

Drone attacks violate international law

TDT | Manama

Bahrain strongly condemned drone incidents targeting the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait, describing them as violations of international law and threats to regional stability.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs said the attacks on the UAE, including drones intercepted by Emirati air defences, constituted a breach of the UN Charter, good neighbourly principles, relevant UN Security Council resolutions, and the regional ceasefire understanding.

Bahrain reaffirmed its "full solidarity" with the UAE, backing all measures taken to safeguard its sovereignty and security.

In a separate statement, the kingdom also condemned hostile drone violations of Kuwaiti airspace, calling it a serious escalation and a threat to regional peace.

Manama expressed support for Kuwait and praised its armed forces for their response, while urging stronger regional and international cooperation to maintain stability and protect civilian and strategic infrastructure.

Sovereignty Rules Strengthened

TDT | Manama

Shura Council concluded a packed legislative session on Sunday by approving 16 laws, in what officials described as a "legislative marathon" ahead of the parliamentary recess.

The approved package included four decree-laws and 12 draft laws covering sovereignty, judicial reform, economic development and regulatory oversight.

A key amendment to the Judicial Authority Law classified nationality and citizenship issues as Acts of Sovereignty, placing them under executive authority rather than judicial review.

(Read more on page 05)

220 fils (includes VAT)



6 084010 110021 >

'This is not COVID'

US health officials have sought to calm public concern after a deadly hantavirus outbreak aboard a cruise ship | P11

Security Stability Reaffirmed

BDF briefed on strategic programmes and future plans during the visit

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Prime Minister visited the General Command of the Bahrain Defence Force (BDF) on Sunday, where he reviewed strategic plans and praised the military's role in national security.

He was accompanied by His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Minister at the Prime Minister's Court.

During the visit, Prince Salman reaffirmed Bahrain's approach to strengthening national cohesion and responsibility, stating it remains central to preserving security and stability under the leadership of King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces.

He praised the Bahrain Defence Force personnel for their "vital role" in protecting the



HRH the Crown Prince was received by senior Bahrain Defence Force officials during a visit to the General Command. These officials included Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, National Security Advisor and Royal Guard Commander Lt. Gen. Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, and BDF Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Theyab bin Saqr Al-Nuaimi.

country, including against what he described as hostile Iranian aggression targeting civilian infrastructure and private property.

The Crown Prince stressed the importance of continually modernizing and developing the armed forces to enhance

readiness and support regional security alongside allied nations.

He was also briefed on the BDF's strategic programmes and future plans, and commended the leadership of Field Marshal Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa for advancing the force

since its establishment.

HRH Prince Salman expressed appreciation to all BDF personnel, saying their dedication and sacrifices reflect "values of patriotism and responsibility," and wished them continued success in serving and protecting the Kingdom.

Field Marshal Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed thanked the Crown Prince for his support, reaffirming the BDF's loyalty to HM King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and its commitment to safeguarding Bahrain's security and stability.

Business continuity secured

Tamkeen approves financing support for 7,000 firms

TDT | Manama

A three-track economic support bundle announced to support small, medium, and micro enterprises affected by the recent hostile Iranian aggression to ensure operational and national workforce sustainability.

His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Minister of the Prime Minister's Court and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Labour Fund "Tamkeen", today chaired the Board of Directors Meeting.

During the meeting, His Highness underscored the im-



His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa chairs the Board of Directors Meeting

portance of strengthening Bahrain's economic competitiveness through supporting the private sector. His Highness emphasised the critical role of the private sector in achieving sus-

tainable growth, supporting the objectives of Bahrain's national development plans under the leadership of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and the directives of His Royal High-

ness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

His Highness emphasised the essential role of small businesses and SMEs in driving economic

growth, job creation and supporting development pathways which support the creation of promising job opportunities for Bahrainis and contribute to the Kingdom's national aspirations.

During the meeting, the Board of Directors, led by His Highness, approved a grant and financing support bundle, enabling 7,250 Bahraini companies to benefit from funding and liquidity.

The initiative is designed to assist enterprises affected by the recent hostile Iranian aggression, to preserve employment levels, and aid the private sector, ensuring economic growth.

IRGC-Linked Cell Uncovered

Ministry says group operated through covert institutional infiltration

TDT | Manama

Bahrain's Interior Ministry said it had dismantled "main organisation" linked to Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) and the doctrine of Wilayat al-Faqih, announcing the arrest of 41 individuals inside the kingdom and identifying 11 others based in Iran.

The ministry said the individuals in Iran acted as a "link" between the IRGC and local operatives in Bahrain.

It added that the group was composed of members of the dissolved Islamic Scholars Council and their affiliates, and alleged they had formed and led a "terrorist organisation," financed terrorism, and engaged in espionage for Iran as well as contacts with



Items seized as evidence

groups in Iraq and Lebanon.

'Organised terrorism' against Shia citizens

The Interior Ministry said the group carried out "organised terrorism" by targeting members of Bahrain's Shia community, misleading them and operating in secrecy.

It alleged the group infiltrated

religious, social, charitable and educational institutions, including nurseries, schools, religious seminaries and community organisations.

According to the ministry, these activities aimed at promoting "loyalty to foreign entities," specifically the IRGC and Wilayat al-Faqih, while undermining national allegiance and encouraging hostility toward the state and its laws.

The statement added that the group sought to influence and weaken "national will" within segments of society through covert activity.

Religious institutions allegedly infiltrated

The ministry said members of the network worked to control and politicise religious discourse, including sermons delivered by clerics and religious chants in mosques, community halls (maatam), and religious gatherings.

It alleged that intimidation was used against those managing religious events to exert influence over content and direction. The ministry accused the group of collecting funds for unlawful purposes and engaging in activities that

"threaten civil peace," including receiving financial support from IRGC-linked channels in Iran.

Surveillance led to arrests

The ministry said the group had been under monitoring for some time before coordinated security measures led to the arrests.

It stressed that the operation was part of efforts to safeguard national security and maintain stability. "The measures taken are aimed at protecting Bahrain's security and preserving the safety of society in all its components," the statement said.

It added that authorities would continue to act against any activity deemed a threat to public order or unity. (Read More on Page 03)

Unified Arab Support Emerges

Syria, Lebanon, Yemen and Qatar express support for Kingdom's security measures



TDT | Manama

A wave of regional diplomatic support emerged for Bahrain after authorities announced action against a network allegedly linked to Iran's Revolutionary Guard, with Syria, Lebanon, Yemen and Qatar all voicing solidarity and backing the kingdom's security measures.

From Damascus to Doha, official statements underscored support for Bahrain's efforts to safeguard its stability and sovereignty following the announcement by Bahraini security ser-

vices regarding the dismantling of the suspected network.

Syria's foreign ministry said it stood in "full solidarity" with Bahrain, expressing support for all measures taken to preserve national security and internal stability.

In Beirut, Lebanon strongly condemned plots targeting Bahrain's security, rejecting any form of external interference in the kingdom's internal affairs. The Lebanese foreign ministry said such actions violate international law and reaffirmed its support for Bahrain's leadership and its security steps.

Yemen also declared its backing for Bahrain, describing the measures as necessary in response to activities threatening national security. The Yemeni foreign ministry reiterated its firm position against terrorism and external interference, while affirming support for Bahrain's sovereignty and stability.

In Doha, Qatar expressed full solidarity with Bahrain, endorsing the steps taken regarding unlawful activities targeting national security. The Qatari foreign ministry said it supported Bahrain's efforts to preserve its sovereignty, territorial integrity and stability.

Custody ruling violation leads to detention

TDT | Manama
Rehab Mohammad

A Bahraini man has been remanded in custody after allegedly refusing for nearly a year to hand over a child to the custodial mother in line with a final court ruling, the Public Prosecution said.

The Family and Child Prosecution Office said it received a report from Isa Town Police Station regarding the case, in which the defendant had repeatedly failed to comply with a binding custody order. He reportedly claimed the child did not wish to live with the mother.

According to prosecutors, investigations were launched after the custodial mother filed multiple complaints documenting the prolonged non-compliance. The defendant was arrested and questioned, during which he admitted to not implementing the court decision.

The child was referred to the Public Prosecution's Social Research Department, which found no obstacles to enforcing the custody ruling.

The prosecution ordered the defendant's pre-trial detention pending further investigation and instructed him to im-

mediately comply with the court order in coordination with the Ministry of Social Development. The child and family were also enrolled in a state support programme aimed at providing social and psychological assistance.

Authorities stressed that custody and visitation rulings are legally binding, warning that obstruction or delay in enforcement carries legal consequences. They reaffirmed their commitment to ensuring the child's best interests and psychological stability through coordinated action with relevant agencies.

Legal cooperation with Chinese arbitration body



Bahrain's international dispute resolution body held high-level talks in Beijing with a leading Chinese arbitration institution to enhance cooperation in mediation and arbitration, officials said. The meeting brought together the International Dispute Resolution Council of the Kingdom of Bahrain and the China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission, reflecting growing legal and judicial ties between Manama and Beijing. The Bahraini delegation was led by Secretary-General Professor Marika Patrani Paulson, alongside Bahrain's Ambassador to China Dr. Mohammed Ghassan Mohammed Adnan Sheikhho.

Get the Perfect Smile You Deserve At Affordable Prices!

Expertise

- ▶ Scaling & Polishing
- ▶ Crowns & Bridges
- ▶ Cosmetic Dentistry
- ▶ Children's Dentistry

- ▶ White Fillings
- ▶ Teeth Whitening
- ▶ Zircon Veneers
- ▶ Root Canal Treatment

- ▶ Preventive Dentistry
- ▶ Surgical Extraction
- ▶ Self Ligating Braces
- ▶ Aligners

Doctors

Dr. Jaise Joy
Specialist
Dental Practitioner

Dr. Stephen Koshy
Specialist
Orthodontist

Dr. Shakeel Abobacker
Specialist
Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeon

Dr. Shaima Lutfallah
General
Dentist

Dr. Duaa Almandeel
General
Dentist

For Appointments @ Hidd ☎ 1746 4848 📞 3695 5777

Website

www.memh.com

Follow Us

mem.hidd

mem_hidd

Peace Dialogue



The Minister of Transportation and Telecommunications and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the King Hamad Global Centre for Peaceful Coexistence, Dr. Shaikh Abdullah bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, received US Ambassador to Bahrain Stephanie Hallett in Manama, where he reaffirmed Bahrain's commitment to strengthening its longstanding strategic partnership with the United States and advancing cooperation in promoting the values of tolerance, peaceful coexistence and interfaith dialogue.

Fully automated system speeds up housing services

Bahrain has further advanced its housing services by introducing a fully automated internal system for inspecting and handing over residential units and plots, reducing the processing time from 10 days to just one day.

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning said the upgraded procedure eliminates paper-based steps and relies entirely on digital workflows. Beneficiaries now receive electronic notifications for inspection appointments or key collection, attend the site with the assigned engineer, and complete the hand-over electronically.

The reform aims to improve service efficiency, enhance customer experience and accelerate the delivery of housing services. It has also reduced required documents by



Amina bint Ahmed Al Romaihi,
Housing and Urban Planning Minister

50 per cent and cut approval stages by 25 per cent.

Housing and Urban Planning Minister Amina bint Ahmed Al Romaihi said the initiative streamlines procedures, saving citizens time and effort while improving service quality and transparency.



Digital services reform

- 1,300+ government services documented
- 800 services re-engineered across sectors
- Based on citizen and investor feedback systems
- Supported by service evaluations and "Tawasul" platform

“Foreign-Linked Plot”

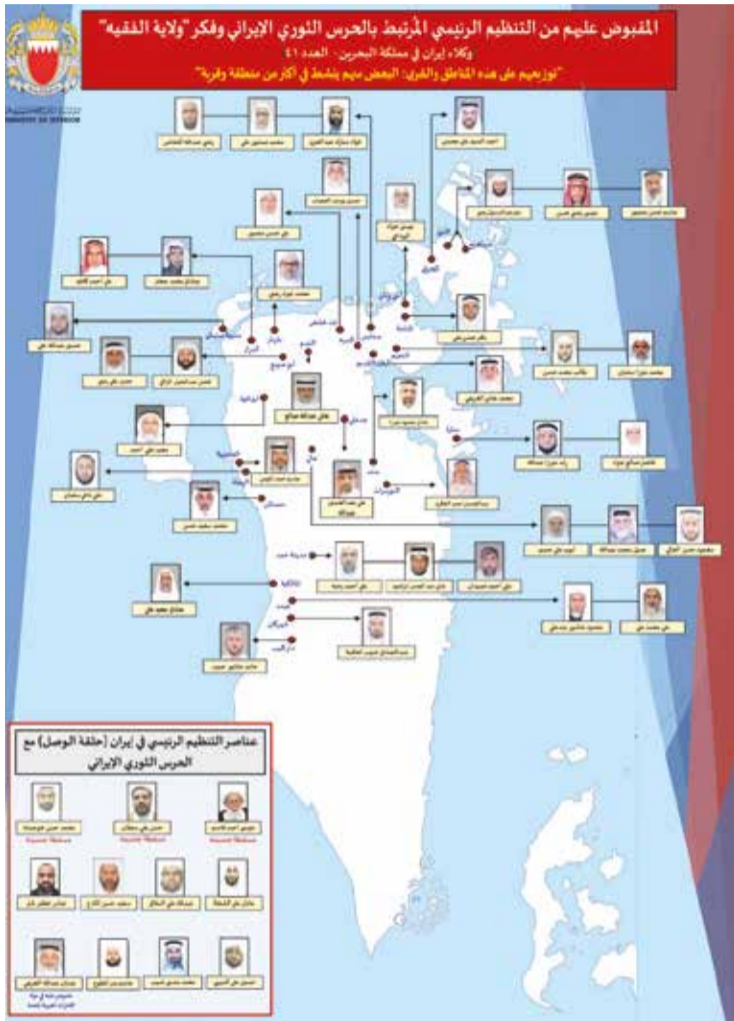
Funding channels reportedly linked to intermediaries in Iran

TDT | Manama

Lieutenant-General Tariq bin Hassan Al Hassan, Chief of Police said the investigation confirmed the existence of a “terrorist organisation” linked to the IRGC and Wilayat al-Faqih ideology. The members’, activities, and communications of this organisation were under monitoring for some time as part of a proactive security approach.” He added that the network consisted of 41 arrested individuals in Bahrain, alongside 11 others in Iran, describing them collectively as the “main organisation.”

