MALLS OF BAHRAIN
MORE THAN JUST SHOPPING

A DECADE IN PERSPECTIVE
BAHRAIN 2010-2020
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Another year has begun, and #TeamBahrain has never been of greater relevance and meaning as a packed calendar of international events looms ahead, with it promise and potential for the country. As more Bahrainis join the workforce, the economy of Bahrain is primed and ready to reap the rewards. Working closely with businesses to enhance entrepreneurship and attract more FDI, the government is, through policy reform, working to make Bahrain the optimal location to grow a business. Simultaneously, national strategies have consistently focused on improving infrastructure and standards of living even while moving into a new era of greater responsibility and accountability for the citizens and government.

The 2010s has indeed been a decade of great activity, with emerging markets like Bahrain’s advancing in many areas and entering areas of business on an international scale in an increasingly competitive globalised landscape.

In this issue, we take a quick look at the shopping malls of Bahrain. The country’s retail market is projected to grow at a CAGR of over 5%, in value terms, during 2019-2024. Rising number of infrastructure projects, increasing tourist footfall, and rising population on the account of increase in number of diversified cultural population are factors expected to propel demand for retail over the next five years.

We also look back at Bahrain’s evolution during the past 10 years, with the Kingdom fast moving towards an era of digital disruption. A growing startup ecosystem, digital expertise, innovative entrepreneurs and innovative practices, have all propelled Bahrain into becoming a hub of talent, innovation, and transformative technology.

In the months ahead, do continue to stay with us as we bring you new stories and introduce you to notable personalities in the business spectrum. We thank you for your continued support on our website and social media channels. It has been a pleasure keeping you updated constantly and taking you with us on this journey of adventure.

Happy reading!

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Shopping malls didn’t just happen. Originally seen as community centres where people could comfortably do their shopping, engage in some cultural activity, and social interaction, the mall has transcended all of those early expectations. In today’s consumer culture, it is safe to say, the mall is the center of all things.

As a vibrant tourist hub, the Kingdom of Bahrain is no less than any major capital of the world, offering visitors an array of attractions from five-star hotels and resorts to mega-malls and multi-use developments. With its ancient forts and souqs, its beautiful mosques and stunning architecture, the Kingdom of Bahrain is truly a fascinating amalgam of the old and the new, presenting a wonderful mix for tourists to enjoy. Historic sites, towering skyscrapers, amazing food spots representing cuisines of the Arab world and beyond, and much more. The Bahrain archipelago made up of more than 30 islands also makes for some magnificent skylines and vistas of sea and sky.

However, one of its main attractions continue to be its malls. Complementing the wealth of hidden gems, Bahrain’s shopping malls and complexes, spread out across the kingdom, provide a cool option to spend a hot afternoon all through the summer months and a dash of dazzle, colour and exciting international brands to choose from, all through the year. Many would argue that there truly is no better place to spend your day in Bahrain than in one of its well-appointed, luxurious shopping havens. A variety of entertainment venues, fine dining, and shopping options - they have something that would tempt the most jaded.

We bring to you here a compilation of the best and most interesting malls, both old and new, in Bahrain.
BAHRAIN CITY CENTRE

The largest and one of the most popular malls in the country, the City Centre Bahrain, extends over 158,000 square meters, attracting over 13.5 million visitors annually. The mall features more than 340 brands and 60 dining outlets and is also home to Wahoo! Waterpark, the Middle East’s first and largest indoor-outdoor waterpark. It also features the immensely popular 20-screen Cineco Cinema, Yalla! Bowling Lanes & Lounge, and a Magic Planet. Moreover, the mall is adjoined by the 5-star Westin Hotel City Centre Bahrain and Le Meridien Hotel City Centre Bahrain making it a perfect place for shoppers from neighbouring countries and tourists from all over the world. The mall opened in 2008 and has since then held the top spot as the prime shopping, leisure and entertainment destination in Bahrain.

