

Foreign Minister Praises Royal Vision



Foreign Minister Dr. Abdullahatif bin Rashid Al Zayani praised initiatives led by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa to promote peace, dialogue and cultural coexistence.

Marking the International Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development, he said Bahrain's efforts help strengthen regional stability and support sustainable development.

He also highlighted the role of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa in promoting values of human fraternity and respect for cultural and religious diversity.

Minister Al Zayani said Bahrain continues to champion intercultural and interfaith dialogue through international conferences and global partnerships, describing dialogue as key to peace and development.

25% cut in service times

Bahrain developed 64 government services across 14 public entities between January 15 and May 21 as part of ongoing efforts to improve service delivery and enhance efficiency.

The upgrades are part of a wider programme to restructure procedures and expand digital transformation across government services.

Key improvements include streamlined housing procedures, digital submission of university certificates and transcripts with QR verification, and faster approvals for private sector planning and health licensing services.

Authorities said the reforms reduced service delivery times by at least 25%, simplified application processes, and cut required documents by 50%. Most services are now fully digitised, with unified information across government platforms.

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NATO Dispute

Rubio criticises NATO allies for refusing to support US action on Iran as Spain blocks base access. **P6**

Bahrain-US Strategic Ties

HM King receives written message from U.S. President

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa received a written message from Donald Trump, President of the United States of America, praising the deep historical ties and close strategic partnership between the Kingdom of Bahrain and the United States.

The US President expressed admiration for the national

unity in the Kingdom of Bahrain and the solidarity of its people, underscoring his country's firm commitment to supporting the security and stability of the Gulf region amid Iran's continued aggression and blatant violations of international law.

HE President Trump also wished continued security, peace, and prosperity to His Majesty the King and the people of the Kingdom of Bahrain.



New Board for Al Ahli



His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, First Deputy Chairman of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports (SCYS), President of the General Sports Authority (GSA), and President of the Bahrain Olympic Committee (BOC), issued Edict (5) of 2026 appointing a temporary board of directors for Al Ahli Sports Club.

The temporary board will serve for one year and will be chaired by Khalid Ibrahim Ali Kanoo. Members include Yousif Hassan Yousif Al Arabi, Bader Nasser Mohammed Hussain, Beshara Abdo Fath Al Rahman Beshara, Nawaf Fouad Abdulali Al Jishi, Tariq Mohammed Ali Taqi, Mohammed Nabeel Salem Abdullah Al Shurooqi, and Adnan Ibrahim Abdullah Showaiter.

New Era in Gulf-UK Trade

Welcomed progress Free Trade Agreement and Joint Statement

- Praised Bahrain's negotiation team
- Urged deeper bilateral cooperation
- Commended the UK's security role
- Reviewed regional, global developments

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His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, today met with His Excellency Alastair Long, the Ambassador of the United Kingdom to the Kingdom of Bahrain, at Riffa Palace.

His Royal Highness affirmed the depth of the longstanding and historic relations between the Kingdom of Bahrain and the United Kingdom, highlighting the continued progress of bilateral cooperation across various sectors, including through

strategic partnerships and joint agreements such as the Comprehensive Security Integration and Prosperity Agreement (C-SIPA).

During the meeting, His Royal Highness underscored the importance of deepening cooperation and promoting future opportunities that advance collaboration between both countries.

His Royal Highness commended the progress achieved in the GCC-UK Free Trade Agreement, in which negotiations concluded with the signing of a Joint Statement. His Royal Highness affirmed that the agreement would contribute to strengthening the economic partnership between the GCC and the United Kingdom, supporting the visions and aspirations of the GCC member states.

In this regard, His Royal Highness expressed his appreciation to HE Abdulla bin Adel Fakhro, Minister of Industry and Commerce, for his dedicated efforts, which contributed to achieving this strategic milestone, during the Kingdom of Bahrain's presidency of the 46th session of the Gulf Cooperation Council. His Royal Highness also expressed his appreciation



to the national task force involved in the negotiations, comprising representatives from several government entities.

HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister commended the strength of the Bahrain-UK partnership, highlighting its significant role in supporting efforts to combat the hostile Iranian aggression.

His Royal Highness also highlighted the UK's role, alongside

allied countries, in safeguarding security and stability, and supporting regional and international development.

The meeting also reviewed the latest regional and international developments, as well as other issues of common interest.

His Excellency Hamad bin Faisal Al Malki, Minister of Cabinet Affairs, also attended the meeting.

Fatal Accident



Authorities reported that an Asian cyclist was killed in a tragic road accident on Budaiya Highway near Saar on Thursday.

The incident occurred on a busy stretch of the highway connecting several residential areas, prompting an immediate response from emergency services.

National Hajj Mission

Bahrain Hajj Mission Opens Medical Clinic in Mecca

TDT | Manama

The Bahrain Hajj Mission's medical committee has opened a medical clinic in Mecca to provide healthcare services for Bahraini pilgrims throughout the Hajj season.

The clinic has begun receiving patients and will operate around the clock to offer medical treatment, preventive care and health support to pilgrims performing the annual pilgrimage.



Dr Ibrahim Farooq Obaid, head of the medical committee of Bahrain's Hajj mission, said the team was working collectively to

deliver integrated, high-quality healthcare services aimed at helping pilgrims perform their rituals with ease and reassurance.

He said the committee had completed its operational and technical preparations under a comprehensive plan covering preventive, therapeutic and emergency healthcare services.

Obaid said the medical committee was coordinating closely with Bahrain's Hajj mission, headed by Sheikh Adnan Al Qattan, to ensure cooperation among all

committees and provide the best possible services for Bahraini pilgrims in the holy sites.

He added that the committee seeks every year to further develop the level of healthcare services in line with the highest medical and organisational standards, with the clinic continuing operations throughout the Hajj season.

Obaid also expressed appreciation for Saudi Arabia's efforts in serving pilgrims and providing advanced facilities and services to help them perform Hajj safely and smoothly.

(Read more on page 03)

Industrial Development Drive

Minister underscores commitment to strengthening industrial sector and supply chain

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Minister of Industry and Commerce, Abdullah bin Adel Fakhro, conducted an inspection tour of Salman Industrial City in Hidd, where he visited companies under Kingdom Group, part of "New Holding," officials said. The minister reaffirmed the government's commitment to supporting the industrial sector and strengthening its role in sustainable economic development, supply chain resilience and national competitiveness.

During the visit, senior officials from Kingdom Group received him, including its vice chairman, group managing director, chief executive officer and operations manager.

Minister Fakhro stressed the importance of developing local industries, increasing production capacity and enhancing industrial security, while support-



ing efforts to improve efficiency across the sector.

He was briefed on the group's operations, expansion plans and upcoming projects, and toured production facilities to review manufacturing processes, quality standards and operational

performance.

Company officials reiterated their commitment to supporting Bahrain's industrial development goals and improving productivity in line with national economic priorities.

New Holding oversees a

diversified portfolio of industrial and construction companies in Bahrain, operating across sectors including asphalt, cement, concrete, ready-mix, sand washing and chemical solutions through a centralized governance structure.

When Experience Becomes a Book



TDT | Manama
Rehab Mohammad

His Excellency Ali Bin Saleh Al Saleh, Chairman of Shura Council, received journalist and author Ahmed Abdullatif Al-Bahar, praising his contributions to administrative thought and professional documentation.

During the meeting, Al-Bahar presented his book "Administrative Situations", which documents more than 200 managerial cases drawn from over 30 years of professional experience across various workplaces.

Al Saleh commended the book's content, noting that it offers valuable practical in-

sights that help develop administrative concepts and strengthen institutional performance. He said such works enrich the national library and support the transfer of professional knowledge to future generations.

He also described the publication as a useful reference that can enhance the skills of administrators and professionals across different sectors, wishing the author continued success in his future work.

For his part, Al-Bahar expressed pride in meeting the Shura Council Chairman, praising his support for cultural and intellectual initiatives and his encouragement for writers to document real-life professional experiences.

BD5,400 Fine, Three Years Jail Over Expired Food

TDT | Manama
Rehab Mohammad

The Public Prosecution announced that the court sentenced a restaurant and bakery owner to three years in prison and fined her BD5,400 after convicting her of selling expired food products and violating health and commercial regulations.

The Sixth Lower Criminal Court also ordered the confiscation of seized food items linked to the case.

According to prosecutors, officials from the Ministry of Industry and Commerce uncovered the violations during routine inspections at two bakeries and beverage outlets owned and managed by the defendant.

Inspectors found expired food products unfit for human consumption, as well as items lacking mandatory labeling.

Investigations also revealed that the woman produced and sold bakery and confectionery products from her home without obtaining the required permits or health approvals.

The Public Prosecution said prosecutors visited the establishments, heard witness testimonies and reviewed inspection findings before referring the case to court.

Authorities noted that the defendant had previously been convicted in a similar case, receiving a three-year prison sentence and a BD7,200 fine.

"Justice and Security Must Work Together"

Justice Minister Praises Interior Minister's Speech in Abu Dhabi

TDT | Manama
Rehab Mohammad

Minister of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments, Nawaf bin Mohammed Al Ma'awda, praised the opening remarks delivered by the Interior Minister at a global security forum in the United Arab Emirates.

Minister Al Ma'awda commended Lieutenant General Sheikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, Bahrain's Interior Minister, for his speech at the Global Sustainable Security Summit, saying it reflected a "forward-looking national vision" rooted in an understanding of evolving global security challenges.

He stressed that stability in the Gulf region remains a key pillar for both regional and international peace, adding that effective security systems must go hand in hand with justice institutions.

"Sustainable security cannot be achieved without effective justice, and justice cannot be protected without professional security institutions," he said, according to a statement.



The Justice Minister also noted the Interior Minister's focus on rapid technological change and digital transformation, which he said are reshaping modern security concepts around readiness, rapid response, and risk anticipation.

He highlighted growing transnational threats such as cybercrime and organised crime, calling for stronger regional and international cooperation, as well as improved coordination and intelligence-sharing between specialised agencies.

India Names Ambassador to Bahrain

TDT | Manama

Dr. Pradeep Singh Rajpurohit has been appointed as India's next Ambassador to the Kingdom of Bahrain, the Ministry of External Affairs of India announced on Thursday.

Dr. Rajpurohit, served as High Commissioner of India to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, will take up his new assignment in Manama, the ministry said in a statement.

India and Bahrain share longstanding diplomatic and economic ties, supported by a large Indian community residing in the kingdom and strong cooperation across trade, investment, and consular



Shura Council launches AI training platform

Tool designed to assess skills and personalise learning paths



TDT | Manama
Rehab Mohammad

The General Secretariat of the Shura Council has launched an artificial intelligence-powered self-learning platform aimed at enhancing employee skills and supporting the development of Bahrain's parliamentary work system.

The platform is an integrated training system that assesses employee competencies, identifies development needs, and provides personalised learning pathways for Secretariat staff.

