

Eid Al-Adha Holiday Announced

TDT | Manama

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, today issued a circular regarding the Arafah and Eid Al-Adha holidays.

According to the circular, the Kingdom's ministries and public institutions will close on the Day of Arafah and during Eid Al-Adha, corresponding to Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, May 26-29. As the official holidays coincide with a Friday, they will be compensated with an additional day off on Sunday, 31 May.

Bahrain suspends entry of non-citizens from Ebola-hit countries

TDT | Manama

Bahrain announced a temporary suspension on the entry of non-Bahraini travellers arriving from South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Uganda, following renewed concerns over the spread of Ebola, authorities said on Tuesday.

The Civil Aviation Affairs said the decision takes effect immediately, May 19, 2026, and applies to all flights coming from the three countries, as well as passengers who have been present in them within the past 30 days.

The move comes in response to updated assessments by the World Health Organization regarding Ebola outbreaks and the evolving epidemiological situation in the affected regions.

Authorities said Bahraini citizens arriving from the listed countries would not be barred, but would instead be subject to established health protocols upon entry at Bahrain International Airport.

220 fils (includes VAT)



Global Coexistence Milestone

Guinness World Records certificate highlights Bahrain's religious diversity

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa received Dr. Shaikh Abdulla bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, Minister of Transportation and Telecommunications and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the King Hamad Global Centre for Coexistence and Tolerance.

Dr. Shaikh Abdulla presented His Majesty the King with a Guinness World Records certificate recognising the Kingdom of Bahrain as the country with the highest density of places of worship for different religions. The achievement reflects Bahrain's longstanding reputation for religious tolerance and coexistence.



His Majesty the King was also briefed on the centre's current and future plans, including preparations for the first edition

of the King Hamad Award for Coexistence and Tolerance. His Majesty directed that the Coexistence Path, which comprises



places of worship across Manama, be highlighted as a symbol of the Kingdom's commitment to religious and cultural diversity.

His Majesty commended the prestigious international achievement, which reflects the Kingdom's unique civilisational character, its pluralism, and embrace of different religions and sects in an environment of tolerance and religious freedom. It also reflects the Kingdom's commitment to guaranteeing freedom of worship and the protection of all faiths.

His Majesty the King also noted that Bahrain continually seeks to strengthen a culture of coexistence and cultural understanding between cultures and civilisations, and to promote the values of peace and mutual respect among peoples of different cultures and beliefs.

Shared Cooperation Goals

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa received a written message from His Excellency Mohamed Ould Cheikh Al Ghazouani, President of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, concerning close bilateral relations between the two countries, means to further develop and strengthen cooperation, and issues of mutual interest.

The message was delivered to His Majesty the King by Mohamed Salem Ould Merzoug, Minister of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Mauritania's Abroad, during a meeting



with His Majesty and the minister's accompanying delegation. Minister Merzoug conveyed the greetings of HE the Mauri-

tanian President, and wished for further progress and prosperity for the Kingdom of Bahrain and its people.

His Majesty extended his greetings and best wishes to HE President Al Ghazouani, wishing further development and prosperity for Mauritania and its people.

His Majesty the King expressed appreciation for Mauritania's positions under the leadership of HE the President, and for the sincere expressions of solidarity His Excellency conveyed towards the Kingdom regarding the recent Iranian attacks.

His Majesty the King commended the longstanding relations between Bahrain and Mauritania and their development across various areas of coopera-

tion, amid both countries' commitment to strengthening ties for the benefit of their peoples.

For his part, the Mauritanian Foreign Minister expressed gratitude to His Majesty the King for the warm reception and hospitality, and for His Majesty's commitment to strengthening relations between the two countries.

He reiterated Mauritania's full solidarity with Bahrain and its strong condemnation of the Iranian attack on the Kingdom, as well as its support for Bahrain in all measures undertaken to protect its security, stability and sovereignty.

Strategic Financial Partnership Reviewed

HRH Crown Prince highlights initiatives to boost financial sector contribution to national economy

TDT | Manama

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, met with Douglas B. Petno, Co-CEO of the Commercial and Investment Bank of JPMorgan Chase, at Riffa Palace.

His Royal Highness highlighted the critical role of the banking and financial sector in advancing the Kingdom's economic diversification.

In this regard, HRH the

Crown Prince and Prime Minister underscored the importance of creating initiatives and programmes that advance the banking sector's contributions to the national economy, in line with the Kingdom's comprehensive development, led by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister noted the importance of strengthening strategic partnerships with global financial and banking institutions through expanded coop-

eration and expertise exchange supporting the development of financial services and economic growth.

During the meeting, several issues of mutual interest and the latest global economic developments were also discussed.

For his part, Petno expressed his appreciation for His Royal Highness' unwavering support in strengthening the Kingdom's financial and banking sector and bolstering Bahrain's investment environment.



A PREMIER ADDITION TO AL HILAL
Al Hilal Premier Hospital

The 10th Branch Of Al Hilal Healthcare Group
 Trusted Care & Premier Experience

Priority Laws Reviewed



His Royal Highness the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, chaired the 534th meeting of the Government Executive Committee. The committee reviewed priority draft laws, measures to address rising mosquito populations, regulatory issues related to several professions, and matters concerning small and medium enterprises in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Bahrain, Mauritania Pledge Deeper Diplomatic Coordination

TDT | Manama

Bahrain and Mauritania reaffirmed their close bilateral ties on Tuesday during high-level talks in Manama, where both sides discussed strengthening cooperation and enhancing coordination in regional and international forums.

Dr. Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani, Minister of Foreign Affairs received Mohamed Salem Ould Merzoug, envoy of the President of Mauritania at the Foreign Ministry.

The Foreign Minister expressed gratitude for Mauritania's backing of Bahrain's position at the United Nations Security Council, particularly its support for Resolution 2817, which Bahrain submitted in response to what it described as



H.E. Dr. Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani with H.E. Mohamed Salem Ould Merzoug

Iranian attacks targeting Bahrain, GCC states, and Jordan. He further commended Mauritania's support for Bahrain's efforts to safeguard freedom of navigation in the Strait of Hormuz during its non-permanent tenure on the Security Council.

Both ministers reviewed the historical ties binding the two

countries and explored avenues for expanding cooperation in economic, trade, and social sectors.

They also emphasized continued consultation and mutual support in international nominations and reinforced coordination in multilateral diplomacy.

Bahrain Opens Pavilion at WUF13

Minister highlights Kingdom's development model under national leadership



H.E. Amina bint Ahmed Al Rumaihi with distinguished guests and participants

- The forum gathered 28,000 participants from 172 countries
- Theme focused on safe and resilient housing and cities
- Showcased the Muharraq Development Project



TDT | Manama

Minister of Housing and Urban Planning, Amina bint Ahmed Al Rumaihi, took part on Tuesday in the official opening of the 13th session of the World Urban Forum (WUF13) in Baku, which brought together more than 28,000 participants from 172 countries.

The forum, themed "Housing the World: Safe and Resilient Cities and Communities," was inaugurated in the presence of Ilham Aliyev, alongside senior government officials and representatives of international organisations, including UN-Habitat.

The minister noted that the

forum serves as a key global platform to exchange expertise and develop innovative solutions to housing challenges, aligning with Bahrain's economic vision and national development programmes.

Al Rumaihi added that this year's edition carries particular importance as it represents one of the leading international platforms shaping the future of cities and aligning housing policies with the New Urban Agenda.

She said the forum's theme aligns closely with Bahrain's priorities of building sustainable and resilient urban communities.

As part of the event, Bahrain inaugurated its national pa-

vilion, which attracted strong interest from international delegations.

The pavilion highlights the "Muharraq Development Project" as a model combining modern urban planning with heritage preservation.

It also showcases the digitisation of housing services through the "Bayti" platform, as well as the expansion of the Government Land Development Rights Programme, which supports the delivery of social housing in partnership with private developers.

The minister said the pavilion provides an opportunity to exchange best practices with global policymakers and urban experts gathered at the forum.

Dr. Fouzia Aljeeb retires after 20 years at Shura Council

Council leadership praises decades of contribution to institutional development

Rehab Mohammad
TDT | Manama

Shura Council honoured Dr. Fouzia Aljeeb, Advisor to the Chairman and Head of the Gender Balance Committee, on the occasion of her retirement after more than two decades of service.

The Council's General Secretariat held the recognition ceremony, which was attended by senior officials and members of the Shura Council, including the First and Second Deputy Chairmen, as well as staff from the Secretariat.

Shura Council Chairman Ali bin Saleh Al Saleh praised DR. fouzia




Shura Council Chairman Ali bin Saleh Al Saleh with Dr. Fouzia Aljeeb

Aljeeb's long-standing contribution since joining the Council in 2005, describing her as a model of professionalism and dedication.

He said her work played an important role in supporting the Council's operations and improving institutional performance.





The Shura Council Secretariat is advancing development initiatives to modernise Bahrain's legislative work and improve efficiency, in line with national directives, while reporting strong progress in implementing its 2024-2026 strategy.



Active in Sports or Gym Workouts?

Advanced Ayurvedic Therapy for Sports Injury Management & Recovery





For Men & Women

Massage (Any Part) – BD 10

3-Day Recovery Program – BD 40

Includes Doctor Consultation



Dr. Athulya Unnikrishnan

Alternative Medicine Practitioner (Ayurveda)

For Appointments 3683 0777 Hidd

“Gulf stability is global necessity”

Minister delivers keynote at Abu Dhabi Global Sustainable Security Summit 2026

● **Calls for stronger international coordination against cybercrime**

● **Praises Bahrain's digital governance**

● **Highlights Gulf role as cornerstone of global economy**

TDT | Manama

Bahrain's Interior Minister General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa reaffirmed the “deep-rooted” ties between Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates during an official visit to Abu Dhabi, where he also delivered the opening address at a major international security summit.

The visit, conducted within the framework of longstanding bilateral relations, highlighted what the minister described as the “solid brotherly bonds” between the two Gulf nations, underpinned by the leadership of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and UAE President Shaikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

Shaikh Rashid reiterated Bahrain's full solidarity with the UAE and support for measures aimed at safeguarding its sovereignty and stability, while praising close

security coordination between the two countries.

“The stability of the Gulf is no longer solely a regional concern, but an international necessity,” he said in his keynote speech at the Abu Dhabi Global Sustainable Security Summit 2026, held alongside the International Exhibition for National Security and Resilience (ISNR 2026).

He said the Gulf region has become central to global stability, stressing that threats such as cybercrime, extremism and transnational criminal networks require deeper international cooperation and faster security coordination.

Shaikh Rashid also said Bahrain and the UAE have demonstrated that sustainable security depends on long-term strategy rather than short-term responses,

adding that modern security must integrate governance, technology, legislation and public awareness.

He highlighted Bahrain's experience in digital governance and crisis management, including the use of real-time performance monitoring systems and national cybersecurity strategies, describ-

ing data as a “strategic resource” for modern state security.

During his visit, the minister toured the ISNR 2026 exhibition, reviewed advanced security technologies and praised the UAE's organisational capabilities. He also attended the graduation of a joint Bahrain-UAE child protec-

tion training programme aimed at enhancing expertise in safeguarding children online and in society.

The exhibition, featuring hundreds of companies from dozens of countries, also serves as a platform for discussions on emerging security challenges, artificial intelligence, and national resilience strategies.



Bahrain Ranked High for AI and Cybersecurity

TDT | Manama
Mohammed Darwish

Bahrain has been ranked among the Arab world's strongest performers for government readiness in artificial intelligence and the use of new technology in public services, a UN report has found.

The Kingdom was also placed in the top global tier for cybersecurity in the 2026 Annual Review of the Sustainable Development Goals, issued by the UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia.

The report, which looked at AI policies for social inclusion across the Arab region, said Arab states scored an average of 39 out of 100 in the 2025 Government AI Readiness Index, against a world average of 41.

Bahrain came among the leading Arab countries in the index, behind Saudi Arabia and the UAE, and ahead of Kuwait, Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia, Iraq and Mauritania.

The review said Bahrain also scored highly in the 2024 Online and Mobile Government Services Maturity Index, which covers the use of AI and other new tools in public services.

It said the Kingdom was among a small group of Arab countries that had worked on the infrastructure and training needed to bring such tools into government work.

Over 10,500 loans issued under women's support portfolio



TDT | Manama

The Supreme Council for Women held a meeting on Tuesday with a microfinance company to explore ways to further develop soft financing solutions for Bahraini women entrepreneurs.

The meeting brought together Lulwa Al Awadhi, Secretary-General of the Supreme Council for Women, and Professor Badruddin Abdulrahim, Acting CEO of Al Eibdaa Microfinance Company.

Discussions focused on strengthening cooperation between the two sides and expanding access to tailored financial solutions aimed at supporting women-led enterprises in Bahrain.

Al Awadhi stressed the council's continued commitment to monitoring and evaluating the

impact of the “Shaikha Sabika bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa Portfolio” for supporting women's business activities, ensuring the effectiveness and sustainability of soft financing initiatives designed for Bahraini women entrepreneurs.

During the meeting, representatives from Al Eibdaa presented an update on the portfolio's operational progress, highlighting that 10,568 loans have been issued since its launch.

According to the data, the total value of financing reached 12,590,743.623 Bahraini dinars, with the portfolio being rotated more than 12 times since its establishment in 2010.

The session also addressed the importance of identifying and assessing challenges faced by certain projects to improve performance and outcomes.

Trafficker Extradited To Bahrain

As part of efforts to enhance international cooperation and coordination in combating organised and cross-border crimes and pursuing their perpetrators, the Interior Ministry announced that the International and Interpol Affairs Directorate of the General Directorate of Anti-Corruption and Economic and Electronic Security, in cooperation with the Interior Ministry of the brotherly Saudi Arabia, had received an Asian suspect wanted in the Kingdom of Bahrain in a case involving the possession of

narcotic substances and psychotropic substances with intent to traffic.

The ministry expressed appreciation to the Saudi Interior Ministry for its cooperation and for arresting the wanted suspect after a temporary arrest request was issued through the Arab Interior Ministers Council.

The Directorate said the wanted suspect was handed over by the concerned security mission, in accordance with the agreements and legislation regulating international security cooperation.



From
The Court

TDT | Manama
Rehab Mohammad

Court orders BD 15,000 compensation in traffic accident disability case

Victim suffers lasting injuries including fractures and rib damage

The High Civil Court ordered an insurance company and a driver to jointly pay BD 15,000 in compensation to a traffic accident victim who suffered a permanent disability of 30 percent, in addition to court fees and legal costs.

Court ruled that the driver and the insurance company must jointly and severally pay the compensation after finding the accident resulted from the driver's negligence. The vehicle involved was insured by the defendant company.

