

NATO Unity Restored

Trump softened his criticism of NATO allies, reaffirming the US commitment to the alliance as leaders ended the Ankara summit. | P6-7

Oman and Saudi Arabia Hold High-Level Talks on Trade, Gulf Security

THE DAILY tribune



Bahraini becomes first GCC woman to sign for NCAA Division I basketball program

10 **SPORT**

BUSINESS

5

GHG expands global footprint with first Indian Ocean investment in the Maldives

New MoU to Enhance Institutional Development



The Institute of Public Administration (IPA) and the National Institution for Human Rights (NIHR) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to enhance cooperation in training, leadership development and institutional capacity building. The agreement was signed by IPA Director General Dr. Shaikha Rana bint Isa bin Du-aj Al Khalifa and NIHR President Ali Ahmed Al Derazi. Dr. Shaikha Rana highlighted that the partnership reflects the Institute's commitment to developing national capabilities through specialised training programmes and strengthening human rights awareness.

Bapco Energies Stays Course on Growth Strategy

● Board approves 2025 financials and endorses 2026 budget

● Chairman shares outcomes of US energy talks with Secretary Wright

TDT | Manama

Bapco Energies held its second quarter Board of Directors meeting, chaired by His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, His Majesty's Representative for Humanitarian Works and Youth Affairs and Chairman of Bapco Energies. HH Shaikh Nasser briefed the board on his recent visit to the United States, where he met



US Secretary of Energy Chris Wright to discuss bilateral energy cooperation and the impact of regional conflict on Bahrain and the Bapco Energies Group. The board reviewed the group's financial and operational performance. It approved the au-



dated financial statements for the year ended 2025 and endorsed a consolidated adjusted budget for 2026 that aligns with its strategic objectives. CEO Mark Thomas updated the board on key growth indicators and progress on major

initiatives, including the Bapco Modernisation Project and Upstream projects. The board reaffirmed Bapco Energies' commitment to Bahrain's long-term economic development, energy security, and stakeholder value creation.

Manama Dialogue Preparations Reviewed



Foreign Minister Dr. Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani met with Air Marshal (Retd) Martin "Sammy" Sampson, Executive Director of the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS)-Middle East, to discuss preparations for the upcoming 22nd Manama Dialogue. The meeting, held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs headquarters, reviewed arrangements for the strategic security forum, which Bahrain will host in early November. Both sides also discussed ongoing cooperation between the Ministry and IISS, along with opportunities to further strengthen collaboration on shared goals.

REHC Renews British Racing School Partnership



The Rashid Equestrian and Horseracing Club (REHC) renewed its cooperation agreement with the British Racing School in the United Kingdom to further develop training programmes for Bahraini jockeys. The agreement, signed during the July Festival at Newmarket Racecourse, aims to strengthen the Bahrain Jockey Academy's programmes through joint training initiatives and technical expertise. REHC Acting CEO Yusuf O. Buheji highlighted the importance of developing national talent, while the 2026 programme will expand participation for apprentice and emerging riders.

Region Unites In Condemnation

All military units remain fully prepared to safeguard the Kingdom

General Command of the Bahrain Defence Force says its air defence systems successfully intercepted and destroyed multiple Iranian missile and drone attacks targeting the Kingdom. All BDF services and units are operating at maximum combat readiness, authorities confirmed. Residents are urged to avoid approaching or handling any unfamiliar objects or debris resulting from the attacks and to report them immediately. Royal Field Engineering personnel remain on full alert to safely neutralise such material, protecting citizens and residents across the Kingdom.



The BDF General Command condemned the strikes as a deliberate violation of international humanitarian law, expressing

pride in the vigilance and professionalism shown by its personnel in defending the nation.

GCC stands firm

GCC Secretary General Jasem Mohamed Albudaiwi condemned the attacks in the strongest terms, calling them blatant aggression against Bahrain and Kuwait and a direct threat to regional security. The GCC reaffirmed full solidarity with both nations. Saudi Arabia, Qatar, the UAE, and Jordan all issued condemnations, describing the at-



Jasem Mohamed Albudaiwi

tacks as flagrant violations of sovereignty and international law. The UAE expressed full solidarity with Bahrain, Kuwait, and Jordan, backing all measures to safeguard their security and stability. Qatar called for dialogue, diplomacy, and de-escalation to protect regional gains.

U.S. Floods Gulf With 20 Warships



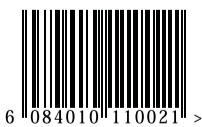
More than 20 U.S. Navy warships patrol Middle East waters as tensions in the Gulf escalate sharply following the collapse of a short-lived ceasefire between Washington and Tehran. The head of the International Maritime Organization raised the alarm on Wednesday regarding the safety of approximately 6,000 seafarers currently stranded in the Gulf, urging that they must not face unnecessary danger by attempting to cross the Strait of Hormuz amid active hostilities.

Two Awards for Bahrain's Maaan Programme



Anti-violence and addiction programme "Maaan" claimed two awards at the Arab Intelligence and Creativity Award, underscoring its growing regional influence in prevention, innovation, and research. The programme won in the Educational and Academic Sectors category for its preventive curriculum targeting youth, and in the Applied Personal Innovation category for the "EAST" strategic planning system — a proprietary tool developed by the Maaan Research and Training Centre. HE Shaikh Hisham bin Abdulrahman Al Khalifa, Undersecretary of the Interior Ministry and Chairman of the Maaan Committee, received the awards.

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Cabinet Committee Reviews Home Repairs Following Iran Attack



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Deputy Prime Minister Shaikh Khalid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa chaired the 310th meeting of the Ministerial Committee on Development Projects and Infrastructure, where members reviewed the progress of key development initiatives, infrastructure projects and national achievements.

The committee commended the Ministry of Works and the Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning for completing the restoration of another batch of homes in Hidd Housing City and Sitra that were damaged during the recent Iranian at-

tacks. The repairs were carried out within the approved time-frame, in line with the directives of His Majesty the King and the order of His Royal Highness the Crown Prince and Prime Minister to compensate affected citizens whose homes and vehicles sustained damage.

The meeting also highlighted Bahrain's strong performance in the 2026 ICT Development Index issued by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). The Kingdom ranked sixth globally among 159 countries, climbing three places from last year while achieving an overall score of 98 per cent, reflecting continued investment in digital infrastructure and technological advancement.

Royal Charity Organisation Launches Family Psychological Security Study



The Royal Charity Organisation (RCO) has launched a landmark research study titled "Family Psychological Security Under Royal Care for Bahraini Families," developed in partnership with the University of Bahrain. The launch ceremony, held at the RCO's Seef headquarters, was attended by Acting Secretary-General Engineer Ibrahim Dalhan Al-Dosari and University President Dr. Fouad Mohammed Al-Ansari.

The study revealed strong outcomes among beneficiar-

ies: 98.3% said RCO support contributed to their sense of psychological security, 97.5% reported the organisation's services helped them adapt after loss, and 95% described the RCO as a trusted refuge in times of need.

The launch coincides with the RCO's 25th anniversary, celebrated under the theme "A Humanitarian Legacy," reinforcing the institution's commitment to evidence-based humanitarian work serving Bahraini families.

AI, Semiconductors Drive New Global Investment Wave



Representatives from several leading government and semi-government organizations attended the launch of the World Investment Report 2026 in Bahrain

TDT | Manama
Neethu V.

Artificial intelligence and advanced technologies are emerging as the biggest magnets for global investment, with billions of dollars flowing into strategic sectors even as geopolitical tensions and economic uncertainty reshape where companies choose to invest, according to the World Investment Report 2026.

Speaking at the Bahrain launch of the report, organised by the MENA Centre for Investment at Swiss-Belhotel Seef, Dr. Astrit Sulstarova, Chief of the Trends and Data Section, Division on Investment and Enterprise at UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD), said, "Our world has entered a period of profound turbulence, reflected in seismic shifts in the global investment landscape," noting that global FDI rose 6 per cent in 2025 to reach \$1.6 trillion.

He said investment has become "more selective and more concentrated," with capital increasingly flowing into AI infrastructure, semiconductors, critical minerals, energy transition technologies and other advanced industries.

Announced greenfield investment in these strategic sectors jumped from \$109 billion in 2020 to \$576 billion in 2025, while AI infrastructure alone attracted \$341 billion last year, fuelled by demand for data centres, cloud



"Investment has become more selective and more concentrated"

DR. ASTRIT SULSTAROVA

computing and digital services. Semiconductor investment also recorded the fastest growth as countries sought to strengthen technology supply chains.

Meanwhile, greenfield investment in traditional manufacturing sectors, including textiles, consumer goods and agribusiness, fell 17 per cent, reducing opportunities for many developing economies.

Bahrain's Investment Shift

On Bahrain, Dr. Sulstarova said FDI inflows fell to around \$800 million in 2025, although cross-border mergers and acquisitions climbed to \$1.4 billion, while international project finance nearly doubled to \$1.7 billion. He said Bahrain and other Gulf countries should strengthen sectors where they

GLOBAL FDI HIGHLIGHTS

\$644 billion	FDI attracted by Asia, the world's largest recipient region
80%+	Share of global FDI received by the top 20 host economies
\$39 billion	India's FDI inflows, up 44%
\$70 billion	FDI attracted by Africa, remaining above its long-term average
14% rise	Growth in Latin America's FDI, driven mainly by Brazil
South-East Asia	Overtook East Asia as the leading investment destination in the region

can build long-term competitive advantages, particularly digital infrastructure and AI. "Rather than competing directly with larger economies, countries should focus on areas where they can build sustainable competitive advantages," he said.

Commenting on the report, Barath Chandran, a data specialist told The Daily Tribune that it provides much-needed clarity on global investment trends. "It offers a clear, honest picture of where investment is really flowing, not just where we hope it's flowing. The fact that strategic sectors now account for 44 per cent of global project value, up from just 16 per cent in 2020, is exactly the trend we're positioning for," he said.

Dr. Hana Abdulla Kanoo, Director of the MENA Centre for Investment, said the report provides valuable insights into the evolving investment landscape. "Through our collaboration with UN Trade and



"The fact that strategic sectors now account for 44 per cent of global project value, up from just 16 per cent in 2020, is exactly the trend we're positioning for."

- BARATH CHANDRAN, DATA SPECIALIST

Development, we are pleased to bring this important global discussion to Bahrain, fostering dialogue, knowledge sharing and stronger engagement among stakeholders across the region," she said.

XPENG Opens First Showroom in Bahrain

Green Mobility has officially opened the first XPENG showroom in the Kingdom of Bahrain, offering customers a dedicated destination to experience the brand's latest generation of intelligent electric vehicles. Located in Sitra, the facility showcases XPENG's advanced EV lineup and provides integrated sales and customer support services.

The opening marks a key milestone in Green Mobility's partnership with XPENG, enabling customers to explore models including the G9, G6, X9, and P7+, each combining intelligent technology, premium design, and zero-emission performance.

Commenting on the occasion, Mr. Saad Alzowayed, Assistant



General Manager of Green Mobility, said: "The opening of our first XPENG showroom in Bahrain marks an important milestone in our commitment to advancing intelligent and sustainable mobility in the Kingdom.

More than a showroom, it is a space where customers can experience the future of driving firsthand through XPENG's innovative technologies, exceptional design, and smart electric vehicles. We look forward to welcoming customers and

supporting Bahrain's transition towards a more sustainable transportation ecosystem." We look forward to welcoming customers and supporting Bahrain's transition towards a more sustainable transportation ecosystem."

Joint Economic Meeting



The Joint Economic Committee of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce and the Bahrain Chamber held its 51st meeting on Wednesday, marking its first session since the appointment of the chamber's new Board of Directors. The meeting was co-chaired by Industry and Commerce Minister Abdullah bin Adel Fakhro and Bahrain Chamber Chairman Nabeel Khalid Kanoo.

Minister Fakhro welcomed the chamber's new leadership and reaffirmed the ministry's commitment to strengthening cooperation with the private sector. He said the committee plays a vital role in improving coordination, supporting the commercial sector, enhancing the business environment, and advancing Bahrain's economic development objectives.

