

Regional security 'is top priority'

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Manama

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, yesterday met the Commander of the United States Central Command (USCENTCOM), General Joseph L Votel, at Riffa Palace.

During the meeting, HRH the Crown Prince highlighted the Kingdom's commitment to further support and strengthen regional security by working with international allies to address



HRH the Crown Prince with General Joseph L Votel

shared threats and challenges.

HRH the Crown Prince emphasised the important role played by the United States in preserving regional security, noting in particular the US' respect for the internal affairs of sovereign nations.

HRH the Crown Prince praised the joint commitment by Bahrain and the United States to further strengthen bilateral ties across various areas, in particular the longstanding defence and security relationship which has been instrumental to the fight against terrorism.

The meeting provided an opportunity to review a number of regional and international issues of common interest.

The Commander-in-Chief of the Bahrain Defence Force (BDF), Field Marshal Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, also attended the meeting.

Old glory shines again

Revamp work completed at the Dilmun Burial Mounds

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Manama

The "Dilmun Burial Mounds" Hall at the Bahrain National Museum will re-open on Tuesday following the completion of five-year renovation works.

The new-look hall features a general idea of what the inside of Dilmun burials looked like and updated information according to the latest archaeological excavations and discoveries.

Visitors will learn all these items and data through cutting-edge audio-visual technology used in museums worldwide.

Dilmun burial mounds were found across the north and central regions of the country. The civilisation of Dilmun left behind on the main island the heaviest concentration of prehistoric burial grounds anywhere on earth, some 80,000 mounds, which were excavated and studied by many archaeological expedition missions, estimating its history back to 2250-1700 BC.

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In her comments, President of the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities, Shaikha Mai bint Mohammed Al Khalifa extended thanks to the sponsors of hall renovation project, stressing that culture is the best means to preserve Bahrain's human heritage.

She added that the hall was re-designed according to cutting-edge world museum exhibitions techniques, expressing delight that the new hall's re-opening will coincide with the 42nd session of the World



A team of Baca officials review work at the Dilmun Burial Mounds Hall.

“**The hall was re-designed according to cutting-edge world museum exhibitions techniques. I thank all those who contributed towards this project.**

SHAIKHA MAI

Heritage Committee, whose members will visit the Bahrain National Museum and the new-look hall.

The hall's renovation project is sponsored by Bahrain Cinema company, Al Muharrag Mall, Al Seef Property, Ritaj, Bahrain Credit and United Ahli Bank.

A number of artists have also contributed to the project, such as Shaikh

Rashid bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Bahrain Arts Society Honorary President, Abdul Rahim Sharif, Balqees Fakhro, Abbas Al Musawi, Ali Al Mahmeed, Shaikha Hala bint Mohammad Al Khalifa, Shaikha Marwa Rachid Al Khalifa, Shaikha Hanan Bint Hassan Al Khalifa, Omar Al Rachid, Zuhair Al Saeed, Mayasa Al Suwaidi, Adel Al Abbasi, and Ali Hussein Mirza.

Initiatives for autistic patients stressed

Manama

Labour and Social Development Minister Jamil Humaidan yesterday received Northern Governor Ali bin Al Shaikh Abdul Hussain Al Asfoor and President of Bahrain Autism Society Zakariya Sayed Hashim.

They reviewed a proposal to organise a summer camp for autistic people in July as part of the summer youth camp that is organised by the Northern Governorate every year.

The programme aims to develop the intellectual and physical skills of autistic people and boost their capability to integrate the community apart from



Mr Humaidan receives Mr Al Asfoor and Mr Hashim

direct guidance through playing and learning.

The Labour and Social Development

Minister praised cooperation between the Northern Governorate and Bahrain Autism Society, lauding the society's

role in promoting the principles of community partnership and implementing programmes aimed at people

with autism.

He stressed the ministry's readiness to provide all needed support to ensure success of the camp in attaining set up goals.

The Northern Governor and Bahrain Autism Society President hailed the ministry's efforts to optimise its services for all social components, including mainly autistic patients and needy people.

They also underlined the importance of maintaining cooperation with the government and non-government institutions in order to promote the humanitarian and social role of this category of people.