

**Steve Harvey doesn't want to host Oscars**

TV host Steve Harvey says he is not interested in hosting the Oscars. In an interview to Entertainment Tonight, the 61-year-old comedian said that he would pass if such an opportunity presented itself, reports [dailymail.co.uk](http://dailymail.co.uk). **P13**



His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa yesterday patronised a ceremony marking the 47th National Day of Bahrain in the presence of His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Premier. In his message to the nation, His Majesty congratulated the people of Bahrain for their contributions towards nation development. His Majesty directed the newly-elected members of the parliament and municipal councils to put in all efforts for the welfare of people and the nation.

# Take nation to greater heights



His Majesty speaks at the National Day ceremony.

His Majesty directs lawmakers, officials to work towards the progress of nation

**Manama**  
His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa patronised, in the presence of His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown

Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Premier, a ceremony yesterday marking the kingdom's National Day celebrations, in commemoration of the establishment of the modern Bahraini state as an Arab and Muslim country founded by Ahmed Al Fateh in 1783, the 47th anniversary of its

full membership in the United Nations, and the 19th anniversary of HM the King's Accession to the Throne, On arrival at the Al Sakhir Palace, the artillery fired 21 rounds to salute HM the King, who was accompanied by a constellation of cavalry. HM King Hamad was wel-

comed by the Commander-in-Chief of the Bahrain Defence Force, Field Marshal Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, National Guard Commander, HH Shaikh Mohammed bin Isa Al Khalifa, and Interior Minister, Lieutenant-General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdulla Al Khalifa.

Speaking on the occasion, His Majesty thanked the citizens of the Kingdom for fulfilling national duties in the finest form by exercising their democratic rights. HM King Hamad wished the Shura, House of Representatives and municipal council members a new phase of work in service of nation.

"In light of the successive achievements and great joys witnessed by our country, we must commend here the fact that a Bahraini woman has become Speaker of the Council of Representatives, a great historic national achievement, of which we are very proud."

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NO IMPACT

## Bahrain defends Australia's decision on Jerusalem

Dubai

The foreign minister has defended Australia's formal recognition of West Jerusalem as Israel's capital, saying the move would not affect a future Palestinian state with east Jerusalem as its capital.

Australia's government announced the decision on Saturday, reversing decades of Middle East policy, but said it would not immediately move its embassy there.

The United States in May opened its embassy in Jerusalem.

"Australia's stance does not impact the legitimate Palestin-



“Australia's stance does not impact the legitimate Palestinian demands.”  
SHAIKH KHALID

ian demands, first among them being East Jerusalem as the capital of Palestine, and it does not contradict the Arab Peace Initiative," Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmed Al Khalifa tweeted on

Saturday. Shaikh Khalid has previously said Israel had the right to defend itself against Iran, which Bahrain blames for interfering in national affairs.

## UAE greets Bahrain



Burj Khalifa, the tallest structure in the world, was lighted up last night in red and white colours of Bahrain's national flag marking the Kingdom's 47th National Day and 19th anniversary of His Majesty's accession to the Throne. Yesterday, UAE President Shaikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan sent a cable of congratulations to His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa on Bahrain's National Day.