





## HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS: AHLIA IS A LEADING EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION IN THE KINGDOM



**His Royal Highness the Prime Minister welcomed members of Ahlia's Board of Directors in an audience held at the Gudaibiya Palace, attended by chairman of the Board Mr. Farouk Yousuf Almoayyed, the Founding President and Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Prof. Abdullah Yousif Al Hawaj, the Board of Trustees and members of the Graduation Ceremony organizing committee.**

The Ahlia delegation expressed their gratitude to HRH the Prime Minister for patronizing the University's 12th graduating ceremony.

During the meeting, His royal highness congratulated the graduates and praised Ahlia University's role as a pioneer educational institution, acknowledging its efforts and encouraging the University to continue its path towards success and progress.

His Royal Highness the Prime Minister Prince Khalifa Bin Salman Al-Khalifa stated that investment in education is of utmost priority. "Education is important in a developing society intellectually and scientifically, enabling it to participate effectively in the Kingdom's development," he said.

"Education is the main path for our society to prosper and develop. We highly cherish great minds and creative energies. Bahrain has always believed in the value of education, and its impact on building, developing, and forming a diverse and productive human wealth system

for the country," added the Prime Minister.

HRH also affirmed the government's desire to invest in opportunities in education at all stages by providing facilities that guarantee high international standards of education where graduates have the necessary knowledge, skills, and qualities to contribute effectively to the labour market.

The Prime Minister also pointed out that the private education sector is an important component for the government's efforts and plans to improve education in light to the sector's potential to provide excellent quality and efficiency.

The Prime Minister praised the role played by Ahlia University in qualifying generations of young Bahrainis who recognize the merit of the loyalty to our homeland and are keen to preserve the true Bahraini values.

Prof. Abdullah Al Hawaj expressed his gratitude, pride and honor to HRH for his annual patronage of the university's graduation ceremonies.

He added that HRH's support for education and the University is a catalyst for more work and diligence in providing modern and advanced educational services that will make Bahrain a prominent scientific centre in the region.

At the end of the meeting, a poem was recited on the role of HRH in the advancement of education sector and his efforts to develop the Kingdom of Bahrain in various fields.



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AHLIA UNIVERSITY  
BAHRAIN



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# ● Sheikh Rashid Bin Khalifa Patronizes the Annual University Exhibition



calligrapher Mohammad Al Nashmi.

“Calligraphers try to assimilate themselves through the letters, as they are infinitely wide; it gives the artist’s soul a reason to travel to greater horizons, seeking a glimmer of light in today’s world,” he added.

Fine art garnered equal amounts of attention. Artist Mohamed Taha blended abstract themes with a three-dimensional element in all six of his paintings.

Artist Mohamed Taha acknowledged that the

paintings of artists embraced the best of realism, abstract and impressionism.

Taha pointed out that the two paintings of artist Zainab Hussain represent some of the most astounding works he had witnessed. Zainab expressed the role of science and learning in the advancement of women with realistic, innovative and creative ideas. This is especially evident in her painting of the African woman, who in the context of hunger and poverty, chose war and suffering in the name of science and knowledge.







# AHLIA EXHIBITION SHOWCASES NEW VISION FOR ARABIC CALLIGRAPHY



The works of more than 45 artists were displayed at the second Ahlia University exhibition for Arabic Calligraphy and Fine Arts. The Exhibition was staged under the patronage of His Excellency Sheikh Rashid bin Khalifa Al Khalifa - undersecretary of the Ministry of Interior for Nationality, Passports and Residency and honorary president of the Bahrain Fine Arts Society. It was hosted from March 21-26 at the Isa Cultural Centre, curated by the Community Partnership Committee of the university.



The theme of the exhibition was ‘Teaching and Learning’, and saw unprecedented works of calligraphy and artistic compositions.