Influence Religious Life

Lieutenant-General Tariq said the group’s activities included infiltrating religious and social institutions to reshape political and ideological orientation. “The danger of this organisation lies in the fact that it carried out organised terrorism against members of the Shia community and hijacked their voice and choices,” he said. He stated that the group attempted to promote loyalty to Iran and the IRGC while undermining allegiance to the Bahraini state. He also claimed the group sought to control sermons and religious chants in mosques and gatherings by intimidating religious figures and event organisers.



A map released by the Ministry of Interior illustrates the locations of arrests across different areas of the country.



“Security efforts foiled this plot in line with our duty to protect the country and its people.”

LT-GENERAL TARIQ AL HASSAN - CHIEF OF POLICE

Funding

The group collected funds for illegal purposes and received money from IRGC-linked intermediaries in Iran. He added that these activities financed operations that “harm civil peace and community security.” The police chief said the operation reflected the effectiveness of Bahrain’s security apparatus. “The success of the security efforts helped foil this terrorist plot, aligning with the Bahrain Police’s role in protecting the country and its people,” he said.



Cash, mobile phones, computer devices, books and documents containing ideological material and images praising Iran were seized and taken into police custody.

Gas Safety Saves Homes

Authorities urge routine checks and proper handling to prevent domestic explosions

TDT | Manama
Neethu V

Domestic gas cylinder explosions continue to pose a serious household safety risk, often linked to leaks, poor maintenance, or improper handling.

In February 2025, a major gas cylinder explosion in Arad, triggered by a gas leak in a ground-floor restaurant, caused a building collapse, resulting in fatalities and injuries. A recent gas leak explosion in Al Lawzi injured a woman, renewing concerns over household gas safety.

Speaking on the Interior Ministry’s Al Aman social media programme earlier this year, Hidd Police Station Head Colonel Dr Osama Bahar highlighted the dangers of gas leaks, noting that they caused over 300 fires and



21 explosions across 2024–2025. He stressed that preventing such incidents depends on simple safety practices that all household members should learn and consistently follow to avoid recurring risks.

The National Civil Protection Platform has outlined key preventive measures to reduce such

risks in homes. It advises that gas cylinders, along with their pipes and connections, should be made of durable materials such as steel or brass to ensure safe usage. Cylinders must always be kept upright and stored in a shaded, well-ventilated outdoor space, away from direct sunlight and any flammable

materials.

Regular maintenance is also essential. Households are urged to frequently check ovens, burners, and gas lines to ensure there are no blockages or loose fittings. It is equally important to close the gas cylinder valve before sleeping or leaving the house, reducing the chance of unnoticed leaks. Authorities also recommend installing gas leak detectors in kitchens, preferably connected to automatic shut-off systems for faster emergency response.

The General Directorate of Civil Defence further recommends keeping appropriate fire extinguishers at home for essential household preparedness: water-based extinguishers for solid fires and CO₂ extinguishers suitable for electrical and gas-related incidents.



What to do if you smell gas

- Immediately evacuate everyone from the premises
- Do not switch on/off any electrical devices
- Avoid using matches, lighters, or any open flames
- Open doors and windows carefully to ventilate the area.
- Close the gas valve only if it is safe to access
- Do not re-enter the property until it is declared safe
- Call emergency services (999) if there is any fire or risk of explosion

Islamic scholars stress loyalty to homeland

The Council of Muslim Elders said protecting homelands, safeguarding their security and preserving societal unity are among the highest objectives of Islamic law.

In a statement issued by Grand Imam of Al-Azhar Shaikh Ahmed al-Tayeb, the council made its remarks in response to repeated announcements by several Arab countries – including Bahrain – regarding the discovery of cells and groups linked to foreign entities.

The council said Islam establishes the relationship between individuals and their homelands on principles of loyalty, fulfilling covenants, protecting lives and property, and prohibiting betrayal, corruption and incitement.

Quoting from Islamic texts, it cited verses urging the fulfilment of promises and warning against spreading corruption after order has been established, as well as a saying attributed to the Prophet Muhammad condemning violence against the community.

It added that any actions threatening societal security or fuelling division among citizens run contrary to Islamic teachings.

The statement further warned that using sectarian or doctrinal identities to serve external political agendas or cross-border organisations represents a “serious deviation” from Islamic principles, which prioritise stability, coexistence and public order.

The council called on communities to avoid being drawn into “ideological narratives and platforms” that promote division or seek to redirect loyalty away from the nation-state.



Longer Travel Bans Backed for Debt Cases

Shura extends enforcement period to protect creditors’ rights

TDT | Manama
Mohammed Darwish

Shura Council on Sunday approved a draft law extending travel bans in civil and commercial debt cases from nine months to three years, a move aimed at strengthening debt recovery mechanisms.

Under the revised framework, an implementation judge will also be allowed to renew travel bans on non-Bahraini debtors without a fixed limit, provided legal grounds remain valid. The bill further restricts administrative powers to terminate residency or enforce deportation when a travel ban



Hani Al Saati, Committee Rapporteur

Shura Council member Dalal Al Zayed said the amendment resulted from coordination between the government, the Shura and the Bahrain Bar Society, adding that

it would streamline enforcement procedures, including free renewal of travel ban orders.

The Justice, Islamic Affairs and Waqf Ministry supported the extension, saying it would give courts and enforcement officers sufficient time to trace assets and recover debts.

Legislative Committee rapporteur Dr Hani Al Saati said the measure balances creditors’ rights with judicial oversight, describing travel bans as a precautionary—not punitive—measure with safeguards for review and appeal.

The draft law will now proceed through the legislative process before final approval.

Five Years for Bank Scam Case

TDT | Manama
Rehab Mohammad

The court has sentenced an Asian man to five years in prison and fined him BD 3,000 over a cyber fraud case involving the impersonation of a bank employee, prosecutors said.

The High Criminal Court also ordered the defendant’s permanent deportation after serving his sentence, according to the Cybercrime Prosecution.

The case began after a woman reported being defrauded following a phone call from

an unidentified person who posed as a bank official and convinced her to share her bank card details under the pretext of updating her information. Funds were later withdrawn from her account.

The Economic Crimes Directorate’s investigations led to the suspect’s identification and arrest. He was detained pending inquiry before being referred to court.

Prosecutors said witness statements and bank records confirmed the defendant had opened and controlled the account used in the fraud.

New Steps to Improve Roads, Parking and Waterfront Areas

Hasan Barakat
TDT | Manama

Residents raise road safety concerns

Residents in Daih and San-Rabis have called for improved road safety measures and increased parking spaces during a municipal field visit aimed at assessing local infrastructure needs.

The Services and Public Utilities Committee at the Capital Trustees Board, led by Mohammed Tawfiq Al Abbas, inspected the two areas alongside members Huda Sultan and Abdulhassan Al Dairi.

Residents highlighted traffic risks linked to poor road visibility and urged the installation of speed calming measures, traffic signals, and convex mirrors to improve safety.

Parking shortages were also raised, with proposals to convert a government-owned plot into a public parking facility to ease congestion in residential zones.

Officials said the visit was part of ongoing efforts to engage directly with residents, adding that recommendations will be submitted to relevant authorities for follow-up and implementation.

Sitra Corniche approved

Plans to redevelop Sitra



Waterfront public space at Sitra Corniche

Corniche into a dedicated recreational area have moved forward after municipal approval of a new zoning classification.

The Capital Trustees Board approved a technical committee recommendation to reclassify the site in Block 381, Nabih Saleh, as a recreational zone under the REC category.

Covering more than 42,000 square metres, the project is expected to support improved land use and create an integrated waterfront public space.

Technical Committee Chairman Mubarak Ahmed Al Nuaimi said the decision aligns with broader efforts to develop waterfront areas and expand recreational facilities across the Capital Governorate.

Hamad Town parking expansion moves forward

New parking projects in Hamad Town are awaiting final approval as authorities move to address rising congestion and increasing demand for public parking.

Northern Municipal Council member Abdulla Al Qubaisi said engineering plans have already been approved for key locations in Blocks 1205 and 1210.

The plans include 18 new parking spaces along Road 1047 in Block 1210, eight parallel spaces on Road 559 in Block 1205, and 65 additional temporary spaces created by paving and road markings.

Once implemented, the projects are expected to support safer roads and better urban flow in the growing residential area.

Jordan Senate chief begins official visit



Shura Council Chairman Ali bin Saleh Al Saleh with Jordan's Senate President Faisal Akef Al Fayeze
TDT | Manama

Jordan's Senate President Faisal Akef Al Fayeze arrived in Bahrain on Sunday for an official visit aimed at boosting parliamentary cooperation and strengthening bilateral relations between the two kingdoms.

He was received upon arrival by the Speaker of Bahrain's Shura Council, Ali bin Saleh Al Saleh, who welcomed the Jordanian delegation and highlighted the longstanding ties between Manama and Amman.

Al Saleh said relations be-

tween Bahrain and Jordan are built on decades of cooperation and mutual respect, noting continued support from the leaderships of both countries for further development of their partnership.

Talks

The visit, made at the invitation of the Bahraini Shura speaker, is expected to include expanded talks between the two sides focusing on parliamentary coordination, legislative exchange, and ways to

enhance institutional cooperation. Discussions will also cover regional and international developments of shared concern, with both sides expected to underline the importance of continued consultation.

Senior Bahraini officials attended the reception ceremony, including First Deputy Speaker Jamal Mohammed Fakhro, Ali bin Mohammed Al Rumeihi, who heads the Foreign Affairs, Defence and National Security Committee and the reception delegation, and Secretary-General Karima Al Abbasi.

Love Beyond Words

TDT | Manama

It was a day filled with warmth, colour, and little moments of joy at New Millennium School, Bahrain, as Mother's Day was celebrated on 10 May 2026.

Classrooms turned into creative spaces where students poured their affection into handmade cards and decorated photo frames, each filled with messages of love for their mothers. Laughter and excitement echoed as children carefully crafted gifts, eager to take them home as surprises.

The celebration went beyond art and craft.

Teachers shared a simple cupcake recipe with primary students, encouraging them to try baking at home and serve it to their mothers. It was a small idea meant to create a big moment—a shared smile over something made with their own hands.

Throughout the day, the



school was alive with colour and emotion, reflecting the quiet but powerful bond between mothers and children. For many students, it became more than an activity; it was a lesson in gratitude, care, and appreciation.

Thanks

Principal Dr Arun Kumar Sharma extended heartfelt

thanks to mothers everywhere, recognising their love, sacrifices, and role in shaping young lives.

Chairman Dr Ravi Pillai and Managing Director Mrs Geeta Pillai also praised the efforts of students and staff, noting how the celebration beautifully captured the spirit of the occasion and sent warm wishes to all mothers.



13-Year-Old Gardener Shares Simple Tips

Ghadeer Alkumaish
TDT | Manama

Yousif Alqattan is a 13-year-old gardening enthusiast who has turned his passion for plants into a meaningful daily routine.

Inspired and supported by his grandfather, he began his journey at a young age and continues to share simple gardening advice that encourages beginners to connect with nature.

Yousif believes that starting small is the key to success in gardening. His main advice for beginners is to start with an easy plant like mint and not be afraid of getting their hands dirty. As he says, "Don't fear the dirt—it's where the fun begins."

He also emphasizes the importance of understanding plants rather than following strict routines.

For example, instead of watering on a fixed schedule, he recommends using the "finger test" to check soil moisture.

He explains that plants show clear signs when something is wrong. If a plant leans toward sunlight, it needs more light, while burnt leaves indicate too much exposure. One of the most common mistakes, he says, is overwatering, as many



Farming is for all age groups

YOUSIF ALQATTAN

people tend to care for their plants too much.

"Most people drown their plants with too much love," he notes.

Balancing school and farming, Yousif spends an hour daily in his small garden, considering it a time to relax and recharge.

Looking ahead, he dreams of becoming an agricultural engineer and hopes to develop a large organic farm that uses technology for sustainable food production.

'I Love Bahrain' Photography Competition

Pradeep Puravankara
TDT | Manama

The Indian Ladies Association (ILA) has announced a photography competition themed "I Love Bahrain," inviting all women residents of the Kingdom to participate.

The initiative aims to celebrate the deep appreciation, safety, and stability that residents en-

joy in Bahrain. The competition encourages participants to capture the essence of the Kingdom through their own lenses—focusing on its vibrant culture, peaceful neighborhoods, modern infrastructure, natural beauty, and the renowned hospitality of the Bahraini community.

Each entry is intended to be a personal expression of gratitude and belonging.

"This initiative is more than a photography contest—it is a heartfelt gesture of solidarity and appreciation," said Smitha Jensen, President of the Indian Ladies Association.

She emphasized that the association values the efforts of Bahrain's leadership and authorities in ensuring harmony and protection for all residents.

Following a brief pause in

activities, the competition also seeks to re-engage the community through creativity and shared values. The ILA encourages women from all walks of life to participate and celebrate Bahrain not just as a place of residence, but as a home they truly cherish.

For further details pls contact Sheetal Shah: +973 3561 7018, Sunanda Gaikwad : +973 3661 1041 or email ilabahrain@gmail. Com

Royal Support Boosts Legislative Success

Rehab Mohammad
TDT | Manama

Shura Council Chairman Ali bin Saleh Al Saleh said the fourth session of the sixth legislative term strengthened Bahrain's parliamentary and development process through intensified legislative work and cooperation with state institutions.

Speaking during Sunday's closing session, Al Saleh thanked His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa for continued



support to the legislative authority, saying it enabled the Shura Council to carry out its constitutional responsibilities effectively.

Bahrain's security and stability remain protected through the dedication of the armed forces and the unity of its people

H.E. ALI BIN SALEH AL SALEH

He also welcomed Royal Order No. 13 of 2026 extending the current legislative term, describing it as a reflection of the King's confidence in the legisla-

tive authority and a step that supports parliamentary stability and democratic progress.

H.E. Al Saleh condemned the recent Iranian attacks targeting

Bahrain's security and praised the Bahrain Defence Force, National Guard and Ministry of Interior for protecting the kingdom.

The chairman also highlighted the role of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Prime Minister, in strengthening cooperation between the executive and legislative branches, noting that the session saw the approval of several key laws and initiatives supporting Bahrain's development goals.

