

IRGC-Linked Cell Uncovered

MPs and Shura Council express strong backing for Interior Ministry

- Authorities cite Wilayat al-Faqih ideology link
- Legal proceedings underway
- Investigations and searches continue

Based on investigations, security reports, and previous Public Prosecution investigations into espionage with foreign entities and support for blatant Iranian aggression, the Interior Ministry announced that security authorities uncovered a group linked to Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps and the ideology of Wilayat al-Faqih. The ministry said that 41 members of the main group have been arrested, and legal proceedings are underway against them. Search and investigation operations are continuing, and necessary legal measures are being taken against anyone proven to be involved in the group or to have committed illegal acts.

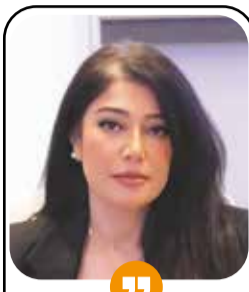
Lawmakers praise security forces

TDT | Manama
Mohammed Darwish

Lawmakers voiced strong support for the Interior Ministry following the arrest of individuals in a case involving an alleged group linked to Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) and the ideology of Wilayat al-Faqih.

Members of parliament and the Shura Council said the case reflected the readiness of the kingdom's security services and their ability to respond to threats targeting national security, sovereignty and public order.

Dr Maryam Al Dhaen said the operation aligned with the policies of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and



“The Interior Ministry has demonstrated a high level of professionalism and capability in monitoring and addressing security threats”

DR. MARYAM AL DHAEN, MP



Strong enforcement of the law is essential to deter anyone who seeks to compromise national security or public safety.

MARYAM AL SAEGH, MP

unlawful activity and did not affect Bahraini society, which she described as unified and based on coexistence and moderation.

Dr Ali Al Rumaihi, head of the Shura Council's Foreign Affairs, Defence and National Security Committee, said the Interior Ministry's action formed part of broader efforts to counter terrorism and alleged foreign interference.

He said firm and fair enforcement of the law was essential to safeguarding national security and maintaining social stability, adding that public unity behind the leadership remained a key safeguard against threats.

MP Dr Hassan BuKhammas, chairman of Parliament's Foreign Affairs, Defence and National Security Committee, said the Interior Ministry's action formed part of broader efforts to counter terrorism and alleged foreign interference.

He praised the security forces for their investigations, saying the arrests followed extensive inquiries and searches.

BuKhammas added that such measures were necessary to protect internal stability and rejected any activities that sought to undermine public trust or national unity.

He called for continued vigilance and public cooperation to preserve Bahrain's social cohesion and national interests.



“These actions are part of ongoing efforts to confront terrorism and safeguard Bahrain from any external interference.”

DR HASSAN BUKHAMMAS, CHAIRMAN OF PARLIAMENT'S FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND NATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEE



Firm and fair application of the law is a cornerstone in preserving national security and upholding the rule of law.

DR. ALI AL RUMAIHI, HEAD OF THE SHURA COUNCIL'S FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND NATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEE

Investigations confirm that those arrested in the group were in direct contact with the Iranian Revolutionary Guard and that they collected funds with the aim of sending them to Iran in support of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard and to finance its terrorist operations.

15 Years for Marijuana Parcel

TDT | Manama
Rehab Mohammad

A Bahraini appeals court upheld a 15-year prison sentence against an Asian man convicted of importing around three kilograms of marijuana hidden inside a food parcel, while acquitting a second defendant due to lack of evidence proving criminal intent.



lawyer Saja Al-Habib

The First High Criminal Court of Appeal also fined the convicted man BD10,000, ordered the confiscation of the seized drugs and ruled for his permanent deportation after serving his sentence.

Court documents said customs officers at Bahrain International Airport became suspicious of a postal parcel after an X-ray scan revealed unusual density inside the package.

The parcel, which contained food items and household supplies, was later found to conceal 21 bags containing marijuana weighing about three kilograms.

Investigators said the defendant admitted he had been instructed by a person abroad to collect the parcel in exchange for BD1,500 and had used another person's identity and address without their knowledge.

The court upheld the acquittal of the second defendant after finding no evidence that he knew about the drugs or was involved in the operation. His lawyer argued he had merely accompanied the first defendant and had no criminal intent.

Court to Rule in Juffair Gold Heist

Eight Accused in BD800,000 Heist Case

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Rehab Mohammad

The Fourth Lower Criminal Court has set May 14 to deliver its verdict in the case of eight defendants accused of stealing gold bars, Rolex watches and other valuables worth more than BD800,000 from a house in Juffair.