The initiative forms part of preparations for the 2027-2031 strategic plan, which envisions

the transition toward a "smart parliament," in line with directives from H.E. Ali Bin Saleh Al Saleh, Chairman Of Shura Council.

Officials said the platform aims to strengthen human resources efficiency and improve institutional performance by enhancing professional, administrative and technical skills, aligning with modern standards and practices in parliamentary work.

It was launched as part of new training mechanisms incorporating artificial intelligence, overseen by the Human and Financial Resources Directorate, in cooperation with a specialised technology company and in the presence of officials and staff.

Community Building



The Ateneo School of Leadership and Social Entrepreneurship (ALSE) Alumni Association marked a key milestone with its first alumni gathering and officers' election held at Crowne Plaza Bahrain on 15 May 2026. The event brought together members from Batches 133 and 145, reflecting the growing unity and engagement of the ALSE community in the Kingdom. With around 80 alumni in Bahrain, the gathering highlighted a shared commitment to leadership, collaboration, and professional growth. The evening was marked by strong camaraderie and a collective vision to build a more connected and supportive alumni network for future initiatives.

Post-Impact Reconstruction Efforts

Minister stresses coordinated government response to housing damage and compensation

● Temporary housing provided for affected families in Salman City

● Some families already returned after repairs

● Response coordinated under national leadership

● Bahrain stressed violations of international law and SDG 11



session titled “Middle East Impacts and Their Global Effects on Housing and Urban Planning” at the World Urban Forum 13 (WUF13), held in Baku and organised by UN-Habitat in partnership with the Government of Azerbaijan, the minister outlined Bahrain’s recovery and reconstruction measures.

She said Bahrain provided a “rapid and integrated model” for addressing residential and infrastructure damage, referring to what she described as

Iranian attacks affecting civilian areas. She added that the government was acting under directives to ensure full repair and compensation for affected households.

The minister said the response was implemented under the guidance of King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and the follow-up of Crown Prince and Prime Minister Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, with state authorities tasked with covering the cost of damage to citizens’ homes.

She described attacks targeting residential areas as a violation of international law and a challenge to global efforts under Sustainable Development Goal 11, which seeks to make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

The minister also detailed coordination between the Hous-

ing and Urban Planning Ministry and other government bodies to assess damage, carry out engineering repairs and process compensation, including for vehicles and private property.

She said the response process included rapid damage assessment by specialised teams, followed by repair works tailored to each case, and phased hand-over of restored homes. Some families, she added, had already returned to their homes under the first phase of the recovery plan.

Temporary housing units were also provided in Salman City for families whose homes were severely damaged, she said, until full repairs were completed.

Rumaithi also highlighted national volunteer efforts and private sector contributions, including a nationwide campaign supporting recovery work, saying these reflected strong social solidarity in Bahrain’s reconstruction response.

She said national resilience was measured not only by development planning, but by the ability to protect citizens and respond effectively to regional challenges.

Manama Urges Ukraine Peace Push

Praises UAE, Saudi, Qatar humanitarian mediation efforts

TDT | Manama
Ashen Tharaka



The Kingdom of Bahrain welcomed the announcement of a temporary ceasefire between Russia and Ukraine brokered with US mediation, urging momentum toward broader diplomatic understandings that could help end the war and reinforce security in Europe.

Speaking at a session of the United Nations Security Council on the situation in Ukraine, Bahrain’s Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York, Ambassador Jamal Fares Al Rowaiei, said such steps should be built upon to achieve a comprehensive political settlement.

He stressed that the temporary truce should translate into “tangible results on the ground,” adding that sustained dialogue remains essential to achieving a just and lasting peace in line with international law and the UN Charter.

Bahrain praised ongoing humanitarian mediation efforts, particularly prisoner exchanges, describing them as constructive contributions to de-escalation. It highlighted recent efforts by the United Arab Emirates, which facilitated a new exchange involving 410 prisoners, bringing the total number of released detainees to 7,101 across 23 mediation operations.

The kingdom also commended the mediation roles of Saudi Arabia in securing the release of detainees and facilitating exchanges between the two sides, as well as Qatar’s efforts in reuniting Ukrainian and Russian children with their families, calling these in-

Ukraine Humanitarian Mediation

- Bahrain praised prisoner exchange efforts as key to de-escalation
- UAE facilitated latest swap of 410 prisoners
- Total released: 7,101 prisoners across 23 exchanges
- Efforts described as supporting wider diplomatic and humanitarian initiatives

itiatives “positive and humanitarian” in nature.

Bahrain further warned of the growing use of drones in modern warfare, noting that their expansion beyond conflict zones risks wider regional spillover and could escalate tensions, threatening stability across Europe.

Reaffirming its position, Bahrain backed calls by UN Secretary-General António Guterres for an immediate, full, unconditional and lasting ceasefire as a first step toward a comprehensive peace agreement.

Bahraini Pilgrims Depart for Hajj

Government agencies work together to ensure safe and organised Hajj travel for citizens



First groups of pilgrims have departed for Saudi Arabia to perform Hajj, as officials coordinated travel procedures to ensure a smooth and organised journey, authorities said.

Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments Minister Nawaf bin Mohammed Al Maawda, who also chairs the Supreme Committee for Hajj and Umrah Affairs, saw off departing pilgrims at Bahrain International Airport.

He was joined by Saudi Ambassador to Bahrain Naif bin Bandar Al Sudairi, Undersecretary for Justice and Islamic Affairs Judge Isa Sami Al Mannai, along with other officials.

Al Maawda said coordination between Bahraini government entities reflects the kingdom’s commitment to ensuring the

comfort, safety and smooth travel of pilgrims from departure until their return.

He added that efforts are focused on simplifying procedures and providing a seamless experience for Bahraini pilgrims throughout the Hajj journey.

The minister also highlighted the role of the Saudi Embassy in Bahrain in supporting coordination and facilitating travel arrangements.

He praised Saudi Arabia’s early preparations for the Hajj season, saying they have contributed to improved services and an organised environment for pilgrims from around the world.

Al Maawda further commended the efforts of Bahrain’s Ministry of Interior, Bahrain Airport Company and the King Fahd Causeway Authority in ensuring efficient travel procedures.

From The Court TDT | Manama Rehab Mohammad

Five Years for Filming Sensitive Sites

The court sentenced a defendant to five years in prison after convicting him of filming vital facilities during what authorities described as hostile attacks against the kingdom, the Public Prosecution said on Thursday.

The Head of the Terror Crimes Prosecution said the Lower Criminal Court issued the ruling following hearings in a case involving the unlawful recording of restricted sites. The court also ordered the confiscation of seized materials.

According to prosecutors, security authorities at the Ministry of Interior reported that the defendant filmed facilities whose photography is prohibited by law during a period of heightened security tensions. He was subsequently arrested and referred to the Public

Prosecution.

Investigators questioned the suspect, ordered his pre-trial detention, and examined electronic devices with technical experts. Forensic reports were also obtained before the case was referred to court.

The Public Prosecution said the evidence established the defendant’s actions, leading to his conviction after several hearings.

It stressed that vital installations and strategic sites are protected under law, warning that filming or sharing such content during sensitive security conditions could threaten national security and public safety.

Authorities added that legal action will continue against anyone found to have filmed or circulated information related to restricted facilities.

Infant Death Case Ends in Jail Terms and Deportation

The court sentenced three people, including the parents of a newborn, to prison terms followed by deportation after convicting them in a case involving child neglect, death, and the illegal burial of the infant without notifying authorities.

The First High Criminal Court sentenced a 26-year-old father and a 35-year-old mother to three years in prison each after finding them guilty of neglecting their newborn child and failing to provide medical care, which resulted in the baby’s death. The court also ruled that both failed to report the birth and death within the legally required timeframe.

A third defendant, a 39-year-old woman, received a six-month prison sentence for burying the child without informing the relevant authorities.

All three defendants were additionally given one-month jail terms for violating residency laws, and the court ordered their deportation upon completion of their sentences.

According to case details, the father and mother had developed a relationship after meeting on social media in 2022, before living together in Bahrain in late 2024. The mother later became pregnant but did not seek medical care due to her expired residency status, and the couple agreed to continue the pregnancy without supervision.

In August 2025, the mother gave birth prematurely in the apartment while alone, with the newborn later found to be alive at birth. The baby’s condition deteriorated shortly after, and he later died despite attempts by the parents to revive him.

Is Matcha Really a Super Drink? Science Weighs In

TDT | Manama
Ghadeer Alkumaish

Matcha, the finely ground green tea powder widely promoted as a “super drink,” has surged in global popularity for its supposed benefits including improved energy, focus and weight management. But experts say its health effects are often overstated.

Pharmacist Abdullah Saud says matcha does offer genuine nutritional value, but should not be viewed as a miracle beverage.

“Matcha contains powerful antioxidants such as EGCG, which may help reduce inflammation and support heart and brain health, but its benefits depend on moderation and overall lifestyle, not because it is a magic drink,” he said in an interview.

The growing demand for matcha reflects a broader wellness trend in which natural products are frequently marketed as quick fixes for health and fitness goals.

Saud cautioned that many popular claims are not sup-



Abdullah Saud, Pharmacist

ported by science. “There is marketing exaggeration around the idea that matcha burns fat or detoxifies the body, while in reality it may only slightly support metabolism,” he said.

Compared with coffee, matcha provides a different kind of energy boost due to its combination of caffeine and L-theanine, an amino acid linked to relaxation and focus.

He advised spacing consumption for those at risk of iron deficiency. “It is best to leave a gap of about two hours between drinking matcha and consuming iron-rich foods or supplements, especially for those with iron deficiency,” he added.

Powers AI Future

iGA chief highlights Bahrain's digital transformation and AI governance efforts

● Bahrain showcases AI vision

● 50,000 Bahrainis to train in AI

● Smart government services expand

TDT | Manama

Information & eGovernment Authority Chief Executive Mohammed Ali Al Qaed participated in Asia Tech X Singapore, Asia's leading technology event, held in Singapore from May 19 to 21.

During a closed-door session titled "AI on the International Stage," Al Qaed highlighted Bahrain's progress in adopting artificial intelligence and developing an AI-driven digital government.

He said Bahrain's strategy is based on strengthening legislation, advancing a national AI strategy and promoting ethical



AI principles adopted at the GCC level.

Al Qaed also outlined initiatives aimed at building national AI capabilities, including plans to train 50,000 Bahrainis in AI by 2030 through programmes launched by Tamkeen. He added that more than 70 AI-related academic programmes have also been introduced in partnership with universities, civil society

organisations and the private sector.

The iGA chief highlighted Bahrain's efforts to expand AI-powered government services, including smart systems for business analytics, government support services, document verification and consumer protection.

He said Bahrain continues to strengthen its digital economy

strategy through investment in cloud computing, innovation labs and regulatory frameworks aimed at supporting responsible AI adoption and entrepreneurship.

Al Qaed also stressed the importance of AI governance, ethical standards and talent development to ensure sustainable and trusted use of emerging technologies across government sectors.