\$200m Bahrain Gas Plan Approved



Dr Mohammed bin Daina, Minister of Oil and Environment

TDT | Manama

A \$200 million oil and gas investment project in Bahrain's Field moved forward on Sunday after the Shura Council unanimously approved a decree-law ratifying a concession agreement for the Jubah and Pre-Tawil reservoirs.

The agreement, signed in August 2025 between Bahrain's government, Bapco Energies and EOG Resources Bahrain Awali, aims to boost gas production, attract advanced technology and expand private-sector participation in the energy sector.

Oil and Environment Minister Dr Mohammed bin Daina said around \$100 million had already been spent on drilling operations, with three of four gas wells completed and delivering "promising" results.

A further \$100 million is expected to fund the next phase of drilling.

He added that Bahraini workers were receiving specialised training, including programmes in the United States on modern gas extraction technologies.

The agreement also includes provisions for technology transfer, support for local suppliers, priority hiring for Bahrainis and the establishment of a social contribution fund for community projects.

Shura Approves Nationality Cases Court Bar

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

Shura Council unanimously approved a decree-law on Sunday, by roll-call vote, removing nationality-related matters from court jurisdiction and classifying them as acts of sovereignty.

The amendment to the Judicial Authority Law states that decisions linked to nationality—including granting, revoking and with-



Dalal Al Zayed, Head of the Legislative and Legal Affairs Committee



Dr Ebtesam Al Dallal, Shura Council member

drawing citizenship—fall under the executive branch and cannot be challenged before the courts.

Shura's Legislative and Legal Affairs Committee said the move aimed to protect national security and public order, adding that nationality matters are closely tied to state sovereignty.

Committee chairwoman Dalal Al Zayed said the decree-law was introduced to prevent courts from hearing lawsuits

and appeals related to nationality decisions.

Member Dr Ebtesam Al Dallal said the amendment reflected the state's commitment to safeguarding Bahrain's sovereignty and security. The decree-law, issued in August 2024 during the parliamentary recess, also repeals a provision in the Bahraini Nationality Law requiring the Interior Ministry to be included in nationality lawsuits.

Commends Journalistic Contribution



Shura Council Chairman Ali bin Saleh Al Saleh honored Bahraini journalists during a ceremony marking Bahraini Press Day and World Press Freedom Day. He praised the local media for its key role in covering parliamentary work, explaining lawmaking processes to the public, and supporting Bahrain's democratic development under the leadership of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

New Rules Target Charity Transparency



Osama Al Alawi, Minister of Social Development

TDT | Manama

Bahrain's Shura Council approved amendments to the country's public fundraising law on Sunday, introducing tighter oversight and new transparency measures for charities and donation campaigns.

Under Decree-Law No. 39 of 2025, licensed fundraisers must disclose donation sources, spending details and submit documented financial reports to authorities.



- Financial Reports: Review period extended from 15 to 30 days
- New Requirement: Fundraisers must disclose donation sources and spending details
- Oversight Model: Risk-based monitoring of fundraising activities
- Penalties: Administrative fines added alongside criminal sanctions

Social Development Minister Osama Al Alawi said donation permits requested through electronic communication would now be issued within seven working days, while the review period for financial reports was extended from 15 to 30 days.

The amendments also introduce administrative fines for

certain violations and allow authorities to monitor fundraising activities based on risk levels.

Officials said the changes aim to strengthen oversight, prevent misuse of donations and ensure funds reach intended beneficiaries, while maintaining support for charitable and humanitarian work in Bahrain.

Bahrain-Pakistan Deal Eases Prisoner Transfers

TDT | Manama

Convicted prisoners from Bahrain and Pakistan will be able to serve the remainder of their jail terms in their home countries after the Shura Council unanimously approved a bilateral transfer agreement.

The council passed the draft law ratifying the agreement attached to Decree No. 19 of 2026, following recommendations from the Foreign Affairs, Defence and National Security Committee.

Committee rapporteur Bassam Al Binmohammed said the pact sets out the legal framework and procedures for transferring inmates while preserving the validity of court rulings under the laws of the country enforcing the sen-



Bassam Al Binmohammed, Rapporteur for the Foreign Affairs, Defence and National Security Committee

tence. He added that the agreement aims to support rehabilitation and humanitarian considerations by allowing prisoners to remain closer to their families during their sentences.

Bahrain has already signed similar agreements with India and Russia.

Jail Terms Approved for Fake Medics

TDT | Manama

The Shura Council on Sunday approved amendments introducing tougher penalties for unlicensed medical, dental and allied health practice in Bahrain.

Under the changes, offenders could face up to five years in prison and fines of up to BD5,000 for practising without a licence, obtaining licences fraudulently, falsely claiming medical titles, or misleading the public through advertisements.

Services Committee rapporteur Hala Ramzi said the amendments aim to protect patients and strengthen safeguards against unlawful health practices that could endanger lives.

The amendments also give courts flexibility to decide on the closure of premises or confiscation of equipment based on each case, instead of making such measures mandatory.

GFH Invests as an anchor investor in dual IPO of Pershing Square Inc. and Pershing Square USA

Manama

GFH Bank B.S.C. (“GFH” or “the Bank”) is pleased to announce its participation as an Anchor Investor in the combined initial public offering (IPO) of Pershing Square Inc. (NYSE: PS) and Pershing Square USA, Ltd. (NYSE: PSUS), a landmark dual listing on the New York Stock Exchange led by renowned investor Bill Ackman.

Pershing Square, founded in 2003 by Bill Ackman, is one of the most recognized investment management firms



Hisham Alrayes, CEO & Board Member of GFH



Bill Ackman, chief executive officer, Pershing Square Capital Management

globally, with approximately US\$36 billion in assets under management, US\$26 billion of fee-paying AUM, and 98% permanent capital along with 100% fee-related earnings. The firm has built a distinguished track record, delivering a compounded annual net return that has outperformed the S&P 500 by 550 basis points per annum since its inception in January 2004. In its “Permanent Capital Era” beginning in 2018, the firm has outperformed the S&P 500 by 830 basis points per annum, generating cumulative net returns of

2,644% since inception versus 836% for the S&P 500. The firm’s portfolio comprises high-quality, large-capitalization businesses including holdings in leading technology, consumer and financial services companies.

Commenting, Hisham Alrayes, CEO & Board Member of GFH, said: “Our anchor commitment to the Pershing Square Dual IPO reflects GFH’s deep conviction in both the investment management firm and the fund it manages. Bill Ackman has built one of the most compelling long-term investment track records in

the industry, consistently compounding capital at rates that have significantly outperformed broad market indices over more than two decades. The permanent capital structure underpinning this offering is central to our thesis—it allows the firm to take a genuinely long-term view and invest opportunistically during periods of volatility. We look forward to building a long-term partnership with Pershing Square as we continue to expand GFH’s global investment platform alongside world-class investment managers.”

Al Rashid Group partners with Al Hilal Healthcare Group to enhance employee healthcare

Manama

Al Rashid Group (ARG), an affiliate of the Landmark Group, has entered into a strategic partnership with Al Hilal Healthcare, one of Bahrain’s leading multi-specialty healthcare providers, to offer enhanced medical benefits to its employees. This exclusive collaboration enables Al Rashid Group employees to access Al Hilal Healthcare’s wide spectrum of specialized healthcare services with greater ease and convenience.

The partnership underscores Al Rashid Group’s unwavering commitment to employee well-being by providing seamless access to premium medical care across Al Hilal Healthcare’s distinguished facilities. Through this initiative, employees and their dependents will benefit from comprehensive healthcare services delivered by highly qualified medical professionals across multiple specialties.

This milestone reflects Al Rashid Group’s continued focus on setting new benchmarks in employee care, well-being, and long-term support—recognizing



that a healthy workforce is fundamental to sustainable growth and organizational excellence.

Commenting on the partnership, Mr. Sandeep Narain, Senior Vice President and Country Head at Al Rashid Group, said “At Al Rashid Group, our people

are our greatest asset. This partnership with Al Hilal Healthcare reinforces our commitment to creating a supportive and progressive work environment by ensuring our employees have access to high-quality healthcare. We believe this initiative

will significantly enhance their overall well-being and peace of mind.”

Sharing her perspective, Ms. Fatima Kazerooni, Human Resources Manager at Al Rashid Group, stated “Employee care goes beyond the workplace,

and access to trusted healthcare providers is a critical pillar of our people strategy. Our collaboration with Al Hilal Healthcare allows us to offer our employees dependable, specialized medical services, further strengthening our focus

on holistic employee welfare.”

From Al Hilal Healthcare, Dr. Sharath Chandran, Chief Executive Officer, added “We are proud to partner with Al Rashid Group in this meaningful initiative. At Al Hilal Healthcare, our mission is to deliver accessible, high-quality healthcare. This collaboration allows us to extend our specialized medical services to Al Rashid Group employees and support their health journeys with excellence and compassion.”

In addition, senior representatives from both organizations—Mr. Sandeep Narain, Ms. Fatima Kazerooni, and Mr. Vivek Sagar from Al Rashid Group, along with Dr. Sharath Chandran, Mr. Asif Mohamed, and Ms. Madiha Habib from Al Hilal Healthcare—met during the partnership engagement to discuss several exciting plans for future collaboration. These discussions focused on exploring innovative initiatives and expanded healthcare benefits aimed at further enhancing value for employees and patrons of both organizations, reinforcing the long-term, strategic nature of this partnership.

Indian PM urges reduced fuel use amid Middle East war disruption

● **Modi also urged people to resume energy-saving schemes that were in place during the Covid pandemic**

● **India is one of few countries in the region that has not increased prices of petrol and diesel**

AFP | Bengaluru, India

Prime Minister Narendra Modi yesterday urged the people of India to cut down on petrol and diesel consumption amid supply disruptions due to



the Middle East war.

India is one of few countries in the region that has not increased prices of petrol and diesel for domestic consumers or rationed supplies.

But it has increased prices of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) -- a primary cooking fuel in this country -- after disruptions following the US-Israeli strikes on Iran, which led to

Iran’s near-total blockade of the strategic Strait of Hormuz. “We have to reduce our use

of petrol and diesel. In cities with metro lines, we should try to travel by metro...If we must use a car, then we should try to car pool,” he said, addressing a gathering in southern Telangana state.

He added that restrictions on use were also necessary to save foreign currency spent on fuel imports.

“We must also place a strong emphasis on saving foreign exchange, as petrol and diesel have become so expensive globally.”

Modi also urged people to resume energy-saving schemes that were in place during the Covid pandemic.

“We should prioritise work from home, online conferences, and virtual meetings again,” he said.

China, US to hold trade talks in Seoul ahead of Trump-Xi summit

AFP | Beijing, China

Senior Chinese and US officials will hold talks in South Korea in the coming days, Beijing’s commerce ministry and Washington’s treasury secretary said yesterday, ahead of an expected summit between leaders Xi Jinping and Donald Trump.

The Chinese commerce ministry said in a statement that Vice Premier He Lifeng, Beijing’s top economic official, will attend “consultations on mutual economic and trade issues” in South Korea on Tuesday and Wednesday.

US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said in a post on X: “On Wednesday, I will stop in Seoul for a discussion with Vice Premier He Lifeng of China, before



continuing on to Beijing for the Leaders’ Summit between President Trump and President Xi.”

Trump is set to visit China for a high-stakes summit with Xi, with the leaders of the world’s top two economies expected to focus on easing tensions over trade and Taiwan, with the war in the Middle East looming in the background.

While Washington and Beijing slapped tit-for-tat tariffs on each other’s exports a year ago, Trump and Xi agreed on a year-

long trade truce at their October meeting in South Korea.

He and Bessent have been the chief negotiators for China and the United States on all trade and economic issues.

The talks are likely to put the finishing touches on any announcements to be made during the Trump-Xi summit.

Bessent said he would have prior talks in Tokyo on Tuesday with Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi and Finance Minister Satsuki Katayama, along with other public and private sector representatives.

“Economic security is national security, and I look forward to a productive series of engagements as we work to advance President Trump’s America First Economic Agenda,” Bessent said.

BENEFIT launches 'Scheduled Transfers' feature to streamline payments via BenefitPay

Manama

BENEFIT, the Kingdom's leading innovator in fintech and electronic financial transaction services, has announced the launch of its new "Scheduled Transfers" feature through the BenefitPay app, under the Central Bank of Bahrain's directive.

The launch marks a further step in the continued development of Bahrain's digital payments ecosystem and the delivery of innovative solutions that simplify the management



of users' everyday financial transfers.

The new feature allows users to schedule money transfers in advance through Fawri and Fawri+, offering a more convenient and efficient experience by removing the need to manually initiate each transaction every time. Users can set transfers at flexible intervals, including daily, weekly, biweekly, or monthly, to the same beneficiary, whether through mobile numbers or IBANS.

The feature also gives users the option to set periodic re-

minders instead of automatic execution, providing greater flexibility in managing financial obligations according to personal preferences, while supporting more accurate and organized financial planning.

Mr. Ahmed AlMahri, Assistant General Manager, Business Development & Services at BENEFIT, commented: "Scheduled Transfers represents a valuable addition to BENEFIT's digital services ecosystem, giving users greater ability to manage their recurring financial transfers with ease and flexibility, wheth-

er through automatic execution based on a selected schedule or through periodic reminders. The feature has been tailored to help users organize their daily financial obligations more efficiently, while saving time and effort and enhancing a smoother and more reliable payment experience through digital financial services."

Mr. AlMahri further added: "This initiative builds on BENEFIT's ongoing journey in developing more advanced and seamless digital payment solutions, supported by security

and efficiency, and responsive to the evolving needs of individuals and institutions. It also contributes to enhancing the readiness of Bahrain's payments infrastructure and supporting the transition towards a more connected and effective digital economy. This aligns with the directives of the Central Bank of Bahrain to advance digital payment infrastructure, improve efficiency and transparency, and reinforce the Kingdom's position as a leading hub for financial innovation and excellence."

RCSI Bahrain secures 5-Year accreditation

Irish Medical Council renews accreditation for undergraduate medical programme

Manama

The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI) - Medical University of Bahrain received approval for a further five-year accreditation for its undergraduate medical programme from the Irish Medical Council, reinforcing the University's international positioning of its undergraduate medical education.

