

Tenants Face Double Rent Burden

● Landlords face financial pressure

● Rent reduction or contract termination may be possible

TDT | Manama
Hasan Barakat

As regional tensions continue to affect daily life in Bahrain, the pressure is increasingly felt inside people's homes, forcing many tenants to make difficult choices between safety and financial responsibility.

Some families have left their homes suddenly, taking only essential belongings and locking their doors without knowing when they might return.

Despite the circumstances, lease agreements remain legally binding. Tenants are generally required to continue paying rent for the full contract period, even if they vacate the property early.

However, Bahraini lawyer Afaf Tarada notes that exceptional situations may influence how the law is applied.

"The lease remains valid as a rule," she said. "But if staying in the property becomes impossi-



“The lease remains valid as a rule, but each case must be evaluated individually.”

LAWYER AFAF TARADA

ble due to external conditions, each case must be evaluated individually.”

This means tenants cannot

simply stop paying rent without proper legal grounds.

For many residents, the financial strain is immediate. Families who relocated abruptly now face the burden of paying for two homes: one for safety and another they may no longer use.

"We left in one night. There was no time to think about the contract," one resident said.

Landlords are also under pressure, as many depend on rental income to meet their own financial obligations.

According to Tarada, tenants and landlords have three main options. The first is to reach a mutual agreement. The second depends on the lease contract, as some agreements include clauses allowing flexibility in exceptional circumstances. The third option is to seek a legal ruling.

"If the case goes to court, judg-

“We left in one night. There was no time to think about the contract.”

RESIDENT

es will decide whether the situation qualifies as force majeure or severe hardship," she explained.

Depending on the ruling, contracts may be terminated if fulfilling them becomes impossible, or rents may be reduced if the burden is deemed excessive.

Ultimately, the situation reflects a delicate balance. Tenants are seeking safety, landlords are protecting their income, and communities are navigating uncertainty together.

While the law provides a framework, fairness remains the true measure in such challenging times.

Bahrain Among “Exceptional Teammates”

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Ashen Tharaka

The commander of U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM), Admiral Brad Cooper, said military partnerships with regional allies across the Middle East are stronger than ever, highlighting close coordination on air defence and shared security commitments during the ongoing ceasefire period.

Speaking at a press conference in Washington, Cooper said his discussions with senior civilian and military leaders from allied nations reaffirmed a unified commitment to regional stability.

"My discussion with regional allies and partners, both at the senior civilian level and senior military level, reinforced a shared commitment to regional security," he said. He added that recent joint operations and shared experiences in the field further strengthened these relationships.

Cooper said U.S. forces are maintaining a "very active defence posture" across the region, stretching from northern Iraq through the Arabian Peninsula and into the northern Arabian Gulf. He described this as contributing to what he called "the largest air defence umbrella in the world" across the Middle East.

He noted that U.S. air defence specialists have been embedded



“We are maintaining a very active defence posture across the entire region during the ceasefire period.”

ADM. BRAD COOPER

alongside partner nation forces, working "side by side" to strengthen operational coordination. He also pointed to strong personal ties between Gulf leadership and deployed U.S. personnel, stating that Bahrain's King and Crown Prince were personally familiar with American service members working in the country.

According to Cooper, leaders across the Gulf have consistently expressed appreciation for U.S. troops and joint defence cooperation. He named Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Kuwait, and Jordan as "exceptional teammates" in regional security efforts.

Private Firms To Join Mosquito Control Drive

● Speed, coordination, and effectiveness

● Preventive measures at home are key

● Residents advised to use repellents

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Hasan Barakat

Council also recommends better reporting systems and faster response mechanisms. Demand for mosquito-control devices is increasing in local markets, with sales of swatters and traps rising.

Households are increasingly purchasing multiple devices, reflecting growing concern over

the issue.

Mosquito irritation is becoming an increasing daily concern across Bahrain, as complaints rise and residents report a growing presence of insects in homes and neighbourhoods.

What was once seen as a minor nuisance is now affecting everyday comfort more noticeably, with calls mounting for stronger and faster control measures.

In response, the Northern Municipal Council has recommended involving specialised private pest control companies to support public insect control operations. The aim is to improve response times and better contain local outbreaks.

Recommendation

The proposal, submitted by



“Prevention starts at home. Even small amounts of stagnant water can become breeding sites if left unattended.”



municipal member Mohammed Saad Al Doseri, comes amid pressure on existing resources and highlights the need for quicker and more targeted field action.

Health experts warn that the issue goes beyond discomfort. Dr Ameera Barakat, Consultant Family Physician at Dar Al Hayat Medical Centre, said mosquito bites are among the most common complaints in Bahrain, often causing itching, swelling, and in some cases infection or pain.

She also noted that vector-borne diseases account for more than 17 percent of infectious diseases globally, stressing the importance of prevention.

Prevention

According to Dr Barakat, prevention begins at home. Small overlooked sources such as stag-

nant water in buckets, drains, or outdoor containers can become breeding grounds. She advised regular cleaning of outdoor areas, covering water storage, maintaining drainage systems, and using mosquito repellents.

Protective clothing, especially light long sleeves, can also reduce exposure during peak mosquito activity. For those affected, she recommended basic care such as washing bite areas, applying cold compresses, and avoiding scratching to prevent infection.

Medical attention is advised if symptoms worsen or are accompanied by fever or fatigue. The council's recommendation also focuses on improving coordination and response systems, including faster reporting mechanisms, active hotlines, and stronger collaboration be-



tween relevant authorities to prevent escalation.

Market

Meanwhile, demand for pest control products is rising in local markets. During a field visit by The Daily Tribune, shops reported a sharp increase in customers purchasing mosquito-control devices.

Two main products are in demand: handheld electric swatters for direct use, and stationary electric traps designed to attract and eliminate insects continuously.

Retailers say many households are now buying both types together. Prices typically range between BD15 and BD50, with some families purchasing multiple units for different rooms, reflecting a shift toward more proactive household-level mosquito control.

3-Month Jail Term for Illegal Use of Subsidized Flour

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Rehab Mohammad

A bakery worker received a three-month jail sentence and a 250 Bahraini dinar fine for misusing government-subsidized flour.

The First High Criminal Court also ordered the confiscation of the seized flour after finding the defendant guilty of illegally handling a subsidized commodity in violation of the law.

According to case details, the incident occurred while the defendant was working at a bakery that had applied to benefit from the government's subsidized flour program through the Consumer Protection Directorate.

During an inspection visit, authorities discovered several bags of subsidized flour stored at the bakery. The seized items included 11 new blue bags, two new red bags, one opened red bag, three empty red bags, and one empty blue bag.

Investigators questioned the bakery worker and representatives of the business. The defendant stated that he received the flour from another bakery that was temporarily closed.

Authorities also found that part of the subsidized flour had been used in bread production before obtaining official approval from the Consumer Protection Directorate, which violates existing regulations.

The court issued its final verdict of a three-month prison sentence, a fine, and confiscation of the seized items.