



His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al-Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander, and First Deputy Prime Minister, with the President of the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities (BACA), Shaikha Mai bint Mohammed Al Khalifa, at Gudaibiya Palace. During the meeting, HRH the Crown Prince highlighted the Kingdom's commitment to supporting its culture and heritage sectors and the importance of continuing to promote Bahrain's historical legacy, which stands as a testimony to the Kingdom's continued development, in line with the vision of HM the King. Shaikh Mai presented to HRH the Crown Prince a number of her editorial publications. HRH the Crown Prince wished Shaikha Mai continued success in promoting Bahrain's culture and antiquities.



Deputy Prime Minister, Supreme Council for the Development of Education and Training President, His Highness, Shaikh Mohammed bin Mubarak Al Khalifa, with ministers and heads of delegations participating in the 11th Conference of Arab Ministers of Education. The conference also coincides with the celebrations of the establishment of formal schooling hundred years ago in 1919

Fikra application submission period ends

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The second edition of the Government Innovation Competition (Fikra) has stopped accepting applications for this year's intake, said the Office of the First Deputy Prime Minister (OFDPM). The application process was open from October 6 to November 6 through the OFDPM's website. Applications were allowed either as individuals or as a team of up to four individuals. The evaluation process begins in December this year, where the selected candidates will receive training to develop pitching and presentation skills. Fikra was launched during the Government Forum 2019 by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa,

the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander, and First Deputy Prime Minister. The competition aims to boost creativity and innovation among government employees and provide them with the opportunity to compete in making effective proposals to develop government performance. Fikra in its first edition (2018) selected three projects are winners - 'Hospitality' by Ahmed Al Turaifi, 'E-Volunteer Platform' by Shaikh Salman bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, Mubarak Al Tamim, Mai Salah Abdulla and Hisham Mubarak Albufalasa and 'The National System for Appointments' by Adel Al Qallaf. Public votes went to 'Work from Home' project by Abdullah Mohammed Al Ahmed and Nouf Mohammed Al Ahmed.

Prophet's Birthday anniversary

Manama

A ceremony will be held today at the Ahmed Al-Fateh Islamic Centre marking the Anniversary of Prophet Mohammed (PBUH)'s Birthday. The Ministry of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments and the Supreme Council for Islamic Affairs (SCIA) will be holding the annual religious event after Isha prayers. The Justice Ministry extended deepest congratu-

lations to His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, HRH Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa and HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Premier, as well as to the Bahraini people and the Arab and Islamic nations marking the occasion. Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments Minister Shaikh Khalid bin Ali bin Abdulla Al Khalifa will deliver a speech.

Gulf Air resumes flights to Erbil

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Gulf Air, the national carrier of Bahrain, yesterday announced the resumption of its direct services between Bahrain and Erbil in Iraq starting

2 February 2020. Gulf Air will use an Airbus A320 aircraft to operate three weekly flights between Bahrain International Airport and Erbil International Airport.

Lane closures

Manama

Resurfacing works on Rsh. Jaber Al Ahmed Al Subah Highway inside Nuwaidrat intersection necessitate the closure of two lanes, said the Works Ministry. The closure will be effective today at 05:00 am to tomorrow at 05:00 am. Maintenance of King Faisal Highway also necessitates the closure of two lanes on stages for the east-bound traffic to Muharraq. The closure which began yesterday at 11:00 pm will end tomorrow at 03:00 pm.



The Commander-in-Chief of the Bahrain Defence Force (BDF), Field Marshal Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, during an inspection visit to one of the BDF units. The commander-in-chief gave directives to continue implementing various training programmes to achieve the highest levels of combat and administrative readiness

Ensure fair, comprehensive education for all: Dr Al Nuaimi

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Education Minister Dr Majid bin Ali Al Nuaimi yesterday called for joint Arab work to guarantee good, fair, comprehensive as well as lifetime educational opportunities for all in line with the fourth goal of sustainable development goals (SDGs). The minister pointed out that this goal was endorsed by the UN member states as part of the organisation's plan 2030, highlighting the steps taken by Bahrain in this direction. Dr Al Nuaimi was addressing the 11th Arab Education Ministers Conference held under the theme "Educational Policies and Their Role in Achieving the Fourth Goal of SDGs 2030". The conference organised at Art Rotana Hotel was held under the patronage of His

Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa. Arab Education Ministers and their representatives, Directors and representatives of regional and international educational organisations and representative of the Arab League Secretariat General were present at the conference organised by the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO), in cooperation with the Education Ministry. Education Minister wished the new Director-General of ALECSO Dr Mohammed Weld Omar every success, stressing the kingdom's full support to the organisation. A photo gallery held on the sidelines of the conference put the spotlight on the history of education in Bahrain and projects by Bahraini students on digital empowerment and artificial intelligence.



Representatives Council Speaker Fawzia bint Abdullah Zainal yesterday lauded distinguished strategic historical relations between Bahrain and Morocco. This came during an official parliamentary discussion session which convened yesterday in Rabat under the presidency of the Representatives Council Speaker and her Moroccan counterpart Habib Al Maliki. A memorandum of understanding was signed to activate the role of friendship committees and promote bilateral parliamentary cooperation.

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Bahrain's Ambassador to the United States Shaikh Abdullah bin Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa with the Chairman of the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom Tony Perkins and the Committee members accompanying him to learn about the results of their recent visit to the Kingdom. The ambassador expressed appreciation of their visit to Manama and considered it a positive step in identifying Bahrain's pioneering model in peaceful coexistence and consolidation of the values of tolerance, pluralism and citizenship under the comprehensive reform approach of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.