

Johnson hints he considered resigning | Shanghai lifts

owed to my children and to all those who have remained steadfast in their support of me. I feel at peace knowing I have finally accomplished that," he said.

Heard said she was disappointed "beyond words".

"I'm heartbroken that the mountain of evidence still was not enough to stand up to the disproportionate power, influence, and sway of my ex-husband," she said.

"I'm even more disappointed with what this verdict means for other women. It is a setback. It sets back the clock to a time

when a woman who spoke up and spoke out could be publicly shamed and humiliated. It sets back the idea that violence against women is to be taken seriously."

Depp, the 58-year-old Pirates of the Caribbean star, had sued Heard for \$50 million and argued that she defamed him when she called herself "a public figure representing domestic abuse" in a newspaper opinion piece.

Heard (36) countersued for

she was the one who turned violent in their relationship.

Depp and Heard met in 2011 while filming The Rum Diary and wed in February 2015. Their divorce was finalised about two years later.

Opinion piece

At the centre of the legal case is a December 2018 opinion piece by Heard in the Washington Post in which she made the statement about domestic abuse. The article did not mention Depp by name but his lawyer told jurors it was clear that

regardless of the outcome

Heard was referring to him.

During six weeks of testimony, Heard's attorneys argued that she had told the truth and that her comments were covered as free speech under the US constitution's first amendment. Throughout the case, jurors listened to recordings of the couple's fights and saw graphic photographs of Depp's bloody finger. He said the top of

her finger was injured, but she said she struck him only to defend herself or her sister.

Testimony was livestreamed widely on social media, drawing large audiences to hear details about the couple's troubled relationship.

Once among Hollywood's biggest stars, Depp said Heard's allegations cost him "everything". A new Pirates movie was put on hold and Depp was replaced in the Fantastic Beasts film franchise, a Harry Potter spinoff.

Depp lost a libel case less

Aid agencies call for extension of Yemen ceasefire

MICHAEL JANSEN

Three dozen relief agencies working in Yemen have appealed to the warring sides to maintain the two-month ceasefire which expired last night.

Oxfam's Yemen director Ferran Puig said the pause in fighting has created a "long overdue sense of hope that we can break the cycle of violence and suffering in Yemen". He urged the parties to seize the opportunity "to extend the truce and push for a lasting peace if we are to avert the risk of millions of Yemenis being forced into acute hunger".

Efforts by UN envoy Hans Grundberg to renew the truce and resume negotiations have not been fruitful although aerial bombing and ground operations have been reduced and confidence-building measures have been implemented.

The Saudis have allowed fuel deliveries from blockaded Hodeida port to Houthi-held areas and permitted flights carrying 1,077 passengers between Houthi-controlled Sanaa's airport and Amman and, from yesterday, Cairo.

Drone attacks

The Houthis have halted cross-border missile and drone attacks on Saudi Arabia and the Emirates but have not lifted the siege of government forces at Taiz, Yemen's third largest city.

The UN has warned that 23.4 million of the 30 million

Yemenis face hunger this year, including 160,000 who could suffer from "famine-like conditions". The UN also estimates that as of the end of last year, 377,000 Yemenis have died due to the war which has precipitated the world's worst humanitarian crisis.

While the conflict in Ukraine has sent global fuel and grain prices soaring, UN agencies have received from donors less than one-third of the \$4.3 billion required to meet Yemen's existential needs for this year. An importer of 90 per cent of its food, Yemen relies on Ukraine for 42 per cent of its wheat. Bread is the staple food for all Yemeni families, rich or poor.

Truce

The country-wide truce, the first in six years, began on April 2nd during the Muslim fasting month of Ramadan when warfare is meant to cease.

Sunni Saudi Arabia and the Emirates intervened militarily in Yemen in March 2015 to restore to power president Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi, who was elected interim president in an uncontested poll following the resignation of president Ali Abdullah Saleh during Yemen's 2011 uprising.

Mr Hadi was driven into exile by Shia Houthi tribesmen who accused him of marginalising them politically and denying them their share in oil revenues.

Killing of sisters puts Spain's immigrant system under scrutiny

GUY HEDGECOE

The killing, apparently at the hands of members of their own family, of two Pakistani sisters who lived in Catalonia has shaken Spanish society and raised questions about its ability to integrate immigrants.

Arooj Abbas (24) and her sister Aneesa (21), who lived in Terrassa, near Barcelona, were both killed a day after returning to their family's village in northern Pakistan last month, after a dispute over their marriages. Pakistani police arrested six men in connection with the deaths, including their husbands, two brothers and an uncle.

Police believe the two sisters were lured back to the country under false pretences after members of the family there discovered that both women wanted to separate from the two cousins they had married years earlier and who remained in Pakistan. Arooj was shot dead and Aneesa was strangled, according to forensic sources cited by Pakistani news site Dawn.

Azra Bibi, the mother of the two victims who was present when they were killed, returned to Spain on Sunday with her youngest son, a minor who was not connected with the crime. Her estranged husband, Ghulam Abbas, who lives in Terrassa, said: "I have two dead daughters and two sons in prison. I don't know what to think."

Arooj and Aneesa both moved to Spain several years ago, leaving behind their husbands and living with their fa-



■ Sisters Arooj Abbas and Aneesa Abbas.

PHOTOGRAPH: EFE/PUNJAB POLICE

ther and brother Shehryar, who is one of those who has been arrested. The strict and controlling behaviour of their male relatives and their determination to have relationships with other men caused them to leave the flat several months ago, according to reports.

