

40 Years of Changing Lives and Building Community

Ashen Tharaka
TDT | Manama

“An institution does not survive 40 years because of a name alone. It survives because people invest time, effort, and heart into keeping its mission alive.”

This was emphasised by His Excellency Dr. Shaikh Abdullah bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, Minister of Transportation and Telecommunications and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the King Hamad Global Centre for Peaceful Coexistence, during the 40th anniversary celebration of the Philadelphia Church in Bahrain.

He also conveyed the heartfelt congratulations of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

Respect

The Minister noted that their appreciation for the church's four decades of service reflects the respect it has earned in strengthening Bahrain's spirit



H.E. Dr. Shaikh Abdullah with Philadelphia Church officials and members

of coexistence.

H.E. Dr. Shaikh Abdullah praised the church for being “a steady presence that speaks for itself,” highlighting its significant contributions over four decades.

He noted that the church has supported families in their personal journeys, offered comfort during times of hardship, and created a space for reflection, unity, and community support.

Contributions

“These contributions form the quiet foundation of healthy communities,” he added.

“These are the moments that



Pastor Rev. Jacob Chandy presents a commemorative souvenir to H.E. Dr. Shaikh Abdullah bin Ahmed Al Khalifa

build trust and reinforce the values that hold society together,” H.E. said, noting that such quiet acts of service often shape the character of a nation more than public milestones.

H.E. noted that Bahrain's model of coexistence is not merely cultural, but a national commitment reflected in its laws, its social fabric, and the way faith communities are welcomed and supported.

The church, he said, has strengthened this environment by practising its faith with sincerity and responsibility, contributing to stability and cohesion in the wider society.

Faith

Speaking about Bahrain's commitment to coexistence, H.E. Dr. Shaikh Abdullah emphasized that the church's responsible practice of faith has strengthened the Kingdom's multi-faith environment.

H.E. also referenced the King Hamad Global Centre's ‘pillars of coexistence’, noting that religion plays an essential role in shaping ethical conduct, mutual respect, and constructive engagement - qualities the church has embodied throughout its 40-year presence.

He also extended congratulations on behalf of the King Hamad Global Centre, wishing the church renewed purpose, stronger bonds, and continued service to all who seek comfort within its walls.

Values

Talking about the future, H.E. Dr. Shaikh Abdullah said the world is changing rapidly, but the values that have guided the church - compassion, responsibility, and service to others - will remain essential as communities navigate new realities.

Smart Pill Shift

Roadmap For Wider Adoption

- Rising global trend
- Limited local uptake
- Research driven roadmap

Mahir Haneef
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Dr Fatema Al Dhaen speaks at the event

A wave of global innovation in smart medical capsules is beginning to touch Bahrain, where the devices are used in some advanced hospitals yet remain unfamiliar to most patients and practitioners.

This contrast shaped the core of a widely-praised presentation by Dr Fatema Al Dhaen, Assistant Professor at Ahlia University, in Cairo, where she argued that the next phase of medical transformation is moving inside the human body through ingestible devices capable of diagnosis and treatment.

Global Momentum

Dr Al Dhaen presented her paper at the International Conference on Sustainable Business and Technology (ICBST Cairo 2025) hosted at the American University in Cairo.

Her research examined how ingestible devices equipped with Internet of Things capabilities are reshaping medical practice by offering precise imaging, monitoring and intra-body drug delivery.

She noted that these capsules already hold approval from the United States Food and Drug Administration and are used widely in several countries.

In the United States they are a primary option for diagnosing gastrointestinal diseases.

Japan has integrated them into its national health insurance system for more than a decade.

Hospitals across the United

Kingdom's National Health Service have adopted their use to help shorten waiting times for traditional endoscopies.

Similar deployments were highlighted across European and Asian telemedicine programmes.

Local Gap

Dr Al Dhaen pointed out that Bahrain has begun to experiment with this technology.

Some advanced hospitals already use ingestible capsules as a modern and safe diagnostic tool, especially for gastrointestinal examinations.