Location: Sh. Khalifa Highway
www.bahraincitycentre.com/en

SEEF MALL

Strategically located in Bahrain’s shopping district, Seef, Seef Mall is the second largest mall in Bahrain and one of the oldest and most elegant. Managed by Seef Properties the beautifully designed mall is sprawled over a total area of 135,000 square meters. It features more than 370 outlets and hosts around 25,000 visitors a day. Furthermore, it includes 55 restaurants, food stalls, and cafes. A family-oriented destination, Seef Mall offers a multitude of entertainment venues for the family with an indoor theme park, Magic Island, a 4,300 square meter key attraction. Moreover, the mall boasts one of the largest cinema multiplexes in the Middle East with a six-screen Cineplex and a ten-screen Megaplex. Seef Mall is also directly connected to Fraser Suites, which features studio, one, and two-bedroom fully furnished serviced apartments.

Location: Road 2819, Seef
www.seef.net
MODA MALL

Positioned in Manama’s Bahrain World Trade Center, Moda Mall features the largest portfolio of luxury brands in the Kingdom of Bahrain under one roof. Moda Mall boasts over 80 fashion labels in the Fashion Court, more than 50 jewellery brands in the Jewellery Court, and a wide range of restaurants ranging from fast food outlets to fine dining. The Courts make up two beautiful glass domes inside the mall, allowing natural light to shine through. Moreover, the mall includes a fitness centre, beauty salon, banks, a convenience store, and a business centre. All these features are spread across an area of approximately 16,500 square meters. Furthermore, Moda Mall’s parking area, which is shared with Bahrain World Trade Center, can accommodate up to 1,700 vehicles.

Location: Bahrain World Trade Center, Manama
www.modabahrain.com

THE AVENUES

Open to the public since end of 2017, The Avenues Mall Bahrain is a waterfront shopping centre located along Bahrain Bay in Manama. Inspired by The Avenues - Kuwait, it is the first shopping and leisure destination of its kind in the Kingdom of Bahrain. While the mall is only one floor, it features almost 40,000 square meters of leasing space with 130 stores. Moreover, over half the mall’s space is allocated for restaurants and cafes, overlooking the beautiful Bahrain Bay. The Avenues Mall Bahrain also includes a special play hall and 12 cinemas. As well as public parks and gardens, walkways, and parking spaces for 1400 vehicles. Phase Two of the project will add 30,000 square meters in leasing space, new districts, and a hotel with 210 rooms. The Avenues Mall Bahrain is also set to welcome a water taxi service to transport passengers to and from the development.

Location: Sea Front 346, Manama
www.the-avenues.com/bahrain
SAAR MALL

Established in 2013, this friendly neighbourhood mall is spread over 7,500 square meters, with three floors and over 70 retail shops. It also features restaurants, cafes, a Carrefour supermarket, and banks. In addition to an indoor play area, Big Game Zone, and a mini-cinema for kids. Saar Mall is a kid-friendly zone that boasts three separate regions revolving around family fun and entertainment.

Location: Road 25 Saar
www.saarmallbahrain.com

AL AALI MALL

Located in the business district of Seef and rubbing shoulders with Seef Mall, Al Ali Mall is an upscale shopping destination with its luxurious and sophisticated ambience and high end brands. The 52,000 square meter complex features such gems like the Al Tawaweesh Market section, as well as brands such as Armani, Jimmy Shaw and Noof, brand name of local designer, Noof Al Khor. For Turkish sweets lovers a stop at Malatya Bazaar is a must.

Location: Road 2819, Seef
www.alaalicomplex.com
MALL OF DILMUNIA

A project by Dilmunia Mall Development Company, the Mall of Dilmunia represents a balanced modernistic and futuristic architecture which creates an exciting family oriented universe within it. It includes retailers from across the MENA region that are yet to enter the Bahraini market, it aims to provide a quality entertainment, leisure and retail destination, which adds value to the Island's tenants and guests.