The accreditation, valid from February 2026 until January 2030, followed an extensive institutional review led by a Medical Council Assessor Team chaired by Mr Graham Knowles, supported by Professor May O'Sullivan and three external examiners. The review included consultations with university leadership, academic teams, clinical faculty and students, alongside inspections of teaching facilities and affiliated clinical sites.

The outcome of the accred-



itation renewal carries wider strategic implications for Bahrain's higher education sector, where international accreditation frameworks are

becoming a defining benchmark for credibility, graduate mobility and employer confidence across global healthcare systems.

Against this backdrop, RCSI Medical University of Bahrain's renewed accreditation strengthens its international relevance and enhances the employabil-

ity of its graduates in overseas internship and residency pathways. This accreditation also aligns with Bahrain's Higher Education Council to elevate

national higher education standards and international prominence.

Professor Sameer Ootom, President of RCSI Medical University of Bahrain, stated: "We are delighted with the IMC's continued accreditation of our undergraduate medical programme and the benefits this brings to our medical graduates. In line with the new strategy of the Higher Education Council, we are committed to contributing to Bahrain's higher education global quality assurance standards."

RCSI Medical University of Bahrain's Quality Enhancement Office, led by Dr Nichola McLarnon, Head of Quality and Academic Development, will continue benchmarking graduate competency to strengthen preparedness for increasingly complex healthcare environments in line with the University's long-term academic sustainability.

Aramco says quarterly profits up as crude prices surge

AFP | Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Saudi oil giant Aramco said yesterday its net profit rose by 25.5% in the first quarter compared to the same period last year, after the Middle East war sent oil and gas prices soaring.

Aramco, the world's biggest oil exporter, said in a statement published on the Saudi stock exchange website that its "increase in revenue was mainly due to higher prices and volumes sold of refined and chemical products as well as

higher crude oil volumes sold and higher crude oil prices".

Crude prices jumped during the first quarter from the mid \$60s in early February to more than \$100 a barrel in March as Iran's shutdown of the strait sparked a global energy crisis.

Aramco, majority-owned by the state, said in its statement that net income in the first quarter of 2026 reached 120.13 billion Saudi riyals (\$32.04 billion), compared to 95.68 billion riyals (\$25.51 billion) for the same quar-

ter in 2025.

"The increase was mainly driven by higher revenue and other income related to sales, partially offset by higher operating costs and an increase in income taxes and zakat driven by higher taxable income compared to the same quarter of the previous year," it said.

The median analyst consensus for first quarter adjusted net income had been \$31.16 billion -- an external estimate based on 13 forecasts.

Aramco's increase in net income is its first quarterly rise after 12 consecutive quar-

ters of decline.

President and CEO Amin H. Nasser said the result reflected "resilience and operational flexibility in a complex geopolitical environment".

He said the company was "leveraging both its domestic infrastructure and its global network to navigate disruption".

East-west pipeline Aramco is the flagship company of the Saudi economy and one of the largest firms in the world by market capitalisation.

Despite the closure of the Strait of Hormuz,

it has been able to deliver millions of barrels of crude to markets daily through its massive east to west pipeline, which connects its energy installations on the Gulf to export terminals on the Red Sea.

The company said "a significant increase in pumping through the east-west pipeline to reach its maximum capacity of 7 million barrels per day in the first quarter supports exports from the kingdom's west coast".

Last month, Saudi Arabia's energy

ministry said the pipeline and other facilities had been restored following attacks by Iran.

The surge in prices for oil and gas has also created a windfall for other major energy firms.

In late April, French oil and gas giant TotalEnergies said its net profits had risen 51% in the first quarter, while British energy giant Shell saw profits after tax jump 19%.

If crude oil prices remain at current levels, Aramco's profits are expected to continue rising in the second quarter after Saudi Arabia, Russia and the rest of the OPEC+ countries raised their oil production quotas as expected.



CAPTAIN'S CORNER

Betrayal Comes From Within



CAPTAIN MAHMOOD AL MAHMOOD

What the Ministry of Interior has recently revealed about a cell linked to the Iranian Revolutionary Guards—and the arrest of 41 individuals from within it who hold the ideology of “Walli-elfaqih”—places us at a critical turning point that requires pause, reflection, and a renewed reading of the scene with greater awareness and responsibility. This is to ensure that such betrayals—targeting our homeland, its security, and its stability—do not repeat themselves.

Despite the ordeal we have witnessed in recent days—harrowing times marked by hateful and criminal acts originating from a state that is assumed to be a neighbor—we have seen time and again that it does not deal with Bahrain with the mindset of a neighbor determined to preserve the stability of the region. Instead, it has continued to pursue policies of interference and escalation, along with attempts to tamper with our national security. In contrast, the Kingdom of Bahrain has managed to strengthen its political and diplomatic standing, transforming it into an influential factor in regional and international equations and in the shaping of decision-making—while that state remains locked in deepening political and economic isolation.

Yet what is most dangerous, beyond the external threat itself, is for betrayal to become an act originating from within—from people who sold their homeland before they betrayed their families and their communities. Anyone who places himself as an instrument in the hands of an outsider does not realize that, before anything else, he is endangering his own loved ones, his children, and the future of his society. History confirms that a traitor earns no respect from anyone: not his nation, which does not forgive him, and not the side that used him, which sees him only as a temporary paper—one whose validity ends when its role is over.

Betrayal has never been a path to glory or influence. It has always been a path to isolation and collapse. The traitor remains shunned by everyone, having lost his community and the trust of the people; meanwhile, for those who enlisted him, he is nothing more than a tool to be used and then discarded. The pages of history are full of examples that reinforce this truth.

If we reflect on some of the figures who have appeared on social media in the context of espionage cases and ties to outside powers, we find that many of them received their education in the enemy's country. Some even wore the clerical turban and spoke on behalf of religion among the people—raising grave questions about the scale of the influence they may have exerted on segments of youth, and about how dangerous the ideas they sought to pass on—under a religious or ideological cover—truly are. Here we recall the words of Allah Almighty: “And the evil plot encompasses only those who devise it.” It is a divine reality that history has repeatedly proven: those who plot against their homeland ultimately reap nothing but loss.

Today, the Kingdom of Bahrain stands at a different phase by all measures—a phase defined by clarity in confronting anyone who has replaced national belonging with loyalty to the outside, and who has accepted being a follower of organizational and ideological projects linked to the Iranian Revolutionary Guards and the ideas of “Walli-elfaqih.” That is why we need, more than ever, unity of ranks, awareness, and cohesion of the people—because the most dangerous bet the enemy places on is the fragmentation of societies and their division. Allah has warned us against this, saying: “And do not be like those who became divided and differed after the clear proofs had come to them.”

May Allah protect Bahrain—its leadership and its people—bestow upon it the blessing of security and stability, and shield it from the schemes of schemers, the hatred of traitors, and all who intend harm to it.

(Captain Mahmood Al Mahmood is the Editor-in-Chief of The Daily Tribune and the President of the Arab-African Unity Organisation for Relief, Human Rights and Counterterrorism)

Betrayal has never been a path to glory or influence. It has always been a path to isolation and collapse. The traitor remains shunned by everyone, having lost his community and the trust of the people; meanwhile, for those who enlisted him, he is nothing more than a tool to be used and then discarded. The pages of history are full of examples that reinforce this truth.

Macron says France ‘never envisaged’ sending warships into Strait of Hormuz

Nairobi, Kenya

President Emmanuel Macron yesterday said that France had “never envisaged” a naval deployment in the Strait of Hormuz but rather a security mission that would be “coordinated with Iran”.

At a news conference in Nairobi, Macron said he was sticking to his position opposing a blockade from either side, and to “reject any toll” to ensure ships are able to pass through the strategic waterway.

Iran on Sunday warned of a “decisive and immediate response” to any French or British deployments in the strait, after both announced they would send military vessels to the region.

“There was never any ques-



tion of a deployment but we are ready,” said Macron.

“We have put together an ad hoc mission, co-led with the British, which has brought together 50 countries and international organisations to enable, in a coordinated way with Iran and by

”
We have put together an ad hoc mission, co-led with the British, which has brought together 50 countries and international organisations to enable, in a coordinated way with Iran and by deconflicting the situation with all the countries of the region and the United States, the resumption of maritime traffic as soon as conditions allow

MACRON

deconflicting the situation with all the countries of the region and the United States, the resumption of maritime traffic as soon as conditions allow,” he added.

Macron, in Africa for a summit in Nairobi, said the whole continent was “victim of the block-

ade” of the strait, through which normally passes most of the oil exported from the Middle East.

France last week announced that its aircraft carrier, the Charles de Gaulle, had passed through the Suez Canal in preparation for such a mission.



A lesser-known fact about the Strait of Hormuz is that several Gulf countries have spent billions building oil pipelines specifically to bypass the Strait in case it is blocked. Saudi Arabia operates the East-West Pipeline to the Red Sea, while the United Arab Emirates has a pipeline running from Abu Dhabi to the port of Fujairah on the Gulf of Oman – allowing some oil exports to avoid Hormuz entirely.

Despite all the concern over the Strait of Hormuz, there is no full alternative route for liquefied natural gas exports from Qatar – one of the world's biggest LNG exporters.

Drones strike Strait again



● A freighter sailing towards Qatar

● UAE accused Iran of targetting its territory

● South Korea reported unidentified aircraft had hit a cargo vessel

● United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations centre said a bulk carrier reported being struck by an unknown projectile

● Iran's neighbour Kuwait also reported an attempted attack

AFP | Tehran, Iran

Drones were launched at several targets in the Gulf yesterday, with one hitting a freighter sailing towards Qatar, as Tehran warned the United States that it would no longer hold back from retaliatory strikes.

The United Arab Emirates accused Iran of being behind an attack that targeted its territory, in what would be, if confirmed,

Iran war ‘not over,’ uranium must be removed: Netanyahu

AFP | Washington, United States

Iran's stockpile of enriched uranium must be “taken out” before the US-Israeli war against Iran can be considered over, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said in an interview yesterday.

“It's not over, because there's still nuclear material -- en-

riched uranium -- that has to be taken out of Iran. There's still enrichment sites that have to be dismantled,” Netanyahu said in an excerpt of an interview due to air later Sunday on CBS's “60 Minutes” programme.

“You go in and you take it out,” the Israeli leader said when asked how the uranium could be removed.



A damaged part of the South Korean cargo ship HMM Namu docked at a port in Dubai.

only the second alleged strike on Gulf countries since the start of a month-old ceasefire.

Tehran's military chief Ali

Abdollahi met the country's supreme leader Mojtaba Khamenei and, according to Iranian state television, received “new direc-

tives and guidance for the continuation of operations to confront the enemy”.

This came as South Korea reported unidentified aircraft had hit a cargo vessel in the Strait of Hormuz last week, and Qatar's defence ministry said a freighter arriving in the country's waters from Abu Dhabi was hit by a drone on Sunday northeast of the port of Mesaieed.

The United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations centre said the bulk carrier reported being struck by an unknown projectile. “There was a small fire that has been extinguished, there are no casualties. There is no reported environmental impact,” it said.

Iran's neighbour Kuwait also reported an attempted attack.

“At dawn today, the armed forces detected a number of hostile drones in Kuwaiti airspace, which were dealt with in accordance with established procedures,” the military posted.

In Seoul, defence ministry spokesman Park Il told reporters a cargo vessel had been hit on Monday and was damaged by fire before making its way to port in Dubai.

“On May 4, two unidentified aircraft struck the outer plate of the port-side ballast tank at the stern of the HMM Namu at roughly one-minute intervals, causing flames and smoke,” he said.

Holy Roman Emperor Frederick I Barbarossa and 100,000 crusaders depart Regensburg for the Third Crusade

Pennsylvania Hospital founded by Dr. Thomas Bond and Benjamin Franklin, in Philadelphia



British Prime Minister Spencer Perceval is assassinated by John Bellingham in the lobby of the House of Commons, London. Ironically, descendants of both later stand for the same seat in Parliament at the same time, but neither wins

More than 170 countries agree to extend the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty indefinitely and without conditions to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons

Israeli forces operated from Iraq's desert

AFP | Baghdad, Iraq

Israeli forces established a makeshift base using an old airstrip in Iraq's desert during the war against Iran, two security officials told AFP on Sunday, confirming a report by The Wall Street Journal.

Early in the war, the troops were detected in the Najaf desert in the country's southwest and clashed with Iraqi forces, killing one soldier and wounding two others.

The security official said "Israeli forces established a base in an abandoned airstrip, built by Saddam Hussein, in the Najaf desert".

"There are no longer forces there, but they may have left equipment," he said, adding that the Israeli operation "was in coordination with the US".

It was unclear how long the forces were there or what their mission was.

Reports of foreign troops in the Najaf desert emerged early in the war after a shepherd reported seeing military activity.

On Saturday, the Wall Street Journal reported that "Israel

set up a clandestine military outpost in the Iraqi desert to support its air campaign against Iran", quoting people familiar with the matter including US officials.

The report said that "Israel built the installation, which housed special forces and served as a logistical hub for the Israeli air force, just before the war started with the knowledge of the US".

Following the WSJ report, an Iraqi security spokes-

person referred journalists to a previous statement issued on March 5.

At the time, Qais al-Mohamadawi, Iraq's deputy commander of joint operations, said that after receiving reports of "individuals or movement in the Najaf" desert, Iraq's military sent a force to investigate. The troops came under

heavy aerial fire, leaving one soldier dead and two others wounded.

Reinforcements later searched the area, but "did not find anything", Mohamadawi said.

He added that at the site in Najaf, "one force was providing support to another that was conducting reconnaissance or setting up equipment".

He said no foreign troops were au-

thorised to be in that location.

Another security official told AFP on Sunday that there were "indications that the operation involved an Israeli technical team under American military protection".

