

# Bahrain Arbitration Goes Global

UK forum deepens Gulf ties

● GCC-UK legal experts unite

● Saudi role in arbitration

● Bahrain-led centre hosts forum

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Dr. Kamal bin Abdullah Al-Hamad



**Bahrain was the first GCC country to establish a regional commercial arbitration centre, launched in 1995 under the Gulf Cooperation Council framework**

Bahrain's influence in the field of international arbitration is set to take centre stage in London later this month, as the Gulf Commercial Arbitration Centre, headquartered in Riffa, prepares to host a major cross-border legal forum uniting experts from across the GCC and the United Kingdom.

Scheduled for Friday, July 25, the Gulf-British Arbitration Forum aims to strengthen legal and institutional cooperation between Gulf states and British arbitration authorities.

The event is expected to attract participation from prominent law firms, arbitration centres, and dispute resolution experts, reflecting Bahrain's growing leadership in exporting legal expertise beyond the region.



## Legal Integration Push

The forum will explore the role of arbitration in international agreements, particularly under the umbrella of investment law.

A high-level delegation from the Ministry of Investment of Saudi Arabia will share their experiences in using arbitration to create stable, investor-friendly legal environments.

The agenda also includes discussions on how to enhance dispute resolution mechanisms to attract global investment and ensure fairness and transparency.

## Riffa-Based Regional Driver

Dr. Kamal bin Abdullah Al-Hamad, Secretary-General of the Gulf Commercial Arbitration Centre, said the event forms part of the Centre's broader vision to increase its international presence and connect with top-tier legal institutions worldwide.

"This forum is part of our mission to develop advanced arbitration systems and raise the standards of legal practice across the region," he stated.

Established in Riffa, the Centre operates under the framework of the Gulf Cooperation Council and plays a pivotal role in promoting arbitration as a trusted tool for commercial and investment conflict resolution.

## Growing Global Relevance

The high-profile event in London will spotlight the GCC's collective legal ambitions, with Bahrain leading the charge to position the region as a hub for modern arbitration practices.

As investment flows increasingly depend on effective dispute mechanisms, Bahrain's initiative is seen as a strategic move to align Gulf legal standards with international best practices.

The forum signals a deepening of ties between GCC countries and the UK in the legal field, setting the stage for broader economic cooperation grounded in legal certainty and institutional trust.

# MP commends Foreign Ministry for repatriating stranded Bahrainis

**Mohammed Darwish**  
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MP Jalal Kadhem has praised the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for arranging the return of Bahraini citizens stranded abroad during recent unrest.

He said the ministry had acted with urgency and focus, placing the welfare of citizens at

the centre of its response, following instructions from His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and close oversight by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

He noted the steady work of ministry staff, describing their handling of the matter as prac-



MP Jalal Kadhem with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, His Excellency Dr Abdullah Al Zayani

# Fraudulent ties

Woman jailed for forging marriage to Gulf man and claiming his child

**Mohammed Darwish**  
TDT | Manama

An African woman who forged a marriage certificate to claim a Gulf man as her husband and father of her child has been sentenced to three years in prison and will be deported.

The forged document, bearing an authentic stamp from the Foreign Ministry, was used in both criminal and Sharia court proceedings to back claims of a marriage that never took place.

The High Criminal Court also ordered the forged certificate to be seized.

The woman had presented it to judges in an effort to prove the man was her husband.

The pair had met about a year earlier during one of his visits to Bahrain, and she would visit him regularly at his flat while he was in the country.

## Theft

The matter first reached the authorities after the man filed



Image used for illustrative purposes only

a theft report, saying she had stolen items from his accommodation.

That led to criminal charges and a conviction. But he later discovered she had been released and had gone on to present the supposed marriage contract to the Court of Appeal.

She then filed a personal status case using the same document to argue not only that they

were married but that the man was the father of her child.

He denied ever marrying her and said no contract had ever been signed.

## Forgery

The Public Prosecution charged the 34-year-old African woman with forging an official document, a marriage certificate allegedly issued in

an African country and certified by Bahrain's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

She was accused of fabricating the document and knowingly using it as genuine.

A forensic expert concluded that both signatures on the contract, the one said to be hers and the one attributed to the man, had been written by her.

The Foreign Ministry confirmed that the stamp on the document was genuine and had been issued through the proper channels.

## Authenticity

However, it clarified that the authenticity of the stamp did not extend to the truth of the document's contents.

The court found she had knowingly used forged documents in both criminal and family court cases in an attempt to force recognition of a false marriage and paternity.

The forged contract was confiscated and she was convicted of fraud and forgery.

## Co-founder wins BD20,000 after board ousting

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A Bahraini co-founding partner has been awarded BD20,000 in damages after being removed from the board of a company he helped set up, denied his salary, and shut out of its records in breach of the original agreement.

The High Civil Court of Appeal ruled that his fellow shareholders had frozen him out of the business two years after it was established, despite a signed agreement granting all partners equal shares, joint decision-making powers, and monthly pay under formal employment contracts.

## Trouble

According to his lawyer, Hussain Salem, the trouble began when the other co-founders stopped sharing company documents and refused to give his client access to the books.

When he pressed for transparency, they voted to expel him from the board and ceased paying his salary altogether.

## Inspection of mourning halls ahead of Ashura



H.E. Brigadier Jassim bin Mohammed Al Ghatam leads inspection of mourning halls

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H.E. Brigadier Jassim bin Mohammed Al Ghatam, Deputy Governor of Muharraq Governorate, conducted an inspection tour of several mourning halls across the governorate.

The visit was in line with the directives of the Minister of Interior, H.E. Lieutenant General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, to ensure the success of the Ashura season through comprehensive security and organisational services.

Accompanied by the Director-General of the Police Directorate and the Director-General of the Municipality, the Deputy Governor re-

viewed preparations at various sites and met with the heads and organisers of the mourning halls.

Al Ghatam conveyed the commitment of the Muharraq Governor to providing all necessary support for the success of religious events, emphasising that such efforts are part of a broader strategy to promote national unity and social cohesion.

## Meticulous planning

He also commended the meticulous planning and organisational efforts made for the Ashura season.

Al Ghatam further highlighted the importance of collaboration between government institutions and civil society.

## Traffic diversions for Busaiteen flyover project



An artist impression of the road work

## Work starts today

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The Ministry of Works, in coordination with the General Directorate of Traffic at the Ministry of Interior, has announced the start of the second and third phases of traffic diversions as part of preparatory works for the construction of a new flyover linking the Shaikh Isa bin Salman Causeway to Avenue 105 in the Busaiteen area.

Phase 2 will commence at dawn today, and will involve diverting traffic from Muharraq towards Manama to alternative routes along the Sheikh Isa bin Salman Causeway.

Phase 3 will begin at dawn on Monday, July 7, 2025, redirecting traffic from Manama towards Muharraq to designated alternative routes on the same bridge.

The Ministry urged all road users to adhere to traffic regulations and follow posted signs to ensure safety and reduce congestion during the diversion period.

tical and coordinated.

Embassies, travel agencies and Bahraini campaign groups also played a role, he said, with support from Gulf embassies helping to smooth the process.

Kadhem said formal steps had been eased during what he called a testing period, allowing those affected to return home more easily.