Location: Dilmunia Island, Muharraq
www.dilmunia.com

MARASSI GALLERIA

Marassi Galleria is a 200,000 sqm shopping mall that will house some of the world’s top retailers. It is intended to set a new benchmark in retail experience in both Bahrain and the region. The mall is envisioned as a premiere mid to high-end ‘lifestyle’ shopping centre with retail areas extending to the beach, while merging with the leisure and recreational activities located on the beachfront. The mall is anticipated to be the centerpiece that will define the development, representing a key anchor within the Marassi Al Bahrain masterplan.

Marassi Galleria will host five interconnected lifestyle urban districts, each with a theme tailored to a specific customer taste: the High-street, the Family Plaza, a Waterfront Dining Promenade, an animated rooftop and The Luxury Courtyard.

Location: Marassi Al Bahrain, Muharraq
www.marassialbahrain.com/projects/marassi-galleria
JUFFAIR MALL

Servicing the Juffair area and beyond, the 5-storey Mall became even more popular when the Lulu Hypermarket opened as its anchor store, becoming the 120th Lulu store in the region. Visitors will find a number of stores with fashion and other products, a spacious food court, and a number of cinemas. Juffair Mall is a cozy one-stop destination for families, residents, and tourists. This cozy and authentic venue is definitely one of the best malls in Bahrain.

Location: Awal Ave, Manama
www.facebook.com/pages/Juffair-Mall

BAHRAIN MALL

With an area of 70,000 square meters, the multi-structured Bahrain Mall is well-established as one of Bahrain’s older and well-beloved malls, drawing about 480,000 visitors per month. With 1600 parking spaces and a large supermarket, and a variety of stores and a strategic location, Bahrain Mall has become a reliable destination for residents and visitors to the country.

Location: Sanabis
www.thebahrainmall.business.site

ENMA MALL

Enma Mall is a multi-storey shopping mall situated in the East Riffa, opening doors to the public on 15 August 2012. Its contemporary ambience contrasts beautifully with the traditional landmarks of Riffa Fort and the Clock Tower and is located alongside a wide range of community facilities at the epicenter of Riffa township. The mall features 600 parking spaces and covers 55,000 square meters with a number of well-known brands showcasing a variety of goods.

Location: East Riffa
www.enma-mall.com
DRAGON CITY

A first of its kind development that encompasses over 787 commercial units, Dragon City is the largest wholesale and retail trading centre in the Kingdom of Bahrain. Situated to the South-West of Diyar Al Muharraq in close proximity to Bahrain’s International Airport, the state-of-the-art Khalifa Bin Salman Port and the Capital of the Kingdom of Bahrain, Manama, Dragon City caters to customers from both the Kingdom and beyond. Dragon City is characterized by its definitive Chinese architectural and cultural elements and offers Chinese products of the highest quality to local consumers, trade customers and tourists.

It offers a wide variety of products ranging from electronics and hardware to home furniture and fashion as well as a food court and cafes.

Location: Diyar Al Muharraq, Muharraq
Website: www.dragoncitybahrain.com

YATEEM CENTRE

Known to most people in Bahrain, the iconic Yateem Centre has held its own at the heart of Manama for more than 25 years. Despite a number of newer malls mushrooming all over the country, the Centre is still a shopper’s delight. The visitors’ car park in the basement provides customers to the Centre with 2 hours free parking. Lifts go directly up into the cool atmosphere of the Centre.

Location: Al Muthanna Avenue
www.yateemcentre.com
OASIS MALLS

Oasis Malls strive to deliver a memorable shopping experience to every customer, through well-planned food courts, trendy cafés, ample parking and a host of other facilities. Having successfully launched 7 malls across Bahrain, KSA, Oman and UAE, Oasis Malls is expanding its footprint with 6 upcoming malls across the region.

Oasis Malls are the joint venture between Landmark and ARG began in 1973. Currently group operates Oasis Malls in Bahrain located in Manama, Muharraq, Riffa and currently opened Juffair, across an area of 60,000 square meters and is slated as the third largest mall in Bahrain. Multi-layered shopping and entertainment center host many international clothing, F&B and Fitness brands and Cinema.

