

RCSI Bahrain Explores Cultural Collaboration with Archaeologist

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The RCSI Medical University of Bahrain has explored potential academic and cultural collaboration with renowned archaeologist Dr Abdulaziz Ali Suwaileh, during a meeting held on campus.

The session was attended by Professor Sameer Otoom, President of RCSI Bahrain, and Dr Amal Al-Qallaf, Head of the Language and Culture Unit.

During the meeting, Dr Suwaileh presented his latest publication, "Dilmun: The Kingdom of Civilisation," which highlights Bahrain's historical role as a major cultural and trading hub in the ancient world. He also stressed the importance of historical research in preserving national heritage and strengthening cultural identity.



Renowned archaeologist Dr Abdulaziz Ali Suwaileh during a campus meeting attended by Professor Sameer Otoom, President of RCSI Bahrain, and Dr Amal Al-Qallaf, Head of the Language and Culture Unit

Discussions focused on possible cooperation through guest lectures and workshops on the Dilmun civilisation, Bahraini history, and the Kingdom's broader cultural legacy. These initiatives aim to enhance student engagement with leading scholarship and deepen understanding of Bahrain's heritage.

The meeting also highlighted the connection between healthcare and history, underscoring the value of interdisciplinary learning. RCSI Bahrain reaffirmed its commitment to initiatives that promote cultural awareness, national identity, and academic enrichment.

RHF Launches Beneficiary Satisfaction Index with Derasat

Study to measure feedback from 2,000 beneficiaries to improve humanitarian services

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The Royal Humanitarian Foundation (RHF) has launched its Beneficiary Satisfaction Index in collaboration with the Bahrain Center for Strategic, International and Energy Studies (Derasat) to enhance service quality and strengthen institutional performance.

As part of the initiative, Derasat will conduct a comprehensive survey covering RHF programmes and services, gathering feedback from around 2,000 beneficiaries using scientific research and statistical methods.

The study will include data collection, analysis and a detailed report with recommen-

dations aimed at improving humanitarian programmes and increasing beneficiary satisfaction.

Eng. Ebrahim Dalhan Aldoseri, RHF Acting Secretary-General, said the initiative highlights the foundation's commitment to improving services through beneficiary feedback. Derasat CEO Abdulla Mohammed Al Ahmed said the survey will provide valuable insights to support evidence-based decisions and enhance institutional performance.



Listening to beneficiaries' feedback helps us enhance the quality and impact of our humanitarian programmes.

Eng. Ebrahim Dalhan Aldoseri



Our role is to provide accurate insights through scientific methodologies to support institutional development.

Abdulla Mohammed Al Ahmed

The partnership highlights the importance of national cooperation in improving humanitarian services and advancing Bahrain's digital transformation goals.

Building on IB Momentum, Bahrain Trains 200 Educators

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Just a week after Bahrain became the first country in the region to introduce the prestigious International Baccalaureate (IB) programme in government schools, the Ministry of Education trained 200 educators to support the rollout of the Middle Years Programme (MYP).

The participants completed the IB's "Developing the MYP" training programme, part of the ministry's efforts to prepare schools for implementation and ensure they meet international accreditation requirements.

The programme brought together staff from schools selected to offer the MYP, along with curriculum specialists, educa-

tional supervisors, assessment experts and school principals. The 200 participants were divided into eight training groups of 25 each.

The sessions were led by IB-certified international trainers, who introduced participants to the programme's framework and shared global best practices for classroom delivery and school implementation.

According to the ministry, the training aims to strengthen teaching and learning, build national expertise and prepare schools to meet the International Baccalaureate's standards for the Middle Years Programme.

The latest initiative follows last week's landmark announcement that Bahrain became the



first country in the region to introduce the IB programme in government schools. Education Minister Dr Mohammed Mubarak Juma described the move as a major milestone in aligning Bahrain's education system with global standards. The latest training marks the next step in preparing educators to successfully deliver the internationally recognised curriculum.