The participating works revealed a rich diversity of a number of leading artists including Abbas Al Mosawi, Abdul-Ilah alArab, Salman Akbar, Abbas Yousef, Muhsin Gharib, Jassem Al Maqabi, Hussain Milad, Khalil Al Madhoun, Mohammad Al Nashmi, Ali Al Fardan, Houriah Alalawi, Abdullah Al Hayeki, Khadija Al Mishal, Sayed Hasan Alsari, Dhaweya Al Alawiyat, Ali Al-Jad, Ali Shehab, Zainab Hussain, Asghar Ismail, Mohammed Bahrain, Qassim Haider, Zuhair Mezal, Abdul Al Hussain Al Abo, Musa Al Khazaz, Lubna al-Amin, Issa AlSaeed, MohammedKadhem, Yasser Al Daihi, Hassan Yusuf Kamal, Abdul Ella Al Rayes,

Mohammed Mustafa, and Zakaria Mohammed.

The participants in the exhibition presented different levels, styles, and ways of dealing with Arabic and morphological arts. There were both classical and modern concepts, while some presented formed and decorated characters, others opened horizons with the different methods used in the production of their artwork.

“I would like to thank the Founding President Professor Abdullah Al Hawaj and the University President, Professor Mansoor Alaali, as they embraced the calligraphers and artists for the second consecutive year. All the efforts exerted by the University’s professors and students to highlight and continue to refine these skills, talents, and capabilities of Bahraini artists,” said



# AHLIA RESEARCH STUDY PUBLISHED IN 'PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION' JOURNAL

A research team from Ahlia University published an article in the prestigious Educational Philosophy and Theory magazine. The prestigious publication, under the umbrella of the Australian Education Philosophy Assembly, is listed as one of the top five per cent of international journals in the field of education, as listed by the Thomson Journal List and Scopus database.

The research team consisted of the late Dr. Samia Costandi, Associate Professor of Education Philosophy; Dr. Allam Hamdan, Associate Professor of Accounting and Governance and Chairman of the Department of Accounting at the College of Business and Finance and leader of the research team; Dr. Bahaaeddin Alareeni, Assistant Professor of Accounting and Dr. Ahlam Hassan, Assistant Professor of Planning.

The paper took two years of preparation and research, listing out higher educational



governance issues and the challenges faced by GCC universities. It also includes polls of 346 academicians from all GCC countries. The study discusses the best practices of governance with the development of a proposed model for the Gulf universities, stemming from cultural, social, and economic aspects.

Moreover, it examines the quality of higher education, the measures taken by GCC universities, the extent to which they conform to international standards, and the need to link them to the national vision of each country. Additionally, it

expands on some important challenges faced by the Gulf universities, such as funding.

The President, Prof. Mansoor Alaali, congratulated the team on this remarkable achievement. He stated that the Kingdom is poised to become a scientific and research centre in the Middle East. He then noted that the university is not only an academic institution, but also a scientific and academic pioneer tackling various challenges facing the development process in Bahraini and Gulf societies, in addition to seeking appropriate solutions and innovations.

## "FRENCH DAY" FESTIVAL

relations, Mr. Ammar Al Hawaj, explained that the festival contained an opening ceremony, a few lectures, video presentations, participation of alumni from French universities, along with lessons and workshops in teaching language and cooking. The day ended with distributing mementos to participants and a French-themed luncheon.





# STUDENT AFFAIRS HOSTS INDUCTION DAY FOR FRESHMEN

An event was hosted for the newly enrolled students by the Directorate of Student Affairs to introduce the working practices, rules and procedures performed by each of the University's colleges.

The President Assistant for Marketing, Public Relations and Media, Dr. Thaera Mohammed Al Sherawi, congratulated the freshmen on their acceptance to become Ahlia students. She



highlighted the distinction earned by the University as one of only two institutions of

higher education which were enrolled within the national qualification framework.

## AHLIA PROFESSOR WINS BEST RESEARCH ACCOLADE FROM PRESTIGIOUS UK ACADEMIC BODY

Dr. Hasan Kadhem, an assistant professor at the College of Information Technology, has won the first position for the best scientific research at the 'International Conference on Knowledge Engineering and Applications', organized by the Imperial College in the UK.

The President of Ahlia University, Professor Mansoor Alaali, expressed his adorning praise on this victory and congratulated Dr. Kadhem and the entire faculty for their achievements. Professor



Alaali added that this step clearly revealed the predominance of the University and its path to a greater interest in scientific and research activities.

Dr. Kadhem's study discussed the installation of smart devices in educational processes. The practical experience proved that the subsequent communication supported by the different means of technology showed a

positive impact on the educational attainment in one of the study samples.