Court documents show the driver had already been convicted in criminal proceedings

and sentenced to three months in prison and a BD 500 fine. The ruling became final after his appeal was rejected, leading the victim to file a civil compensation case.

According to the case, the victim sustained serious injuries, including fractures to the right leg, head and hand injuries, as well as damage to the ribs and joints. The plaintiff continues to undergo medical treatment, while medical committees assessed the permanent disability at 30 percent.

The insurance company argued that the claim was time-barred. However, the court

noted that limitation periods in civil claims related to criminal acts are suspended until criminal proceedings conclude and resume only after a final judgment.

The court awarded BD 14,000 for physical injuries and permanent disability, and BD 1,000 for moral damages including pain and suffering, bringing the total compensation to BD 15,000. It also imposed 3 percent annual interest on the insurance company, calculated from the filing date until full payment, in addition to court expenses, translation fees, medical assessment costs, and legal fees.

Asian Woman Jailed Five Years For Human Trafficking

Court orders BD 3,000 fine and permanent deportation after sentence

First High Criminal Court sentenced an Asian woman to five years in prison after convicting her in a human trafficking case, authorities said.

The court also imposed a BD 3,000 fine and ordered her permanent deportation from the Kingdom after completing her prison term. Additionally, she was ordered to cover the costs of returning the victim to her home country.

According to the Deputy Chief Prosecutor of the Human

Trafficking Prosecution, the case began after the Anti-Human Trafficking Directorate at the General Directorate of Criminal Investigation and Forensic Science received a report about the incident.

Investigations revealed that the defendant deceived the victim by offering her a job in Bahrain. However, once she arrived in the country, she was allegedly confined to an apartment and threatened to force her into unlawful activities.

The prosecution said it im-

mediately launched an investigation after receiving the report. The victim's statement was recorded, and she was placed in a shelter under the National Committee to Combat Human Trafficking for protection and support.

The accused was interrogated and detained during the investigation. Authorities also collected statements from investigating officers and conducted further inquiries to establish the case's circumstances.

Prosecutors seek maximum penalty in fake certificate institute case

The head of the Cybercrime Prosecution called for the maximum penalty against the owner of an educational institute accused of issuing forged academic certificates, during proceedings before Bahrain's Third Minor Criminal Court.

The prosecution presented its case using a digital visual presentation supported by artificial intelligence tools, outlining the sequence of events and investigation findings.

According to the prosecution, the case involves an unlicensed institute that allegedly issued fake academic certificates for money.

Investigators said searches of the premises uncovered additional forged certificates, official-looking seals, documents, tools used in the alleged forgery operation, financial records and digital evidence. This included communications with an individual outside the country who reportedly requested the preparation of certificates.

The institute had no legal licence to operate or issue academic qualifications, the prosecution said.

The head of prosecution argued that the conduct went beyond forgery and fraud, describing it as an attack on the credibility of academic qualifications and the integrity of the education system.

Bahrain Hajj Mission ramps up operational plans for pilgrims

Healthcare, transport and security measures activated

Hasan Barakat
TDT | Manama

Bahrain's Hajj Mission has intensified preparations for the Hajj season as pilgrims begin arriving in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

A coordination meeting chaired by Shaikh Adnan bin Abdullah Al Qattan, Head of Bahrain's Hajj Mission, reviewed the readiness of committees and the implementation of operational plans for Hajj 1447 AH / 2026.

The meeting discussed transportation arrangements between the holy sites, crowd movement plans, healthcare and preventive measures, communication with Bahrain's Hajj campaigns, and organisational and media preparations.

Shaikh Adnan Al Qattan stressed the importance of strong coordination between all



Our priority is the safety of every pilgrim. We also urge pilgrims to remain patient and fully cooperate with organisers.

LT COL FATIMA AL MUJAIREN, HEAD OF THE COMMUNICATION AND COORDINATION BRANCH AT THE GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF CIVIL DEFENCE



Preparation meeting

phase, especially with pilgrims arriving in Saudi Arabia.

He praised the efforts of teams working across the mission's different locations, noting that the mission operates through

an integrated system to ensure pilgrims receive safe and organised services.

Following the meeting, Shaikh Adnan inspected preparations by several committees, including

the medical committee, which is preparing clinics in Makkah and the holy sites to provide healthcare services for Bahraini pilgrims.

He also reviewed security

plans linked to pilgrim safety, inspections and the supervision of movement inside the holy sites.

Meanwhile, Lieutenant Colonel Fatima Al Mujairen, Head of the Communication and Coordination Branch at the General Directorate of Civil Defence, urged pilgrims to follow safety instructions issued by Bahraini and Saudi authorities.

Speaking on the radio programme "Sabah Al Khair Ya Bahrain", she advised pilgrims to cooperate with organisers and campaign supervisors and avoid the unsafe use of electrical devices and overloaded connections inside camps to prevent fires and electrical accidents.

She also stressed the importance of cleanliness, avoiding overcrowding and following public safety measures at accommodation sites and holy areas.

Workforce Growth Talks



Bahrain's Minister of Labour and Minister of Legal Affairs, Yousif bin Abdulhussain Khalaf, met with James Kennedy, regional director of Alshaya Group, to discuss strengthening cooperation in employing and professionally developing Bahraini nationals. The meeting was attended by Human Resources Director Ayman Jaafar and a number of young Bahraini professionals working within the group. Minister underscored the importance of expanding partnerships with private sector companies that support the recruitment and advancement of national talent, stating that such cooperation creates quality opportunities for citizens and supports the long-term growth of Bahrain's labour market.

Minister of Municipalities and Agriculture, Wael bin Nasser Al Mubarak, held talks in Paris on strengthening international cooperation in animal health and food security, as he attended the 93rd General Session of the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH). The minister met WOAH Director General Emmanuelle Soubeyran to discuss joint efforts aimed at enhancing the capacities of member states, improving veterinary health systems, and expanding technical cooperation in the field of animal of Youssef Ahmed Al Eissa, Chief Executive of the Equestrian Affairs Authority, also attended the meeting.



Bahrain Unity Gathering



Engineer Ebrahim Dalhan Aldoseri, Acting Secretary-General of the Royal Humanitarian Foundation, participated in a gathering of the Al-Dawasir tribe held to renew loyalty and allegiance to His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, King of Bahrain. The meeting was attended by several dignitaries, including His Excellency Sheikh Isa bin Ali Al Hassan Al Doseri, Deputy Sheikh of the Al-Dawasir Tribe in Dammam and Bahrain, and His Excellency Sheikh Mefreh bin Hassan Al Khuraish Al-Aajmi. During the gathering, Aldoseri said Bahrain continues to serve as a strong example of national unity and cohesion, crediting the country's leadership and the solidarity of its people.

Human Story from Dhaka Earns Bahraini Photographer Top Prize

Neethu V
TDT | Manama

Bahraini photographer Isa Ibraheem won first prize in the Egypt Best Press Photo 2025 competition in the category of Best Daily Life Photo Outside Egypt, marking a notable achievement for Bahraini photojournalism on the regional stage.

The competition attracted more than 300 photographers, selecting 40 winners overall, including 10 participants from outside Egypt. Four judging panels comprising 18 judges reviewed the entries.

Ibraheem's winning photograph captures a deeply human moment: a woman bathing her disabled husband in the slums of Dhaka, Bangladesh. The image was praised for its emo-



Award-winning photo by Issa Ibraheem captures a woman caring for her disabled husband



Isa Ibraheem

tional depth and its reflection of values such as care, loyalty, and resilience in challenging living conditions.

The Egypt Best Press Photo exhibition is regarded as one of the region's leading annual photojournalism events. It documents key moments and stories from 2025 through powerful visual storytelling across multiple categories, including news, sports, photo stories, daily life, and multimedia entries from both Egypt and abroad.



Heritage Art Celebrated



The "Echoes of Heritage" group art exhibition was held yesterday, showcasing a vibrant collection of paintings by Bahrain-based artists that celebrated heritage, culture, and artistic expression. As part of the event, certificates were distributed to participating artists during a ceremony that was attended by P. Unnikrishnan, Chairman of The Daily Tribune, and Latha Unnikrishnan, Director of SPAC W.L.L.



Bahrain Wins Arab Scout Support Condemning Iran Attacks

Delegates at Morocco gathering unanimously backed Bahrain's proposal on regional stability



● Arab scouts discuss future events

● Bahrain calls for regional solidarity

● Parliamentary co-operation explored

TDT | Manama

Participants at an Arab parliamentary scout meeting in Morocco unanimously agreed to a Bahraini request for a statement condemning Iranian attacks against Bahrain, other Gulf states and Jordan.

The request was put forward by the Bahrain Parliamentary Group delegation during the 18th General Assembly of the Arab Parliamentary Scout Un-

ion. It calls for a clear stance on regional security and stability, solidarity with the states concerned, and support for steps taken to defend their sovereignty.

The Bahraini delegation was led by MP Mohammed Al Olaiwi and included Shura Council member Redha Munfaridi and MP Jalal Kadhem.

During the visit, they met Lahcen Haddad, Vice-President of Morocco's House of Councilors, and Abdelmajid Fassi Fihri, Deputy Speaker of Morocco's House of Representatives.

Mr Munfaridi said Bahrain and Morocco shared long-standing ties, strengthened under His

Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and King Mohammed VI of Morocco.

He said parliamentary work between the two kingdoms had grown through shared views, exchanges and co-operation in regional and world forums.

Greetings

The delegation also conveyed the greetings of Parliament Speaker Ahmed bin Salman Al Musallam and Shura Council Chairman Ali bin Saleh Al Saleh to both Moroccan chambers.

Talks covered joint projects and further parliamentary work between the two kingdoms.

WHAT'S NEXT ON PARLIAMENT'S AGENDA?

By Mohammed Darwish



Mr Munfaridi said the links between Bahrain and Morocco were firm, adding that both sides wished to build on their parliamentary co-operation.

On the sidelines of the general assembly, the Bahraini delegation attended part of the sittings of Morocco's House of Councilors. The meeting also discussed the union's administrative and financial reports for 2026, its role, a co-operation protocol with the Mauritanian Scout Association, and a proposal on medals and high honours.

It also reviewed Qatar's invitation to host the 11th session of the Arab Scout Pioneers Union in November 2026, the second Dr Abdullah Omar Nasseef Award for Scout Work and Innovation, and a conference on scouting, volunteering and economic activity due in October 2026.

MP Proposes Tobacco Shop Closures Over Under-Age Sales

TDT | Manama

MP Mohammed Moosa has proposed tougher penalties for tobacco-related offences, including temporary and permanent closures of shops caught selling tobacco products to minors.

The draft amendment to Bahrain's anti-smoking law would impose fines ranging from BD1,000 to BD3,000 on businesses violating rules banning the sale or free distribution of tobacco products to anyone under 18. First-time offenders could face a one-month closure, while repeat violations could lead to permanent shutdowns.

Moosa said the existing penalties are no longer strong enough to deter offenders, particularly with the rise of electronic smoking products and modern tobacco alternatives.

The proposal also includes



Mohammed Moosa, MP

stricter punishments for breaches involving alternative smoking products, with penalties of up to one year in prison and fines reaching BD100,000.

Under the draft, courts would also have the authority to order temporary closures of offending premises and confiscate materials linked to violations.

The lawmaker said the amendments are part of wider efforts to reduce smoking and protect public health, especially among young people in Bahrain.

MPs Call for New Land for Eker Club

TDT | Manama

Five MPs have called for Eker Sports Club to be given a larger plot so it can build a sports hall, football pitch and proper grounds for young players.

The proposal says the club's current site can take little more than administrative offices, leaving no room for indoor sport, pitches or the

buildings needed to run wider youth work in the village.

It was submitted by Eman Shuwaiter, Mohsen Al Asbool, Zainab AbdulAmeer, Mohammed Al Riffai and Jalal Kadhem, who are asking the government to allocate a bigger alternative site for the club.

Eker, they argue, has a young community and many players with promise in different sports.

Thara'a
Prize Account

**Double your
Chances in August**

NBB

A Seafront Villa Awaits



Closer to you

Deposit before 1st of June



Terms & Conditions Apply.
Licensed by CBB as a Conventional Retail Bank.

MOIC 32654 - 32656 - 32657

Khalid Engineer calls for sustainable solutions to support SMEs

Manama

Board Member of the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Khalid Ali Yousif Engineer, affirmed that small and medium enterprises (SMEs) are among the key drivers of Bahrain's economy due to their vital role in supporting growth, stimulating commercial activity, fostering innovation, and creating business opportunities.

He highlighted that advancing



SMES is not limited to addressing challenges individually but requires building an integrated ecosystem that is closer to business owners, understands market needs directly, and transforms challenges into practical and implementable solutions.

He explained that the Board of Directors of the Bahrain Chamber, chaired by Mr. Nabeel Kanoo, places special im-

portance on this area. In line with this direction, the Chamber established a specialized department dedicated to SMEs to enhance responsiveness to business needs and provide more effective communication channels.

He added that the success of SME support systems should be measured not by the number of initiatives introduced, but by their ability to reach business

owners, understand their needs, and create tangible impact. He stressed that the next phase requires more flexible approaches based on direct communication, effective partnerships, and modern solutions.

He further noted that SMEs today operate in a rapidly changing economic environment, making it essential to strengthen their adaptability, enhance managerial and technical capabilities, and

leverage opportunities in digital transformation and innovation to improve competitiveness and sustainability.

He emphasized that building a more competitive economy begins with empowering SMEs and creating a business environment that supports their growth and development, given their role as a key partner in economic development and market vitality

Al Salam Bank reinforces partnership with Mazad

Strengthens financing solutions through public auctions

Manama

Al Salam Bank has announced the reinforcement of its strategic partnership with Mazad, Bahrain's leading digital auction and marketplace platform and a Mumtalakat portfolio company, marking one year since the launch of their collaboration to offer innovative financing solutions facilitating the purchase of properties through public auctions, alongside the introduction of a special discounted financing offer for customers wishing to purchase properties through Mazad, available for a limited period until the end of June 2026. This step reflects both parties' commitment to advancing the property ownership experience and enhancing service efficiency within this vital sector.

Al Salam Bank initially launched this collaboration in January 2025, becoming the first bank in the Kingdom of Bahrain to introduce dedicated financing solutions for property purchases through public auctions. The initiative targets



individuals, small and medium enterprises, and corporate entities, contributing to accelerating ownership procedures while offering flexible and sustainable financing options that support the growth of the commercial sector and strengthen

the Kingdom's investment environment.