Resident-Only Parking for Historic Muharraq Approved

TDT | Manama
Mohammed Darwish

Historic Muharraq residents would get priority over daytime parking outside their homes under a plan unanimously approved by Muharraq Municipal Council during a Thursday sitting that lasted less than 20 minutes.

The proposal, brought by council chairman Abdulaziz Al Naar, would create parking cards for Bahrainis living in the old district, where narrow lanes, visitors and long-stay parking by non-residents have left some households struggling for space.

Under the plan, each home would be allowed up to two parking permits. Each card would be tied to a vehicle number plate, home address and identity card number, with a separate identification card issued for every car registered to residents in the area.

Parking spaces would be reserved for residents from 7 am to 9 pm. From 9 pm to 7 am, their



From the left: Saleh Bu Hazza, Vice Chairman of Muharraq Municipal Council Khalid Al Qallaf - Director General of Muharraq Municipality

“The problem is not with the municipality, but with the classification of entire areas,”

- SALEH BU HAZZA, VICE CHAIRMAN OF MUHARRAQ MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

use would be governed by rules covering residents and visitors.

Ambulances, vehicles used by people with disabilities and

temporary visitor permits would be exempt from the time rules. Visitor permits could be sought through an app or by prior request.

The explanatory note said the aim was to ensure residents had parking near their homes, curb long stays by non-residents, ease traffic inside the old neighbourhoods and allow tourism to continue without placing added strain on households.

The council also agreed to write to the Ministry of Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture



“We understand the housing and social needs of older neighbourhoods, but the issue is linked to property zoning rules,”

- AHMED AL MOQAHWI

regarding sub-addresses for a property in the Seventh Constituency, after members said the matter had caused concern among families in Muharraq.

Bahrain Showcases Green Vision in Baku

Bahrain has highlighted its progress in afforestation and environmental sustainability during the 13th session of the World Urban Forum in the Azerbaijani capital Baku, officials said.

Engineer Shaikh Mohammed bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, Undersecretary for Municipal Affairs at Bahrain's Ministry of Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture, took part in the forum as part of the Bahraini delegation led by Amna bint Ahmed Al Romaihi.

Held under the theme "Housing the World: Safe and Resil-

ient Cities and Communities," the forum brought together officials and experts to discuss urban development and sustainability challenges.

Shaikh Mohammed said Bahrain continues to prioritise environmental and agricultural sustainability in line with the visions of Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and directives of Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa.



He said the kingdom had made notable progress in implementing initiatives linked to its national carbon neutrality action plan, afforestation strategy and

Bahrain mangrove programme as part of efforts to address climate change and preserve natural resources for future generations.

WHAT'S NEXT ON PARLIAMENT'S AGENDA?

By Mohammed Darwish



Quran Classes for Grades Four to Six Proposed

Proposal aims to honour Bahrain Defence Force personnel for service during Iranian aggression

A proposal to teach the Holy Quran to students in grades four, five and six in Bahrain's schools has been recommended for approval by Parliament's Services Committee.

The plan, put forward by MPs Mohammed Moosa, Hamad Al Doy, Bader Al Tamimi, Mohammed Al Rifai and Najeeb Al Kuwari, calls for Quran teaching to be applied in the second cycle of schools across the kingdom.

The second cycle covers grades four to six, after the first three years of primary school.

The committee urged MPs to approve the proposal after all members present agreed with it, saying the public interest grounds given by its authors were valid.

The MPs said the move would build on Quran teaching in the first cycle, which they said had led to better recitation and



Mohammed Moosa, MP

memorisation among pupils, as well as growth in religious awareness and Islamic and moral values.

They argued that pupils in the second cycle are at an age when ideas, habits and values are still taking shape, making it an apt stage for Quran teaching to carry on as a separate subject.

The proposal calls for pupils to be taught recitation, memorisation and Tajweed rules, along with a simple reading of verses and their link to everyday conduct.

MPs Seek Military Honour

Proposal aims to honour Bahrain Defence Force personnel for service during Iranian aggression

Bahrain Defence Force personnel could receive a new military honour under a draft law being reviewed by Parliament's Foreign Affairs, Defence and National Security Committee.

The proposal, submitted by MPs including Jameel Mulla Hassan, seeks to amend Bahrain's 1976 law on orders and medals by introducing a one-grade award named the "Order of Al Farooq."

Under the draft legislation, the medal would be awarded to BDF officers and servicemen for acts of endurance, distinction and sacrifice during Iranian aggression against Bahrain.

MPs said the move aimed to recognise the role played by Bahrain's armed forces in pro-



Jameel Mulla Hassan, MP

tecting the country, its people and civilian facilities.

The proposal also cited constitutional provisions granting Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, as Supreme Commander of the Defence Force, the authority to grant honours and medals.

If approved, the law would come into effect following its publication in the Official Gazette.

New Real Madrid Branch Opens



The Royal Humanitarian Foundation inaugurated the second branch of the Real Madrid Social Sports School in Muharraq during a ceremony held at Sama Bay Stadium.

Officials and members of Bahrain's sports and social sectors attended the event, with Eng. Ebrahim Dalhan Aldoseri, Acting Secretary-General of the Royal Humanitarian Foundation, officially opened the new branch.

The new branch forms part of the Foundation's efforts to support young athletic talent and promote the role of sports in youth development. The school offers football training programmes based on an educational system accredited in



Spain and supervised by Spanish-certified coaches.

Organisers also announced the annual Madrid Educational Camp, scheduled from August 22 to August 31, which aims to develop young players' skills in an educational and sporting environment led by specialised coaches.

'WSSL' and 'Dilmune Cloud' Crowned as Winners in the latest Edition of StartUp Bahrain Pitch

Manama

As part of its ongoing efforts to support the growth of the entrepreneurship ecosystem and Bahraini startups, StartUp Bahrain – the Kingdom's leading national platform supported by Labour Fund (Tamkeen) – hosted the 25th edition of StartUp Bahrain Pitch in collaboration with the SMEs Development Board, aiming to encourage innovation among Bahraini youth and further strengthen the Kingdom's entrepreneurial ecosystem.

This edition featured a judging panel comprising a distinguished group of experts and investors in entrepreneurship, including Hamad Al Fahad, Executive Director and Managing Partner at Tajawuz, Sara Al Sharif, Investment Manager at BeVentures, Laith Al Khalili, Associate Partner at Mumtalakat, and Hassan Haider, Founder and Partner at Plus VC. The judging panel evaluated the participating startups and provided valuable feedback and guidance aimed at supporting the development, growth, and scalability of their ventures.

The event showcased several innovative startups, including WSSL, a Business to Business platform designed to streamline laundry service operations



through an innovative operating model, and Hawaa, a Crowd-sourced logistics and mobility platform connecting users with freelance drivers.

The event also featured Dilmune Cloud, an integrated cloud management platform offering hosting, storage, application deployment, and database services through a unified dashboard, in addition to Mustashar, a legal platform that connects users with lawyers to provide company setup, contract, and legal consultation services with flexible templates and pay-per-service options.

Following the startups' presentations and evaluations by the judging panel, the winners were announced: WSSL was awarded first place and Dilmune Cloud was awarded second place.

On this occasion, Faisal Basel expressed his gratitude for

winning first place, stating: "We are proud to have achieved first place in this edition of StartUp Bahrain Pitch. This accomplishment motivates us to continue developing our business and strengthening our market presence. Participating in the event provided a valuable opportunity to benefit from the feedback of experts and investors, while also building meaningful connections that support the growth and expansion of our venture."

Second place winner Osama Aljamil from Dilmune Cloud also expressed pride in this achievement, noting that participating in StartUp Bahrain Pitch represented a valuable opportunity to engage with leading entrepreneurs and investors, present their business idea to industry specialists, and benefit from the experience in further developing their startup and

enhancing its positive impact on both the local and regional levels.

Tamkeen's support aligns with its strategic priorities for 2026, which focus on areas with the highest impact on the economy and Bahrainis. It also reflects Tamkeen's role in shaping career pathways through programs that connect skills with opportunities in the labor market, adopting innovative approaches to stimulate private sector growth and financing, and implementing programs that enhance the Fund's efficiency and effectiveness by developing internal mechanisms and continuously strengthening governance.

For more information about StartUp Bahrain and to participate in future editions of StartUp Bahrain Pitch, follow @start-upbahrain on social media.

Zain Bahrain Marks Global Accessibility Awareness Day with Impactful Community Initiative



Zain Bahrain organized a special visit to the Bahrain Mobility International Center in recognition of Global Accessibility Awareness Day, as part of the company's ongoing commitment to inclusion, community engagement, and fostering meaningful human connections beyond the workplace. During the visit, employees spent quality time with children with disabilities, shared joyful moments, and distributed gifts in an initiative that reflects Zain Bahrain's people-centric values and dedication to supporting the local community. The initiative also aligns with Zain Group's '4WARD - Progress with Purpose' strategy, which focuses on driving sustainable social impact, empowering communities, and building a more inclusive and connected future.

Beyon Signs Commitment Agreement for Kuwait's Fixed Telecommunications Network Development Project, with Kuwait Ministry of Communications and KAPP

● Investments Exceeding KWD 825 million

● A Strategic Project Supporting Kuwait's Digital Infrastructure and Transformation Objectives

Manama

Beyon announced the signing of a Public Private Partnership (PPP) commitment agreement with the Ministry of Communications in Kuwait and the Kuwait Authority for Partnership Projects (KAPP), formalizing its selection as the Winning Investor for the Fixed Telecommunications Network Development Project in Kuwait.

The agreement was signed at the Government Communication Center of the Council of Ministers by H.E. Shaikh Abdullah bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Beyon Chairman, Eng. Mishal Al-Zaid, Acting Undersecretary of the Ministry of Communications, and Ms. Asma Al-Mousa, Acting Director General at the Kuwait Authority for Partnership Projects (KAPP), in the presence of H.E. Mr. Omar Saud Al-Omar, Kuwait Minister of State for Communications and Information Technology and Acting Minister of Information and Culture, and H.E. Dr. Yaqoub Al-Sayed Yousef Al-Rifai, Kuwait Minister of Finance and Chairman of the Higher Committee for Public Private Partnership Projects, and H.E. Mr. Salah Ali Al-Maliki, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the State of Kuwait, alongside



several senior officials from the participating entities.

The project is considered one of the largest digital infrastructure initiatives in the State of Kuwait, with expected investments exceeding KWD 825 million over the 50-year partnership term. The project aims to develop, design, finance, build, operate, and maintain Kuwait's fixed telecommunications network through a modern operating model based on the establishment of a specialized company to manage and operate wholesale infrastructure in line with international standards.

The project includes a comprehensive re-engineering of Kuwait's national telecommunications network, including the development of the last-mile access network, modernization of transport and backhaul networks, development of Next Generation Network (NGN) systems, and the gradual decommissioning of the legacy copper network, paving the way for a more efficient, reliable, and sustainable digital infrastructure.

