

# Gulf Air resumes flights to Amman, Baghdad, and Najaf

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Gulf Air has announced the resumption of its scheduled flights to and from Amman in Jordan, as well as Baghdad and Najaf in Iraq, starting today. The airline confirmed that all other flights across its network continue to operate as scheduled. Gulf Air expressed its sincere appreciation to passengers for their patience and understanding following recent exceptional regional developments that had affected some services. The airline reiterated that the safety and well-being of its passengers and crew remain its highest priority.



# Fifth constituency gears up for Ashoora

Mohammed Darwish  
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With Ashoora just around the corner, preparations in the Capital's fifth constituency are moving into high gear — and this year, officials are getting an early start to make sure everything is in place well before Muharram begins. Leading the effort, MP Ahmed Al Salloom hit the ground alongside senior municipal leaders for a hands-on assessment of matams and procession routes. Accompanied by Capital Municipality Director-General Mohammed Saad Al Sahli and Trustees Board Chairman Saleh Taher Taradah, the MP toured several key locations, taking a close look at halls, alleyways, and routes where large crowds



are expected. "Speaking directly with those who manage the matams immediately highlights what's missing and where support is needed," said Al Salloom. "Starting early helps us avoid last-minute pressure." From crowd flow and ambulance access to lighting, power lines, and waste removal, the team left no detail unchecked. Organisers shared their plans, and municipal departments were instructed to deliver the necessary support on a clear timeline. Al Salloom emphasised that these on-site visits make all the difference. "You can't fix what you don't see. Being on the



ground shows us the gaps, and we fix them before they become problems," he said. Municipal crews have already begun groundwork, with more jobs lined up throughout Muharram — including arrangements for evening processions, which typically draw large turnouts.



Matam organisers welcomed the proactive approach, saying the visit gave them a much-needed opportunity to raise concerns face-to-face. They praised the teamwork with local services, noting it keeps planning realistic, responsive, and firmly on track.

# Man refuses to repay BD2,500, court sides with ex-wife



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A man who accepted ABD2,500 from his wife to cover dowry, wedding expenses, gold, and household furnishings — only to later abandon the marriage — has been ordered by a Bahraini court to return the full amount. The verdict came after the woman filed a civil case through her lawyer, Abduladheem Hubail. She told the court that the money was given to her then-husband in instalments during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, a time when many weddings were postponed and financial difficulties were common. According to the breakdown provided in court, BD1,000 was intended for the dowry, BD600 for the wedding ceremony, BD700 was raised from selling her gold, and BD200 was spent on furnishing their

shared home. Despite receiving the funds, the man later walked away from the marriage and denied owing his wife any money. As evidence, the woman submitted her bank statement showing transfers made to him. The court referred the case for further investigation to verify the debt. A second witness, found credible by the court, confirmed that the woman had lent the man the money in stages while he was unemployed. The man had reportedly acknowledged the debt on several occasions and promised to repay her once he found work — a promise he never fulfilled. The court noted that the bank transfers went uncontested. Combined with the witness testimony, the judge ruled there was sufficient proof of the debt and ordered the man to repay the full BD2,500 to the woman.

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Ashoora (or Ashura), observed on the 10th day of Muharram in the Islamic calendar, marks the martyrdom of Imam Hussain ibn Ali, the grandson of Prophet Muhammad, at the Battle of Karbala in 680 CE.

# 20 Indian nationals released under Royal Pardon: Open House

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Twenty Indian nationals were released under Royal Pardon on the occasion of Eid Al Adha, bringing the total number of Indians released since December 2023 to 250, the Embassy of India in Bahrain announced. The update was shared during the latest Open House held at the Indian Embassy and chaired by Ambassador Vinod Kurian Jacob. The monthly event, aimed at directly addressing concerns of Indian nationals, was attended by more than 40 members of the community and conducted in English, Hindi, Tamil and Malayalam. As part of its outreach efforts, embassy officials visited both the Ladies Jail and Jau Jail earlier this month to meet inmates in person. Women in-



mates received support kits expressed gratitude to the Kingdom of Bahrain's authorities for their continued cooperation and support, particularly during recent developments in the region. He also praised the Indian

community for its responsible conduct and urged continued adherence to local advisories. In response to several complaints about alleged fraud by tour and travel companies offering membership packages, the embassy issued a caution. It advised Indian nationals to thoroughly verify the credentials of such companies before making any payments. A major update was also shared regarding consular services. A new Outsourced Service Provider has been appointed to manage passport, visa, and other consular services starting 1 August 2025. Until then, from 1 July to 31 July, these services will continue to be offered directly at the embassy premises. The Open House was also attended by the Embassy's welfare and consular teams, along with its panel of lawyers. The Ambassador thanked the lawyers for their regular participation and assistance in reviewing individual cases raised during the session. He also expressed appreciation to Indian community members for their active participation in the 11th International Day of Yoga celebrations held on 21 June 2025. A delegation from the Bahrain Yoga-sana team, which had recently competed in the second Asian Yogasana Sports Championship in India, was also present. Grievances raised during the Open House were successfully addressed, with several resolved on the spot and others scheduled for follow-up action. Ambassador Jacob extended his thanks to all Indian associations and community members for their continued support and engagement.