Over the past year, the Bank has successfully built a strong financing portfolio within this segment, reflecting the growing demand for such innovative solutions and highlighting

the importance of this model in addressing market needs. The partnership continues to provide effective alternatives for those seeking to invest in real estate through auctions, while also aiming to spotlight key achievements and further

promote the services offered.

Commenting on the occasion, Mr. Anwar Murad, Deputy Group Chief Executive Officer – Banking at Al Salam Bank, said: "We take pride in continuing our partnership with Mazad, which has resulted in delivering an innovative model of financing solutions that support the development of the real estate sector in the Kingdom. Since its launch, this initiative has contributed to simplifying property ownership through public auctions and has provided our clients with flexible financing options that meet their aspirations, reflecting our ongoing commitment to delivering innovative banking solutions that support economic growth and sustainability."

For his part, Mr. Nezar Habib, Chief Executive Officer at Mazad Bahrain, said: "We are proud to renew our collaboration with Al Salam Bank, which has played a key role in responding to a growing demand for accessible financing solutions for property purchases through public auctions. Through this partnership, Mazad has been

able to offer customers more practical and flexible financing options. We believe this next phase will further strengthen the real estate auction ecosystem in Bahrain and support more buyers in participating with confidence."

Al Salam Bank and Mazad also extend their sincere appreciation to the Ministry of Justice and Islamic Affairs for its efforts in updating and enhancing the execution mechanisms related to real estate auctions, which directly contributed to enabling this innovative financing model and enhancing the efficiency and flexibility of property ownership procedures through public auctions in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

This renewed collaboration underscores Al Salam Bank's commitment to delivering integrated financial solutions that cater to the evolving needs of its clients, while reinforcing its position as a strategic partner in supporting initiatives that drive the development of key economic sectors in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

BisB partners with Al Bilad Media and BDSME's Society to launch "Sustaining the Promising Sector" initiative supporting Bahraini entrepreneurs and SMEs

Manama

Bahrain Islamic Bank (BisB) has announced the signing of a cooperation agreement with Al Bilad Media Network and the Bahrain Small and Medium Enterprises Development Society (BDSME's Society). The partnership established a comprehensive national initiative under the theme "Sustaining the Promising Sector," designed to provide urgent support to Bahraini entrepreneurs and Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) within business incubators affected by recent events in the Kingdom. Additionally, the initiative aims to incentivize Bahraini entrepreneurs to launch new commercial ventures, join business incubators, and benefit from the dedicated support and facilities provided throughout the campaign.

This initiative represents an advanced model of integration and corporate social responsibility, bridging the banking sector, media institutions, and civil society organizations. Through this collaboration, the partner entities will combine efforts to provide flexible, Shari'a-compliant financing solutions and banking facilities delivered by BisB. These efforts will be backed by



extensive media coverage and marketing campaigns across Al Bilad Media Network's various platforms, while BDSME's Society will handle executive and administrative oversight to ensure support is directed efficiently and transparently to eligible beneficiaries.

Commenting on the strategic dimension of the initiative and the Bank's pivotal role in supporting the entrepreneurial ecosystem, Ms. Fatma Al Alawi, Chief Executive Officer of BisB, stated:

"Empowering the startup sec-

tor and business incubators is a core pillar of our sustainability strategy, as these incubators form the foundational nucleus for nurturing and developing innovative national talents that feed into the economy. At BisB, we recognize that supporting entrepreneurs and providing them with the necessary financial flexibility and solutions under various circumstances is a long-term strategic investment. This contributes to enhancing financial inclusion and developing the business environment. This initiative stands as a practical

step confirming that our efforts directly align with the sustainability goals the Bank strives to achieve, ensuring the empowerment of Bahraini enterprises, building resilient national value chains, and naturally aligning with global trends and national visions aimed at achieving comprehensive and sustainable economic growth."

From her side, Ms. Dalal Al Arnaout, Chief Executive Officer of Al Bilad Media Network, remarked:

"This agreement reflects the depth of national partnership

and social responsibility that unites us with the banking sector and civil society organizations. It stems from the vital need to join forces to maintain the stability and sustainability of affected companies. At Al Bilad, we are fully committed to leveraging all our editorial capabilities and digital and print platforms to back this qualitative initiative, thereby enhancing the resilience of the national economy in facing various challenges."

Mr. Ahmed Al Saloom, Chairman of the Bahrain Small and

Medium Enterprises Development Society (BDSME's Society), praised the importance of this joint cooperation, stating:

"This agreement comes within the framework of national and social responsibility aimed at supporting affected institutions and companies. The private sector has once again proven its ability to stand together and cooperate in facing the exceptional challenges and circumstances the Kingdom goes through. SMEs represent a fundamental pillar of the national economy and a major driver for growth and job creation. This necessitates providing them with the required support and assistance to sustain their business continuity and enhance their capacity to overcome the economic repercussions resulting from the blatant Iranian aggression that Bahrain was subjected to."

Through this collaboration, the partner entities look forward to presenting an exemplary model of active corporate citizenship, reaffirming their shared commitment to fostering a cohesive economic environment that drives the development march of the Kingdom of Bahrain and achieves sustainable prosperity.

BBK hosts "Lamea" national project introductory session to encourage employee participation

Manama

BBK, a leader in retail and corporate banking in the Kingdom of Bahrain, hosted an introductory session for employees on the National Development Program "Lamea", as part of its efforts to promote participation in national initiatives that support leadership development and the growth of promising Bahraini talent.

The session was led by BBK employees Ahmed Mubarak and Afnan Shams, who served as Lamea ambassadors. Mubarak was among the winners of the fifth edition of Lamea, while Shams was selected to participate from a large pool of applicants, reflecting the caliber, ambition and leadership potential of BBK's employees. During the session, they introduced the program's objectives, methodology, key stages and selection criteria, while sharing their own



experiences and insights with colleagues. The session also highlighted the value of Lamea in broadening professional ex-

posure, strengthening leadership capabilities and encouraging greater participation in future cohorts.

Mrs. Sarah Jamal, BBK Group Chief Human Resources Officer, said: "We are proud of our Lamea ambassadors and their achievements. Their journey reflects the ambition, potential, and dedication we see every day in our employees, and the meaningful impact that they have created through important national initiatives. What makes us even prouder is how they bring those experiences back to the Bank, sharing their insights and inspiring all employees. Through this, they contribute to building a more connected, collaborative, and growth-focused culture where employees continuously learn from one another and expand their capabilities for future opportunities."

Mrs. Jamal added: "Lamea represents a valuable oppor-



Mrs. Sarah Jamal, BBK Group Chief Human Resources Officer

tunity for learning and professional development, as well as an important national platform for refining promising Bahraini talent and preparing them for future leadership roles. At BBK, we strongly believe that invest-

ing in human capital is one of the key pillars of sustainable institutional success. We therefore continue to support and encourage our employees to benefit from high-quality programs that enable them to contribute more effectively to institutional and national development."

Launched in 2021 under the patronage of His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Representative of His Majesty the King for Humanitarian Work and Youth Affairs and Chairman of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, Lamea is a national initiative aimed at identifying, nurturing and empowering exceptional Bahraini youth. The project seeks to develop a new generation of young leaders by strengthening their personal and professional capabilities, enhancing leadership skills and encouraging innovation, in line with Bahrain's wider national development goals.

NBB Group Chief Executive Officer named among Middle East's leading voices in banking and finance

● The list highlights prominent leaders across commercial banking, Islamic finance and investment banking, whose work continues to influence the evolution of financial institutions in the Middle East

Manama

The National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) is pleased to announce that Group Chief Executive Officer, Usman Ahmed, has been named among Economy Middle East's list of 30 Leading Voices in Middle East Banking & Finance, which recognises senior executives shaping the direction of the region's financial services sector.

The list highlights prominent leaders across commer-



Usman Ahmed, Group Chief Executive Officer

cial banking, Islamic finance and investment banking, whose work continues to influence the evolution of financial institutions in the Middle East. Usman Ahmed's inclusion reflects his contribution to advancing NBB's strategic direction, strengthening its market position, and reinforcing its stature as a key participant in the Kingdom of Bahrain's financial sector.



'Fortnite' game returns to Apple App Store



AFP | Paris, France

Massively popular online shooter "Fortnite" was again available on Apple's online App Store, developer Epic Games said Tuesday, adding that it was "confident" of prevailing in a court battle with the iPhone maker.

Epic has been battling in court against both Apple and Google -- which develops the Android operating system -- over the sizeable fees they charge to allow software makers to sell to users.

"Fortnite is back on the App Store around the world," the company posted on X Tuesday.

"We are confident that once Apple is forced to show its costs, governments around the world will not allow Apple

junk fees to stand," it added. "Fortnite" was removed from both the Apple and Google stores in 2020 when Epic Games attempted to circumvent their payment systems.

Its return last year to Apple's US App Store followed a first favourable court ruling.

It also returned to the American Google store after Epic struck a deal with the web giant.

"We see this as the beginning of the end of the Apple Tax worldwide," Epic chief Tim Sweeney posted on X.

"Fortnite" is nevertheless unavailable for Australian users to download -- despite a victory last summer in courts there, where Epic had accused Apple and Google of abusing their market position.

Oil dips, stocks mixed after Trump holds off on Iran attack

AFP | London, United Kingdom

Oil prices eased Tuesday but remained above \$100 a barrel while stocks wavered as investors tracked a potential deal between the US and Iran to end a war that has sent energy prices soaring.

Rising government bond yields also weighed on sentiment, with the yield on 30-year US Treasuries hitting its highest level in nearly 19 years. The move indicated growing market unease over inflation, energy prices and fiscal worries.

President Donald Trump said he held off a major new assault against Tehran as he saw hopes for securing an agreement to end the conflict, which was sparked by US and Israeli strikes on Iran at the end of February.

Stocks didn't get much of a boost from Trump's announcement, with Wall Street's major

Key figures at around 1530 GMT

Brent North Sea Crude:	▼ 1.6% at \$110.27 a barrel
West Texas Intermediate:	▼ 1.2% at \$103.14 a barrel
New York - DOW:	▼ 0.5% at 49,424.33 points
New York - S&P 500:	▼ 0.9% at 7,339.51
Nasdaq Composite:	▼ 1.3% at 25,759.40
London - FTSE 100:	▲ less than 0.1% at 10,330.55 (close)
Paris - CAC 40:	▼ less than 0.1% at 7,981.76 (close)
Frankfurt - DAX 30:	▲ 0.4% at 24,400.65 (close)
Tokyo - Nikkei 225:	▼ 0.4% at 60,550.59 (close)
Hang Seng Index:	▲ 0.5% at 25,797.85 (close)
Shanghai - Composite:	▲ 0.9% at 4,169.54 (close)
Euro/dollar:	▼ at \$1.1596 from \$1.1650 on Monday
Pound/dollar:	▼ at \$1.3392 from \$1.3422
Euro/pound:	▼ at 86.58 from 86.77 pence

indices lower in late morning trading.

European indices ended the day mixed.

"Investors are showing relief that tensions haven't escalated,"

said Russ Mould, investment director at AJ Bell.

He added, however, that "oil prices remain at high enough levels to weigh on the global economy".

Brent crude, the international benchmark, hovered at around \$110 a barrel, down from Monday's prices but still up more than 50% since the outbreak of the Middle East war.

Michael Wan of financial group MUFU said "the durability of this de-escalation -- and whether it translates into a sustained decline in oil prices -- remains the single most important driver for global bond yields," said

Investors are also nervously eyeing rising yields for government bonds in major economies including the US and Japan, indicating that investors are selling amid fears inflation will hinder economic growth.

"Markets have begun to integrate a much more inflationary outlook linked to sustained higher oil prices," said John Plassard, an analyst at Cite Gestion Private Bank.

Japan, South Korea agree to boost energy cooperation amid Mideast war

AFP | Seoul, South Korea

Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi and South Korean President Lee Jae Myung are expected to agree on strengthening cooperation to ensure a stable supply of energy resources during their summit Tuesday amid global disruptions linked to tensions in the Middle East, Kyodo News Agency reported.

The meeting is taking place in Andong, the South Korean president's hometown in the country's southeast, marking the leaders' third summit and part of ongoing reciprocal visits aimed at deepening bilateral ties. Takaichi arrived at South Korea's Daegu International Airport on Tuesday afternoon on her two-day visit and traveled to Andong. According to Japanese government officials, the two leaders are also likely to discuss broader economic security issues, including efforts to build more resilient supply chains for critical minerals and other strategic materials.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

CHANGE WILL NOT COME IF WE WAIT FOR SOME OTHER PERSON, OR IF WE WAIT FOR SOME OTHER TIME. WE ARE THE ONES WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR. WE ARE THE CHANGE THAT WE SEEK.
BARACK OBAMA

Iran stages mass weddings for couples ready for war 'sacrifice'

AFP | Tehran

Iranian authorities held mass public weddings in Tehran for couples who signed up to a state-sponsored scheme declaring their readiness to sacrifice their lives in the war against the US and Israel.

The ceremonies conducted late on Monday involved hundreds of couples in several major squares in the capital, including more than 100 in the vast Imam Hossein square in central Tehran, according to reports in Iranian media.

They were broadcast on state TV in a bid to boost wartime morale, with US

President Donald Trump repeatedly threatening new military action against Iran amid a shaky ceasefire which halted the fighting that began on February 28.

Those involved had signed up, according to Iranian media, for the so-called "self-sacrifice" scheme (janfada in Persian) where people pledged to put their lives on the line in the war by, for example, forming human chains outside power stations. Iranian authorities say millions of people, including top figures such as speaker of parliament Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf and President Masoud Pezeshkian, have put their names forward.

Israeli military issues fresh evacuation warnings for south Lebanon



Israeli soldiers speak to civilians after taking cover near the Israel-Lebanon border following a Hezbollah drone attack that hit the northern border

AFP | Jerusalem, Undefined

The Israeli military yesterday warned residents of 12 towns and villages in southern Lebanon to immediately evacuate ahead of expected attacks against Hezbollah, the latest despite a ceasefire.

"Hezbollah's continued violations of the ceasefire compel the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) to operate against it. The IDF does not intend to harm you. For your safety, we urge you to distance yourself from the area and immediately move at least 1,000 metres away," the military's Arabic-language spokesman Mr. Avichay Adraee posted on X.

Lebanon's state-run Na-

tional News Agency reported a new series of Israeli strikes targeting several locations in southern Lebanon on Tuesday (May 19, 2026).

Meanwhile, Hezbollah said in a statement that it had targeted a gathering of soldiers and vehicles in northern Israel with "a swarm of attack drones." The Israeli military said that following sirens in several areas of northern Israel, a drone "that crossed from Lebanon to Israeli territory was intercepted".