## STUDENTS CELEBRATE

The Department of International Relations at Ahlia University organized the annual French Day festival. It included a wide range of cultural and social activities along with entertainment, all whilst shedding light on experience of the French university students participating in the international exchange program of the university.

The Director of the department of international



# RESEARCHERS DISPLAY THEIR STUDIES AT THE PHD STUDENTS' CONFERENCE



The ninth annual scientific students' conference was organized by Ahlia University in conjunction with Brunel University of London at the Gulf Hotel, Bahrain on 11th February 2018.

The Conference presented an opportunity for academic scholars, researchers and supervisors to discuss their scientific papers and research outcomes.

The Founding President of Ahlia University, Professor Abdulla Yousif Al Hawaj stated that the supreme goal for any research is the betterment of society, and all developed and developing countries use scientific research

to seek for solution and deal with economic and administrative challenges they face.

Prof. Al Hawaj encouraged researchers affiliated with the doctoral program, offered by Ahlia University in cooperation with Brunel University of London, to exert more efforts to meet the precise requirements of the program and to publish their research in international journals. He also stated that the usefulness of scientific research lies in sharing its results with researchers and other scientists.

At the opening session, the Dean of the College of Business, Arts and

Social Sciences at Brunel University of London, Dr. Thomas Betteridge, expressed his delight to note the success achieved by the joint doctoral program of the two universities.

“This has provided many opportunities to produce studies closely related to some issues and challenges faced in the Gulf region,” added Mr. Betteridge.

The conference addressed various topics and gave the participants the opportunity to generate new ideas and discuss a number of research topics.

## PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Productivity Improvement Company, Dr. Akbar Jafari, explained that professional certification has enabled researchers to find the best practices on how to enhance productivity.





# AHLIA'S ENGINEERING STUDENTS SHOWCASE INNOVATIVE CONCEPTS



The college of Engineering held an exhibition to showcase the projects of their students. The soon-to-graduate students presented their studies and projects related to various engineering issues and possible solutions to the same.

The students had a semester to complete these projects, which is a curricular requirement for engineering students at Ahlia University. The projects were innovative and profound, such as the 'Bluetooth controlled helmet system' by Ahmed Abdulnabi Ahmed Thabet, which allows motorbikes to interact with mobile phones and smart devices using Bluetooth technology, without being a hindrance to driving a bike.

Ahmed Mohamed Al Herz and Ali Abdulla Abdali designed a smart wheelchair based on RFID, which responds to users' orders through digital application or through verbal commands.

Mohamed Hasan Al Shaer and Husain Mohamed Rabeea devised a traffic accident detection and alert system, an interactive electronic device placed in vehicles to have the ability to swiftly contact emergency services in the event of an accident.

'Automatic pharmacy box' is another innovative concept designed by Yusuf Ahmed Albinali and Salem Ahmed Altamimi. The project's idea is to remind patients of dates and doses of medications, detailed

reports about the patient's compliance with prescriptions as well as the percentage of error in quantity, doses, or dates medications.

The student Hamza Abdulmajeed Asad Abdulla presented an intelligent traffic light control system to monitor ambulances, rescue vehicles, and VIPs, giving vehicles the ability to control the lights in order to give them the priority to drive.

Sayed Ali Taleb and Mahmood Jasim Abuzaheera created a sensor to detect percentages of acidity, temperature, oxygen in aquariums, like those found in fishponds.

## TWELVE AHLIA UNIVERSITY STAFF MEMBERS RECEIVE PROFESS

Twelve faculty members of Ahlia University received British certifications in the field of productivity improvement. The qualifications were awarded after the members completed their projects as per the

research and academic specifications of the course.

The president, Professor Mansoor Alaali said: "Ahlia is keen on developing the research skills and abilities of its faculty, enabling

them to obtain higher scientific and professional qualifications that benefit them both scientifically and professionally.

The executive partner of Jafcon Consulting and





praised companies and their proactive role in employing Bahraini youth at all levels of science and implementing plans to enhance their productivity and increase their wages.

He concluded with a note of thanks to His Excellency and the participating establishments.

“Career day is a successful step towards achieving greater convergence and interchange

between what the student aspires at Ahlia University and what employers are seeking for in the market,” added Professor Al Hawaj.