A decade marked by highs and lows, Bahrain has withstood market uncertainties and competition to emerge as an emerging economy that creates new opportunities through innovation and discovery, while exploring collaborations with international partners.

Welcoming the era of digital transformation and a growing startup ecosystem, Bahrain has entered the 20s leveraging its position as a hub of talent, innovation, and transformative technology.

A look back over the last decade as we get set for the Twenties.
The first edition of the Bahrain International Air Show opened in 2010, quickly developing into a business platform for the aerospace industry.

Law No. 22 of 2011 endorsing the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, on health, cultural, educational, social and other services, exemplifying Bahrain’s keenness to respect and promote the rights of disabled persons.

Al-Mabarrah Al-Khalifa Foundation (MKF), a non-profit foundation was established in 2011 to make a social impact in the education field and to empower Bahraini youth to reach their optimum potential in line with Bahrain’s Economic Vision 2030.

UNESCO inscribes the Pearling Path in Muharraq City on the UNESCO World Heritage cementing Bahrain’s reputation as a global pearling centre.

With the Royal blessings of His Majesty the King, the National Plan for the Advancement of Bahraini Women (2013-2022) was launched to empower women within familial bond to competitively contribute to the progress of the Kingdom.

Organised by the Bahrain Economic Development Board and Formula One, the inaugural Business in Formula 1 was held in 2013, bringing together leaders from the world of business and sports.

In 2013, luxury brand Gucci announced its direct entry to the Bahraini market through a joint venture with local partner Taleela Co. W.L.L. Consumer payment systems are also being streamlined to accompany this rise in retail, with Mastercard opening its first Bahrain office in 2017 with plans of expanding across the region.
2014

• The Sustainable Energy Centre was established in partnership with the Ministry of Electricity and Water Affairs and the UNDP to promote clean and environmentally friendly uses of energy in Bahrain and to achieve United Nations goals related to securing durable and green energy for everyone.

• His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Premier had inaugurated the Tawasul system, the national complaints and suggestions service.

• According to FDI Intelligent Magazine's 2014 annual report, Manama was among 10 top Global Cities of the Future. The data was compiled from 130 countries in five categories: economic potential, business friendliness, human capital & lifestyle, cost effectiveness and connectivity. Manama was the leading city from the MENA region, ranking 6th overall, 3rd for human capital and lifestyle, 4th for cost effectiveness, 7th for connectivity and 8th for business friendliness.

2015

• 193 countries endorse His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa’s Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Vision 2030.

• Bahrain Mumtalakat Holding Company (Mumtalakat), enters The Legal 500 GC Powerlist, and has consistently featured in the Powerlist since then. Mumtalakat’s legal team was recognized as one of the top 100 inhouse legal teams.

2016

• Tatweer Petroleum Company established a solar power plant with an estimated capacity of 1 MW to provide enough electricity to meet the total energy requirements of the company’s headquarters in the region.

• HRH Khalifa Bin Salman Al Khalifa has become the first Arab prime minister to receive the ‘Flame of Peace’ from Archduchess Herta Margarete, president of the Association for the Furtherance of Peace.
• The Information & eGovernment Authority (iGA), in cooperation with Amazon Web Services (AWS), commenced a team readiness workshop for National Cloud systems.

• The first edition of Bahrain International Defence Exhibition and Conference (BIDEC), the Tri-Service exposition covering air, land and sea was held under the patronage of His Majesty King Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa and officially supported by the Bahrain Defence Force held at Bahrain International Exhibition & Convention Centre.

• Bahrain’s GDP grew by 3.9% in 2017, with the non-oil economy expanding by 5%, according to the Bahrain Economic Quarterly (BEQ). The data showed that Bahrain was the fastest growing economy in the GCC, attributing growth in non-oil sectors such as tourism, infrastructure projects, and a record year for foreign direct investment (FDI).