On Monday (May 18, 2026), the Lebanese health ministry said the death toll from Israeli strikes since the start of the war on Monday (March 2, 2026) had reached 3,020

Trump said Gulf leaders had asked him "to hold off on our planned Military attack of the Islamic Republic of Iran, which was scheduled for tomorrow, in that serious negotiations are now taking place".

But instructed the US military to be "prepared to go forward with a full, large scale assault of Iran, on a moment's notice, in the event that an acceptable Deal is not reached".

Trump shows off site of new \$400-mn ballroom

AFP | Washington, United States

US President Donald Trump on Tuesday showed off the site of his huge new White House ballroom, a \$400 million project that critics say flies in the face of voter anger over the cost of living.

The billionaire property magnate appeared in his element as he took reporters to see the construction work, barely audible above the sounds of hammering, sawing and clanging.

"This is a gift to the United States of America," said Trump, standing by yellow railings on the edge of a cavernous concrete basement space.

"This is all my money and



Trump speaks to the media alongside posters of his proposed White House ballroom amid construction at the White House

donors' money. This is tax free." But Democrats have bitterly opposed a proposed \$1 billion security allocation of taxpayer money tied to Trump's ballroom, and are using the issue to attack Republicans ahead of crucial midterm elections in November.

Trump went into detail about what he said were the security aspects of the ballroom project, saying there were six storeys below ground that would house military installations, research facilities and even a hospital.

"The ballroom becomes a shield that will totally protect what's going on downstairs," 79-year-old Trump said.

He added that drones would "bounce" off the roof of the ball-

room and said it would be a good site for snipers.

The property developer in Trump was also in full display, as he talked about how one facade of the ballroom was styled after ancient Greece, and another after Rome.

Trump bluntly said last week that "I don't think about Americans' financial situation" when it comes to the Iran war, insisting that preventing Tehran from getting a nuclear weapon was his priority.

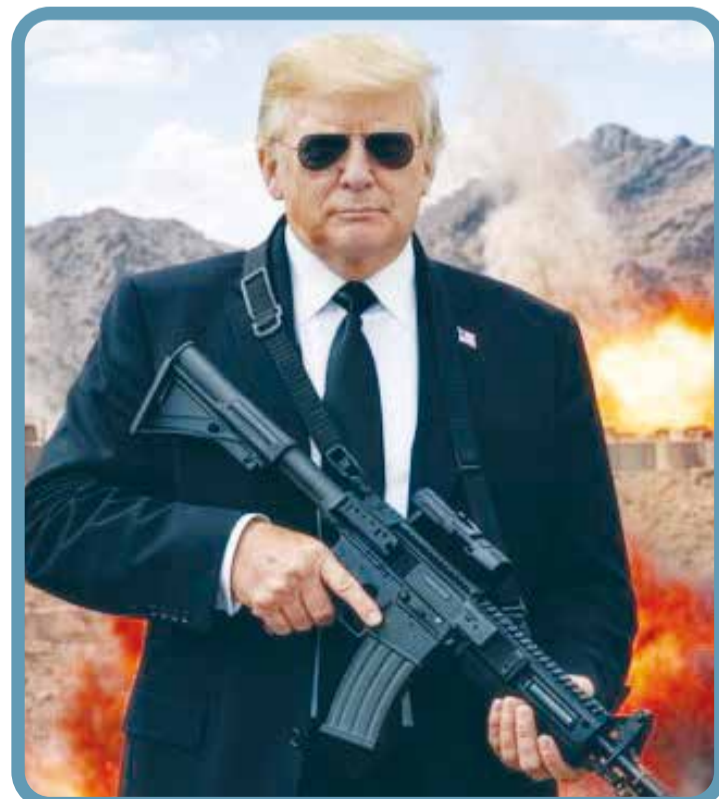
But his opponents are using the comment to paint him as out of touch, with the midterm elections, which will decide who controls the US Congress, less than six months away.



Trump has repeatedly said the ballroom -- whose cost has doubled from an initial estimate of \$200 million -- is being met by private donors, including his wealthy supporters and a slew of corporations.

Trump says held off assault

(Picture: Truth Social)



● Trump told reporters at the White House that he had been just "an hour away" from relaunching Washington's attacks on Iran

AFP | Washington, United States

President Donald Trump warned Tuesday that the United States may strike Iran again, a day after he said he had held off a major assault in hope of a deal to end the war -- but Tehran's army threatened to open "new fronts" if he went ahead.

Trump told reporters at the White House that he had been just "an hour away" from relaunching Washington's attacks on Iran before postponing the order, after weeks of a fragile ceasefire and talks to end the war that began on February 28.

"You know how it is to negotiate with a country where you're beating them badly. They come to the table, they're begging to make a deal," he said.

"I hope we don't have to do the war, but we may have to give

them another big hit. I'm not sure yet."

He added that Iran's military had used the ceasefire as an opportunity "to strengthen its combat capabilities".

Trump offered a deadline of

several days for resuming strikes if a deal was not agreed.

"I'm saying two or three days, maybe Friday, Saturday, Sunday, something, maybe early next week, a limited period of time," he said.

Trump's new deadline came after he said on Monday that Gulf leaders had asked him to hold off on an attack at the 11th hour, which he did because "serious negotiations are taking place".

But if a deal was not agreed, he said he instructed the US military to be "prepared to go forward with a full, large-scale assault of Iran, on a moment's notice."

Trump had already indefinitely extended the truce and made clear he wants to exit a war that has proven to be a political liability, with Iran's control of the Strait of Hormuz rattling the global economy and hurting Americans at the pump.

Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister Kazem Gharibabadi wrote on X that Trump's comments meant the US leader was "calling a 'threat' a 'chance for peace'!"

Iran has repeatedly rebuffed Trump's offers on a deal and its control over the vital Hormuz strait has sent global oil prices spiraling.

Iranian foreign ministry spokesman Esmail Baqaei confirmed exchanges with the United States through mediator Pakistan and said Tehran made clear its "concerns".

Rubio to attend 'Quad' meeting in India: US embassy

New Delhi, India

India will host a meeting of the "Quad"



group, which includes Australia, Japan and the United States, the US embassy in New Delhi said on Tuesday without specifying a date.

The embassy said Secretary of State Marco Rubio would attend and that it looked forward to welcoming him "for his first visit to India, ministerial Quad meetings, high level engagements, and celebrating 250 years of America".

US Ambassador Sergio Gor said earlier that Rubio would be in New Delhi at the weekend.

The so-called Quad security alliance is seen as a counterweight to Beijing's presence in the Indian Ocean and wider Asia-Pacific region.

The four-way partnership was first conceived by late Japanese prime minister Shinzo Abe, who foresaw an alliance of democracies surrounding China -- which has repeatedly alleged that the Quad is a way to contain it.

526

Possible date of the Antioch earthquake in the Byzantine Empire (present-day Syria), which kills 200,000 people

1498

Portuguese explorer Vasco da Gama arrives in Calicut, India, becoming the first European to reach India by sea



1609

William Shakespeare's Sonnets are first published in London, perhaps illicitly, by publisher Thomas Thorpe

1862

US President Abraham Lincoln signs into law the Homestead Act to provide cheap land for the settlement of the American West (80 million acres by 1900)

Putin lands in China for trip that aims to show unshakeable ties after Trump pomp



AFP | Beijing, China

Russian President Vladimir Putin arrived in Beijing late yesterday for talks with his Chinese counterpart and “long-time good friend” Xi Jinping, intending to show their ties are unshakeable days after a visit by Donald Trump.

The confirmation of Putin’s trip came just hours after Trump wrapped up his visit on Friday, the first to China by a US president in nearly a decade and one aimed at stabilising their turbu-

lent relations.

Putin arrived at Beijing Capital International Airport around 11:15 p.m. (1515 GMT) on Tuesday, where he was greeted by Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi and a military band.

It was a near-mirror image of Trump’s arrival days earlier, with both leaders stepping out of their planes onto a red carpet as Chinese youths chanted “welcome, welcome” -- this time, waving Russian flags instead of American.

Putin and Xi are set to dis-

cuss how to strengthen Russia and China’s strategic partnership and “exchange views on key international and regional issues”, according to a Kremlin statement.

Their ties have deepened since Russia’s invasion of Ukraine in 2022, with Putin visiting Beijing every year since as his country is cut off diplomatically on the world stage.

Among topics Xi and Putin could discuss is the construction of the major “Power of Siberia 2” natural gas pipeline from Russia

to China through Mongolia -- a land alternative to crude imported by sea from the Middle East -- which Moscow is keen to get underway.

Setting a warm tone for the visit, Xi and Putin exchanged “congratulatory letters” on Sunday to mark 30 years of their countries’ strategic partnership.

Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Guo Jiakun lauded “the enduring friendship between China and Russia” on Tuesday.

And in a video message to

the Chinese people released on Tuesday, Putin said relations have reached “a truly unprecedented level”, and that “trade between Russia and China continues to grow”.

“The close strategic relationship between Russia and China plays a major, stabilising role globally. Without allying against anyone, we seek peace and universal prosperity,” Putin said, without mentioning any third country. The two leaders are also expected to sign a joint declaration after their talks.

Iran threatens to open new fronts

AFP | Tehran

Iran’s army warned yesterday it would “open new fronts” against the United States if it resumes attacks, after President Donald Trump said he had held off launching a new offensive in hopes of striking a deal.

The warning came amid a shaky ceasefire in place since

April 8, with Washington and Tehran exchanging proposals in an effort to end the Middle East war, which began on February 28.

On Tuesday, Iran’s army spokesman Mohammad Akraminia warned “to open new fronts against” the United States if it resumes attacks on the Islamic republic.

He added that Iran’s military had used the ceasefire as an opportunity “to strengthen its combat capabilities”, without elaborating.

Qatar, which suffered Tehran’s retaliatory strikes following US-Israeli assaults during the war, emphasised that more time was needed for the ongoing Pakistani-mediated efforts to

push for Iran-US talks.

“We are supportive of the diplomatic effort by Pakistan that has shown seriousness in bringing parties together and finding a solution, and we do believe it needs more time,” Qatari foreign ministry spokesman Majed al-Ansari said at a press conference.

Since the ceasefire took hold on April 8, Tehran and Washington have held a single round of talks which failed to culminate in a deal.

Top commander says ‘thinking’ about NATO role in Hormuz

AFP | Brussels, Belgium

NATO’s top commander said yesterday he was “thinking” about how the alliance could help in the Strait of Hormuz, but no formal planning had begun yet.

“Am I thinking about it? Absolutely. But there’s no planning yet until the political decision is taken,” US General Alexis Grynkewich, NATO’s Supreme Allied

Commander Europe, told journalists.

US President Donald Trump has blasted Washington’s European allies in NATO for their response to his war on Iran -- which has seen the crucial waterway closed.

European countries spearheaded by Britain and France have been scrambling to put together a possible plan for how they could

help keep the strait open if the war ends.

So far US-led alliance NATO has steered clear of seeking any direct involvement in the conflict -- despite pressure from Trump.

“Each nation is considering their response, with many, including Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, and the United Kingdom, sailing ships to the region,” Grynkewich said.

“We all agree it’s in our interest to ensure freedom of navi-

gation in international waters.”

European diplomats at NATO have played down of the prospect of the alliance playing a major role in the strait given internal divisions.

But they say it could be involved in some way in any eventual operations led by France or Britain if they materialise.

The closure of the Strait of Hormuz has had a major impact on global energy prices and is already taking a toll on economies in Europe.

Fertiliser aid

Brussels will provide “exceptional support” to farmers affected by soaring fertiliser costs caused by the Iran war, the European Union’s agriculture commissioner Christophe Hansen told the European Parliament.

He said the EU would seek to boost an agriculture crisis reserve fund by “a substantial amount”.

Oil prices over \$100

Oil prices eased Tuesday but remained above \$100 a barrel while stocks wavered as investors tracked a potential deal between the US and Iran to end the war that has sent energy prices soaring.

G7 vows cooperation

G7 finance ministers vowed multilateral cooperation to address challenges to economic stability due to the war, after talks in Paris which underscored tensions between the US and its allies.

“We have had frank, sometimes difficult, direct discussions to find long-term and short-term solutions to major global economic challenges in order to guarantee economic stability,” said French Finance Minister Roland Lescure.



TOP
4
TWEETS

01



I thank the Government & people of Japan for their warm welcome. Across the years & across the issues, the UN has benefitted enormously from Japan’s generosity & commitment to multilateralism. I am proud to celebrate the 70-year partnership between Japan & the @UN.

@antonioguterres

02



This outbreak, alongside the hantavirus one, shows why international threats need an international response, why the world needs the International Health Regulations, and why it needs @WHO.

@DrTedros

03



Concluding a very fruitful visit to Norway. Held productive talks with Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Støre and participated in the India-Nordic Summit, where important decisions were taken to deepen cooperation in many areas. I thank the people of Norway, PM Støre and the Government of Norway for their warmth and friendship.

@narendramodi

04



Our Union is built by all its citizens. The European Order of Merit honours individuals whose outstanding contributions to the European project deserve recognition. Congratulations to this year’s recipients and thank you for all you have done.

@vonderleyen

Disclaimer: (Views expressed by columnists are personal and need not necessarily reflect our editorial stance)

King Charles III makes unannounced visit to N. Ireland

AFP | Belfast, United Kingdom

Britain's King Charles III and Queen Camilla yesterday arrived in Northern Ireland on an unannounced visit, Buckingham Palace said.

The royal couple began their visit at Thompson Dock, one of the city's main tourist attractions and the last place that the Titanic stood on dry ground before her doomed maiden voyage in 1912.

The ship was built at the Harland & Wolff shipyard in the city before being finished at Thompson Dock.

Braving the rain and unseasonal spring temperatures, Charles and Camilla enjoyed a performance of traditional Irish music and dance and tried out some of the instruments.

They met organisers and performers of the all-Ireland Fleadh, the world's largest festival of traditional Irish music.

Belfast is due to host the festival for the first time in August.

Charles, 77, who is still undergoing treatment for an undisclosed cancer, has made numerous trips to Northern Ireland over the years both as king and heir to the throne before the



Britain's King Charles III and Britain's Queen Camilla play bodhran drums, traditional Irish drums, as they watch dancers perform to mark Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann coming to Belfast this August, at Thompson Dock in Belfast, Northern Ireland

death of his mother, Queen Elizabeth II, in 2022.

The visit comes a day after Irish President Catherine Connolly said Charles had "graciously" accepted an invitation

to Ireland after the two heads of state met at Buckingham Palace.

That trip is expected to take place next year and would only be the second such visit by a British monarch since Ireland's

independence in 1921.

The late queen paid a state visit to Ireland in 2011.

Connolly met Charles on Monday on the first day of an official visit to England.