## DOWNING: AHLIA IS QUALIFIED FOR GLOBAL COMPETITION QS-MAPLE DISCUSSES UAE AND MALAYSIAN EXPERIENCES

The 8th Conference of QS MAPLE concluded its work on Tuesday, 6 March 2018, with thirty papers discussing the experiences of the Emirate of Dubai and Malaysia in promoting higher education. Participants discussed various topics, including academic accreditation, education, quality assurance, strategic planning in education, and entrepreneurship.

Professor Kevin Downing, Chairman of the International Advisory Committee for QS Middle East and North Africa, said that the access to the university excellence requires the development of standard frameworks for quality and scientific integrity, a tool for improvement, review, and development of systems and mechanisms.

Downing pointed out



that the pursuit of systems and standards developed by taxonomic institutions might harm the educational process, which requires space for creativity and innovation. He continued, “The institution of higher education may feel at first that these frameworks and standards restrict their movement, but once they get used to them, they will reap the benefits. It will help them achieve their goals, because the standards of taxonomic institutions are based on scientific foundations”.



Furthermore, he spoke about the evaluation of the systems governing the university education system in Bahrain. According to the papers reviewed by the participants, he said, “I believe that Ahlia and the University of Bahrain, the organizing teams of the conference, can compete on a global level”. He added that he was pleased to organize the annual conference in Bahrain, which pays increasing attention to the quality of education.





# THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OPENS 8TH CAREER DAY

The Minister of Labour and Social Development H.E Jameel Humadan inaugurated the 8th Career Day at Ahlia University, in the presence of the President of the university's Board of Trustees - Professor Abdullah Al Hawaj, and a number of officials from both the university and the ministry.

H.E. Jameel Humadan praised the university for organizing a career exhibition that aims at introducing students to the current and future job opportunities in the labour market. The exhibition paved a path for students to find available vacancies offered



in different industries and the institutions of the private sector as well as to training opportunities.

The event saw the participation of 55 ministries, institutions, and companies in the activities of the event.



Mr Humadan also pointed out that the Ministry of Labour and Social Development supports such initiatives, which embody the social partnership between the various parties in the effort to integrate citizens seeking employment in the private sector as a national responsibility that requires the coordination of various official and civil authorities. This supports the Ministry's projects and programs in qualifying and employing new graduates in the labour market.

Professor Al Hawaj praised the efforts exerted by the Ministry of Labor and Social Development to strengthen relations between universities and training institutions. Furthermore, he





# NASSER BIN HAMAD UNIVERSITIES LEAGUE MOURNS THE LOSS OF HASAN AL HARIRI

The organizing committee of HRH Shaikh Nasser Bin Hamad Universities League expressed condolences over the loss of Hasan Anwar Al Hariri, student activities officer at Ahlia University.

The late Al Hariri was known for his humanity and kind heart. He also played a significant role in Nasser Bin Hamad universities league.

The organizing committee extends its sincere condolences to the family of the deceased, hoping that they find strength and patience during this difficult time.



## THANK YOU NASSER BIN HAMAD, WE ARE PLEASED WITH OUR UNIVERSITY ACCOMPLISHMENT

The Founding President and President of the board of trustees of Ahlia University Professor Abdullah Al Hawaj expressed his great happiness at the distinguished result achieved by the university team football futsal, for winning the first place in the organized Tournament the “Sheikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa Universities League”, His Majesty the King’s

Representative for Charity and Youth Affairs, Chairman of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, Chairman of Bahrain Olympic Committee. Which is particularly for universities emphasizing that this achievement is the result of the efforts exerted by the technical and administrative bodies and the wonderful level provided by the players throughout the

competition, which reached the final and deserved to win this title, as adding that the University will strive to put a future plan that will motivate the team to continue to prepare for the upcoming competitions. He extended his gratitude and appreciation to HRH Sheikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, for his initiative to hold this event.

## Ahlia University Organizes Fitness Activity

In a bid to promote fitness and physical wellbeing, the Department of Students Affairs of Ahlia University organized a walking activity near the institution’s premises in GOSI Complex.

It was held to coincide with the National Sports Day in the Kingdom of Bahrain, granted by the guidelines given by the Prime Minister, His Royal Highness Prince Khalifa Bin Salman Al-Khalifa.

