

# Bahrain Proposes Legal Award

Crypto crimes and cross-border justice dominate summit



Dr. Ali bin Fadhel Al Buainain, Bahrain's Attorney General

● Bahrain suggests annual award

● Crypto crimes symposium held

● Arab prosecutors boost cooperation

Mahir Haneef

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Bahrain's Attorney General Dr. Ali bin Fadhel Al Buainain set a new direction for Arab judicial cooperation by proposing an annual legal research award at the fifth annual meeting of the Arab Public Prosecutors Association in Oman on September 2nd to 3rd.

The Attorney General said the award would recognize the best legal research from members of Arab prosecution offices, with emphasis on the significance of the subject and its potential benefits. He added that outstanding works would be disseminated on international platforms to boost knowledge exchange and strengthen regional legal systems.

### Knowledge focus

In his opening remarks, Dr. Al Buainain praised the strong ties among Arab prosecution offices and stressed the importance of exchanging expertise and adopting the latest technologies to confront crime. He called for expanding cultural resources in the social and economic fields, saying that broader knowledge improves prosecutors' ability to evaluate matters correctly and serve the public interest.

## Kingdom first in Middle East for ores and metals exports

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Bahrain tops the Middle East for exports of ores and metals, with the category making up 54 per cent of the Kingdom's total merchandise exports, according to international trade data.

The share is well ahead of every other country in the region.

The figures show the weight of extractive and basic metal industries in Bahrain's export mix, led by the aluminium cluster centred on Aluminium Bahrain (Alba), along with iron and metal alloys.

These lines feed global mar-

kets with high value goods.

Across the region, Palestine placed second on 15.91 per cent. Jordan ranked third with 9.38 per cent, backed by phosphate and potash. Lebanon followed on 8.60 per cent.

Next came Iran on 6.47 per cent, Oman 6.45 per cent, Egypt 4.71 per cent, the UAE 4.53 per cent, Turkey 4.37 per cent and Cyprus 4.01 per cent.

Syria recorded 2.66 per cent, Qatar 2.33 per cent, Saudi Arabia 1.57 per cent and Kuwait 0.07 per cent.

The spread points to varied economic structures across these states, with some relying more on energy and services.



The world's first Bitcoin-related criminal case was filed in Japan in 2014, when Mt. Gox exchange collapsed after losing 850,000 bitcoins to hackers.

### Expanding cooperation

The Attorney General commended the steps taken by the association in recent years to advance the technical and technological capacities of public prosecution offices. He also urged a stronger role for the Association's media content team in spreading judicial rulings, decisions, and research, thereby supporting prosecutors in their mission.

### Crypto crimes spotlight

On the sidelines of the meeting, prosecutors and experts held a symposium on cryptocurrency-related crimes and evidence seizure. The Kingdom of Bahrain's Public Prosecution presented its experience in investigating such crimes, sharing methods of collecting digital evidence and pursuing financial offenses.

The two-day summit concluded with a call to reinforce cooperation, share best practices, and adopt innovative approaches to strengthen Arab judicial systems in the face of evolving crime.

# Look up at tonight's dazzling sky show!

Bahrain set to witness rare total lunar eclipse lasting more than five hours

● Most significant celestial event to happen this year

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The skies of Bahrain and the Arabian Gulf will light up with a rare astronomical spectacle tonight as a total lunar eclipse coincides with the full moon of Rabi' al-Awwal 1447 AH.

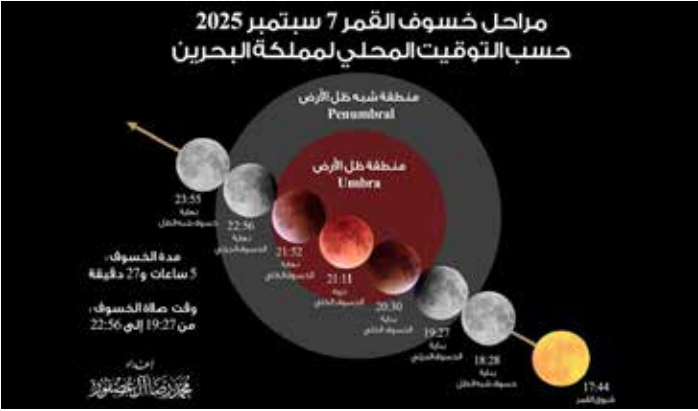
Astronomers say it will be one of the most significant celestial events of the year.