Europe-China spacecraft launches to study Earth's 'invisible armour'

AFP | Kourou

A joint European-Chinese spacecraft blasted into orbit yesterday to investigate what happens when extreme winds and giant explosions of plasma shot out from the Sun slam into Earth's magnetic shield.

Particularly fierce solar storms can knock out satellites and threaten astronauts -- and create dazzling auroras in the skies known as the northern or southern lights.

To find out more about this little-understood space weather, the van-sized SMILE spacecraft is tasked with making the first X-ray observations of the Earth's magnetic field.

The spacecraft achieved lift-off on a Vega-C rocket at 0352 GMT on Tuesday from Europe's spaceport in Kourou, French Guiana, on the northeastern coast of South America.

A little under an hour later, SMILE detached at 700 kilometres (435 miles) of altitude to make its own way toward an



The Smile spacecraft, in gold, fixed to a Vega-C rocket adaptor at the launch site in Kourou, French Guiana

extremely elliptical orbit thousands of kilometres above the surface of the planet.

SMILE will be at an altitude of 5,000 kilometres when it flies over the South Pole, allowing it to transmit data to the Bernardo O'Higgins research station in

Antarctica.

But the spacecraft will be 121,000 kilometres above the Earth when it swings over the North Pole -- an orbit the European Space Agency (ESA) says will allow the

mission to "observe the northern lights non-stop for 45 hours at a time for the first time ever".

SMILE -- or the Solar Wind Magnetosphere Ionosphere Link Explorer -- is a joint mission between the ESA and the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

"We are about to witness something we've never seen

before -- Earth's invisible

armour in action," ESA

director-general Josef

Aschbacher said in a

statement.

Project manager David

Agnolon said SMILE

"marks the first time that

ESA and China

have jointly selected, designed, implemented, launched and operated a mission together".



WHO worried about 'scale and speed' of deadly Ebola outbreak

AFP | Kinshasa, DR Congo

The World Health Organization on Tuesday voiced concern about the "scale and speed" of an Ebola outbreak that has killed an estimated 131 people in the Democratic Republic of Congo and warned it could be lengthy.

The UN health agency has declared the surge of the highly contagious haemorrhagic fever an international health emergency and called an urgent meeting on the crisis.

No vaccine or therapeutic treatment exists for the Bundibugyo strain of Ebola which is responsible for the outbreak declared in the east late last week.

Ebola has killed more than 15,000 people in Africa in the past half-century.

With the recent cases largely concentrated in difficult-to-access areas hit by long-running conflicts, few samples have been laboratory-tested and figures are based mostly on suspected case.

"We have recorded roughly 131 deaths in total and we have around 513 suspected cases," Congolese Health Minister Samuel Roger Kamba said on national television early Tuesday.

"The deaths we are reporting are all the deaths we have identified in the community, without necessarily saying that they are all linked to Ebola," he added.

WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said he was "deeply concerned about the scale and speed of the epidemic".

Speaking from the DRC, Anne Anca, the WHO's representative, told reporters in Geneva that a vaccine candidate called Ervebo was among those being looked at but it was likely to take at least "two months for it to be available".

It could still be useful, she added, since "I don't think that



The DRC's deadliest Ebola outbreak, between 2018 and 2020, claimed nearly 2,300 lives from 3,500 cases.

Germany to admit and treat US Ebola patient from DR Congo

Berlin, Germany

Germany is preparing to admit and treat a US doctor who contracted Ebola in the Democratic Republic of Congo during the current deadly outbreak, the German health ministry told AFP on Tuesday.

The patient was named as medical missionary Dr Peter Stafford, who lives in DRC with his wife Rebekah, also a doctor, and their four young children, by the Christian missionary organisation Serge.

"US authorities have requested assistance from the German government in treating a US citizen who contracted Ebola in Congo," a German health ministry spokesperson said.

"Preparations are currently underway to admit and treat the patient in Germany," the spokesperson added, without saying where and when the patient would be treated.

in two months we will be done with this outbreak".

NATO jet shoots down stray Ukrainian drone in Estonia

AFP | Warsaw, Poland

A NATO fighter jet shot down a Ukrainian drone in Estonian airspace on Tuesday, after it was reportedly diverted from its course by a Russian jamming system, Estonia's defence minister announced.

It was the first interception of a foreign drone in the airspace of a Baltic state by NATO since Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022.

Estonia's Defence Minister

Hanno Pevkur said the drone was first detected by Latvia before it was shot down by a Romanian F-16 stationed in Lithuania.

Debris from the drone was reported near Poltsamaa in central Estonia.

Pevkur said he had been in contact with his Ukrainian counterpart, Mykhailo Fedorov, who "apologised" after the incident, which happened as NATO "Spring Storm 2026" exercises are being held in Estonia this week.

Seabird habitats shrink as ocean heats up: study

AFP | Paris, France

Climate change could push seabirds into smaller habitats and force them to fly farther to survive, a new study said yesterday.

While warmer oceans have historically caused fish and other marine species to shrink in size, seabirds such as albatrosses, shearwaters and petrels have seen their geographic range contract, the study said.



The researchers used statistical models to look at how seabirds coped with climate change across millions of years and project what their future could look like.

"In both of the scenarios we saw the same answer: Every time, when the climate changed faster... the range of distribution (of seabirds) started to decrease,

to contract, to be smaller," Jorge Avaria-Llatureo, lead author of the study in the journal Nature Climate Change, told AFP.

Driven by planet-heating fossil fuel emissions, climate change is raising global temperatures and disrupting marine ecosystems as oceans get warmer.

Avaria-Llatureo, a postdoctoral researcher at the Univer-

sity of Reading in Britain, and his colleagues studied more than 120 species of Procellariiformes. As climate change accelerates, the suitable habitat for these

seabirds shrinks and their mortality rate increases, Avaria-Llatureo said. Survivors will emigrate to find a "new liveable habitat that of-

fers optimal conditions for survival and reproduction", he said.

"The crucial factor is that seabirds differ in their dispersal ability," the researcher added.

"The farther these suitable habitats are located in the future, the less likely it is that birds with limited flying capacity will successfully reach them, increasing their extinction risk under projected scenarios of rapid global warming," he said.

In a worst-case warming scenario, 70 percent of species will reduce their range by 2100, with four of them most at risk of extinction -- the Galapagos petrel, the Jouanin petrel, the Newell's shearwater and the white-vented storm petrel.

Thailand cuts visa-free stays, citing crime by foreigners

The new visa-free duration would be decided on a country-by-country basis

- Tourists will be able to renew visas once by visiting an immigration office
- The visa-free period was previously capped at 30 days but was extended to 60 in July 2024
- Tourism accounts for more than 10% of Thailand's GDP

AFP | Bangkok, Thailand

Thailand is drastically cutting the length of visa-free stays for tourists from more than 90 countries in an effort to curb crime involving foreign nationals, officials said on Tuesday.

Tourism is vital to the Southeast Asian nation's economy, but foreign arrivals are yet to return to their pre-Covid highs.

A recent series of high-profile arrests of foreigners has included cases linked to drug offences, sex trafficking and foreigners operating businesses such as hotels and schools without proper permits.



A Thai Buddhist monk looks down towards passengers on a traditional wooden long-tail boat, popular with tourists, in a canal in Bangkok

Under Thailand's current tourism scheme, travellers from more than 90 countries -- including Europe's 29-nation Schengen area, the United States, Israel and several South American countries -- are eligible to visit for up to 60 days without a visa.

Thailand's cabinet approved reducing visa-free stays for

travellers from those countries on Tuesday, Tourism Minister Surasak Phancharoenworakul told reporters in Bangkok.

The new visa-free duration would be decided on a country-by-country basis, with most foreign nationals granted stays of up to 30 days, while some could receive only 15 days, Surasak said.

Tourists will be able to renew visas once by visiting an immigration office, a government spokeswoman told AFP. "The 60 days was automatic

90
Under Thailand's current tourism scheme, travellers from more than 90 countries are eligible to visit for up to 60 days without a visa.

Tourists (C) pose for photos in front of the Phra Dhammakaya Thep Mongkol, a seated Buddha statue, at the Wat Paknam Phasi Charoen Buddhist temple in Bangkok



but the renewal will be decided by the officer and tourists will have to explain why they are

staying longer," she said. Foreign Minister Sihasak Phuangketkeow said last week that the plan to reduce visa-free stays was part of a crackdown on transnational crime.

Thailand was not targeting any specific country, he said, but rather individuals abusing the visa system by committing crimes in the country.

Tourists provided "benefits, such as boosting the economy, but the current scheme has allowed some people to exploit it", government spokesperson Rachada Dhanadirek told reporters on Tuesday.

The visa-free period was previously capped at 30 days but was extended to 60 in July 2024 as part of government efforts to boost tourism and the economy.

Tourism accounts for more than 10% of Thailand's GDP, although visitor numbers remain below pre-pandemic levels.

Foreign arrivals dropped by about 3.4% in the first quarter of this year compared to the same period in 2025, with visitors from the Middle East down by nearly a third, according to tourism ministry data.

Thailand expects about 33.5 million foreign tourists this year, up from nearly 33 million visitors last year, the government has said.

Musk loses blockbuster OpenAI suit as jury says too late

AFP | Oakland, United States

A federal jury ruled Monday that Elon Musk waited too long to sue OpenAI and its co-founders, delivering a decisive victory to the ChatGPT startup and ending one of Silicon Valley's most closely watched courtroom battles.

The swift decision caps a three-week trial that saw a parade of tech titans take the stand, with Musk arguing that OpenAI's pivot to a profit-driven business betrayed its original nonprofit mandate.

The jury in Oakland federal court found that Musk's claims against OpenAI CEO Sam Altman, President Greg Brockman, The OpenAI Foundation and Microsoft were barred by statutes of limitations, leaving the billionaire's core arguments largely unaddressed.

Judge Yvonne Gonzalez Rogers, who had asked the jury to advise her on the matter, accepted and confirmed their decision.



Turkey manhunt ends as shooter takes own life after killing six



Turkish police officers secure part of a main road in Kahramankazan, some 40 kilometers (25 miles) north of Ankara (file)

AFP | Istanbul, Turkey

A massive manhunt for a gunman who killed six people in southern Turkey ended early yesterday when he turned the gun on himself after being cornered by police, the IHA news agency reported. The 37-year-old suspect had fled to a forested area after going on a rampage with a gun near Tarsus, which lies between the southern cities of Mersin and Adana, in which he shot dead six people and wounded another eight.

The Anadolu state news agency said the man had reportedly shot dead his ex-wife before heading out on a murderous spree.

The DHA and IHA news agencies said the suspect opened fire in a restaurant, killing its owner and an employee, before fleeing and shooting dead two other men -- one of them a

shepherd watching his animals nearby, and the other a truck driver at a petrol station.

It was unclear who the sixth victim was.

The shooter fled with police launching a massive manhunt involving helicopters, which lasted into the early hours of Tuesday when they located him inside a house about 10 kilometres from where the shootings began.

The suspect turned the gun on himself to avoid being caught, IHA said.

Speaking to the agency from his hospital bed, Mehmet Han Topal, who works at the restaurant where the shootings began and who was wounded in the leg, described what happened.

"He came in without a word... We thought he was getting his telephone out, but he brought out a pistol," he said.

"I got down. He fired at me."

Russia begins three days of nuclear drills

- The drills will involve more than 65,000 soldiers and 7,800 types of equipment and weapons
- The ministry said it would also test-launch ballistic and cruise missiles

AFP | Moscow, Russia

Russia's army yesterday began three days of nuclear weapons drills involving thousands of troops across the country, as Kyiv escalates its drone attacks and with President Vladimir Putin headed to China.

Throughout its more than four-year offensive in Ukraine, Moscow has flaunted its possession of nuclear weapons and repeatedly threatened to use them.

"From May 19 to 21, 2026, the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation are conducting an exercise on the preparation and use of nuclear forces in the event of a threat of aggression," the defence ministry said.

The drills will involve more than 65,000 soldiers and 7,800 types of equipment and weapons, including more than 200 missile launchers, the defence ministry said. Aircraft, ships, submarines and nuclear submarines will all take part.



Ukrainian servicemen who have just returned from frontline positions, take their equipment at an undisclosed location in Ukraine's Kharkiv region

The ministry said it would also test-launch ballistic and cruise missiles.

The ending of the New START agreement with Washington in February formally released the world's two largest nuclear powers from a raft of restrictions.

Russia has vowed to take a "responsible" approach to strategic nuclear capability.

But Putin has also said that developing Russia's nuclear forces is an "absolute priority", and Moscow this month tested a new long-range missile capable of carrying nuclear warheads.

Moscow also said the drills "also address issues related to the joint training and use of nuclear weapons deployed on the territory of the Republic of Belarus".

Russia has deployed a nuclear-capable missile, the Oreshnik, to its neighbouring ally, which borders NATO.



Russia possesses the world's largest nuclear arsenal, with an estimated 5,000+ nuclear warheads -- enough to destroy the planet many times over. A key part of its strategy is the "nuclear triad": missiles launched from land, submarines hidden deep underwater, and long-range bomber aircraft, ensuring Russia can retaliate even after a massive attack.

Hostile Drones Blocked

UAE Air defence forces intercepted six drones over 48 hours, Ministry of Defence

The United Arab Emirates said its air defence systems intercepted and neutralised six hostile drones over the previous 48 hours that attempted to target civilian and critical infrastructure, according to a Ministry of Defence statement.

The ministry said air defence forces responded with “high levels of readiness and efficiency,” preventing any casualties or damage to vital installations.

It also said that, as part of ongoing investigations into an attack on the Barakah Nuclear Energy Plant on May 17, 2026, technical tracking showed



Illustration purpose only

that three drones involved in were intercepted, while a third that incident originated from struck an external electrical generator outside the plant's Iraqi territory. Two drones

inner perimeter.

The statement added that monitoring and analysis results traced the additional drones intercepted over the past two days back to the same origin.

The Ministry of Defence said the UAE reserves its full right to take all necessary measures to protect its sovereignty and national security in accordance with international law.

It also stressed that the armed forces remain fully prepared to deal with any threats targeting the country's security and national capabilities.

Bahrain Backs UAE Security

UN speech highlights dangers posed by attacks on peaceful nuclear facilities in the Gulf



Bahrain strongly condemned the recent drone attacks targeting the peaceful Barakah Nuclear Power Plant in the United Arab Emirates, describing them as a dangerous escalation and a direct threat to nuclear safety and regional security.

Speaking before the United Nations Security Council, Jamal Fares Alrowaiee said Bahrain deeply regretted the continued attacks on critical infrastructure, energy facilities and peaceful nuclear sites across the region.