• In mid-2018, Bahrain announced groundbreaking news: the massive discovery of 80 billion barrels of oil found off the Kingdom's west coast. The oil discovery offered support towards Bahrain's fiscal accounts at a time of great economic change and helped to improve the Kingdom's balance of trade.

• UNESCO declared the Dilmun Burial Mounds as a World Heritage Site.

• Bahrain National Football Team has taken the Kingdom to new heights by winning the Arabian Gulf Cup and West Asian Football Federation Championship.

• Amazon Web Services (AWS) launched their first Middle East region in the Kingdom. The infrastructure provides opportunities by offering easier access to advanced cloud technologies, with AWS by far the largest cloud provider in the world - outshining rivals like Google and Microsoft.

• In 2019, Bahrain became the first country in the Middle East to adopt Open Banking, a direct response to consumer demand for greater access to their own financial data.

• Bahrain also became the first in the region to implement a nation-wide Cloud First policy across all governmental entities, harnessing the power of Amazon Web Services to fully migrate its systems onto the Cloud for better optimisation in aiding client services and maximising efficiencies.
Despite ongoing fiscal challenges, Bahrain’s economy proved resilient throughout 2019, with the World Bank projecting growth of 1.8%. While expansion of the non-oil economy is expected to slow from 2.5% to 2.2%, the oil sector is due to move back into the black (0.2%), reversing the 1.2% contraction recorded the previous year.

By most estimates, inflation has remained low and stable, and was on track to settle at 1.4% for the year, according to IMF projections from October, due in part to the exchange rate peg to the US dollar.

This comes despite the introduction of a 5% value-added tax (VAT) in January 2019, which some observers feared would drive up prices. Indeed, the World Bank forecast in October that inflation could tick up to 3.3% by year’s end; however, the latest figures from the Central Informatics Organisation showed a rate of 1.9% as of November.

Foreign direct investment (FDI), meanwhile, was up 1% year-on-year at $262.6m in the second quarter of 2019. Kuwait accounted for the largest share of FDI inflows, with $119.8m, followed by India ($57.8m) and Saudi Arabia ($54.3m).

Fiscal adjustment progress
After a period of challenging fiscal conditions for Bahrain, in 2018 Kuwait, the UAE and Saudi Arabia collectively pledged $10bn to shore up the country’s finances and help it achieve a balanced budget by 2022.

The funds were accompanied by a comprehensive reform programme, which largely came into effect in 2019 through the Fiscal Balance Programme (FBP).

The programme includes the introduction of VAT, targeted spending cuts and a voluntary retirement scheme that has reduced the public sector workforce by 18% to date.

While these adjustments are broadly seen as steps in the right fiscal direction - most notably by global credit ratings agency Standard & Poor’s (S&P), which upgraded Bahrain’s outlook from stable to positive in November - estimates vary as to their ultimate impact on the deficit.

The IMF projects the budget shortfall will grow moderately from 4.3% of GDP in 2019 to 4.4% in 2020. The World Bank, for its part, published a deficit projection as high as 7.7% for 2020, though this represents an improvement from its projection for 2019. S&P was in the middle of the pack, expecting the fiscal deficit to continue to decline, from 5.7% to 5.1%.

VAT implementation
On January 1, 2019 Bahrain became the third GCC country - after the UAE and Saudi Arabia - to introduce VAT, which S&P estimates could raise government revenue by 1.5% of GDP per year.

The deadline for compliance with the 5% VAT was staggered. The first stage mandated that businesses with annual supplies in excess of BD5m ($13.3m) register for VAT by December 20, 2018. In the second stage businesses with more than BD500,000 ($1.3m) worth of annual supplies were required to register before June 20, 2019.
The deadline for the third stage was extended by a week, to December 26, 2019, allowing smaller businesses with annual supplies above BD37,500 ($99,700) more time to register. It will not be applied to either the health or education sectors.

While the introduction of VAT is a notable departure from prior practice in the region, it appears to have been broadly accepted by the business community. Some 90% of executives surveyed in Oxford Business Group’s latest Bahrain CEO Survey, published in August, described the country’s tax environment as competitive or very competitive at the global level.

