

# Seniors ‘priority’

A haven for elderly citizens where dignity, care, and community meet

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The Al Alali Day Care Center for Parents, established by the A’ali Social Charity Society on government-granted land in Al Alali, will provide seniors with daily care, social activities, and healthcare services, aiming to preserve their dignity and support local families upon its opening.

Amid Bahrain’s demographic changes and the growing number of seniors, the center addresses the urgent need for specialized day care that allows elderly citizens to live actively while easing the burden on their families.

Valued at BD550,000, the project reflects a combination of humanitarian care and sustainable planning led by the society.

## Experience

Unlike conventional shelters, the center will offer a comprehensive daily experience, including cultural and social activities, light fitness sessions,



A group of community leaders and social workers from the Al Alali area during the event

primary healthcare, and spaces for relaxation, conversation, and shared hobbies.

The initiative also includes seven commercial units providing steady income, two multi-purpose halls for events, and an underground parking facility, all within a modern, accessible building that meets official standards for ventilation, thermal insulation, and mobility for persons with disabilities.

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According to the Ministry of Social Development, day care centers in Bahrain serve hundreds daily.

In the Southern Governorate, around 856 seniors benefit from similar services, highlighting the growing importance of such



Construction is still underway at The Al Alali Day Care Center for Parents

support.

## Model

The A’ali Social Charity Society describes the Al Alali Day Care Center as a model of corporate social responsibility, delivering a tangible and lasting

impact, linking supporting entities to meaningful programs, and serving a socially respected demographic.

More than a building, the center will be a haven where seniors can enjoy their days with dignity, companionship, and joy, returning home enriched, happy, and cared for a concrete example of how community initiatives can positively transform the lives of seniors in Bahrain.

## Institute owner faces detention

● For issuing fake academic certificates

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The Public Prosecution has ordered the detention of the owner of a private institute pending investigation after he was accused of issuing forged academic certificates and operating an unlicensed educational institution.

The Head of the Cyber-crime Prosecution said the case began after the Ministry of Education reported the discovery of fake academic certificates issued to employees of several educational institutions.

Investigations revealed that the institute did not have a license to carry out educational activities or issue academic qualifications.

The prosecution ordered the arrest of the institute’s owner, an Asian national who was managing the facility, and carried out an inspection of the premises in coordination with officers from the General Directorate for Anti-Corruption, Economic and Electronic Security, as well as the Ministry of Industry and Commerce.

# Shura debate on stricter rules for external auditors

**Mohammed Darwish**  
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Fines of up to BD100,000, licence limits and compulsory retraining could be added to the penalties available against external auditors under amendments due before the Shura Council on Sunday, as Bahrain moves to update the rules that govern the profession.

It will debate a report by its Financial and Economic Affairs Committee recommending approval, in principle, of changes to Decree-Law No. 15 of 2021 on external auditors, issued alongside Decree No. 76 of 2025.

The Shura Council’s Legislative and Legal Affairs Committee has said the draft is sound in constitutional and legal terms, and lower chamber has already issued a decision on the bill.

The Ministry of Industry and Commerce said the



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amendments rest on Article 87 of the Constitution, arguing the case meets the test of urgent necessity because delays in updating audit oversight could affect Bahrain’s international obligations.

It linked the bill to work aimed at strengthening corporate governance transparency and efforts against money laundering and terrorist financing, saying the changes seek to lift audit quality and improve how financial reporting is governed, in line with global best practice.

His Excellency General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, Minister of Interior, received Abdullah Ali Al Yahya, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Kuwait, and the accompanying delegation, on the occasion of the convening of the Bahraini-Kuwaiti Joint Supreme Committee. The meeting was attended by H.E. Dr. Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani, Minister of Foreign Affairs; H.E. Salah Ali Al Malki, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Bahrain to Kuwait; H.E. Shaikh Nasser bin Abdulrahman Al Khalifa, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Interior; and H.E. Major General Dr. Shaikh Hamad bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, Deputy Chief of Police. H.E. General Shaikh Rashid expressed his aspiration for further cooperation and joint coordination.

## Bahrain-Kuwait cooperation



# Stage set for Hala Bira Festival 2026

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The Filipino community in Bahrain is set to welcome the Hala Bira Festival 2026, with its Opening Ceremonies scheduled on January 29, 2026, at 4:00 PM at the Oasis Mall, Juffair Outdoor Area.

The event marks the official opening of a three-day celebration honoring Filipino culture, heritage, creativity, and community spirit.

An annual cultural highlight, the Hala Bira Festival brings together thousands of attendees through vibrant cultural performances, live entertainment, food and retail bazaars, and community-centered activities.

The festival promotes unity, entrepreneurship, creativity, and Filipino pride among overseas Filipinos in Bahrain.

This year’s festival celebrates the Dinagyang Festival of Ilo-



A vibrant cultural performance

**Hala Bira Festival in the Philippines celebrates culture, music, food, and vibrant traditions.**

lo, one of the Philippines’ most iconic cultural events. The event will further feature over 30 food and retail bazaar stalls, showcasing Filipino cuisine, products, and businesses, alongside live performances by talented

Filipino artists based in Bahrain. The Hala Bira Festival 2026 is organized by BrandME Events, a women-led events and marketing collective in Bahrain known for creating meaningful, culture-driven experiences.

## Focus on sports professionalism

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Federations would get clearer control over professionalism rules, contracts and player transfers under amendments the Shura Council debates on Sunday, shifting the system’s top rule-making to the President of the General Sports

Authority.

The Youth Committee has recommended approval of Decree-Law No. 40 of 2025, which amends Law No. 8 of 2021 on sports professionalism. It says the changes recognise federations’ technical independence while keeping one overall framework for the sport.