

NBB Introduces Young Participants to Digital Banking at Youth City 2030



The National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) delivered the first of three sessions planned as part of its participation in Youth City 2030, introducing young participants to key concepts in digital banking and financial management.

Led by NBB's Retail Digital team, the 'Future Digital Banker' workshop was designed for participants aged 9 to 14. The interactive session covered the fundamentals of digital banking, financial planning and budget management, while giving attendees the opportunity to test their understanding through practical challenges and real-life financial scenarios.

The workshop helped participants build an early understanding of money management and explore how technology is shaping modern financial services. It forms part of NBB's platinum sponsorship of Youth City 2030 and the Bank's broader contribution to initiatives aim to develop the knowledge and capabilities of Bahraini youth across a range of disciplines relevant to their personal and professional development.

Two further NBB sessions and additional initiatives will be announced in due course. Please follow NBB and Youth City 2030 on Instagram for the latest updates and register through the announced channels when applications open.

Humanitarian Goals Meet Engineering Expertise

Meeting explores ways to support humanitarian and development programmes



The Acting Secretary-General of the Royal Humanitarian Foundation (RHF), Eng. Ibrahim Dalhan Al Doseri, received Dr. Hamid Abdullah Saleh, Chief Executive of the Bahrain Society of Engineers, along with a delegation from the society, to discuss strengthening cooperation and exchanging expertise between the two sides.

During the meeting, both parties explored opportunities for collaboration in several areas of mutual interest, particularly exchanging expertise, professional training and engineering consultancy. The discussions focused on supporting initiatives and programmes that serve shared objectives while enhancing institutional efficiency.

The two sides underscored the importance of expanding cooperation and developing their partnership to make greater use of Bahrain's engineering expertise and national talent. They also highlighted the role of such collaboration in supporting humanitarian and development projects.

The meeting was attended by Yousif Fouad Al Muharrarqi, Assistant Secretary-General for Financial and Human Resources at the Royal Humanitarian Foundation; Eng. Khalid Al Shaikh, Board Member of the Bahrain Society of Engineers; Eng. Abdulnabi Al Sabah, President of the Bahrain Society of Engineers; and Dr. Raed Hussein Abu Ziyad, member of the Bahrain Society of Engineers and Secretary-General of the Association of Arbitrators and Experts.

Women's Leadership Push Gains Support

Economic leaders highlight women's role in strengthening corporate governance and growth

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Economic and executive leaders in Bahrain have praised the Supreme Council for Women's (SCW) initiatives to increase the participation of Bahraini women in decision-making positions, particularly on boards of directors of public shareholding companies.

The remarks came during an awareness meeting organised by the Council at its headquarters in cooperation with the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, the Central Bank of Bahrain, Bahrain Bourse, Tamkeen, and the Bahrain Institute of Banking and Finance.

The meeting focused on the importance of strengthening Bahraini women's representation on company boards and developing their leadership capabilities.

Participants highlighted that awareness and training programmes, along with cooperation between the SCW and public and private sector institutions, have helped prepare qualified women to take up leadership roles, supporting corporate governance and enhancing the competitiveness of Bahrain's economy.

They stressed the need to continue these efforts to expand women's participation in economic decision-making.



"Training programmes strengthen women's readiness for leadership roles and contribute to better governance in the private sector."

- AHMED AL SALLOOM, MP



MP Ahmed Al Salloom, Chairman of the Financial and Economic Affairs Committee at the Council of Representatives, said increasing women's presence on boards represents an investment in national talent.

He praised Bahrain's model in empowering women, attributing

its progress to the support of the leadership and the initiatives of the Supreme Council for Women.

Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry First Vice Chairman Yusef Salahuddin said women's representation on company boards is a key pillar in developing the private sector and improving governance

and innovation in the business environment.

He affirmed the Chamber's support for national initiatives that promote women's economic empowerment, noting that Bahraini women have demonstrated their ability to contribute effectively to leading companies and decision-making processes.

Fresh Dates, Steady Prices at Bahrain Palm Festival

Farmers report lower harvest due to weather, but visitors can still enjoy quality local produce and traditional crafts.

● Stable prices despite a smaller harvest this season.

● Ghurra dates now around BD1/kg, down from BD4-5/kg at the start of the season

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The seventh Palm Festival opened yesterday at the Farmers Market in Howrat A'ali, bringing together local farmers, artisans and businesses to showcase fresh dates, traditional crafts and Bahraini products.

Running until Saturday, the three-day event gives visitors a chance to explore Bahrain's date harvest, purchase locally grown produce and learn more about crafts linked to the Kingdom's palm heritage.

Speaking to The Daily Tribune, farmer Muhsin said date prices have remained stable compared with last year, despite a lower harvest this season due to challenging weather



conditions.

"Premium varieties such as Khalas and Barhi are selling for between BD1 and BD2 per kilogram, while Khneizi and Khawaja are priced between BD1 and BD1.5. Prices have remained almost the same as last year," he said.

Muhsin added that the Ghurra variety, the first to ripen each season, is currently selling for around BD1 per kilogram as its harvest comes to an end. At the start of the season, however, it can reach BD4 to BD5 due to limited supply and high demand.

"Ghurra is always in high demand at the beginning of the

season because it is the first fresh date available. As more quantities reach the market, prices naturally become lower," he said.

Muhsin said this year's production was affected by strong winds, unseasonal rainfall and difficult weather conditions during the pollination period.

Date palms require careful pollination to produce a successful crop. Unlike many fruit trees, male and female flowers grow on separate trees, with pollen from male palms transferred to female flowers through natural or manual methods. Weather conditions during this sensitive stage can



affect the season's yield.

"The harvest is lower than expected because of the weather, but we are happy to bring fresh Bahraini dates to the festival and showcase our local produce," Muhsin added.

The festival also highlights Bahrain's traditional crafts, with local artisans showcasing basket weaving and pottery. A heritage display features palm-frond products, including ropes, furniture and fishing traps, while traditional A'ali pottery is available for visitors to purchase.

Bahrain is home to more than 100 varieties of dates, including popular types such



as Khalas, Khneizi, Barhi, and Ghurra. Date palms have been part of the Kingdom's agricultural identity for thousands of years, providing food, shade and materials used in traditional crafts.

The Kingdom is also exploring sustainable approaches to date palm cultivation by combining traditional farming knowledge with modern techniques to improve production and protect local varieties.

The annual festival continues to support local farmers, promote Bahraini produce and celebrate the Kingdom's enduring connection with the date palm.

Bahrain's Date Palm at a Glance

- Home to 100+ varieties of dates.
- Popular varieties include Khalas, Khneizi, Barhi and Ghurra.
- Date palms have been cultivated in Bahrain for thousands of years.
- They are a key part of the Kingdom's agricultural and cultural heritage.
- Palms provide fresh fruit, shade and raw materials for traditional crafts.
- Palm fronds are used to make baskets, ropes, furniture and fishing traps.
- The annual Palm Festival promotes local farmers, traditional crafts and Bahraini produce.