

Tribute paid to martyrs of duty

His Majesty pays homage to fallen servicemen who sacrificed their lives in defence of nation

Manama

A tribute was paid to the brave martyrs who fell in the line of duty since the establishment of Bahrain, yesterday.

"The martyrs sacrificed their lives for the sake of the homeland and fell in the line of duty as they were serving the nation,"

said His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

He saluted the national heroes who embody the value of courage and sacrifice, becoming a source of pride for Bahrain and role model for the coming generations.

HM King Hamad, the Supreme Commander, paid homage to the martyrs of duty as he

patronised a ceremony marking the Commemoration Day.

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Premier attended the commemorative event at the Al Sakhir Palace.

HM the King was received on arrival by BDF Command-



His Majesty

er-in-Chief Field Marshal Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, National Guard Commander Lieutenant-General Shaikh Mohammed bin Isa Al Khalifa and Interior Minister Lt Gen Shaikh Rashid bin Abdulla Al Khalifa.

"The 17th of December will always remain an honourable occasion in our national march, symbolising pride in those Bahrainis who fell in the line of duty, at home and abroad, for the sake of right and justice," he said.

He paid homage to the martyrs of duty who sacrificed their lives to defend national security and sovereignty, combat terrorism and extend a helping hand to those in dire need in a dedicated move stemming from the Islamic teachings and authentic Bahraini values, thus following the steps of fathers and forefathers.

HM the King paid tribute to the martyrs' families which are as brave as their beloved who fell in the line of duty, defending their homeland, hailing their courage, resilience and patriotism.

His Majesty commended loyal citizens who remained cohesive and showed sympathy and solidarity with the martyrs' of duty in closed-knit and united homeland.

His Majesty prayed to Allah the Almighty to rest the martyrs' souls in eternal peace, in vastest paradise, paying tribute to their families and relatives and wishing Bahrain further progress and prosperity.

HM the King, accompanied by HRH the Crown Prince, headed to the

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HIS MAJESTY

National Action Charter Monument where he shook hands with senior officers marking the Commemoration Day.

The senior officers expressed deepest congratulations to HM the King, the Supreme Commander, on the occasion of the Kingdom's National Day celebrations on 16 and 17 of December, marking the anniversary of the establishment of the modern state of Bahrain as an Arab and Muslim country in 1783 by its founder Ahmed Al Fateh, the 47th Anniversary of its accession to the UN as a full member and the 19th Anniversary of HM the King's Accession to the Throne.

HM the King then headed to the main platform and the national anthem – Al Salam Al Malaki – was played on the occasion of the Commemoration Day.

HM the King earlier watered the palm-tree, which is considered the symbol of eternal life. The artillery also fired one shot and a minute of silence was observed. A second artillery shot was then fired. Verses of the Holy Quran were also recited.

Court of Cassation Sharia Department chairman and Al Fateh Mosque Imam Shaikh Adnan bin Abdulla Al Qattan also delivered a speech paying homage to the martyrs of duty.

He praised HM King Hamad for dedicating the 17th of December to be marked every year as the Commemoration Day, in tribute to the martyrs of duty.

His Majesty thanks citizens

● **HM the King paid tribute to the martyrs who sacrificed their lives and fell in the line of duty, thus embodying the spirit of belonging and patriotism at its best.**

Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa expressed deepest thanks and appreciation to all those who attended and participated in the festivities on the occasion of Bahrain's National Day celebrations.

Under directives from HM the King, the Royal Court Minister extended thanks to members of the Royal Family, heads and members of all state entities, constitutions establishments, members of the diplomatic corps, heads and members of the municipal councils and private companies. HM the King also thanked citizens, at home and abroad, heads of political associations, public interest societies, heads and members of national clubs, sport federations, chief editors of local newspapers and various media outlets as well as residents in Bahrain.

His Majesty thanked them for their congratulations through cables, calls, press ads and street banners, celebrations, festivals and marches, poems, articles, radio and TV interviews, wishing Bahrain lasting security, stability and prosperity.

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