

**Ms. Huynh Thi Gam (Huỳnh Thị Gấm)**

**Case summary compiled by BPSOS – CAMSA, September 6, 2021**



DOB: January 1, 1978 (See Appendix A for Gấm's passport)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100052425678486>

Current residence: SAKAN Center

Residence in Vietnam: Ấp Long Bình, Xã Long Hiệp, Huyện Bến Lức, Tỉnh Long An

Relatives in Vietnam: Phạm Thị Bảy (71), mother; Nguyễn Thành Nhân (14), son

Contact via Nguyễn Thanh Tùng, neighbor: +84 (0)938976143

Labor export company in Vietnam:

Công Ty Cổ Phần Xuất Nhập Khẩu Dịch Vụ và Du Lịch Hùng Vương (HAVIMEC, JSC)

7B5 Khu đô thị Đại Kim, Phường Đại Kim, Hoàng Mai, Hà Nội

Responsible person: Nguyễn Mạnh Phương, CEO

Representative in HCM City: Cù Cao Cường

21 Bà Cát 3, Phường 14, Quận Tân Bình, TPHCM, Việt Nam

Tel: +84 (0)923.070.050

Employer: Nasser Mana Mohammed Alquahtani

National ID: 1011364732

(See Appendix B for employment contract)

Recruitment agency in Saudi Arabia:

Office Qrnmah Alfalah, C.R.101443201, License No. 37 01 211 (need to verify due to low legibility)

(See Appendix B for employment contract)

## Case Summary

Huỳnh Thị Gấm was recruited by HAVIMEC. The contract she signed stipulated 1,300 Rials per month for 8 hours per day and an additional 200 Rials if she works over 8 hours; the maximum is capped at 12 hours per day. She left for Saudi Arabia on September 21, 2019. Upon landing, she was fetched by Ms. Trương Thị Hiền and an Arab man known as Aziz (possibly a nickname), as representatives of the Saudi recruitment agency. They first took Gấm to their office. Three days later they took her to a bus station and sent her off to her Saudi employer in Abha. The bus ride took 6 to 7 hours.

### First employer

Her employer put her to work from 7am to 10pm each day and gave her meager rations, leaving her hungry all the time. He paid her for two months and then stopped. He often harassed her sexually and beat her up while grabbing her hair. He forced her to have sex but Gấm resisted. Gấm could not bear the ongoing sexual harassment and wanted to go home even if she had to pay a hefty fine as required by the labor export company for early termination of her employment contract.

On February 17, 2020, her 71-years old mother borrowed money, at high interest rate (120% per annum), from neighbors to meet the demands of HAVIMEC, which promised to get Gấm repatriated within 45 days:

- (1) US\$2,500 deposited with Mr. Cù Cao Cường, Representative of HAVIMEC to pay the fine for early termination of contract;
- (2) 19,217,000 VND (about US \$845) for airfare;
- (3) 9,000,000 VND (about US \$405) in compensation to employer for early termination of employment contract;
- (4) 5,000,000 VND (US \$217) to repay the assistance money that Gấm had received from HAVIMEC. This money came from a fund provided by the Ministry of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs to incentivize people to join the labor export program.

Mr. Cường, while representing HAVIMEC, used the seal of a different company: Công Ty Cổ Phần Du Lịch Quốc Tế Thành Đô and was listed as temporarily residing at the HCM City office of this company.

Cường failed to keep his promised 45-days deadline but did not return the money. Gấm's mother contacted him several times without success. Finally, she sought help from the police. Cường paid a home visit to her and promised to return the money soon, but nothing happened. Meantime, she has had to pay \$250 monthly in interest.

Seeing no help coming from HAVIMEC, on March 2, 2020, Gấm fled from her employer's home and went to the police. The police contacted her employer; after ten days of negotiation,

her employer returned her belongings and paid her salary in full. On March 14, 2020, the police dropped her at Hiền's office, where Gấm stayed for over a month and must pay for her own food.

#### Second employer

On May 1, Hiền sent Gấm to another employer. Blaming her for poor eyesight, this employer returned Gấm to Trương Thị Hiền after one month and 20 days. Her employer paid 2,500 Rials in salary, which was picked up by Aziz. When asked about the 2,500 Rials, Aziz said that Hiền kept it, but Hiền denied having it. Gấm never got her money from Hiền or Aziz.

