

Tourism and Heritage in Global Spotlight

Bahrain's Participation in Global Events Reinforces Its Position as a Leading Tourism Destination; BTEA CEO

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Bahrain's participation in major international events is helping strengthen the Kingdom's position as a leading tourism destination, Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority (BTEA) Chief Executive Officer Sara Ahmed Buhiji said.

Speaking on the sidelines of the Concours of Elegance 2026 at Hampton Court Palace in the UK from September 4 to 6, Buhiji said the Kingdom's participation in global tourism events provides an opportunity to showcase its cultural heritage, tourism offerings and ability to host world-class events.

During the event, Buhiji presented the BTEA Award to the 1939 Voisin C30 Saloon, one of only five surviving examples of the model worldwide. The Royal



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Bahrain Concours Award went to the 1933 Aston Martin Le Mans, recognised as one of the most historically significant surviving



Aston Martin cars. Bahrain also operated a pavilion featuring traditional handicrafts, performances, interactive experiences and information about key tourism attractions.

Buhiji said the awards reflected Bahrain's commitment



to celebrating automotive heritage, craftsmanship and design, while highlighting the cooperation between BTEA and Thorough Events, organiser of both events. She also promoted the second Royal Bahrain Concours, taking place under the patronage



of Crown Prince and Prime Minister Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa on November 6 and 7 at the Royal Golf Club in Riffa.

The two-day event featured rare, classic and contemporary cars from around the world, alongside leading GCC car clubs,

entertainment and experiences highlighting Bahraini hospitality and culture. Buhiji invited collectors, car enthusiasts and visitors from the UK and elsewhere to attend the event and experience Bahrain's automotive heritage and tourism offerings.

Palestinian Rights Discussed

Foreign Minister Dr. Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani received Yasser Abbas, Special Representative of Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs during his visit to Bahrain.

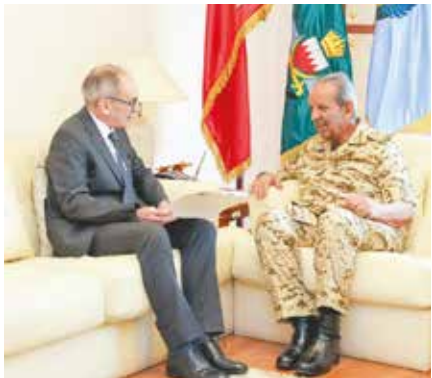
The meeting reviewed the close fraternal relations between Bahrain and Palestine and ways to strengthen diplomatic cooperation at international forums, including during Bahrain's non-permanent membership of the UN Security Council, in support of Palestinian rights.



Commander-in-Chief Receives UK Envoy

Field Marshal Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, Commander-in-Chief of the Bahrain Defence Force (BDF), received Simon Martin CMG, Chargé d'Affaires of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to Bahrain.

The Commander-in-Chief commended the historical ties between Bahrain and the UK, which continue to develop across various domains.



From The Court

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Rehab Mohammad

114 Drug Capsules Found in Man's Body

A 30-year-old Asian man is facing charges of smuggling methamphetamine into Bahrain after 114 suspected drug capsules were discovered inside his body following his detention at Bahrain International Airport on April 26, 2026.

A customs officer became suspicious of the man during inspection, and an X-ray examination later revealed suspected drug capsules inside his body. He was referred to the Anti-Narcotics Directorate and taken to Salmaniya

Medical Complex, where he expelled the capsules at different intervals.

The defendant admitted during Public Prosecution questioning that he had smuggled crystal methamphetamine into Bahrain in return for payment. A Toxicology and Drugs Laboratory report confirmed that the capsules contained methamphetamine. The court is scheduled to issue its judgment on September 29, 2026.

Three Years for Assaulting Police Officer

A defendant has been sentenced to three years in prison for assaulting a police sergeant while on duty in Hoorra on February 17, 2026. The defendant was detained after officers found him behaving abnormally and began shouting and verbally insulting them.

After being handcuffed and placed inside a patrol car, the defendant kicked the vehicle's window. When the sergeant attempted to restrain him, he kicked the officer three times in the face, shoulder and chest,

while also insulting and spitting at him.

The defendant admitted assaulting the officer during Public Prosecution questioning. A forensic report confirmed that the sergeant suffered an injury to his little finger while restraining him. The defendant was sentenced in absentia on April 28, and his lawyer appealed the ruling on May 7. The case has been adjourned for judgment on September 29.

Student Accused of Setting Family Home on Fire

A defendant has been sentenced to three years in prison for assaulting a police sergeant while on duty in Hoorra on February 17, 2026. The defendant was detained after officers found him behaving abnormally and began shouting and verbally insulting them.

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VAT Evasion Case Adjourned

A foreign company, its British administrative manager and two other defendants face charges of failing to pay Value Added Tax (VAT) due on taxable services. The case has been adjourned for judgment on September 29, 2026.

According to the investigation, the defendants failed to pay VAT within the statutory 120-day period despite filing tax returns with the National Bureau for Revenue (NBR). The

unpaid VAT attributed to the first defendant was BD3,536,534, while BD48,971,063 was attributed to the second and third defendants.

The limited liability company owned by the defendants was also accused of VAT evasion, with unpaid tax amounting to BD52,507,597. NBR witnesses told the Public Prosecution that the company submitted 11 tax returns covering the fourth quarter of 2022 to the second



quarter of 2025 without paying the VAT due.

AI Initiatives Discussed

Dr. Hassan bin Abdullah Fakhro, His Majesty the King's Advisor for Economic Affairs, received Dr. Jassim Haji, President of the International Group of Artificial Intelligence (IG-OAI). The meeting reviewed initiatives and projects related to artificial intelligence.

Dr. Fakhro highlighted Dr. Haji's efforts to promote aware-



ness and develop a culture of AI among the community and entrepreneurs, while Dr. Haji commended Dr. Fakhro's role

in supporting Bahrain's development and affirmed his commitment to launching impactful AI programmes.

Speaker Receives US Ambassador

Ahmed bin Salman Al Musallam, Speaker of the Council of Representatives, received Stephanie Hallett, Ambassador of the United States of America to Bahrain, and affirmed that the historical Bahrain-US ties continue to advance across various areas.

The meeting discussed regional and international developments, including the repercussions of Iranian attacks on Bah-



rain, GCC countries and Jordan, as well as the risks of closing the Strait of Hormuz to international

navigation, alongside ways to strengthen parliamentary cooperation and coordination.

Bahrain-Türkiye Cooperation



Field Marshal Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, Commander-in-Chief of the Bahrain Defence Force (BDF), received Commodore Fazıl Erdem Kırıcı, the newly appointed Military Attaché of the Embassy of the Republic of Türkiye to Bahrain, residing in Riyadh.

The Commander-in-Chief welcomed the Turkish military attaché and wished him success in carrying out his assigned military duties, while commending the cooperation between Bahrain and Türkiye.

RHF Marks 25 Years



Ahmed bin Salman Al Musallam, Speaker of the Council of Representatives, received Ibrahim Dalhan Al Doseri, Acting Secretary-General of the Royal Humanitarian Foundation (RHF), and congratulated the foundation on its 25th anniversary.

The Speaker commended the RHF's pioneering humanitarian initiatives and discussed ways to strengthen cooperation and coordination between the Council of Representatives and the foundation, including efforts to highlight its mission and initiatives through parliamentary diplomacy.