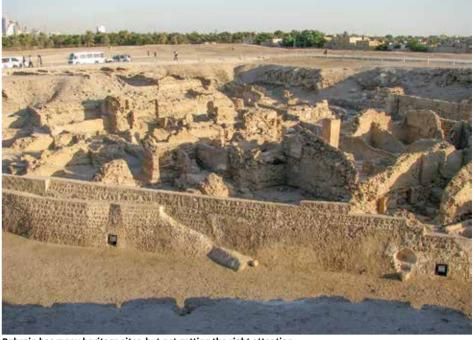
## news of bahrain

## Reap tourism benefits by bringing heritage to light

Experts call for more action to explore heritage tourism potentials



Bahrain has many heritage sites, but not getting the right attention.

## TDT|Manama **Mohammed Zafran**

ahrain has the highest potential to emerge as a culture and heritage based tourism hotspot in the region due to its rich history and well-preserved heritage sites, according to heritage experts.

Bahrain can take advantage of its rich history and heritage to transform itself into a tourism hub, international heritage expert and Adviser to Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities Dr Britta Rudolff told Tribune.

According to her, Bahrain is unique in the region thanks to its magnificent history such as from the Tylos and Delmon period as well as the well-preserved archeological sites.

er countries in the region has a heritage has been lost.' tremendous amount of heritage really use these resources to be-villages in their architectural gives it a stronger density." come a prime culture tourism fabric, and also has amazing destination in the region.

to be made now; with develop- the whole of the Island are still high quality tourism; it brings in ments projects increasing many present. There are historic tem- a lot of revenue." resources are getting lost. If this ples and sites like Qalat al Bah-



Heritage needs to be a more of an emphasis point on the government agenda. Although it is being recognised and appreciated, it is still not given the importance and attention it deserves.

DR BRITTA



What I would like to see in Bahrain is for it to bring a linkage between nature and culture. So more attention would need to be placed on ecological aspects around the cultural sites.

MR BADMAN

face the same situation as the stronghold of cultural heritage." "Bahrain, compared to oth- UAE has today where cultural

"Bahrain is by far the strongest

"Oman is perhaps the only country in the region that could even compete with Bahrain. But resources although it is slowly in the GCC in heritage terms. Bahrain has still some advantagdisappearing. The country can Bahrain has historic cities and es such as its small size which

"This could be something that archeological sites, the burial could be marketed in a bigger "This is a decision that needs mounts field which used to be way because culture tourism is

"Heritage needs to be a more instance sky scrapers popping ing, negotiating and the specific skills on the ground."

situation continues, Bahrain will rain. Undoubtedly, Bahrain is a of an emphasis point on the gov- up next to archaeological sites. ernment agenda. Although it is In historic neighbourhoods, being recognised and appreciat- large housing project coming relationship with nature has ed, it is still not given the impor- in could make a change in the evolved over time. tance and attention it deserves."

> a lot of challenges as infrastructakes place, she said.

structure and identity of the lo-Heritage sites in the GCC face cal community."

ture and housing development challenges, she said. "The main people had to live in a challengchallenges are the tremendous ing environment and how they "Challenges are different in work they are tasked with. They have adapted to their conditions. different sites, many sites now- need to have different skills in So what this means is that we a-days face issues such as infra- different areas, administrative need people with nature constructure and housing issues, for skills, financial skills, market- servation and cultural heritage

skills required for conservation and preservation of the historic sites. It is far too much for a person to handle, the situation is the same all around the world but they need more support."

Tim Badman, Director of World Heritage programme at International Union for Conservation of Nature, said that he was happy to see Bahrain's efforts for heritage conservation. He said that Bahrain has strong heritage and cultural sites, recommending the strengthening of culture-nature linkage at heritage sites.

"What I would like to see in Bahrain is for it to bring a linkage between nature and culture. So more attention would need to be placed on ecological aspects around the cultural sites and how the sites show the people's

"The whole story of Bahrain from Delmon period onwards is Site managers also face many a very compelling story of how





**Indian Ambassador** Alok Kumar Sinha attended a yoga session organised by Prop Yoga and Therapy Centre vesterday a Marassi Beach as part of International Yoga Day celebrations. The session was held under the guidance of yoga instructor Ehsan Asghar.





The Shri Krishna Hindu Temple - Manama and the Thattai (Bhatia) Hindu Community celebrated the fourth edition of International Yoga Day by organising a talk on the benefits of "Yoga for a Healthy Lifestyle" with a simultaneous demonstration of yogic postures by yoga expert Anil Kumar Singh. The event was attended by Indian Embassy Second Secretary (Consular) P K Chowdhury, joined by 102 yoga enthusiasts in performing the various asanas.