Moreover, Bahrain ranks as the easiest jurisdiction in the world to pay taxes, according to the “Paying Taxes 2020” report published by the World Bank and consultancy PwC in December 2019.

**Construction powers non-oil growth**

In addition to boosting government revenue, the FBP targets a reduction in spending, which has had to be balanced against government commitments to prioritise public expenditure on infrastructure, given the significance of the construction sector to GDP.

It was the fastest-growing non-oil sector in 2018, expanding by 5.6%. A similar performance is expected for 2019, given the number of major projects that have finished or are nearing conclusion.

In November King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa inaugurated the Aluminium Bahrain (Alba) Line 6 expansion project, making it the largest smelter in the world outside of China. Aluminium is the largest manufacturing segment in terms of both value and output, and Alba accounts for 12% of GDP. This is expected to increase to 16% once the project reaches maximum capacity.

Another important project due to come on-line is Bahrain Airport’s new $1.1bn terminal, the inauguration of which is now scheduled for March 2020. One of the largest projects to date in Bahrain, work on the terminal began in February 2019, supported by funding from Gulf partners, including the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development.

Other notable projects include the $6bn modernisation of the Sitra Refinery, which began in March 2019 and is due for completion in 2022, and construction of the $4bn King Hamad Causeway, set to commence in 2021.

Given the robust project pipeline, the construction sector is set to remain a driving force behind non-oil growth over the medium term, helping to push non-oil revenue to 5.4% of GDP in 2019 and 5.7% in 2020, as per the latest IMF estimates. While an improvement, this would fall short of the FBP’s targets of 6.2% and 6.6%, respectively. 🌍

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Oxford Business Group (OBG) is a global publishing, research and consultancy firm which publishes economic intelligence on the markets of the Middle East, Africa, Asia and Latin America. In print and online, the critically acclaimed economic and business reports have become the leading source of business intelligence on developing countries in the regions they cover. OBG’s monthly economic updates provide up-to-date, in-depth analysis on the issues that matter for tens of thousands of subscribers worldwide. OBG has been in Bahrain for 13 years and has recently published The Report Bahrain 2019. For more information, visit www.oxfordbusinessgroup.com or call us in Bahrain at 1715 1582.
Artificial Intelligence has been the technology story in Bahrain and round the world during 2019 and it doesn’t look like the excitement is going away and it appears that it become a reality outside of science fiction.

Here are some of the main AI trends predicted by experts in the field for 2020:

**Predictive text should get better and better**

Predictive text has been around for some time now, but by combining it with AI we may reach a point where the AI knows what you want to write before you do. “Smart” email predictive text is already being tested on programs like Gmail, for example.

If used correctly, this could help users speed up their writing significantly, and could be especially useful for those with physical conditions that make typing difficult. Of course, many people will find themselves typing out the full sentence anyway, even if the AI correctly predicted their intentions.

**Human and AI cooperation increases**

More and more of us will get used to the idea of working alongside AI-powered tools and bots in our day-to-day working lives. Increasingly, tools will be built that allow us to make the most of our human skills – those which AI can’t quite manage yet such as imaginative, design, strategy, and communication skills. While augmenting them with super-fast analytics abilities fed by vast datasets that are updated in real-time.

For many of us, this will mean learning new skills, or at least new ways to use our skills alongside these new robotic and software-based tools. The IDC predicts that by 2025, 75% of organizations will be investing in employee retraining in order to fill skill gaps caused by the need to adopt AI. This trend will become increasingly apparent throughout 2020, to the point where if your employer isn’t investing in AI tools and training, it might be worth considering how well placed they are to grow over the coming years.

**Quantum computing will supercharge AI**

Another trend to watch in 2020 will be advancements in quantum computing and AI. Quantum computing promises to revolutionize many aspects of computer science and could be used to supercharge AI in the future.

Quantum computing holds out the hope of dramatically improving the speed and efficiency of how we generate, store, and analyze enormous amounts of data. This could have enormous potential for big data, machine learning, AI, and privacy.

