

Hands helping hands

Filipino community delivers meals, essentials, and hope to fellow workers in need

TDT | Manama

In the face of uncertainty, Filipinos in Bahrain are rallying together, embodying the enduring spirit of unity and collective action during times of need.

Through volunteerism, generosity, and coordinated grassroots efforts, members of the community are delivering not just food and essentials, but also hope to fellow Filipinos grappling with financial and employment challenges.

From the preparation of daily meals to the distribution of essential goods, these initiatives have become a lifeline for many affected by disrupted work conditions.

Across the Kingdom, individuals, community groups, and small businesses have stepped forward, ensuring that no one is left behind during this period of instability.

Responders

Among the earliest responders were Indian-Filipino couple King and Gab, who mobilized quickly to assist “no work, no pay” employees impacted by the ongoing crisis.

Beginning on the first day, the pair led efforts to cook and distribute freshly prepared lunch packs to displaced workers. Their initiative soon expanded to include grocery distributions for Filipinos staying in evacuation shelters or unable to work.

Each relief package contains staple items such as 10 kilograms of rice, a tray of eggs, canned goods, and other necessities designed to sustain recipients through difficult days.

Motivation

Speaking about the effort, Gab emphasized the deeply personal



Pinay Ikaw Na (PIN), under the leadership of President Dinah E. Sta. Ana, organized relief distributions across Gudaibiya, Manama, Juffair, and Budaiya.

Cooking, packing and distributing food and groceries to help those in need

Manama, Juffair, and Budaiya, targeting members and home-bound individuals unable to earn an income.

Meanwhile, United with Christ (UWC) Bahrain, led by Pastor Virgilio Fernandez, carried out a separate initiative, distributing 100 grocery packs to church members facing financial strain due to limited work opportunities.

These efforts reflect a broader culture of mutual support within

the Filipino diaspora.

Families

Volunteers ensured that aid reached families most in need, reinforcing the importance of solidarity in times of crisis.

Local businesses have likewise stepped up to support the cause. Atarah Eatery and Pastries, led by owner Pilgreg Allaga Baod, collaborated with volunteers to prepare and distribute meals to struggling Filipinos.

Difference

The initiative demonstrated how even small enterprises can make a meaningful difference when communities come together.

Other establishments, including Nonald’s Restaurant, Cyclone Grill, and Shais Restaurant, contributed by providing meals during Iftar, further extending assistance to those in need.

Rare shelf cloud spotted

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A rare “shelf cloud” formation was observed over Bahrain shortly after midnight, coinciding with the thunderstorm that swept across the Kingdom. This was according to Professor Dr. Wahib Issa Al-Nasser, Professor of Applied Physics.

Speaking to Al-Ayyam, Dr. Al-Nasser said the appearance of the shelf cloud is closely associated with active storm systems and typically signals unstable weather conditions.

He explained that a shelf cloud is a low, dense, arc-shaped formation that stretches horizontally across the sky, resembling a suspended ledge.

Thunderstorms

It usually forms along the leading edge of strong thunderstorms, created by the interaction between warm rising air and cooler descending winds at the storm front.

The cloud remains attached to the base of a cumulonimbus cloud.

Dr. Al-Nasser noted that the presence of such clouds often indicates the imminent arriv-



Dr. Al-Nasser

al of an intense storm front, bringing the likelihood of sudden weather changes, including stronger winds, a drop in temperatures, and heavy rainfall—conditions that were observed across Bahrain.

He added that the phenomenon follows the recent sighting of “mammatus” clouds in the Kingdom’s skies, which form when cold air descends from upper cloud layers.

Unlike shelf clouds, however, mammatus formations do not necessarily signal heavy rainfall, whereas shelf clouds are typically linked to more active and severe thunderstorms.

Thunderstorm brings rain, strong winds across Kingdom

Kingdom issues safety warnings

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The Kingdom of Bahrain was hit by a powerful thunderstorm in the early hours of yesterday, bringing heavy rainfall and strong wind gusts that affected most parts of the country.

The conditions, which began around 2am, reflected a broader spell of atmospheric instability that has gripped the Kingdom since dawn.

According to meteorological data, the rain developed as dense cumulonimbus clouds moved across the skies, triggering intense downpours and active winds. The severity of the system gradually eased later in the morning.

The Meteorology Directorate at the Ministry of Transportation and Communications



Early morning rain wets roads, reducing visibility for drivers

confirmed that thunderstorms were recorded across much of the Kingdom.

Visibility

The weather was marked by heightened wind activity and intermittent drops in horizontal visibility, particularly during periods of heavy rain.

Forecasts indicate that scattered showers were likely to continue throughout yesterday

at varying intervals.

Unstable weather conditions are expected to persist until Friday, with the possibility of renewed cloud formation and occasional rainfall.

Authorities have urged caution in response to the adverse conditions.

Call

The General Directorate of Traffic called on motorists to

adhere to speed limits, remain in designated lanes, maintain safe distances, and avoid distractions while driving on wet roads.

Meanwhile, the General Directorate of Civil Defense advised residents to take preventive measures, including securing loose objects, keeping a safe distance from trees and large billboards, and avoiding flooded roads.