Kanoo thanked the ministry for its continued support, describing the committee as an important platform for addressing key economic priorities and improving business competitiveness. Members also reviewed the progress of recommendations and initiatives from previous meetings to ensure the continued effectiveness of joint public-private sector efforts.

Gas Cylinders on Roads ? It's Illegal, Muharraq Warns

Homeowners told to keep cylinders inside property boundaries

Rehab Mohammad
TDT | Manama

Gas cylinders left on pavements and roads outside homes are illegal, dangerous and can block ambulances, fire engines and repair crews, Muharraq Municipality has warned.

The municipality said homeowners must keep cylinders inside their property in safe, designated locations – not on public land.

Roads and pavements are built for public use, not for storing gas cylinders or household items. Such use breaches Bahrain's Public Roads Occupation Law.

The warning follows growing concern that some daily habits are being treated as normal despite posing risks to pedestrians, drivers and nearby homes.



Cylinders left in the street can block walkers, slow traffic, spoil the appearance of residential areas, and leave cylinders exposed to knocks, tampering or damage.

They can also obstruct access for emergency vehicles and maintenance crews during critical call-outs.

The municipality urged citizens and residents to follow the rules, warning that non-compliance endangers lives and property and that safe storage within the home protects both individuals and shared public spaces.

Cameras Urged to Curb Salman City Night Driving Chaos

Authorities urged to intensify late-night patrols as residents report reckless driving and red-light violations

TDT | Manama
Hasan Barakat

Northern Municipal Council member has called for the swift installation of traffic monitoring cameras in Salman City and stronger late-night enforcement following residents' complaints about dangerous driving behaviour.

Second Constituency representative Basim Abu Idrees said residents have reported repeated incidents of drifting, excessive speeding and red-light violations between 11pm and dawn.

Complaints, videos, and messages received from residents highlight growing concerns over road safety, as reckless driving disturbs residential areas and poses risks to motorists and pedestrians.

Abu Idrees said he has submitted a request to the General



“Our goal is not only to address violations but also to reassure families that their safety remains a priority.”

- BASIM ABU IDREES, COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

Directorate of Traffic to increase civil traffic monitoring in Salman City during late-night hours.

He said reported violations include dangerous drifting, reckless speeding and ignoring traffic signals, stressing that urgent action is needed to protect residents and road users.

Camera Installation

The municipal representative also called for the completion of the traffic enforcement and surveillance camera installation project at key locations across

the city.

He said the cameras would improve traffic discipline, deter violations and support efforts to prevent accidents caused by dangerous driving.

Abu Idrees praised the efforts of the General Directorate of Traffic in maintaining road safety and enforcing traffic regulations.

He said these efforts reflect the Interior Ministry's commitment to protecting lives and property while enhancing traffic security across Bahrain.

Open Your Windows: Expert's Summer Health Warning

Daily 40-minute airing urged as AC units trap dust and stale air indoors

TDT | Manama
Mohammed Darwish

Families relying on air conditioning throughout summer risk serious indoor air quality problems unless they open windows for at least 40 minutes daily, a public health pest control expert has warned.

Khalid Al Boursheid said air conditioners do not draw in fresh air; they recirculate existing indoor air. Some filters push dust and fine particles back into rooms, worsening conditions for allergy and sinus sufferers.

He urged households to switch off AC units daily and open win-



dows in bedrooms, kitchens and bathrooms to allow sunlight and fresh air to naturally cleanse the home.

Gecko and Pest Alert

Al Boursheid also warned that summer brings a rise in geckos, drawn by insects near cracks, AC gaps and indoor plants. He cautioned against improper pesticide use and advised calling trained specialists for stronger treatments.



“Dust and fine particles recycled by AC filters can harm air quality and worsen seasonal allergies.”

- KHALID AL BOURSHEID, PUBLIC HEALTH PEST CONTROL EXPERT

On rodents, he noted peanut butter outperforms cheese as trap bait, while glue traps can be ineffective as their odour repels rats.



From
The Court

TDT | Manama
Rehab Mohammad

Security Guard on Trial Over 2kg Hashish Haul

Police say drugs, cash and scales were seized from suspect's vehicle

A 24-year-old Bahraini security guard gone on trial before the High Criminal Court on charges of possessing around two kilograms of hashish for trafficking and personal use.

Two other Bahraini men, aged 37 and 26, are also facing charges of possessing narcotics for per-

sonal use. The court adjourned the case until July 14 for the first defendant's lawyer to present the defence while ordering the continued detention of all three defendants.

Police said officers seized more than two kilograms of suspected hashish, electronic

scales, suspected hashish oil and cash believed to be drug proceeds during searches of the first defendant and his vehicle. Investigators also alleged the two co-defendants bought hashish from him. Laboratory tests confirmed the seized substances contained cannabis.

Appeal Court Upholds Jail Terms in BD800,000 Gold Theft

Victim lost Rolex watches, gold bars and valuables from Juffair home

The High Criminal Court of Appeal upheld prison sentences for eight defendants convicted of stealing gold bars, Rolex watches and valuables worth more than BD800,000 from a Juffair home.

Three defendants will serve six years in prison for the burglary, while five others received sentences ranging from six months to two years for concealing stolen property.

Investigators said the suspects

broke into the house while the owner was abroad, stole valuables from a bedroom safe and later sold part of the gold. Police recovered some of the stolen items from several locations following the defendants' confessions.

Utility Delay Leaves 40 Ras Hayyan Families Waiting

Homeowners call for temporary utility connections until infrastructure work is complete

TDT | Manama
Hasan Barakat

More than 40 completed homes in Ras Hayyan have remained without electricity and water for over two-and-a-half years, leaving homeowners unable to move into properties that are otherwise ready for occupation.

Residents of Block 963 have appealed to the relevant authorities to urgently address the delay, saying the absence of basic utility services has prevented dozens of families from settling into their new homes.

According to homeowners, construction of the houses was completed some time ago, while several infrastructure projects in the area, including road paving and electricity substations, have also been finished.

However, residents said the delay stems from the incomplete elevation of road levels in the area, which has prevented the installation of cables needed to connect electricity and water services to the homes.

The prolonged wait has placed a growing financial burden on affected families. Many



homeowners said they continue to pay monthly rent while also meeting loan repayments or construction instalments for houses they cannot occupy.

Residents said the ongoing uncertainty has made the situation increasingly difficult, with no clear timeline for when utility connections will be completed.

The homeowners have called on the authorities to intervene without further delay to resolve the issue. They also urged officials to consider temporary measures that would allow electricity and water to be connected until the remaining infrastructure work is finished, enabling families to finally move into their long-completed homes.

Verify Before You Pay

MOI Warns Against Online Shopping Scams

TDT | Manama
Neethu V

Residents have been urged not to pay deposits for products advertised on social media without first verifying the seller, as scammers continue to exploit platforms such as TikTok and Instagram to deceive buyers.

Speaking on the Interior Ministry's Al Aman social media programme, Hidd Police Station Head Colonel Dr Osama Bahar warned that despite repeated awareness campaigns, many people are still losing money to fake online accounts.

He said fraudsters often lure victims with attractive photos or videos of cars, furniture, abayas and other items before asking for an advance payment or booking deposit. Once the money is transferred, the seller disappears or the advertised product does not exist.

“The topic may seem repetitive, but there are still criminals waiting for victims,” Colonel Dr Bahar said. “Please do not be among those who pay a de-



posit based only on a picture or video posted on TikTok or Instagram.”

He stressed that residents should never rely solely on social media posts when making purchases, particularly for expensive items such as vehicles or furniture.

Instead, buyers should verify the seller in person whenever possible or at least speak with them directly before making any payment.

“There are matters you need to verify personally, or at the very least through a phone call, to protect yourself,” he said.

Colonel Dr Bahar noted that people are still transferring money to fake accounts every day, often losing funds that could have supported their families.

He also encouraged the public to share the warning with relatives and friends who may be tempted to trust online advertisements without checking their authenticity.

The Interior Ministry has repeatedly urged residents to exercise caution when shopping online, avoid transferring money to unknown individuals, and verify the identity of sellers before completing any transaction.



“The topic may seem repetitive, but there are still criminals waiting for victims.”

COLONEL DR OSAMA BAHAR

Authorities advise consumers to be suspicious of deals that appear too good to be true, insist on inspecting goods before payment whenever possible, and report suspected fraud cases to the relevant authorities.

Al Salam Bank Partners with Procural to Launch New SME Growth and Business Enablement Program

Al Salam Bank has announced a strategic partnership with Procural to introduce a new business enablement program designed to support the growth and expansion of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) by connecting clients with new commercial opportunities and strengthening their access to wider business networks.

The partnership marks a significant step in Al Salam Bank's continued efforts to enhance its SME banking proposition by extending support beyond traditional financial services and providing practical solutions that directly contribute to business growth, operational efficiency, and long-term sustainability for entrepreneurs



and growing businesses.

Through this collaboration, SME clients of Al Salam Bank will gain access to Procural's digital business network, a specialized platform designed to connect businesses with procurement opportunities,

buyers, suppliers, and commercial partners across multiple sectors. The platform will enable clients to identify new opportunities more efficiently, improve access to sourcing and tendering activities, and expand their market reach

through a more connected and dynamic business ecosystem.

As businesses increasingly seek integrated solutions that combine financing with operational support, this partnership reflects Al Salam Bank's broader strategy of delivering value-added banking solutions that address the evolving needs of SMEs while contributing to the development of a stronger and more competitive private sector.

The initiative positions Al Salam Bank among the first financial institutions in Bahrain to introduce a business support offering of this nature, reinforcing the Bank's commitment to innovation and strengthening its role as a long-term growth partner for the King-

dom's entrepreneurial and SME community.

Commenting on the partnership, Mr. Mohammed Buhijji – Chief Retail Banking Officer at Al Salam Bank, said: "At Al Salam Bank, we recognize that supporting SMEs requires more than providing financial solutions alone. Businesses today require access to opportunities, stronger commercial networks, and practical tools that help them grow and compete more effectively. Through this partnership with Procural, we are extending our support beyond banking by introducing solutions that directly contribute to the long-term success and sustainability of our SME clients."

Mr. Uzair Usman - Founder & CEO of Procural, added: "We are

pleased to partner with Al Salam Bank on an initiative that delivers tangible value to SMEs and helps businesses connect more efficiently with new commercial opportunities. Our platform is designed to simplify access to procurement ecosystems and create stronger business connections, and together we look forward to supporting the continued growth of Bahrain's SME sector."

This partnership forms part of Al Salam Bank's wider commitment to empowering businesses through innovative and practical solutions that combine banking, technology, and strategic partnerships to create meaningful long-term value for clients while supporting economic development within the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Contractors face higher steel and paint costs

Rising steel, paint and waterproofing costs offset fuel savings as contractors warn of project delays

TDT | Manama
Mohammed Darwish

Bahrain's construction sector is navigating a split market: cheaper fuel brings some relief, while surging prices for key building materials squeeze project budgets and strain contracts signed at lower rates.

The recent fuel price reduction approved by the Fuel Prices Determination and Monitoring Committee has lowered running costs across several site services.

Khalaf Hujair, president of the Bahrain Contractors Association, said the cut had improved cash flow and reduced expenses for concrete pumping, crane hire and construction waste removal.

Prices for concrete, blocks, sand and cement also eased or held steady, offering contractors limited breathing room.

The relief, however, is being cancelled out by sharp rises elsewhere. Reinforcing steel has climbed to around BD280 per tonne, driven by



"Projects already under way are under financial strain – firms are finding it hard to absorb the gap between old and new prices"

- KHALAF HUJAIR, PRESIDENT OF THE BAHRAIN CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION

higher raw material costs and regional market shifts. Waterproofing membranes have jumped from BD11.200 to BD16, while paint has surged from BD28 to BD47.

Ali Al Qahtani of Bianca Con-

tracting said average material price increases had exceeded 20 per cent across many products in recent weeks, with regional supply chain disruptions adding further pressure.

Contractors are now recalculating costs for new projects, while some investors are adopting a more cautious stance on development decisions.

"Continued price swings could slow the launch of new projects or delay some work," Al Qahtani warned, calling for closer market monitoring and stronger support for local supply chains.



