

# For women who made Bahrain proud

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People from all walks of life came together yesterday to celebrate the achievements and contributions of Bahraini women to the Kingdom's comprehensive development on the occasion of Bahraini Women's Day, celebrated each year on December 1.

Marking the day, Her Royal Highness Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa, Wife of His Majesty the King and President of the Supreme Council for Women, had on Wednesday inaugurated a memorial "Athar" celebrating Bahraini women's contributions throughout the Kingdom's history.

The Supreme Council for Women and the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities launched the "Athar" project on Bahraini Women's Day 2017 by holding a competition inviting proposals for a monument to celebrate Bahraini women. Team "Athar" won that competition, with SCW naming the monument after them.

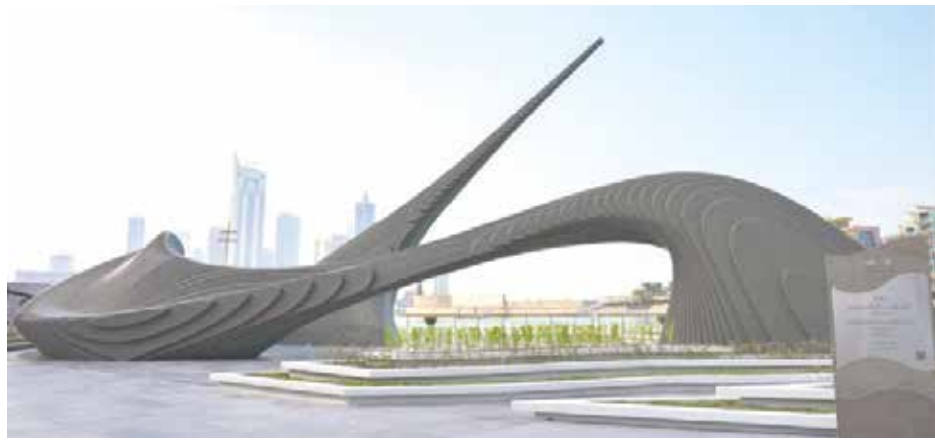
In a statement yesterday, Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, the Minister of Finance and National Economy, expressed his pride in the achievements of Bahrain women and their contributions to the comprehensive development of Bahrain.

Shaikh Salman hailed the government headed by HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, for supporting women's empowerment and ensuring their participation in all sectors.

Fawzia bint Abdullah Zainal, former Speaker of the House of Representatives, said the strides of Bahrain in the empowerment and advancement of women have made it a centre for expertise in women's affairs.

## Royal care

"The royal care and unwavering support strengthened the status of the women in the soci-



Her Royal Highness Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa, Wife of His Majesty the King and President of the Supreme Council for Women (SCW), patronised the inauguration of "Athar".



Mr Shaikh Salman, Finance Minister



HH Shaikh Isa



Mr Al-Mubarak, Municipal Affairs Minister



Ms Zainal, Speaker



Ms Al-Sairafi, Tourism Minister



Mr Al-Qaed, iGA CEO



Mr Al-Hawaj, Works Minister

ety and consolidated their progress," said His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa. The Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Isa bin Salman Educational Charitable Endowment congratulated Bahraini women for their contributions to the comprehensive development of the Kingdom and wished them further progress and prosperity.

The works of SCW, Shaikh Isa said, enabled Bahraini women

to remain active in the national building process.

He also hailed the support and commitment of His Royal Highness the Crown Prince and Prime Minister in promoting Bahraini women across various sectors.

## Athar, apt honour: Tourism Minister

Fatima bint Jaafar Al-Sairafi, the Minister of Tourism, expressed her pride in the status

of Bahraini women and vowed to continue efforts to create more jobs for them in the sector.

Al-Sairafi hailed the Supreme Council for Women, headed by Her Royal Highness, for celebrating Bahraini women's contributions to the nation building process.

## 34% of employees are women: Works Minister

Ibrahim bin Hassan Al-Hawaj, the Minister of Works,

expressed pride in the role of Bahraini women, pointing out that 34% of the employees in the ministry are women.

