

With Prizes Totalling \$2 Million:

Al Baraka Islamic Bank Announces “Bab alBarakat” and Unveils \$1 Million “Millionaire alBarakat” Prize

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Al Baraka Islamic Bank, one of the leading Islamic banks in the Kingdom of Bahrain, recently announced the launch of the new 2026–2027 edition of “Bab alBarakat” Prize scheme, featuring cash prizes with a total value of USD2 million. The new edition reflects the Bank’s continued commitment to rewarding its customers and promoting a culture of savings in accordance with the principles of Islamic Shari’a.

The new scheme will feature the launch of the “Millionaire alBarakat” prize, worth USD 1 million, with one winner to be announced during the final draw scheduled for March 2027. The prize will be the largest ever offered under the Al Barakat Scheme, while the remaining prizes will be awarded through a series of draws held



Mazin Dhaif, Chief Retail Officer at Al Baraka Islamic Bank

throughout the programme period.

The scheme will also feature a variety of monthly prizes, including a monthly salary prize totalling USD 120,000, special “alBarakat Plus” prizes, as well as a range of other cash prizes that provide customers with more opportunities to win and achieve their financial aspirations.

The first draws will com-

mence in October 2026, with subsequent draws continuing until March 2027, giving eligible alBarakat and alBarakat Plus customers multiple opportunities to win as they maintain and grow their savings balances.

In this regard, Al Baraka Islamic Bank invites both existing and new customers to open an “alBarakat” or “alBarakat Plus” account, or increase their existing balances, to take advantage

of the available opportunities and qualify for the upcoming draws, bringing them one step closer to becoming the next “Millionaire alBarakat”.

Commenting on the occasion, Mr Mazin Dhaif, Chief Retail Officer at Al Baraka Islamic Bank, said: “The new edition of Bab alBarakat scheme marks another milestone in our journey to deliver an increasingly rewarding and valuable banking

experience to our customers. We have enhanced it to offer bigger prizes and a wider range of winning opportunities, in line with our customers’ aspirations and our commitment to promoting a culture of savings and long-term financial planning.”

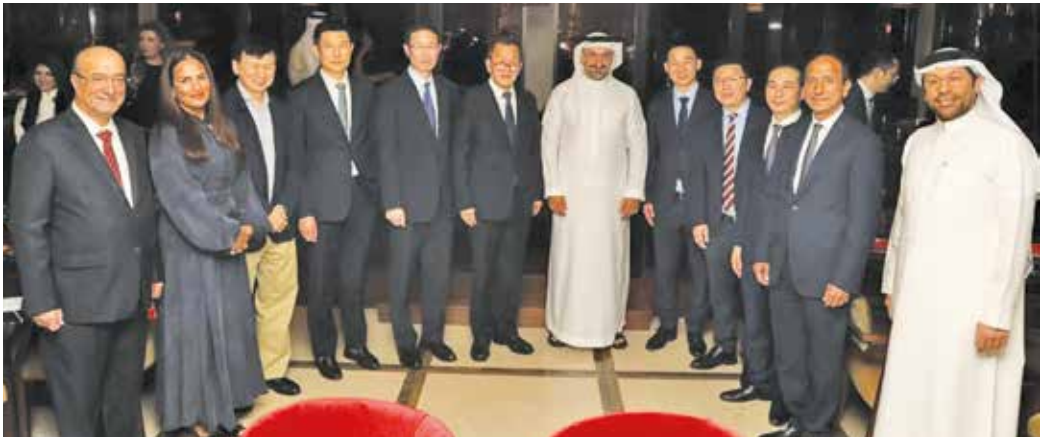
He added: “We are proud to announce the launch of the USD 1 million ‘Millionaire alBarakat’ prize, which reflects our vision of delivering meaningful value to our customers and rewarding them for their continued trust. We encourage all customers to seize this opportunity by growing and maintaining their balances, as one of them could be our next ‘Millionaire alBarakat’.”

The “Bab alBarakat” scheme

is one of Al Baraka Islamic Bank’s leading savings schemes, combining opportunities to win rewarding prizes with access to a comprehensive range of Shari’a-compliant banking services and solutions, providing customers with a trusted and integrated banking experience.

Al Baraka Islamic Bank is among the leading Islamic banks in the Kingdom of Bahrain. Since its establishment in 1984, the Bank has achieved outstanding results in providing banking services to both individuals and corporates. It has a strong track record of innovation and delivering Shari’a-compliant investment and financing solutions. The Bank also continues to play a pioneering role in supporting social responsibility and sustainability initiatives, maintaining a prominent position among Islamic banking institutions serving customers worldwide.

Gulf Hotels Group Reopens China Garden at Gulf Hotel Bahrain as Part of Wider Renovation and Expansion plan



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Gulf Hotels Group (GHG), Bahrain’s leading hospitality company, today reopened China Garden at Gulf Hotel Bahrain following a full renovation, under the patronage of H.E. Abdullah bin Adel Fakhro, Minister of Industry and Commerce. The ceremony, held three decades after China Garden first opened at the hotel in 1996, was attended by the Ambassador of the People’s Republic of China to the Kingdom of Bahrain, business officials, senior editors and representatives of Bahrain’s media, and GHG’s Chairman, Vice Chairman and board of directors.

