

Flood Toll Surges

Rescuers in Nepal and China are battling mud, rising rivers and debris as the number of missing from the devastating floods and landslides surpasses 3,000.

| P8-9

Saudi Arabia, Syria Sign Broadcasting Cooperation Deal

THE DAILY tribune

Young Bahrainis Chase Asian Cup Return

Alba Strengthens Leadership Team with Three Strategic Appointments

Coast Guard Handles Sea Robbery

The Interior Ministry announced that the Coast Guard had handled a case involving a Bahraini fishing boat carrying three people that was robbed in the northern waters of the Kingdom of Bahrain.

According to initial statements, the boat was approached by another vessel carrying several armed individuals, who fired warning shots without causing any injuries. The crew had no opportunity to send a distress call before the boat and its contents were seized, leaving them stranded at sea.

A boat that happened to be nearby transported the three individuals to a Coast Guard point, where their safety was confirmed.

Halal Mark Rules Tightened

Businesses in Bahrain must obtain a licence before using the national halal mark on products; violations may result in warnings, licence cancellation, or legal action. The rules were set under Resolution 125 of 2026 issued by Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture Minister Wael Al Mubarak.

Applicants must meet several conditions, including holding a halal certificate from an approved auditing body. Licences will be valid for three years, and the ministry will regulate the products covered and how the mark is displayed.

Bahrain Hosts Global Dispute Panel



The Council for International Dispute Resolution of Bahrain hosted a discussion on "International Commercial Courts and the Future of Cross-Border Dispute Resolution" during Singapore Convention Week 2026.

The discussion explored how commercial courts and arbitration can complement each other in resolving cross-border disputes, while examining emerging trends including procedural innovation, efficiency and challenges related to enforcement, jurisdiction and coordination.

A Global Call for Tolerance: HM King Hamad Approves Award Jury



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His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa received Dr. Shaikh Abdulla bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, Minister of Transportation and Telecommunications and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the King Hamad Global Centre for

Coexistence and Tolerance.

During the meeting, Dr. Shaikh Abdulla presented His Majesty with the names of the judging committee members for the King Hamad Award for Coexistence and Tolerance.

The committee comprises prominent intellectual and academic figures from Bahrain and abroad who will assess sub-



missions and select the winner of the inaugural international award.

His Majesty praised the committee members' expertise and international standing, wishing them success in advancing the award's humanitarian mission. His Majesty reaffirmed Bahrain's commitment to dialogue among civilisations and cul-

tures, promoting global harmony, peaceful coexistence and lasting peace.

He also praised the achievements and international reputation of the King Hamad Global Centre for Coexistence and Tolerance, reaffirming his continued support for its initiatives promoting tolerance, coexistence and religious freedom.

Tightens Wildlife Protection



His Highness Shaikh Abdullah bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Personal Representative of His Majesty the King and Chairman of the Supreme Council for the Environment, issued three regulatory decisions aimed at strengthening wildlife protection and biodiversity conservation in Bahrain.

The decisions introduce rules for issuing falcon passports in line with CITES requirements, update the list of protected wildlife to 381 species, and prohibit the import, possession, trade and propagation of myna and crow birds due to their impact on local ecosystems.

Minister Praises RHF Efforts



Information Minister Dr Ramzan bin Abdullah Al Nuaimi received Acting Secretary-General of the Royal Humanitarian Foundation (RHF) Engineer Ibrahim Dalhan Al Dosari. Discussions focused on strengthening coordination between the Ministry of Information and the Foundation, along with several issues of mutual interest.

Dr Al Nuaimi praised the RHF's humanitarian and relief programmes inside and outside Bahrain, highlighting its contribution to strengthening the Kingdom's humanitarian role.

Moves on Legal Reforms

HM King Hamad Ratifies New Legal Frameworks for Customs, Passports and Local Governance

Bahrain, UK Open New Chapter in Customs Cooperation

New Passport Rules Cover Senior Officials

Community Governance Gets a Legal Boost

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His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa issued Decree-Law No. 40 of 2026 ratifying a customs co-operation agreement with the United Kingdom. The de-

cree-law ratifies the Agreement on Cooperation and Mutual Administrative Assistance in Customs Matters between Bahrain and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Mukhtars Return to Governorates

Decree-Law No. 38 of 2026 amends the System of Governorates to restore the position of Mukhtar (community representative). Each governorate will have one or more Mukhtars, appointed by the Minister of Interior from candidates nominated by the governor concerned.

Mukhtars will serve four-year terms, which may be renewed for one or more further terms. Candidates must be Bahraini citizens, enjoy full civil and political rights, be at least 40 years

old, be able to read and write, and be of good character and reputation.

They must not have been convicted of a felony or an offence involving dishonesty or breach of trust unless legally rehabilitated, and must not previously have been dismissed from a public post on disciplinary or other grounds.

The Minister of Interior may remove a Mukhtar from office before the end of the term on the recommendation of the governor concerned. The minister may also temporarily assign a Mukhtar's duties to another Mukhtar in the same governorate for public interest reasons or when a temporary impediment prevents the Mukhtar from carrying out the role.

The Minister of Interior will

issue a separate decision defining the Mukhtars' functions and duties, and regulating their work. Mukhtars will receive monthly remuneration to be determined by a Cabinet decision.

Municipal Council Terms

Decree-Law No. 39 of 2026 amends Article 9 of the Municipalities Law promulgated by Legislative Decree No. 35 of 2001. If a royal order extends the legislative term of the Council of Representatives, the Prime Minister may issue a decision extending the terms of existing municipal councils until the parliamentary extension ends, unless their original terms already extend beyond that date.

Read more on page 03

Bahrain, UK Discuss Stronger Cooperation



His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa received Simon Martin, Chargé d'Affaires of the United Kingdom's Embassy in Bahrain. His Majesty welcomed the UK diplomat and wished him success in his duties. They discussed the longstanding Bahrain-UK ties and ways to further strengthen cooperation across various fields. His Majesty affirmed Bahrain's keenness to develop the strategic partnership and expand cooperation in areas of mutual interest, while commending the UK's regional and international role in promoting security, stability and peace. For his part, Simon Martin expressed appreciation to His Majesty for his efforts to strengthen the close cooperation between Bahrain and the United Kingdom.