Tourism Minister Meets BDB Chief to Drive SME Growth

Partnership aims to boost tourism investment under Vision 2030



Bahrain's Minister of Tourism and Chairperson of the Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority, Fatima bint Jaafar Al Sairafi, met with Bahrain Development Bank CEO Dalal Ahmed Al Qais to explore expanded cooperation in tourism investment and SME development.

The talks centred on joint initiatives supporting the tourism and events sectors under the Tourism Strategy 2022–2026 and Bahrain

Economic Vision 2030. Al Sairafi underlined the critical role SMEs play in diversifying Bahrain's tourism landscape and enhancing visitor experiences.

Al Qais reaffirmed BDB's commitment to forging stronger government partnerships and developing innovative financing solutions to help tourism and events SMEs scale up and seize investment opportunities, advancing the Kingdom's sustainable economic goals.



Joint Bahrain Research Strengthens Thyroid Cancer Assessment through Local Clinical Evidence

The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI) – Medical University of Bahrain, in collaboration with King Hamad University Hospital – Royal Medical Services (RMS), has published new research that could help strengthen the assessment and management of thyroid nodules in Bahrain. Published in the international peer-reviewed journal *Diagnostics*, the study identifies thyroid nodule size as a key predictor of thyroid cancer risk, highlighting the importance of locally generated evidence to support more informed clinical decision-making and improve patient care.

The study analysed clinical data from 446 patients in Bahrain to investigate the relationship between thyroid nodule size and the likelihood of cancer. The findings demonstrated that nodule size was the strongest independent predictor of malignancy, even after accounting for ultrasound characteristics and other clinical factors.

The research was undertaken through a collaboration between RCSI Medical University of Bahrain and King Hamad University Hospital, led by Professor Alexandra Butler, Professor in Pathology at RCSI Medical University of Bahrain, Dr Jenan Obaid, Class of 2012 graduate and Consultant Endocrinologist at King Hamad University Hospital, alongside a multidisciplinary team of researchers and six medical students, reflecting the University's commitment to providing students meaningful opportunities to contribute to research addressing real-world healthcare challenges.

Thyroid nodules are lumps that develop within the thyroid

gland and are a common finding, particularly as people get older. While the vast majority are benign, determining which nodules may be cancerous remains a significant clinical challenge, making accurate diagnosis essential to ensure patients receive the most appropriate treatment.

The study found that patients with nodules larger than 3 cm had almost three times the odds of malignancy, while nodules exceeding 4 cm had more than three-and-a-half times the odds of being cancerous. The findings also suggest that patterns of thyroid cancer risk reported in international studies may not always reflect those seen in Bahrain, highlighting the importance of generating evidence within the local population to support clinical decision-making and improve patient care.

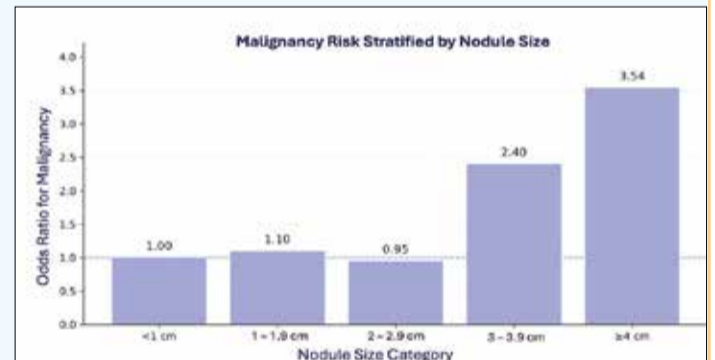
Professor Butler highlighted:

"Thyroid nodules are commonly encountered in clinical practice, yet determining which are malignant remains a significant challenge. This collaborative study demonstrates that nodule size is a particularly important predictor of cancer risk in the Bahraini population, emerging as the strongest independent predictor of malignancy even when ultrasound findings and other clinical factors

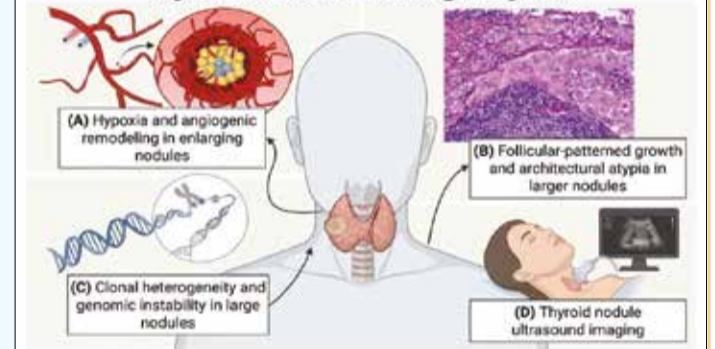


"Thyroid nodules are commonly encountered in clinical practice, yet determining which are malignant remains a significant challenge."

- PROFESSOR ALEXANDRA BUTLER



Biological and diagnostic mechanisms linking increasing thyroid nodule size to malignancy risk.



were considered. Importantly, the findings reinforce the value of conducting research within our own community. By generating evidence that reflects the needs of our population, we can support more informed clinical decision-making and ultimately improve patient care."

This study is believed to be the first in Bahrain and among the few in the Gulf region to specifically evaluate thyroid nodule size as an independent predictor of malignancy using multivariable analysis, thereby contributing to a growing body of regional evidence to support future clinical practice and research. The findings suggest that larger nodules may warrant closer evaluation and consideration for biopsy or specialist referral, even

when ultrasound features suggest a lower risk. The study also identified a higher rate of malignancy among older patients, underscoring the importance of careful assessment in this group.

This collaborative research reflects the shared commitment of RCSI Medical University of Bahrain and its partners to advancing evidence that addresses regional health priorities and improves patient care. As a research-intensive health sciences university, RCSI Medical University of Bahrain fosters a culture of research and innovation by engaging faculty and students in research that informs clinical practice, advances medical knowledge and contributes to improved health outcomes in Bahrain and beyond.

ASB Capital Strengthens Saudi Arabia Capital Markets Activity

Appointed Joint Lead Manager and Bookrunner Role on Alinma Bank USD 500 Million Additional Tier 1 Sukuk

ASB Capital, a purpose-driven asset and wealth management firm with assets under management (AUM) of USD 9.1 billion, acted as Joint Lead Manager and Bookrunner on Alinma Bank's latest USD 500 million Sustainable Additional Tier 1 (AT1) Sukuk issuance, alongside leading regional and international financial institutions, including Citigroup, Goldman Sachs, JP Morgan, and Standard Chartered.

The perpetual Sukuk, callable after 5.5 years, carries an annual profit rate of 6.625% and will be listed on the International Securities Market of the London Stock Exchange. The transaction attracted strong investor demand and was more than three times oversubscribed, reflecting strong demand from a broad range of regional and international investors and cementing ASB Capital's role across debt capital markets in Saudi Arabia and the wider region.

Since its establishment, ASB Capital has built a growing track record across regional capital markets. Recent mandates include several landmark Sukuk and capital raising transac-



Hussain Abdulhaq, Chief Treasury Officer of Al Salam Bank



Hichem Djouhri, Senior Executive Officer at ASB Capital

tions including Kuwait Finance House's USD 850 million Additional Tier 1 Sukuk, Kuwait International Bank's USD 300 million Sustainable Tier 2 Sukuk, Bapco Energies' USD 1 billion Sukuk issuance, Al Salam Bank's USD 450 million Additional Tier 1 Sukuk, Solidarity Bahrain's USD 114 million Tier 2 capital issuance, and Alinma Bank's previous USD 500mn Tier 2 Sukuk issuance in 2025.

Beyond debt capital markets, ASB Capital has continued to broaden its investment banking capabilities through strategic advisory mandates, including advising Al Salam Bank on the sale of its stakes in Seef Properties (Bahrain) and Gulf African

Bank (Kenya).

Hichem Djouhri, Senior Executive Officer at ASB Capital said: "This repeat mandate from Alinma Bank reflects the confidence leading regional institutions place in ASB Capital's capital market capabilities. Securing a role on a deal of this scale, alongside major regional and international banks, reflects the depth of our relationships and the trust our counterparts place in us. We are proud to have contributed to a successful outcome for Alinma Bank and its investors."

He added, "The depth of the orderbook also demonstrates sustained regional and international appetite for well-struct-

ured Sukuk instruments. As GCC issuers continue to optimize capital structures and diversify funding sources, ASB Capital remains focused on connecting them with capital and delivering high-quality execution."

Hussain Abdulhaq, Chief Treasury Officer of Al Salam Bank, said: "This transaction is another example of the strong regained momentum seen across regional debt capital markets. The level of investor participation highlights continued confidence in GCC financial institutions and the attractiveness of Sukuk issuances as part of diversified funding strategies. Our participation in landmark regional issuances reflects the Group's ability to combine issuer relationships, market expertise, balance sheet strength, and investor connectivity"

ASB Capital's Capital Investment Banking platform provides capital markets strategic advisory solutions to financial institutions, corporates and other entities across the region. The firm combines deep regional market knowledge with investor connectivity to support clients across origination, structuring, execution, and distribution.

Al-Futtaim Among Top Employers of Bahrainis in Q1 2026

Government applauds the group's continued support for national employment



Labour Minister and Minister of Legal Affairs, Yousif bin Abdulhusain Khalaf, received Babak Hashemi, Regional Director of Al-Futtaim Group, in recognition of the company's outstanding contribution to employing Bahraini nationals.

The meeting was attended by Mohamed Al Tayeb, Operations Director, and Dana Al Mulla, Human Resources Director at Al-Futtaim Group. It forms part of the minister's ongoing meetings with private sector companies that have achieved exceptional results in hiring Bahraini citizens. Al-Futtaim was ranked among the top 10 companies contributing to Bahraini employment during the first quarter of 2026.

During the meeting, the minister reviewed the group's programmes and initiatives aimed at attracting, training and employing Bahraini talent, as well as its future plans to create additional employment opportunities for citizens.

The minister highlighted the importance of strengthening partnerships with private sector companies to support national employment goals and enhance the integration of qualified Bahraini professionals into the labour market. He also praised Al-Futtaim Group for its continued co-operation with the Ministry's employment programmes and its commitment to developing the national workforce.

Bahrain Bourse's Board of Directors Holds Second Board Meeting for 2026



The Board of Directors of Bahrain Bourse (BHB) held its second meeting for the year 2026 on Wednesday, 8th July 2026 chaired by Mr. Yusef Abdulla Al-Yusef, Chairman of Bahrain Bourse.

During the meeting, the Board reviewed the key plans and initiatives set for implementation in the coming period, in alignment with the strategic objectives of the Capital Markets Development Plan (2026-2028) - "Elevate". The plan aims to advance Bahrain's capital market ecosystem, deliver world-class services to all stakeholders, strengthen market competitiveness and align with regional and global standards, foster agility to navigate dynamic market conditions, and expand and diversify investment opportunities locally and regionally.

The Board also discussed the topics on the agenda and reviewed the operational plan progress report as of June 2026, in addition to updates on ongoing strate-

gic projects and initiatives. These included the Investor Relations Guidelines, which aims to enhance transparency levels and enable listed companies to strengthen and develop their relations with investors.

As part of Bahrain Bourse's commitment to strengthening governance and risk management frameworks, the Board approved updates to internal policies related to risk management to ensure alignment with business requirements and institutional best practices. The Board also endorsed a proposed amendment to the Bourse's organizational structure to support operational efficiency and enhance its ability to execute strategic priorities during the next phase.

The Board of Directors reaffirmed its commitment to continuing the implementation of initiatives and projects that support the growth and development of the Bahraini capital market and further strengthen Bahrain Bourse's position as an attractive regional financial and investment hub.

Gulf Hotels Group Expands International Footprint with Planned Luxury Resort Development in Maldives

Strategic venture marks the Group's first entry into the Indian Ocean region through a landmark resort project in Kaafu Atoll

Gulf Hotels Group (GHG), Bahrain's leading hospitality company, has advanced plans for its first investment in the Indian Ocean through a landmark luxury resort development in the Maldives, reinforcing the Group's international growth strategy and long-term commitment to expanding into high-growth markets.