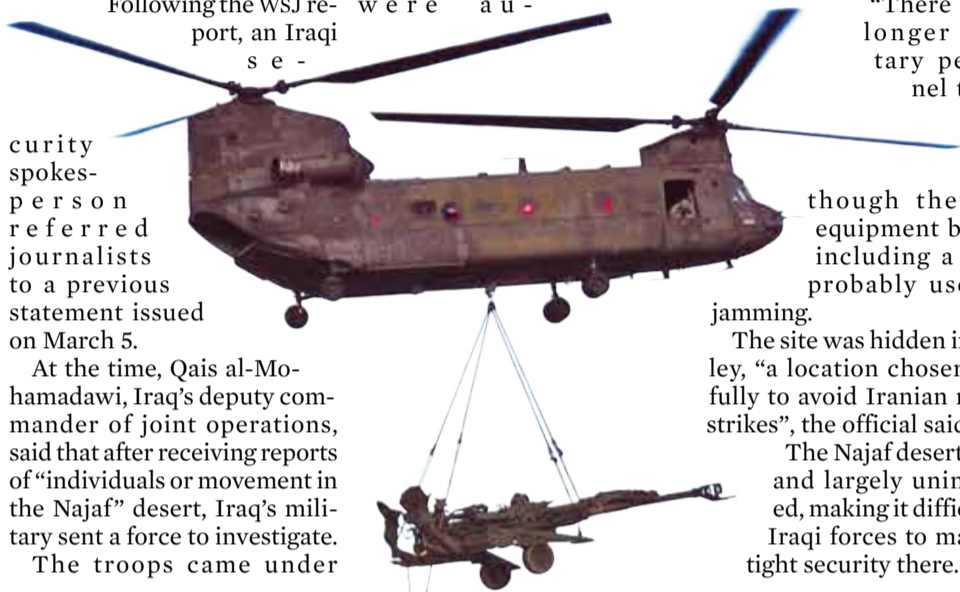
He also confirmed that the foreign forces used an old airstrip built by Saddam, and that CH-57 Chinook helicopters were seen on the site.

"There are no longer military personnel there,"

though they left equipment behind, including a radar, probably used for jamming.

The site was hidden in a valley, "a location chosen carefully to avoid Iranian missile strikes", the official said.

The Najaf desert is vast and largely uninhabited, making it difficult for Iraqi forces to maintain tight security there.



Lebanese army arrests Iraqi man for impersonating a security official

Beirut, Lebanon

The Lebanese army said yesterday that it had arrested an Iraqi national for impersonating an Iraqi security official in Lebanon, the second alleged high-level imposter caught in recent months.

A military source told AFP that the man had managed to network with Lebanese security and intelligence officials, telling them he worked at Iraq's Beirut embassy.

The scandals have highlighted the fragility of Lebanon's institutions, which are built on a sect-based power-sharing system in a country rife with foreign interference, and where personal connections often play a key role in gaining influence, money and privilege.

An army statement said the Iraqi man was arrested "for impersonating an Iraqi security official on Lebanese territory, as a result of a surveillance and security follow-up operation".



TOP
4
TWEETS

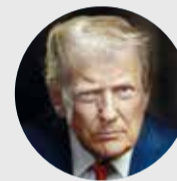
01



Congratulations to Thiru C. Joseph Vijay upon assuming the office of Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. Best wishes for his tenure to be an outstanding one. The Central Government will continue to work in partnership with the Tamil Nadu Government to improve the lives of the people.

@narendramodi

02



Today, we celebrate the mothers whose unwavering love, sacrifice, & strength help mold the heart & soul of our nation. To the millions of moms across America—& to First Lady Melania Trump & Second Lady Usha Vance—thank you. Happy Mother's Day from the White House.

@POTUS

03



● US Secretary of State Marco Rubio met Saturday with the leader of Qatar, a key intermediary. Qatar's Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani met the previous day with US Vice President JD Vance to discuss efforts to broker a permanent peace.

● The US Navy, meanwhile, is blockading and sometimes disabling or diverting ships heading to and from Iran's ports.

I just spoke with Dr @FreddyBanza5, the @WHO staff still on board of MV Honduis, and captain Jan Dobrogowski to get the latest updates. I used the opportunity to express my appreciation @ECDC_EU and the Dutch medical teams on board.

@DrTedros

04



The prisoner exchange - 1,000 for 1,000 - is being prepared and must take place. The Americans assumed responsibility for these guarantees. Ukraine's Coordination Headquarters has handed over the lists for one thousand POWs to the Russian side.

@ZelenskyyUA

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

Diplomacy hangs by a thread

Iran responds to US peace proposal

AFP | Tehran, Iran

Iran responded to Washington's latest peace proposal yesterday.

According to state broadcaster IRIB, Tehran's response, passed to Pakistani mediators, focuses on ending the war "on all fronts, especially Lebanon" -- where Israel has kept up its fight with Iran-backed Hezbollah -- as well as on "ensuring shipping security". US President Donald Trump had said he was expecting Iran's reply by Friday, but as the wait dragged on, the ceasefire in the Gulf came under increasing strain.



A strike on the Iranian-flagged tanker M/T Sea Star III

Trump says US would need two weeks to hit all Iran targets

AFP | Washington, United States

US President Donald Trump has said in an interview aired Sunday that it would only take two weeks to hit "every single target" in Iran, adding that the Islamic republic was "militarily defeated".

In the interview with independent journalist Sharyl

Attkisson, which was recorded last week, he also called NATO a "paper tiger" and accused Washington's allies of failing to assist in the campaign against Tehran.

"They're militarily defeated. In their own minds, maybe they don't know that. But I think they do," Trump said in the interview, before adding: "That doesn't mean they're

done."

He suggested the US military could "go in for two more weeks and do every single target. We have certain targets that we wanted, and we've done probably 70 percent of them, but we have other targets that we could conceivably hit."

"But even if we didn't do that, you know, that would just be

final touches," Trump said.

On NATO, he said the alliance "has proven to be a paper tiger. They weren't there to help."



Israel deports two foreign activists seized from flotilla



Activists from the Global Sumud Flotilla stand at the port of Atherinolakkos on the island of Crete after disembarking from a Greek Coast Guard vessel, following their interception by the Israeli Navy in international waters * (file)

● **Saif Abu Keshek, a Spanish national of Palestinian origin, and Brazilian Thiago Avila were among dozens of activists aboard a flotilla intercepted by the Israeli navy in international waters off the coast of Greece on April 30.**

AFP | Jerusalem, Undefined

Israel deported on Sunday two foreign activists seized from a Gaza-bound flotilla, in what a rights group representing them described as a "punitive attack" on a civilian mission.

Saif Abu Keshek, a Spanish national of Palestinian origin, and Brazilian Thiago Avila were among dozens of activists aboard a flotilla intercepted by the Israeli navy in international waters off the coast of Greece on April 30.

The pair were seized and brought to Israel for questioning, while the others were taken to the Greek island of Crete and released.

"Saif Abu Keshek and Thiago Avila, from the provocation flotilla, were deported today from Israel" following an investigation, the Israeli foreign ministry posted on X on Sunday.

Israel would "not allow any breach" of the blockade on Gaza, it added.

Spain, Brazil and the United Nations had all called for the men's swift release after their detention drew widespread

outrage.

On Wednesday, an Israeli court rejected an appeal contesting the pair's detention.

Abuse claims

During their week-long detention in the southern Israeli city of Ashkelon, Adalah claimed the two men had been subjected to "psychological abuse", including prolonged interrogations, constant bright lighting in their cells, complete isolation and transfers while blindfolded, even during medical examinations.

Israeli authorities had rejected these claims, while Israeli courts twice approved the pair's detention to allow police time for questioning.

According to Spanish diplomats, Israel provided "no evidence" linking its citizen Abu Keshek to Hamas.

His interception in international waters and subsequent detention further strained already deteriorating ties between Israel and Spain.

Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez has called Israel's retaliatory military campaign in Gaza a "genocide".

Israel recalled its ambassador after Madrid recognised a Palestinian state in 2024, while Spain formally dismissed its own top envoy in Tel Aviv in March.

The flotilla had set sail from France, Spain and Italy with the aim of breaking Israel's blockade of Gaza and delivering humanitarian aid to the war-ravaged Palestinian territory.

The Global Sumud Flotilla's first voyage last year was also intercepted by Israeli forces off the coasts of Egypt and Gaza.

Indian film star sworn in as head of Tamil Nadu

Vijay's TVK emerged as the single largest party



Newly elected chief minister of India's Tamil Nadu state, C. Joseph Vijay (center, 5L) takes an oath during his swearing-in ceremony in Chennai

● **Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated Vijay**

AFP | Chennai, India

Indian film star C. Joseph Vijay was sworn in as chief minister of Tamil Nadu state yesterday after his new party brokered a coalition in the southern industrial hub.

The swearing-in ceremony followed days of high drama in the state capital Chennai, where Vijay's fledgling Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK) party initially struggled to secure support from smaller parties after state elections.

Vijay's TVK, founded only two years ago, emerged as the single largest party after the vote with 108 seats in Tamil Nadu's

108

Vijay's TVK, founded only two years ago, emerged as the single largest party after the vote with 108 seats in Tamil Nadu's 234-member legislative assembly.

234-member legislative assembly, short of a simple majority.

However, it won support from other parties, including the opposition Congress, to take its number of seats to 120, making it possible for Vijay to claim the top job.

Thousands of supporters gathered in Chennai's Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium yesterday, chanting "Mudhalvar", or "chief minister" in Tamil, to watch Vijay take his oath of office.

"I am not from a royal political background, just a common man," the 51-year-old told the crowd.

"My primary focus will be on basic issues such as education, ration supplies, healthcare, drinking water, roads and bus facilities," he said.

Vijay's first set of policies included measures to ease electricity prices and improve women's safety.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated Vijay, saying the central government would work with his administration to "improve the lives of people".

Vijay, born to a Christian father and a Hindu mother, began his career as a child actor in 1984 in a movie directed by his filmmaker father.

Known for his charismatic screen presence and mass ap-

peal, his fans dubbed him "Thalapathy", or "leader" in Tamil.

His blockbuster hits blended action, social messaging and populist themes, burnishing his reputation as a voice for the common man.

He cultivated his public image over the years by taking on roles that touched on subjects ranging from farmers' issues to electoral manipulation.

He launched the TVK in 2024 with a promise to end corruption and strengthen social justice.

Tamil Nadu is one of India's most significant economic engines, with its industrial sector producing everything from automobiles to electronics. The state is also India's smartphone manufacturing hub, including for Apple iPhones.

The TVK's campaign sought to end the dominance of Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam and the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, traditional parties that had ruled the state since the late 1960s.

Analysts said Vijay's large fan following, combined with demands from young people for a new political leader, was behind his stunning election performance.

Vijay, a political novice, now faces the challenge of turning that popularity into policy.



Joseph Vijay is one of the very few Indian film stars to have had a fan club network so large that it later evolved into an organised political movement. His fan associations, originally created around his films, eventually became the base for his political party, the Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam, launched in 2024.

His campaign rallies drew thousands of fans, but were also marred by allegations of crowd mismanagement. A stampede at a rally in September killed at least 40 people.

However, it did little to dent his popularity.

"When you have a cult, you don't question at all," political commentator Sumanth Raman told AFP after the election results were published.

Ukraine reports multiple casualties on second day of Russia truce

AFP | Kyiv, Ukraine

Russian attacks wounded at least nine people in eastern Ukraine yesterday, the second day of what was supposed to have been a three-day truce with Russia, Ukrainian officials said.

Russia also conducted assault operations on the front line, al-

though it did not launch any "large-scale" air raids during the day, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said in his evening address.

"On the front line, the Russian army is not complying with the ceasefire and is not even really trying to," he added.

US President Donald Trump announced the ceasefire on Fri-

day, saying the two sides had agreed to stop all "kinetic" warfare for a three-day period starting Saturday, as well as a mutual swap of 1,000 prisoners each.

Ukrainian air force data showed a decrease in long-range Russian drone strikes compared to before the truce, but officials reported casualties nonetheless.

In the eastern Dnipropet-

rovsk region, Russian drone strikes injured a three-year-old girl and a 23-year-old rescue worker, the region's governor Oleksandr Ganzha said.

"The rescue workers were en route to the village of Myrivska to assist local residents when their fire and rescue vehicle was attacked by an enemy drone," he said.

Hantavirus ship evacuees begin returning home

No vaccines or specific treatments exist for hantavirus

● Health officials have stressed that the risk for global public health is low

● Hantavirus type that is transmissible between humans -- the Andes virus -- has been confirmed among those who have tested positive

AFP | Granadilla De Abona, Spain



A British citizen boards a plane bound for the UK carrying passengers evacuated from the Dutch flagged hantavirus-stricken cruise ship MV Hondius at the Tenerife Sur-Reina Sofia airport on the island of Tenerife in Spain's Canary Islands

Occupants of a cruise ship struck by a deadly hantavirus outbreak that has sparked international alarm began arriving home from Spain's Canary Islands yesterday in a complex repatriation operation. Three passengers from the MV Hondius -- a Dutch husband and wife and a German woman -- have died, while others have fallen sick with the rare disease, which usually spreads among rodents.

No vaccines or specific treatments exist for hantavirus, which is endemic in Argentina, where the ship departed in April.

But health officials have

Greek from hantavirus-hit ship to be quarantined: ministry

Athens, Greece

A Greek man on board a cruise ship struck by a deadly hantavirus outbreak that has sparked international alarm will be quarantined for 45 days, the Greek health ministry said Sunday.

The ministry in a statement said the man would be put on a special Greek airforce flight upon being evacuated from the MV Hondius on Sunday.

"This is not COVID"

AFP | Washington, United States

American passengers evacuated from a cruise ship struck by a deadly hantavirus outbreak will not necessarily be quarantined, a top US health official said yesterday.

Jay Bhattacharya, acting director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), also urged the US public to remain calm about the hantavirus, saying: "This is not Covid."

The United States announced Friday that it would organize a repatriation flight for the 17 Americans aboard the MV Hondius, where three passengers have died and others have fallen sick. The ship has arrived in Spain's Canary Islands.

The US passengers, all of whom are asymptomatic,

stressed that the risk for global public health is low and played down comparisons to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Spanish Health Minister Monica Garcia said the evacuation of most of the ship's nearly 150

will be taken to a specialized center in the rural state of Nebraska, but will not necessarily be quarantined there, Bhattacharya told CNN's "State of the Union" news program on Sunday.

"We're going to interview them and assess them for risk... if they have been in close contact with somebody who was symptomatic," he said.

Following this assessment and depending on the estimated risk, passengers will be allowed "to stay in Nebraska if they'd like, or if they want to go back home, and their home situation allows it, to safely drive them home without exposing other people on the way," Bhattacharya added.

In either case, passengers will remain under observation for several weeks by health authorities to ensure they do not develop symptoms, he said, as happened with seven other

Americans who left the ship earlier in the journey.

