



Deputy Premier, HH Shaikh Mohammed bin Mubarak Al Khalifa during a meeting with the Dean of Diplomatic Corps and Kuwaiti Ambassador to Bahrain, Shaikh Azzam Mubarak Al-Sabah, at the Gudaibiya Palace yesterday. The deputy premier reviewed with the ambassador Bahraini-Kuwaiti relations, and ways to enhance them in various fields



The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, with the US State Department Counterterrorism Coordinator, Ambassador Nathan Sales. The minister stressed the depth of historical ties between Bahrain and the United States of America, based on mutual respect and trust and strategic alliance. Shaikh Khalid hailed the US strategic initiatives regarding the war on terrorism of all forms and valued its keenness to strengthen international cooperation toward total elimination of this scourge that puts all world countries at stake. Nathan Sales praised the efforts of Bahrain in combating terrorism and wished it more progress and prosperity.

# ‘Not based on facts’

Rights committee lashes out at US congressmen and US Human Rights Commission over false report targeting Bahrain’s electoral process

● Electoral process in Bahrain is accessible to all citizens

● Dissolved political societies’ activities had an impact on national security

TDT | Manama

Bahrain’s Rights committee yesterday rejected accusations levelled against the Kingdom by US Congressmen James P. McGovern and Randy Hultgren Co-Chairs of the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission in the US House of Representatives, saying the accusations were “not based on facts about the forthcoming parliamentary election in the Kingdom of Bahrain.”

The Council of Representatives Human Rights Committee said it is confident that such statements “will never obstruct the democratic process in the Kingdom, rather, it would enforce the will of the people to realize development and progress for a prospective future.”

“Electoral process in Bahrain is accessible to all citizens, and are a national issue subject to independent judicial supervision and Bahraini civil society observation”

THE COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

Civil and political rights are protected in the Kingdom under the constitution without discrimination between citizens where all are equal before the law

tional security.

They exhausted all judicial procedures and received political and financial support from states and organisations that threaten international peace and security, not limited to, Iran, Qatar and Hezbollah.

“Further, they have applied the Wilayat al-Faqih doctrine, which has been an obstacle in the establishment of a democratic society based on human rights, pluralism, equality and the rule of law,” the statement pointed out.

With regard to prison sentences on a number of members of dissolved political societies, the Committee affirmed that the judicial verdicts issued against them reflected the serious crimes committed, irrespective of their political affiliations.

Electoral districts are divided based on the criteria of the electoral population subject to the law.

The committee also called on all stakeholders to receive information from trusted sources and not to issue prejudgements about the electoral process, which is against the principles of any democratic process in civilized nations.

Civil and political rights, the committee said, are protected in the Kingdom under the constitution without discrimination between citizens where all are equal before the law.

“Electoral process in Bahrain is accessible to all citizens, and are a national issue subject to independent judicial supervision and Bahraini civil society observation,” said the statement adding that parliamentary and municipal elections that have been launched by His Majesty

the King through the National Action Charter referendum, subject to international standards. The Committee further reiterates that all political societies and other civil society organisations are established by Kingdom’s law and any violations thereof are subject to judicial review where all legal guarantees are afforded.

The dissolved political societies have violated their own statutes and relevant legislation which had an impact on the na-

## BDF participates in Arab Shield 1 drill



“Arab Shield 1” joint drill which will be held in Egypt

TDT | Cairo

Bahrain Defence Force (BDF) said it is taking part in the “Arab Shield 1” joint drill which will be held in Egypt until November 16 at Mohammed Najib Military Base and the joint air and naval training zones in the Mediterranean Sea.

The exercise is considered as one of the biggest joint Arab manoeuvres in the region with the participation of eight Arab countries and monitors to carry out the joint land, naval and air military exercises.

The participating forces are from Egypt, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the

UAE, Kuwait, Jordan and other countries taking part as monitors.

The drill aims to boost military cooperation between the armed forces of brotherly countries to unify concepts, exchange experiences and boost the combat readiness.



The Minister of Industry, Commerce & Tourism with the Chairman of Arabian Exhibition Management Shaikh Mohammed bin Abdullah Al Khalifa in his office. During the meeting, they discussed a number of economic sector issues, especially the exhibitions and conferences sector.



Bahrain Defence Force officials during a graduation ceremony for a specialised officers military session, in the presence of Maintenance and Technical Supply Director Rear Admiral Anwar Abdullah Jassim Al Jowder.

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US Ambassador, Justin Sibera, and his accompanying delegation during his visit to the headquarters of AGU to learn about the university’s programmes, its medical and research centres, and to discuss means of cooperation. He was received by President of Arabian Gulf University (AGU) Dr Khalid Al-Ohaly. The American Ambassador’s visited the Clinical Simulation and Skills Centre, which aims to train students and raise their clinical skills using the latest technology simulating the hospital environment, as well as instructing interns on all professional protocols and clinical skills, raising their efficiency and qualifying them to handle patients. On a similar vein, the American Ambassador and his accompanying delegation visited the King Abdullah Medical City University Centre, where they viewed various clinics, specialised laboratories, one-day operation rooms, the fertility clinic and physiotherapy wing.