

CAPTAIN'S CORNER

Electric Scooters: A Call  
for Regulation Before  
the Problem Grows



CAPTAIN MAHMOOD AL MAHMOOD

In recent years, the Kingdom of Bahrain has witnessed a noticeable rise in the use of electric scooters—devices that initially appeared as children’s toys, ridden occasionally in neighborhood streets and causing little disruption due to their limited presence.

That quiet beginning has gradually transformed into a much larger phenomenon. Adults have increasingly adopted these scooters as a practical means of transportation, first as a convenient tool for shop and grocery workers delivering nearby orders, and now as a common sight on main roads and highways.

Yet this swift shift from “toy” to “transport” has not been matched by a clear regulatory or legislative framework. As a result, many riders now operate these scooters in ways that endanger themselves and others—travelling along main roads without license plates or even basic safety gear such as helmets. These practices pose a direct risk to both scooter riders and other road users.

The General Directorate of Traffic at the Ministry of Interior has been quick to recognize this growing danger. It has launched organized campaigns to monitor and control the use of electric scooters and to ensure compliance with traffic rules. In official statements, the Directorate has emphasized that the primary aim is to protect lives and public safety before imposing penalties. This balanced approach reflects the Ministry’s long-standing commitment to combining firm law enforcement with a human touch in public service.

Bahrain’s traffic officers are widely known for embodying this blend of firmness and humanity. One friend recounted to me how his car suffered a tire blowout on the road. Within minutes, a patrol car stopped, and the officers insisted on changing the tire for him, saying: “You’re like my father—don’t tire yourself out.” Such stories exemplify the spirit of community security and compassionate service that defines the Ministry’s work, even in high-sensitivity tasks.

There is no doubt that the future of transportation is electric and environmentally friendly. But that future demands urgent legislative action in Bahrain: to regulate the import and use of these scooters, require licensing, and enforce safety standards. Early regulation will prevent these devices from becoming unsafe or unregulated alternatives to traditional transport—much like the “tuk-tuk” phenomenon that spread chaotically in other countries.

(Captain Mahmood Al Mahmood is the Editor-in-Chief of The Daily Tribune and the President of the Arab-African Unity Organisation for Relief, Human Rights and Counterterrorism)

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Egypt opens one of Valley of the  
Kings’ largest tombs to public

AFP | Luxor, Egypt

The tomb of Pharaoh Amenhotep III, one of the largest in southern Egypt’s Valley of the Kings and Queens, was officially opened to the public Saturday after years of restoration.

Egypt’s tourism and antiquities minister, Sherif Fathy, unveiled to reporters the newly refurbished site, which dates back more than 3,000 years.

Mohamed Ismail Khaled, head of Egypt’s Supreme Council of Antiquities, said restoration involved more than two decades of “incredibly delicate work, because the tomb



A tourist visits the tomb of King Amenhotep III in the Valley of the Kings

was suffering severe deterioration”.

Authorities led reporters on Saturday through the colossal space, which boasts floor-to-ceiling wall paintings, the bright blue of the frescoes shining even in the dim light.

Gazans hail Trump ceasefire call as



A Palestinian boy carries a piece of wood as he walks on a coastal path northwest of Baitirah refugee camp as they are displaced southward following an Israeli announcement of closing Al-Rashid road towards the north of the besieged Gaza Strip

Hamas agrees to  
free hostages

AFP | Khan Yunis, Palestinian Territories

Smoke billowed over Gaza City yesterday, yet for the first time in months, residents felt a ceasefire was within reach as they welcomed US President Donald Trump’s call for Israel to stop bombing.

“Trump’s announcement was very surprising to me, as he has always been biased toward Israel,” said 24-year-old Jamila al-Sayyid, from Gaza City’s Zeitun neighbourhood.

Despite Trump’s appeal, she said “the planes did not stop” bombing, but still felt good about her decision not to flee from the territory’s largest urban centre.

“The most important thing is that the ceasefire will take effect and the Israeli prisoners will be released, as they are a pretext for Israel to continue its occupation”, she added, referring to the 47 hostages still held in Gaza, including 25 the military says are dead.

Hamas said Friday night it was ready to release the hostages under Trump’s ceasefire plan, prompting the US president to urge Israel to immediately stop its strikes.

“I believe they are ready for a lasting PEACE. Israel must immediately stop the bombing of Gaza, so that we can get the Hostages out safely and quickly!” Trump posted on Truth Social after Hamas gave its agreement.

But Israel’s military yesterday warned northern Gaza remained “a dangerous combat zone” and warned residents not to return.

Gaza Strip: Trump’s plan for the  
withdrawal of Israeli troops

According to the map presented by the White House on September 29



For Sami Adas of Gaza City, however, it was a “day of joy, a great day”.

The 50-year-old, who has been living in a tent with his family in the west of Gaza City, the focus area of Israeli military’s operations in recent weeks, said any ceasefire would improve his lot.

“The best thing is that President Trump himself announced a ceasefire, and Netanyahu will not be able to escape this time,” Adas said, referring to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin

Netanyahu.

He said the US president “is the only one who can force Israel to comply and stop the war”.

Apprehensions remain

Further south, Mahmud Abu Shamala, a 49-year-old living in displacement in the so-called humanitarian area of Al-Mawasi, said that “this ceasefire is a dream I have wished to achieve for two years”.

He feared, however, that Israel would not abide by it once Hamas

releases the hostages.

Although Trump presented his ceasefire proposal Monday, several sticking points remain.

In talks with Trump, Netanyahu all but rejected the idea of Gaza being governed by the Ramallah-based Palestinian Authority.

Hamas, for its part, did not address the issue of its own disarmament and the exile of its members, and said more talks were needed to work out the details.

Still, Palestinians felt hope for the first time in months, after ceasefire talks had stalled and Israel attempted to strike Hamas leaders even in Qatar, a key mediator.

“It’s enough... the situation is very bad,” said Abu Hussein Labad, a displaced man from Jabalia refugee camp.

“I’m injured, and to this day I can’t move. The situation is unbearable. God willing, the war will end and we can return to our destroyed homes.”

In the West Bank city of Ramallah, Palestinians said Hamas played its hand well under an American ultimatum to respond by Sunday.

“Hamas’ stance yesterday was very good,” Iyad Safi told AFP.

“God willing, it will be for the good of the people -- the most important thing is the people’s interest, that the war stops and things come to an end.”

Adnan Naeem, said that “Hamas addressed the urgent issues”, in its response.

“The other issues can be discussed later”, he said.