Alrowaiee thanked Rafael Grossi for his briefing on the incident involving the Barakah plant and praised the UAE authorities for their transparency and swift coordination with the International Atomic Energy Agency and GCC countries.

He said the attacks occurred at a sensitive time while discussions on nuclear safety and security were taking place during the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty review process. He warned of a growing gap between international political statements and actions on the ground.

Bahrain described the attack as a “serious and unjustified escalation” and a violation of international law and relevant Security Council resolutions protecting civilian and nuclear infrastructure.

Alrowaiee also referred to previous attacks in the region, including an incident on April 5, 2026 involving petrochemical infrastructure in Bahrain, warning that rapid

YOU
KNOW WHAT

Date: May 17, 2026

Target: Barakah Nuclear Power Plant

Drones Intercepted: 2

Impact: One drone hit external generator

Result: Fire contained, no radiation impact

Plant Status: Operations unaffected

intervention by authorities had prevented what could have become a major humanitarian and environmental disaster.

He stressed that repeated attacks on critical infrastructure, maritime corridors and energy facilities in GCC countries threaten regional stability, global supply chains and international energy security.

The Bahraini envoy reaffirmed Bahrain's full solidarity with the UAE and stressed that the security of GCC states remains indivisible. He also condemned recent drone attacks targeting the Saudi Arabia, saying such actions reflect a continuing pattern of escalation threatening the region's security and stability.

Escalation in West Bank, Gaza as OIC reports surge in casualties

● Property seizures planned near Al-Aqsa Mosque

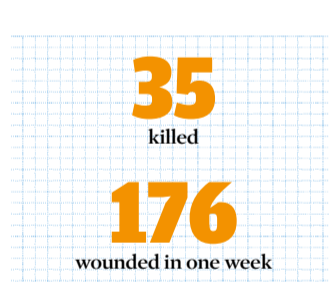
● Settler violence and demolition campaigns continue

● UNRWA-linked school facilities affected

The Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Media Observatory on Israeli Crimes Against Palestinians reported a sharp escalation in violations between May 12 and 18, 2026, including increased incidents at religious sites and a rise in casualties across the occupied Palestinian territories.

According to the weekly report, the period was marked by heightened tensions surrounding Al-Aqsa Mosque in occupied Al-Quds, where Israeli authorities approved a plan to confiscate around 20 historic Palestinian properties in the Bab al-Silsila neighbourhood, located near the mosque compound. The move further intensified concerns over the status of the Old City's religious and cultural heritage.

The report also noted contin-



ued incursions by Israel's National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir into the Al-Aqsa compound, alongside reported violations at the Ibrahim Mosque and other mosques across the West Bank.

In the same period, the observatory documented 35 fatalities

and 176 injuries, bringing the total number of Palestinians killed since October 7, 2023, to 73,934, with 183,415 wounded, according to its figures.

The Gaza Strip accounted for 24 of the deaths and 150 injuries, with five additional bodies reportedly recovered from under rubble. In the West Bank, six people were killed and 25 injured during the reporting period.

Israeli forces carried out 299 raids across West Bank cities and villages, resulting in 120 arrests, including 15 children. The report said one child was killed and two others wounded during these operations, while

settlers attacked five children in separate incidents.

During a raid on Qalandia refugee camp, forces entered two educational facilities: Al-Alam School and a training institute run by UNRWA.

The observatory further recorded widespread demolitions, including four houses, 41 commercial structures, two car washes, a room, residential walls, and a livestock pen, alongside land confiscations.

It also documented 119 settler attacks and 14 settlement-related activities over the week, describing a continued expansion of settlement activity across the occupied West Bank.

GCC, Somalia Discuss Housing and Infrastructure Cooperation

The Secretary-General of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), Jassem Mohamed Albudaiwi, met on Tuesday with Somalia's Minister of Public Works, Reconstruction and Housing, Ayub Ismail Yusuf, on the sidelines of the 13th session of the World Urban Forum in the Azerbaijani capital, the GCC General Secretariat said.

Yusuf, who also serves as a member of the Somali Parliament, held discussions with Albudaiwi on ways to strengthen cooperation between the GCC and the Federal Republic of Somalia, particularly in areas linked to urban development, housing, and infrastructure.



The meeting reviewed topics of mutual interest, reflecting growing engagement between the two sides in development-related sectors.

Both sides also discussed op-

portunities to expand cooperation in reconstruction efforts and sustainable urban planning, reflecting a shared interest in enhancing technical and institutional partnerships.

The World Urban Forum, organised by UN-Habitat, brings together global policymakers, city planners, and development experts to address urban challenges and strategies for sustainable cities.

Drone strike kills 28 at Sudan market

A drone strike on a crowded market in southern Sudan killed 28 people and injured 23 others on Tuesday, according to a medical source and witnesses, marking one of the deadliest recent attacks on civilians in the country's three-year war.

The strike hit the town of Ghubaysh in West Kordofan, an area controlled by the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces, which has been locked in conflict with the Sudanese military since April 2023.

A medical source said the dead and wounded were taken to the town hospital, while witnesses described scenes of panic and destruction at the main market.

Two witnesses said a drone



struck a crowded restaurant and attributed the attack to the Sudanese army. Another witness described what appeared to be a two-stage strike: an initial explosion targeting an RSF vehicle killed three people, followed moments later by a second blast that hit the restaurant.

A Sudanese advocacy group, Emergency Lawyers, said the market was a vital civilian hub used by thousands for food and essential supplies.

The Sudanese Armed Forces denied responsibility, stating in a release that it only targets “military objectives,” including vehicles and weapons depots.

Classifieds



Call us on +973 36458394
email: advt@newsofbahrain.com

VACANCIES AVAILABLE

LUMEN WOOD MAINTENANCE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33201503 or MOAZZAMALAM19@GMAIL.COM

ALDOOR EXCAVATION & BUILDING CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17877246 or zainabhr@aldoorbh.com

ALDOOR EXCAVATION & BUILDING CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER/OPERATOR(EARTH MOVING MACHINES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17877246 or zainabhr@aldoorbh.com

MUNASABAT AND SAYQ WEB OPERATION AND DELIVERY has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER(MOTOR-CYCLE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 37722742 or ADMIN@SAYQ.APP

ABDULLA KHAMIS & SONS CONTRACTING & TRADING COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17784554 or AKHAMIS@BATELCO.COM.BH

OTAVA CONSULTANCY BAHRAIN PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE BOY / FARRASH, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34169404 or aroobasattar333@gmail.com

SPARKPLUG BAHRAIN CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36893090 or CHHASSANHASSAN538@GMAIL.COM

ALRAHI SHOWAITER W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of KITCHEN WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39143366 or RAFFEEKAPPU79@GMAIL.COM

H L B BOUTIQUE has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35002840 or NAHID850114950A@GMAIL.COM

W 12 AUTO SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER (CAR ELECTRICAL WORKSHOP), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33433346 or EBANDARY@GMAIL.COM

TECHNICAL CONSTRUCTION COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of PLUMBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17730036 or TCCBN@BATELCO.COM.BH

Grant Thornton Advisory W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17500188 or JASSIM.ABDULAL@BH.GT.COM

POWER TECH CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39279042 or gm@powertechdevelopment.com

POWER TECH CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39279042 or gm@powertechdevelopment.com

CLOCK SEASON SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33853237 or FJLOVEU@GMAIL.COM

BLACK SPARROW COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36563904 or MOHSINPERVEZ532@GMAIL.COM

ABU ALHANAN LAUNDRY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of LAUNDERER/PRESSER(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33846285 or AH-KHAN8656@GMAIL.COM

AL ASIF RESTAURANT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 37743832 or ASIFAHMED175698@GMAIL.COM

NOOR ALWLAYA RESTURAT & GRILLS CO WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of SANDWICHES MAKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39202078 or noor.abdulla2018@gmail.com

INTERNATIONAL 360 SECURITY SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77999360 or FISHERMAN-SENSE@GMAIL.COM

SADCO SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for

the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33380738 or SADCOSERVICESWLL@GMAIL.COM

BLUE PEAK CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33142479 or Faiza@hawarschool.com

CHOF CHOF W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36344482 or KULTALSAMAHJI@GMAIL.COM

UM HABIB SWEET WATERE has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17410598 or NIKJ77@HOTMAIL.COM

BBA FINTECH BAHRAIN SOLUTIONS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39310722 or YOUSIFASAD@GMAIL.COM

SONAHRI MAINTENANCE CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36560032 or RJANI55555@GMAIL.COM

Socrates gate Contracting has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE WORKER HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33208929 or socratesgate@gmail.com

BW SUITES & SPA W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MASSEUR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33479888 or hr@bwsuitesspa.com

O2 CARS CARE has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17670635 or HAMEEDW9@GMAIL.COM

COMSIP ALA ALI W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN (INSTRUMENT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17773006 or arnaud.allix@VINCI-ENERGIES.COM

BULBUL PALACE MARKETS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35156789 or HLNOSHADAK@GMAIL.COM

ALAALI CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17566444 or alaali-co@batelco.com.bh

MASHTAL SANWAN has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33177762 or ZAINABALSAYEDA6@GMAIL.COM

SAIM REAL ESTATE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17642816 or malikidrees2025@gmail.com

AMWELL MIDDLE EAST W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17730871 or amwellmd@amwellme.co

JANAT ALENSAN CONTRACTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33300106 or janatalensanahmed@gmail.com

KAY SALON AND SPA has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39799397 or BATOOL.82@BATELCO.COM.BH

FRESH SPOT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(ASSISTANT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39115638 or freshspotm@gmail.com

BIEN KITEETA SOLUTIONS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35113080 or SANDEEP.NRTL@GMAIL.COM

TATA TOYS has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77229911 or info@awtadi.com

AL BANNAY HEART CENTER has a vacancy for the occupation of CARDIOGRAM TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39669406 or ABDULLARAHED@YAHOO.COM

MANASALU FOR CLEANING has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36484627 or info.manasalugroup@gmail.com

DAR SANAD FOR HOME MANPOWER RECRUITING has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37222122 or DARSANAD.BH@GMAIL.COM

Beauty Salon Olivia has a vacancy for the occupation of HAIR DRESSER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39828148 or ahmedha.nasser@ewa.bh

Khan IT solution W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of COMPUTER TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34515169 or AREAPLUSTECH@GMAIL.COM

ABDUL SAMAD BAKERY has a vacancy for the occupation of BAKER(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33006454 or ASMA.SADRY@HOTMAIL.COM

Kamilia Cafeteria has a vacancy for the occupation of SANDWICHES MAKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38881181 or ABUMAHER60@HOTMAIL.COM

ASIF AND USMAN SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33437449 or MARIYASIKANDAR90@GMAIL.COM

SD SAJID MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66376530 or LUCKYV2233@GMAIL.COM

Mechanical Contracting & Services Company W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR (SITE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36937988 or MCSC@MCSWLL.COM

GABALLA MANAGEMENT CONSULTING & EXHIBITIONS CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANTS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77342333 or M.GABALLA.DECORATION@GMAIL.COM

MISK AL ABRAR PERFUMES has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33852854 or TAYYABQAMAR52@GMAIL.COM

NASS MECHANICAL CONTRACTING COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17725522 or yousif@aanass.net

SOLO BAHRAIN JEWELLERY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33464734 or THESOLOBH@GMAIL.COM

ARAQT EUROPEAN KITCHENS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33435050 or pd.docm21@gmail.com

GULF AIR B.S.C. (C) has a vacancy for the occupation of CABIN CREW / FLIGHT STEWARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17337804 or recruitment@gulfair.com

RAMSIS ENGINEERING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17830801 or Abbas@ramsis.com.bh

RAMSIS ENGINEERING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17830801 or Abbas@ramsis.com.bh

AROMA LAUNDRY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(LAUNDRY), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33626883 or AROMALAUNDRY434@GMAIL.COM

Kintetsu World Express Saudi Arabia Ltd - Foreign Branch Co. has a vacancy for the occupation of DIRECTOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17305330 or noor.ahmed@kwe.com

MOHSIN PERVEZ COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36563904 or MOHSINPERVEZ532@GMAIL.COM

THE NAIL CORNER has a vacancy for the occupation of MASSEUR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36999580 or FAIOO@HOTMAIL.COM

Eastern Asphalt & Mixed Concrete Co. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLERK, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17252078 or S.RADHI@EAMCO.BH

LULU CONTRACTING CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17720648 or INFO@LCMWLL.COM

ARABIAPEARL SERVICES CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE BOY / FARRASH, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66627665 or HYBRIDMAINTENANCE@YAHOO.COM

RED PANTHER COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36563904 or WALIDBAHRAIN015@GMAIL.COM

RED PANTHER COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36563904 or WALIDBAHRAIN015@GMAIL.COM

LAKE SHORE CONSULTATIONS has a vacancy for the occupation of RECEPTION CLERK, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39902036 or HEBAELGEBALI@YAHOO.CA

JAFFAR ALI BAKER has a vacancy for the occupation of BAKER(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33350203 or DM3AMHTA8A@HOTMAIL.COM

MASALA MASTI RESTAURANT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER (RESTURANTS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 34634188 or MASSALA.MASTI@GMAIL.COM

GOLD CREST FOOD TRANSPORTATION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34435731 or MIANUMARWAQASCH@GMAIL.COM

SEA ROCK RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17293002 or salmansoffy@yahoo.com

TIZER TRADING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17478515 or AHMED.MPF@GMAIL.COM

GCT Holding Co. B.S.C closed has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES REPRESENTATIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17239393 or HR@GCTBAHRAIN.COM

DR.THAI WOMEN MASSAGE has a vacancy for the occupation of MASSEUR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37777604 or FREEDOMPLUS82@HOTMAIL.COM

LAYAN LAUNDRY has a vacancy for the occupation of LAUNDERER/PRESSER(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33926612 or SALEHAHMED9@HOTMAIL.COM

FYG INTERNATIONAL W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35002840 or PUREMIND.BH@GMAIL.COM

ALWARDI TRANSPORT CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCEW).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17730626 or TURKI_ALWARDI@HOTMAIL.COM

SILVER CITY CONTRACTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER/PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38826888 or SILVERCITYCONTRACTING@GMAIL.COM

VIBRANT SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY MAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17008217 or JALALEBRAHIM@GMAIL.COM

ADDRESS CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39055666 or ADDRESS.CON@GMAIL.COM

NOOR AL ZALLAQ BAKERY has a vacancy for the occupation of BAKER(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 34380022 or FASTDC1122@GMAIL.COM

YAQEN UPHOLSTERY has a vacancy for the occupation of UPHOLSTERER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33361212 or ABUYAPEEN@GMAIL.COM

