

# Gulf Air welcomes new batch of Bahraini pilots

The company says it is committed to invest in Bahraini workforce



The new batch of Bahraini pilots with Captain Waleed Al Alawi.

● **The airline has established a tailored programme through which it recruits and trains Bahrainis to become aviation professionals.**

● **All pilots have to undergo a challenging screening process before joining the company.**

## Manama

Gulf Air, the national carrier of the Kingdom of Bahrain, continues moving forward in keeping Bahrainisation at the core of its recruitment strategy by welcoming a new batch of Bahraini pilots who have recently begun operating flights after completing all the necessary vigorous ground and base training courses, the airline said in a statement issued.

The new batch of pilots will join the national carrier from

a number of neighbouring regional airlines to be part of their national carrier and serve the Kingdom of Bahrain, the statement added.

Gulf Air's Deputy Chief Executive Officer Captain Waleed Al Alawi congratulated the airline's new pilots for passing the selection process, and noted: "With more than 70 per cent of our pilots being Bahrainis, this is a major milestone for us to be a leader amongst carriers from our neighbouring countries by having local, specialised and professional talents representing our glorious Kingdom in the skies. Gulf Air continues to take pride in being a corporate leader in Bahrainisation in the Kingdom."

The airline's news pilots are: Captain Aref Al Mulla, first officers: Ali Hussain, Khalifa Daleem, Khaled Al Setrawi and Husain Ismail and second officers: Khaled Bubshait and Ali Al Nuaimi.

"I am very happy to join Gulf Air and be one of its ambassadors in the skies. I have worked in regional airlines in neighbouring countries, but nothing



compares returning home and working with my country's national carrier. Being close to my family and friends is amazing," commented Captain Aref Al Mulla.

Overwhelmed with the new assignment, Khalid Al Satriwi said: "It feels great to be amongst this group of Bahraini pilots joining Gulf Air together on the same time. We thank the airline and its management for giving us this opportunity to return home and be the future captains of Gulf Air."

The company said that it prides itself with its legacy and long experience in aviation; as the airline selects only the top pilot contenders based on their

performance; and in compliance with the high standards that Gulf Air has set for its pilots and with the Bahrain Civil Aviation Affairs safety regulations.

"Safety and security issues are important elements for the national carrier in selecting its pilots, as they undergo a very challenging screening process includes a technical assessment, followed by a comprehensive technical interview.

"Gulf Air is committed to invest in its Bahraini workforce and their career development and as such, it continues to provide opportunities for Bahraini nationals to take over senior positions in the company with 90 per cent of employees that are based at the headquarters in Muharraq being Bahraini along with nearly 70pc of its pilots."

The airline has established a tailored programme through which it recruits and trains Bahrainis to become aviation professionals and continue Bahrain's legacy of being a long-standing reliable source of aviation industry professionals who have served the national carrier and other regional airlines.

# Centre denounces Jazeera attempts to incite hatred

● **Bahraini families continued to pledge allegiance to His Majesty and the Kingdom's leadership.**

## Manama

**A**l Ajam Grand Community Centre condemned the desperate attempts of Qatari channel Al Jazeera to drive wedges and incite sectarianism among the Bahraini people.

It asserted standing one rank under the leadership of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, affirming support to his policy which is based on noble civilisational principles aimed at achieving the aspirations of the Bahraini people.

In a statement, Al Ajam Grand Community Centre asserted that the despicable campaigns by the Qatari media have strengthened unity of the Bahraini people and their resolve to carry on with the march of growth and prosperity spearheaded by HM the King.

It stressed that Bahrain is immune against all plots to jeopardise its social fabric and unity thanks to the will of the Bahraini people.

Meanwhile, Bahraini families continued to pledge allegiance to His Majesty and the Kingdom's leadership.

The families and tribes of Al Khulafi, Higris, Sharih bin Saif Al Dosary, Salman bin Khalid Al Subaei, (family of the late) Abdulkareem Ali Khashfi, Al Wazzan, Al Qahtani, Al Berdouli, and Al Tameemi, reiterated their strong unwavering allegiance and loyalty to

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AL AJAM GRAND COMMUNITY CENTRE

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, HRH Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa and HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, and vowed to defend our immaculate homeland under the leadership of His Majesty the King.

They strongly condemned Qatar-fabricated lies aimed to sow sedition within the united Bahraini people who have reiterated their firm unflinching loyalty to the Kingdom's historic leadership.

They strongly denounced Qatar's Al Jazeera channel attempts to undermine the Kingdom's security and stability airing its so-called "What is hidden is more immense!" programme, which was an abject failure after its staff became devoid of any of the ethics and rules of professional media in a bid to mislead the public opinion through such blatant lies and false allegations that have been exposed to the whole world.

# SCW holds meeting for voluntary retirees

## Manama

**T**he Supreme Council for Women (SCW) organised, in co-operation with the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO), an introductory meeting for the beneficiaries of the National Guidance Programme for Bahraini Women.

The programme aims to ensure easy transition from the public sector to the private one for the women beneficiaries of the Voluntary Retirement Scheme.

It also aims to encourage them to join the entrepreneurship field through starting their own inno-

vative enterprises, or choose any other options or opportunities provided by the labour market.

The meeting highlighted UNIDO's role in supporting and boosting entrepreneurship.

UNIDO's Investment Promotion Expert, Afif Barhoumi, gave a presentation about achieving sustainable development through entrepreneurship and innovation, highlighting the programmes of the Arab International Centre for Entrepreneurship and Investment (AICEI) at the institutional and entrepreneurial level.

He also shed light on the Entrepreneurship Development and Investment Promotion (EDIP)



The meeting highlighted UNIDO's role in supporting and boosting entrepreneurship.

Programme, and its assistance services.

The meeting also highlighted the main investment opportunities available for them and the

challenges they have faced during their entrepreneurial career, in addition to ways to take advantage of the available opportunities and enhance co-operation with entrepreneurship-supporting sides.

The National Guidance Programme for Bahraini Women is in line with the decision taken by the SCW, based on the directives of Her Royal Highness Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa, Wife of HM the King and SCW President, during its meeting on September 10, 2018, to support the government's initiative to implement the Fiscal Balance Programme.

# 'We're proud of the military role in Yemen'

## Dubai

**T**he United Arab Emirates has announced that it is not withdrawing completely from Yemen, despite a reduction in the number of its troops deployed in the war-torn country.

Writing in an opinion piece published in the Washington Post yesterday, UAE

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Anwar Gargash made it clear that the UAE and the rest of the coalition "are not leaving" Yemen.

"While we will operate differently," explained Gargash, "our military presence will remain. In accordance with international law, we will continue to advise and assist local Yemen forces."

The move to reduce the UAE's mili-

tary presence to one of an advise and assist role is, as Gargash stressed in the Post, to allow the crisis in Yemen to be solved through a political solution rather than a purely military one.

"As the United Arab Emirates draws down and redeploys its forces in Yemen, we do so in the same way we began, with eyes wide open," he said.

"There was no easy victory and there

will be no easy peace... But now is the time to double down on the political process."

The minister added that the UAE's move should be seen by the Houthis as a "confidence-building measure to create new momentum to end the conflict".

Throughout the four-year conflict in Yemen, which erupted in 2015, tens of thousands of people have been killed.

Moreover, a famine has ravaged the country while aid has been prevented from reaching much of the population, leading to what the UN has described as the world's worst humanitarian crisis.

As part of the Saudi-led coalition, the UAE has played a key role in the conflict by providing military support and involving the effective use of its Special Forces.