According to the CDC, "people are generally only contagious when they exhibit symptoms."

Bhattacharya said the same protocol was followed during a 2018 outbreak "of this exact strain of the hantavirus," which was successfully contained.

Responding to criticism that there has been limited communication from US health authorities about the hantavirus risk -- six years after the Covid-19 pandemic -- he said the situations were not comparable.

"If the threat level were higher, then we would have obviously reacted differently," Bhattacharya said.

"This is not COVID," he said. "We shouldn't be panicking when the evidence doesn't warrant it."

passengers and crew would continue until a final repatriation flight to Australia on Monday.

Passengers wearing blue medical suits began disembarking the Dutch-flagged vessel onto smaller boats to reach the port

of Granadilla on Tenerife, AFP journalists saw.

The evacuees then boarded a red Spanish army bus and travelled to Tenerife South airport in a convoy, with a protective board separating the driver from

HANTAVIRUS

A RARE BUT SERIOUS VIRAL INFECTION

Hantaviruses are a group of viruses spread by rodents. They can cause a rare but potentially life-threatening disease in humans.

- 1. WHAT IS HANTAVIRUS?**

Hantaviruses are zoonotic viruses, meaning they spread between animals and humans.

Different kinds of hantaviruses exist around the world. The Sin Nombre virus is the most common in the Americas.
- 2. HOW DOES IT SPREAD?**

Humans get infected mainly by inhaling particles contaminated with rodent urine, droppings, or saliva.

 - Inhaling contaminated dust in closed or poorly ventilated areas (barns, cabins, tents)
 - Disturbing rodent droppings, urine, or nesting materials
 - Contact with rodents or surfaces contaminated by them

The virus enters the body through the nose, mouth, or eyes.
- 3. SYMPTOMS**

Symptoms usually appear 1-5 weeks after exposure.

Early symptoms (similar to the flu):

 - Fever
 - Headache
 - Muscle aches
 - Fatigue
 - Nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain
 - Chills

Severe cases can progress to:

 - Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome (HPS) (mainly in the Americas)
 - or Hemorrhagic Fever with Renal Syndrome (HFRS) (mainly in Asia and Europe)
- 4. POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS**

HANTAVIRUS PULMONARY SYNDROME (HPS)
Can develop quickly and is fatal. Affects the lungs.

 - Shortness of breath
 - Fluid in the lungs
 - Low blood pressure
 - Respiratory failure

Fatality rate: ~30-80% (varies by rodent strain and medical care)

HEMORRHAGIC FEVER WITH RENAL SYNDROME (HFRS)
Affects blood vessels and kidneys.

 - Kidney dysfunction
 - Bleeding
 - Low blood pressure

Fatality rate: ~1-15% (varies by region and strain)
- 5. PREVENTION**
 - Prevent rodent entry: seal holes, gaps, and openings.
 - Store food in rodent-proof containers.
 - Clean up safely: do not sweep or vacuum rodent droppings. Disinfect with a bleach solution (1% cups of bleach per gallon of water), let sit for 5 minutes, then wipe up.
 - Ventilate closed areas (open doors/windows for at least 30 minutes) before entering.
 - Wear gloves and a mask when cleaning areas with rodent activity.
- 6. WHAT TO DO**
 - Seek medical care immediately if you develop flu-like symptoms after being in an area with rodent activity.
 - There is no specific antiviral treatment for hantavirus. Early supportive care in a hospital is critical.
 - Report suspected cases to your local health authorities.
- 7. KEY FACTS**
 - Hantaviruses are found worldwide, especially in rural areas.
 - Rodents don't look sick, but can carry and spread the virus year-round.
 - Human-to-human spread is very rare.
 - Prevention and early medical care can save lives.

Hantavirus infections are rare, but awareness and preventive measures can reduce risk. Stay informed. Stay safe.

Sources: CDC, WHO, HPA

the passengers. The evacuees changed into new protective equipment before boarding their repatriation flights, the first of which took 14 Spaniards to Madrid, where they will observe quarantine at a military hospital.

"Everything is going well," French evacuee Roland Seitre told AFP just before taking off, saying "everyone was great" during the disembarkation.

A plane bound for the Netherlands was taking 27 people, including Belgian, Greek, German, Guatemalan and Argentine citizens, Spanish civil protection chief Virginia Barcones told public broadcaster RTVE.

Separate flights for Turkish, British, Irish and US citizens were also planned for Sunday.

Canary Islands authorities have warned that the operation must be completed by Monday,

when adverse weather conditions will force the ship to leave.

"If everything continues according to plan... at 19:00 the ship will set sail for the Netherlands" on Monday, Barcones said.



The WHO believes the first infection occurred before the start of the expedition, followed by transmission between humans onboard the vessel.

UK army in 'daring' island parachute op to aid suspected Hantavirus patient

● The urgent response came after confirmation by the UK Health Security Agency

AFP | London, United Kingdom

British military personnel carried out an airborne operation to deliver urgent medical support for a suspected Hantavirus patient on a South Atlantic island, ministers said on Sunday.



An army specialist team parachuted onto the island of Tristan da Cunha, Britain's most remote overseas territory, a defence ministry statement said.

One of three British nationals diagnosed with suspected hantavirus linked to the outbreak on the MV Hondius cruise ship is on the island.

UK Armed Forces pose with a Union flag after taking part in an air drop to the Atlantic Island of Tristan Da Cunha to provide assistance to a British National who contracted hantavirus aboard an Atlantic expedition cruise ship, MV Hondius.

The team of six paratroopers and two military clinicians, all from the 16 Air Assault Brigade, descended from a Royal Air Force (RAF) A400M transport aircraft "in a daring parachute drop", the statement said.

Vital oxygen supplies and other medical aid were air-dropped almost simultaneously.

The urgent response came after confirmation by the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) on Friday of a suspected infection in a British national on the island.

Tristan da Cunha, a group

of volcanic islands with a population of around 220 has no airstrip and is accessible only by boat.

With oxygen supplies at critically low levels, officials said an airdrop was the only viable option to deliver care in time and support the island's two-person medical team.

Foreign Secretary Yvette Cooper paid tribute to the armed forces for an "extraordinary operation".

The drop involved a long-range flight of nearly 6,800 kilometres (4,200 miles) from RAF

Brize Norton in central England to Ascension Island, followed by a further 3,000-kilometre flight to Tristan da Cunha, the statement said.

Armed Forces Minister Al Carns said the operation had been carried out in "incredibly challenging circumstances"... with the utmost professionalism and composure under pressure.

The two other British nationals involved in the hantavirus cruise ship outbreak were earlier evacuated to the Netherlands and South Africa.

Vessel Strikes Reported in the Gulf

Security concerns persist amid reported GNSS interference and maritime threat activity



Traffic through the Strait of Hormuz has remained significantly reduced over the past 72 hours amid a series of security-related maritime incidents across the region.

On 8 May 2026, an Indian-flagged dhow travelling from Dubai to Yemen caught fire and later capsized. One crew member was reported killed, while 17 others were rescued by a nearby vessel. The cause of the incident remains under investigation.

A day later, on 9 May, the UK Maritime Trade Operations (UK-MTO) issued Warning 056-26 reporting that a merchant vessel was struck by an unidentified projectile northeast of Doha, Qatar. A small fire onboard was brought under control and no casualties were reported.

Authorities continue to assess ongoing risks in and around the Strait of Hormuz, where threats from mines in or near the Traffic Separation Scheme persist alongside intermittent GNSS (satellite navigation) interference.

In the Gulf of Oman and the northern Arabian Sea, merchant vessels continue to report a significant naval presence, with blockade enforcement activity ongoing in some areas.

In the southern Red Sea, Bab el Mandeb Strait and Gulf of Aden, commercial shipping remains steady. However, Houthis-related messaging continues, though without corresponding operational activity.

Meanwhile, the piracy threat off Somalia remains assessed as severe. Three merchant vessels

are currently being held in Somali territorial waters: an oil or products tanker seized on 21 April, and an oil tanker seized on 2 May after being diverted approximately 10 nautical miles off the Yemeni coast. The status of the latest vessel remains unconfirmed.

A previously hijacked dhow reported on 25 April is no longer believed to be under pirate control, with tracking data indicating it is now transiting safely toward the Gulf of Oman.

Separately, a report from May 9-10 indicates a merchant vessel was approached by two groups of small boats in the Gulf of Aden. Analysts continue to assess the activity as consistent with a high likelihood of piracy-related operations along the Somali coast and adjacent waters.

UAE, Netherlands align on energy and sustainability goals

The United Arab Emirates and the Netherlands strengthened cooperation in trade, water, climate and interconnected resources ahead of the United Nations Water Conference 2026, following an official visit by a senior UAE official.

Abdulla Balalaa, Assistant Minister for Energy and Sustainability at the UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs, concluded the visit. During the visit, both sides held discussions aimed at expanding strategic cooperation in energy, water, food security and trade.

The talks focused on translating shared ambitions into practical outcomes, according to officials.

As part of the visit, Balalaa participated in a high-level energy dialogue session in Rotterdam, where participants



discussed opportunities for deeper collaboration in the energy sector.

The visit also included the signing of a memorandum of understanding between the Anwar Gargash Diplomatic Academy and the International Institute for Water Education at Delft University of Technology.

The agreement aims to enhance cooperation in water-related education and research.

Both sides underscored the importance of strengthening partnerships in addressing global challenges linked to water scarcity, climate change and sustainable development ahead of the 2026 UN conference.

GCC condemns attacks on UAE, Kuwait

The secretary-general of the Gulf Cooperation Council on Sunday strongly condemned "criminal" Iranian attacks targeting the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait, accusing Tehran of pursuing policies aimed at destabilising the region.

Jasem Mohamed Al-budaiwi, the GCC secretary-general, said the "treacherous Iranian approach" was systematically seeking to



undermine security and stability across the Gulf, which he called a clear violation of international law, the United Nations Charter and principles of good neighbourliness.

He reaffirmed the full support of GCC member states for the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait, stressing backing for any measures taken by both countries to safeguard their security, stability, and the safety of citizens and residents on their territories.

Kuwait, UK explore ways to boost defence cooperation

Kuwait's Chief of the General Staff of the Army, Lieutenant General Khaled Draji Saad Al-Shuraian, on Sunday received Britain's Senior Defence Adviser for the Middle East and North Africa, Admiral Edward Green, during an official visit to the country.

The meeting reviewed bilateral relations between Kuwait and the United Kingdom, and discussed a range of issues of mutual interest, according to a statement.

Talks focused on regional developments, as well as efforts to strengthen security and stability in the region. Both sides also discussed existing military



cooperation and ways to further develop it in line with shared interests.

The British delegation's visit comes amid continued defence coordination between the two allies.

Kuwait's Undersecretary of

the Ministry of Defence Sheikh Dr. Abdullah Mishal Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah, Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army Major General Pilot Sabah Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, and several senior army commanders attended the meeting.

Qatar condemns drone attack on cargo ship

Qatar strongly condemned a drone attack targeting a commercial cargo ship in its territorial waters, calling it a "dangerous escalation" and a violation of international law.

In a statement, the foreign ministry said the vessel, which had arrived from Abu Dhabi, was struck northeast of Mesaieed Port, causing a limited fire onboard. No injuries were reported.

The ministry said the incident constituted a "flagrant violation" of the principle of freedom of navigation and international



legal norms, warning that such attacks pose a threat to the security of maritime routes and vital supply chains in the region.

It added that targeting commercial and civilian vessels "regardless of the party responsible," represents a serious breach of international law and

undermines regional and global stability.

The statement said Doha was closely monitoring the situation in coordination with relevant authorities and international partners, and that an investigation had been launched to determine the circumstances and identify those responsible.

Qatar reiterated that safeguarding maritime navigation and ensuring freedom of passage in international waters remains a "fundamental pillar" of regional security.

Qatar, Saudi Arabia push for regional calm

Shaikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani, Qatar's Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, held a phone call on Saturday with Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan Al Saud, the Qatari Foreign Ministry said.

The two ministers reviewed bilateral relations and ways to further strengthen cooperation between the two Gulf neighbours, according to an official statement.

They also discussed recent regional developments, focusing on the reported ceasefire between the United States and Iran, as well as wider diplomatic efforts aimed at de-escalating



tensions in the region.

Shaikh Mohammed stressed during the call the importance of supporting ongoing mediation initiatives and encouraging all parties to engage constructively.

He said sustained dialogue

was necessary to address the root causes of regional crises and to reach a lasting agreement that would help prevent renewed escalation.

Both sides, the statement added, underscored the importance of regional security and stability.

Jordan Backs Syria Reconstruction, Sovereignty

Jordan and Syria on Sunday discussed strengthening bilateral relations and enhancing coordination across multiple sectors, while reaffirming efforts to ease regional tensions, according to a statement.

Jordan's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ayman Al-Safadi and Syrian Foreign Minister Asaad Al-Shaibani held a phone call reviewing progress in ties between the two countries and ways to further develop cooperation.

Both sides stressed the importance of advancing practical steps taken in recent months to institutionalise cooperation, particularly in economic, trade and investment fields, aligning with their shared vision of deeper in-



eration was also discussed security and defence cooperation, reaffirming the need to confront common challenges.

On regional developments, the two ministers expressed support for efforts aimed at de-escalating tensions in the region and reaching a political framework that ensures stability, respects international law and state sovereignty, and rejects external interference.

The ministers also reviewed the implementation of outcomes from the second session of the Jordanian-Syrian Higher Coordination Council, hosted in Jordan on April 12, 2026, and agreed to continue working through an "operational mechanism" to expand cooperation in key sectors.

Security and defence cooperation was also discussed security and defence cooperation, reaffirming the need to confront common challenges.

Al-Safadi reaffirmed Jordan's position supporting Syria's reconstruction process, sovereignty, and territorial integrity, while also condemning Israeli violations and attacks on Syrian territory.

