

# Health Ministry employs 'only five psychologists'

Acute shortage coincides with the fact that there are 149 unemployed Bahraini trained psychologists

TDT | Manama  
Thamer Taifoor

There are only five Bahraini psychologists who're officially working under the Health Ministry, Tribune has learnt. And this means that one psychologist is in charge of 124,000 citizens.

This acute shortage coincides with the fact that there are 149 unemployed Bahraini trained psychologists, according to sources.

The functional difference between a psychologist and psychiatrist, according to Health Ministry, is that the latter is authorised to prescribe medications while a psychologist treats patients by suggesting changing their behaviours without prescribing any drug.

A Health Ministry source told Tribune: "The education of a psychiatrist is based on bioscience and brain and neuroscience sciences, while a psychologist's education mainly depends on behavior study.



The shortage of psychologists has led to delay in the treatment of many cases, sources say.

**60** psychologists (at least) should be newly recruited to address the existing shortage in the Health Ministry, according to sources.

"The mental health services in Bahrain are provided both psychiatrists and psychologists. A medical team that consists of psychiatrists and psychologists usually treats patients suffering from severe psychological problems.

"In addition to psychiatrists and psychologists, there is a group of supportive medical professions working in the field of mental health in Bahrain, such as sociologists who can

provide assistance to individuals and families on how to deal with psychological problems and can also give consultations to couples and families."

The source mentioned that Bahrain needs at least 60 psychologists in its public hospitals and health centres to cover the existing shortage, adding that each centre should have at least one psychologist, while five or more should be available in each hospital.

The source blamed the long-waiting periods for psychological consultations on the shortage of staff saying: "The delay in treating some cases makes their treatment more difficult. Most of these cases deteriorate because of the long-waiting period before being seen by an expert."

"Many graduates of psychology in Bahrain are unemployed. In 2013 alone, 40 psychologists graduated their master's from the University of Bahrain. Most of them studied in the fields of family guidance and psycholog-

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SOURCE

ical guidance.

"According to Labour and Social Development Ministry's list of job seekers, 149 psychology graduates and 215 sociology graduates from the University of Bahrain and other universities, are unemployed and all of them are qualified to work as psychologists," the source added.

## Court issues first 'undo damage' ruling

TDT | Manama  
Ali Tarif

In a first-of-its-kind ruling by a Lower Criminal Court, a Bahraini man convicted of robbery was ordered to pay BD1,500 to his victim within three months instead of serving jail time.

The defendant benefited from a new "undo damage" ruling which gives judges the power to replace imprisonment issued against criminals with a compensation to repair the damage inflicted on their victims.

The defendant is said to have stolen a bike worth BD1,500, which he later sold for BD70 only.

His involvement in the robbery was discovered thanks to security cameras installed in the area where the crime occurred.

"I was drunk and I hitchhiked because I wanted to return home. A driver offered me a lift and he dropped me after a short distance," the defendant told prosecutors.

"I saw the bike inside a building unattended. The key was hidden under the seat. I rode it to my house and used it for 17 days. I sold it later for BD70."

The defendant will have now to pay BD1,500 to the victim who purchased it for BD1,800 one year ago.

## Visa forgery case adjourned to communicate with LMRA

**The employee was put on trial on forgery charges. During questioning before the Public Prosecution, she branded the accusations against her as malicious.**

TDT | Manama  
Ali Tarif

The High Criminal Court has adjourned the case of a female employee accused of visa forgery to October 30, 2018, to assign the Public Prosecution to communicate with the Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA).

The defendant, an employee at a private school, is standing trial for issuing 17 work visas for foreigners using her employers' commercial registration, selling them for BD200 each and

**There were disputes between me and the school management and this is the reason why they have accused me of doing this.**

DEFENDANT

pocketing the money.

According to court files, the woman was working at the school for nearly 20 years, during which she committed the crime.

Her wrongdoing was discovered after a man went to the school to enquire about the reason behind an Arab woman's sponsorship.

The school administration informed him that the woman in question wasn't employed by

the school, but he provided them with official documents confirming his claims.

The female employee was responsible for registering workers for the school, and when she was quizzed on the reasons, she admitted to obtaining the visa for her own benefit.

"I got the visa for the Arab woman for BD200 because I was going through financial crisis," the employee told her superiors, pledging not to repeat it again.

Shortly after, however, another man went to the school and made a similar inquiry, but this time it involved an Arab man.

The employee was questioned again by the owners of the school and she told them she did it only twice. But, this time the owners went to the LMRA and inquired about this.

They were stunned by the truth of that the employee obtained 17 visas under the school and sold them for BD200 each, collecting BD3,400.

The employee was put on trial on forgery charges. During

questioning before the Public Prosecution, she branded the accusations against her as malicious.

"There were disputes between me and the school management and this is the reason why they

have accused me of doing this. I did everything based on their orders," she added.

The High Criminal Court asked the Public Prosecution to communicate with the LMRA to inquire about the issued visas.

## Asian woman jailed for selling drugs

TDT | Manama  
Ali Tarif

An Asian woman drug seller landed in the police net following a successful operation, which saw her selling drugs to an undercover police officer, it is learnt.

The defendant is said to have been selling shabu across the Kingdom and an undercover officer was assigned to nab her.

The officer contacted the woman and she offered to sell him shabu for BD20. Subsequently, the woman was arrested.

Upon inspecting the house of the suspect, police officers discovered that an illegal resident was staying with her.

Both women were put on trial before the High Criminal Court. While the suspect received three years sentence, the illegal resident was handed down six months in jail followed by immediate deportation. The suspect was also fined BD3,000.

### Kingdom of Bahrain

**Bahrain Authority for Culture & Antiquities**  
**Directorate Of Maintenance & Services**



The Directorate of Maintenance & Services invites quotations for the following tender :

Tender Title	Tender No.	Initial Bond	Tender Fees	Closing Date		
				Day	Date	Time
Printing Magazine ( Al Bahrain AL Thaqafia)	P7/2018	BD 500/-	BD 15/-	Monday	29 October 2018	9:00

- Those who are Capable and want to participate in the above tender has to call the Administration Services Section (Tel: 17298734) or (17299876) or (17299875) during the working hours on 15/10/2018. Last date for collection Tender documents is 29/10/2018 and to Enclose with his offer the Initial Bond for the amount specified above, or at the rate of 1% of the tender value whichever amount is lesser, provided that no initial bonds value shall be less than BD. 100/- . The initial bond should be in the form of a Certified Cheque, Bank Guarantee, cash or Insurance Policy valid for the duration specified in the tender documents.
- Offers should be deposited in the tender box provided at Bahrain National Museum.
- This tender should comply to the provisions of the General Tenders Regulations, no. (36) for the year 2002, and it's executive Regulations No. (37) for the year 2002.
- In addition these conditions has to be considered:
  - Enclose copy of the Commercial Registration Bill, for the current year, and has to be included/matched with the tender subjects.
  - Form no. (MOC 02) is to be filled completely, mentioning the Total Tender Value and Unit Price (accordingly).
  - Enclose a certificate of compliance with the employment percentages for Bahraini manpower issued by the Ministry of Labour.
  - All tender documents ( Original / Copy ) which has been submitted with the offers should be stamped with the company's Stamp.
- This advertisement is considered to be a supplementary to the tender Documents.