

# HRH Premier hails US policy towards regional challenges

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Manama

**H**is Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa yesterday said that the strategic partnership between Bahrain and the USA has witnessed "remarkable progress under President Donald Trump".

"The Trump Administration has shown understanding and interacted positively regarding the situation and challenges the region," HRH Prince Khalifa told US Secretary of the Navy, Richard Spencer.

HRH Premier made the statements while receiving the US Secretary of the Navy and his accompanying delegation.

The Prime Minister lauded the US vision towards the situation and challenges in the

region as well as its approach in supporting friends and allies saying, "This paves way for more cooperation and coordination on various issues that strengthen the region's security and stability."

Expressing his desire in further boosting ties, HRH the Premier said, "The way is always paved for enhancing bilateral relation as well as military cooperation." HRH Premier also highlighted the agreements signed by the two countries, which will take effect in the near future.

The Navy Secretary expressed his country's pride in bolstering bilateral cooperation in various fields.

## Deputy King holds talks

Separately, Deputy King His



HRH the Premier in discussion with Richard Spencer, US Secretary of Navy, yesterday

Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa also held discussions with the United States Secretary of the

Navy, Richard V. Spencer and accompanying delegation at Riffa Palace.

His Royal Highness

highlighted the continued development of relations between US and Bahrain across various fields, particularly in

defence. The meeting also presented an opportunity to discuss issues of shared interest, including recent regional and international developments, efforts to safeguard international navigation, and combatting terrorism and extremism.

The US Secretary of the Navy praised Bahrain's efforts to safeguard security and stability in the region, noting that Bahrain has taken command of the Combined Task Force (CTF 151).

His Highness Shaikh Mohammed bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, and the Chief of Staff of the Bahrain Defence Force (BDF), Lieutenant-General Dhiyab bin Saqr Al-Nuaimi, attended the meeting.

## Preparations in full swing for National day

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**S**outhern Governor, HH Shaikh Khalifa bin Ali Al Khalifa, yesterday affirmed the Governorate's readiness to celebrate HM the King's Accession Day Anniversary and the National Day.

Events include Ardha shows in Riffa on December 15, Zallaq on December 18, and in Askar, Jau and Al-Dour villages on December 18, with the participation of the local citizens.

The governor also revealed the launch of a poetry competition on loyalty and love to the nation, noting that cash prizes have been earmarked for the winners. A gallery for historical pictures will also be held in the Southern Governorate.

Shaikh Khalifa stressed the



HH Shaikh Khalifa bin Ali Al Khalifa need for involving children in the national festivities to instil the values of patriotism in them, adding that the details of the governorate's celebrations will be available on its social media accounts.

The governor appreciated and voiced pride in the efforts exerted by the Southern Municipality's Director-General, Assim Abdullatif, to beautify the governorate's towns and villages.



The former King of Spain, Juan Carlos I, arrived in Bahrain yesterday and was welcomed by His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa at Bahrain International Airport. He was also greeted by the Muharraq Governor, Salman bin Hindi and a number of officials.



Southern Governor Shaikh Khalifa bin Ali Al Khalifa yesterday stressed keenness to translate the Royal directives into a reality by reaching out to citizens and catering for their needs. He also praised His Royal Highness the Prime Minister's efforts to promote social cohesion, describing him as an idol to emulate. The Southern Governor was speaking as he received at his Majlis dignitaries from the Southern Governorate, in the presence of prominent social personalities.