The project also includes a commitment by the Project Company to provide high-speed

fiber connectivity to 90 percent of plots within the first five years of the project, supported by technical capabilities enabling symmetrical speeds of up to 10Gbps. This will enhance Kuwait's ability to support cloud services, artificial intelligence technologies, smart cities, and advanced digital government services.

The project will be financed and developed by the project company and therefore will not impose a financial burden on the State of Kuwait. In addition to the financial returns that the State of Kuwait will generate from the project, it will also create specialized employment opportunities for Kuwaiti nationals. Furthermore, Kuwaiti citizens will have the opportunity to participate in the ownership of the Project Company through a public offering of 50 percent of its shares following full operational commencement, strengthening community participation in the development of strategic national assets. Public sector entities in Kuwait will also retain a shareholding in the Project Company.

H.E. Mr. Omar Saud Al-Omar,

Minister of State for Communications and Information Technology and Acting Minister of Information and Culture, affirmed that the agreement represents a pivotal stage in the development of Kuwait's national digital infrastructure and reflects the State's direction toward building a modern telecommunications network that supports the digital economy and enhances Kuwait's readiness for future technological developments.

H.E. Mr. Omar Saud Al-Omar also stated that the project extends beyond the development of a conventional telecommunications network and establishes strategic infrastructure that will serve as the backbone for future digital services, including cloud computing, artificial intelligence applications, and advanced government services. He added that the project reflects the State's approach toward maximizing the efficiency of national asset management and ensuring the long-term sustainability of technical and investment development.

He further added that the project represents an advanced

model for public-private partnership, contributing to knowledge transfer, enhanced competitiveness, encouraging digital investments, and improving the efficiency of services provided to users and businesses in the State of Kuwait.

From his end, H.E. Dr. Yaqoub Al-Rifai, Minister of Finance, stated the project is a strategic initiative that reflects the success of the public-private partnership model in attracting high-quality investments with long-term economic and developmental impact. He noted that the agreement represents an important step toward enhancing the efficiency of national infrastructure and achieving sustainable added value for the State of Kuwait.

Dr. Al-Rifai added that the project combines both economic and technical factors by enabling private sector participation in the development and operation of one of the country's most important strategic assets within a regulatory and operational framework that ensures efficiency, sustainability, and optimized returns for both the State and society.

Meanwhile, Eng. Mishal Al-Zaid, Acting Undersecretary of the Ministry of Communications, stated that the project represents a comprehensive re-engineering of Kuwait's fixed telecommunications network and transitioning it toward a modern operating model based on an independent and professional infrastructure capable of supporting the requirements of digital growth over the coming decades.

Eng. Al-Zaid added that the project will contribute to improving the reliability and capacity of the national network,

reducing service disruptions, and enabling service providers to offer more advanced and efficient digital solutions, positively impacting the quality, speed, and stability of services provided to end users.

He further noted that Beyon Group was selected following a comprehensive technical, financial, and legal evaluation process involving competition among regional and international specialized companies and consortiums, affirming that the Group possesses extensive experience in managing large-scale fiber infrastructure networks and implementing structural separation models within the telecommunications sector.

Commenting on the occasion, H.E. Shaikh Abdullah bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Chairman of Beyon Group, expressed the Group's pride in partnering with the State of Kuwait on this strategic project, affirming the deep-rooted and historic ties between the Kingdom of Bahrain and the State of Kuwait, which have consistently served as a distinguished model of Gulf unity and strategic cooperation between the two brotherly nations. He further noted that the commitment agreement represents an important milestone in regional cooperation within the telecommunications and digital infrastructure sector.

He added that Beyon will leverage its technical and operational expertise to develop an advanced national network that supports Kuwait's future ambitions and contributes to the delivery of world-class digital infrastructure that supports economic growth, advanced digital services, and the State's readiness for the requirements of the modern digital economy.

Pakistan's PM to visit China for talks overshadowed by Iran war

AFP | Beijing

Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif will head to China this weekend for talks with President Xi Jinping, Beijing said yesterday, without specifying whether the war in Iran would be discussed.

Islamabad and Beijing have both sought to mediate in the Middle East conflict, sparked by United States and Israeli strikes on Iran in late February.

A ceasefire agreement since April 8 has halted hostilities, but American President Donald Trump warned on Wednesday that the window for diplomacy was closing.

Germany's Merz pitches making Ukraine EU 'associate member'

AFP | Berlin

German Chancellor Friedrich Merz has proposed making Ukraine an "associate member" of the EU without voting rights, while Kyiv goes through the lengthy process of joining fully, a letter said.

The plan — first floated by Merz with EU counterparts last month — would see Ukraine's leader attend the bloc's summit but not be able to cast a vote.

Kyiv would have a representative at the top table of the EU's executive, the European Commission, and non-voting members of the European parliament.

Pakistan army chief due in Iran as Trump says talks on 'borderline'

AFP | Beijing

Pakistan's army chief was due in Iran yesterday, Iranian media reported, with Islamabad mediating as the Islamic republic examines a new US proposal to end the Middle East war.

The expected visit by Field Marshal Asim Munir, a powerful figure with a growing role in Pakistan's foreign relations, comes a day after US President Donald Trump warned that negotiations to end the war were on the "borderline" between a deal and renewed strikes.

Cuba outraged after US indicts Raul Castro

AFP | Havana

Cubans expressed their shock and indignation after the United States indicted former president Raul Castro on murder charges, a stunning new step in President Donald Trump's pressure on the communist state.

The charges against the ex-leader -- who at 94 years old remains influential in Cuban politics -- have fuelled speculation that Trump will try to topple the crisis-hit island, culminating a US pressure campaign which has imposed months of crippling oil blockades.

Authorities in Cuba and



A woman wearing leggings bearing the flag of the United States, and a dog, walk past a house displaying a poster of the late Venezuela's leader Hugo Chavez, former Cuba's president Raul Castro and late revolutionary leader Argentine-born revolutionary leader Ernesto "Che" Guevara, in Havana

abroad slammed the indictment, the latest step-up in Trump's international interventions after the Iran war, the US toppling of Venezuelan president Nicolas Maduro and threats against Greenland.

The charges against Raul Castro -- younger brother of Fidel Castro, the late iconic US nemesis who led Cuba's communist revolution that culminated in 1959 -- stem from the deadly downing of two civilian planes manned by anti-Castro pilots in 1996.

Cuban authorities called on citizens to protest the "despicable" indictment, with the official newspaper Granma urging

Cubans to gather outside the US embassy in Havana on Friday at 0730 (1230 GMT).

"This isn't really an accusation, something from more than 30 years ago, but rather a public attack on a public figure," Fabian Fernandez, a 30-year-old accountant, told AFP in Havana.

"It's a matter of politics and public image," he added.

In addition to murder, Castro has been charged with conspiracy to kill Americans and destruction of aircraft.

The Cuban government said in a statement that the 1996 shutdown was "legitimate self-defense" against an airspace violation.



Vessels are anchored off the coast of Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates

Rubio slams NATO refusal to help on Iran ahead of alliance talks

Spain and Germany draw American ire for refusing to back military action in Middle East

● Rubio criticises NATO allies

● Spain blocked US base access

● Germany remarks angered Washington

● Trump administration plans troop withdrawal

AFP | Washington

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio yesterday renewed criticism of NATO for not supporting the US war on Iran, as he headed to alliance talks in



He's (Trump) not asking them to commit troops. He's not asking them to send their fighter jets in. But they refuse to do anything. We were very upset about that

MARCO RUBIO

Sweden.

"There are many countries in NATO that agree with us that Iran can't have a nuclear weapon, that Iran is a threat," Rubio told reporters in Miami before leaving for talks among NATO foreign ministers in Helsingborg, Sweden.

President Donald Trump "said,

fine, I'm going to do something about it," Rubio said.

"He's not asking them to commit troops. He's not asking them to send their fighter jets in. But they refuse to do anything," he said.

"We were very upset about that."

The United States and Israel jointly attacked Iranian targets on February 28. Trump did not consult NATO ahead of time, and several European allies questioned the necessity of military action, while differing assessments persisted over the immediacy of Iran's nuclear threat. Iran's response contributed to increased volatility in global oil markets.

Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez described the military

5,000

US troops are being pulled from bases in Germany after Chancellor Merz said Iran was "humiliating" the United States in negotiations

action as illegal and said Spain would not allow US aircraft to use bases on its territory.

German Chancellor Friedrich Merz said Iran was "humiliating" the United States in negotiations, drawing criticism from the Trump administration, which later announced plans to withdraw 5,000 US troops from bases

in Germany.

"I've been a strong supporter of NATO my entire career," said Rubio, a former senator.

But he continued: "I know why NATO is good for Europe, but why is NATO good for America? Because it gives us bases in the region that allow us to project power during a contingency in the Middle East or somewhere else."

"So when that is the key rationale for why you're in NATO, and then you have countries like Spain denying us the use of these bases, well then, why are you in NATO? That's a very fair question," he said.

He added that other countries had been more supportive, previously singling out Portugal for praise

334 BC

Macedonian army of Alexander the Great defeats Darius III of Persia in the Battle of the Granicus

1570

First atlas "Theatrum Orbis Terrarum" (Theatre of the World) is published by Abraham Ortelius in Antwerp with 70 maps

1843

First wagon train departs Independence, Missouri, for Oregon with 700 to 1,000 migrants



1939

Germany's Adolf Hitler and Italy's Benito Mussolini sign the "Pact of Steel" formalizing the 1936 alliance known as the Rome-Berlin Axis

Israel deports all foreign activists from Gaza flotilla

Israel deported hundreds of Gaza flotilla activists after mounting international criticism

More than 430 activists involved

Activists allege abuse in custody

Several governments condemn treatment

AFP | Washington

Israel said yesterday it had deported all the foreign activists seized by Israeli forces from a Gaza-bound flotilla, following global outcry over their treatment in custody.

More than 430 activists from countries around the world had been placed in detention in Israel after they were intercepted at sea Monday while making the latest in a string of attempts to break the blockade of the Palestinian territory.

Israel's foreign ministry spokesman, Oren Marmorstein, said yesterday that "all foreign activists from the PR flotilla have been deported from Israel."

"Israel will not permit any breach of the lawful blockade on Gaza," he added.

The legal centre representing the activists said earlier yesterday that the majority of the flotilla members were "en route for deportation" from Ramon Airport in Israel's far south.

In a statement, Adalah added that the activists had been held at Israel's Ktziot prison, in the Negev Desert near Gaza.

Turkey had announced it was sending planes to Israel to "bring our citizens and participants from third countries to Turkey via special charter flights we will organise today".

Foreign ministry sources said



Israeli activist Zohar Chamberlain Regev (L) member of a flotilla bound for Gaza arrives at the Ashkelon Trial Court in Israel

"three flights" with a capacity for "more than 400 passengers" were being sent to Ramon airport.

A spokesman for Adalah said activists from Egypt had been transferred to Taba at Egypt's border with Israel, while those from Jordan had been transferred to Aqaba.

'Inflammatory video'

Around 50 vessels under the Global Sumud Flotilla set sail from Turkey last week in the latest attempt by activists to breach Israel's blockade of Gaza, after Israeli forces intercepted a previous convoy last month.

