

Building evacuated after fire in Al Hooraa

One person suffers minor burn injuries, cause of fire not determined

● **Civil defence officers reached the scene immediately**

TDT | Manama

Residents of a high-rise apartment in Al-Hooraa were evacuated yesterday after an early morning fire police say caused minor injuries to a person.

The injured person was given first aid and necessary treatment by the medical team accompanying the ambulance service.

Investigators are yet to determine the cause of the blaze.

Civil defence officers reached the scene immediately after receiving the alert.

“Firefighters worked quickly



Five civil defence vehicles and 18 officers worked to bring the fire under control.

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statement confirmed.

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fire under control. The extent of

the damage is not known.

“**Firefighters worked quickly and brought the fire under control**

INTERIOR MINISTRY

An investigation is ongoing.

Accidents like these are common in the Kingdom, where most of the workforce are staying in rented apartments.

The last thing anyone wants to deal with is a fire in their home, yet in most cases, authorities say, negligence was determined to be root cause resulting in destruction and potential loss of life.

In a similar blaze in Ma’aameer in March, firefighters rescued a mother and her child from a fire broke out in their apartment.

Another apartment fire reported from Muharraq in August, also occurred early morning, resulted in the death of a 63-year-old Bahraini. Police said a smoking sheesha left unattended with a portable stove to burn coals sparked the fire.

A 20-storey apartment in Al-Fateh, in January this year, was engulfed in a huge fire, investigators say was, caused by “negligence. Luckily none injured in the incident. Timely evacuation of the residence by Civil Defence officers averted a major disaster.

Faulty electrical equipment, clutter, careless storage of combustible materials, human error or negligence are the most common causes.

Strictly following the fire prevention methods suggested by authorities would help reduce the risks and chance of fire.

Promoting ‘Made in Bahrain’ crafts, traditional products

Bahrain’s Authority for Culture and Antiquities to launch “Made in Bahrain” project on World Tourism Day

● **Macao Chinese Orchestra to perform at Bahrain National Theatre**

● **To watch, log on to Culture Authority’s YouTube channel @ culturebah at 8:00 pm.**

● **This year’s edition of the World Tourism Day has the theme “Tourism and Rural Development”**

TDT | Manama

Bahrain is all set to release the first batch of “Made in Bahrain” products created as part of a project to promote the unique identity of Bahraini handicrafts and traditional industries around the globe.

The project, which Bahrain’s Authority for Culture and Antiquities kicks-off today, also falls in line with the World Tourism Day celebrations falls on September 27 every year.

This year’s edition has the theme “Tourism and Rural Development” which celebrates the unique role tourism plays in providing opportunities outside of big cities and preserving cultural and natural heritage all around the world.

Bahrain’s efforts in this regard focus on providing opportunities and preserving its cultural and natural heritage along with countries around the world looking to tourism to drive recovery.

“Made in Bahrain” project aims at promoting traditional crafts as a tributary for sustainable development,” said Shaikha Mai bint Mohammed Al Khalifa, the President of the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities.

Macao Chinese Orchestra

The project will re-portray the visual and functional identity of handicrafts and traditional industries as a reflection of the cultural identity of the Kingdom.



Picture courtesy of AlAyam

hance Bahrain’s cultural identity and its ancient history, as well as to create promising development opportunities.”

She pointed out that Bahrain’s traditional crafts, cultural places, archaeological sites and historical architectural features constitute a basic infrastructure for our distinct cultural tourism.

“Our role is investing in these elements to present the most beautiful picture of Bahrain and make our cultural assets a sustainable product for sharing with the rest of the world.”

The global health crisis, she said, has affected all cultural and economic sectors. This year’s celebrations of Tourism Day comes as communities in rural areas struggle with the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Brand Bahrain

“With the “Made in Bahrain” project, the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities seeks to establish a national cultural brand that restores cultural identities in the context of the daily life of Bahraini society, which will reach the whole world,” she added.