THALASSERY PARAGON RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33922311 or PRABHULESH@GMAIL.COM

HAJAR TRADING AND TECHNICAL SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICAL TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17551377 or SALES@hajartech.com

SHUMAILA CAR ACCESSORIES has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN(VEHICLES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33159335 or MOHSENZAMAN90@GMAIL.COM

RAPID GLOBAL CARGO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33392534 or RAPIDGLOBALCARGO@GMAIL.COM

ALKHLASI FOR PHONES has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39621905 or ALKHALASI212@HOTMAIL.COM

SHAFI ALAH Conditioner Central Contracting has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36108435 or FOUZIANADEEM110@GMAIL.COM

FATIPA COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of FOREMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39238561 or DDKK44445@GMAIL.COM

SMELTERS TECHNICAL SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34039950 or OPERATIONS@SMELTERSTS.COM

UNIVERSITY OF STRATHCLYDE INNOVATION RESEARCH AND EDUCATION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of LECTURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38190192 or ibrahim.khadra@strath.ac.uk

BRITISH COUNCIL has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAD / CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT / DEVISION, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17261555 or HASANAIN.ALMOZAYN@BRITISHCOUNCIL.ORG.BH

VEERPAL KAUR FACILITIES SUPPORT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCEW).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33108591 or USMANNAJEEED33108591@GMAIL.COM

AWAIS KHAN FOOD TRANSPORTATION COMPAMY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37786800 or SANA.ARSH86@GMAIL.COM

A HOLDING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of EXECUTIVE SECRETARY/ PERSONAL ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36843013 or TARIQ.SHARIF@RITZCARLTON.COM

AMINA SHOWAITER SWEETS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33869057 or ABUSAADAHMED60@GMAIL.COM

SUPER BRIGHT LAUNDRY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(LAUNDRY), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39670254 or ASMALKHALY@GMAIL.COM

SMART CARGO AND REAL ESTATE has a vacancy for the occupation of PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33939913 or ATTOOLY@HOTMAIL.COM

Almoayyed Fire and Safety Co. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SERVICES HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700777 or ALIHASSAN@ALMOAYYEDINTL.COM.BH

BATSCO CO.W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17822202 or hr@BATSCO.NET

AL HILAL HOSPITAL COMPANY - BSC (CLOSED) has a vacancy for the occupation of NURSE(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17344700 or HRD@ALHILALHEALTHCARE.COM

AL HILAL HOSPITAL COMPANY - BSC (CLOSED) has a vacancy for the occupation of NURSE(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17344700 or HRD@ALHILALHEALTHCARE.COM

TAG BEAUTY LOUNGE SALON W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of HAIR DRESSER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33119444 or HAJAR.HAIR.DRESSER@GMAIL.COM

NEELUM STAR MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33160380 or SYEDASADSHAH997@GMAIL.COM

PANORAMA HOTEL has a vacancy for the occupation of HAIRDRESSER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17826888 or ADMIN@PANORAMAHOTEL-BH.COM

ALYOUSIF STORES has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17254402 or ALYOUSIFSTORES@GMAIL.COM

PRO STRUCTURE BAHRAIN CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66627665 or KEY_LINKS@YAHOO.COM

FIZZ AND FRESH LAUNDRY & DRY CLEANING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(LAUNDRY), suitably qualified applicants can contact 38298941 or MU-

HAMMADZEESHAN8941@GMAIL.COM
ALJUBAIL WELDING SMITHERY AND WELDING has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33261144 or ILLIYASKADAMARRI@GMAIL.COM

KARZI AUTO REPAIR has a vacancy for the occupation of SERVICEMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36995351 or HAMADRAJAB91@GMAIL.COM

ANTIBES SALON W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39831133 or faisal.antibes@gmail.com

TEA STORM FOR TEA AND SNACKS has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33676200 or MUHAMMADHAYAG658@GMAIL.COM

DELWAR M B FOR TAILORING BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36258287 or DELWAR54321@GMAIL.COM

synergic facility services has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER(FOOD DISTRIBUTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 66637663 or HESSAHESSAHESSA@YAHOO.COM

Rizana Super Market has a vacancy for the occupation of FOOD SERVICE WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39858332 or rizanatrading@yahoo.com

ALABRAR GATE CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of PIPE-FITTER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36632002 or ALABRAR00@HOTMAIL.COM

ISA TAREQ I. ALMAJED - WELLD MAJED - 9102 has a vacancy for the occupation of FISHERMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39625239 or IALMAJED97@GMAIL.COM

MOON SAND EXCAVATION has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400734 or MOONSANDEXC@GMAIL.COM

House of Patong Thai Spa & Salon has a vacancy for the occupation of MASSEUR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33360666 or ALQANOON@WINDOW-SLIVE.COM

BREEZE MOVERS has a vacancy for the occupation of PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34222234 or breezemovers@HOTMAIL.COM

THEJAS CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36675392 or DINESHTI-WARY97@GMAIL.COM

LUMINA SERVICES CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33482399 or HYBRIDMAINTENANCE@YAHOO.COM

FAST FOUR SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33993295 or DOCUMENTBHA9@GMAIL.COM

STAR AL WAQEF CAFETERIA WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of CASHIER (PURCHASE PAYMENT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17414124 or JINNA1234@GMAIL.COM

KARZI AUTO REPAIR has a vacancy for the occupation of SERVICEMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36995351 or HAMADRAJAB91@GMAIL.COM

ANTIBES SALON W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39831133 or faisal.antibes@gmail.com

TEA STORM FOR TEA AND SNACKS has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33676200 or MUHAMMADHAYAG658@GMAIL.COM

DELWAR M B FOR TAILORING BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36258287 or DELWAR54321@GMAIL.COM

synergic facility services has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER(FOOD DISTRIBUTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 66637663 or HESSAHESSAHESSA@YAHOO.COM

Classifieds

VACANCIES AVAILABLE CONTINUED

Rizana Super Market has a vacancy for the occupation of FOOD SERVICE WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39858332 or rizanatrading@yahoo.com

ALABRAR GATE CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of PIPE-FITTER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36632002 or ALABRAR00@HOTMAIL.COM

ISA TAREQ I. ALMAJED - WELLD MAJED - 9102 has a vacancy for the occupation of FISHERMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39625239 or IALMAJED97@GMAIL.COM

MOON SAND EXCAVATION has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400734 or MOONSANDEXC@GMAIL.COM

House of Patong Thai Spa & Salon has a vacancy for the occupation of MASSEUR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33360666 or ALQANOON@WINDOWS.LIVE.COM

BREEZE MOVERS has a vacancy for the occupation of PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34222234 or breezemovers@HOTMAIL.COM

THEJAS CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER-(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36675392 or DINESHTI-WARY97@GMAIL.COM

LUMINA SERVICES CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33482399 or HYBRIDMAINTENANCE@YAHOO.COM

FAST FOUR SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33993295 or DOCUMENTBHA9@GMAIL.COM

STAR AL WAQEF CAFETERIA W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CASHIER (PURCHASE PAYMENT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17414124 or JINNAI234@GMAIL.COM

LOTUS HOTEL has a vacancy for the occupation of SOUND AMPLIFYING EQUIPMENT OPERATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17251444 or NAMALCO@BATELCO.COM.BH

URBASER BAHRAIN CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17534342 or sajjilnath@urbaser.com

URBASER BAHRAIN CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17534342 or sajjilnath@urbaser.com

ASRAR ALWADI CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17242566 or MH2990@HOTMAIL.COM

RISE & SHINE DOCUMENT CLEARANCE has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33437449 or SULMAN8675@GMAIL.COM

HAIR INNOVATION GENTS SALOON CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35052671 or MALIRAZA8088@GMAIL.COM

INTEGRATED FACILITY MANAGEMENT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or proffice@almoayedcg.com

DRAGON AUTO SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17611939 or dragonautoservices@gmail.com

BOU BILAL BAKER has a vacancy for the occupation of BREAD BAKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36120088 or ABDULLAABDULHALEEM183@GMAIL.COM

DRAGON MASSAGE CENTRE has a vacancy for the occupation of MASSEUR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17554202 or KHEJAI@GMAIL.COM

ON SPOT FURNITURE MOVING has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33334224 or OMDAT72@YAHOO.COM

9092 GENTS SALON W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66744645 or 9092.WLL@GMAIL.COM

4W SECURITY CO. W.L.L has a vacancy

for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77996666 or Government@mre.co

4W SECURITY CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77996666 or Government@mre.co

4W SECURITY CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77996666 or Government@mre.co

4W SECURITY CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77996666 or Government@mre.co

4W SECURITY CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77996666 or Government@mre.co

Security Solutions Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77996666 or GOVERNMENT@MRE.CO

NADEEN SCHOOL DILMUNIA W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TEACHER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39206432 or shanee.puri@nadeenschool.com

MUHAMMAD AMIR DECOR W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33293427 or ASIFALI01BH@GMAIL.COM

KING HAMAD AMERICAN MISSION HOSPITAL N.P.C has a vacancy for the occupation of NURSE(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39748885 or CATHERINE@AMH.ORG.BH

BANAT AL NAWAEM FOR ACCESSORIES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17540235 or MOHAMADALSHEIKH2015@GMAIL.COM

Eastern Asphalt & Mixed Concrete Co. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17252078 or S.RADHI@EAMCO.BH

synergic facility services has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER(FOOD DISTRIBUTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 66637663 or HESSAHESSA@YAHOO.COM

MAHEEN EVENT MANAGEMENT SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37418030 or MUQEETABDUL87@GMAIL.COM

ALRAHA CAFETERIA has a vacancy for the occupation of SANDWICHES MAKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33009600 or alayanibade@yahoo.com

MAHMOOD FOR IRONING CLOTHES has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKERS(LAUNDRY), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36671633 or MUHARRAQYI@HOTMAIL.COM

HAYAT PALACE SUITES has a vacancy for the occupation of ROOM ATTENDANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39661612 or FSEENG@BATELCO.COM.BH

NIKAPOL EXPRESS CARGO W L L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER(HEAVY VEHICLE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 13112414 or ops.team@nikapol-express.com

CHICKY BUNCH RESTAURANTS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of RECEPTIONIST (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33148438 or Fatiel6775@GMAIL.COM

PASCAL LINE CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33458931 or SARHANLINE@GMAIL.COM

KAFLAN CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33316767 or kaflanconstruction@gmail.com

CONFIANZA BUSINESS CONSULTANCY COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of COMPUTER PROGRAMMER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34674093 or CINFIANZABUSINESSBH@GMAIL.COM

MOHAMMED RIZWAN ALUMINIUM CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35964321 or MOHDRIZWANBUTTI127@GMAIL.COM

Top-Level Appointments

BIC Promotes Beshara Abdu Beshara to Chief Corporate Services Officer and Appoints Adnan Hashim as Chief Financial Officer

TDT | Manama

Bahrain International Circuit (BIC), 'The Home of Motorsport in the Middle East', announced the promotion and appointment of Beshara Abdu Beshara as Chief Corporate Services Officer.

Adnan Hashim was also recently appointed Chief Financial Officer, further strengthening BIC's senior leadership team and ensuring that the organisation can continue to meet the needs of customers and partners while delivering on its objectives.

Sheikh Salman bin Isa Al Khalifa, Chief Executive of Bahrain International Circuit, said: "In recent years, we have made exceptional progress at BIC to deliver on our corporate objectives, increasing the scale and volume of our events, enhancing revenues and deliv-



Beshara Abdu Beshara, Chief Corporate Services Officer



Adnan Hashim, Chief Financial Officer

ering for our customers. The promotion of Beshara, together with the recent appointment of Adnan Hashim as CFO, bolsters our leadership team, which will support our continued progress."

"I am proud that BIC con-

tinues to support and develop home-grown Bahrain talent across all levels of the company and our most recent senior leadership appointments are a testament to that," he added.

Beshara was a founding member of the circuit's team since its

in 2004. In his over two decades of experience, he has held key leadership roles across Safety, Security, Governmental Affairs and Events. He plays a central role in managing the coordination between BIC and the Kingdom of Bahrain's government entities, facilitating seamless execution of events, particularly in the successful delivery of the Formula 1 Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix.

Adnan Hashim was appointed Chief Financial Officer at BIC, having previously held the same position with Gulf Air Group and prior to that with Alba. He has over 30 years' experience working in the financial and management consulting industry across key roles in The Kingdom of Bahrain and beyond. He has worked across areas including corporate finance, business development, planning and financial management.

Guardiola to leave Man City at end of the season - reports

Enzo Maresca emerges as frontrunner to replace Guardiola at the Etihad

● Guardiola set to end 10-year City stint

● Guided City to six Premier League titles

● City also won first Champions League under him

AFP | London

Pep Guardiola is set to bring his trophy-laden decade in charge of Manchester City to an end this weekend, according to multiple reports on Monday.

Guardiola, 55, has won six Premier League titles and City's first Champions League among 20 trophies since arriving in England in 2016.

He could add one more to his tally if City win their final two matches of the season against Bournemouth and Aston Villa and Arsenal fail to beat Crystal Palace on Sunday's final round of Premier League fixtures.

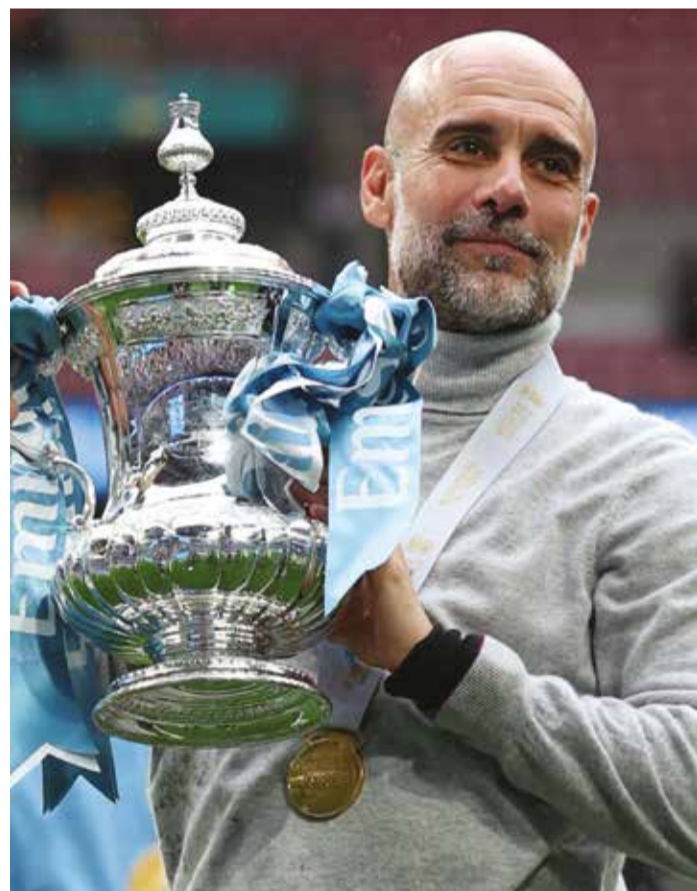
The Daily Mail and The Athletic reported that Guardiola will step down after the visit of Villa to the Etihad.

