

**U.S. Embassy Launches Discover America Week: October 21-27**



MARGARET NARDI

Each year, around this time, American embassies the world over celebrate Discover America Week to highlight the contributions of U.S. goods, services and products to our lives. This year's Discover America Week kicks off in Bahrain on October 21. Every year Discover America Week provides an opportunity for the U.S. Embassy, American Chamber of Commerce and our Bahraini friends and partners to highlight American investment in Bahrain and to reinforce our strong and deepening U.S.-Bahrain partnership across all sectors.

Over 200 world-class, state of the art American firms have chosen to be based here in Bahrain, one of the most dynamic economies in the region, and a great place to do business. These firms have powered the leap in bilateral U.S.-Bahrain trade from \$782 million in 2005 to \$2.45 billion in 2019, including an increase in Bahrain's exports to the United States, from \$300 million prior to the U.S.-Bahrain Free Trade Agreement coming into effect in 2006 to over \$1 billion today.

**Over 200 world-class, state-of-the-art American firms have chosen to be based here in Bahrain, one of the most dynamic economies in the region, and a great place to do business.**

To be sure, COVID-19 is taking a toll on the global economy. During Discover America Week we will showcase some of the Bahraini and American companies helping us all to thrive during these challenging times. We will highlight the efforts of U.S. firms Hill, L3 and AECOM, whose engineering mastery will ensure an excellent travel experience at Bahrain International Airport's new passenger terminal. The contributions of these U.S. firms will increase passenger capacity to 14 million travelers each year and, down the line, will enable non-stop flights between Bahrain and the United States. We will emphasize the contributions of major American technology companies, such as Cisco(?), Amazon and Microsoft, to build the information technology architecture necessary for schools and universities to share data securely and continue educating safely during the COVID-19 pandemic. We will honor companies like WestPoint Home, which retooled one of its production lines to produce life-saving face masks to protect us all, as well as the American Mission Hospital that is supporting the people and the Government of Bahrain to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

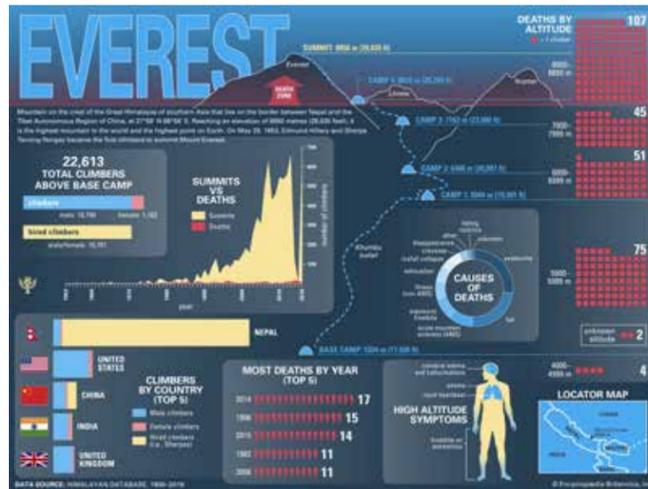
To inspire and introduce local entrepreneurs, who wish to connect to and partner with American entrepreneurs or enter the U.S. marketplace, we will hold a series of virtual workshops to explain our top tips on doing business in the United States, obtaining franchises to market American products and services locally and maximizing resources like the U.S. Export-Import (EXIM) Bank to import U.S.-manufactured goods and services. The virtual workshops will provide information on the U.S. Embassy's commercial services and visa services for doing business in the United States, including the new 10-year tourist and business visa which will enable greater opportunities for people-to-people exchanges, trade, travel, and tourism, once visa issuance can be safely resumed in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

We look forward to you joining us during Discover America Week from October 21-27, 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the restrictions on congregational gatherings, our public programming will be entirely virtual, readily accessible via Instagram, Twitter, Facebook and YouTube on the following link: <https://bh.usembassy.gov/our-relationship/welcome-discover-america-week/>

*(Margaret Nardi, U.S. Embassy Chargé d'Affaires to the Kingdom of Bahrain)*

**Mission possible: Mount Everest!**

Shaikh Nasser confident Bahrain Royal Guard team will raise Bahrain flag at summit next year



TDT | Manama

Next stop is Mount Everest, the world's highest mountain.

After successfully scaling the Mount Manaslu, the eighth highest mountain in the world at 8,163 metres above sea level, there is no way but up for the Bahrain Royal Guard team.

And the biggest task is to reach the peak of the 8,848-metre high Mount Everest, which at 8,850 metres above sea level is considered the tallest point on Earth.

No less than His Highness Major General Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, representative of His Majesty the King for Humanitarian Works and Youth Affairs, is confident the Royal Guard team would be able to set foot on the summit of Mount Everest next year.

