

Bahrain shares

grief with Saudi

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His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, sent cables of condolences to King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, following the passing of Her Royal Highness Princess Hind bint Saud bin Abdulaziz Al Saud.

HRH Prince Salman sent a similar cable to His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister of Saudi Arabia.

Kingdom calls for

end to Russia,

Ukraine crisis

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Bahrain has renewed its support for regional and international diplomatic efforts aimed at achieving a political and lasting solution to the Russian-Ukrainian crisis, stressing the importance of dialogue and coordination to end the ongoing conflict.

The statement was delivered by Her Excellency Ambassador Nancy Abdullah Jamal, Deputy Permanent Representative of Bahrain to the United Nations in New York, during an emergency meeting of the United Nations Security Council convened in light of recent developments in Ukraine.

H.E. Ambassador Jamal reaffirmed Bahrain's commitment to resolving the crisis in line with international law, the United Nations Charter, and UN Security Council Resolution 2774, while enhancing regional and global security, stability, and sustainable peace.

The Kingdom expresses deep regret over the war.

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Bilateral strength

Bahrain, Pakistan reaffirm strong relations and shared commitment to development

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His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa affirmed Bahrain and Pakistan's shared commitment to advancing partnership across political, economic, commercial, and developmental fields.

He emphasised that these efforts are aimed at serving the best interests of both countries and their brotherly peoples.

HM the King made the remarks during an official reception and meeting with His Excellency Asif Ali Zardari, President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, at Al Gudaibiya Palace yesterday, marking a significant milestone in the historic relations between the two nations.

"It is a great pleasure to welcome you and your esteemed delegation to the Kingdom of Bahrain," HM the King said, highlighting the "strong and historic relations that bind Bahrain and Pakistan, founded on mutual respect, Islamic brotherhood, shared history, and common interests."

Partnership

He emphasised the importance of the visit as a platform to "advance our partnership across various political, economic, commercial, and developmental fields, in a manner that serves the best interests of our two countries and their brotherly peoples."

HM King Hamad also commended Pakistan's "pivotal role in defending the causes of the Arab and Islamic nations, and



His Majesty awards President Zardari the Order of His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Salman Al Khalifa (First Class)

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- HIS MAJESTY KING HAMAD BIN ISA AL KHALIFA

its efforts to promote security, peace, and stability at regional and international levels."

He expressed appreciation for the Pakistani community's valuable contributions to Bahrain's development path, underlining the deep social and cultural ties that have strengthened the



HM the King receives Pakistan President Asif Ali Zardari

bilateral relationship over generations.

Reception

During the visit, President Zardari was accorded an official reception, including the playing of national anthems, a 21-gun salute, and a ceremonial greeting

by senior Bahraini officials.

Following the reception, HM the King and President Zardari held extensive talks on further enhancing cooperation and mutual interests.

The discussions were attended by senior officials from both countries and focused on

consolidating the longstanding historical ties between the two nations.

In recognition of his contributions to bilateral relations, His Majesty awarded President Zardari the Order of His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Salman Al Khalifa (First Class), the Kingdom's highest honour.

Award

HM King Hamad said the award reflects Bahrain's "profound appreciation for your role and contributions, as well as those of your country, in supporting areas of joint cooperation between our two brotherly nations."

President Zardari, in his remarks, expressed a sense of personal and national kinship with Bahrain, calling HM the King "my brother" and describing Bahrain's people as "one family, bound together by faith as brothers and sisters."

He stressed the importance of strengthening understanding, cooperation, and mutual support, particularly during times of regional and global challenges, noting that the safety and prosperity of one nation positively affects all.

Luncheon

The visit also included a formal signing of the Guests' Book, a luncheon hosted by His Majesty in honour of the Pakistani President and his delegation, and an honour guard inspection led by Bahrain's Foreign Minister, H.E. Dr. Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani.

Over 10,000 arrested

‘3,428 protesters killed in Iran violent crackdown’

AFP | Paris

Iranian security forces have killed at least 3,428 protesters in a crackdown on demonstrations, the Norway-based Iran Human Rights (IHR) NGO said yesterday, adding that more than 10,000 people had also been arrested.

IHR said the jump in its veri-

fied toll was due to new information it received from within the Iranian health and education ministries, with at least 3,379 of the killings coming during the height of the protest movement from January 8 to 12.

The group's director Mahmood Amiry-Moghaddam condemned the "mass killing

of protesters on the streets in recent days", while IHR warned that even the new figure represented an "absolute minimum" for the actual toll.

Rights groups say that under the cover of a more than five-day internet blackout, Iranian authorities are carrying out their most severe repression in years of protests that have openly

challenged the theocratic system that has ruled Iran since the revolution.

Caution

Meanwhile, the US embassy in Saudi Arabia told its personnel yesterday to act with caution and avoid military installations.

President Donald Trump on Tuesday said in a CBS News

interview that the US would act if Iran began hanging protesters.

"We will take very strong action if they do such a thing," he said.

"When they start killing thousands of people - and now you're telling me about hanging. We'll see how that's going to work out for them," Trump said.

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