

Global Cycling Activist Set to Revisit Bahrain After 28,000km Ride

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Two years after planting trees at Busaiteen Park during his visit to Bahrain, Nepali cyclist and environmental activist Shuva Prasad Sharma continues his journey across continents under The Bhawani Shubhayatra Global Cycling and Tree Plantation Campaign, driven by a single mission: to convince people that tackling climate change begins with simple individual action.



Shuva Prasad Sharma with community members during a tree-planting drive at Busaiteen Park in Bahrain in 2024.



Sharma, third from left, with H.E. Tirtha Raj Wagle, Ambassador of Nepal to the Kingdom Of Bahrain, during his 2024 visit.



Mr. Sharma's tree-planting campaign in Africa

cial role to play in tackling climate change, Sharma said lasting change also depends on individual action.

"Planting a tree is something everyone can do," he said. "People can water it, protect it and help it grow. In rural areas, natural compost is enough. When people care for a tree themselves, they feel proud because they know they have contributed."

For Sharma, the journey is about more than cycling across borders. It is about inspiring ordinary people to make small, practical changes that collectively can have a lasting impact on the planet. He hopes to return to Bahrain one day to volunteer in tree-planting campaigns, saying the Kingdom's commitment to afforestation and sustainability makes it a place he would like to support.



- Sharma has Covered 27 countries across 3 continents to raise awareness about climate change and promote climate action.
- 28,000 km of sustainable cycling completed
- 70+ trees planted internationally

After covering more than 28,000 kilometres and planting around 70 trees across Asia and

Africa over the past four and a half years, Sharma says Bahrain stands out for its commitment to afforestation and environmental sustainability. He hopes to return to the Kingdom to volunteer in tree-planting campaigns supporting its net-zero ambitions, saying Bahrain's environmental vision closely aligns with his own mission.

Speaking to The Daily Tribune, about his ambitious goal of cycling through 150 countries to spread awareness about climate change, Sharma said,

"I have a target of visiting 150 countries, but I have completed only 27 so far."

Bahrain was the 18th stop on

Sharma's global journey in 2024. After leaving the Kingdom, he travelled to Oman before cycling across East Africa, visiting Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and Malawi.

Challenges

Reflecting on his travels, Sharma said one of the biggest challenges he witnessed was the continued loss of forests and the lack of environmental awareness in many communities.

"In many places, people still depend on timber for energy, and large trees have disappeared," he said. "The bigger issue is that many people still do not understand the relationship between

forests, nature and climate."

Despite the progress he has made, Sharma told TDT that funding remains one of the biggest obstacles to completing his mission, and that he is seeking collaborations with governments and climate action partners.

"Sometimes I cannot find a major sponsor, so it is difficult to manage the expenses," he said.

His next goal is to secure a visa for Canada before continuing his journey through West Africa.

Beyond Borders

Speaking about the current heatwave, Sharma said the effects of climate change are becoming increasingly visible around the

world.

"Even the Himalayas are losing snow, now many areas are bare, and even at the mountain base camps you can find mosquitoes and flies where they were never seen before," he said.

While he believes governments and international organisations have a cru-



Shuva Prasad Sharma

Red Crescent Societies Advance Health Collaboration

Workshop gathers 12 national societies to enhance regional health coordination

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The Bahrain Red Crescent Society participated in a regional workshop in Jordan aimed at strengthening the role of national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies in supporting government-led immunization programs.

The workshop, titled "The Role of National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in Supporting Immunization Led by Ministries of Health," was hosted by the Jordan Red Crescent Society in cooperation with the International

Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

It brought together representatives from 12 national societies across the Middle East and North Africa, along with public health experts, partners, and specialists. Discussions focused on building a regional roadmap to define and expand the role of humanitarian societies in supporting immunization efforts led by national health authorities.

Key objectives included improving coordination between national societies and ministries of health, strengthening partner-



ships, sharing best practices, and enhancing institutional capacity to increase vaccine coverage and

improve access to immunization services. The workshop also highlighted the importance of prepar-

ing health systems to respond effectively to future outbreaks and public health challenges.