HH Shaikh Nasser said that reaching the Manaslu summit has boosted the team's aptitudes to scale Mount Everest and raise the Bahrain flag at the summit.

"We are keen on providing full support to the men of the Royal Guard who possess high capabilities that empowered them to overcome several challenges to reach the Manaslu summit, but they now have the bigger challenge of reaching the summit of Everest," he said.

The Royal Guard team completed a special training in the Himalayas with the ultimate goal of reaching

the summit of Mount Everest in 2021.

The 18-member Royal Guard was assigned by HH Shaikh Nasser to raise the flags of Bahrain and of the Royal Guard on the summit of Mount Manaslu, one of only 14 mountains in the world to exceed 8,000 metres, and known as the deadly mountain in the world of climbing.

The Royal Guard spent eight days acclimatising and climbing to the summit of Mount Manaslu. They were able to reach the summit after 10 hours.

The team, however, needed to descend 4,000 metres to a safe altitude that did not require additional oxygen. They spent 24 hours climbing and descending. The team burned about 15,000 calories trying to climb to the summit.

**Facts about Everest**

Mount Everest straddles the border between Nepal and Tibet at the crest of the Himalayan mountain chain.

Although reaching the top of the world is an arduous and potentially deadly undertaking due to the extreme altitude, avalanches, icefalls, and other hazards, the mountain lies quite close to the equator, at a latitude of approximately 28 degrees.

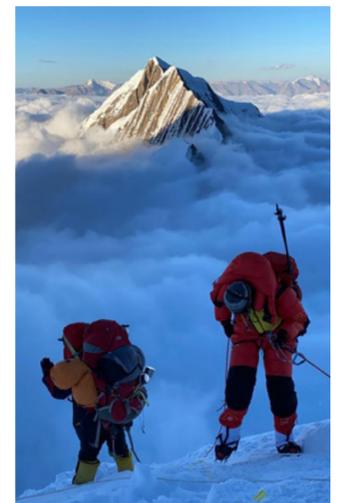
Earth scientists estimate that Everest is 50 to 60 million years old, a youngster by geological standards. The mountain was formed by the



Showing the Bahrain flag

**"We are keen on providing full support to the men of the Royal Guard who overcame several challenges to reach the Manaslu summit, but they now have the bigger challenge of reaching the summit of Everest."**

HIS HIGHNESS SHAIKH NASSER BIN HAMAD AL KHALIFA



The Bahrain Royal Guard team on way to the summit of Mount Manaslu

upward force generated when the Indian and Eurasian tectonic plates collided, pushing up the rocks that formed the highest mountain on Earth. That force is still at work today, pushing Everest's summit about a quarter of an inch higher each year.

**A hostile environment**

Everest's summit has approximately one-third the air pressure that exists at sea level, which significantly reduces a climber's ability to breathe in enough oxygen.

Because of this, scientists have determined that the human body is not capable of remaining indef-

initely above 19,000 feet. As climbers move higher up the mountain and their oxygen intake is reduced, their bodies are increasingly at risk for a number of ailments, including pulmonary edema, cerebral edema, and blood embolisms.

The chances of frostbite are also dramatically increased at such altitude as the heart works harder to pump blood around the body delivering oxygen.

**Executive-legislative co-operation lauded**



Minister Al Romaihi receives lawmakers

TDT | Manama

Information Affairs Minister Ali bin Mohammed Al Romaihi received yesterday Council of Representatives members, MPs Mohammed Bu Hammoud and Mohammed Isa, and discussed with them topics of mutual interest.

The minister lauded the co-operation and partnership between the

executive and legislative branches in enhancing development, as well as in serving the nation and the citizens during His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa's prosperous era.

The lawmakers expressed thanks and appreciation to the minister for his interest in developing the information and communication sector in a way that contributes to the kingdom's status.

**Prosecution appeals against verdict in perjury case**

TDT | Manama

The Public Prosecution has yesterday appealed against a verdict issued last week by the Minor Criminal Court against the four accused in a perjury case.

Chief Prosecutor Mohammed Salah confirmed in a statement yesterday that the Public Prosecution made the move after studying the grounds and causes of the conviction verdict in the case.

Salah explained that the appeal comes for legal and objective reasons, adding that the case will be reviewed by the High Criminal Court on 3 November.

Capital Governorate Prosecution Chief Prosecutor Maryam Al Ghais stated last week that the court had sentenced three of the accused, two women and their woman



**The crime of perjuring occurred before the Civil Court in a case related to a dispute over an inherited piece of land.**

lawyer, on 14 October, to one year in jail and had set a bail of BDI,000 to suspend the execution of the verdict. The fourth accused was sentenced to six months of imprisonment.

According to court files, the crime of perjuring occurred before the Civil Court in a case related to a dispute over an inherited piece of land.