

Bahrain U18 basketball squad announced

TDT | Manama

The Bahrain Basketball Association has announced the squad for the first training camp of Bahrain's Under-18 national team ahead of the GCC Under-18 Basketball Championship.

Following their appearance at the 31st Albert Schweitzer Tournament in Germany last March, where the team finished winless and placed 12th overall, the national side now turns its attention to the regional competition.

The tournament is scheduled to take place in Qatar from July 17 to 22 and will also serve as a qualifier for the Asian Cup.

The selected squad features strong representation from clubs across Bahrain; Manama contributes seven players: Mujtaba Mahmood Rayan, Ali Hussain Ferdousi, Mohammed Mahmood Farhan, Mohammed Adel Hussain, Ali Khalil



Hassan Oshobuge Abdulkadir during Bahrain's Albert Schweitzer Tournament debut

Mohammed, Ali Ayman Abdulredha Hamza, and Ehsan Abdulredha Ali.

Al Ahli has four players included in the squad: Yousif Ali Al Samaheji, Mohammed Hameed Haider, Ali Sadiq Al Haddad, and Hussain Fuad Moosa.

Khalid Ali Hafedh and Mahdi Habib Ahmed are selected from Muharra, while Divine Abochi and Jock James represent Al Najma.

Additional call-ups include Hussain Madan from Nuwaidrat Club, Khalid Mohammed from Samaheji Club, as well as Hassan Abdulkadir and Somto Patrick Onoduenyi.

Leading the side will be veteran coach Salman Ramadan, who joins the national setup following a strong season with Manama Club, where he guided the team to the finals of the 2025-2026 Zain Bahrain Basketball League.

Former heavyweight champion Fury announces August return in Dublin

AFP | London

Tyson Fury has said he plans to return to the ring in Dublin on August 1 -- one week after fellow former world heavyweight champion Anthony Joshua makes his comeback.

The pair are heading for a long-awaited 'Battle of Britain', probably in November, although it appears that both boxers will first have a warm-up fight.

Joshua will face unheralded Albanian Kristian Prenga in Riyadh on July 25 in his first bout since being involved in a car crash in Nigeria in December which killed two of his close friends.

Fury posted a video in an Instagram story showing him back in training in Thailand alongside the caption: "Let's go August 1, Dublin, Ireland."

Fury could take a place on a card being put together by veteran promoter Frank Warren in the Republic of Ireland capital on that date.

No opponent has yet been



Tyson Fury

named, although Warren has ruled out Fury fighting Andy Ruiz Jr, who dethroned Joshua as world champion in 2019 before losing the rematch later that year.

Fury marked his return from a 16-month retirement with a dominant points win over Russia's Arslanbek Makhmudov in April, after which he immediately called out Joshua, who was present at ringside.

Rather than face-off at the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium, a verbal exchange followed in which Joshua taunted Fury by declaring: "I'm the landlord, remember that. You work for me."

Arteta adamant English title can inspire Arsenal to Champions League glory



Mikel Arteta celebrates with Premier League trophy in front of the fans

AFP | London

Mikel Arteta is "fully convinced" Arsenal can be crowned champions of Europe for the first time this weekend after ending their 22-year wait for a Premier League title.

The Gunners face reigning European kings Paris Saint-Germain in Saturday's Champions League final in Budapest after wrapping up their first Premier League title since 2004.

A star-studded Paris Saint-Germain, who thrashed Inter Milan 5-0 in last season's final, are widely regarded as favourites to lift the European Cup once again.

But Arsenal manager Arteta believes the confidence gained by winning the Premier League will inspire the Gunners to upset the odds.

"You could sense the energy,

you can sense the positivity and the confidence in the players and everybody around the club," he said.

"We have an amazing opportunity to write new history in our football club, and we are convinced that we're going to do it.

"We will fly to Budapest on Thursday fully convinced that in a few days' time we can be champions of Europe."

The 44-year-old Spaniard was speaking at the League Managers Association's annual awards dinner in central London on Tuesday, where he was named Premier League manager of the year.

"First of all, thank you so much for giving me this award," said former Everton and Arsenal midfielder Arteta. "It's an immense honour. You're related to some of the great managers and all the colleagues that are in this room.

Handball League: Golden square semi-finals continue

TDT | Manama

Game 2 of the Khalid bin Hamad Bahrain Handball League semi-finals takes place today at Khalifa Sports City Arena in Isa Town. Al Ahli and Barbar are both aiming to secure a place in the final following their opening wins on Tuesday night.

The evening begins at 5:30pm, when Al Ahli face Al Shabab. Ahli are looking to close out the series after edging Game 1 33-31 in a tightly contested encounter. The match swung back and forth throughout, with Ali Eid breaking the early deadlock through a sharp nine-metre strike as Ahli moved ahead to lead 18-15 at half-time.

Shabab responded strongly after the restart. Jassim Khamis levelled the scores at 21-21, before Ahmed Kadhem briefly put them in front from the free-throw line. However, Ahli regained control at the crucial moments, with Qassim Qambar and Sayed Ahmed Faiq striking in quick succession. Ali Eid then



Barbar celebrate their opening victory against Al Najma

sealed the win late with a long-range effort that extended the lead to 33-30, ending Shabab's comeback hopes.

Later, at 7:30pm, Barbar take on reigning champions Al Najma, chasing a place in the final after winning the penalty shootout 35-32 following a 31-31 draw in regulation time.

Najma looked set to take Game 1 when Komail Mahfoudh scored from six metres with just 12 seconds remaining. But Barbar struck back immediately, as Maitham Mahdi produced a last-buzzer equaliser from the left wing to force penalties.

In the shootout, Barbar held their nerve. Ali Ahmed converted the decisive attempt, while Najma were left to rue missed chances after Ahmed Fadhel struck the woodwork and Mohammed Habib Ahmed hit the post.

If Al Shabab or Al Najma respond, the series will head to a deciding Game 3 on Saturday at the same venue.

Nuno to stay on as West Ham boss after relegation

AFP | London

Nuno Espirito Santo will remain as head coach of West Ham following the club's relegation from the Premier League, the London side announced yesterday.

Talks between the Portuguese boss and the club were held on Monday, a day after West Ham beat Leeds 3-0 on the final day of the Premier League season



Nuno Espirito Santo

only to be relegated after capital rivals Tottenham Hotspur

defeated Everton.

There had been speculation that Nuno might leave the London Stadium despite overseeing an upturn in form between January and April, with the Hammers taking 22 points from 13 matches.

But three defeats in the final four league games proved costly as Spurs stayed up at their expense.

"We held meetings with head

coach Nuno Espirito Santo early this week and are pleased to confirm that he has expressed his continued commitment to the club -- as we have to him," said a West Ham statement.

"Nuno made it very clear that he is highly motivated for the challenge of guiding West Ham United back to the top flight at the first time of asking. That must be the unquestionable goal for next season.