The deportations came after footage posted by Ben Gvir, captioned "Welcome to Israel" and showing the minister heckling and waving an Israeli flag among

the detained activists, sparked resounding condemnation by governments around the world, from Italy to Spain and Australia to Canada.

He was also criticised at home by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Foreign Minister Gideon Saar, as well as by US ambassador to Israel Mike Huckabee.

The United Kingdom announced it had summoned Israel's most senior diplomat in Britain following "the inflammatory video".

Francesca Albanese, an outspoken UN expert on the Palestinian territories, called on Italy, where she is from, to take action.

The treatment of the flotilla activists "is a luxury compared to what is inflicted on Palestinians in Israeli prisons," Albanese

wrote on X.

"Words do not suffice: let Italy stop opposing the suspension" of the EU-Israel Association Agreement, she added.

'They kicked us'

Adalah's legal director Suhad Bishara said Wednesday that the group's lawyers had been able to give legal counsel to "many" of the hundreds of activists, though she added that others had faced court hearings without legal assistance.

"We know of at least two participants who were hospitalised... both of them were shot by rubber bullets," Bishara said, adding that others said they feared they had broken ribs.

Alessandro Mantovani, an Italian journalist detained with the flotilla activists and deported be-



Italian journalist Alessandro Mantovani revealed that security forces bound the detainees in handcuffs and foot chains, beating them while mockingly shouting "Welcome to Israel" before forcing them onto flights

fore the others, told reporters at Rome's Fiumicino airport yesterday that he and others had been "taken to Ben Gurion airport in handcuffs and with chains on our feet and put on a flight to Athens".

"They beat us up. They kicked us and punched us and shouted 'Welcome to Israel,'" he said of his treatment by Israeli security forces.

Israel controls all entry points into Gaza, under blockade since 2007.

Since the start of the Gaza war, sparked by Hamas's October 7, 2023 attack on Israel, the territory has suffered severe shortages of food, medicine and other essential supplies, with Israel at times halting aid deliveries entirely.

A previous flotilla was intercepted last month in international waters off Greece, with most activists expelled to Europe.

Two were brought to Israel, detained for several days and then deported.

Italy and Spain urge EU sanctions on Israeli minister for activists' treatment

AFP | Rome

Italy and Spain have called on the EU to sanction Israel's far-right national security minister, who posted a video showing detained activists from a Gaza-bound flotilla forced to their knees with hands bound.

A global outcry erupted after Israeli minister Itamar Ben Gvir published a video Wednesday showing the heavy-handed treatment of foreign activists from the flotilla who were detained at sea by Israel and awaiting deportation at the southern port of Ashdod.

In the video, dozens of activists are seen forced to kneel with their foreheads to the ground and their hands tied.

Italian Foreign Minister Antonio Tajani and Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez called the treatment of the activists

"unacceptable".

Tajani wrote on X yesterday that he had requested sanctions against the minister for "seizing the activists in international waters and subjecting them to harassment and humiliation, in violation of the most basic human rights".

His comment came a day after Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni called the activists' treatment "intolerable" and demanded an apology by Israel.

On Wednesday, Sanchez wrote on X the "images of Israeli Minister Ben Gvir humiliating members of the international flotilla in support of Gaza are unacceptable. We will not tolerate anyone mistreating our citizens".

In Ireland, a leaked letter revealed Prime Minister Micheal Martin urging the EU chief for "further action" against Israel



Israel's National Security Minister Itamar Ben Gvir (C) takes part in the Jerusalem Day parade at the Damascus Gate

over the activists' treatment.

In the letter to European Council President Antonio Costa that was leaked to AFP yesterday by an unnamed gov-

ernment source, Martin condemned Israel's "shocking treatment of EU citizens" and "unacceptable behaviour" by Ben Gvir.



TOP
4
TWEETS

01



Appalled by the treatment of flotilla members by Israeli Minister Ben-Gvir. This behaviour is completely unacceptable. We call for their immediate release.

@eucopresident

02



Agriculture in India is the lifeline of life and an integral part of our culture. We are working not just to increase Production, but also to create a Farming Ecosystem that is Sustainable, Climate-Resilient, and Future-Ready.

@narendramodi

03



I met with Health Minister Mohammad Reza Zafarghandi to discuss the health situation in #Iran and how @WHO can support meeting the health needs across the country, following the impacts on health and damage sustained during recent hostilities in the country. Peace is the best medicine. #WHA79

@DrTedros

04



Net migration has fallen 82%. I promised to restore control to our borders. My government is delivering. I know there's more to do, we're introducing a skills-based migration system that rewards contribution and ends our reliance on cheap overseas workers.

@Keir_Starmer

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

CELEBS

celebs



Masters of the Universe star Idris Elba: I can't stay jacked

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Idris Elba "can't stay jacked" forever.

The 53-year-old actor stars alongside Nicholas Galitzine, Camila Mendes, Alison Brie, James Purefoy, Morena Baccarin, Kristen Wiig, and Jared Leto in *Masters of the Universe*, the new sword and sorcery film directed by Travis Knight, but Idris admits that he can't maintain his "jacked" physique full-time.

Idris - who plays Man-At-Arms in the new movie - told *People*: "I mean, I'm 53 years old. I can't stay jacked. But at the same time, I have to stay in shape so I can run and punch."

Idris admits that he loves his role in the new film.

The London-born star said: "To get to play Duncan and change him, make him to look like me, was a real ... it was a treat. I got to be a bit comedic and big, so I went for it."

Idris - who previously played Heimdall in the *Marvel Cinematic Universe* - actually loves shooting action movies.

He explained: "I've done quite a few action films over the last three years. Some a little bit more cerebral action like *Hijack*, but this has been a lot of fighting."

Meanwhile, Idris previously admitted to being a huge video game fan.

The acclaimed actor starred as Solomon Reed in *Cyberpunk 2077: Phantom Liberty*, the spy-thriller game, and Idris spoke in 2023 about his love of video games.

He told the BBC: "I play video games a lot and have done for most of my life. I had an Amstrad back in the day and pretty much every other console."

"I'm not one to watch my own performances, but I will play this game. I put so much work into it for years."

Idris believes video games have the power to change the world.

The actor thinks the industry actually has the potential to shine a light on humanitarian issues.

He said: "Games have exactly the same tool sets, if not more, to engage people in things they don't understand."

"If you want to use gaming as a portal to education, to interface between one culture and another, it's a really interesting place to do this."

"I'm sure there are companies that are looking at it, but anyone who can get that right ... and educate cultures about other cultures is a winner."

Khloe Kardashian feels 'really terrible' for decision that left cats 'miserable'

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Khloe Kardashian feels "really, really terrible" that a decision she made left her cats "miserable".

The 41-year-old reality star has expressed her regret at listening to bad advice and getting her two pets declawed - which involves having all or part of a cat's third toe bones and the attached claws removed - because she is now afraid to let them roam freely outside because they can no longer protect themselves against perceived threats.

Speaking on her *Khloe In Wonderland* podcast, she said: "I was really misadvised about getting my cats declawed."

"I've never owned cats before. I didn't even know that was a thing."

"I feel really, really terrible that I did go in this direction. I feel like that's why my cats are miserable and it was at my doing."

"My cats wear AirTags. Like, they're not allowed to even go near a door. I'm so afraid if they get out because they have no way to defend themselves. They lost their protection tools. It makes me sad."

Khloe - who has True, eight, and Tatum, three, with ex-boyfriend Tristan Thompson - first welcomed Grey Kitty into her household in November 2022 and around 18 months later, she brought another cat, Baby Kitty, into the family but she admitted it was a "big mistake" introducing a second feline because they don't get along.

She said: "I have two possessed cats. Grey Kitty was great. Perfect. The saint of cats. Never did anything wrong."

"So what did I do? We gotta get True a second cat, because True wants one. I got Baby Kitty for True's sixth birthday. Once we got Baby Kitty, Grey Kitty started peeing on one of the beds to tell us she hates us and she's p**** that we have another cat. They're the same cat. I thought this was great because why would a cat wanna be alone? Big mistake."

Bryan Cranston admits he 'loses money' by doing theatre

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Bryan Cranston loses money when working in theatre.

The *Breaking Bad* star has been appearing on stage since the 1980s and has most recently been seen in a hit production of Arthur Miller's *All My Sons* in London's West End, but Bryan, 70, has admitted treading the boards is a difficult job because the pay is so low.

He told *New York Post* column PageSix: "There's no money in it. You actually are losing money by doing theater. That's how difficult it is for actors who are here in New York just doing theatre. They have to constantly be working."

The publication reports Bryan said he expects the production of *All My Sons* to transfer to Broadway next year, marking his first time

back on the New York stage since his turn in *Network* in 2019, which won him his second Tony Award after he previously scooped the Best Actor prize for *All the Way in 2014*.

Bryan previously declared he would be taking a year off in 2026 because he turned 70 in March and wanted to travel and enjoy "more life experiences" with his wife Robin Dearden but he's been kept busy with his stint in London's West End.

Speaking before his big birthday, Bryan told *People* magazine: "At some point I want to slow it down. I want to have more life experiences, I want to travel, I want to feel it. When you're working, I've been working for the last 25 years nonstop and that's not real life."

"And I really do feel like I want

more real life experiences. I want to adjust the relationship that the industry has with me and also that it's created for my marriage. I just want to kind of level that out and experience something new."

Asked if spending more time with his wife is part of that, he added: "Yes! I like her. 35 years married, she's a lovely lady."

However, one thing Bryan won't do with his wife is go shopping. He added: "Someone said, 'You don't go shopping with your wife?' I go, 'No! Why would I do that? I don't like it! I just don't like it and she doesn't like things that I like to do either'."



Bryan Cranston

Nadal says sought honesty, transparency in Netflix documentary

AFF | Madrids

Tennis great Rafael Nadal said on Wednesday he sought to be "transparent" and "honest" in his forthcoming Netflix documentary series, speaking to AFP at a preview event ahead of its release.

The series from the streaming giant will be available from May 29, during the French Open - the Grand Slam tournament where the Spaniard forged his legend with a record 14 titles.

"I believe it's a genuine documentary that doesn't paint everything in rosy colours, and combines my sporting career with the difficulties I have faced," Nadal told AFP shortly before the screening of the first of four episodes in Madrid.

"I think I've been quite transparent about my life and everything that has happened to me. I've been honest, and it's my story," added the undisputed king of clay, who won 22 Grand Slam titles over a career span-

ning more than 20 years before retiring at the end of 2024.

The documentary was filmed during that final season, "while I was still playing, trying to come back from injury and hip surgery," he said.

"And I didn't succeed. I tried to stay competitive, but I couldn't get back to 100 percent. That whole process was filmed: the doubts, the uncertainty, and then acceptance of the situation."

