

Students receive academic honours



The recipients of the Al Bassam Award with Education Ministry officials

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Four hundred students from the Kingdom were honoured with the Al Bassam Award for Scientific Excellence at the Ministry of Education hall in Isa Town yesterday.

Saudi Ambassador Ahmed Al-Bassam handed over the awards to the students at a function organised by the Society of Islamic Education in collaboration with the Ministry of Education to support and provide educational sponsorship to students who have excelled in their academics.

"The award is a great platform for the people of the country to innovate and strive for excellence in their academic life," Adel bin Rashid Bousaiba, Director of Social Services and Projects at the Islamic Education Association told

DT News.

"Six committees are working continuously to improve the quality, performance and provide the best services for this scientific and cultural award which has benefited over 3035 students since its establishment," he said.

The patron of the award, Ahmed Al Bassam commended the efforts and dedication of the students in the field of science.

"I extend my sincere congratulations to the students who are privileged to receive the Al Bassam Award for Scientific Excellence and ask them to keep working hard, strive for excellence and serve the country well," Al Bassam stated.

He also mentioned the rise in the number of outstanding students in the field.

Al Bassam Award for Scientific Excellence was

established in 2009 at the initiative of the family of the late Abdullah bin Sulaiman Al Bassam to encourage the students of the Kingdom

to innovate and strive for excellence by honouring outstanding students in the secondary and preparatory stages.

Women and the World

Meredith Ann O'Connell



Too Dangerous to Leave?

The most dangerous time in an abusive relationship is the moment the woman decides to leave. When the woman finds the courage to leave, the abuser has lost his power and control, and in order to regain that control he may escalate his behavior. Statistics show that around 75% of abuse victims who are murdered are killed when they try to leave. Yet despite these facts, women are not afforded the resources or protection they need in order to make a new life. This needs to change.

Women in abusive relationships are usually encouraged by friends and family members to leave; "why don't you leave?" is a common enough refrain, one that is sometimes used to blame the victim for why she is in the situation. Yet although society encourages women to leave abusive partners, the aftermath may be equally difficult to deal with. Besides having to deal with practical issues (such as housing, financials, etc.) the woman may have to deal with an angry abuser, who tries to win her back, perhaps resorting to stalking, threats and violence.

Restraining orders are one way to protect women from their former partners. Yet even restraining orders have not prevented women from being attacked. Furthermore, sometimes the police dismiss allegations of stalking or threats of violence until it is too late—which is completely unacceptable. All threats against someone's life must be taken seriously and investigated, no matter the victim's gender or background.

Despite the current situation, organizations are pushing forward to ensure that women find the strength, support and protection they need to move on to the next chapter in their lives. In the Basque region of Spain, a non-profit has been launched with the hopes that one day it will be rolled out across the country. Edemm offers 24-hour protection free of charge to women who have fled abusive partners. All of the bodyguards Edemm employs, including its founder, are women, and they provide support to vulnerable women, some of which are too afraid to venture outside or go about their daily lives.

While it may not be possible to provide around-the-clock protection services to all women who have left an abusive partner, more effort is needed. Making the decision to leave an abusive partner should not be a dangerous decision, but the best decision a survivor of abuse can make.

(The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the policy or position of this newspaper.)

RAFIDAIN BANK BAHRAIN BRANCH



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION 31 December 2016	2016 BD	2015 BD
ASSETS		
Cash and balances with the Central Bank of Bahrain	639,077	543,032
Due from banks and financial institutions	10,647,883	9,266,063
Loans and advances	535,385	535,779
Due from Head Office and other branches	1,225,477	1,225,477
Equipment and other assets	84,883	81,012
TOTAL ASSETS	13,132,705	11,651,363
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		
LIABILITIES		
Due to banks and financial institutions	61,014	59,351
Customers' deposits	5,167,222	4,595,219
Due to Head Office and other branches	3,230,844	2,463,237
Other liabilities	1,286,746	1,280,851
TOTAL LIABILITIES	9,745,826	8,398,658
EQUITY		
Branch capital	1,500,000	1,500,000
General reserve	227,044	227,044
Statutory reserve	190,989	175,854
Retained earnings	1,468,846	1,349,807
Total equity	3,386,879	3,252,705
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	13,132,705	11,651,363

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME Year ended 31 December 2016	2016 BD	2015 BD
Interest and similar income	343,324	284,137
Interest and similar expenses	(6,720)	(7,123)
NET INTEREST INCOME	336,604	277,014
Net gain on foreign currencies	7,548	8,434
Other income	8,250	11,700
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	352,402	297,148
Write back / (provision) for impairment on credit losses - net	1,232	(33,554)
NET OPERATING INCOME	353,634	263,594
Staff expenses	75,658	86,667
Other operating expenses	126,628	114,689
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	202,286	201,356
Net income for the period	151,348	62,238
Impairment provision released - net	-	319,434
NET INCOME AND TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR	151,348	381,672

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS Year ended 31 December 2016	2016 BD	2015 BD
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Net income for the year	151,348	381,672
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation	6,048	6,131
(Write back) / provision for impairment on credit losses - net	(1,232)	33,554
Operating profit before changes in operating assets and liabilities:	156,164	421,357
Mandatory reserve with the Central Bank of Bahrain	(60,000)	(45,000)
Due from banks and financial institutions	-	(5)
Loans and advances	1,626	24,350
Other assets	(9,727)	(607)
Due to banks and financial institutions	1,663	2,605
Customers' deposits	572,003	736,930
Due to Head Office and other branches - net	767,607	(179,866)
Other liabilities	5,895	(320,405)
Net cash from operating activities	1,435,231	639,359
INVESTING ACTIVITY		
Purchase of equipment	(191)	-
Net cash used in investing activity	(191)	-
FINANCING ACTIVITY		
Transfer to Head Office	(17,175)	(7,615)
Net cash used in financing activity	(17,175)	(7,615)
NET CHANGE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	1,417,865	631,744
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	9,675,095	9,043,351
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE YEAR	11,092,960	9,675,095

Hamid Ahmed Dakheel
General Manager

Ernst & Young
Auditors

Malabar Gold & Diamonds opens 173rd showroom



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Malabar Gold & Diamonds has extended its presence in Bahrain by opening a new showroom in Temple road here on March 23.

Hesham Zaal Khalifa Zaal Al Buflaseh along with Abdul Salaam KP, Group Executive Director, Malabar Group, jointly inaugurated the 173rd showroom globally in the presence of

Sakkeer P, Regional Head, Malabar Gold & Diamonds, Mohammed Rafeeq, Branch Head Malabar Gold & Diamonds, management members, dignitaries & well-wishers.

As a part of the inaugural offer, customers will get an assured free gift on every gold (GCC) exchange and no making charges on 8 gram gold coins until April 1.