



Saudi passengers being welcomed at Bahrain International Airport

Staff Reporter
TDT | Manama

Spectacular events add charm to Saudi National Day celebrations

● BTEA organises entertainment and fun-filled activities at Manama Souq

The Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority organised a series of events to observe Saudi National Day under the slogan 'Delighted to See You' - a brotherly message to the thousands of Saudi tourists who travel across the Kingdom on a regular basis.

The event, which was held under the slogan "Road to Manama," included a Bahraini folk troupe that performed a number of Saudi and Bahrain traditional songs, kids and advanced workshops aimed at introducing ancient Bahraini crafts, traditional games and band and kids' puppet show, and many more.

Dr Nasser Qaida, CEO of the Tourism and exhibition Authority, stated that the "authority chose Manama Souq as the location to celebrate the National Day as the two countries' long-standing historical ties, one of which is a trade and cultural exchange, with a particular emphasis on the shared history that unites the people."



Traditional bands singing Saudi and Bahrain folk songs.

Dr Qaida explained, "We welcome everyone from the Kingdom of Saudi, we promise them a rich tourism and entertainment programme through which they will explore many of the accommodation, hospitality, and entertainment experiences offered by the establishments of the Bahraini tourism sector, thus enhancing Bahrain's position as their preferred first destination."

Zain Murtada Al Sakib, a calligrapher at Manama Souq, told the Daily Tribune, "I write names in Arabic calligraphy and it especially attracts foreigners as they like Arabic font because the writing starts from left to right and they prefer names written in seashells

and bookmarks."

He said that most visitors are families who come here on weekends to shop for antiques. He also mentioned that arts and crafts are the first thing that draws tourists here.

The Bahrain International Airport also marked Saudi Arabia's 92nd National Day. Airport employees, who were carrying the Saudi flag, presented souvenir gifts to passengers coming from Saudi Arabia.

Meanwhile, a folk group performed patriotic Al Ardah songs to express joy over the precious occasion.

Mainsails of boats illuminated in Saudi and Bahrain flags



Towering Obelisk welcomes travellers from Saudi Arabia

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Bahrain inaugurated an LED-lit obelisk - a rectangular pillar with a tapered top forming a pyramidion - to commemorate the Saudi National Day celebrated annually on the 23rd of September.

The structure, commissioned by Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority with Bahrain Bay Development yesterday, is in the Bahrain Bay Area.

The monument has internally LED-lit calligraphy and a beacon of light pointing towards the Holy Kaaba in the Grand Mosque in Makkah.

The memorial also has green lasers pointing towards Saudi Arabia.

The grand structure is in the middle of the maze in the Gardens area in Bahrain Bay.

The inauguration featured events, including a musical performance and a Dhow show lasting for three hours.

"Through this memorial, we wish to welcome our Saudi brothers to Bahrain and greet Saudi Arabia on the occasion of its National Day," BTEA Chief Executive Officer, Dr Nasser Qaedi, said.



"The unveiling of this memorial is just one of the celebrations of the Saudi National Day that BTEA has planned and executed successfully," Dr Qaedi said.

Gagan Suri, CEO of Bahrain Bay Development Company, said that Bahrain Bay is proud to showcase the outstanding monument of The Obelisk at Bahrain Bay, inaugurating it with the colours of the Saudi National Flag on its National Day.

"We chose this monument because it brings the past, present and future all in one monument intertwined with a practical function."

The name "obelisk" is Greek for "spit", as in a long pointed piece of wood generally used for cooking, because the Greek historian Herodotus was the first to write about them and so named them. The Egyptians called them tekhen which means "to pierce" as in "to pierce the sky".

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Dr Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani, Minister of Foreign Affairs, met yesterday Antonio Guterres, the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the sidelines of the 77th session of the United Nations General Assembly. They discussed aspects of joint cooperation and ways to advance it in various fields of common interest to address the challenges facing the countries of the world. Dr Shaikh Abdullah bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, the Undersecretary for Political Affairs, Ambassador Jamal Faris Al-Ruwai'i, Permanent Representative of Bahrain to the United Nations in New York, and the delegation accompanying the Minister of Foreign Affairs were present.



Over 5,000 were served traditional Onasadya at a grand event held at Bahrain Keraleeya Samajam on Friday. Onasadya, the grand vegetarian feast associated with Onam, the major festival of Malayalees, was prepared by Chef Maestro Pazhayidam Mohanan Nampoothiri. Indian Ambassador Piyush Srivastava and many other dignitaries attended.