported to the state of Djibouti, fell on one of the ships, and its fall led to its explosion, resulting in the death of 13 people, including 8 Jordanians and 5 of Vietnamese nationality.

The Aqaba Public Prosecutor investigated the incident and it was referred to the court and seven charges were filed against 11 people, namely causing death in violation of the provisions of Article 343 of the Penal Code repeated 13 times, causing harm in violation of the provisions of Article 344 of the Penal Code repeated 142 times, and causing damage to the money of others contrary to the provisions of Article 445 of the Penal Code repeated 142 times. The Penal Code and neglect of job duties, contrary to the provisions of Article 183/2 of the Penal Code and in the context of Articles 4, 5 and 9 of the Economic Crimes Law.

The charges against the defendants in the case included violating the provisions of Article 9/b of the Hazardous Materials and Waste Management System No. 68 of 2020 issued under the Environment Protection Law, and not providing an appropriate environment to protect workers from various physical, chemical and biological occupational hazards, contrary to the provisions of Article 66/q of the Protection System. environment in the Aqaba Special Economic Zone No. 21 of 2001, and the leakage of harmful chemical substances to the terrestrial and marine environment in violation of the provisions of Article 67/a of the Environmental Protection Law No. 21 of 2001.

The government formed a team headed by Interior Minister Mazen Al-Faraya. To investigate the accident, which concluded that the main cause of the accident was the inadequacy of the capacity of the metal wire of the crane with the weight of the container load.