The minister said women enjoy 50% of the senior position and 51% of executive-level roles in the ministry.

Dr Lolwa Al-Mutlaq, President of the Bahraini Association of Administrators, said the day represents an opportunity to recall the efforts of Bahraini women and their contributions.

## The monument focuses on four aspects:

The "sea, due to its close connection with the lifestyle of the old Bahraini society, where women served a notable role in managing their families while men were out on fishing and pearling trips.

Women "as a human" and what she represents as a giver, serving multiple roles as a mother and educator for upcoming generations.

Women "as a worthy partner" in enriching society and contributing to the community's development and progress.

The project presents itself as an engineering design that considers the aspects of modernization and environment preservation, with a youthful vision inspired by the pioneers' achievements and looking to the future with confidence.



Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, the Minister of Finance and National Economy, yesterday held talks with Derek Chollet, US State Department Counselor. Shaikh Salman reviewed with him the strategic partnership between the two countries, especially at the economic level. They also discussed ways to enhance joint action and the latest developments in the global economy



Shaikh Rashid bin Abdulrahman Al Khalifa, the Capital Governor, yesterday celebrated Bahraini Women's Day in the presence of Hassan Abdullah Al-Madani, the Deputy Governor, officials, and all the governorate's affiliates.

## Health Ministry, Tamkeen win HRH Princess Sabeeka Award

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The Ministry of Health and Tamkeen had won HRH Princess Sabeeka Bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa Award for Bahraini Women's Advancement, marking Bahraini Women's Day.

The award is presented to ministries and public and private entities that excel in supporting and empowering working Bahraini women.

Dr Jalila bint Sayed Jawad Hassan, the Minister of Health and Labour Fund (Tamkeen) Chairman, Shaikh Mohammed bin Isa Al Khalifa, thanked the leadership of Bahrain for the honour. "This award is a proud

achievement for all those who have tirelessly worked to uplift the country by overcoming challenges," said Dr Hassan.

The award given out every year on December 1, the minister said, reflects the prominent role of women in the development, prosperity and progress of the Kingdom.

Hailing the award, Tamkeen's Chairman, Shaikh Mohammed, said they are committed to increasing the participation of women in the economy and labour market.

"Since its establishment, Tamkeen provided over 104,000 training and employment opportunities for Bahraini

women, supported over 24,000 women-led enterprises with over BD 250 million, which included facilitating financing from banks worth BD 383 m," said Maha Mofeez, Tamkeen's Acting Chief Executive.

She also pointed out that 53% of employees at Tamkeen are women, as they also occupy over 50% of leadership positions.

"Women in Tamkeen also achieved 53% of promotions and incentives in 2021," she stressed.

Bahraini Women's day this year is celebrated with the slogan "I read - learned - participated".



Bahrain Airport Company yesterday honoured its women employees by organising a celebration on the occasion of Bahraini Women's Day. BAC said that women employees in the company reached 100, of which 14% hold leadership positions.



The Supreme Council for Women was established on 22nd August 2001 through Amiri Decree No. 44 and later amended by Amiri Decrees No. 55 in 2001, 2 in 2002 and Royal Decree No. 36 in 2004. SCW has jurisdiction to express its opinion and address all matters impacting the position of women in society. The Council, chaired by Her Royal Highness Princess Sabeeka Bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa, has at least 16 members.

## 48% are women employees: iGA CEO

The CEO of the Information and eGovernment Authority said the national occasion provides an opportunity to pay tribute to all the honourable and unprecedented achievements of women locally, regionally and globally.

Mohammed Ali Al Qaed also praised the continuous efforts of SCW to ensure equal opportunities.

"Around 48% of the employees in iGA are women, where they also enjoy 40% of the leadership positions," he said.

His Highness Shaikh Mohammed bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa said the achievements of Bahraini women are a source of great pride, highlighting the role of the Supreme Council for Women in implementing programmes that encourage and promote women's contributions.

Wael bin Nasser Al-Mubarak, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Agriculture, hailed Bahraini women are a crucial component of Bahrain's development and an essential part of Team Bahrain. He also pointed out that 51% of the employees in the ministry are women.