Forced marriages have been illegal in Spain since 2015, although police have investigated approximately 30 such unions since then, according to the interior ministry.

Forced unions

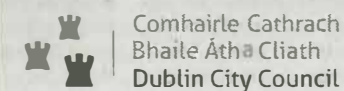
Whether the two victims' marriages were forced is not clear. However, the case of Arooj and Aneesa Abbas appears to have prompted other girls and women in Spain who faced arranged or forced unions to approach the authorities. Among them was a Bangladeshi girl due to be married in her home country who went to the police in Barcelona and is now in the care of the Catalan regional government.

There are 99,000 Pakistanis living in Spain, half of who are in the province of Barcelona. *El País* newspaper said the double-murder case showed "the rise in coexistence of Spanish society with immigrant families from countries where women's rights do not exist, or barely have any kind of judicial or institutional support". It added that Spanish institutions need to "detect situations of moral and social asphyxia where male members of a family leave girls unprotected by the rule of law".

This case comes just as Spain has moved to broaden women's rights in several areas. Last month, the government approved a draft bill to ease abortion restrictions and provide paid leave for women suffering severe period pains. Last week, congress approved a law which seeks to ensure any non-consensual sexual encounter can be deemed assault.

Meanwhile, gender violence remains high on the political agenda, with 18 women being killed by their partner or ex-partner in Spain so far this year.

Political commentator Josep Martí Blanch accused politicians of being scared to wade into the Terrassa murder case, because they were fearful of being deemed racist. However, he warned that Spain's progressive social agenda meant that "the communities who live on the margins appear to be getting further and further away from us in the rear-view mirror".



PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT ACT, 2000, AS AMENDED

NOTICE OF DIRECT PLANNING APPLICATION TO AN BORD PLEANÁLA

Dublin City Council intends to seek the approval of An Bord Pleanála, in accordance with Section 226 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, for the Grand Canal Storm Water Outfall Extension comprising the construction of pipework, transition chambers, floating platforms and new outfall structure to the River Liffey, including all ancillary site works. The proposed development will reroute the existing stormwater discharge point from the Grand Canal Dock Basin into the River Liffey.

The proposed works will take place within the designated North Lotts and Grand Canal Dock Strategic Development Zone in Grand Canal Docks Basin and Grand Canal Quay, extending through Hanover Quay to tie-in with an existing culvert on Asgard Road, before connecting with a new section of pipeline and outfall at Sir John Rogerson's Quay on the River Liffey, Dublin 2. The proposed development consists of or comprises the carrying out of works to a protected structure (RPS 7542) under the Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022 and proposed protected structures (RPS 8844 and 8847) under the Draft Dublin City Development Plan 2022-2028.

The proposed development will operate pursuant to a Foreshore Licence which will be applied for separately. The project will be constructed in the Ringsend Agglomeration area licenced under the Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) (WWDA) Regulations 2007 (Licence D0034-01). This application relates to a proposed development which requires a review of the existing WWDA Licence.

An Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and Natura Impact Statement (NIS) have been prepared in respect of the proposed development and will be submitted to the Planning Authority with the application.

This application for approval, EIAR and NIS will be available for inspection free of charge, or may be purchased on payment of a specified fee (which fee shall not exceed the reasonable cost of making such a copy) during the public opening hours excluding Bank Holidays, from 14th June 2022 to 26th July 2022 (inclusive of both dates) at the following locations:

- The Offices of An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1, D01 V902 (9:15am – 5:30pm);
- Dublin City Council, Civic Offices, Wood Quay, Dublin 8, D08 RF3F (9:00am – 4:30pm).

The application plans and particulars, EIAR and NIS may also be viewed at or downloaded from the following website: www.dublincity.ie/GrandCanalOutfall

Submissions or observations may be made in writing only to An Bord Pleanála ("the Board"), 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 in respect of:

- (i) The implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development;
- (ii) The likely effects on the environment of the proposed development; and,
- (iii) The likely significant effects of the proposed development on a European Site, if carried out.

Any submissions / observations must be accompanied by a fee of €50 (except for certain prescribed bodies) and must be received not later than 5:30pm on 26th July 2022 and must include the following information:

1. The name of the person making the submission or observation, the name of the person acting on his or her behalf, if any, and the address to which any correspondence relating to the application should be sent;
2. The subject matter of the submission or observation; and,
3. The reasons, considerations and arguments on which the submission or observation is based in full.

Observations/submissions can be made online at the following address: www.pleanala.ie/en-IE/Observation-on-a-strategic-infrastructure-devel

Such submissions and observations will be considered by the Board in making a decision on the application. Any submissions or observations which do not comply with the above requirements cannot be considered by the Board.

The Board may at its absolute discretion hold an Oral Hearing on the application. (For further details see 'A Guide to Public Participation in Strategic Infrastructure Development' on the Board's website www.pleanala.ie).

The Board may approve, approve subject to conditions, or refuse to approve a proposed development.

Any enquiries relating to the application process should be directed to the Strategic Infrastructure Section of the Board (Telephone 01-8588100).

Any person may question the validity of any such decision of the Board by way of an application for judicial review, under Order 84 of the Rules of the Superior Courts (S.I. no. 15 of 1986, as amended by S.I. No. 691 of 2011), in accordance with Section 50 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 as amended. Practical information on the review mechanism can be accessed under the heading 'Legal Notices – Judicial Review Notice' on the Board's website, www.pleanala.ie, or on the Citizens Information Service website www.citizensinformation.ie.