The project follows the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Gulf Hotels Group and Maldivian partner Keiretsu Pvt Ltd in Bahrain, establishing a framework for collaboration to jointly develop a luxury island resort in Kaafu Atoll, one of the Maldives' most established tourism regions. Situated within a private lagoon approximately 15 to 25 minutes by speedboat from Velana International Airport, the resort is designed to combine the exclusivity of a private-island experience with convenient access to an international gateway.

The Memorandum of Understanding establishes the foundation for a long-term strategic partnership between Gulf Hotels Group and Keiretsu Pvt Ltd, combining the Group's owner-operator expertise with Keiretsu's extensive local experience. The agreement also reflects the shared commitment of both organizations to develop a world-class luxury resort that contributes to the continued growth of the Maldives' tourism sector while creating long-term value for stakeholders.



Commenting on the project, Ahmed Janahi, Chief Executive Officer of Gulf Hotels Group, said:

"This project marks an important step in Gulf Hotels Group's growth journey as we expand beyond our traditional markets and establish a presence in the Indian Ocean region for the first time. The Maldives is one of the world's most recognised tourism destinations, offering strong long-term fundamentals and a reputation for exceptional hospitality experiences."

"The signing of the Memorandum of Understanding marks an important milestone in bringing this vision to life. We look forward to working closely with our partners to advance the project and create a hospitality asset that contributes positively to the Maldives' tourism sector while supporting the Group's long-term growth objectives."

Commenting on the partnership, Sofwan Ahmed, Founder and Managing Director of Keiretsu

Pvt Ltd said:

"The Memorandum of Understanding reflects our shared confidence in the potential of this project and establishes the foundation for a long-term partnership. By combining Gulf Hotels Group's international owner-operator expertise with Keiretsu's local experience in projects developed in the Maldives, we are well positioned to deliver a luxury destination that meets the highest international standards while celebrating the unique character and natural beauty of the Maldives."

"We look forward to working closely with Gulf Hotels Group as we move into the next phase of the project and create a resort that contributes to the continued growth of the Maldives' tourism industry while delivering lasting value for the destination and all stakeholders."

Planned as a single-island luxury resort destination, the development will comprise a

collection of beachfront and over-water villas, each featuring a private pool, alongside a range of restaurants and lounges, wellness facilities, marine and recreational experiences, lifestyle programming, and dedicated venues for weddings and special events.

Keiretsu Pvt Ltd, the local partner, brings extensive experience in supporting major hospitality developments across the Maldives and will play a key role in local regulatory, and project implementation matters. The partners intend to establish a joint venture to own, develop, and operate the resort, with Gulf Hotels Group participating as both an equity investor and operator of the resort.

The proposed development will be affiliated with a globally recognised luxury hospitality brand, with further details to be announced following the completion of the relevant agreements and approval processes.

With more than 50 years of hospitality experience, Gulf Hotels Group has developed a diversified portfolio spanning hotels, resorts, serviced residences, convention facilities, food and beverage operations, and hospitality services across Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, and Africa. The Maldives project represents a strategic extension of the Group's owner-operator model into a globally recognised luxury tourism market and supports its broader ambition to expand its regional and international presence.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

TWO ROADS DIVERGED IN A WOOD, AND I-I TOOK THE ONE LESS TRAVELED BY ROBERT FROST

'Serial killer' German doctor given life sentence

● **Detained in 2024, he is only partially identified in court records as Johannes M.**

AFP | Berlin, Germany

A German palliative care doctor was sentenced to life in prison yesterday for murdering 15 people with lethal doses of sedatives, and he remains under investigation for dozens more killings.

The court in Berlin convicted the 41-year-old of killing 12 women and three men during home visits between September 2021 and July 2024.

But presiding judge Sylvia Busch said the conviction for 15 murders may well be only a glimpse of his many crimes.

Prosecutors said during the proceedings that he was suspected of having killed more than 70 other people.

Detained in 2024, he is only partially identified in court records as Johannes M.

And as the court found his crimes carried a "particular gravity of guilt", he was given the harshest possible sentence, making it much more difficult for him to ever win release.

The court also banned him from ever again practising medicine.

Death 'within minutes'

The court ruled that he had killed not out of any compassion for his patients or a misguided sense of assisted dying, but instead by a drive for power over his victims.

Prosecutors had described the killer as having "a lust for murder", saying the physician had had "no other motive for killing these people than the act of killing itself".

The victims, all of whom were under his medical care at the time, ranged in age from 25 to 94. The court found that he intentionally administered an anaesthetic and a muscle relaxant that "paralysed the respiratory muscles, leading to respiratory arrest and death within minutes".

On at least five occasions, he allegedly set fire to the victims' apartments to cover up the killings. On Monday Johannes M. confessed that he had "killed people" and told the court that "I despair at myself".

He said he only now understood "the extent of the suffering" he had caused, the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung daily reported.

IMF cuts 2026 world growth forecast

AFP | Washington, United States

The IMF cut its 2026 global growth projection again yesterday, flagging "uncertainty and risks" to the economic outlook as fighting reignited in the Middle East.

Global economic growth is estimated at 3.0% this year, said the International Monetary Fund, down from 3.1% in its April forecast.

The projection, in its World Economic Outlook update, was made before renewed exchanges of fire between the United States and Iran in recent hours.

"Developments overnight illustrate the uncertainty and risks that surround the outlook," said Petya Koeva Brooks, deputy director at the IMF's research department.

"We're going to be monitoring developments very closely," she told reporters.

It is the second time this year that the fund has lowered its



overall growth expectations. The growth rate marks a cooling from 2025 as well.

Global inflation is anticipated to accelerate to 4.7% this year, higher than earlier projected.

Koeva Brooks expects normalization from the war to gradually

unfold over three quarters of a year, although shocks that lead to higher oil prices and inflation expectations could take further tolls on the global economy.

For now, the overall growth downgrade is modest, as momentum in artificial intelligence

-- driven by demand -- partially offsets the war's effects.

The IMF expects global growth to pick up in 2027 to 3.4%.

Deniz Igan, division chief at the IMF's research department, describes the bounceback as "a V-shaped recovery."

Ceasefire 'over'

Trump warns Iran as fighting flares

Russia bans diesel exports as strikes intensify fuel crisis: minister

AFP | Moscow, Russia

Moscow banned diesel exports yesterday in a bid to "stabilise" a worsening fuel crisis caused by weeks of intensifying Ukrainian strikes on energy infrastructure, with regions across Russia experiencing shortages.

"A ban on diesel fuel exports went into effect today, which will allow for increased supplies to the domestic market," Deputy Prime Minister Alexander Novak said during a government meeting with President Vladimir Putin, adding that the measure was intended to "stabilise the situation."

OpenAI says powerful new model to launch publicly today

San Francisco, United States

ChatGPT maker OpenAI said its latest powerful artificial intelligence model series will be released to the public on Thursday, as the US government reportedly approved a broader launch.

The company's new offering GPT-5.6 and other cutting-edge AI models, including Anthropic's Mythos series, have drawn concern over their supposedly unprecedented ability to identify software vulnerabilities -- weaknesses in code that hackers can exploit.

OpenAI said in late June it had shared preview access to GPT-5.6 with a limited group of US-only partners at Washington's request.

The GPT-5.6 series comprises three new models: Sol, the company's new flagship; Terra, a mid-range model for everyday work; and Luna, a fast, low-cost option.

"GPT-5.6 Sol, along with Terra and Luna, will launch publicly this Thursday. We're expanding preview access globally now," the company said in an X post Tuesday, without giving further details.

US news outlet Axios reported Tuesday, citing a source familiar with the situation, that the Trump administration had given OpenAI the green light for a broad launch of GPT-5.6, following testing and meetings between the company and government officials.

China warns of 'security backdoor' Beijing, China

A Chinese industry regulator warned users on Wednesday of a "security backdoor" embedded in versions of Anthropic's Claude Code, but the US artificial intelligence company described the mechanism as an anti-abuse measure.

Claude Code is an AI agent that can generate computer code, debug software and review code based on user prompts. Anthropic prohibits users and companies in China and other nations it deems adversarial from accessing it, but users can sometimes get around this through VPN or third-party proxy services.

● **Oil prices immediately jumped five percent**

● **Both the US and Iran said they had hit dozens of targets**

AFP | Tehran, Iran

US President Donald Trump said the ceasefire with Iran was "over" yesterday but left the door open to more talks, after fighting flared, sparked by Iranian attacks on ships in the vital Strait of Hormuz.

Tehran insists on controlling the waterway, saying it will charge fees for passage and threatening to hit vessels that deviate from its authorised route.

Its military struck at least three ships in recent days, prompting extensive US strikes against Iranian targets Tuesday followed

Strikes 80 targets

US Central Command (CENTCOM) said its forces had struck over 80 targets, including Iranian air-defence systems, coastal radar sites and 60 IRGC small boats.

The strikes aimed "to degrade Iran's ability to continue attacking international commerce flowing through the international trade corridor", it said.

Mark Rutte, secretary general of NATO, said at the summit in Ankara

that the American strikes were "absolutely necessary".

Almost 6,000 seafarers "remain stranded" in the area, International Maritime Organisation chief Arsenio Dominguez said Wednesday.

An analyst told AFP the cost of returning to full-blown war would be too high for both sides.

by retaliatory attacks from Iran on Gulf countries.

"As far as I'm concerned, it's over," Trump said at a NATO summit in Turkey on Wednesday when asked if the truce was intact.

"It's just a waste of time dealing with them," he added.

"I'll let our wonderful negotiators keep talking if they want, but I don't see it. I don't like these people."

Oil prices immediately jumped five percent after Trump's remarks, having already reached their highest level in two weeks.

Both the US and Iran said they had hit dozens of targets, placing fresh strain on their interim deal to end the Middle East war.

Iranian state media reported a wave of explosions around the strait, including six on the island of Qeshm, seven in the city of Sirik and more in the major port city of Bandar Abbas.

It later reported a series of blasts in the coastal city of Bushehr, which hosts the country's only civilian nuclear power plant and lies near Kharg island, the main oil terminal through which 90 percent of Iran's crude exports transit.

State media said a member of the military's Revolutionary Guards (IRGC) had been killed, while the foreign ministry said monitoring and observation sites had been hit on the southern coast.

YOU
KNOW WHAT

Strait of Hormuz: Nearly 20% of the world's oil passes through this narrow waterway every day, making it the most critical energy trade route on the planet.



Turko-Mongol ruler Tamerlane (Timur) destroys Baghdad, killing 20,000 people

Louisiana and South Carolina are the last states to ratify the 14th Amendment to the United States Constitution, guaranteeing civil rights



Surgeon Daniel Hale Williams performs the first successful open-heart surgery when he repairs the torn pericardium of knife wound patient James Cornish, without the use of penicillin or blood transfusion

British battleship HMS Vanguard explodes at Scapa Flow due to an internal explosion caused by faulty cordite, killing 804 crew members

Modi visits Australia for minerals talks and rock-star welcome

AFP | Melbourne, Australia

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi lands in Australia yesterday ahead of talks tipped to focus on defence ties, critical minerals and securing prized uranium.

Modi is set to receive a rock-star welcome at a community rally held inside a Melbourne stadium on Thursday, with organisers anticipating more than 20,000 people could flock to the event.

India and Australia have grown considerably closer in recent years, a relationship partly driven by a joint desire to keep Beijing's military ambitions in check while cultivating trading partners outside China. "It's historically been quite a difficult relationship, given India and Australia's differing



Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi walks past members of the Australian armed forces upon his arrival at Melbourne International Airport in Melbourne

positions during the Cold War," said Teesta Prakash from the Australia India Institute.

"But now we are in a starkly different strategic environment."

Securing a reliable uranium pipeline is expected to be a key topic of discussion when Modi sits down with his Australian counterpart Anthony Albanese on Thursday.

Trump tempers fury to end NATO summit on high note



Albania's Prime Minister Edi Rama, Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte, US President Donald Trump and Britain's Prime Minister Keir Starmer pose for a family picture of the NATO Summit at Beştepe Presidential Compound in Ankara, Turkey

AFP | Ankara, Turkey

US President Donald Trump offered NATO allies an unexpected warm embrace as they wrapped up a key summit Wednesday after earlier lashing out at them over their response to his war on Iran.