According to astronomer Mohammed Redha Al Asfour, the eclipse will last 5 hours and 27 minutes in all its stages, making it a long and striking occurrence.

The moon will rise at 5:44 p.m. local time and begin entering Earth's penumbra at 6:28 p.m.

The partial eclipse will follow at 7:27 p.m., leading to the total eclipse at 8:30 p.m., when the moon will turn a dramatic dark red due to the refraction of sunlight through Earth's atmosphere.

The eclipse will reach its peak at 9:11 p.m. before gradually



“A lunar eclipse occurs when Earth’s shadow blocks sunlight from reaching the moon as the Earth aligns directly between the sun and the moon.”

- MOHAMMED REDHA AL ASFOUR, ASTRONOMER

fading. The total phase ends at 9:52 p.m., with the moon leaving Earth's umbra at 10:56 p.m. and the penumbra at 11:55 p.m.

Adding to the uniqueness of the event, Saturn will appear alongside the moon throughout the eclipse, creating an excep-

tional viewing experience for skywatchers.

Al Asfour noted that the recommended time for the special eclipse prayer extends from the start of the partial eclipse at 7:27 p.m. until 10:56 p.m., a span of 3 hours and 29 minutes.



The total eclipse will occur at 8:30 p.m. when the moon will turn a dramatic dark red due to the refraction of sunlight through Earth's atmosphere.

He explained that a lunar eclipse occurs when Earth's shadow blocks sunlight from reaching the moon as the Earth aligns directly between the sun and the moon.

This will be the first total lunar eclipse visible in Bahrain since July 2018 and will not be seen again until December 31, 2028.

Al Asfour urged astronomy enthusiasts and photographers to seize the opportunity to observe and document the rare phenomenon, emphasizing that the eclipse is safe to view with the naked eye.

# Calls for mosques to hold eclipse prayer

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The General Administration of Sunni Endowments has invited mosque imams across the Kingdom to lead the special eclipse prayer this evening, coinciding with a rare total lunar eclipse.

The astronomical event will take place on Rabi' al-Awwal 15, 1447 AH, corresponding to September 7, 2025.

Expected to begin at 7:28 p.m., the eclipse will continue until 10:56 p.m., reaching its peak at 9:11 p.m.

The Endowments administration instructed imams to perform the prayer once the eclipse is sighted and confirmed.

### Prophetic guidance

It also reminded worshippers

of the importance of following prophetic guidance in observing this prayer and reflecting on its spiritual meaning.

The statement further emphasised that the eclipse prayer highlights the great objectives and lessons of Islamic law, encouraging believers to seize the opportunity for worship and contemplation during this extraordinary celestial event.

## Education Ministry awarded ISO certification

● For information security management

● Second year in a row

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The Ministry of Education has obtained the ISO 27001:2022 certification for information security management for the second consecutive year, after successfully meeting all audit and accreditation requirements by the internationally accredited RICI company.

The achievement reflects the ministry's ongoing efforts to advance information security management, adopt international best practices, and enhance digital infrastructure to ensure data protection and business continuity across its sectors.

ISO 27001:2022 is one of the leading international standards for effective information security management, providing frameworks of policies and controls that safeguard privacy and availability of information in line with global digital governance.

## Bahrain Triples Qualifications

● Qualifications tripled in year

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Bahrain has made a dramatic leap in education quality oversight, with the number of accredited qualifications tripling in just one year, according to the Education and Training Quality Authority (BQA) 2024-2025 performance report.

The report, released under the leadership of BQA Chief Executive Officer Dr. Mariam Hassan Mustafa, credited the Kingdom's progress to the vi-



Dr. Mariam Hassan Mustafa

sion of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and the directives of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister. Dr. Mustafa affirmed that investing in national competencies remains

the cornerstone for a more sustainable and prosperous future.

The report reviewed 76 public schools and 23 private schools, noting improvements across several institutions. Twenty-four public schools registered significant gains while 45 maintained their ratings. Eleven private schools improved their performance scores and seven others remained steady.

Kindergarten reviews were conducted for the first time, covering 22 institutions. The findings highlighted effective practices in children's social development and learning environments, with recommendations to strengthen child-initiated guided play.