#### Third employer

After about a month staying at Hiền's office, Gấm was sent to a third employer. This employer beat her, pinched her till her skin turned black and blue, and forced her to work from 9am till 3am the following day. She had to do all sorts of house chores. After a week, Gấm decided to quit because of the physical abuses. The employer hired a taxi to take Gấm to Hiền's office, but the latter did not admit Gấm. The taxi driver then took Gấm to the Vietnamese embassy.

As the embassy was not open to visitors, Gấm sat outside of the front gate from 2pm till 7pm, when Mr. Bùi Thế Trung, Second Secretary for consular affairs, saw her during his jogging. He took her in and allowed her to stay overnight at the embassy. After two days, Mr. Nguyễn Quốc Khánh, Second Secretary for migrant workers management, interviewed her about what she went through. He then called Ms. Hiền, who arrived with Aziz. Khánh told Gấm to continue to work, promising that he would notify her when the next repatriation flight became available. He explained that Gấm must pay 3,000 Rials for airfare. Then, he delivered Gấm to Hiền and Aziz.

#### Fourth employer

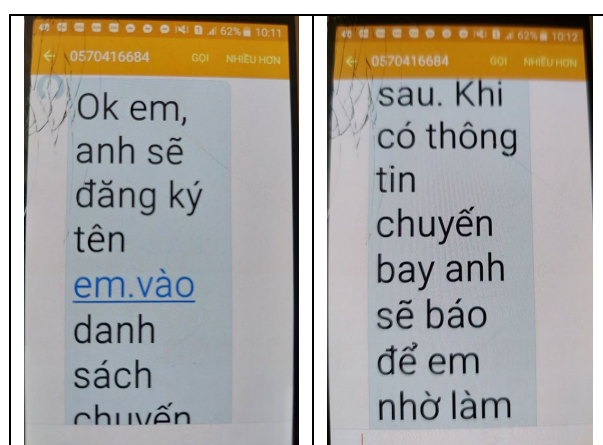
Aziz took Gấm to a Saudi recruitment agency, where she stayed for two weeks before being sent to work at a remote place, some 20 hours' driving from Riyadh. For the two months at this new employer's house, she worked 22 hours and had only two hours of sleep a day. She was not given access to the employer's wifi, so she could not contact anyone for help. While the agreed pay was 1,500 Rials a month, the employer only paid her only 1,500 Rials total for two months. As her mother's health deteriorated due to diabetes, Gấm asked the employer's wife to send her pay to her mother in Vietnam along with 130 USD that she had with her in cash. The employer's wife cheated and never sent this money to Gấm's mother. In early September 2020, the employer called the Saudi recruitment agency to pick her up.

The man who picked Gấm up let her share a bed with a black woman the first night. On the second night he took Gấm to a hotel room and took away her mobile phone. He forced himself on her. She could not defend herself from being raped because the hotel room was locked and she did not have her mobile phone to call for help. The following day, he took Gấm to his office. Every night, Gấm had to perform massage on him.

#### Fifth and sixth employers

After 20 days, Gám was delivered to an employer in Riyadh. Three days later, this employer transferred her to his younger sister in Tabuk, about two hours' flight away. At this new place, Gám had to take care of her own food and personal necessities. She worked from 6am till midnight every day. On days the employer hosted guests, Gám was not allowed any sleep.

She was not allowed access to wifi and thus became incommunicado. After two months, the household's chauffeur helped her buy a sim card without her employer's knowledge. She started calling Khánh for help. He did not pick up her many calls. On December 15, 2020, Gám texted him to explain her situation and reminded him about repatriation. He responded: "OK, I will register your name for the next flight. When I have the flight information, I will notify you so that you can ask for assistance."



*Text message from Khánh to Gám, December 15, 2020*

She followed up with text messages to Khánh on December 23, then December 27. No response. After about ten tries, she finally got to talk to him. Khánh said that she was not on the repatriation list and hanged up.

On May 8, 2021, Gám texted Mr. Khánh again to remind him about repatriation, explaining that her mother was very sick and her son suffered meningitis. She reminded him to help her get the salary for one month and 20 days, totaling 2,500 Rials, that Aziz or Hiền still kept.

On May 12, her employer moved residence to "Haiin" (probably Ha'il).