The project also aims to introduce traditional crafts and handicrafts and deepen awareness in local, regional and global levels. It works by adding modernity to traditional Bahraini products while retaining contemporary elements to ensure that it’s passed on to future generations.

It is worth noting that the launch of the “Made in Bahrain” project comes days after the Culture Authority concluded the Second National Forum for Intangible Cultural Heritage,



Log on to Culture Authority’s YouTube channel @culturebah at 8:00 pm to watch Macao Chinese Orchestra performing (file)

which shed light fashion and textiles, which are part of Bahrain’s traditional crafts.

Special boxes, ships, weaving, pottery, palm fronds, kurar embroidery, traditional costumes, engraving on gypsum are some of the traditional craftworks practised by Bahraini men and women.



“**Commitment to culture is a way to enhance Bahrain’s cultural identity and its ancient history, as well as to create promising development opportunities**

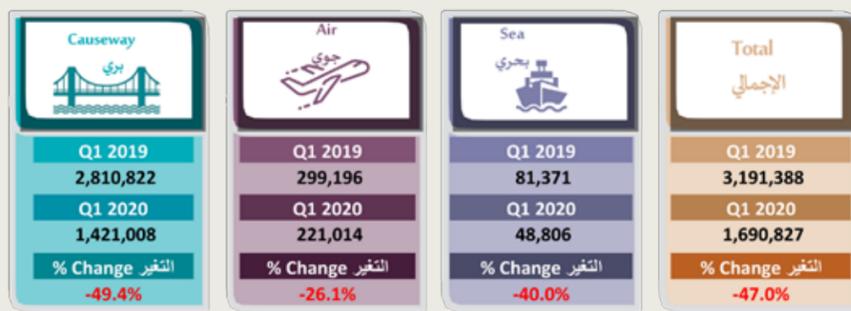
SHAIKHA MAI BINT MOHAMMED AL-KHALIFA, PRESIDENT OF THE BAHRAIN AUTHORITY FOR CULTURE AND ANTIQUITIES

Making the occasion more joyful will be a performance of the Macao Chinese Orchestra at Bahrain National Theatre.

To watch, log on to Culture Authority’s YouTube channel @ culturebah at 8:00 pm.

Sheikha Mai said: “Commitment to culture is a way to en-

How Bahrain’s tourism fared in 2020?



Statistics of the Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority show that during the first quarter of 2020, Bahrain experienced a 47 per cent decline in tourist arrival to 1.7 million from 3.2 m in the same quarter a year ago. Revenues during the quarter dropped by 55.4 pc to BD 213 m from BD478 m in the year-ago quarter.

However, the pre-COVID-19 era portrays a different picture where the number of tourists kept on increasing from 2.2 m in 1999 to more than 11.1 m tourists in 2019.

These figures also indicate that tourism has been among the hardest hit of all sectors by the

COVID-19 pandemic. No country has been unaffected. Restrictions on travel and a sudden drop in consumer demand have led to an unprecedented fall in international tourism numbers, which in turn have led to economic loss and the loss of jobs.

Through its plans, Bahrain seeks to revitalize the sector and its role in diversifying the national economy, through investments and the establishment of various projects.

Bahrain International Airport expansion project at a cost of \$ 1.1 billion to raise its capacity from 8 m passengers to 14 m annually, and the King Hamad Bridge project linking Sau-

di Arabia parallel to the King Fahd Causeway and the services provided by Khalifa Bin Salman Port are some amongst them.

As WHO says, “On this World Tourism Day, the COVID-19 pandemic represents an opportunity to rethink the future of the tourism sector, including how it contributes to the sustainable development goals, through its social, cultural, political, and economic value.”

Tourism can eventually help us move beyond the pandemic, by bringing people together and promoting solidarity and trust – crucial ingre-

dients in advancing the global cooperation so urgently needed at this time.

YOU KNOW WHAT

Data from the UN World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) shows that 100 to 120 million direct tourism jobs are at risk. The UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) forecasts a loss of 1.5 to 2.8 per cent of global GDP.