During the hearing, defence lawyers representing the accused requested their clients' acquittal, arguing there was insufficient evidence linking them



lawyer Reem Al Mahari

to the crime. Lawyer Reem Al Mahari, representing the fifth defendant, said her client had no knowledge that a watch found in his possession was stolen, claiming he received it from a friend for safekeeping. She added that he cooperated fully with police once informed about the investigation.

According to court files, the theft was discovered after the homeowner returned to his residence on March 6 and found a steel safe broken into. The stolen items included 22 Rolex watches, around 1.5 kilograms of gold and nine gold bars.

Police investigations, including a review of surveillance footage, led authorities to identify a vehicle seen near the property on March 2. One suspect later admitted receiving a stolen watch and implicated others allegedly involved in the burglary, helping investigators identify the remaining defendants.

Court overturns BD 5,366 ruling

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Rehab Mohammad

The court overturned a ruling that ordered a man in his sixties to pay 5,366.200 Bahraini dinars in a vehicle rental dispute, after finding that legal notification procedures were invalid.

The High Civil Court of Appeal ruled the original judgment void because court summons were sent to incorrect contact details via SMS and email.

According to case documents, a Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA) report confirmed that the mobile number used for notification was regis-



Lawyer Abdullah Al-Majed

tered to an expatriate woman, not the defendant.

The dispute involved a four-year lease agreement for two vehicles.

The defendant's lawyer, Abdullah Al-Majed, argued that his client had no knowledge of the proceedings at the court of first

instance, disputed the authenticity of the contract signatures and said the relevant commercial registration had been cancelled before the case was filed. He also said there was no legal evidence that the defendant was authorised to act on behalf of the second party, an institution named in the case. The appeals court cited Article 7 (bis) of the Civil Procedure Code, ruling that proper notification is a fundamental requirement for a fair trial. It said the defective summons deprived the defendant of the right to defend himself, and therefore annulled the original judgment and accepted the appeal.

Shura to Debate Charity Funding Law

Risk-based monitoring system to strengthen oversight of charities

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Mohammed Darwish

The Shura Council will debate a decree-law that makes licensed charity fundraisers disclose where money comes from, how it is spent and file audited reports with the competent authority.

Decree-Law No. 39 of 2025 amends Bahrain's 2013 law on raising money for public purposes. It changes the definition of a licence-holder, rewrites parts of the licensing rules, and gives the authority new room to check fundraising work according to the level of risk tied to each group or activity.

The Services Committee has recommended approval, saying the measure is aimed at stopping public donations from being misused for money laun-



Dr Jameela Al Salman, Head of Shura's Services Committee

than treating every fundraiser in the same way, the competent authority would be able to direct checks towards work seen as more exposed to misuse.

The committee said this would help regulators pick up warning signs earlier and focus on fundraising activities most open to abuse, without placing needless weight on lawful charity work.

It said: 'The decree-law establishes a modern oversight approach based on risk analysis and assessment, allowing the competent authority to direct its supervisory tools according to the actual level of risk posed by each activity or licensed entity.'

Penalties would also change. The decree-law adds administrative fines alongside criminal sanctions, giving the authority a wider range of tools to deal with breaches according to

their seriousness.

The Legislation and Legal Opinion Commission said the measure was issued because methods used in money laundering and terrorism financing continue to change. It also said Bahrain had to keep pace with Financial Action Task Force (FATF) standards and the National Risk Assessment.

The committee tied the measure to Bahrain's FATF assessment in 2026. It warned that delay could raise the risk of Bahrain being placed on the FATF grey list, with harm to the financial sector, the wider economy and overseas trust in the kingdom's investment climate.

The decree-law has three articles. The first amends parts of the 2013 law, the second adds two new articles, and the third deals with bringing the decree-law into force.

Turning Experience into Insight



Minister of Information Dr. Ramzan bin Abdullah Al Nuaimi received writer Ahmed Abdul Latif Al Bahr, who presented him with a copy of his new book "Administrative Perspectives".

The book explores administrative experiences and modern approaches to institutional performance development, drawing on practical case studies from the author's career.

The minister praised Al

Bahr's professional background across Bahrain's public and private sectors, describing him as a national talent with rich experience that contributes to enriching knowledge content by documenting real-world expertise. He said such works help transfer knowledge and exchange professional experiences in ways that enhance institutional development.

Dr. Al Nuaimi wished the author continued success in his literary and professional work.