



Works Minister, Ibrahim bin Hassan Al-Hawaj, yesterday received the Media Affairs Advisor of the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister and Infrastructure Minister, Waleed Khalid Al-Shaikh, who presented him a copy of the thesis of the master's degree from UoB on "Government Communication and Its Role in Highlighting Development Projects Included in the Government Action Plan 2019-2022". The minister said the study proved the success of the Works Ministry in taking advantage of government communication to highlight the development projects it is implementing.



The Supreme Council for Youth and Sports (SCYS) First Deputy Chairman, General Sports Authority Chairman and Bahrain Olympic Committee President His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, on Thursday directed to step up awareness programmes during a meeting with Health Minister Dr Jaleela bint Al Sayyed Jawad at Al Wadi Palace. He gave directives to coordinate the campaign in partnership between the General Sports Authority and the Ministry of Health, in order to build a healthier society. The meeting was attended by GSA Deputy Chairman HH Shaikh Salman bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, GSA Chief Executive Officer Dr Abdulrahman Sadiq Askar and Bahrain Committee for Sports Medical and Sport Science Chairman Dr Jamal Saleh.

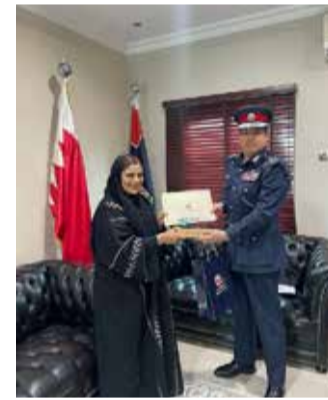


Assistance Undersecretary for Legal Affairs, Brigadier Hamood Saad Hamood, has inaugurated a workshop on implementing the National Human Rights Plan 2022-2026. The workshop was part of the directives of the Interior Minister, General Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, and under the follow-up of the Interior Ministry's Undersecretary. Approved by the cabinet, the Foreign Ministry drafted the plan in coordination with concerned authorities. The Head of the Human Rights Team, Major Ali Najjem, highlighted the human rights projects and programmes.

Social Development Minister Osama bin Ahmed Khalaf Al Asfoor received on Thursday Iraqi Embassy Charge d'Affaires Moayyed Omar Abdulrahman and hailed strong bilateral relations and expanding cooperation. He outlined Bahrain's social development achievements in line with the national goals which were set out by the Government. The Iraqi Charge d'Affaires stressed his country's keenness on expanding joint social development cooperation towards achieving joint interests and aspirations.



The Civil Personnel Affairs Department of Human Resources organised a training course on "Plan for recovery and rebuilding oneself after the pandemic." The event held at the training hall of the customs building had the participation of 30 employees from various departments of the Ministry of Interior. The course was presented by Dr Khaled Al-Baker.



Brigadier Adel Abdullah Ameen, the Assistant Undersecretary for Human Resources, yesterday received Rehab Hamad Al-Maraj, one of the members of the team that won first place for the "Blue Point" initiative, and Amal Abdel Karim Hajji, one of the members of the third-place winning team for the "Dumna Initiative". The initiatives were part of a "Climate Innovation programme" held under the patronage of Dr Mohamed bin Mubarak Bin Daina, Minister of Oil and Environment, and Special Envoy for Climate Affairs, from March to July 2022.

## Rushdie faced death threats for his novel "The Satanic Verses"

(Continues from page 1)

Rushdie, who was born into a Muslim Kashmiri family in Bombay, now known as Mumbai, before moving to the United Kingdom, has faced death threats for his fourth novel, "The Satanic Verses," which some said contained blasphemous passages. The novel was banned in many countries upon its 1988 publication.

A year later, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, then Iran's supreme leader, pronounced a fatwa, or religious



Author Salman Rushdie is transported to a helicopter after he was stabbed on stage before his scheduled speech at the Chautauqua Institution, Chautauqua, New York, U.S

edict, calling upon Muslims to kill the novelist and anyone involved in its publication for blasphemy.

Rushdie, who called his novel "pretty mild," went into hiding for many years.

Hitoshi Igarashi, the Japanese translator of the novel, was murdered in 1991.

The Iranian government said in 1998 that it would no longer back the fatwa, and Rushdie has lived relatively openly in recent years.

Iranian organisations, some affiliated with

the government, have raised a bounty worth millions of dollars for Rushdie's murder. And Khomeini's successor as supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, said in 2017 that the fatwa was still.

Iran's semi-official Fars News Agency and other news outlets donated money that year to increase the bounty by more than \$600,000.

Fars called Rushdie an apostate who "insulted the prophet" in its report on Friday's attack.

Rushdie published a memoir in 2012 about his life under the fatwa called "Joseph Anton," the pseudonym he used while under British police protection. His second novel, "Midnight's

Children," won the Booker Prize. His new novel "Victory City" is due to be published in February.

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson said he was appalled that Rushdie was "stabbed while exercising a right we should never cease to defend."

Rushdie was at the event to take part in a discussion about the United States serving as an asylum for writers and artists in exile and "as a home for freedom of creative expression," according to the institution's website.

There were no obvious security checks at the Chautauqua Institution, a landmark founded in the 19th century in the small lakeside town of the

same name, with staff simply checking people's tickets for admission, the eyewitness who was in the audience said.

"I felt like we needed to have more protection there because Salman Rushdie is not a usual writer," said Anour Rahmani, an Algerian writer and human rights activist who was also in the audience. "He's a writer with a fatwa against him."

The institution declined to comment when asked about security measures.

Rushdie became an American citizen in 2016 and lives in New York City.

Iran's mission to the United Nations in New York did not respond to a request for comment.