"It was a great meeting, there was a lot of love in that room, a lot of unity," Trump told reporters after the closed-door meeting of 32 heads of state at the NATO summit in the Turkish capital Ankara.

Behind closed doors, Trump had reassured them he wanted the US to stay in the military alliance, saying: "We want to remain with you", a source inside the session told AFP.

And that was reflected in the final declaration in which NATO leaders reaffirmed their "ironclad commitment" to the mutual assistance clause enshrined in Article 5 of the alliance treaty.

"An attack on one is an attack on all," it said, in wording that sought to ease concerns about Washington's commitment to the alliance.

But the day had not begun well with Trump lashing out over NATO allies' failure to back his Iran campaign just before the session, threatening to cut trade with Spain, and insisting he still wants NATO member Denmark's territory of Greenland.

"I'm very upset with NATO... because of what they did with Greenland, and... because of the fact that they didn't want to help us with the number one state sponsor of terror, that's Iran," he said.

Bark worse than bite

But once he came face-to-face with the leaders behind closed doors, his tone changed markedly, according to the source who attended the talks.

"There is a strong contrast between what Trump

says in public and what he actually says inside," he told AFP.

He also dialled down his earlier rhetoric on Iran -- in which he described them as "scum" and "vicious, violent people" -- with his remarks on the matter "not as harsh", the source said.

And he made no further mention of Spain or Greenland.

Boost for Ukraine

Stalled efforts to halt the Ukraine war were also back on the agenda, with Trump pledging to give Kyiv "the right to make" Patriot air-defence missiles as he went into talks with Ukraine's Volodymyr Zelensky on the sidelines of the summit.

"We're going to give a licence to you to make Patriots. That's pretty cool, right," Trump told Zelensky, whose forces have been struggling to shoot down Russian ballistic missiles as supplies of crucial US-made Patriot interceptors run low.

Arab League chief says blocked by Israel from visiting West Bank

AFP | Cairo, Egypt

The new secretary general of the Arab League, Nabil Fahmy, said yesterday Israel had blocked him from visiting

Ramallah, in what would have been his first foreign visit since taking office this month.

The regional bloc's secretariat was informed by Palestinian authorities "of the Israeli occu-

pation authorities' rejection of a visit... to the occupied Palestinian territories" to visit Palestinian president Mahmoud Abbas in Ramallah, Fahmy's office said in a statement.



TOP
4
TWEETS

01



AI may feel intangible, but its footprint is not. Data centres already consume more electricity than most countries. I'm calling on every major AI company to measure & publicly disclose the full footprint of its systems & to commit to power every data centre with renewable energy by 2030.

@antonioguterres

02



President Trump and I spoke about some ideas that could strengthen our positions and bring peace closer. I count on our teams to follow up promptly on everything discussed today. We also talked diplomacy - we are trying to make it work. We will keep working productively to make it happen. Thank you!

@ZelenskyyUa

03



The strong partnership between #NATO & the #EU is more important than ever and we are working ever closer together on rearming & re-energising the defence industrial base, so we can protect all our citizens & have a stronger Europe in a stronger NATO

@SecGenNATO

04



An Europe that invests, defends its sovereignty and strategic autonomy within NATO: we are there.

@EmmanuelMacron

WIDE ANGLE

Borders, Passports, and the Price of Security



JOEL INDRUPATI

"Just 140 years ago, no visa was required to enter any country." When this line appeared on the screen at the end of a movie I was watching, I had to sit bolt upright.

It made me think of all the migration laws being debated in parliaments today and the anti-immigration protests taking place in different parts of the world.

Are passports, visas, and strict border controls, so recent? Apparently, that is the truth.

For centuries, people crossed borders freely to live, work and trade. Neither Megasthenes nor Xuanzang, neither Marco Polo nor Ibn Battuta, neither Columbus nor Vasco da Gama needed permission to enter new lands.

Rulers generally welcomed travellers, recognising the value they brought through knowledge, culture and, above all, commerce. The problems that sometimes accompanied such exchanges are another story for another day.

The passport and visa systems we know today are largely products of the post-First World War world. Following the 'Treaty of Versailles' and the creation of the 'League of Nations', governments sought greater control over the movement of people.

A landmark ruling came in October 1920, when the League of Nations convened the Paris Conference on Passports, Customs Formalities and Through Tickets. It introduced much-needed standardisation. Passports became uniform booklets with prescribed dimensions, and further refinements to visa regulations followed at a subsequent conference in 1926.

The reasons were understandable. Countries emerging from a devastating war were concerned about national security, espionage, economic protection, employment and the management of refugees.

Empires were collapsing, nationalism was rising, new nations were emerging, and advances in technology had made warfare more destructive than ever before. Governments wanted to know who was entering their borders and why.

That is why, although the idea of a travel permit is ancient, the modern, standardised visa is a surprisingly recent invention.

The Bible records that around 450 BCE, the Persian King Artaxerxes I gave his Jewish cupbearer, Nehemiah, letters of safe passage as he travelled from present-day Iran to Jerusalem.

Some historians credit King Henry V of England in the fifteenth century with introducing what resembles the first English passport. The oldest surviving passport is believed to be a handwritten document signed by King Charles I in 1641, granting safe passage to an English nobleman travelling overseas.

Interestingly, it was on this very day, 8 July 1796, that the U.S. Department of State issued its first passport to the American diplomat David Humphreys.

While these may be good historical examples, it was only in the twentieth century that passports and visas truly became standard requirements for international travel.

History reminds us that immigration laws have never stood still. They have continually evolved in response to political realities, economic pressures and security concerns. That process continues today.

In the 2023 Bollywood movie, Dunki - that I had been watching - the character Hardy (played by Shah Rukh Khan) argues that borders are designed only for the poor, highlighting the unfairness of immigration laws. He says that while the wealthy can easily buy their way into a country, it is really the poor working-class migrants who are treated as criminals for seeking a better life.

Every government has a legitimate duty to protect its borders, safeguard national security and ensure opportunities for its own citizens. But, at the same time, nations cannot afford to become so inward-looking that they exclude the very people whose knowledge, skills and enterprise can strengthen their economies and enrich their societies.

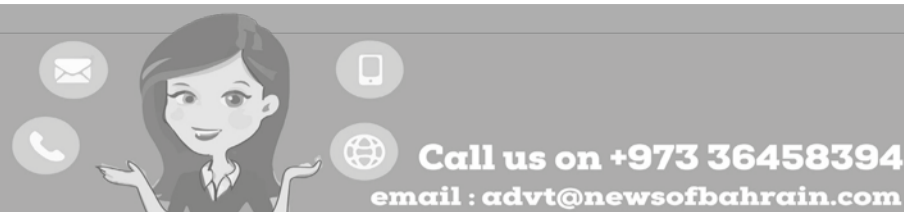
That is the enduring challenge. Immigration is not simply about deciding who may enter a country.

It is about striking the right balance between protection and openness. Judging by history, that has never been an easy task—and it probably never will be.

(The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the Daily Tribune)

Disclaimer: (Views expressed by columnists are personal and need not necessarily reflect our editorial stance)

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ATTRACTIVE BEAUTY SALON W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32323066 or AMANYSAAD77.AS@GMAIL.COM

COCO LOCO FOR FAST FOOD has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(JUICE & SANDWICHES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36088868 or JA444JAR@GMAIL.COM

QUICK ZEBRA SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700211 or hrd@dreamgroup.bh

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QUICK ZEBRA SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700211 or hrd@dreamgroup.bh

ALNOOR INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL has a vacancy for the occupation of TEACHER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17736773 or roonlasc@batalco.com.bh

ELITE FACILITY MANAGEMENT CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17382228 or MUSTAFA@ELITEFMC.COM

INARAH GENERAL TRADING COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35467203 or ABDULNIZARMUHAMMAD1@GMAIL.COM

House of Happiness for Women Massage has a vacancy for the occupation of MASSEUR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37777853 or MONAAMIN860@GMAIL.COM

ALAAALI CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17566444 or alaalico@batalco.com.bh

kadi international trading co wll has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17784640 or SHEHANSHA.JAHAINI23@GMAIL.COM

HYDRATECH HOMELAND SECURITY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ASSISTANT TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17577775 or MD@SELEVENGROUP.COM

FJR TAILORING has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39088227 or FAJER.ADEL88@HOTMAIL.COM

EFEL LAUNDRY has a vacancy for the occupation of PRESSER (HAND), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33345110 or faroooha75@hotmail.com

GULF CITY CLEANING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39641612 or yousif@aanass.net

R.B. HILTON LIMITED has a vacancy for the occupation of FITTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32376386 or ALTRADMENA.MAILBAHRAIN@ALTRAD.COM

SEVENTH EMPIRES TRADING AND CONTRACTING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33331574 or MOHAMEDNYZ@GMAIL.COM

Al Shera Auto Repair Garage has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER (CAR MECHANICAL WORKSHOP), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33795990 or bader.khaleq@gmail.com

HAVELI MANGAMENT CONSULTANCY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE BOY / FARRASH, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32121453 or GURPREETSINGHSANDHU205@GMAIL.COM

RANA IKHLAQ CONSTRUCTION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35634134 or AHMRAZAI34@GMAIL.COM

Celluloid co wll has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER/BARTENDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 16010160 or allseasonholding@gmail.com

R.B. HILTON LIMITED has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 32376386 or ALTRADMENA.MAILBAHRAIN@ALTRAD.COM

HARSH JEWELLERY CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39404897 or HARSHJEW.BH@GMAIL.COM

ALNOOR INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL has a vacancy for the occupation of TEACHER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17736773 or admin@alnoor.com.bh

ALYABOOR GARAGE has a vacancy for the occupation of AUTOMOBILE PAINTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17552131 or ALLALMAJED@HOTMAIL.COM

ALYABOOR GARAGE has a vacancy for the occupation of VEHICLE SHEETMETAL WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17552131 or ALLALMAJED@HOTMAIL.COM

Ramada Hotel and Suites Amwaj W. L. L has a vacancy for the occupation of MASSEUR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 13600111 or mannai.hr@mannaitrading.com

JJ STATION W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SANDWICHES MAKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38008633 or AMNANDSONS17@GMAIL.COM

MIRACLE BUSINESS SOLUTION has a vacancy

for the occupation of ACCOUNTANTS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38431431 or SERVICES@MIRACLEGROUPS.COM

MASHTAN RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17660031 or SAYED.ALTAHER33333@YAHOO.COM

ROBIN ALUMINIUM W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ALUMINIUM TECHNICIAN (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17785645 or robinaluminium@gmail.com

ALRAFEEQ AUTO SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39000116 or MOSAWI67@HOTMAIL.COM

SUBZERO MOTOR SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of GARAGE MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36661287 or HARISS08@OUTLOOK.COM

BLACK HORSE SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17320959 or ALAYAM11237@GMAIL.COM

GHAZI KHEEL RECLAMATION CONSSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33552857 or GHAZIKHEEL1958@GMAIL.COM

AMIR BADER STORE has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17402632 or ABT_BH@HOTMAIL.COM

AIMS INTERNATIONAL SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17007217 or INFO@AIMSWLL.COM

MODERN KNOWLEDGE SCHOOLS has a vacancy for the occupation of TEACHER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17727712 or hr@mkschoolsbh.com

AZHAR KARZAKAN MARKET W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 37141515 or HASSANI968BH@GMAIL.COM

ALREEF PANASIA RESTAURANT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKERS(FOOD & BEVERAGES INDUSTRY), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17720395 or hr@uniquewll.com

BLANCHE LAUNDRY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKERS(LAUNDRY), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39620660 or NAZARHALAB@GMAIL.COM

BDC MANPOWER SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CO-ORDINATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17180530 or mona.alnokhedha@bas.com.bh

Road carrier food delivery services W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER(FOOD DISTRIBUTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39466606 or info@roadcarrierservicesbh.com

SAFINA FACILITIES SUPPORT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17674319 or DUJALMALKHALIFA@ASRY.NET

ALMOAYYED CONTRACTING GROUP W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or profice@almoayyedcg.com

ICG SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17623723 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

ALMOAYYED CONTRACTING GROUP W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or profice@almoayyedcg.com