The Bahrain Red Crescent Society was represented by board member Dr. Kawthar Al Eid, who reaffirmed the organization's commitment to supporting regional health initiatives and strengthening community resilience.

She emphasized that closer cooperation among national societies helps improve community-based health programs, enhance volunteer capacity, and extend support to vulnerable and underserved populations, in line with the principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

Shura Secretariat Earns Global Ethics Certification

First Bahraini legislative body to receive the prestigious CIPS accreditation

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Rehab Mohammad

The General Secretariat of the Shura Council has earned the "CIPS Corporate Ethics Mark" and the Kite Mark for its commitment to implementing the highest professional and ethical standards and strengthening governance, transparency, and integrity principles in procurement and supply chain management.

The Chartered Institute of Procurement & Supply (CIPS) grants this certification after the Secretariat meets strict criteria measuring institutional compliance with internationally approved ethical and professional frameworks.

Her Excellency Ms. Kareema Mohammed Al-Abbasi, Secretary-General of the Shura Council, stated that this achievement reflects the continued support and care for Bahrain's institutional development journey by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, the King of the Kingdom of Bahrain, may God protect him,

and the close follow-up of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, may God protect him.

She noted that this support has helped entrench a culture of institutional excellence and the adoption of global best practices across government entities, enhancing performance efficiency and reinforcing governance and sustainability principles.

Al-Abbasi explained that obtaining this certification resulted from applying the highest international standards and practices in managing contracts, procurement, and supply chains, alongside continuous efforts to develop institutional work systems based on professional foundations that enhance efficiency and effectiveness.

She added that this contributes to optimal resource use and improved institutional performance quality. She emphasized that the General Secretariat views this global accreditation as a strong incentive to continue administra-



This global recognition motivates us to continue strengthening institutional excellence.

KAREEMA MOHAMMED AL-ABBASI

tive and procedural development, strengthen reputation and credibility, and build trust with suppliers, partners, and stakeholders.

She further stated that it embodies commitment to governance, transparency, integrity, and sustainability, supporting the Secretariat's direction toward continued administrative excellence in line with international best practices.

Accountant Cleared in BHD 74,000 Embezzlement Case

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Rehab Mohammad

The Third Lower Criminal Court has acquitted an accounting officer accused of embezzling BHD 74,000 from a well-known restaurant group after finding that the evidence presented was insufficient to support a conviction.

According to the case file, the Public Prosecution charged the defendant, who worked as the group's accounting officer, with embezzling BHD 74,000 in 2025. His duties included receiving and reviewing cash proceeds from the company's branches before they were deposited into the company's bank accounts.

The case began when the company's management noticed discrepancies between reported sales and the amounts deposited into its accounts. When questioned, the defendant denied any irregularities, prompting the company to commission a specialized accounting audit. The audit allegedly revealed a shortage of BHD 74,000, in addition

to BHD 14,000 belonging to another company. The company also stated that the defendant had begun attending work irregularly.

During the trial, the defendant denied all allegations. His lawyers, Taybah Fadhel and Kawthar Mohammed, argued that the case file contained no direct evidence linking their client to the alleged embezzlement. They further challenged the authenticity of the documents and signatures attributed to him, highlighted inconsistencies between the complainant's testimony and that of the prosecution's witness, and requested that the accounting report submitted by the complainant be disregarded or that an independent accounting expert be appointed.

In its judgment, the court found the accounting report unreliable, citing numerous inconsistencies and shortcomings. It noted that the report assumed the defendant had committed embezzlement despite the absence of documents proving that



he had received or reviewed the cash before its deposit into the company's bank account. The report also relied, in part, on statements made by the company's drivers.

The court further held that the case file contained no additional evidence sufficient to establish the defendant's guilt. It concluded that the prosecution's evidence was too weak to sustain a conviction, emphasizing that criminal convictions must be based on conclusive proof that leaves no reasonable doubt. As this standard had not been met, the court acquitted the defendant of the embezzlement charge.