

# Bahrain’s RHF Reaffirms Humanitarian Mission

- **24-year legacy honoured**
- **Empowerment through education, care**

**Mahir Haneef**  
TDT | Manama

A royal decree issued 24 years ago laid the foundation for what would become one of Bah-

rain’s leading humanitarian institutions. On the anniversary of its founding, the Royal Humanitarian Foundation (RHF) marked its journey from a royal initiative into a national force for social care, reaffirming its mission to support and empower widows and orphans across the Kingdom. Speaking on the occasion, H.E. Shaikh Ali bin Khalifa bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, Secretary-General of RHF, expressed pride in the organisation’s journey and evolution. Origi-

nally established as the Orphan Sponsorship Committee by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, who serves as RHF’s honorary president, the Foundation has since expanded into a comprehensive institution for humanitarian work. **National model** H.E. Shaikh Ali highlighted that the RHF’s model is rooted in values of compassion, solidarity, and justice. Over the years, the Foundation has worked to en-



H.E. Shaikh Ali bin Khalifa bin Mohammed Al Khalifa

sure that orphans and widows are not just recipients of aid, but active participants in a life of

dignity. This has been achieved through targeted support in education, healthcare, and skills development. Institutional backing has remained a key strength of RHF. Its work is guided by the directives of HM King Hamad, with the continued support of the government led by HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister. Strategic leadership is also provided by HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, HM’s Representative for Humanitarian Work and

Youth Affairs and Chairman of the Board of Trustees. H.E. noted that the RHF’s future goals align with Bahrain’s broader aspirations for a resilient and inclusive society, promising continued development of services that match the hopes of those it serves. As RHF enters its 25th year, the message from its leadership remains clear - humanitarian service is not simply about aid, but about nation-building through care, opportunity, and dignity.

## Health worker to face trial over forged pension report

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A civil servant accused of forging medical records to help a man claim early retirement will face trial later this month, the Public Prosecution announced Monday. The woman, who worked in the Ministry of Health’s medical committees division, is alleged to have entered false data into the ministry’s internal system, falsely stating that a patient had been assessed by a medical board, declared unfit for work, and referred for retirement. The record was then passed to the Social Insurance Organisation (SIO) to push through the pension. The case came to light after the ministry itself filed a complaint. Prosecutors took statements from staff at both the ministry and the SIO. A forensic examiner was called in to analyse the handwriting on the report and compare it to known samples from the suspect.

# Children’s rights

Young offenders to get daily sunlight and dignity under new social care guidelines

**Mohammed Darwish**  
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Children held over criminal cases or sent by prosecutors to social care homes will now be guaranteed daily sunlight, privacy, and access to proper meals under new rules issued by the Minister of Social Development, His Excellency Osama bin Saleh Al Alawi. The decision introduces a strict code for institutions responsible for housing young offenders, focusing on day-to-day care, education, and re-entry into society. Each child must receive three meals a day, along with snacks when needed. Denying food is allowed only on medical grounds. Time outdoors is required daily, with sunlight and fresh air part of the routine, provided



H.E. Osama Al Alawi, Minister of Social Development

safety is observed.

### Record

The rules demand a written record of nearly every aspect of a child’s time at the facility. These include logs of daily activity, entries on contact with family, and reports of complaints. Institutions must also assign a personal bed, hygiene kits, and



Image used for illustrative purposes only suitable clothing.

### Confidential

All records are considered confidential by law. The new code lays out rights for the children. They must be treated with dignity, kept safe from harm, and shielded from all forms of discrimination. They may practise their religion and file complaints without fear of retaliation.

### Contact

Children from overseas

must be allowed contact with their embassy or any relevant international body. Psychological, social, and academic help is to be provided throughout their stay. Care homes must involve the children in choosing rehabilitation activities to help build their self-worth and ease their return to community life. **Disabilities** Those with disabilities must be given additional support, including sign language interpretation and furniture suited to

their needs. Extra healthcare, such as speech therapy and physical treatment, is to be made available. One-on-one educational assistance is required where appropriate. From the moment a child arrives, the process begins. **Condition** The reception team, made up of psychologists and social workers, must assess the child’s condition, conduct health checks, and place them in the appropriate unit based on age, offence, and sentence. Essentials must be provided immediately. The regulations also define key terms to avoid confusion, including the Kingdom, the Ministry, the relevant department, the law, the rules, the child, the home, the director, and the referring authority. **Institutions** The second article sets out the purpose of these institutions. They are tasked with housing, caring for, and helping to rebuild the lives of children referred by courts or recommended by the Child Protection Centre. This includes schooling, therapy, social support, and preparation for life after release.

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**Shireen Al Sayed**  
Director of Payments Supervision Directorate  
**Central Bank of Bahrain**  
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## Man challenges life sentence for brick killing

### ● Hearing on 20 July

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A man sentenced to life in prison for killing his roommate with a brick as he prayed is challenging the verdict before the High Criminal Court, which has fixed 20 July for a hearing. The defendant, of Asian origin, also faces deportation once his sentence is served. The court had ordered the brick used in the killing to be confiscated.

### Attack

He denies any part in the attack. Prosecutors say he struck while his roommate was kneeling in prayer at their shared lodging, having already re-



The pathologist examined the brick and said the damage was consistent with its weight and surface.

solved to take his life. They allege he picked up a

red clay brick, waited for a quiet moment, then brought it down on the man’s head in a series of blows. A forensic report described fractured bones across the front and sides of the skull, a broken cheek, internal bleeding in the brain, torn tissue and the complete failure of heart and lungs. The pathologist told the court the injuries could not have resulted from a single blow. They were caused by repeated strikes, each delivered with force and intent. **Blood** One witness said he found the man standing over the body, brick still in hand, his arms and clothes stained with blood. Others said they heard screams and calls for help. One worker took the weapon from him.