ICG SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17623723 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

BANZ TRADING AND CONTRACTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of PIPEFITTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17816070 or HR@banzgroup.com

HEALTHY PASTA RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of KITCHEN WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33358885 or FMUBARAK@HOTMAIL.COM

BATSCO CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17783886 or hr@batsco.net

AL FARHAN HAIRDRESSING SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37603330 or alfarhansaloon@gmail.com

GHAZALI 76 BUILDING CLEANING has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36505588 or

REMO012211REMO@GMAIL.COM

A IMRAN COLD STORE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKERS(FOOD & BEVERAGES INDUSTRY), suitably qualified applicants can contact 38216771 or IM299154@GMAIL.COM

FOXTONS PROPERTY MANAGEMENT COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of HOUSEKEEPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34362215 or FOXTONSPROPERTY1@GMAIL.COM

BATSCO CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17783886 or hr@batsco.net

AHMED ISA BLOCK FACTORY has a vacancy for the occupation of MACHINE OPERATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17551002 or info@ahmediablock.com

GET FRESH LAUNDRY has a vacancy for the occupation of PRESSER (HAND), suitably qualified applicants can contact 34443636 or GET-FRESH.LAUNDRYBH@GMAIL.COM

DAITOONA FOR AUTO PARTS has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33853560 or DAITOONA.GARAGE@HOTMAIL.COM

MERCURY PRINTING SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES EXECUTIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39288454 or Talal.abdulal@gmail.com

MAYSHA MASSAGE AND SPA has a vacancy for the occupation of MASSEUR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66665522 or MARWA.ALAWADHI@HOTMAIL.COM

GREEN CITY SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33313639 or info@gcs.bh

Black Rose Flower Sale has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33474455 or SAYEDREH-HA9@GMAIL.COM

GREEN CITY SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33313639 or info@gcs.bh

PRECISION CAR CLEANING & UPHOLSTERY has a vacancy for the occupation of CAR WASHER/CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33755441 or Love4ever_jh@hotmail.com

ICG SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17623723 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

AL JADEED FOOD STUFF CENTRE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38036621 or JALEELPTV1@GMAIL.COM

THE COMMERCIAL NAME IS DELETED W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MASSEUR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17500791 or HR@SEVEN-ENERGY.COM

KINGDOM BUILDING PAINTING CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17640222 or KBPC2004@GMAIL.COM

FIRE FIGHTER CO SECURITY AND SAFETY EQUIPMENT TRADING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of RECEPTIONIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33337287 or AZIZ65211@GMAIL.COM

ICG SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17623723 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

ICG SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17623723 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

PEBBLE INTERNATIONAL CONSULTANTS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CO-ORDINATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33239910 or pebblebh@gmail.com

GULF CITY CLEANING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39641612 or yousif@aanass.net

Secure Me W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17749697 or secure.me@live.com

PARAM INFO COMPUTER CONSULTANCY CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of COMPUTER PROGRAMMER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32315859 or bvbabu@paraminfo.com

AHMED MOHAMMED JASSIM CONSTRUCTION CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17784584 or HR@AMJASSIM.COM

WESTPOINT HOME BAHRAIN W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WEAVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17838129 or ADEL.JABBER@WPHOME.COM

FAISAL MOHAMED TAHER ALTAHOO has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17272708 or ADMIN@FALTAHOOMANAGEMENT.COM

DOBI BAIT AL MALABIS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of LAUNDERER/PRESSER(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33076766 or alsaadaplastic123@gmail.com

BAHRAIN CITY CENTER TOWERS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ROOM ATTENDANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17811616 or BMFAQEEH@GMAIL.COM

FIRST LINE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of AIR-CONDITIONING TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36208765 or ALMULLA2400@GMAIL.COM

Seven Energy W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANICAL FITTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17500791 or hr@seven-energy.com

FLOWVENT CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR (SITE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 35140060 or FLOWVENT.FV@GMAIL.COM

U B Z BAHRAIN SERVICES CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66627665 or SPEEDTRAVELS.TOURISM@GMAIL.COM

ALFARES EQUESTRIAN SUPPLIES has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35010201 or ADMIN@ALFARESQUESTRIAN.COM

Star Lion Contracting Services has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17270787 or starlionservice@gmail.com

QWERTY CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANTS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36846757 or MIGRATE-WORLD12@GMAIL.COM

ALGILLIDARY TRADING AND INDUSTRY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCEW).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17334420 or HUSAM777@LIVE.COM

INTERNATIONAL MARKETING COMPANY W.L.L CLEANTEC has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36636640 or HAN-ANKHALAF84@GMAIL.COM

INTERNATIONAL MARKETING COMPANY W.L.L CLEANTEC has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36636640 or HAN-ANKHALAF84@GMAIL.COM

Isa Janahi clearance has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES AGENT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17622757 or ISAJANAHI936@GMAIL.COM

63 BUILDING CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38899104 or HAMEED3633@GMAIL.COM

NEW CAPTAN TIGER MAN SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of HAIR DRESSER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33221189 or ASUSE3324@GMAIL.COM

MODERN KNOWLEDGE SCHOOLS has a vacancy for the occupation of TEACHER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17727712 or hr@mkschoolsbh.com

EROS CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDINGS AND SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37706619 or jassim0087alawi@gmail.com

BARQ AL QAMAR TRADING CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36990444 or nassertanoli@gmail.com

S.BAQER MOHAMED HAIDER ALAWI has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(AGRICULTURAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36069939 or ABURASHIDHALAMALA777@GMAIL.COM

CARDIFF CONTRACTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17217872 or naveed.ulzafa786@gmail.com

AL SHAHD MARKET has a vacancy for the occupation of BAKER(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants

Classifieds

VACANCIES AVAILABLE CONTINUED

GALAXY WORLD TRADING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17772019 or MUHAMEDN23@GMAIL.COM

Quest School W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TEACHER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77814404 or eman.dessouki@questschoolbh.com

ARMADA TRANSPORT CO. WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17280855 or khalid@armada-bahrain.com

PRO KLEEN SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36845820 or PAD-AM1739@GMAIL.COM

AL DURRAR HIRING EQUIPMENT has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 34449226 or ALADRAJ40@GMAIL.COM

ORIAN COMMERCIAL SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33007451 or ORIANCONTRACTING88@GMAIL.COM

SQUARE GARAGE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCEW). GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39766605 or FIROZVEKE@GMAIL.COM

ALHAMAD CONSTRUCTION & DEVELOPMENT CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17226618 or ACKR007@GMAIL.COM

R.P. CONSTRUCTION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17215122 or ashokrma@gmail.com

WISDOM IT SOLUTIONS has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17442629 or JAFFAL-BAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM

WHITE FALCON PRIVATE SECURITY SERVICES Co. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66626168 or TDAINEH@GMAIL.COM

PEBBLES GATE SUPPORT ACTIVITIES has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCEW).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17778868 or MAHMOOD-ESA151@YAHOO.COM

AL SAFEER TOWER HOTEL W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MASSEUR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17827999 or info@regholding.com

Mastar Furniture has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36477346 or jobmasterfurniture@gmail.com

MALBBAR MASAGE CENTRE has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39781807 or YACOUBALHARAM@YAHOO.COM

DEVES GATE CAR WASH MANUAL has a vacancy for the occupation of CAR WASHER/CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39464585 or YKHALFAN@GMAIL.COM

SALMANIYA DISCOUNT CENTER W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17999100 or JAFERMUS44@GMAIL.COM

ALAIN FOR CLASS & MIRROR W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39391595 or ALAINDECORACI@GMAIL.COM

IBRAHIM ELECTRONICS EQUIPMENT REPAIR COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of REPAIRMAN (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33144746 or MSHOUKAT551@GMAIL.COM

ABU FARES PAPER INDUSTRIES WORKSHOP W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES AGENT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33886420 or HEBA.FARES235@GMAIL.COM

TAIBA SQUARE CONTRACTING Bahraini Partnership Co has a vacancy for the occupation of BLACKSMITH, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34106666 or SADIQAL133371007@GMAIL.COM

SPICY CORNER DELIVERY has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39479211 or LAYLAJESSEMA@HOTMAIL.COM

NAD FOODS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SPECIALIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17593465 or AALI@MINISO-BH.COM

Fareej Saar Restaurant has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32121274 or FAREEJSAAR@GMAIL.COM

MALAK ELKOON TEXTILES has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33070788 or RAYOOMS89@GMAIL.COM

FATENAT ALKHALEEJ BEAUTY CENTRE has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39332314 or BEAUTY.GULF@HOTMAIL.COM

SANDUH LINE CONSTRUCTION CO.W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17242566 or MH2990M@GMAIL.COM

RAMSIS ENGINEERING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of FITTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17830801 or Abbas@ramsris.com.bh

RAMSIS ENGINEERING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17830801 or Abbas@ramsris.com.bh

RAMSIS ENGINEERING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SHEET METAL WORKERS (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17830801 or Abbas@ramsris.com.bh

Basma Security has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY MAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17727676 or aqeel@basma.com.bh

TANDOORI CHAI CAFETERIA has a vacancy for the occupation of CHEF, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33311247 or AMIR.AL-NAIZI@GMAIL.COM

Millennial Auditing Bahraini Partnership Company has a vacancy for the occupation of AUDITOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77086873 or poojan@millennialaudit.com

AL JANAT MOTORCYCLE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 34061993 or ALEEMASGHAR@GMAIL.COM

SMART ALUMINIUM has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(METAL ROLLING-MILL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33220099 or ABBAS.MOSCOW@GMAIL.COM

THE CANADIAN SCHOOL- BAHRAIN COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ADMINISTRATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17322582 or HR@KCBBAHRAIN.COM

HUSSAIN AMER BUILDING CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(-CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39804488 or linkone7@gmail.com

NATIONAL HOTELS COMPANY B.S.C. (DIPLOMAT HOTEL) has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANT(COST), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17530838 or zalajawi@nhcbahrain.com

AQSA SLIVER JEWELLERY DESIGN W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(-JEWELLERY & PRECIOUS METAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 37566434 or USSJIL@GMAIL.COM

Cool Care maintenance and Cleaning Services has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36233880 or COOLCARE48@gmail.com

BABYLON CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17730015 or binu@unitcogroup.com

GOLDEN DIYAR SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17530670 or BURASHEDDOCUMENT@YAHOO.COM

MASHGAL FLAKLOOR LELJALABIYAT has a vacancy for the occupation of MACHINE OPERATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33738989 or FLAKLOOR.FASHIONS@GMAIL.COM

RADHWAN BAKERIES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of FOOD SERVICE WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 177906465 or RADHWANBAKERY@GMAIL.COM

ARAB SHIPBUILDING & REPAIR YARD CO.) ASRY has a vacancy for the occupation of VICE PRESIDENT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17674319 or duajmalkhalifa@ASRY.NET

Al Sahel Resort B.S.C. (Closed) has a vacancy for the occupation of ROOM ATTENDANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17561327 or hr@edamah.com

Al Sahel Resort B.S.C. (Closed) has a vacancy for the occupation of ROOM ATTENDANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17561327 or hr@edamah.com

EXCELLENCE INDUSTRIAL MAINTENANCE COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17532010 or a.jawahery@exibah.com

SAFINA FACILITIES SUPPORT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TEAM LEADER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17674319 or DUAJMALKHALIFA@ASRY.NET

Advance Vision Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36150771 or hi984660@gmail.com

MIRAI RESTAURANT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ASSISTANT MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17713113 or SHARIFALSAMAHJI22@GMAIL.COM

AL GUTHMI TRADING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33287825 or OMAR@ALGUTHMI.COM

NASSER ABD MOHAMMED B.S.C(CLOSED) has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700888 or admin@nasserco.net

ELCHAPO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36994343 or SALMAN.BUKHARI@LIVE.COM

CHINESE SUPERMARKET CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of KITCHEN AIDE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39194790 or hr.adm@himart.bh

REGENCY JEWELLERY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66766722 or BHAVIN22K@GMAIL.COM

ALHASSER RESTAURANT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of FOOD SERVICE WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37750111 or abujwad5@hotmail.com