City have made no comment on the speculation.

However, the club have arranged a parade through Manchester on Monday to celebrate their League Cup and FA Cup triumphs this season, which could act as a farewell to Guardiola.

Former Chelsea boss Enzo Maresca, who previously worked on Guardiola's staff at City, is reportedly in line to take over next season.

Guardiola has one more year remaining on his contract but rumours he was set to depart at the end of the season have circulated for months.



Manchester City's Spanish manager Pep Guardiola poses with the FA Cup trophy

After a first trophyless season for seven years in the 2024/25 campaign, a rejuvenated City

Guardiola arrived in England as already one of Europe's most decorated coaches.

His four-year spell at boyhood club Barcelona between 2008 and 2012 captured admirers across the globe, winning two Champions Leagues and three La Liga titles.

He added three more league titles in three seasons at Bayern Munich.

A similarly short spell was expected when City lured him to the Premier League.

But his influence has transformed the English game at all levels over the past 10 years.

Backed by the deep pockets of Abu Dhabi royalty, City have stepped out of the shadow of local rivals Manchester United to become the dominant force

20

trophies have been won by Pep Guardiola during his decade at Manchester City



Guardiola's tactical influence heavily shaped his rivals, with Arsenal's Mikel Arteta, Liverpool's Arne Slot, and newly appointed Chelsea boss Xabi Alonso all drawing deep inspiration from his football philosophy

in England.

Guardiola's brand of passing football has been copied from grassroots through to the elite level.

Even City's competitors have turned to his disciples to catch up.

Arsenal, managed by Guardiola's former assistant Mikel Arteta, are on the brink of their first league title in 22 years.

Liverpool boss Arne Slot has said his coaching philosophy was shaped by watching the City boss' Barcelona team, while new Chelsea manager Xabi Alonso moved to Bayern in the final years of his playing career to gain the experience of working under Guardiola.

The timing of Guardiola's exit comes with the outcome of an investigation into more than 100 alleged breaches by City of financial regulations still to be released.

First charged by the Premier League in February 2023, an independent commission hearing concluded in December 2024 with the case hanging over City's achievements on the pitch ever since.

Bahrain's title defence faces tough draw

Hussain Almaskati
TDT | Manama

Defending champions Bahrain face a daunting challenge in their bid to retain the Gulf Cup title after being drawn into a competitive group for the preliminary stage of the 27th Gulf Cup, which is set to take place later this year in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

The draw for the eight-nation tournament was held yesterday in Jeddah under the supervision of the Arab Gulf Cup Football Federation. Bahrain were represented at the event by Bahrain Football Association board member and national team supervisor Shaikh Ahmed bin Isa Al Khalifa, head coach Dragan Talajic, and former international Ali Saeed.

Bahrain have been placed in Group B alongside the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, and Yemen, who are still chasing their maiden Gulf Cup title. Mean-



Bahrain celebrate their second Gulf Cup triumph last January

Group A

Iraq (four-time champions)
Oman (two-time champions)
Kuwait (record ten-time champions)
Saudi Arabia (three-time champions)

Group B

Bahrain (two-time champions)
UAE (two-time champions)
Qatar (three-time champions)
Yemen

“
I am proud to represent my players, who achieved unbelievable things at the last tournament, and insha'Allah we will repeat that success again this year

DRAGAN TALAJIC

while, Group A features Iraq, Oman, Kuwait, and hosts Saudi Arabia.

The 27th Gulf Cup, also known as “Khaleeji 27,” will be held from September 23 to October 6. Bahrain enter the tournament

as reigning champions following their triumph in the previous edition, staged between December 2024 and January 2025. That victory secured their second Gulf Cup title, adding to their maiden success in 2019.

In the final, Bahrain produced a dramatic comeback to defeat Oman 2-1 on Omani soil in one of the most memorable championship matches in recent years. Oman took the lead through Abdulrahman Al Mushaifri in the 17th minute before Mohamed Marhoon equalised from the penalty spot in the 78th minute. Just two minutes later, a defensive lapse led to an own goal by Mohammed Al Musalami, sealing a dramatic Bahrain victory and the Gulf Cup title.

Al Najma eye third Asian crown

Hussain Almaskati
TDT | Manama

The Bahraini club Al Najma will begin its campaign in the 28th Asian Men's Club League Handball Championship, which also serves as a qualifier for the IHF Super Globe, when it faces Saudi Arabia's Al Khaleej on Saturday, June 6 in the preliminary round.

Held in Kuwait from June 6 to June 15, the tournament brings together Asia's leading clubs and carries added significance as it offers qualification to the 2026 Super Globe in Egypt.

Al Najma has been placed in Group B alongside Al Khaleej, Kuwait SC, and Qatar's Al Arabi SC, forming one of the most competitive groups in the competition. The team opens against Al Khaleej on June 6, meets Al Arabi SC on June 7, and concludes its preliminary round fixtures against hosts Kuwait SC on June 9.

The preliminary stage follows a single round-robin format un-



Action from Al Najma's victory in last year's final in Isfahan, Iran

der Asian Handball Federation regulations, after which all eight participating teams advance to the main round. Results from the preliminary matches are carried forward, meaning every game directly influences knockout seeding.



Al Najma celebrate their second Asian Championship title in 2025

In the main round, teams enter a cross-group elimination system. The top team in Group A plays the fourth-placed team in Group B, while the second-placed team in Group A faces the third-placed team in Group B.

The same crossover structure applies in reverse, with higher-ranked sides drawn against lower-ranked opponents from

the opposite group, progressing through knockout ties toward the final.

Group A also includes strong contenders such as the UAE's Sharjah, Kuwait's Burgan SC, China's representative team, and Qatar's Al Duhail SC.

Al Najma will aim to make a strong impression on the continental stage, with the tournament representing a key path-

way to the IHF Super Globe. The Bahraini side also arrives with a strong pedigree, having won the championship twice — first in 2017 in Hyderabad, India, and again in 2023 in Isfahan, Iran after a dramatic victory over Al Duhail SC.

They defeated Qatar's Al Duhail 31-30 after four periods of extra time, following a draw at the end of regulation time.

Arsenal Crowned Champions After City Draw

Hussain Almaskati
TDT | Manama

Arsenal have been crowned 2025-26 Premier League champions after Manchester City were held to a 1-1 draw away at Bournemouth, a result that secured the title for the Gunners with one game remaining.

At the Vitality Stadium yesterday, Bournemouth took the lead before half-time through a superb strike from Junior Kroupi. Marcus Tavernier released Adrien Truffert on the left, and he picked out Kroupi, who took a touch and curled past Gianluigi Donnarumma into the far corner.

City equalised deep into stoppage time after a scramble in the box. Rodri's shot was blocked and the ball fell to Erling Haaland, who reacted quickest

to score and salvage a point.

The draw ended City's hopes of a late title charge, leaving them four points behind Arsenal with one game remaining, a deficit that is now mathematically insurmountable.

For Mikel Arteta's side, the title reflects a season of consistency and defensive strength. Arsenal conceded the fewest goals in the league, with goalkeeper David Raya playing an instrumental role behind a well-organised back line.

It is their first league title in 22 years, ending a long wait since the Invincibles era and val-

idating Arteta's project since 2019.

After three consecutive runner-up finishes, Arsenal finally broke through despite a difficult April that briefly saw them lose a commanding lead.

Four straight wins in the closing weeks restored momentum, while Manchester City

dropped points against Everton and Bournemouth, allowing Arsenal to regain control.

Attention now turns to the Champions League final against Paris Saint-Germain in Budapest, where Arsenal aim to complete a historic double after an unbeaten European run.

Victory would deliver the club's first European crown and arguably its most successful modern-era season, depending on the result at the Puskás Aréna.

Fans have waited for this campaign, celebrating domestic success and consistency against a dominant City side. The Emirates is expected to host celebrations, with a trophy parade planned if they complete the double.

Pep Guardiola reacts during Bournemouth match



Ronaldo, 41, leads Portugal into his sixth World Cup

AFF | Lisbon

Veteran Portugal striker Cristiano Ronaldo will lead his country into the 2026 World Cup this summer after coach Roberto Martinez named the 41-year-old in his squad yesterday.

The former Real Madrid and Manchester United star, now at Saudi Arabian side Al Nassr, is set to appear at a record sixth World Cup.

Portugal and Ronaldo, the all-time leading men's international goalscorer with 143 goals, have never won the competition.

Ronaldo could face former Barcelona rival Lionel Messi, who is also set to play at a sixth World Cup after leading Argentina to glory four years



Cristiano Ronaldo reacts during a match (file photo)

ago in Qatar. The Portuguese forward avoided a three-match ban despite being sent off against the Republic of Ireland in their last qualifying match for an elbow.

Spanish coach Martinez selected a 26-man squad with no major surprises, including Ronaldo's Al Nassr team-mate Joao Felix, and also named goalkeeper Ricardo Velho as an extra player in the group.

Bahrain Strike Double Gold in Handball and Volleyball

Hussain Almaskati
TDT | Manama

Bahrain enjoyed a sensational seventh day at the GCC Games in Doha yesterday, with gold medal victories in handball and volleyball leading the way, as the Kingdom continued to strengthen its position in the overall standings. There were also further podium finishes in shooting, where Bahrain added two silver medals and three bronze medals at the Lusail Shooting Range, alongside participation in padel at the Aspire Dome.

The standout performance came in the men's handball competition, where Bahrain defeated hosts and long-time rivals Qatar 24-19 at the Aspire Women's Sports Hall to secure gold. Coached by Sweden's Robert Hedin, Bahrain produced a disciplined performance to claim their second GCC Games handball gold, following their previous title on home soil in 2011. They have also earned silver medals in 2015 and 2022.

Qatar made the brighter start and opened the scoring, but Bahrain quickly responded when Jassim Khamis levelled from the wing. Ahmed Khadem then gave Bahrain a 4-3 lead on the break, before captain Hussain Al Sayyad took increasing control of the contest. His long-range strike made it 6-4, and he added another from the left



Captain Hussain Al Sayyad flexes confidently during Bahrain-Qatar match



Bahrain national volleyball team display gold medals

Medal Standings					
Rank	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	Qatar	43	44	32	119
2	Saudi Arabia	26	20	19	65
3	Bahrain	24	22	15	61
4	Kuwait	11	16	24	51
5	Oman	10	4	15	29
6	United Arab Emirates	8	13	25	46

wing as Bahrain moved 11-8 ahead, eventually taking a 13-10 lead into half-time.

After the restart, Bahrain maintained their intensity. Al Sayyad continued to dictate play, extending the lead to 15-11 despite Bahrain being reduced to a

man down. He struck again to make it 20-15, and Bahrain stayed firmly in control to close out a 24-19 victory. The result added to Bahrain's recent success after defeating the same opponents to win the Asian championship earlier this year, and it also strengthens their momentum ahead of next year's World Championship campaign. In the dressing room after the

match, Bahrain Handball Federation President Ali Mohamed Isa Eshaqi told the players: "You have delivered a performance worthy of gold, and nothing less reflects the standard of this team." Captain Hussain Al Sayyad said: "I am proud to play with you guys." Goalkeeper Mohammed Abulhussain added: "It is not easy to win gold in consecutive tournaments, but we have done it."

Bahrain national football team goalkeeper Ebrahim Lutfalla was also present in support as the national side prepares to face the UAE in their final match tomorrow, having already secured their tournament objectives.

In volleyball, Bahrain's men's national team secured gold with a straight-sets victory over Qatar at Duhail Sports Hall, winning 25-21, 27-25, 25-23. The result marked a strong start for Mon-

tenegrin head coach Ivan Joksimovic in his first tournament in charge, continuing the momentum established under former coach Arnaud Jossierand.

In shooting at the Lusail Shooting Range, Bahrain finished with five medals in total, comprising two silver and three bronze. Mohamed Zaman won silver in the men's 10m air pistol final with a score of 229.7, while the Bahrain women's 10m air pistol team also secured silver. The bronze medals were claimed by Marwa Buarki in the women's trap final with 102, the women's trap team with a score of 298 in the 75 targets event, and Aysha Albraiki in the women's 10m air pistol final with 209.2.

The Kingdom's representatives will now look to build on its impressive medal haul as the Games continue in Doha until May 22.

Bahrain targets handball world championship breakthrough

Hussain Almaskati
TDT | Manama

The Bahraini national handball team has been placed in Pot 3 for the draw of the 2027 IHF Men's Handball World Championship, with the official ceremony scheduled for June 10 in Munich, Germany, where the team will learn its preliminary round opponents.

Bahrain joins Greece, Poland, Brazil, Tunisia, Cape Verde, Chile, and the United States in Pot 3, meaning it cannot be drawn against any of these nations in the opening group stage.

The team secured its place at the World Championship after winning the 22nd Asian Men's Handball Championship in Kuwait in January, defeating Qatar 29-25 in the final after extra time.

The victory marked a historic continental breakthrough, as it was Bahrain's first-ever Asian title, highlighting the



Bahrain's national men's handball team celebrates its landmark Asian title triumph

nation's rising status in Asian handball.

Under International Handball Federation regulations, the draw will feature four seeding pots, with the preliminary round consisting of eight groups of four teams each.

The top three teams from each group will advance to the main round, ensuring continued contention beyond the opening phase.

The teams that do not reach the knockout stage (quarter-finals) will enter the President's Cup, a classification competition used to determine final rankings.

The tournament will run from January 13 to January 31, 2027, with a format designed to protect player welfare, guaranteeing each team at least one rest day between matches in the preliminary stage so no side plays on consecutive days.

After the preliminary phase, the main

round and President's Cup will begin immediately.

Cologne will host the closing stages, including the semi-finals, placement matches from fifth to eighth, the third-place play-off, and the final.

Preliminary round matches will be staged in Munich, Magdeburg, Kiel, and Stuttgart, while the main round will take place in Cologne and Hanover. Magdeburg will host the President's Cup fixtures, and the knockout phase from the quarter-finals onward will be played at the Lanxess Arena in Cologne.

The draw in Munich on June 10 will therefore play a decisive role in shaping Bahrain's path at the global tournament.

The squad, coached by Swedish coach Robert Hedin, will aim to build on its recent continental success as it prepares for the challenge on the world stage.