Asked whether it was impor-

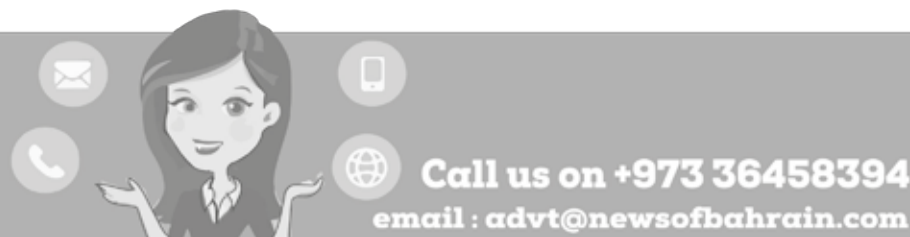
tant for him to tell that difficult final chapter, Nadal replied: "Not necessarily, but I have people around me that I trust who convinced me to do it - people who have been successful in this industry and perhaps had a broader view of my career."

"I followed their advice and here we are. I hope people will like it," added Nadal, who bid a tearful farewell last year to Roland Garros, where a mark of his footprint is carved into the clay on Court Philippe Chatrier.



Rafael Nadal

Classifieds



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SHAW NASS PIPE FABRICATION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of PLANNING TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17725522 or yousif@aanass.net

RIFE USA W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of THERAPIST(OCCUPATIONAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17720256 or INFO@RIFE-USA.COM

ALFAISAL FOR SCRAP AND WASTE has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 66660083 or OSCARCONSTRUCTIONBAH@GMAIL.COM

Bayanco Contracting Co. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39329326 or BAYANCOGM@GMAIL.COM

LAST HOUR FOOD STUFF W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CASHIER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17346047 or MAYERDOWACOWLL@GMAIL.COM

ALRAQIM LAUNDRY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKERS(LAUNDRY), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39466771 or HMK.ALBOURI@GMAIL.COM

JARADAH FISH W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(FISH CUTTING), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33323995 or clearance@JARADAHFISH.COM

KPMG/FAKHRO. has a vacancy for the occupation of DIRECTOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17224807 or ebrahimmed@kpmg.com

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

AL HELLI SUPERMARKET B.S.C CLOSED has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER/PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33572333 or hanan@ALHELLI.COM

INTERIOR SOLUTIONS COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of CO-ORDINATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17832022 or hamida.alhubbail@havelockone.com

FLASHKEYCEY INTERNATIONAL TRADING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39298881 or SAJEESHMANICHINARI@GMAIL.COM

Concrete Land reclamation Construction has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER(HEAVY VEHICLE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33313181 or ZAMZAM_SPRING@HOTMAIL.COM

ALABRAR GATE CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICAL SU-

PERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36632002 or ALABRAR00@HOTMAIL.COM

BLUE DIAMOND LAUNDRY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKERS(LAUNDRY), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33998472 or ABITHN@GMAIL.COM

EVER BUILD TRADING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of STORE LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700939 or JEHAN@EVERBUILD.NET

ELYSIAN INTERIOR DECORATION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39877970 or JCHANDRAN2013@GMAIL.COM

FAST LINE FOR MAINTENANCE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33858745 or INFO.DAMIRGROUP@GMAIL.COM

MARN AL ARABIA TRADING has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES AGENT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34368144 or KAA150@HOTMAIL.COM

COURIEX W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38870666 or HAMAD@COURIEX.COM

COURIEX W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38870666 or HAMAD@COURIEX.COM

FALCON POWER MAINTENANCE has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCEW).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39829984 or MDALMANEA66@GMAIL.COM

HARKAMAL EXPRESS CARGO CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER/PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34015257 or SHARMADEEP20032@GMAIL.COM

THE REAL JUICY MAN has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(JUICE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36988922 or HOO.RI.M96@GMAIL.COM

CHICKET W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17179097 or DPASIF@YAHOO.COM

Bahrain Electromechanical Services Co. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17536275 or BEMCO@BATELCO.COM.BH

PET & VET SMART W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ANIMALS KEEPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 16010246 or AOUS.ALALI@GMAIL.COM

U B Z BAHRAIN SERVICES CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66627665 or FASTWAYBAH@GMAIL.COM

SAGHIR AHMED MOTOR VEHICLE SPARE PARTS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33212370 or SAGHIRAHMED4776@GMAIL.COM

CITY RIFFA MOBILE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TELEPHONE REPAIRMENT TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34100500 or AMINANDSONS17@GMAIL.COM

ALAQSA BOOKSHOP has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33179653 or SHAZZSYD11@GMAIL.COM

TEA POT RESTAURANT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 34100500 or AMINANDSONS17@GMAIL.COM

SHAMZAY ILYAS INTERIOR DECOR W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37152892 or AAAHMADAL1679@GMAIL.COM

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

ASB SECURITY SOLUTIONS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35070603 or MAGICSHINE775@YAHOO.COM

FUTURE TRANSPORT has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33461461 or AL-GHADEERDC2009@GMAIL.COM

AHMED ALI YAQOUB ALHAMAR (BAHAR ALGHAZAN 1 / 11720) has a vacancy for the occupation of SEAMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17675135 or ahmedal-

hamar10@gmail.com

Tigi Concept Salon Hair and beauty W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER-HAIRDRESSER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39454263 or banjo@ejhair.com

HIGH SKY TRAVELS & TOURISM W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TICKETING CLERK, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17000178 or HIGHSKYTRAVELSWLL@GMAIL.COM

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

DESI FUSION RESTAURANT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER (RESTURANTS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 35067475 or ALHASHIRCONSTRUCTION786@GMAIL.COM

OTTO MOTIV AUTO SERVICES & SOLUTIONS has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36992255 or BADERALNAJEM2255@GMAIL.COM

ORCHIDIA FLOWERS & CHOCOLATE has a vacancy for the occupation of FLORIST/FLOWER SETTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33009999 or ORCHIDIABYM@GMAIL.COM

NAWADER DIGITAL SOLUTION CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECRETARY, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66747818 or emgga@yahoo.com

CITY RIFFA MOBILE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TELEPHONE REPAIRMENT TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34100500 or AMINANDSONS17@GMAIL.COM

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NAWADER DIGITAL SOLUTION CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECRETARY, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66747818 or emgga@yahoo.com

DANAT ALTAWWESH TRDEING COMPANY BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34111135 or ADHIMALGHALI1968@GMAIL.COM

URBASER SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34111135 or ADHIMALGHALI1968@GMAIL.COM

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

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

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

AL FAHAD SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37484490 or BEST.9009@GMAIL.COM

TASHYEED HOSPITALITY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17729935 or mannai.hr@mannaitrading.com

AHMED MANSOOR ALAALI has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17265555 or adeel.hameed@al-aali.com

U WINN TRADING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES OFFICER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66643747 or DOZMANAMA123@GMAIL.COM

VATTOLI SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE WORKER HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66797205 or TARGETDOOC9@GMAIL.COM

KHAN SELMA W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANTS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35002840 or PURE-MIND.BH@GMAIL.COM

SUNRISE PROPERTIES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17813979 or SHAJI@SUNRISEBAHRAIN.COM

DAR ABU HUSSAIN RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANTS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39997757 or M.KHABBAZ92@GMAIL.COM

Plastic Bahrain W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER/PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39011118 or hr@plasticbh.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

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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

SIMPLEX AL MOAYYED W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or profice@almoayyedcg.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

FIVES SERVICES GULF W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SERVICES SUPPORT MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17831183 or zainab.abdulla@FIVESGROUP.COM

SALOON WAQAS BHAI W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35957974 or SWAQAS-BHAI@GMAIL.COM

POPULAR HOLDING CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANTS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38362331 or INFO@POPULARBH.COM

Kitchen For Life W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17701511 or UM0099@GMAIL.COM

FORVIS MAZARS has a vacancy for the occupa-

tion of SENIOR AUDITOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17580079 or fadhel.alshehabi@forvismazars.com

PRONTO FOOD TRANSPORTATION has a vacancy for the occupation of SECRETARY(EXECUTIVE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33519896 or MAHMOOD.ALRAHDI@HOTMAIL.COM

EURO MOTORS CO. s p c has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17750750 or mirza@alzayani-investments.com

Golden V. I. PGarage has a vacancy for the occupation of RECEPTIONIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36611334 or car.rental@vipcars.bh

FAKAAR AALI SELLING FRESH FISH has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36499296 or abdulameermayooof@gmail.com

ABU BACKER FOR METAL W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35352217 or CHACHAKOKON@GMAIL.COM

RAMEE ROSE HOTEL W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of COMPUTER TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17616167 or hrs.bh@rameehotels.com

HIBA FISH MART has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33373442 or ABDULNABI-HASAN83@GMAIL.COM

STYLE UP FASHION has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39900098 or JENAN.ALI@GMAIL.COM

SHAY ALBARASTI has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32317356 or FUTURELINEDOCUMENTCLEARANCE@GMAIL.COM

QUICK ZEBRA SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700211 or hrd@dreamgroup.bh

INTERNATIONAL MARKETING COMPANY W.L.L CLEANTEC has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36636640 or HANANKHALAF84@GMAIL.COM

QUICK ZEBRA SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700211 or hrd@dreamgroup.bh

MARKWELL INTERNATIONAL W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES AGENT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17008393 or AHARIES@LIVE.COM

AL HAMOOR GRILLS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77999101 or FADELBUADAM@GMAIL.COM

NAJMAT ALAHALY SANDWICHES has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36116556 or AREFTRADING226@GMAIL.COM

ALCAZAR PROPERTIES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR (PURCHASING), suitably qualified applicants can contact 66912051 or ALCAZAR.BAH@GMAIL.COM

MUKHTAR BUILDING CONSTRUCTION CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17227838 or MUKHTARSRD@GMAIL.COM

ELITE SEEF RESIDENCE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY MAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17313373 or hrd@dadabhaconstruction.com

ELITE FACILITY MANAGEMENT CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17382228 or MUSTAFA@ELITEFMC.COM

MUGHAL GULF SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34003328 or ASADM6607@GMAIL.COM

FENET ETHIO FASHION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33157032 or ACMEMOHD@GMAIL.COM

ALADLIYA CONTRACTING ESTABLISHMENT has a vacancy for the occupation of PAINTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39602882 or alsediqqi12@outlook.com

FIVES SERVICES GULF W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER (PROJECT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17831183 or zainab.abdulla@FIVESGROUP.COM

Classifieds

VACANCIES AVAILABLE CONTINUED

LIMAGIA MARKETING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37531672 or PARVEENKHAN129@GMAIL.COM

MEGNA TEA TALK CAFE has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37152101 or GULFCITY2019@GMAIL.COM

R B S GLOBAL LOGISTICS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35007544 or ARUN_CAD_3@HOTMAIL.COM

MOHAMMED ZUHAIR CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33323993 or SAJEDA@YASSERZUHAIR.COM

BAHRAIN WORKSHOP COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36120008 or Khalifa@bwceng.com

LATA COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39238561 or

AGAILY & KARAK RESTAURANT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35555524 or Sales@plus965trading.com

