



DANAT introduces youth to careers in pearls and gemstones

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The Bahrain Institute for Pearls and Gemstones (DANAT) is offering young Bahrainis a glimpse into careers in the pearl and jewellery industry through a specialist training course at Youth City 2030.

Developed with Al Kooheji Jewellery, the course introduces participants to Bahrain's pearl heritage, gemstone identification and career opportunities in pearl and gemstone testing, jewellery design and related fields.

Participants receive practical training in the identifica-

tion and assessment of pearls, diamonds, rubies, emeralds and sapphires, using the tools and techniques employed by industry professionals.

DANAT Chief Executive Officer Noora Jamsheer said the programme aims to inspire more Bahrainis to pursue careers in a sector closely linked to the Kingdom's history and economy. She said it equips participants with foundational knowledge while encouraging them to explore specialised professions that support Bahrain's position as a global centre for natural pearls and gemstones.



Career World debuts at Youth City 2030



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A career guidance platform that helps young Bahrainis make informed education and employment choices is making its debut at Youth City 2030, Youth Affairs Minister Rawan bint Najeeb Tawfeeqi said.

The minister said the Career World platform, part of Skills Bahrain and an initiative of the Labour Fund (Tamkeen), is a valuable addition to the annual event, offering insights into career pathways and in-demand skills based on labour market data.

She said the platform enables



young people to better understand career opportunities and align their interests and abilities with the needs of different economic sectors. Its interactive activities and guidance sessions for students and parents also provide practical advice on educational and career options.

Tawfeeqi said the initiative supports Youth City 2030's goal of preparing Bahraini youth for the labour market through career guidance and practical learning, while reflecting Tamkeen's continued investment in developing national talent and strengthening future workforce readiness.

Isa Town market to get 500 new parking spaces

● Upgrade package aims to ease congestion, attract shoppers and boost business

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

Isa Town Market will gain 500 new parking spaces under a major upgrade aimed at easing congestion, improving access and attracting more shoppers, MP Dr Maryam Al Dhaen said.

The parking expansion forms part of a wider development programme for the Southern Governorate's second constituency. Other projects include the expansion of Ramez Shopping



Centre, upgraded lighting and electrical infrastructure, new investment opportunities with-

in the market and a treated-water network for landscaping.

Dr Al Dhaen said the addi-

tional parking would improve access for shoppers while helping businesses attract more customers. She added that the joint expansion of Ramez Shopping Centre by the Southern Municipality and Ramez Group reflects successful public-private cooperation to enhance retail services and increase footfall.

The programme also includes replacing ageing electrical cables, upgrading lighting, carrying out safety inspections and creating greener public spaces using treated water. Dr Al Dhaen said the projects would strengthen Isa Town's position as one of Bahrain's leading commercial centres while meeting the needs of residents, traders and investors.



Innovation guide aims to turn ideas into successful projects

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A new guide designed to help innovators and entrepreneurs transform ideas into successful projects has been presented to Economic Advisor to His Majesty the King, Dr Hassan bin Abdullah Fakhro.

Dr Yousef Mohammed Al-

Amin presented Dr Fakhro with a copy of his book, A Guide to Smart Ideas for Projects and Innovation Competitions, which outlines practical methods for developing creative ideas, turning them into innovative projects and preparing competitive entries for innovation contests.

Dr Fakhro praised the book's

scientific and practical value, saying it would strengthen the skills of innovators, entrepreneurs and project owners while supporting knowledge-based initiatives that enhance national capabilities and encourage innovation.

He described the guide as a valuable reference for students,

innovators and entrepreneurs seeking to develop ideas and compete in innovation challenges. Dr Al-Amin said the book aims to provide a practical framework for turning ideas into impactful projects, supporting Bahrain's transition towards a knowledge-based, innovation-driven economy.

The quiet strength of *lasting friendships*



Ammar Ahmed Tareef



Hussain Marhoon



Sawsan Darwish

Community voices mark the International Day of Friendship

Rehab Mohammad
TDT | Manama

A loyal friend can make life's toughest moments easier, offering support, honesty and a sense of belonging that no online connection can fully replace.

As the world marks the International Day of Friendship,

community members in Bahrain reflected on the value of genuine relationships built on trust, respect and understanding. The United Nations observes the day to highlight friendship's role in promoting peace and cooperation, while Islam also encourages bonds rooted in mutual respect and communication.

Hussain Marhoon said true friendship is founded on trust, honesty and loyalty, helping people face life's challenges with confidence. While social media has expanded social circles, he said meaningful friendships are still built through sincerity.

Ammar Ahmed Tareef described friendship as a lifelong



Zainab Al Oraibi with her son Akbar commitment that is tested in difficult times rather than words alone.

For mother-of-three Zainab Al Oraibi, shared values and upbringing play an important role

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In 1998, the United Nations named Winnie the Pooh the world's Ambassador of Friendship to promote the value of friendship.

in nurturing lasting friendships among children.

Sawsan Darwish said the occasion is a reminder to appreciate friends whose kindness, loyalty and support remain constant despite time and distance.