She added that adoption remains limited because many patients and doctors still depend on traditional investigative procedures and awareness of the benefits of ingestible devices is low.

She anticipates that usage will grow as public understanding improves and as medical institutions continue moving toward digital transformation.

Research Roadmap

During her presentation Dr Al Dhaen announced a forthcoming study using the Technology Acceptance Model and the Technology, Organization and Environment model.

The research aims to identify the factors influencing adoption in Bahrain and develop a national roadmap that encourages wider use of ingestible medical devices.

Tampered goods

Three charged after expired food found with changed dates to mislead customers

● Hearing set on 25 Nov

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

The Public Prosecution has referred the owner of a commercial food business and two employees to criminal court after inspectors found expired goods on the premises with altered expiry dates.

A hearing is set for 25 November 2025 at the Sixth Minor Criminal Court.

Prosecutors said yesterday they had ordered the three to stand trial for possessing and trading expired food products after changing the dates shown on packaging to make them appear valid.

The Ministry of Industry and Commerce had already shut the establishment after the inspection.

Report

The case started when the ministry filed a report saying its inspection officers seized expired items during routine visits to the shop.

Checks showed the original expiry dates had been replaced



Image used for illustrative purposes only



The Public Prosecution would enforce the law firmly against anyone who tampers with goods, especially foodstuffs, to protect public health and the safety.

with new ones indicating a longer shelf life, contrary to the true status of the goods, the prosecution said.

A prosecution team moved to

the site after receiving the report, carried out an inspection, and heard the statement of the ministry's judicial officer.

Suspects

Arrest warrants were issued for the suspects, two were taken in and questioned, then held pending the inquiry.

The premises and all food items inside were also seized.

Specialists from the ministry were tasked with taking stock of the goods and testing them to identify expired items, as well as tracking any expired products being sold in the wider market.

The inventory recorded over 600 expired food products.

Forgery expert

The prosecution appointed a forgery expert from the Directorate of Material Evidence to examine samples.

The expert's report found that expiry dates on the tested products had been changed by substituting new dates for the originals.

The Attorney General said the Public Prosecution would enforce the law firmly against anyone who tampers with goods, especially foodstuffs, to protect public health and the safety of citizens and residents.

Court clears man accused of working without permit

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

A defendant accused of working without a permit has been found not guilty after the Lower Criminal Court concluded he had no link to the case.

The ruling cancels an earlier criminal order that had convicted him, with the judges saying the file does not show proof that he took part in the alleged offence.

His lawyer Sara Atiq had asked the court at a previous hearing to dismiss the criminal order and clear her client.

In a written defence, she denied the charge, disputed the elements needed to prove the offence, and argued that her client was not involved.

In its reasons, the court said it was not satisfied that the second defendant was connected to the incident, noting that fair-trial rules shape the result of a criminal case from start to finish.

It described the presumption of innocence as a basic starting rule that applies to every person, suspected or charged, and said the burden rests on proving the accusation.

The worker actually on site that day was another person, the only worker present at the time.

Court rejects partition of shared property to protect heirs' rights

Rehab Mohammad
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The Civil Minor Court has dismissed a lawsuit filed by one of the heirs demanding the partition and sale of a jointly owned property. The court found that the property is subject to government restrictions prohibiting any disposal without written approval.

It also ruled that partition or sale would harm the heirs residing in the property—particularly since one of the defendants stated that the house is her only residence and that she refuses to end the state of joint ownership.

This led the court to conclude that the request for partition and sale contradicts the restricted ownership conditions and fails to protect the rights of the

other heirs.

Attorney Manar Janahi, representing one of the heirs, explained that the plaintiff filed the lawsuit claiming joint ownership with the defendants and sought to end the state of common ownership by requesting the property's division, or its sale at public auction if division proved impossible.

Janahi added that her client

objected to ending the state of joint ownership and submitted a detailed memorandum confirming his position.

Case documents revealed that the property lies within a government housing project, and that its ownership was granted under conditions requiring that the house be used for the residence of the original beneficiary and passed on to his heirs.