Classifieds



Call us on +973 36458394
email: advnt@newsofbahrain.com

VACANCIES AVAILABLE

saga burger express W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36020030 or M.MNAWAZ829@GMAIL.COM

TYRE MART AUTO SERVICE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32089483 or ARIF703231@GMAIL.COM

AL SAQAFAT CONSTRUCTION CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCEW).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33650419 or info@alsaqafat.online

ALANDALOS MEDICAL EQUIPMENTS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES AGENT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33111604 or ABDELMONEM22222@GMAIL.COM

BURJ JAMILA BAKERY has a vacancy for the occupation of FOOD SERVICE WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34008588 or umabeeha1987@gmail.com

ORLANDO TECHNICAL SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39113706 or TBSHARAT12@HOTMAIL.COM

REXON HOME W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES AGENT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37313030 or rexonhome@gmail.com

ALSIBINSA REFRIGERATION & A/C SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17677786 or ALSIBINSA@GMAIL.COM

HAPPY MOTOR REPAIR has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCEW).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33240114 or ALALALLALI90@GMAIL.COM

DIMENSION INTERIOR DECOR W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33068940 or DHARMAN-DRA72012@GMAIL.COM

DANAT ALTAWESH TRDEING COMPANY BAHRAIN PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34111135 or ADHIMALGHALI1968@GMAIL.COM

NEON STAR BUILDING CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39890033 or ABDULHUSAINMANSOORI@GMAIL.COM

ALDAAYSI DISTRIBUTION CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DATA ENTRY OPERATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17783399 or hr@aldaaysiholding.com

magic touch for form and decoration of metal and aluminum co w l has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33366692 or magic.altaitoon@gmail.com

ZOHAL CONSTRUCTION CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17877277 or zohalcc@batelco.com.bh

FOUR STAR CLEANING CO BAHRAIN PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34050081 or Fourstar1988@GMAIL.COM

ABDUL HAMEED BUTCHERY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33325127 or CO-DEARTONLINE@GMAIL.COM

PUNJAB CONSULTANCY AND VISITOR SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCEW).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33756546 or PUNJABLINLTRASEL@GMAIL.COM

TEAM CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suit-

ably qualified applicants can contact 39289289 or teamco98@gmail.com

WINGMAN BUDAYA W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of KITCHEN WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17226616 or govt@zainalent.com

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

MUHAMMAD NADEEM TARIQ SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33264595 or MUHAMMADNADEEMTARIQ6@GMAIL.COM

PRIME RIDGE TRADING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ERECTOR-STEEL-(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 66309070 or INFO@RIDGEBAHRAIN.COM

MANAMA ROAD CONTRACTING COMPANY- BAHRAIN PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33689921 or MUHAMMEDSHAH338@GMAIL.COM

ALGHADA PICKLES & SPICES has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER/PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17671901 or ALGHADASPICES@HOTMAIL.COM

TECHNICAL CONSTRUCTION COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17730036 or TCCBN@BATELCO.COM.BH

SAEED ATIYYA AHMED ALHAIKI (HRAIF - 6798) has a vacancy for the occupation of SEAMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39685578 or SAEED-ATEYAH75@GMAIL.COM

A HOLDING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of EXECUTIVE SECRETARY/ PERSONAL ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36843013 or TARIQ.SHARIF@RITZ-CARLTON.COM

MACDONALDS has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17220000 or mcd.hr@mcdbah.com

AWAL HOTELING (SHERATON BAHRAIN) COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CHEF, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17533533 or jurrien.bongers@sheraton.com

MATRIX MEN'S SPA AND SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of MASSEUR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36455504 or RENUVAR-MA2014@GMAIL.COM

Coral Bay has a vacancy for the occupation of HAIR DRESSER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17500794 or myra@sevenleisure.net

JIDHAFS AUTO SERVICE has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400100 or Bm_amee@hotmail.com

DIYAR AL-MUNAWAR COLD STORE has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38419814 or N.MOHAMMAD.MNM@GMAIL.COM

AL NOON CONTRACTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of PAINTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35966313 or ALNOONBH@GMAIL.COM

MIRHA TRADING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES AGENT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33301113 or ZAHIDRASHID.333@HOTMAIL.COM

ALRAHI SHOWAITER W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANTS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39143366 or RAFEEKAPPU79@GMAIL.COM

GREEN WOOD TRADING CONTRACTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants

can contact 36558024 or GREENWOOD.BH24@GMAIL.COM

SPRAY FOAM CAR WASHING & POLISHING has a vacancy for the occupation of CAR CLEANER(WASHING & GREASING W.SHOP), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39055567 or hr@alsalam.care

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

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

DHA SALOON FOR MEN W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34567895 or ABEERRAJPUTI@GMAIL.COM

KURUMULAKH CAFETERIA W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(JUICE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39839739 or hayakglobal@gmail.com

ALZAIMOOR GARAGE has a vacancy for the occupation of PAINTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17553224 or zaimoorgarage@gmail.com

KHALID TRANSPORT EST. has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER(MINI-BUS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17785830 or Khalid@abul-fatih.com

Universal foodstuff factory W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER/PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36328228 or ACCOUNTS@UNIVERSAL.BH

SAIMA MUNIR SECOND HAND GOODS SALES has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 3962931 or AZAMZAKARIA@YAHOO.COM

ALRESALEH TRADING BAKERY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39464691 or info@alkhoorgroup.com

EXPERTCON CONSTRUCTION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 34415765 or xprt-con@gmail.com

kenz manufacture of wooden furniture umbrella and curtains W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17343976 or sameer@kenzfurnishing.com

MACDONALDS has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17220000 or mcd.hr@mcdbah.com

SEA ROCK RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17293002 or salmansooffy@yahoo.com

Dream World Construction Co. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 34111999 or sharef.works@gmail.com

A 2 Z ADVERTISING & PUBLICITY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of GRAPHIC DESIGNER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17311234 or SULFIKKAR2003@GMAIL.COM

NEW REAL METALS FABRICATION CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33444186 or junujunaid-a4u@gmail.com

BUSHANAB BAKERY has a vacancy for the occupation of BAKER(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 34176204 or AMINSULAIM-AN6204@GMAIL.COM

RIWAYATI KITCHEN W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of KITCHEN WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36723736 or WAJEEH_HASAN@HOTMAIL.COM

ALSALAM SPECIALIST HOSPITAL W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MEDICAL SERVICES AIDE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33336071 or hr@alsalam.care

Shahida Resturant has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39641105 or ZAINAB.ALKHUHDHUR@GMAIL.COM

PURE GLOW SPA W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MASSEUR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36020164 or

HUSSAIN AMER BUILDING CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39804488 or linkone78@gmail.com

FORTFIRE TRADING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33667194 or NOORNA-DEEM2404@GMAIL.COM

AL MUSHRIF FOR COOLING MAINTENANCE has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(ELECTRICIAN/WIREMAN), suitably qualified applicants can contact 34440834 or RAMEDEAB123@GMAIL.COM

PASS COMBINED COMPANY. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of PLUMBER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 35402448 or PASS-CONTRACTINGWLL@GMAIL.COM

diva hotel has a vacancy for the occupation of MASSEUR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17251444 or BUAHMED101@HOTMAIL.COM

First Choice Cleaning Services Co. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36491411 or choicefirst82@gmail.com

INTERNATIONAL 360 SECURITY SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77999360 or FISHERMANSENSE@GMAIL.COM

HARDEEZ RESURENT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17262998 or ssaleh@americana-food.com

MPIRE ELECTRICAL AND INTERIOR DECORATION SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39546626 or MPIRE142@GMAIL.COM

B H J SERVICES BAHRAIN PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34342810 or HUSSAINB865@GMAIL.COM

Najad Aluminium and Iron Co W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of STORE LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17104842 or info@najadhb.com

EVERYDAY AUTO PARTS SERVICE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35639016 or niazmohamma256@gmail.com

THALGE ALKHALID FLOWERS & PERFUME has a vacancy for the occupation of FLORIST/FLOWER SETTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39612164 or ALKHALID111@HOTMAIL.COM

THE KINGDOM UNIVERSITY B.S.C CLOSED has a vacancy for the occupation of ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 13302967 or NALBASTAKI@KU.EDU.BH

Desert Landscape Co S P C has a vacancy for the occupation of MACHINE OPERATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33152222 or AHMAD.JUMA@DESERTGROUP.AE

DTECH INTEGRATED SYSTEMS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN(MAINTENANCE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39053005 or NINILDEVASIA1@GMAIL.COM

DREAM PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700211 or HRD@DREAMGROUP.BH

PRO LOTS REAL ESTATE SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34626039 or FAKRIMERY9@GMAIL.COM

1000SPEED VEHICLES MAINTENANCE has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANICAL HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33874447 or salmanalsaffar9@gmail.com

GOOD MORNING FASHIONS has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANTS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37221112 or ahshaheen15@gmail.com

M AZAM SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39771163 or RS1327493@GMAIL.COM

PROTECTS SECURITY SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700211 or hrd@dreamgroup.bh

SMALL LINK POINT CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(PAPER PACKER), suitably qualified applicants can contact 37153939 or ABU334951@GMAIL.COM

LULU BAHRAIN HYPERMARKET W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17558558 or careers@bh.lulumea.com

LULU BAHRAIN HYPERMARKET W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of RETAIL TRADE SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17558558 or careers@bh.lulumea.com

LULU BAHRAIN HYPERMARKET W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17558558 or careers@bh.lulumea.com

LULU BAHRAIN HYPERMARKET W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of RETAIL TRADE SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17558558 or careers@bh.lulumea.com

LULU BAHRAIN HYPERMARKET W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of RETAIL TRADE SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17558558 or careers@bh.lulumea.com

MY SMART ASSISTANT CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34044132 or MRHAMOOD666@PROTON.ME

ZAWAYA ALTAMEER CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39411716 or ENJAZPLUS.BH@GMAIL.COM

ONE CUP W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33847655 or TAIMOOR.MASOOD@GMAIL.COM

ROYAL SARAY RESORT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of RECEPTIONIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77707070 or hmr@sevensholding.com

IRSHAD GENTS SALOON W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36675632 or ERSHADVIP@GMAIL.COM

HASAN ALI MOHAMMED ASHOOR has a vacancy for the occupation of FARMER(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39086555 or alishoor2020@gmail.com

DECO HUB INTERNATIONAL W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35002840 or PUREMIND.BH@GMAIL.COM

RIFE TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANTS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17720256 or info@AISOLCO.COM

DESI HANDI RESTAURANT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33042626 or desihandirestaurant@gmail.com

Arsenal go five points clear

● VAR denies late equaliser

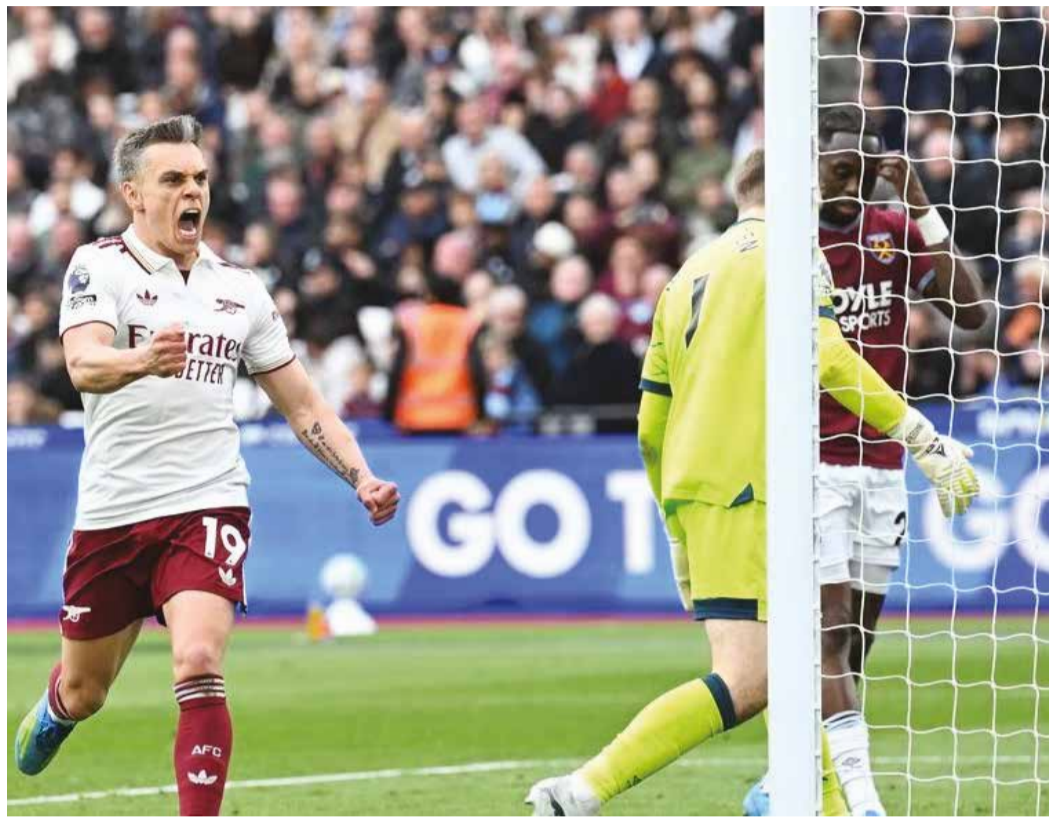
Hussain Almaskati
TDT | Manama

Arsenal took a massive step towards the Premier League title with a dramatic 1-0 win at West Ham yesterday. The result extends their lead at the top of the table to five points with a game in hand over Manchester City, though the match ended in extraordinary controversy after a late VAR intervention denied the hosts a stoppage-time equaliser.

Leandro Trossard scored the decisive goal in the 83rd minute, his first of 2026, finishing from close range after Martin Ødegaard combined with Declan Rice to create the opening. It came shortly after David Raya produced a crucial one-on-one save to deny Mateus Fernandes, keeping Arsenal level at a key moment.

The game was tight and tense throughout. Arsenal dominated early possession but wasted several chances. Trossard hit the post, while other efforts were saved or cleared off the line during a spell of sustained pressure.

West Ham slowly grew into the match after Ben White went off injured. They began to threaten more consistently,



Trossard celebrates the match-winner against West Ham

with Crysencio Summerville and Aaron Wan-Bissaka testing Raya, while Taty Castellanos forced another strong save before half-time.

The second half became increasingly scrappy and emotional, with both teams making changes. Arsenal introduced Ødegaard and Kai Havertz late on, and Ødegaard quickly in-

fluenced the game by helping to build the move that led to Trossard's winner.

The most dramatic moment came deep into stoppage time. West Ham thought they had equalised in a chaotic scramble when Callum Wilson struck and the home crowd erupted in celebration. However VAR inter-

viewed the pitchside monitor and ruled that Pablo had fouled Raya in the build-up, disallowing the goal.