QUICK HERO DELIVERY has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37722742 or QIM.014@GMAIL.COM

BLUE ROSE CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33346825 or BMC.BAHRAIN11@GMAIL.COM

DONAS WONDERS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33287770 or BHFOODIE@GMAIL.COM

MAHBUB FASHION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39898377 or mdmahabub20106@gmail.com

SOLOFITNESS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TRAINER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35018752 or SOURAVANAND9745@GMAIL.COM

Ahmed Mansoor AlAali B.S.C. Closed - Structural and Mechanical Division has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17265509 or adeel.hameed@al-aali.com

Ahmed Mansoor AlAali B.S.C. Closed - Structural and Mechanical Division has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17265509 or adeel.hameed@al-aali.com

SANAWAR IQBAL SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38961829 or SANAWARIQBAL@GMAIL.COM

RAMADA HOTEL has a vacancy for the occupation of KITCHEN WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17742000 or Ramada@ramadabahrain.com

ALMOAYYED CLEANING & MAINTENANCE W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or profice@almoayyedcg.com

GULF AIR B.S.C. (C) has a vacancy for the occupation of CABIN CREW / FLIGHT STEWARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17337804 or recruitment@gulfair.com

Diamond LINE ALUMINIUM FACTORY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR SALES, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39398876 or DIAMONDALUMWLL@GMAIL.COM

CRESTGOLD CONSULTANCY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37484258 or mawais22awais258@gmail.com

J Views Properties W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ADMINISTRATION MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700211 or mellanie.hr@dreamgroup.bh

SANA STAR GENERAL TRADING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES AGENT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34647043 or VISUPANA@GMAIL.COM

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region

Oman and Saudi Arabia Hold High-Level Talks on Trade, Gulf Security

Foreign ministers meet in Muscat to strengthen bilateral ties and address regional tensions



Oman's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Albusaidi, received Saudi Arabia's Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan Al Saud in Muscat for high-level bilateral talks, reinforcing the longstanding fraternal relationship between the two Gulf neighbours.

The visit — part of an ongoing exchange of ministerial meetings between the two kingdoms — opened with a one-on-one session where both ministers reviewed the state of Omani-Saudi relations and explored ways to deepen cooperation across multiple sectors.

An expanded delegation session followed, bringing together senior officials from both sides to discuss economic, investment, and logistics cooperation. Talks centred on maximising the complementary strengths of each country, aligning Oman's Vi-

sion 2040 with Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030, and expanding the role of the private sector in cross-border partnerships within the Gulf Cooperation Council framework.

Hormuz Strait Security
The two sides also addressed growing concerns over navigation in the Strait of Hormuz, underscoring its critical role in global trade and energy security. Both ministers stressed the importance of de-escalation, diplomatic engagement, and preserving freedom of maritime passage.

The expanded Omani delegation included the ministers of Finance and Commerce, along with senior Foreign Affairs and Energy undersecretaries. Saudi delegates included the Deputy Transport Minister and senior officials from the Foreign Affairs and Energy ministries.

Trump Moves to Remove Syria from U.S. Terrorism List

U.S. President Donald Trump has informed Syrian President Ahmed al-Sharaa that he has decided to remove Syria from the United States' list of State Sponsors of Terrorism, marking a significant shift in Washington's policy toward Damascus.

In a letter delivered to al-Sharaa following their meeting in Ankara on Wednesday, Trump said the move aimed to help Syria rebuild after years of conflict.

"I promised to remove all barriers stopping you from rebuilding your country, and very soon, you will finally be able to do so," Trump wrote. He added that American companies were prepared to invest in Syria and support its economic recovery, saying they were ready to help make the country "greater and more prosperous than ever before."

Trump also confirmed that he had formally notified the U.S. Congress of the decision. Under U.S. law, lawmakers will now conduct a 45-day review before Syria can officially be removed from the terrorism list.

The designation currently imposes restrictions on U.S. foreign assistance, defense exports, and certain financial transactions with Syria.

The announcement follows an executive order signed by Trump last month that ended a long-standing U.S. sanctions program against Syria, paving the way for the country's gradual reintegration into the international financial system.



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EXCLUSIVE

Bayan Salman breaks Gulf basketball ground



The Gulf Basketball Association (GBA) U21 3x3 Championship, 1st Place Women's Division and MVP Honour

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

Bayan Salman has become the first women's basketball player from Bahrain and the GCC to join an NCAA Division I team after signing for Charleston Southern University in the United States.

The 21-year-old Bahrain national team player will also study for an MBA at the university, pairing basketball in the NCAA's top tier with postgraduate work in business.

Salman said the move was about more than her own career, as she hoped it would show girls in Bahrain and across the Gulf that a place in US college basketball was possible.

'I want them to see that with hard work and belief, you can achieve things that seem out of reach,' Salman told *The Daily Tribune*. 'Being able to represent

Bahrain on this stage is a huge honour, and I hope it inspires more girls to pursue their dreams in sport.'

Salman said basketball first came into her life through her parents, who urged her to try different sports as a child. She said she loved the game from the start and wanted to improve each day.

She grew up admiring British basketball player Holly Winterburn, whose career helped her believe she could reach that level too.

Away from the court, Salman said her parents and sister had helped her reach this point. She also paid tribute to her late aunt, Fatima Jawad, whom she described as a kind and determined businesswoman who helped many people.

Charleston Southern stood out, she said, because of its coaching staff and style of play. With an almost new roster, Salman believes the team has a chance to shape a new side.

'I'm very grateful for the belief they have shown in me,' she said. 'I'm excited to go there, work hard and hopefully help make some programme history.'

Salman said she did not fully grasp where basketball could take her when she first started playing. As she grew older, Division I became a clear goal, though her path has not followed the usual college route.

Her biggest change off the court will be living away from her family. On it, she expects the speed and physicality of the American game to be the main test, along with taking on a role that may differ from the one she has known.

Salman described herself as a quick, hard-running player who likes to



Bayan Salman in action during Alba vs Najma 2026 Takafao League



With gold medal at 4th GCC Games, Doha

push the ball, attack in transition and bring energy to every training session and match.

She said balancing basketball with an MBA would require discipline, time management and focus, but added that Charleston Southern offered support for student-athletes.

Her message to young girls in Bahrain was to believe their goals are possible and not allow stereotypes or other people's doubts to set the limits.

'Never let anyone tell you what you can or cannot achieve,' she said. 'Stay close to God, trust the process, and remember that hard work never goes to waste.'

Bahraini youth team climbs Africa's highest peak



● **Five-member team advances steadily on Mount Kilimanjaro in a test of endurance and teamwork**

Hasan Barakat
TDT | Manama

A team of young Bahraini adventurers is making steady progress towards the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro, aiming to raise the Kingdom's flag atop Africa's highest mountain.

Organised by the Bahrain Youth Hostels Society, the expedition departed Bahrain earlier this week and began the mountain ascent about two days ago. The team is led by Saeeda Al Jowder and includes Yousif Fakhro, Salman Rafiee, Haifa Abdulla, and Janan Ebrahim.

The multi-day expedition presents a demanding test of endurance, requiring physical fitness, mental resilience and discipline as climbers navigate

changing weather conditions and challenging terrain on their journey to the 5,895-metre summit.

The team hopes to raise Bahrain's national flag at the peak, marking a symbolic achievement that reflects the ambition and determination of the Kingdom's youth.

The expedition is held under the patronage of Bahrain's Youth Affairs Ministry as part of initiatives designed to empower young Bahrainis through international adventures and outdoor experiences. Organisers say such programmes help develop leadership, self-reliance, teamwork and cross-cultural understanding.

According to the latest updates, the team has successfully completed the advanced stages of the climb and remains on schedule as it continues its ascent towards the summit. If successful, the expedition will add another milestone to Bahrain's growing record of youth achievements on the international stage.

MOI team claims two medals in Serbia

● **Police Sports Federation credits leadership support for the team's outstanding achievement**

Rehab Mohammad
TDT | Manama

Ministry of Interior's shooting team delivered an outstanding performance at the International Open Rifle and Pistol Shooting Championship held in Serbia from June 28 to July 6, 2026, winning silver and bronze medals against strong international competition.

Badria Ebrahim Al Attawi secured the silver medal after finishing second in the wom-



en's 25-metre pistol event, while Sara Mohammed Khalaf claimed the bronze medal with a third-place finish in the women's 50-metre rifle prone event. Brigadier Khalid Abdulaziz Al

Khayat, President of the Police Sports Federation, congratulated the team on their achievement, describing the results as a reflection of the Ministry of Interior's continued commitment

to developing talented athletes and strengthening Bahrain's presence at regional and international sporting events.

He said the success was made possible through the support of Lieutenant-General Sheikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, Minister of Interior, whose commitment to sports development has enabled the Ministry's teams to compete successfully on the international stage.

Brigadier Al Khayat also acknowledged the support of Lieutenant-General Tariq bin Hassan Al Hassan, Chief of Public Security, for enhancing the preparedness of the Ministry's sports teams and encouraging them to achieve distinguished results in international competitions.

Ahmed Al Ghazal ready for handball return

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

Ahmed Al Ghazal is ready to restart his handball career after nearly two seasons out, with the former Bahrain youth player fully fit and free to sign for a new club.

Al Ghazal last appeared in the 2023-24 season for Tubli Club before medical diagnoses and reports forced him away from the court. He has since been through follow-up care and rehabilitation, and is now said to have regained full health and match fitness.

The player is now a free agent, giving him the right to join any club he wishes as he seeks a way back into Bahraini handball.



Ahmed Al Ghazal

Al Ghazal began his career in Tubli's age-group teams and rose through the ranks to the first team. He later played for Al Ettifaq before returning to his boyhood club.

His career also took him into Bahrain's national age-group sides. He was part of the team that won the Asian youth title in 2016 and later played at the Youth World Championship in 2017.

His absence came at a time when he was still seen as one of the promising names in the local game, making his return a boost for the player and for followers of Bahraini handball.

Now clear of the health problems that kept him out, Al Ghazal begins the search for a club and a route back to match action.



Switzerland beat Colombia on penalties to reach World Cup quarter-finals

Switzerland advance to face defending champions Argentina

- Switzerland win 4-3 on penalties
- Match ended goalless
- Kobel saves decisive spot-kick

AFP | Vancouver

Switzerland beat Colombia 4-3 on penalties after a goalless draw to set up a World Cup quarter-final with defending champions Argentina. The two teams cancelled each other out in the final game of the last 16 -- the game in Vancouver was also the last at the 2026 tournament to be played outside the United States.

Colombia's Davinson Sanchez hit the bar in a nerve-wracking shootout but Switzerland defender Manuel Akanji ballooned his effort over, meaning it was all square again.

Swiss goalkeeper Gregor Kobel then regained the initiative for his team, brilliantly saving Cucho Hernandez's effort.

After two more successful kicks, Ruben Vargas stepped up to take the decisive penalty and made no mistake.

It is the first time Switzerland have reached the last eight of the World Cup since they hosted the tournament in 1954.



Leandro Campaz #21 of Colombia shoots and misses a chance against Gregor Kobel #1 of Switzerland

Victorious captain Granit Xhaka said the current generation of players was a "special one".

"We, the more experienced players, are being pushed by the younger ones, and at the same time we have to lead by example every single day and every single game," Xhaka told Swiss broadcaster SRF.

"Of course, we try to pass on our experience, but above all the

mentality that, even as a small nation, anything is possible at this level, in elite football.

"From the coaching staff to the last player, we can all be proud of what we've achieved."

Tight match

Colombia, once again backed by thousands of passionate fans, had conceded just once in their four games before Tuesday's match and the Swiss had also

proved difficult to break down. The first action of note came in the 21st minute when Kobel was forced into a flying save to keep out Gustavo Puerta's curling effort from the edge of the penalty area.

Murat Yakin's Switzerland stepped up a gear immediately after the first hydration break, with Camilo Vargas beating away a shot from Fabian Rieder before denying Dan Ndoye.

72
years have passed since Switzerland last reached the World Cup quarter-finals, matching their 1954 achievement

But the match was goalless at half-time, with two well-matched teams struggling for inspiration.

The Swiss started the second half on the front foot but Colombia also had their moments, with Luis Suarez lashing wastefully wide.

