

ARBITRATION AND MEDIATION CENTER

ADMINISTRATIVE PANEL DECISION

Goodai Global Inc. v. Muhammad Amin Case No. D2024-5177

1. The Parties

The Complainant is Goodai Global Inc., Republic of Korea, represented by KAI International IP Law Firm, Republic of Korea.

The Respondent is Muhammad Amin, Pakistan.

2. The Domain Name and Registrar

The disputed domain name <beautyofjoseonae.com> is registered with Hostinger Operations, UAB (the "Registrar").

3. Procedural History

The Complaint was filed with the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center (the "Center") on December 17, 2024. On December 17, 2024, the Center transmitted by email to the Registrar a request for registrar verification in connection with the disputed domain name. On December 18, 2024, the Registrar transmitted by email to the Center its verification response disclosing registrant and contact information for the disputed domain name which differed from the named Respondent (Domain Admin, Privacy Protect, LLC (PrivacyProtect.org)) and contact information in the Complaint. The Center sent an email communication to the Complainant on December 23, 2024, providing the registrant and contact information disclosed by the Registrar, and inviting the Complainant to submit an amendment to the Complaint. The Complainant filed an amendment to the Complaint on December 24, 2024.

The Center verified that the Complaint together with the amendment to the Complaint/amended Complaint] satisfied the formal requirements of the Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (the "Policy" or "UDRP"), the Rules for Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (the "Rules"), and the WIPO Supplemental Rules for Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (the "Supplemental Rules").

In accordance with the Rules, paragraphs 2 and 4, the Center formally notified the Respondent of the Complaint, and the proceedings commenced on December 27, 2024. In accordance with the Rules, paragraph 5, the due date for Response was January 16, 2025. The Respondent did not submit any response. Accordingly, the Center notified the Respondent's default on January 22, 2025.

The Center appointed Jeremy Speres as the sole panelist in this matter on January 27, 2025. The Panel finds that it was properly constituted. The Panel has submitted the Statement of Acceptance and Declaration of Impartiality and Independence, as required by the Center to ensure compliance with the Rules, paragraph 7.

4. Factual Background

The Complainant, established in 2013, produces and sells cosmetics under its BEAUTY OF JOSEON mark. The Complainant trades from its ecommerce platform hosted at its domain name <beautyofjoseon.com> which it registered on March 2, 2017, as well as via retail stores, authorized resellers in numerous countries, and online marketplaces such as Amazon. Amongst others, the Complainant was ranked as the best seller in the Sun Care category on the Amazon US platform during the Black Friday sale in 2022.

The Complainant's BEAUTY OF JOSEON mark is registered in numerous jurisdictions, including United States of America ("United States") Trademark Registration No. 5829748 for BEAUTY OF JOSEON plus stylized Korean characters spelling the same words, in class 3, having a registration date of August 6, 2019.

The disputed domain name was registered on July 16, 2023, and resolves to a website ostensibly selling cosmetics that is an apparent replica of the Complainant's website, featuring the Complainant's logo, product imagery, and product descriptions, amongst others.

5. Parties' Contentions

A. Complainant

The Complainant contends that it has satisfied each of the elements required under the Policy for a transfer of the disputed domain name.

Notably, the Complainant contends that the disputed domain name was registered and used in bad faith in order to impersonate the Complainant for the Respondent's commercial gain.

B. Respondent

The Respondent did not reply to the Complainant's contentions.

6. Discussion and Findings

A. Identical or Confusingly Similar

It is well accepted that the first element functions primarily as a standing requirement. The standing (or threshold) test for confusing similarity involves a reasoned but relatively straightforward comparison between the Complainant's trademark and the disputed domain name. WIPO Overview of WIPO Panel Views on Selected UDRP Questions, Third Edition, ("WIPO Overview 3.0"), section 1.7.

The Complainant has shown rights in respect of a trademark or service mark for the purposes of the Policy. WIPO Overview 3.0, section 1.2.1.

The Panel finds the mark is recognizable within the disputed domain name. Accordingly, the disputed domain name is confusingly similar to the mark for the purposes of the Policy. WIPO Overview 3.0, section 1.7. The Complainant's registered United States mark cited above is comprised of the words "Beauty of Joseon" plus a translation of those words in stylized Korean characters. Thus, the dominant features of the Complainant's mark, being BEAUTY OF JOSEON in Latin as well as Korean scripts, is contained within the

disputed domain name, albeit, in part, in translated form. A domain name that consists or is comprised of a translation or transliteration of a trademark will normally be found to be identical or confusingly similar to such trademark for purposes of standing under the Policy, where the trademark – or its variant – is incorporated into or otherwise recognizable, through such translation/transliteration, in the domain name. WIPO Overview 3.0, section 1.14. Although the addition of other terms, here "ae", may bear on assessment of the second and third elements, the Panel finds the addition of such term does not prevent a finding of confusing similarity between the disputed domain name and the mark for the purposes of the Policy. WIPO Overview 3.0, section 1.8.

The Panel finds the first element of the Policy has been established.

B. Rights or Legitimate Interests

Paragraph 4(c) of the Policy provides a list of circumstances in which the Respondent may demonstrate rights or legitimate interests in a disputed domain name.

Although the overall burden of proof in UDRP proceedings is on the complainant, panels have recognized that proving a respondent lacks rights or legitimate interests in a domain name may result in the difficult task of "proving a negative", requiring information that is often primarily within the knowledge or control of the respondent. As such, where a complainant makes out a prima facie case that the respondent lacks rights or legitimate interests, the burden of production on this element shifts to the respondent to come forward with relevant evidence demonstrating rights or legitimate interests in the domain name (although the burden of proof always remains on the complainant). If the respondent fails to come forward with such relevant evidence, the complainant is deemed to have satisfied the second element. WIPO Overview 3.0, section 2.1.

Having reviewed the available record, the Panel finds the Complainant has established a prima facie case that the Respondent lacks rights or legitimate interests in the disputed domain name. The Respondent has not rebutted the Complainant's prima facie showing and has not come forward with any relevant evidence demonstrating rights or legitimate interests in the disputed domain name such as those enumerated in the Policy or otherwise.

The general impression created by the website to which the disputed domain name resolves is one of impersonation of the Complainant. UDRP panels have categorically held that the use of a domain name for illegal activity, here impersonation, can never confer rights or legitimate interests on a respondent. WIPO Overview 3.0, section 2.13.1.

The Panel finds the second element of the Policy has been established.

C. Registered and Used in Bad Faith

The Panel notes that, for the purposes of paragraph 4(a)(iii) of the Policy, paragraph 4(b) of the Policy establishes circumstances, in particular, but without limitation, that, if found by the Panel to be present, shall be evidence of the registration and use of a domain name in bad faith.

Panels have held that the use of a domain name for illegal activity, here impersonation, constitutes bad faith. WIPO Overview 3.0, section 3.4. Considering the indicators of impersonation apparent on the Respondent's website highlighted in the Factual Background section above, it is clear that the Respondent intended to impersonate the Complainant. The composition of the disputed domain name, consisting of the Complainant's unique mark plus the geographic term "ae", referring to the United Arab Emirates where the Complainant's goods are sold through authorized retailers, strengthens this conclusion. Paragraph 4(b)(iv) of the Policy is thus eminently applicable.

The Panel finds that the Complainant has established the third element of the Policy.

7. Decision

For the foregoing reasons, in accordance with paragraphs 4(i) of the Policy and 15 of the Rules, the Panel orders that the disputed domain name <beautyofjoseonae.com> be transferred to the Complainant.

/Jeremy Speres/
Jeremy Speres
Sole Panelist

Date: February 4, 2025