The decision triggered fury inside the London Stadium but confirmed Arsenal's victory, moving them one step closer to a first league title since 2004 with just two matches remaining.

Aston Villa held by Burnley

AFP | London

Aston Villa missed the chance to tighten their grip on Champions League qualification after a 2-2 draw at already-relegated Burnley.

Villa had secured a place in the Europa League final on Thursday with a 4-0 win over Nottingham Forest, but Unai Emery's side showed signs of fatigue at Turf Moor.

The result keeps Villa in a strong position, extending their lead over sixth-placed Bournemouth to four points and moving them six clear of Brighton in the race for Champions League places.

However, they face a demanding finish to the season, with fixtures against Liverpool and Manchester City either side of the Europa League final against Freiburg in Istanbul.

Jaidon Anthony gave Burnley an early lead after Emi Martinez spilled Lesley Ugochukwu's effort. Ross Barkley equalised for Villa before half-time with a header from a corner.

Ollie Watkins then turned the game around, finishing from Martinez's long clearance to put Villa ahead and lift them to fourth in the table.

Burnley responded to avoid a sixth straight defeat, with Zian



Villa reach Europa League final but show fatigue in 2-2 draw at Burnley

Flemming firing in from Hannibal Mejbri's clever flick to secure a point. Elsewhere, Everton's hopes of European qualification suffered another setback after a 2-2 draw at Crystal Palace.

David Moyes' side led twice through James Tarkowski and a fine solo goal from Beto, but were pegged back by Ismaila Sarr and Jean-Philippe Mateta, as Palace finished strongly.

Everton rise to 10th but a five-game winless run has left their European hopes fading.

At the City Ground, Elliott Anderson struck late against former club Newcastle to earn Nottingham Forest a 1-1 draw. Harvey Barnes had put Newcastle ahead, but Anderson's equaliser could yet prove decisive in Forest's survival battle, depending on West Ham's result against Arsenal.

Dubois climbs off the canvas to become two-time world heavyweight champion



Daniel Dubois celebrates his win

AFP | London

Daniel Dubois recovered from two early knock-downs to win a second world heavyweight boxing title with an 11th-round stoppage of Fabio Wardley in a brutal all-British battle in Manchester on Saturday.

Victory meant the 28-year-old deprived World Boxing Organisation champion Wardley of his belt, with Dubois having lost the International Boxing Federation version of the title to unified champion Oleksandr Usyk at Wembley in July last year.

Wardley dropped Dubois to the canvas within barely 10 seconds of the opening bell at the Co-Op Live arena.

And in the third round Wardley, making his maiden title defence, landed a huge overhand right on Dubois, who took a knee before beating the count again.

But from then on Dubois connected with a series of

crushing blows to leave Wardley's face a bloody mess and referee Howard Foster could easily have stopped the fight long before the 11th round of a scheduled 12.

Dubois, who now has a professional record of 23 wins and three defeats, with 21 knock-outs, had been angered by an apparently casual comment made by Wardley in a pre-fight interview.

Wardley (21-0-1, 19 KOs) said Dubois would be a "bin man" if the London heavyweight was not a boxer.

That led Dubois to respond by saying: "Well, I am going to take out the trash. I am the dustman, he is the trash, mate. I'll take out the trash."

Yet he was full of respect for Wardley following Saturday's gruelling bout, with Dubois telling broadcaster DAZN: "It was a war, we went through the sticky moments. Thank you Fabio for that, thank you. I know I've got heart, bundles of heart. I'm a warrior in there."

Barcelona Seal 29th La Liga Title With El Clásico Win

Hussain Almaskati
TDT | Manama

Barcelona have been crowned La Liga champions for a second straight season after a dominant El Clásico victory over Real Madrid at Camp Nou yesterday. Hansi Flick's side only needed a point but secured the title in style, racing into a 2-0 lead inside 18 minutes through Marcus Rashford and Ferran Torres.

The result confirmed an unassailable 14-point lead with three games remaining, sealing Barcelona's 29th Spanish league crown and reinforcing their domestic dominance.



Barcelona players celebrate with head coach Hansi Flick

The achievement has come despite ongoing financial difficulties at the club, with Barcelona leaning heavily on La Masia graduates. A strong core of academy players, including Pedri and Gavi, has been central to maintaining consistency and identity during rebuilding.

European success, however, remains out of reach. Barcelona exited the Champions League at the quarter-final stage this season, highlighting the gap still to close at continental level.

Flick will now aim to extend Barcelona's domestic dominance while pushing for European progress in the coming campaigns.

Slavia fans hit with lifetime bans after derby chaos

TDT | Manama

Slavia Prague have issued lifetime bans to supporters following violent scenes that forced the abandonment of their derby against Sparta Prague on Saturday, in what is being described as one of the most serious incidents in recent Czech football history.

Slavia were leading 3-2 deep into stoppage time when the match descended into chaos. In the seventh minute of added time, sections of the home support breached security and entered the pitch, prompting officials to halt the game before the final whistle.

Footage shared on social media appeared to show flares being directed toward the Sparta section, while pyrotechnics were also thrown into the stands. Sparta goalkeeper Jakub Surovcik was reportedly struck in the face by a flare thrown



Chaos erupts during Slavia vs Sparta derby

from close range during the disorder.

Slavia confirmed that one individual has already been identified and handed a lifetime ban following a review of surveillance footage and cooperation with authorities. The club added that further investigations are ongoing and additional sanctions may follow.

Club chairman Jaroslav Tvrdik condemned the events, calling them "the most difficult moment in the modern history of the club," and issued an apology to Sparta Prague, visiting supporters, match officials, and "all decent Slavia supporters."

"The values of Slavia are not hatred and violence," he said. "What happened is a disgrace

that has no place in football."

The club also announced the temporary closure of the stadium's North Stand while police and security teams work to identify those involved. Slavia confirmed full cooperation with investigators, including the provision of CCTV footage, ticketing data, and internal reports.

The League Football Association (LFA) described the incidents as "absolutely unacceptable" and confirmed that disciplinary proceedings have been opened against both clubs, with sanctions expected to be announced in the coming days.

Meanwhile, Surovcik said he intends to pursue legal action against those responsible.

Despite the fallout, Slavia are scheduled to resume league action on Wednesday against FK Jablonec, though the incident is expected to overshadow the club's title celebrations.

NPL Matchweek 21 kicks off in style

Hussain Almaskati
TDT | Manama

The penultimate round of the Nasser bin Hamad Premier League produced major shifts in the standings last night: Sitra boosted their survival hopes, Al Najma moved out of the bottom two, and Al Shabab were confirmed as relegated.

At Khalifa Sports City, Sitra, coached by Ali Abdulmajeed, produced a composed 3-1 win over Al Shabab.

Sitra started brightly and nearly struck after 10 minutes when Bekaye Wade's cross found Abdulwasea Al Matari, whose first-time volley hit the post with Rashid Al Doseri beaten.

They were handed a golden chance six minutes later after Etoresi Daniel pulled Omran Alyas down during a corner. Bruno Bezerra stepped up, but Al Doseri saved the penalty to keep Al Shabab level.

Pressure continued, and Sitra earned another penalty in the 23rd minute when Karl Namnganda was fouled by Mujtaba Abdali. This time Namnganda took responsibility himself and calmly converted to give Sitra the lead.

Al Shabab, coached by Mohammed Al Muqla, responded just before half-time with



Namnganda celebrates Sitra's third goal against Al Shabab

a well-worked equaliser. Hussain Al Qassab started the move before Daniel Ilevbare Omokhoa chipped into the box for Ali Mohammed, who set up Al Qassab to finish with a superb

half-volley. Any hopes of a comeback faded midway through the second half. Othman Al Hajj's header from a corner was saved, but Namnganda reacted quickest to

smash home the rebound for his second and Sitra's third.

The win keeps Sitra 8th but two points clear of the relegation playoff zone on 24 points, while Al Shabab are officially relegat-



ed, finishing 11th on 14 points.

At Al Ahli Stadium, Al Najma, coached by Mohammed Al Shamlan, secured a comfortable 3-0 win over already-relegated Bahrain Club.

The highlight came after 13 minutes when captain Mohammed Eid Annad spotted goalkeeper Abdulghafoor Fateh off his line and scored from just inside the halfway line.

Al Najma thought they had doubled their lead when Ali Al Doseri finished Zachary Al Hadji's cross, but the goal was ruled offside. They eventually extended control in the 64th minute, as Al Hadji combined with Faisal Budahoom before finishing neatly inside the box.

Saleh Al Zubaidi added a late third from the penalty spot after Fateh fouled Dusan Jokovic while attempting to clear a cross.

The win lifts Al Najma to 9th on 22 points, just inside the relegation playoff zone, while Bahrain Club remain bottom on 7 points.

At Bahrain National Stadium, A'ali, coached by Vinicius Soares, strengthened their grip on fifth place with a 2-0 win over Budaiya. The defeat, however, dragged Faisal Hassan's side down to 10th in the relegation playoff zone on 21 points.

Diego Cardoso opened the scoring just before half-time with a long-range effort after spotting Abdullah Al Frieih off his line. The result was sealed late on when Hassan Abdulaziz was played through by Layton Ndukwu on the counterattack and finished confidently.

Matchweek 21 concludes tonight with three simultaneous 7PM fixtures. The headline clash sees Al Khaldiya face Muharraq at Bahrain National Stadium, where a win for Al Khaldiya would secure the league title, while Muharraq could move top heading into the final day with victory.

Elsewhere, Al Ahli meet Al Hidd at Khalifa Sports City, while Al Malkiya face Riffa at Al Ahli Stadium.

Bahrain ready for GCC Games action

TDT | Manama

Bahrain are gearing up for a major multi-sport campaign at the fourth GCC Games, which begin today in Doha, Qatar, with the kingdom set to compete in 15 of the 18 sports on the programme.

The regional event runs from May 11 to May 22 and brings together elite athletes from all six GCC nations across a wide range of disciplines, with close to 1,100 competitors expected to take part.

According to Bahrain Olympic Committee (BOC) officials, the kingdom will be represented in archery, athletics, 3x3 basketball, billiards, boxing, handball, fencing, karate, padel, shooting, snooker, swimming, table tennis, taekwondo and volleyball. Bahrain were also due to compete in basketball, but that competition has been removed



Men's handball team during training session

from the schedule by organisers.

Among the most high-profile preparations has been the men's

handball national team, training under Swedish head coach Robert Hedin at the Bahrain

Handball Federation Arena in Um Al Hassam, as they look to maintain their strong record in the competition.

The GCC Games will be staged across 10 venues in Doha, including Aspire Dome, Qatar Sports Club, Khalifa International Tennis, Squash and Badminton Complex, Lusail Shooting Range, and Al Gharafa Sports Club, among others.

Bahrain arrive in Doha with a strong history in the Games. At the 2022 edition in Kuwait City, the kingdom collected an impressive 64 medals, including 20 gold, 23 silver and 21 bronze, finishing among the leading nations in the standings.

That followed 43 medals in the 2015 Games in Dammam, and 19 medals at the inaugural edition hosted in Bahrain in 2011, when the country topped the gold medal count with eight.

Maeda magic fires Celtic to derby victory



Daizen Maeda scores an overhead kick to put Celtic ahead against Rangers

TDT | Manama

Celtic produced a strong second-half display to defeat Rangers 3-1 in the Old Firm derby at Celtic Park yesterday, a result that boosts their title hopes and deepens their rivals' poor run of form.

The visitors struck first in the ninth minute when Mikey Moore capitalised on early pressure to give Rangers a surprise lead. Celtic, however, gradually took control of possession and began to dictate the tempo, and their pressure was rewarded in the 23rd minute. Yang Hyun-Jun finished off a flowing move involving Arne Engels to bring the hosts level.

The first half ended level at 1-1, but the balance of the contest shifted after the break as Celtic increased their intensity.

Daizen Maeda became the decisive figure, first putting Celtic ahead in the 53rd minute after meeting a precise

cross from Kieran Tierney.

Just four minutes later, the Japanese forward delivered the moment of the match — a spectacular overhead kick that flew into the top corner, leaving Rangers goalkeeper Jack Butland with no chance.

Rangers had little response. Their best chance came late on when substitute Bojan Miovski struck the woodwork, but the game had already slipped beyond reach. It marked a third consecutive league defeat for Rangers, their worst run in over 25 years.

The win extends Celtic's run to six straight victories in all competitions and keeps them firmly in the title race, sitting just a point behind league leaders Hearts with two matches remaining.

With momentum building and Maeda in outstanding form, Celtic head into the final stretch believing a 14th league title in 15 years is still within reach.

Bahrain's Al Sayyid Claims Saudi Crown

TDT | Manama

Bahrain's growing influence in tennis has been underlined after Ahmed Mohammed Al Sayyid captured the Saudi First Division men's tennis title, further strengthening the kingdom's presence on the international stage.

Shaikh Khalid bin Rashid Al Khalifa, chairman of the Permanent Committee for Tennis, said the achievement reflects Bahrain's sustained investment in sport and the steady development of its athletes.

Al Sayyid secured the title while representing Saudi club Al Ibtisam, adding another international success to Bahrain's



expanding sporting record.

Shaikh Khalid also praised the role of senior sports leadership in Bahrain, noting that continued institutional backing has helped athletes compete



more effectively at regional and international levels.

He highlighted the Ministry of Interior's tennis programme, crediting it for raising performance standards and instill-

ing discipline among players through structured training and support systems.

According to him, Bahrain's tennis strategy remains focused on athlete development, increased competitive exposure, and participation in major events such as the Bahrain Open Challenger, which provides valuable experience against international opposition.

Al Sayyid's latest triumph builds on a strong 2025 campaign that has already included regional and Asian titles, alongside recognition from continental tennis authorities for his performances in junior competitions.

بنك السلام
Al Salam Bank



DANAT

**DESIGNED
BY YOU**

**FIRST QUARTERLY
GRAND PRIZE IS HERE!**



**MILLION
BAHRAINI DINAR**

To Be Distributed Based on Your Voting

50 Winners
BD 20,000 EACH

INVEST BY 17 MAY 2026

**The More You Invest, The Better
Your Chances Are At Winning!**

20
YEARS عاماً

Written by You كتبت بايديكم

**INVEST VIA
AL SALAM BANK**