On May 20, exhausted due to overwork, Gám fell asleep while doing laundry. Seeing that, the employer choked and strangled her; a member of the family intervened, took Gám to a room and locked her inside. Two days later, at around 2pm the employer ordered Gám to wash and clean the house's paved yard. At 6:30pm Gám stopped the cleaning work to cook dinner for the family, wash the dishes, and do other house chores. At 10pm, Gám asked the employer to allow her to have dinner before resuming the yard cleaning chore. The employer's daughter suddenly assaulted her, punching her multiple times. Gám retreated to her room for safety; the employer's daughter barged in and dragged Gám by her hair and continued the beating. Gám fled and sought help from the police.

In all, Gấm worked for 9 months but was paid only for 4 months and ten days.

### Shelters

The police sent Gấm to a local shelter. Gấm learned of an upcoming repatriation flight and called Khánh, but he did not answer her calls. Gấm then called him from a borrowed phone. Khánh answered the call and reassured her that he would talk to HAVIMEC, that this company would request the support of the Saudi police, and that the Saudi police would get the employer to pay her. Nothing happened.

Gấm then called Hiền; after about 10 tries, Hiền answered but immediately hanged up the phone after recognizing Gấm's voice. Hiền then blocked Gấm's number. Gấm called Mr. Cù Cao Cường, Representative of HAVIMEC in Vietnam; he blocked her calls.

On August 22, Gấm was moved to SAKAN Center.

In summary, Gấm has been victim of labor exploitation, physical abuses, sexual harassment, rape, and swindle. She was not paid fully for her work. Hiền and Aziz pocketed her money. When she sought help from the Vietnamese embassy, its Second Secretary in charge of migrant workers management handed her back to Hiền anh Aziz, who re-trafficked her. Meanwhile, her mother, who is in ill health in Vietnam, has been unable to retrieve US \$3,600 from HAVIMEC and continues to pay high monthly interest to her debtors. Her 14 years-old son is sick but does not have his mother around to care for him.

Gấm desired to get back her possession left with the last employer, get full payment for her work, get Aziz and/or Hiền to release her money that they kept, and go home to her 71-years old mother and 14-years old son.

On October 28, she left Saudi Arabia to return to Vietnam. Thanks to the intervention of IOM, she did not have to pay her repatriation airfare.

Her consent signature for intervention by the international community is included in Appendix C.

Trương Thị Hiền



Tel: +966 557239257, +966 546756129

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/h.h.hien.minh.ha.85>

Trương Thị Hiền worked for a local recruitment agency (probably Office Qrnmah Alfaiah) when she picked up Gám at the airport in September 2019. She operates in tandem with an Arab co-worker known as Aziz. Reportedly both were fired by the recruitment agency in mid-2020 after the owner found that they pocketed payments sent to the company for the workers. It is believed that Hiền has since been staying illegally in Saudi Arabia. Allegedly, Mr. Nguyễn Quốc Khánh, Second Secretary at the Vietnamese embassy, set her up to represent both COLECTO and Nam Viet companies. Unsuspecting Vietnamese workers who called her for help often became her victims.

Aziz, co-worker and reportedly boyfriend of Ms. Trương Thị Hiền. Tel: +966 50 156 9167



Mr. Nguyễn Quốc Khánh:




He assumed the post of Second Secretary for migrant workers management in early 2020. His phone number: +966 570416684, email: [khanhnguyenquoc.neu@gmail.com](mailto:khanhnguyenquoc.neu@gmail.com).

*Boat People SOS (BPSOS) was founded in 1980 by former Vietnamese refugees. The organization operates in many U.S. cities and in Southeast Asia. In 2008, BPSOS launched Coalition to Abolish Modern-day Slavery (CAMSA), which has since rescued some 5,000 victims of sex and labor trafficking in 24 countries and aided in the rescue of 6,000 labor trafficking victims in Russia. Website: <https://www.bpsos.org/>*





## Appendix B. Employment Contract



### Employment Contract

CONTRACT # 1002098261

### عقد توظيف

رقم العقد 1002098261

This employment contract is executed and entered into by and between:

تم التوقيع على عقد العمل هذا والدخول فيه بين كل من

A. Employer:	أ. صاحب العمل:
Name : NASSER MANA MOHAMMED ALQAHTANI	الاسم : ناصر مانع محمد القحطاني
Visa Number issued by the Saudi Ministry of Labor: 1902049684	رقم التأشيرة الصادرة من وزارة العمل السعودية: 1902049684
National ID Number : 1011364732	بطاقة الهوية الوطنية :
Address	العنوان
Street : ابها	الشارع : ابها
City : Abha	المدينة : Abha
Marital Status : Married	الحالة الاجتماعية : متزوج
Number of Family Members : 4	عدد أفراد الأسرة : 4
Contact Numbers	ارقام الاتصال
Mobile : 0553329467	رقم الحوال : 0553329467
Telephone :	رقم الهاتف :
Email : fghgholoi@gmail.com	البريد الالكتروني : fghgholoi@gmail.com
hereinafter called the Employer	ويشار اليه فيما يلي بصاحب العمل وتمثله في المملكة العربية السعودية وكالة الاستقدام السعودية:

مستقر

Tourism

License no : 496

Address

street : hanoi

City : Hanoi

Contact No : 0084912219981

Email : havimec.jsc@gmail.com

The employer and the DSW hereby voluntarily bind themselves to the following terms and conditions:

1. Site of Employment : Abha
2. Contract Duration: The contract shall be valid for a period of two years commencing from the date of arrival of the DSW in KSA. The monthly wages shall be calculated for payment from such date.
3. In accordance with the regulations prevailing in both countries, the DSW and the employer agree on a monthly salary of SR : 1500

15 . Est dolorem.

العنوان

hanoi : الشارع

Hanoi : المدينة

0084912219981 : رقم الاتصال

havimec.jsc@gmail.com : البريد الالكتروني

يلتزم صاحب العمل والعامل المنزلي/ العاملة المنزلية بموجب هذا العقد طوعاً بالأحكام والشروط التالية:

موقع العمل 1 : Abha

مدة العقد: يسري العقد لمدة سنتين تبدأ من تاريخ : 2. وصول العامل المنزلي إلى المملكة العربية السعودية. وتحسب الأجر الشهرية للدفع من ذلك التاريخ.

طبقاً للقوانين السارية في البلدين مع اتفاق العامل : 3. المنزلي وصاحب العمل على راتب شهري قدره 1500

1. Velit sint.

18. Aut.

18. Cupiditate dolor.

20. Et.

24. Voluptas.

24. Iusto illum.

25. Consequuntur earum.

Office Qmmah Alfalah  
Recruitment  
C.R1010443201 - License No. 37 81 III  
Email: falah\_alqamah1@gmail.com  
Date



مكتب قمة الفلاح  
للإستقدام  
رقم الترخيص 37 81 III  
البريد الإلكتروني: falah\_alqamah1@gmail.com  
Date

Signatures

التوقيعات

Saudi Service / Foreign Recruitment Agency  
العامل كعمول / التواجد وكالة الإستقدام الأجنبية  
Borval

GAN  
CỘNG TY CỔ PHẦN XUẤT NHẬP KHẨU DỊCH VỤ VÀ DU LỊCH HÙNG VƯƠNG  
GIÁM ĐỐC NGUYỄN MANG PHƯƠNG

Saudi Recruitment Agency Employer  
وكالة الإستقدام الموظف

Handwritten signature in Arabic script.

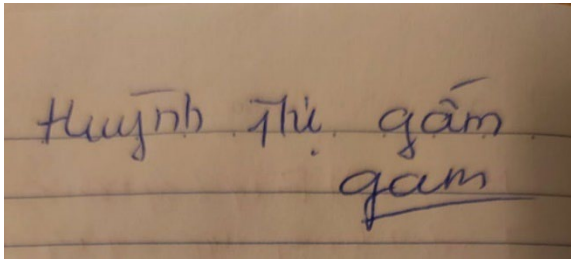


بنا محمد لعمول

-gãm  
Huỳnh Thị -gãm

الرياض - حي اليرموك - شارع النجاح تليفون 0112402736  
Riyadh - Al Yarmouk Area - Alnjah St. - Telefax: 0112402736

**Appendix C. Consent signature**



Handwritten signature in Vietnamese: Huỳnh Thị Gấm Gấm. The signature is written on lined paper. The first line contains 'Huỳnh Thị Gấm' and the second line contains 'Gấm'.