

Uproar over university 'expelling students' who scored low marks

UoB decision follows recommendations by a special committee to improve educational standards

TDT | Manama
Thamer Tayfoor

The students' council has rapped the University of Bahrain's (UoB) decision to reject the pleas submitted by the students who were reportedly expelled for scoring low annual Grade Points Average (GPA).


The university's decision follows the recommendations by a special committee to study the cases of students whose scores remained below average and had requested a second chance to continue their classes.

Speaking to Tribune, council member Muath Al Kailani said the decision would do more harm than good.

"Earlier, students were granted five opportunities to enhance their scores before warnings were issued. The new regulations are being implemented against the students who joined after 2017.

"We have learnt that the committee has completed responding to most students' requests to be granted a second chance, and the majority of the requests were rejected.

"A few were allowed to resume classes, while some appli-



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The university has set a variety of bylaws related to students' GPAs. These regulations were a result of long years of studying students' conditions, circumstances and their ability to continue their education.
DR HAMZA



Many students have reportedly submitted their pleas against expelling from courses.

cations are being studied. Some of the accepted excuses that were provided by the students include deaths of relatives and medical conditions."

Echoing a similar view, Abdulaziz Al Homri, another council member said, "The majority of the submitted requests were rejected by the committee. We demand the committee to take students' excuses into consideration and understand their conditions. These students deserve a second chance. More assistance and understanding is required from the committee's part."

On the flip side, UoB President Dr Riyadh Hamza said that the university will allow students who have submitted 'acceptable excuses' to be enrolled in the next academic year and this move reflects the university's concern for the academic future of these students.

"The university has set a variety of bylaws related to students' GPAs. These regulations were a result of long years of studying students' conditions, circumstances and their ability to continue their education in the university.

"The UoB has also taken several steps to ensure that stu-



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dents have fully understood the university's norms, rules and regulations before they register," Dr Hamza stated.

When asked about the students whose pleas were re-

jected, Dr Hamza said, "They should visit the registration department in the university and provide the required documents, if any, to substantiate their claims."

Women's collective on a rare cooking mission

● 'Muharram kitchen' has been part of Malkiya traditions for a long time now.

TDT | Manama
Amani Al Maskati

More than 60 women gather every day in a small village on the western coast of the island for a special mission - cooking food for those who take part in mourning processions as part of the Ashoora rituals.

They prepare about 750 kg of food every day before distributing them to mourners and visitors to the village.

'Muharram kitchen' has been part of Malkiya traditions for a long time now. Speaking to Tribune, Alawi Habeeb, a Malkiya resident, who is in charge of these kitchens, said that preparations to serve food begin well in advance.



A woman is seen cooking food for the mourners and visitors to Malkiya village.

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We have been collectively working to serve food to mourners and visitors while making sure that no food gets wasted. This is one tradition we inherited from our ancestors.
MR HABEEB

These kitchens are known as Mudheef and have been part of the Ashoora season since 2003.

"We have been collectively working to serve food to mourners and visitors while making sure that no food gets wasted. This is one tradition we inherited from our ancestors. Every year we work hard to preserve this tradition."

"The team begins their work early morning. We use wood and palm tree branches for cooking, which lasts for over seven hours. But, we ensure that the food is well cooked."

750
kg of food is prepared every day by the groups of women marking the Ashoora season.

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