LUCKY ALNOOR CONTRACTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33461761 or MAJADJAVEDI2@GMAIL.COM

DONA COMPUTER has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN(COMPUTER), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33477005 or ADEL_95@YAHOO.COM

NADIR MEHMOOD SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33916207 or HUZYHUZY71@GMAIL.COM

SWEET MOMENTS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANTS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39840693 or AHMED.ALEEM80@YAHOO.COM

DHA SALOON FOR MEN W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34567895 or ABEERRAJPUTI@GMAIL.COM

FRANZO TEA HUB BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36960999 or INFOBAHRAIN2@GMAIL.COM

SHAMS ALANEES RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(ASSISTANT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 34443898 or SAVEDSADIQ1996@OUTLOOK.COM

AMALFI FOODS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANICAL TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17746848 or WASSIM@FARHOUD.COM

VEERPAL KAUR FACILITIES SUPPORT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33108591 or USMANMAJEED33108591@GMAIL.COM

SAYACORP HOSPITALITY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of GENERAL MANAGER(HOTEL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17170000 or kathrina.nisnisan@conradhotels.com

WHITE PEARL INTERNATIONAL W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECRETARY(EXECUTIVE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39939922 or WHITEPEARLINTERNATIONALWLL@GMAIL.COM

CROSS WING CONSTRUCTION, CONTRACTING AND CLEANING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33640148 or ISHORBHATTARA1990@GMAIL.COM

CAPITAL school will has a vacancy for the occupation of TEACHER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17008880 or pro@ALSAFARGROUP.COM

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

P G A EUROPEAN TOUR BRANCH OF A FOREIGN COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39550042 or ACTFORMATION@ACTGROUPSERVICES.COM

SABAR AYOUB ZADAH REASTURANT AND

GRILLS has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33112527 or sabarayoobzadah@gmail.com

grandma house salon and coffee shop has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34367612 or Grandmahouse15@gmail.com

AHMED ALI YAQOOB ALHAMAR (BAHAR ALGHAZAN 1 / 11720) has a vacancy for the occupation of SEAMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17675135 or ahmedalhamar10@gmail.com

ALSULTAN IRONING has a vacancy for the occupation of LAUNDERER(HAND-CHEMICAL SOLUTIONS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33203336 or HASAN000.KHAMIS@HOTMAIL.COM

AL ROSHINAH RESTAURANT AND CAFE has a vacancy for the occupation of KITCHEN AIDE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 13109209 or VILLAUOMO@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

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ABDULRAZZAQ ALMAHMOOD TAILORING has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39460276 or A.RAZZAGALI@YAHOO.COM

PHOENIX ONE CAFE has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66663367 or Fatima.Mef.tah@hotmail.com

POWERMECH TECHNOLOGIES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of COORDINATION & FOLLOW UP SPECIALIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66909455 or NORAJABREE@GMAIL.COM

KickStart Bahrain WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of SENIOR MANAGER FOR MARKETING AND COMMUNICATION, suitably qualified applicants can contact 13655111 or WASSIM@MELQART.CO

MAGDY ALTURKI CONSULTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MARKETING SPECIALIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39093555 or MAJDI@MAT-CONCETLANCY.COM

GREEN STAR SENTAL AIR CONDITIONING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of AIR-CONDITIONING TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33138877 or suresh@greenstarac.net

BAYT AL RUMMAN RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of CHEF, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33051135 or ALISAYD931@GMAIL.COM

CANDLES FOR MARTETING has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36758569 or ZANOBY91@HOTMAIL.COM

SALU SALO RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39554198 or HAFEEZ-BH33@GMAIL.COM

ALAJWAA ALNADEEFA RECRUITING SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39860028 or BONATHER@HOTMAIL.COM

ALLAMPUR PACKAGING SERVICES CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER/PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32042005 or AZHARMALIKK786@GMAIL.COM

NAFEES AHMED SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33673786 or OSAMAMOHAMED855@GAMIL.COM

AL MARHABA GENTS TAILORING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37127786 or LAWTAP930BH@GMAIL.COM

ZEESHAN CAFETERIA W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CHEF, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37541858 or JUTTMUB-SHER4@GMAIL.COM

Emery urges Villa to use Europa triumph to fuel bold new era

AFP | London

Unai Emery urged Aston Villa to use their historic Europa League final triumph against Freiburg as the foundation for an "ambitious" new era. Emery's side ended the club's 30-year trophy drought with a stylish 3-0 win in Istanbul on Wednesday.

Spectacular first-half goals from Youri Tielemans and Emiliano Buendia put Villa in control before Morgan Rogers netted after the interval to kill off outclassed Freiburg.

Villa's first trophy since the 1996 League Cup was also their first major European prize in 44 years.

After long spells in the doldrums prior to Emery's arrival to replace the sacked Steven Gerrard in 2022, Villa are back among the elite both in the Premier League and Europe.

They have qualified for next season's Champions League and Emery called on his players and the club's hierarchy to match his desire to keep Villa in contention for silverware.

"I am myself ambitious and of course I need support. The owners, everyone that works



Aston Villa celebrate winning the Europa League

in the club. Development is everything," he said.

"The players are following us. We are doing it together. But we must try to set this ambition, being clear and realistic. As a team, ambitious and improving. This is our next step.

"We are getting stronger but we are trying to be demanding. Next year we will play in Champions League and the

Premier League is the most difficult in the world. This is the challenge."

Emery has now won the Europa League five times after leading Sevilla to the trophy three times and clinching it once with Villarreal.

"It's fantastic. Europe gave us a lot. For myself as well. I'm always very grateful for Europe. For every competition but espe-

cially the Europa League," the Spaniard said.

"The support I had with Valencia, with Sevilla, with Villarreal and here at Villa. We played it in a very serious way this year, so focused. Getting this trophy adds experience for us. And those experiences for the players are important. Because we can play next year trying as well to be in contention for trophies."

BRAVE Hearts partners with BRAVE Media Holdings to advance marketing and media support for enterprises

TDT | Manama

Manama, Bahrain: BRAVE Combat Federation™ (BRAVE CF), the world's fastest-growing and most global mixed martial arts organization, proudly highlights a major development under its corporate social responsibility platform, BRAVE Hearts, following the official partnership with BRAVE Media Holdings to enhance the marketing, digital communication, and media production capabilities of local businesses.

The agreement was formally signed by Thabith Fouzer, Director of BRAVE Media Holdings, and Jabran Zakariya, Director of BRAVE Hearts, marking a meaningful step toward empowering enterprises with the tools and strategic guidance necessary to navigate an increasingly competitive and technology-driven environment.

Thabith Fouzer, Director of BRAVE Media Holdings, stated: "Effective storytelling and digital presence are essential for organizations striving to remain relevant and trusted," Fouzer stated. "We are honored to work alongside BRAVE Hearts in supporting businesses through modern communication solu-



Jabran Zakariya (R), Director of Initiative, and Thabith Fouzer (L), Director of BRAVE Media Holdings, with the partnership agreement

tions that can strengthen their public engagement and elevate their overall market presence."

Jabran Zakariya, Director of BRAVE Hearts, stated: "The partnership reflects our commitment to creating meaningful impact beyond sport. Businesses today require more than financial support. They need guidance, innovation, and access to professional expertise to remain competitive and connected to their communities. Through this collaboration, we are creating opportunities that encourage resilience and long-term progress."

This collaboration directly strengthens the "Marketing"

and "Technology" pillars of the BRAVE Hearts program. By integrating BRAVE Media Holdings' extensive expertise in broadcasting, strategic communications, and multimedia production, participating organizations will gain access to practical, high-level support to improve brand positioning, strengthen audience engagement, and reinforce operational continuity in the digital era.

Moreover, the alliance aims to help businesses maintain visibility in rapidly evolving markets, overcome communication barriers, and create sustainable pathways for long-term development. By providing actiona-

ble solutions and tailored media strategies, the initiative seeks to ensure that enterprises are equipped not only to adapt to modern challenges but also to grow with confidence and stability.

BRAVE Hearts is built upon the principles of Empowerment, Resilience, and Community. The program is dedicated to bridging corporate needs with practical assistance across critical operational sectors, including Technology, Marketing, Finance, and Business Development. Through collaborative partnerships and sustainable solutions, the initiative continues to support organizations seeking growth, continuity, and renewed confidence.

On the other hand, BRAVE Media Holdings stands as a premier media and broadcasting organization specializing in impactful digital content, strategic communications, and comprehensive media production. Through innovative multimedia solutions, the company empowers brands to strengthen their identity, amplify their reach, and establish meaningful connections with their audiences across diverse platforms.

Sinner, Djokovic kept apart in French Open draw

AFP | London

Jannik Sinner and Novak Djokovic will not be able to meet until the French Open final after the pair were placed in opposite halves of the men's draw yesterday, while Coco Gauff could face Aryna Sabalenka in the women's semis.

Sinner, the red-hot men's title favourite in the absence of injured rival Carlos Alcaraz, will start his bid for a maiden Roland Garros crown against French



Jannik Sinner reacts during a match

wildcard Clement Tabur, the world number 165.

Women's world number one

Sabalenka faces a tough potential road to the final, with Naomi Osaka, Victoria Mboko and reigning champion Gauff all potential hurdles for the Belarusian.

The build-up to the event, which gets under way on Sunday, has been overshadowed by threats from players to boycott some of their media duties over a pay dispute with Grand Slam tournament organisers.

"We are not going to budge," tournament director Amelie

Mauresmo told reporters at the draw in Paris, adding she was a "little saddened" by the situation.

"We have prize money that has doubled in 10 years, and has also increased significantly recently."

World number one Sinner is slated to meet big-hitting American fifth seed Ben Shelton in the quarter-finals.

Daniil Medvedev is a possible semi-final opponent for the Italian.

Al Najma, Manama Off to Winning Starts



Al Najma's Zachary Hadji celebrates after scoring a brace

Hussain Almaskati
TDT | Manama

Bahrain's 2025–26 promotion and relegation play-offs kicked off last night, with four teams competing in a single round-robin league system for a place in next season's Nasser bin Hamad Premier League. The top two teams at the end of the mini-league will secure Premier League football; the remaining two will compete in the First Division next season.

Opening fixtures saw Al Najma take a 2-1 comeback win over Al Ettihad, while Manama got the better of Budaiya with a 1-0 victory to secure maximum points on matchday one.

At Al Ahli Club Stadium, Al Ettihad struck first in the 50th min-

ute when Mohammed Al Mohsin capitalised on a poor clearance from Al Najma goalkeeper Ammar Mohammed, taking possession and finishing emphatically from outside the box.

Al Najma responded eight minutes later through Zachary Hadji, who is notably the son of Moroccan football legend Mustapha Hadji. The equaliser came after Faisal Bodahoom slipped a through ball to Mohammed Abdulqayoom on the left by-line, who drilled a low cross into the area for Hadji to finish with a delicate backheel into the far corner.