The President of the



university - Prof. Mansoor Alaali emphasized on the institution’s keenness to motivate its faculty, students and employees to

embrace exercise and highlight the importance of sports and its physiological and physical benefits.



AL RWAIHI: THE DEMOLITION OF THE OLD ROOM IS DELAYED UNTIL COMPLETING CREDENTIALS RENEWAL.

## AL HAWAJ: TWO BILLIONS DINARS, IS THE AMOUNT OF THE ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION BETWEEN HIGHER EDUCATION AND ECONOMY



**The Founding President and President of the Board of Trustees at AU, Prof. Abdulla Al Hawaj, revealed that it is possible for the sector of universities to contribute about two billion dinars annually**

to the national income, when carefully marketed, in the GCC. The Executive Chairman of the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dr. Khalid Al Rwaihi, stated that the Board of Directors of the Chamber postponed the demolition of the old building in Manama and the implementation of the exterior of the building after receiving information that the government is renovating the identity of the region.

This came up in the open meeting, which discussed the opportunities for partnership between the public and private sectors, which was established within the framework of tripartite cooperation between Ahlia University, the World Organization for Sustainable Development, and the Chamber.

Professor Abdullah Al Hawaj said, “the seminar is very important to discuss the participation of the public and private sectors in the achievement of sustainable development,

specifically the 2030 indicators. For this reason, the university initiated, in cooperation with the Chamber, to talk about this vital subject.”

Prof. Al Hawaj added, “The development in all sectors in general, needs all incomes, and cannot rely on the government alone. However, the public and private sectors need to participate in the development process to share the significant advantages in all indicators and sectors.”

He clarified, “I’m focusing on the higher education sector, which I sometimes call “mixed education:” because of its mixed resources. Both the public sector and the private sector need to achieve different matters. The public sector is responsible for the state, while the private sector is responsible for achieving other things. I think that the whole future should be a partnership that should not be seen by the private sector as a purely profitable one, but rather

a national activity; one where they can feel that they are also part of the national responsibility in addition to a business”.

The Executive Chairman of Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dr. Khalid Al Rwaihi, said, “The opportunities for public-private partnership have been discussed over the past two decades from all sides and at different levels, and we must recognize that this partnership is still under consideration in most developing countries and has not been optimally exploited to elevate local communities”.

He continued, “Before the economic vision was launched, the government made its historic decision to open the private sector’s higher education investment in 2001. There is no coincidence that Ahlia University became one of the first universities established by the private sector in Bahrain and one of our organizing partners”.



# NASSER BIN HAMMAD: THERE IS NO LOSER, EVERYONE IS A WINNER



His royal highness Sheikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, representative of His Majesty the King for Charity and Youth Affairs, Chairman of the Supreme Council of Youth and Sports, Chairman of the Bahraini Olympic Committee, affirmed that the success of the Universities league was a result of the outstanding efforts and organized teamwork. The league, in its first year, included four competitions, and the results delivered the message and noble objectives of the league to all students who were key partners in the league's success.

During the final matches of universities league, HRH Sheikh Nasser Bin Hamad Al Khalifa said: "We have managed through the establishment of the league to achieve a clear qualitative leap in the programs offered to students of public and private universities. The league was a great success and had a wonderful participation of a large number of students. This requires us to work in the coming years to upgrade the league and develop continuously to reach the highest levels, especially after the gained reputation of the leagues first

year, which was successful by all measures."

His royal highness stated: "We extend our congratulations to the university teams who have managed to win first place in various competitions; they presented great and remarkable skills in the league, which led to crowning them with eminent titles. Nonetheless, it remains to say that there is no loser in this league; everyone is a winner in this great gathering of youth, in which efforts have been made to promote the youth of Bahrain."



## AHLIA UNIVERSITY BAGS WINNING FOOTBALL TITLE

The Minister of Youth and Sports Affairs H.E Hisham Al Jowder crowned Ahlia University's team with the winning title of the Indoor Football Competition after winning 2-1 against AMA University. Ahlia team members Zakaria Khattab and Mohammed Ahmed scored in the 35th and 40th minute respectively, while AMA scored their goal in the 11th minute.

Mr Al Jowder presented the winning teams with medals while Ahlia player Daij Khalifa received the accolade of top striker and Mohammed Yousuf received the best goalkeeper award.