Both coaches made multiple changes in the second half but again struggled to create meaningful openings, with Colombia's star winger Luis Diaz kept quiet.

Ndoye flashed a shot across goal in stoppage time but nobody was able to get on the end of it and the match was 0-0 at the end of normal time.

The game belatedly burst into life in the first period of extra time.

Colombia defender Jhon Lucumi headed against the bar from a corner and Kobel kept out a fierce effort from Jaminton Campaz as the South Americans upped the tempo.

At the other end, Vargas dived to his left to beat away an effort from substitute Zeki Amdouni.

Campaz missed a glorious chance to win the game with five minutes left.

With nothing to separate the teams, the game went to penalties and the European team kept their nerve.

"I think this national team was destined for better things," Colombia forward Suarez told DSports.

"Let's hope this is a major turning point, because what this team showed at this World Cup has to be viewed in a positive light," he added.

Switzerland will face Argentina in Kansas City on Saturday after Lionel Messi's team earlier beat Egypt 3-2 in a wild game in Atlanta.

World Cup Schedule (Quarterfinals)

Time	Match	Venue
Today		
11:00 PM	France vs Morocco	Boston Stadium

(All games in Bahrain time)



Mbappe revels in captain's role for France at World Cup

- France captain eyes third World Cup title
- Star leads quarter-final clash with Morocco
- Mbappe becomes all-time France top scorer

AFP | Foxborough

Kylian Mbappe's critics might say he has not always been a true team player but the France superstar is revelling in his role as captain at this World Cup, as he seeks to lead Les Bleus to a third title.

The 27-year-old had a difficult end to last season with Real Madrid, being booed by supporters who questioned his commitment to the cause as he nursed an injury.

He has always been a prolific finisher, but his tally of 86 goals in two seasons was not enough to deliver a major title for Real.

Similarly, he left Paris Saint-Germain in 2024 as their all-time top scorer but without winning the Champions League. It might not entirely be a coincidence that they have gone on to be champions of Europe two years running since his departure.

But it is his relationship with the World Cup that has really shaped Mbappe, and he has looked like a man on a mission

over the last month in the United States.

Mbappe has so far netted seven goals in his team's five games before Thursday's quarter-final against Morocco at the Gillette Stadium near Boston.

The breakthrough star in the France team that won the 2018 World Cup, and scorer of a hat-trick in the epic 2022 final defeat by Argentina, Mbappe recently became his country's all-time top scorer.

He is currently chasing down Lionel Messi in his attempts to win the golden boot at this World Cup, and become the tournament's all-time leading marksman. But he keeps insisting those personal goals are not his priority.

"I know people talk about the stats. I watch the TV too. But my only focus is on helping the team and getting us back here on July 19," he said after the 3-0 win over Sweden in the last 32 at the MetLife Stadium, the venue for the final.

Mbappe also scored the winner against Paraguay in the last 16 in Philadelphia, a game in which he caught the eye for his attitude in the face of opposition aggression.

He was a regular target of Paraguayan provocation but stood up to it. At the end of a

bad-tempered match, he refused to shake the hand of Paraguay goalkeeper Orlando Gillis as he led his teammates to celebrate with the French fans.

'On a mission'

When he was racially abused by a Paraguayan politician online after that

game, he responded, calling Celeste Amarilla "despicable" and "unworthy" of her position.

Mbappe, who was defended by the French President, Emmanuel Macron, and FIFA chief Gianni Infantino, will not be fazed by that as he remains focused purely on World Cup glory.

"You make him out to be a dictator but people have an image of Kylian which is really not the reality," coach Didier Deschamps said.

"He is an extraordinary player and when he talks he does so in the name of the whole team."

There were doubts as to whether Deschamps had made the right decision when he gave Mbappe the armband in March 2023, following the retirement of Hugo Lloris.

Antoine Griezmann was the other candidate and a more senior player, but Deschamps felt Mbappe could handle the responsibility.

Euro 2024 did not go entirely to plan, with Mbappe breaking his nose in the team's opening

7
goals have been scored by Mbappe across France's five games at this World Cup

game. He scored only one goal, from a penalty, and France never performed to their best despite reaching the semi-finals.

His commitment to the international cause was called into question in the months after that tournament, as Deschamps left Mbappe out of a couple of squads just as he was settling into life in Madrid.

But he came back with a bang as the World Cup approached, scoring eight goals in seven international appearances between June last year and this March.

He has a close relationship with Deschamps, as shown when he celebrated his first goal against Sweden by running across to embrace the coach whose mother died only a few days earlier.

"He is on a mission and has been since the first day," said Deschamps, who is counting on Mbappe to lead France to a third straight World Cup final before the coach steps down after 14 years at the helm.

Belgium's Onana ruled out for rest of World Cup with ACL injury



Amadou Onana lies on the pitch after being injured
AFP | Brussels

Belgium's Amadou Onana will miss the remainder of the World Cup after suffering a torn anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) in his right knee during his country's last-16 win over co-hosts the United States, the Belgian Football Federation announced on Tuesday.

The 24-year-old Aston Villa midfielder was forced off early in Belgium's 4-1 victory over the US in Seattle on Monday.

"Unfortunately, the medical examinations have confirmed that Amadou has suffered a rupture of the anterior cruciate ligament. This is devastating news, both for him personally and for the team," Belgium team doctor Brahim Hacene said in a statement.



Ukraine's Marta Kostyuk returns to Italy's Jasmine Paolini

Kostyuk sets up Wimbledon semi-final against Noskova

● Kostyuk defeats Paolini in straight sets

● Noskova beats Mertens to reach semi

AFP | London

Ukraine's Marta Kostyuk cruised past Jasmine Paolini yesterday to book a Wimbledon semi-final clash with Linda Noskova.

Kostyuk raced to a 6-3, 6-2 victory after just 69 minutes on Centre Court and will face Czech ninth seed Noskova on Thursday for a place in her first major final.

"I was on this court as a spectator once nine years ago watching Roger (Federer) and to be back here as a player is amazing," said the 24-year-old after her first appearance on the showpiece court at the All England Club.



Czech Republic's Linda Noskova returns to Belgium's Elise Mertens

"I walked past the 'wall of honour', stood beside it and took a moment."

The 12th seed has only lost one of her last 22 matches -- a semi-final defeat by eventual champion Mirra Andreeva at the



Kostyuk, who watched Roger Federer on Centre Court nine years ago as a spectator, recalled standing beside the "wall of honour" before her first appearance there as a player

French Open last month.

Former Wimbledon runner-up Paolini could not reproduce the form she showed in her last-16 win over Alexandra Eala, losing in the last eight of a Slam for the first time.

The in-form Noskova was the highest seed left in the bottom

half of the draw after shock early exits for Iga Swiatek and Elena Rybakina.

The 21-year-old lived up to that billing with a 6-3, 7-5 win over experienced Belgian 25th seed Elise Mertens on Court One.

Mertens battled hard in her first Grand Slam quarter-final since 2020, but could not deal with Noskova's power.

The Czech has enjoyed an excellent grass-court campaign, reaching her first Slam semi-final after also winning her second WTA title in Berlin.

Kostyuk won her only previous meeting with Noskova, a straight-sets success in the quarter-finals en route to the Madrid Open title earlier this year.

"A tough one, it's never going to be easy," said Noskova. "Marta, she's an incredible player."

Two-time Grand Slam champion Coco Gauff or Czech 10th seed Karolina Muchova will await the winner in Saturday's final.

I can still win another Grand Slam, says Osaka after exit

AFP | London

Naomi Osaka insists she can still win a fifth Grand Slam title despite seeing another good opportunity pass her by with a Wimbledon quarter-final loss.

The Japanese star lifted the last of her four major trophies at the 2021 Australian Open



Naomi Osaka reacts during the match

and raised hopes of ending that five-year wait when she downed world number one Aryna Sabalenka in the last 16 at the All England Club.

But Osaka could not back that performance up, slipping to a 7-6 (7/4), 6-4 loss to Czech 10th seed Karolina Muchova.

It was her latest disappointing

defeat in the latter stages of a Grand Slam tournament, after losing to Amanda Anisimova in last year's US Open semi-finals.

"I know my results don't show it, but whenever I play a Slam, my intention is to win," said Osaka, who had never before got past the Wimbledon third round.

Messi 'didn't want to go home'

AFP | Atlanta

Lionel Messi said his tears after Argentina's dramatic win over Egypt to were "a release" in what could have been his final international appearance.

The 39-year-old broke down in a rare show of emotion at the end of an incredible last 16 tie in Atlanta that took the defending champions to the brink of a shock elimination.

"I think it was a release, a relief for everyone. It was an ugly moment at 2-0," Messi told reporters.

The Argentina captain saw a first-half penalty saved as Egypt stormed into a 2-0 lead.

But Messi also led the late fightback.

His cross teed up Cristian Romero to halve the arrears 11 minutes from time before the eight-time Ballon d'Or winner smashed in the equaliser.

Enzo Fernandez completed the comeback in stoppage time to set up a quarter-final clash against Colombia or Switzerland.

"Turning a match around like that -- coming back from 2-0 down -- it wasn't easy, especially given how this World Cup is

playing out and the fact that no one is just rolling over," added Messi.

"It was a moment of pure happiness and relief; we wanted to stay in the tournament. We didn't want today to be the end, we didn't want to go home."

Messi was thrown into the air by his team-mates in celebration after netting his 21st World Cup goal and eighth of this tournament to edge back in front of the battle for the Golden Boot.

However, he highlighted Romero's goal as the key moment the dynamic of the match changed.

"Today was yet another display of character, coming back from a goal down isn't easy. That was a really tough blow for everyone."

"Fortunately, we managed to get that goal. That was the moment, I think, when everyone inside felt it and believed it was possible, that we were going to do it."

"We were lucky enough to equalise and then win it in 90 minutes. We went all the way, it was just incredible what this group achieved."



Lionel Messi

Egypt file complaint against referee after controversial World Cup exit

AFP | Atlanta

The Egyptian football federation said yesterday it had asked for the officiating team who handled the Pharaohs loss 3-2 last-16 to Argentina to be thrown out of the World Cup.

"Hany Aburida, President of the Egyptian Football Federation, filed a complaint with FIFA, demanding an investigation into the French referee Francois Letexier... after the serious refereeing mistakes committed by the team of referees and double standards, which caused the Egypt team to lose the match and leave the World Cup," said a statement from the federation.

On Tuesday evening, Letexier ruled out a Mostafa Ziko goal ruled out when they were leading 1-0 after VAR intervened to spot a foul on Lisandro Martinez much earlier in the move.

A few minutes later, Ziko did put Egyptian 2-0 up and on the brink of a place in the last eight for the first time but there was further controversy in added time, after Cristian Romero and Lionel Messi had brought the champions level.



Hossam Hassan, Head Coach of Egypt, argues with referee Francois Letexier

winner scored by Enzo Fernandez, Egypt believe they should have instead been awarded a penalty for a pull by Alexis Mac Allister on Hamdy Fathy.

"Aburida demanded the investigation of the entire team of referees, including the video technology referees, because of the blatant errors and insisting on not reviewing some of the footage that we believe are in favour of the Egyptian national team, and we see in it the Pharaohs' right to a correct goal and a penalty," said the Egyptian

statement.

It added that the president had also "demanded the exclusion of the referee and the entire crew from the World Cup after investigating these mistakes and proving the crime of discrimination against the Egyptian national team".

The statement echoed remarks by Egypt coach Hossam Hassan immediately after the game.

"I do not want to put it nicely and talk about hard luck. We have been cheated unfairly to-

"We haven't seen respect or fair play. There has not been respect or fair play. A penalty was ruled out, was not even checked by VAR. A second goal was remarkably disallowed. There has not even been a VAR check when we have all seen the image of the (shirt) being pulled back"

HOSSAM HASSAN

day, we have suffered injustice," Hassan told journalists.

"We haven't seen respect or fair play. There has not been respect or fair play."

Hassan told BeIN: "Perhaps they wanted to keep the world champions in the competition. Perhaps they wanted Messi to stay in the running."

"In football, there are sometimes external factors that go beyond the technical aspects. The world champions received support at every level."