Al Ettihad's hopes of regaining the lead took a massive blow in the 77th minute when Nigerian Fortune Gbobie was sent off for time wasting, receiving a second yellow card. Referee



Manama's match winner Nemanja Nikolic controls the ball

Ismael Habib did not hesitate and immediately gave him his marching orders. Not long after, Hadji got his brace to give Al Najma a 2-1 win and complete the comeback.

Ali Al Romaihi produced a wonderful piece of skill to get past his marker, then floated the ball into the middle of the box. Faisal Bodahoom headed it back across goal, and Hadji turned sharply to finish into the top corner without even looking at the net.

The result gives coach Mohamed Shamlan's side early hope of retaining their place in the top flight, while Al Ettihad will need to regroup to escape the First Division.

At Bahrain National Stadium, First Division side Manama edged Budaiya in the other

fixture of the night. Budaiya's hopes took an early blow when they were reduced to ten men in the 15th minute. After reviewing the incident, referee Ahmed Khalil issued Clement Ogbobe a straight red card for an elbow on Mehdi Abdullatif.

Manama made the advantage count just before half-time when Nemanja Nikolic reacted quickest inside the box after a partially cleared effort from Budaiya's Hamad Fuad. The Bosnian fullback guided his finish past goalkeeper Abdullah Friehe to seal the win.

The play-offs will continue this Monday when Budaiya face Al Najma at the National Stadium, while Manama take on Al Ettihad at Al Ahli Stadium. Both matches are again set for simultaneous 7pm kickoffs.

Bahrain placed in Pot 3 ahead of AFC U-20 qualification draw



Bahrain's U-20 national football team line up ahead of kick-off

TDT | Manama

The draw for the AFC U20 Asian Cup China 2027 Qualifiers will take place on Thursday, 28 May at the AFC House, marking the official start of the qualification pathway to Asia's premier youth football tournament.

A total of 44 teams will take part in the qualifying campaign, which will be staged from 25 August to 6 September 2026. The competition represents the 23rd edition of the AFC U-20 qualification process since its introduction in 1980.

This cycle introduces a revised format as part of broader AFC reforms designed to enhance competitive balance and ensure more evenly matched fixtures across youth competitions. The structure features a two-phase system incorporat-

ing promotion and relegation between stages.

In the Qualification Phase, 32 teams will be divided into eight groups of four. The eight group winners, along with the seven best second-placed teams, will qualify for the final tournament in China. The bottom-placed team in each group will be relegated to the Development Phase of the next cycle.

The Development Phase will feature 12 teams split into three groups of four. The three group winners, along with the three best second-placed teams, will be promoted to the Qualification Phase of the next edition.

Seeding for the draw is based on performances across the last three editions of the competition, as well as overall participation records in AFC competitions.

Qualification Phase Draw Pots

Pot 1: Australia, Korea Republic, Japan, Saudi Arabia, Uzbekistan, Iraq, Islamic Republic of Iran, Jordan

Pot 2: Qatar, Indonesia, Syria, Thailand, Vietnam, Yemen, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan

Pot 3: Oman, United Arab Emirates, India, DPR Korea, Cambodia, Bahrain, Malaysia, Philippines

Pot 4: Bangladesh, Turkmenistan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Palestine, Laos, Hong Kong, China, Afghanistan

Development Phase Draw Pots

Pot 1: Chinese Taipei, Mongolia, Myanmar

Pot 2: Singapore, Guam, Maldives

Pot 3: Nepal, Brunei Darussalam, Bhutan

Pot 4: Macau, Sri Lanka, Northern Mariana Islands

Morocco's golden generation back again

Hussain Almaskati
TDT | Manama

The Morocco national football team is preparing for another FIFA World Cup campaign, set to take place across the United States, Mexico, and Canada in June and July. The Atlas Lions continue to establish themselves as one of the most competitive sides from both Africa and the Arab world.

This will mark Morocco's seventh FIFA World Cup appearance and their third consecutive participation, as they look to build on the historic legacy created at the 2022 tournament in Qatar.

At that tournament, the Moroccans produced one of the most remarkable runs in modern World Cup history, becoming the first African and Arab nation to reach the semi-finals before ultimately finishing fourth. Their campaign was defined by a record-setting defensive structure, conceding only one goal from open play prior to the



Moroccan players celebrate historic shootout victory over Spain at 2022 World Cup

semi-final stage.

The journey began in Group F, where Morocco topped the group after drawing 0-0 with Croatia, defeating Belgium 2-0,

and beating Canada 2-1. In the Round of 16, they produced one of the tournament's biggest shocks by eliminating Spain on penalties (3-0) after a 0-0 draw.

They then defeated Portugal 1-0 in the quarter-finals, with Youssef En-Nesyri scoring a famous header that sent Morocco into uncharted territory as the

first African and Arab nation to reach a World Cup semi-final.

Their historic run eventually ended with a 2-0 defeat to France in the semi-finals, followed by a 2-1 loss to Croatia in the third-place playoff. Even so, their achievement fundamentally reshaped expectations for African and Arab football on the global stage.

Since that breakthrough, Morocco have remained a strong force in international and continental football. Earlier this year, they reached the Africa Cup of Nations final against Senegal in a highly controversial clash, eventually losing 1-0 after extra time.

The match descended into chaos after Senegal's players staged a 15-minute walkout following a stoppage-time penalty awarded to Morocco, a decision that sparked furious protests. Urged back by captain Sadio Mané, Brahim Díaz took the spot-kick but missed a Panenka, and Senegal ultimately prevailed in extra time.

Months later, the Confederation of African Football (CAF) ruled that the disruption had compromised the final's integrity, stripping Senegal of the title and awarding it to Morocco. CAF's decision came after Moroccan head coach Walid Regragui had already stepped down, with Mohamed Ouahbi appointed ahead of the World Cup.

Morocco now enter the upcoming World Cup with a strong core of experienced players from that historic 2022 campaign. Achraf Hakimi and Hakim Ziyech remain two of the most influential figures in the squad. Both have accumulated 10 World Cup appearances across the 2018 and 2022 editions.

Now, with the North American tournament just weeks away, Morocco are no longer outsiders hoping to surprise, but a side already measured against football's elite. In every stadium they step into, the question is no longer whether they belong, but how far they can go this time.

Bahrain End GCC Handball Campaign in Style



Bahrain's handball stars and national football goalkeeper Ebrahim Lutfalla support the team from the stands

Hussain Almaskati
TDT | Manama

Bahrain's national handball team concluded their GCC Games campaign yesterday with a 31-20 win over the UAE at Duhaail Handball Sports Hall. Under Swedish head coach Robert Hedin, Bahrain entered the match already assured of the gold medal following their victory over Qatar. Nevertheless, still delivered a perfect finish to the tournament, going unbeaten and winning every match to cap off a dominant campaign.

The result adds to an impres-

sive period for Bahraini handball. Earlier this year, Bahrain claimed their first-ever Asian title at the 2026 AHF Asian Men's Handball Championship in Kuwait, a triumph that also secured qualification for the 2027 IHF World Men's Handball Championship in Germany. Prior to that, the national team also claimed gold at the Islamic Solidarity Games last November, marking another historic milestone.

Against the UAE, Bahrain rotated their squad after sealing the title but still controlled the tempo from the outset. Jassim Khamis opened the scoring in

the second minute, setting the tone for an early Bahraini lead. The UAE briefly found rhythm, though a disallowed goal for stepping on the six-metre line halted their momentum.

Bahrain gradually pulled away, with Jaffar Farsan and Salman Fadhel helping establish a 15-10 advantage by half-time. Their structured attack and defensive discipline limited the UAE's opportunities, ensuring control even with a rotated lineup.

The second half followed a similar pattern. Mohamed Rabia finished a well-worked move to extend the lead before Ali Mo-



Action from the match



Coach Robert Hedin looks on from the sidelines

ammed added further separation to make it 26-16. As the game opened up, Ahmed Fadhel struck twice in quick succession, first after a flowing team sequence and then again to push the score to 31-19. The UAE added a late consolation, but Bahrain remained firmly in control until the final whistle.

Youth player Ahmed Hussain also featured after Bahrain had

already secured the title, marking an important milestone in his early international career. Speaking after his debut, he said: "Every time Bahrain steps onto the court, the objective is to win. That mentality is constant, regardless of the occasion. The senior players have been incredibly supportive, and I am grateful to be part of this team."

He added: "Making my debut

and winning gold at the same tournament is a moment I will always remember."

His teammate Ahmed Al Fardan also reflected on the campaign, saying: "Alhamdulillah, we went unbeaten and won every match. It has been a strong and rewarding campaign for the team."

At Last in Saudi Arabia: Ronaldo Captures Title with Al Nassr

Hussain Almaskati
TDT | Manama

Cristiano Ronaldo became a champion in Saudi Arabia yesterday as Al Nassr secured the Saudi Pro League title after a dramatic final matchday that brought pressure, but ultimately ended in celebration and relief. The Riyadh-based club produced a crucial victory to lift the trophy for the first time since 2019, ending a season defined by scrutiny and high expectations.

For Ronaldo, the title carries significant weight. Since joining Al Nassr, he has faced constant criticism for the lack of major silverware. Only days earlier, the club suffered disappointment in the AFC Champions League Two final against Gamba Osaka, adding further pressure on both the team and their star forward.

The night began with nerves running high. A draw would have handed the title to Al Hilal, meaning Al Nassr could not afford any mistakes. The tension was evident early on, but Sadio Mané broke the deadlock in the 33rd minute with a header from a Joao Felix corner to lift the atmosphere inside the stadium.

Al Nassr doubled their advantage in the second half when



Al Nassr celebrate their 11th Saudi Pro League title

Kingsley Coman unleashed a powerful long-range strike, set up by Abdullah Al Khaibari, putting the hosts within reach of the title.

However, Damac pulled one back just six minutes later from the penalty spot through Morlaye Sylla, briefly shifting momentum and raising anxiety at Al Awwal Park. At the same time,

Al Hilal were winning their own fixture, keeping the title race on a knife edge.

With everything still at stake, Cristiano Ronaldo delivered when it mattered most. In the 62nd minute, he scored a free kick from the left side of the attacking third that found its way through a crowded area and into the bottom corner, a crucial

strike that restored control for Al Nassr.

Ronaldo struck again in the 80th minute to complete his brace, finishing from the right side of the six-yard box with a right-footed effort into the top right corner. That second goal, his 973rd career strike, effectively sealed the title as Al Nassr went on to win 4-1 against

Damac.

With the final whistle, Al Nassr secured a long-awaited league title and Ronaldo added another major honour to his extraordinary career. It is his first league championship in Saudi Arabia and ends a five-year drought without a domestic league crown.

The victory also represents



Cristiano Ronaldo poses with the Roshn Saudi League trophy

a personal turning point. Ronaldo arrived in Saudi football amid questions about his motivation and the level of competition. Once again, he answered through performance and goals on the pitch.

Looking ahead, the Portuguese star now turns his attention to the 2026 FIFA World Cup with Portugal, where he will aim to crown his career with the one major international trophy that still eludes him.