

HM King strengthens Bahrain-UNESCO partnership



His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa directed continued support for the 2025 edition of the UNESCO King Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa Prize for the Use of ICT in Education and encouraged further collaboration with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) to expand the utilisation of research, studies, and digital educational experiences that contribute to providing education for all. HM the King was speaking as he received Audrey Azoulay, Director General of UNESCO, and other ministers from the region. The officials extended their greetings to His Majesty on the occasion of their visit to the Kingdom to attend the 2025 edition of the award, held in celebration of the prize's 20th anniversary. HM the King commended the role of the international judging panels and their experts, while expressing appreciation for the Ministry of Education's ongoing efforts to ensure the sustainability of the prize and the effective application of its outcomes to advance education within the Kingdom. His Majesty commended the level of cooperation between the Kingdom and UNESCO in educational, cultural, and heritage sectors, as well as their joint efforts to foster dialogue across diverse cultures.

Bahrain welcomes
first phase of
US-brokered Gaza
peace initiative

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The Kingdom of Bahrain is closely monitoring developments following the announcement of a landmark agreement to implement the first phase of the US peace plan aimed at ending the conflict in Gaza.

Proposed by US President Donald J. Trump, the plan seeks to establish a cease-fire, secure the release of hostages and detainees, and ensure the uninterrupted delivery of humanitarian aid to the Gaza Strip.

In a statement, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs expressed Bahrain's appreciation for President Trump's efforts and for the role of international mediators in facilitating dialogue between Israel and Hamas, paving the way toward de-escalation and peace.

The ministry urged all parties to honour their commitments and fully implement the terms of the agreement.

Man, 29, falls to
death in Juffair

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The Capital Governorate Police have confirmed the death of a 29-year-old man who fell from a building in the Juffair area.

Authorities responded immediately to the scene and have launched an investigation into the circumstances surrounding the incident.

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Empowering minds

HM King's far-reaching vision strengthens Bahrain's global educational leadership

● HRH Prince Salman
hails two decades
of innovation

● Kingdom hosts
UNESCO ICT
Prize ceremony

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His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa's steadfast commitment to the UNESCO King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa Prize for the Use of ICT in Education has reinforced Bahrain's leadership in education for more than two decades.

Speaking on behalf of HM the King during the award ceremony held at the University of Bahrain, His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, said the prize embodies His Majesty's far-reaching vision to enhance access to quality education and advance global innovation in learning.

Royal vision

"HM the King's vision has strengthened Bahrain's reputation for educational excellence and underlines its ongoing support for expanding educational opportunities worldwide," HRH Prince Salman emphasised.

He added that the award reflects HM King Hamad's "visionary commitment to advancing digital education for future generations," underscoring the role of technology in improving learning outcomes and achieving sustainable development.

Held for the first time outside UNESCO's Paris headquarters, the 2025 ceremony marked the 20th anniversary of the prize's establishment.



HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister attends the award ceremony

Partnership

Organised by UNESCO in co-operation with Bahrain's Ministry of Education, the event highlighted the Kingdom's enduring partnership with the international organisation and its continued investment in digital education.

HRH Prince Salman noted that the prize, supported by educational institutions and organisations around the world, has



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- HRH PRINCE SALMAN BIN HAMAD AL KHALIFA, THE CROWN PRINCE AND PRIME MINISTER

inspired innovation and promoted best practices in teaching and learning.

"Over the years, it has helped build sustainable and inclusive knowledge societies that value diversity and creativity," he said.

Outstanding projects

HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister presented the 2025 awards to four outstanding projects: AI4InclusiveEducation by La Scientotheque (Belgium);

Piauí Inteligência Artificial by the Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul and the Education Department of the State of Piauí (Brazil); Mahara-Tech by Egypt's Information Technology Institute; and Experience AI by the Raspberry Pi Foundation (UK).

His Royal Highness congratulated the winners, wishing them continued success in their efforts to harness technology to transform education and empower learners worldwide.

In his remarks, His Excellency Dr Mohammed bin Mubarak Juma, Minister of Education, expressed gratitude to HM King Hamad for his continued patronage of the prize and to HRH Prince Salman for his presence and unwavering support for Bahrain's education sector.

Digital transformation

Dr Juma noted that hosting the award ceremony in Bahrain for the first time reflects the Kingdom's strong ties with UNESCO and celebrates two decades of leadership in promoting digital transformation in education — a vision initiated by His Majesty King Hamad.



- Highlighted that the award reflects HM the King's visionary commitment to advancing digital education.
- Noted that HM the King's vision has elevated Bahrain's reputation for educational excellence and global outreach.
- Underscored that the award fosters innovation, promotes best practices, and builds inclusive, sustainable knowledge societies.



- Stressed Bahrain's century-long dedication to education and innovation, positioning it as a global leader in educational development.
- Emphasised that Bahrain's partnership with UNESCO reinforces its support for advancing digital education and ICT worldwide.

