

# Borders Fall, Humanity Wins

Cross-border kindness brings them home

● Pakistani family left behind

● HOPE steps in with support

● Repatriation made before deadline

**Pradeep Puravankara**  
TDT | Manama

A Pakistani family torn apart by deportation has been reunited and sent home, thanks to the combined efforts of Bahrain's Indian expatriate community and diplomatic support from the concerned missions.

In an act that bridged national divides, the Indian-run humanitarian organisation HOPE stepped in to assist the family after the father was jailed and later deported. With no means of returning home, the wife and three children stayed with relatives and struggled to make ends meet, even as the children



The family is back home for good continued schooling in Bahrain.

### Quiet assistance

HOPE, a social service organisation led by Indian expatriates, began supporting the family with essential aid, including food kits. The family's situation remained unresolved, however, as two of the four members had expired passports and lacked the funds for travel.

Responding to HOPE's appeal, the Pakistani Embassy issued

emergency out-passes to enable the family's travel before Tuesday's deadline.

### Race against time

With travel documents secured, HOPE raised funds through community contributions to book air tickets for all four family members. Volunteers then accompanied the family to the airport and ensured they boarded their flight home to Pakistan.

The initiative was led by HOPE patron K.R. Nair, with President Shibu Pathanamthitta and Secretary Jayesh Kurup thanking all who supported what they described as "a mission of dignity and unity."

### Humanity above borders

The episode stands as a testament to how community compassion and timely diplomatic support can come together to restore dignity and deliver relief across national lines.

Their return was made possible by the shared efforts of expat volunteers and embassy officials acting in unison.

The Gulf is home to more than 15 million South Asian expatriates, making it one of the world's most diverse regions for grassroots humanitarian cooperation between communities.

## New mosques and prayer areas planned for Northern Governorate

● Council raises matter with Sunni Waqf Directorate

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A new mosque will be built in Block 1038, Road 3827 in Sadad, while further prayer facilities are being planned across Hamad Town's ninth constituency, Northern Municipal Council members have confirmed.

Zainab Al Durazi, councillor for the twelfth constituency, said the Sadad site was chosen after repeated requests from residents.

The Council raised the matter with the Sunni Waqf Directorate, which began preparations to get the project going.

The new mosque is expected to ease pressure on existing prayer spaces and serve families in the surrounding area, which has grown faster than the services currently in place.

### Holidays

Al Durazi said the building would also serve as a gathering place during Eid and public holidays, helping to bring neighbours together.

She added that the Council would keep a close watch on



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progress to ensure there are no delays.

In Hamad Town, councillor Abdulla Al Qubaisi said a meeting was held with the Jaafari Waqf, the Housing Ministry, the Survey and Land Registration Bureau, the town planning

authority, and a group of local residents to look into what was needed.

Two plots in Block 1205 are being reviewed for use as a mosque and a grand mosque, with a small roadside prayer cabin on Road 510 also under

discussion.

### Population

Al Qubaisi said Hamad Town was well-planned but needed more prayer space to match its rising population.

Parking is also proving difficult. Worshippers at the Fatima Al Zahraa Mosque in Block 1205 have asked for proper spaces to stop traffic build-up and random parking.

Al Qubaisi proposed turning a nearby garden into car bays.

A formal request will also go to the Ministry of Works for extra parking next to the Sayyida Khadija Grand Mosque on Road 564, while the Karim Ahl Al Bayt Mosque in Block 1207 is facing a similar shortage.

### Plan

The plan there is to add nearby land to the site and level the ground behind the mosque with a layer of asphalt to make room for more cars. Al Durazi thanked Minister of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Waqf Nawaf bin Mohammed Al Maawda for backing the Sadad mosque and praised Dr Rashid Al Hajri, Chairman of the Sunni Waqf Council, for helping move the plans forward.

Al Qubaisi said the steps in Hamad Town show how public bodies can work together to meet daily needs and improve services in growing areas.

## New sewage network completed in Al Qurayyah



Clean and safe road

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A new sewage network has been laid in Block 551 of Al Qurayyah, bringing the service to 63 properties.

The Ministry of Works said the job had been completed as part of its wider push to expand infrastructure across Bahrain.

Crews put in nearly 1.4 kilometres of main pipelines and a further 590 metres of smaller lines.

The work also involved 95 manholes, a pumping station, and a wastewater chamber

fitted with new pumps and valves.

### Pace

The ministry said it aimed to keep up with the pace of new homes and buildings by linking them to the network, helping to maintain clean and safe surroundings.

It also thanked residents and visitors for keeping to safety measures during the works.

The contract, worth BD489,920, went to Afaaq Alkhalij Excavation & Building Equipment Rental Company following a Tender Board decision.

## Healthcare achievement

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In a new achievement reflecting the Ministry of Health's commitment to enhancing laboratory service quality and strengthening its global standing, Bahrain's National Influenza Centre, under the Public Health Laboratories, has received certification from the World Health Organisation (WHO) for successfully completing the External Quality Assessment (EQA) for detecting influenza and COVID-19 viruses.

The centre earned the highest score for the 12th consecutive year since 2013.

This accomplishment un-

derscores Bahrain's leading role in the Eastern Mediterranean Region's acute respiratory infection surveillance network and highlights its commitment to sharing data with global reference centres in line with the highest technical and laboratory standards.

Dr. Samia Ali Bahram, Assistant Undersecretary for Public Health, said that this international recognition underscores the competence of national teams in accurately detecting and analysing respiratory viruses, and emphasises the readiness of Bahrain's health system to respond swiftly to health emergencies and epidemics.

### Electrical cable theft



The Muharraq Governorate Police Directorate has arrested two Asian nationals, aged 31 and 42, for attempting to steal electrical cables from under-construction houses in east Hidd. The Directorate stated that, upon receiving a case on the incident, immediate search and investigation procedures were launched, leading to the identification of the suspects and their arrest in the act. Legal procedures have been taken in preparation to refer the case to the Public Prosecution.

### Warehouse blaze



Civil Defense teams swiftly brought a warehouse fire under control in the Al-Hajiyat area, with no injuries or casualties reported. According to initial reports, the blaze is believed to have been caused by negligence.