The reopening forms part of a broader renovation plan under way across Gulf Hotel Bahrain’s dining portfolio, as Gulf Hotels Group reinvests in some of its most established restaurant brands. Alongside China Garden, GHG has also recently completed renovations of two other long-standing restaurants at the hotel: Takht Jamsheed, known for its Persian fine dining and live entertainment, and Café Délice, the hotel’s all-day Middle Eastern and international café. The work has run alongside Gulf Hotel Bahrain’s own phased renovation, following the Group’s agreement with Marriott International in 2024 to integrate the property into Marriott’s Autograph Collection portfolio and the Marri-



ott Bonvoy loyalty programme, while the hotel continues to operate under GHG management and retains its original name.

The renovation also marks a further step in China Garden’s own growth beyond Gulf Hotel Bahrain. Known for Szechuan, Cantonese and Peking specialties prepared by a dedicated team of Chinese chefs, the restaurant extended to Al Liwan in 2024 and, later that year, introduced Zen by China Garden, a concept restaurant led by Chef Wang at Time Out Market Bahrain in City Centre Bahrain. Across its locations, the brand has kept its emphasis on authentic Chinese cuisine and traditional cooking techniques, an approach GHG credits with the concept’s three-decade run in a dining market that has changed considerably since it first opened.

Ahmed Janahi, Group Chief Executive Officer of Gulf Hotels Group, said “The renovation programme across both our hotels and restaurants re-

flects the company’s long-term commitment to reinvesting in our properties and contributing to the growth of Bahrain’s tourism sector,” he said “China Garden has been part of Bahrain’s dining scene for thirty years, and this renovation is about ensuring it continues to meet the expectations of our guests without losing the authenticity that built its reputation,” he said. “It is also part of the wider strategy we have set for the Group: renewing our restaurants and hotels, growing our brands into new locations, and building a portfolio that can compete regionally as well as at home.”

Gulf Hotel Bahrain, the Group’s flagship property and the first five-star hotel to open in the Kingdom, in 1969, remains at the centre of a multi-year renovation programme that the Group says will continue over the coming years as part of its wider strategy of growing its hotel and restaurant brands across the region.

BASREC Celebrates the Achievement of Two Bahraini Engineers in Global Training Programme with BAE Systems Company in the UK



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Mr. Fawzi Ahmed Kanoo, Chairman of Bahrain Ship Repairing & Engineering Company B.S.C. (BASREC), welcomed engineers Ameera Hashem and Marwa Al Nazer and congratulated them on successfully completing a three-month international work experience programme with BAE Systems at Portsmouth Naval Base in the United Kingdom, supported by the Labour Fund (Tamkeen) under its Global Work Experience Programme. Mr. Kanoo expressed his pride in the engineers’ achievement, commending their competence, professionalism, and distinguished representation of BASREC and the Kingdom of Bahrain. He highlighted the importance of such opportunities in developing Bahraini engineering expertise and strengthening the role of women in the maritime sector.

He added that the initiative builds on the long-standing relationship between BASREC and BAE Systems, developed through years of cooperation in supporting, repairing, and maintaining Royal Navy vessels in the Arabian Gulf. The programme also creates further opportunities for knowledge exchange, transfer of expertise, and the adoption of international best practices in developing Bahraini engineering

talent.

During the programme, which ran from June to August 2026, Ameera and Marwa worked alongside the maritime support teams at Portsmouth Naval Base, gaining specialised practical experience in asset management, ship repair and maintenance, safety and compliance, testing and commissioning, as well as exposure to international best practices in marine engineering.

At the conclusion of the programme, Mr. Scott Jamieson, Managing Director at BAE Systems, praised Ameera and Marwa for their professionalism, commitment, and performance. He also highlighted the long-standing relationship between BAE Systems and BASREC, built over years of cooperation in supporting, repairing, and maintaining naval vessels. He noted that this initiative further strengthens the partnership through the exchange of expertise and knowledge and exposure to international best practices.

Mrs. Narjis Almoosawi, Acting Chief Executive Officer of BASREC, said:

“We are proud of Ameera and Marwa’s achievement and of them being the first two Arab female engineers to participate in this training programme with BAE Systems at the Naval Base. Their achievement reflects the capabilities of Bahraini talent

and the growing presence of women in the maritime sector.

“We also extend our sincere appreciation to the Labour Fund (Tamkeen) for supporting this valuable opportunity, which has contributed to the exchange of expertise, transfer of knowledge, and exposure to international best practices. This achievement reflects BASREC’s commitment to developing Bahraini talent, empowering women in technical and engineering fields, and leveraging international expertise to strengthen the Kingdom of Bahrain’s maritime capabilities.”

Commenting on their experience, Ameera and Marwa said:

“We extend our sincere thanks to BASREC’s management and the Labour Fund (Tamkeen) for providing us with this valuable opportunity. We are proud to have represented the Kingdom of Bahrain and BASREC in this international experience, which enriched our practical expertise and developed our knowledge in marine engineering, ship management, repair and maintenance, while exposing us to international best practices.

“We look forward to putting the knowledge and experience we have gained into practice at BASREC and sharing it with our colleagues to contribute to the continued development of our operations and strengthen the company’s technical capabilities.”