

# GOLD nears **BD40** a gram as buyers turn to bars

Small investors step back as gold bars and silver see record demand

- 10-tola bars now cost over BD5,000, up BD1,000 from last year.
- Silver trades at BD525–BD540 per kilogram
- Local demand is uneven, rising during wedding season.

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Gold prices in Bahrain have jumped, with a gram of 21-carat gold now around BD39, while smaller pieces under a gram are selling above BD55. Some shoppers have stepped back, unhappy with prices and making charges, while others are turning to gold bars as a safer way to preserve value. Jewellers say the surge has been rapid. A 10-tola bar that cost around BD4,000 a year ago is now over BD5,000, a gain of



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roughly BD1,000 in less than twelve months. Silver has risen as well, trading at about BD525–BD540 per kilogram, with one-ounce pieces near BD1,400. Traders link the rise to external tensions, increased global demand, and weaker currencies

in some countries. They note this pattern is familiar: demand dips temporarily, then trade stabilizes. Local buying remains uneven. Wedding season has brought a slight lift, yet activity is still below levels seen two years ago.

Many buyers now prefer bars to preserve savings, while some start with silver if gold is out of reach. Making charges vary by design and craft, currently around BD4–BD5 per gram. Retailers report a common market trend: interest rises with

the price and eases when it falls. Sales of used jewellery are quiet, while bar purchases account for most of the activity. Traders say all age groups are participating, including early-twenty-somethings buying gold as a haven. Today, 21-carat gold stands

near BD39 per gram, and silver at roughly BD525 per kilogram. Many had expected BD37 to be the ceiling, but prices have overshot that mark. Demand for bars has cooled at these levels, though long-term savers, including families and parents, continue buying.



Gold has historically been seen as a “safe haven” investment during times of economic uncertainty. In fact, during the 2008 global financial crisis, gold prices jumped more than 25% as investors sought to protect their wealth.

## GIS CompEdge 2025 kicks off in Bahrain

Gathering More Than 100 Regional and International Cardiac Specialists

Manama

The Gulf Complications Cases Show, Imaging and Physiology (GIS CompEdge 2025) was inaugurated yesterday morning, in the presence of Major General Dr. Fouad Abdelqader Saeed, Managing Director of the Mohammed bin Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa Cardiac Center. Organized by the Gulf Intervention Society (GIS) and managed by ICOM, the event—held on September 12 and 13—brought together more than 100 leading specialists and experts in the field. During the conference's opening, Dr. Fawaz Al-Mutairi, President of the Gulf Intervention Society, delivered a speech in which he expressed his delight about he expressed his delight in the Kingdom of Bahrain for the first time. He noted that the Society is eager for the conference to become an annual event for science and knowledge, where experts gather to discuss the latest developments and the most challenging issues in interventional cardiology. Dr. Fawaz Al-Mutairi mentioned that GIS CompEdge 2025, a two-day event, will feature scientific sessions, specialized workshops, and interactive debates with broad participation from doctors, researchers, and healthcare professionals. He



emphasized that the conference's significance stems from its timing, which coincides with rapid advancements in interventional cardiology. By relying on imaging techniques and cardiac physiology, accuracy in diagnosis and treatment decisions has become increasingly crucial. This event also provides a valuable opportunity for young doctors and trainees to engage directly with renowned scientific experts and learn about the latest innovations shaping the specialty's future. He added that Bahrain's hosting of this conference reflects the confidence of regional and

international institutions in its position as a gateway to science and medical knowledge in the Gulf region. This gathering will contribute to strengthening Bahrain's position as a vital platform for scientific research and professional development, and at the same time confirms its commitment to supporting initiatives that improve the quality of health care in the region. He also stated that this year's conference is notable for combining two main events: presenting cases of complications and imaging, as well as physiological measurements inside

the arteries. The program offers an integrated scientific agenda that merges practical applications with scientific innovation. Additionally, the CVP program, dedicated to nursing staff, technicians, and other healthcare providers, will be reviewed during the sessions. Emphasizing the crucial role of the multidisciplinary team, the focus is on enhancing patient outcomes and the success of therapeutic interventions. Dr. Musa Akbar, the Director of the Complication Cases Show Program, emphasized that the aim of this program is not just to showcase complex cases but

also to create a space for collective learning and collaborative problem-solving. He noted that, despite their difficulty, complications offer valuable opportunities to improve practices and enhance decision-making skills. He explained that the programme will feature real experiences shared by doctors from different countries for discussion and analysis. In a related context, Dr. Abdullah Shihab, Director of the Complication Cases Show Program, emphasized that the challenges doctors face in catheterization are not merely obstacles but practical lessons that ex-

pand knowledge and drive the development of treatment protocols. He also mentioned that what sets this program apart is honesty and transparency in sharing both successes and mistakes, considering this the best way to advance the profession and serve patients. Dr. Khalid bin Thani, Director of the Imaging & Physiology Program, stated that the program is an advanced platform that combines the latest diagnostic tools with top-notch clinical practice. He emphasized that technologies such as OCT, IVUS, FFR, and iFR are crucial in creating the most effective treatment plan. He also explained that the interactive sessions and hands-on cases will help participants better incorporate these technologies into their daily decisions. Dr. Raed Al-Kutshan, the Director of the Imaging & Physiology Program, emphasized that integrating the complications axis with the imaging and physiological measurements axis provides the conference with a unique advantage, as real-world challenges are addressed alongside cutting-edge technologies. He highlighted that this approach would open new opportunities for attendees and help strengthen Bahrain's role as a regional scientific hub in interventional cardiology.