**Facial recognition will appear in more places**

Facial recognition appears to be en vogue at the moment. It is popping up in many aspects of our lives, and is being adopted by both private and public organizations for various purposes, including surveillance.

Artificial Intelligence is increasingly being employed to help recognize individuals and track their locations and movements. Some programs in development can even help detect individual people by analyzing their gait and heartbeat.

**Machines will get better at understanding-and generating their own-speech and writing**

A high-profile research org called OpenAI grabbed headlines in early 2019 when it proclaimed its latest news-copy generating machine learning software, GPT-2, was too dangerous to publicly release in full. Researchers worried the passably realistic-sounding text generated by GPT-2 would be used for the mass-generation of fake news.

Synthetically produced data could make AI cheaper

Ask any data scientist or company toiling over a nascent AI strategy what their biggest headache is and the answer will likely involve data. Machine learning systems perform only as well as the data on which they’re trained, and the scale at which they require it is massive.

One reprieve from this insatiable need may come from an unexpected place: an emergent new machine learning model currently best known for its role in deepfakes and AI-generated art. Patent applications indicate that brands explored all kinds of uses for this tech, known as a generative adversarial network (GAN), in 2019. But one of its unsung, yet potentially most impactful, talents is its ability to pad out a dataset...
with mass-produced fake data that’s similar but slightly varied from the original material.

**Research could hit a wall**

Despite those nascent bright spots, top technologists in the field have begun to fret over whether the advances underlying the current boom in artificial intelligence (in particular deep learning and its ability to recognize faces, images and voices) can continue to yield progress towards smarter machines.

AI has reached a point where it can give the outward appearances of fulfilling certain science-fiction imaginings of sentient super-intelligence. But look beneath the hood of neural networks that can generate and recognize imagery or speak conversationally, and the arduous, brute-force processes they follow to achieve those results share only the most superficial resemblance to the nimble dexterity of a real brain. Because of that, functionality is narrow; most models are only capable of handling one very specific task.

**Algorithmic ethics concerns will grow**

Ethical questions about machine learning and algorithms were on everyone’s minds in 2019 as a growing movement of cross-disciplinary scholars sought to shift more academic focus to the technology’s social impact. Meanwhile, worrying headlines about prejudices baked into machine learning systems and AI-powered state repression demonstrated the necessity of such work.

This concern has also led to a phenomenon called “ethics washing,” wherein companies make a show of taking ethical issues seriously without any concrete changes. The most reported notable example was Google’s creation of a largely powerless ethics board this year that was dissolved within a week after a fierce backlash.

**Deepfakes will become more advance**

The unsettling potential of so-called deepfakes to create realistic-looking manipulations of video footage began to move from media hype to reality in 2019. As deepfake technology advances to the point where it now only takes one or two images to train, this disconcerting trend is only likely to become more insidious in 2020.

**Dr. Jassim Haji**

Technology Executive & Researcher

www.facebook.com/DrJassimHaji
www.linkedin.com/in/dr-jassim-haji-7b5885125
Many people ask me: How do I improve my speaking skills? Here are a few strategies that will surely help you in improving your speaking skills to achieve your professional career objectives faster than you think.

**Join a Toastmasters Club.**
Find a Toastmasters Club and sign up. Toastmasters International (TMI) helps people around the world in getting better at speaking. Its programs are tried and tested. I’ve witnessed many transformations over the years. That’s why it is topping this list of strategies. Through its Pathways Education program, you can focus on which areas you wish to develop, such as Engaging Humor, Persuasive Influence, Presentation Mastery or Visionary Communication. With TMI, you could improve your skills in and outside the Club as it provides a plethora of online training resources at your fingertips.

