

CAPTAINS CORNER

Abraham Accords are a vote for future peace



CAPT. MAHMOOD AL MAHMOOD

September 15 marked the first anniversary of the landmark Abraham Accords which changed the course of Arab-Israeli relations and paved the way for a future of possible peace, progress and prosperity. Of course, this is just the first step in a long journey. After all, the Arabs and Jews have an acrimonious history of over 100 years behind them and even after the Abraham Accords, we saw bitter fighting which left hundreds of Palestinians homeless, struggling to piece together a life when their infrastructure was shot through.

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Bahrain is uniquely positioned to support and nurture peace moves between Jews and Arabs – the Kingdom is home to the oldest continuing indigenous Jewish community in the Gulf and the heritage of cohesive co-existence shows in the fact that the Bahraini Jews are among the most active in business and – compared to their small numbers – take part in government also. Ambassador Houda Nonoo successfully represented Bahrain as top diplomat in America and broke many misconceptions about Arab Jews.

Clearly there is a lot to do still to dismantle the hesitant acceptance of what the Abraham Accords represent. The agreement is part of a long line of multinational efforts to bring peace to Israeli-Arab relations. The Camp David agreement (1979), the Oslo Agreement (1993) also sent out signals of peace in their time. What is different today is that two GCC countries – the UAE and Bahrain – have boldly set aside their reservations and voted for peace for the future. Dialogue is the answer to better understanding and we all have a stake in ensuring our children and younger generation are not left behind by the tide of progress.

Our goal through the Abraham Accords must be to build a critical mass of public opinion for peace and gradually create a political and diplomatic environment that will eschew violence as a path to settling issue.

(Captain Mahmood Al Mahmood is the Editor-in-Chief of The Daily Tribune and the President of the Arab-African Unity Organisation for Relief, Human Rights and Counterterrorism)

When the fall begins

TDT | Manama

Come this Wednesday, and Bahrain will have its first signs of Autumn.

Meaning, summer is departing from the island after 93 long days, 15 hours and 49 minutes of roasting, toasting and boiling.

To be precise, at 10:21 pm next Wednesday, it will be over, says Ali Al Hajari, an astronomer and researcher.

This date marks the start of fall (North American usage) in the Northern Hemisphere and spring in the Southern Hemisphere.

In other words, the autumnal equinox, or the September or Fall equinox, is the start of the fall season in the Northern Hemisphere and the spring in the Southern Hemisphere.

The change is also quick as the Irish proverb goes, "Autumn days come quickly, like the running of a hound on the moor."

But, Autumn is more subtle



Ali Al Hajari



The word "equinox" comes from Latin *aequus*, meaning "equal," and *nox*, "night." On the equinox, day and night are roughly equal in length.

For the English-speaking world, the Autumn traditionally begins with Lammas Day and ends around Hallowe'en- the approximate mid-points between midsummer, the autumnal equinox, and midwinter

than summer, and it is full of beginnings, especially for children, who get new books, clothes and, of course, new thoughts.

Not to say about the leaves that return to earth and feed more trees. As they say, but falling is all

about starting again. The most crucial factor that influences temperature changes throughout the year is the tilt of the axis of Earth relative to the Sun, says Al Hajari.

The Autumn, Al Hajari said, does not have any significant effect,

except for in the agricultural areas and the feeling of coolness at night.

Relatively cold temperatures arrive by the end of October, with days that continues to remain hot.

The air cools during the day-time by the end of November.

After the autumnal equinox, the Sun begins to rise later, and night-fall comes sooner. This phenomenon ends with the December solstice as the days grow longer and nights shorter.

Housing ministry hands over home keys in Al Buhair project

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Handing over of finished units to beneficiaries have begun by the Ministry of Housing in the Al Buhair housing project.

Eligible citizens will receive notification to complete necessary procedures.

Al Buhair project, Housing Ministry said, is one of the projects that come within its plan to implement the Royal order to create 40,000 housing units.

The ministry has gone to a great extent for this project, especially in clearing the waste and preparing the land, which also benefits



In pictures, handover ceremony of housing units in Al Buhair project



people in adjacent areas.

The project, in its first phase,

has 227 housing units, and facilities including places of worship,

open areas for children, pedestrian and bicycle paths.

Monica Srivastava inaugurates "BKS Akshayapathram"

TDT | Manama

Monica Srivastava, the wife of the Ambassador of India to Bahrain, Piyush Srivastava, yesterday inaugurated "BKS Akshayapathram", a free food distribution programme by Bahrain Keraleeya Samajam.

The programme will continue distributing food parcels every Friday, said BKS President PV Radhakrishna Pillai and General Secretary Varghese Karakal.

Inaugurating the event, Monica Srivastava said she would be part of this worthy cause by cooking



Monica Srivastava with BKS and Indian Embassy officials during the event

and delivering food for the community on Fridays.

Ijaz Aslam, the Third Secretary

of Embassy of India, Dr Babu Ramachandran (ICRF Chairman), Samajam Vanithavedi commit-

tee members and BKS Executive Committee members were present.

New Millennium School 2nd language week



New Millennium School celebrated 'Second Language Week' (Hindi, Arabic & French) from 12th to 16th September 2021 with several activities. Students recited self-composed poems, designed advertisements and flashcards, presented standup comedy and participated in a quiz competition on French culture and other activities. Principal Arun Kumar Sharma, Chairman Dr Ravi Pillai and Managing Director Geetha Pillai congratulated students and the Language Departments.