

CAPTAIN'S CORNER

Every step closer to the solution



Captain Mahmood Al Mahmood

Never has the phrase "Hang In There" been more meaningful. Amidst all the gloom of the pandemic, now entering its seventh month in Bahrain (if you count March 2020 as the first month when the action against COVID-19 was officially mounted), we are seeing a break in the grey clouds, a proverbial silver lining. Vaccine trials have been mounted in earnest and Bahrain has reached its optimal level of trial numbers, thanks to the leadership and the determined vision of our Crown Prince and First Deputy Premier, HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa. He has closely monitored the vaccine progress and even volunteered himself for the experiment, winning the confidence of thousands.

As we learn to live with the fear and the precautions of the pandemic, there's a greater chance of survival for those getting infected later in the cycle than those who got infected 6 months earlier. The reason for this is that doctors and scientists know more about Covid-19 now than 6 months ago and hence are able to treat patients better. For instance, besides anti-viral drugs like Favipiravir and Remdesivir, doctors are now also using drugs like Aspirin and Heparin (blood thinners that prevents clotting) as protocol in treatment regimens since June 2020. This is because of the understanding that the virus also causes blood clots in the blood vessels of the lungs and other parts of the body, causing reduced oxygenation.

The technology of the disease has also changed. Today, more people are monitoring oxygen saturation of all covid patients *with a simple home use pulse oxymeter and getting them to hospital in time for corrective treatment.

All this means that patients have a better survival chance in September-October 2020 and going forward than they did in the beginning. The other phrase that resonates in our battle against this virus is "Together we can". Like a chessboard, each of us has a place in this fight and a path to move in. The government has to ensure that it is armed with the right medical intervention and personnel to manage the mounting figures; our leaders have to access the vision to plan our economic future and development. And we the people? Ours is the most numerous responsibility. We have to stay vigilant, follow the prevention protocol of wearing masks, social distancing and hygiene rules. No one group can win this deadly game but the lac of attention of one party can jeopardise all of us. Our leaders and our government are alert and ready to act. Let us also do our part.

(Captain Mahmood Al Mahmood is the Editor-in-Chief of The Daily Tribune and the President of the Arab-African Unity Organisation for Relief, Human Rights and Counterterrorism)

UoB Blackboard platform participation exceeds 90pc

English Language centre takes students on a virtual tour

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Participation of students in the Bahrain University of Bahrain (UoB) Blackboard e-Educational platform exceeded 90 per cent in the first week of study at the English Language Centre.

The attendance, UoB said, was 91 per cent for first-level students and 95pc among second-level students.

The language centre is also organising an induction day this Monday, where UoB will take them on a virtual tour of the centre through the (Stream Live) application on the University of Bahrain website.



Picture courtesy of AlAyam

The virtual tour aims at familiarising students with the introductory programme, the academic courses on offer and the services the centre provides

The programmes offered by the Distance English Language Center includes 13 academic hours for the English language, three hours for information technology, or three hours for mathematics per semester.

Dr Ghada Ahmed Jassim, Director of the University's English Language Center, pointed out that the centre has taken steps in preparation for students' enrollment for the first semester of the academic year 2020/2021.

Bahrain-Thailand for greater ties

Bahrain Chamber takes part in first Bahrain-Thailand virtual business matching event

● Meeting focuses on opportunities in the post-pandemic stage

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A first of its kind hybrid-virtual business matching event held by Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry resulted in enhancing Bahraini-Thailand ties in various sectors.

The event held via VIXMA platform offered business owners the opportunity to mull business and partnerships in sectors like organic food, beauty, hotel supply, and spa & wellness.

The Chief Executive Officer of the Chamber Shaker Al Shater voiced pride in the deep-rooted relation between Bahrain and



Chief Executive Officer of the Chamber Shaker Al Shater



Bahrain's ambassador to Thailand Ahmed Abdulla Al Hajri

Thailand, and the extensive co-operation at all levels, with 12 agreements and 17 memoranda of agreements signed between both sides.

Shedding light on the economic challenges that came along with the Coronavirus pandemic and the lockdown and containment measures, he stressed the need

to capitalise on technological advancements and innovation.

Al Shater expressed the keenness of the private sector in Bahrain on reinforcing liaison with their Thai counterparts, and the readiness of the Bahrain Chamber to facilitate and support all those endeavours.

Al Shater highlighted Bahrain's

top rank in economic freedom allowing 100 per cent foreign ownership in some business activities, strategic location giving access to the 1.5 trillion dollars GCC market, pioneering standing as a financial hub, and advanced transportation and telecommunications infrastructure.

On this note, Bahrain's ambassador to Thailand Ahmed Abdulla Al Hajri expressed pride in the strong ties between Bahrain and Thailand and the high-level co-operation.

He also called Thai business owners to mull investment and partnership opportunities, and to benefit from the vast features offered to foreign investors. He underlined Bahrain's favourable business legislation and laws including the updated bankruptcy law, and shed light on the ease of starting up a business in Bahrain using Sijilat platform.

NMS-DPS hosts online Inter-school 'Hindi Diwas' competitions

● Students from CBSE schools in the Kingdom gathered at a common digital platform to showcase their talents in poetry recitation and speech

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New Millennium School, DPS Bahrain, hosted its first-ever virtual Inter-School Hindi Oratory competitions – UDAAN, 2020.

Students from all CBSE schools in the kingdom gathered at a common digital platform to showcase their talents in poetry recitation and speech.

Vaani Sharma of The New Indian School won first prize in Hindi poetry recitation, Ayesha Abidi of Ibn Al Hytham Islamic School took second place, and Anushka Tayde of Bahrain Indian School secured the third position.

Mariam Farooque Mapari of New Millennium School DPS emerged as the winner of the Hindi speech competition. Anam Altaf Tambe of The Indian School and Eqraa Qureshi of Ibn Al Hytham Islamic School secured second and third positions, respectively.

School Chairman Dr Ravi Pillai,



Students from all CBSE schools in the kingdom gathered at a common digital platform to showcase their talents. Managing Director Geetha Pillai, and Principal Arun Kumar Sharma congratulated winners.