

# LuLu Exchange brings Argentina fans together in a day for football celebration

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LuLu Exchange Bahrain hosted a fan gathering at the LuLu Exchange Juffair Mall branch, welcoming Argentina supporters and football lovers from across Bahrain for an afternoon of games, activities and shared passion for one of the world's favourite games.

The event turned an ordinary day into a celebration of community and football spirit. Fans came dressed in the iconic blue and white, taking part in interactive activities, friendly competitions and football-themed fun that captured the spirit of the world champions. It was literally an event for the like-minded crowd that gathered, bound by the same love for the sport and for a team that has come to represent so much more than football.

The gathering reflects how LuLu Exchange continues to



bring its global partnership with the Argentine Football Association in 2025 and today the journey continues with the same passion and pride. Argentina is one of football's most iconic nations, a country celebrated for its flair, determination and footballing greatness

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ner of the Argentine Football Association in 2025 and today the journey continues with the same passion and pride. Argentina is one of football's most iconic nations, a country celebrated for its flair, determination and footballing greatness

and the reigning world champions. To stand alongside such a legendary team is both an honour and a responsibility. What makes this collaboration so meaningful is how naturally both our values align. The team's excellence on the pitch

mirrors excellence in our services. Dedication in training reflects dedication to our customers. Teamwork, resilience and a commitment to connecting people across the globe are among the many principles AFA lives by and these same principles have

guided LuLu Exchange from day one. "Seeing so many fans come together sharing the same joy and energy is exactly what this partnership is about," said Edison Fernandez, General Manager, LuLu Exchange Bahrain. "Football has a way of bringing people closer and being able to create that space for our community here in Bahrain to celebrate the team we are so proud to stand beside. This is just the beginning of many more moments we hope to share with our fans on the road to the 2026's biggest football match."

Beyond the celebrations, LuLu Exchange continues to serve communities across Bahrain with fast, secure and reliable money transfers, foreign exchange and payment services, connecting people to their loved ones back home, just as football connects fans across the world.

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## Eighty-three government services upgraded in five months

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Bahrain has upgraded 83 government services across 17 public entities in just five months as part of a drive to improve efficiency, cut processing times and expand digital access.

The improvements, implemented between January 15 and June 18, form part of ongoing efforts to enhance service quality, simplify procedures and strengthen the user experience.

Among the services transformed was the Ministry of Health's issuance of safe disposal certificates for expired food products, which is now fully digital and faster to complete. The Labour Market Regulatory Authority also digitised the correction of work permit status for domestic workers whose employers have died, reducing processing times and paperwork.

Other upgrades included automating requests to cancel academic programme transfer applications at the University of Bahrain and introducing automatic registration for the Electricity and Water Authority's monthly fixed discount service through the Benefit application.

The programme achieved full digital transformation of the upgraded services, reduced processing periods by at least 25 per cent, cut required documents by half and limited application procedures to a maximum of four steps.

Authorities also streamlined digital platforms, converted paper-based forms into electronic services and reduced the number of pages needed to access services by 50 per cent.

## Work starts on new Alliance Française Bahrain building

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Education Minister Dr Mohammed bin Mubarak Juma attended the foundation stone laying ceremony for the new Alliance Française Bahrain building in Adliya, organised by the French Embassy.

The event was attended by French Ambassador Eric Giraud-Telme, French Senate members Olivier Cadic and Rémy Pointereau, and Minister Delegate for Relations with Parliament Nathalie Delattre.

Dr Juma highlighted the strong Bahrain-France partnership, particularly in education and culture, and praised the Alliance Française for promoting the French lan-



guage and strengthening cultural ties between the two countries.

Ambassador Giraud-Telme

commended Bahrain's support for joint educational and cultural initiatives, while Mr Cadic and Alliance Française Bahrain

chairman Ahmed Al Jawahery outlined the project and its future plans.

The minister later toured

an exhibition showcasing designs for the new building and viewed a presentation on the project.

## Reading champions advance to Dubai finals



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The Ministry of Education honoured winners of Bahrain's qualifiers for the 10th Arab Reading Challenge, which attracted more than 148,000 students from 250 public and private schools.

Education Minister Dr Mohammed bin Mubarak Juma praised the initiative's role

in promoting reading and strengthening educational ties between Bahrain and the UAE.

Raneem Murshid Al Darwish of Al Izdihar Primary Girls School won first place, followed by Ahmed Hussain Abdullah of Al Khalil bin Ahmad Intermediate Boys School and Batool Al Sayed Dhiya Al Sayed Mohammed of Al Ahliya Private School.

In the People of Determination category, Batool Al Sayed Redha Sharaf of Saar Secondary Girls School secured first place. Saar Secondary Girls School won the Distinguished School Award, while Aisha Ahmed Al Attawi was named Distinguished Supervisor.

The winners will represent Bahrain in the final round of the competition in Dubai.



Algeria's Minister of State and Minister of Foreign Affairs, National Community Abroad and African Affairs, Ahmed Attaf, received Bahrain's Ambassador to Algeria, Ali Jassim Al Aradi, on the occasion of the conclusion of his diplomatic tenure in the country. During the meeting, Minister Attaf praised Ambassador Al Aradi's efforts in promoting the strong fraternal relations and cooperation between Bahrain and Algeria throughout his term. Ambassador Al Aradi expressed his appreciation for the support and cooperation he received during his diplomatic mission, which contributed to carrying out his duties successfully.



His Highness Sheikh Saud bin Saqr Al Qasimi, Supreme Council Member and Ruler of Ras Al Khaimah, received Talal Yusef Fakhro, Consul General of the Kingdom of Bahrain in Dubai and the Northern Emirates. The meeting reviewed the close relations between the two countries and peoples, as well as issues of common interest. Talal Yusef Fakhro commended the deep rooted ties between the Kingdom of Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates and lauded the development witnessed by the Emirate of Ras Al Khaimah across different domains.