

Six in 10 Bahrainis are under 35



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Numbers indicate steady growth in youth population over past decade

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Six in 10 Bahraini citizens are under the age of 35, according to newly published data.

The figures, released in May, show 451,879 Bahrainis aged 34 or younger out of a total citizen population of 742,234 at the end of December 2024.

Children under 15 accounted for 27.7 per cent, while those aged between 15 and 34 made up 33.2 per cent.

The numbers indicate steady growth in the youth population over the past decade.

In 2014, there were 218,814 Bahrainis aged between 15 and 34.

By the end of 2024, that figure had risen to 246,359. This

marks an overall increase of 12.5 per cent, with an average yearly rise of just over one per cent.

Among this group, 126,600 were men and 119,759 were women. Men made up 51.3 per cent of the total.

In the 0 to 14 age bracket, boys numbered 104,823 and girls 100,697.

Among young men, 35,322 were aged between 15 and 19, followed by 31,313 aged 20 to 24, 30,504 aged 25 to 29, and 29,461 aged 30 to 34.

Young women

Among young women, 33,818 were aged 15 to 19, 29,628 were aged 20 to 24, 28,338 were aged 25 to 29, and 27,975 were aged 30 to 34.

The growing size of this age group has drawn attention from planners.

Government programmes have been set up to prepare young Bahrainis for work and help them take part in economic and civic life.

Lawyer disbarred for filing fake complaint

Top court upholds conviction, six-month prison sentence

Mohammed Darwish
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A lawyer has been permanently struck off after Bahrain's top court upheld his conviction for filing a false complaint against a former trainee.

The decision, published in the Official Gazette in its latest issue, came after the Lawyers' Disciplinary Council voted unanimously to remove him from the roll.

The action followed a disciplinary case brought by the Minister of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments.

Appeal

A subsequent appeal to the Disciplinary Appeals Council was dismissed as out of time, and the appellant was ordered to cover the costs.

The Court of Cassation had earlier rejected the lawyer's final attempt to overturn the conviction, upholding a six-month prison sentence issued by the appeals court, which had reversed an earlier acquittal.

The matter began when the complainant, a trainee at the lawyer's office, brought a labour claim seeking unpaid wages.

The Labour Court ruled in his favour.

Employment contract

Shortly after, the lawyer lodged a report with the Public Prosecution, accusing the

complainant of forging the employment contract and submitting it to the Social Insurance Authority.

He also alleged that a forged certificate of experience had been filed with the Registrar at the Ministry of Justice.

Following an investigation, the Public Prosecution concluded the accusations were unfounded and brought proceedings against the lawyer.

The report was found to have been made with the intent of causing harm to the complainant's reputation.

The Lower Criminal Court



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initially acquitted him. However, the Public Prosecution appealed.

Custodial sentence

The High Criminal Court overturned the ruling and imposed a six-month custodial sentence.

The lawyer lodged an objection, which was admitted procedurally but dismissed on the merits.

His final challenge before the Court of Cassation was also rejected, leaving the conviction and sentence intact.

MPs review plan for sports disputes court

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Parliament is considering plans to establish a court dedicated to resolving disputes in the sports sector, following a proposal put forward by MP Dr Ali Al Nuaimi.

The Legislative and Legal Affairs Committee is reviewing a draft law that would create a specialised division within the High Civil Court to handle cases involving athletes, clubs, and sports federations.

According to the accompanying memorandum, the court would offer a judicial venue with expertise in sports-related disputes, helping to build confidence in the fairness of pro-



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ceedings.

The proposal comes as Bah-

rain begins enforcing its Sports Professionalism Law, with grow-



MP Dr Ali Al Nuaimi

ing calls for legal clarity in the handling of such cases.

The division would deal with disputes based on applicable

The proposal aims to create a specialised division within the High Civil Court to handle cases involving athletes, clubs, and sports federations.

rules and laws, regardless of the size or standing of those involved.

The memorandum also suggests that the court would contribute to the standardisation of sports regulations at the national level, reinforcing procedural consistency and protecting the rights of all parties involved.

Shop ordered to pay BD8,000 in unpaid municipal fees

Evidence sufficient to prove shop owner had not paid the dues

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A shop in Muharraq has been ordered to pay BD8,000 in overdue municipal charges, following a ruling by the High Administrative Court.

The case was brought by the Muharraq Municipality after the shop owner failed to respond to repeated notices demanding payment.

The council submitted a copy of the utility bill and a detailed breakdown of fees tied to the rented premises, showing the



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amount outstanding.

Fees

The court referred to Articles 35 and 36 of the 2001 Decree-Law on Municipalities, which provide that councils may charge fees for the use of services and facilities under their control.

Regulations issued in 2002 confirm that rented properties

are subject to monthly charges equal to ten per cent of the approved rental value, regardless of the activity or lease period.

Evidence

The judge found the evidence sufficient to prove that the shop owner had not paid the dues.

He did not appear in court and offered no reply. There was no record of any payment.

Court orders dealer to repay BD6,800 after car sale dispute

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A car buyer has been cleared of liability after the High Civil Appeals Court found that the money paid for the vehicle had gone to the intermediary who arranged the deal, rather than to the seller.

The court ordered the intermediary to repay BD5,700 to the seller, along with BD1,100 that had been transferred to his wife's bank account.

He was also instructed to cover legal costs and the seller's lawyer's fees.

The court confirmed that the sales contract was valid and that the car had not been misappropriated.

According to lawyer Nehad Al Seraj, who represented the



seller, her client had handed over the car to a trader to help find a buyer.

The intermediary found someone willing to purchase the vehicle and a price of BD 6,400 was agreed.

The buyer paid the full amount to the intermediary and took possession of the car.

However, the seller received nothing.

The intermediary claimed he would provide a different car instead and asked the seller to transfer an additional BD1,100

to his wife's bank account. No replacement was delivered.

After waiting in vain and receiving repeated excuses, the seller filed a complaint at the police station.

During questioning, the intermediary admitted he had received the full amount from the buyer, including the BD1,100 transferred to his wife's account.

The seller then filed a civil case against the buyer, the intermediary and the intermediary's wife, requesting cancellation of the sale and the return of all amounts paid.

The lower court dismissed the case.

The Appeals Court reviewed the police report, which confirmed the intermediary's confession.