Strengthening National Identity Framework



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The General Secretariat of the Shura Council, in cooperation with the Institute of Public Administration, organized a dialogue session titled "The Kingdom of Bahrain's Strategy in Supporting National

Identity," presented by His Excellency Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, Chairman of the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities.

The session reviewed Bahrain's strategic approach to strengthening national identity and preserving cultural and historical heritage, highlight-

ing key national initiatives in this field. It also emphasized the importance of coordinated institutional efforts and close cooperation with the legislative authority to develop supportive legal frameworks that reinforce belonging, loyalty, and cultural preservation across generations.

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Hasan Barakat

17 Shared Housing Buildings Operating Without Registration

Only one shared worker accommodation building is officially registered in the Northern Governorate's Sixth Constituency, while 17 others have been found operating without approval, according to the Northern Municipality.

The figures were revealed by Northern Municipality Director-General Mohammed Saad Al Sahli in response to a question from representative Abdulla Abdulhameed Ashoor on monitoring shared housing conditions.

The municipality said it maintains a database of buildings used for shared accommodation, with the only registered facility recorded in December 2023.

Officials said regular inspections are carried out based on field checks, public complaints and reports. The municipality also coordinates with relevant authorities to verify rental contract requirements and ensure compliance.

A total of 24 notices have been issued to buildings operating as shared worker accommodation



Abdulla Abdulhameed Ashoor

without approval. Seven properties have since corrected their status, while unresolved cases

are referred for legal action.

The municipality confirmed it has no authority to cancel rental contracts but continues to inspect properties, issue warnings and refer violations through official channels.

Four inspection campaigns have been conducted, covering 14 unregistered shared accommodation buildings. Electricity and water disconnections are carried out in coordination with relevant authorities, with one property in the constituency having its electricity supply cut.

Fire-hit A'ali family awaits return home as council seeks exemption

A family displaced by a house fire in A'ali in 2024 is still waiting to return home, as the Northern Municipal Council moves to resolve a procedural delay blocking reconstruction works.

The council unanimously approved a request to the Minister of Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture seeking an exemption from the residence requirement for the homeowner.

The request, submitted by Sixth Constituency representative Abdulla Abdulhameed Ashoor, comes after a technical report found the fire-damaged house was unsafe and beyond repair due to structural damage, including a deteriorated wooden roof and major wall cracks.

The homeowner had agreed to demolish and rebuild the property at his own expense, with finishing works to be supported through the Towns and Villages Development Project.



Pictures showing the house fire that displaced a family in A'ali in 2024.

required a change of official address, preventing the homeowner from meeting the residency condition needed to complete the procedures.

The council said granting the exemption would help speed up the project and allow the family to return to their home after a prolonged displacement. The recommendation will now be reviewed by the Ministry of Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture.

More Home Parking Space by Allowing Wall Changes

Plan aims to reduce street congestion as households struggle with rising number of vehicles

Homeowners in Bahrain's northern residential areas could be allowed to remove sections of their front walls to create additional parking spaces under a proposal approved by the Northern Municipality Council.

The proposal, submitted by representative Abdulla Abdulhameed Ashoor, has been forwarded to the Minister of Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture for approval.

The suggested amendment would allow residents to modify parts of their external front walls and use the front setback area for additional longitudinal parking,



while still following approved planning regulations.

The council's technical committee said the move addresses growing parking pressure in residential areas, where streets were not de-

signed to handle the increasing number of vehicles.

Officials highlighted that many households now own four or more cars, leading to blocked pavements, crowded roads and dis-

putes over limited parking spaces. By allowing parking within property boundaries, the council said the proposal could improve traffic flow, protect pedestrian movement and reduce random roadside parking.

Ashoor said the initiative would provide residents with a practical solution and bring greater organisation to neighbourhoods facing parking challenges.

The proposal now awaits the Minister's decision, with further considerations expected regarding construction requirements, safety standards and maintaining the appearance of residential areas.