**Jump on Speaking Opportunities.**
Yes, jump on them. Volunteer to speak at your office annual events or parties. Not only will you practice your speaking skills, but you will also become more visible among your colleagues and superiors. Beyond the office, volunteer to speak at your local not-for-profit organizations. They are always on the lookout for speakers to further their causes and enrich their communities. As a bonus, you will feel so good about yourself for contributing your knowledge and expertise to society. Ultimately, the more you speak, the faster you will improve this vital skill.

**Read, Listen & Watch to Speeches.**
Immerse yourself in the world of speaking. I enjoyed listening to a...
selection of the Top 100 American Rhetoric Speeches. I would dissect them to see what the speaker tried to achieve. I would examine the voice tone, tempo, and pitch. I would look for the rhetorical devices the speaker used to amplify his or her message. I would analyze the facial expressions and gestures. You need to become a Speech Surgeon. Select a speech. Dissect it. Repeat. Take a deep dive. Your will efforts will pay dividends as long as you live.

Create a Speaking Buddies Group.

Find friends or colleagues who have an interest in improving their speaking skills. Agree with them to carry out Strategy # 3. Meet over coffee to discuss what they learned from the Top American Rhetoric Speeches. Select a speech every week and dissect it together. When you do this, your learning commitment will improve drastically. You will hold each other accountable to achieve your learning objectives.

Listen to Podcasts.

Technology has made it possible to learn at any time. And there is no better time to learn than your daily commutes. In my opinion, we spend not less than 400 hours commuting on an annual basis. Imagine if you invested this time listening to Podcasts on the Art of Speaking. There are many Podcasts on Speaking. Consult with Uncle Google. He will surely provide you with the Top Podcasts you can listen to. Experiment with a few and decide which one to pursue in terms of the host’s style and length of episodes.

Expand Your Vocabulary.

There is no better way to improve your vocabulary than reading. Read widely. Read with deliberation. Read with a pencil. Scribble on the pages. And if you want to take it to the next level, create a document listing all the new words you learned. Perhaps, you could include their meaning and how to pronounce them correctly. Yes, this may sound like I am preaching to school kids, but it is all about the fundamentals. To be outstanding, you will must build a solid foundation.

Hire a Coach.

Your speech coach can challenge your ideas, make you think of different perspectives, and support you in effectively structuring your speech. Sometimes, we fall in love with our speeches to the extent that then we do not to see any areas of improvement. We think we have the perfect speech. To avoid this, you can engage a coach to make sure you have an excellent speech. There is no such thing as a “Perfect Speech.” Once, I coached a client for a TED Talk. I scrapped her entire speech. We created a new one from scratch. The old one became a blog post. She was astonished when I told her: “This speech will not work with the audience.”

Learning to speak is similar to learning to swim. The more you practice it, the better you get at it. Incorporate these strategies into your daily schedule. Your speaking skills will grow exponentially. You will be able to pitch your ideas better, and you will close more deals!

MOHAMED ISA
an Award-Winning
Speaker & Bestselling Author. He has nine books under his belt, three of which are Amazon’s Bestsellers. Reach him on mohamed@3dspeaking.com
Manage Engine’s Technology Trends for 2020

by Rajesh Ganesan

Privacy laws will result in increased focus on employee accountability

More countries are following the European Union’s lead by implementing data protection laws similar to GDPR, such as the Thailand Personal Data Protection Act (PDPA) which goes into effect in May 2020. Under such scenarios, the role of Data Protection Officers (DPOs) assumes significance as they must work closely with the CIOs and tech teams to ensure that organisations comply with the law. With increased awareness of and emphasis on data protection, there will be an even greater focus on the handling of users’ personal data and its security. Employees at all levels will be held accountable as organisations strive to meet compliance. Therefore, there will be a need for upskilling and education programs to handle this aspect.

AI Security will be an important investment

Even as AI adoption across enterprises is set for continued growth, organisations will realise the importance of securing the systems. At least three aspects need attention to make AI work optimally. The first is to ensure the attackers do not mislead the AI system to make it perform the way they want in real-time. For example:
introducing bias. Enterprises will see value in investing in explainable AI technologies, which involve the AI system explaining its actions and decisions thus making it possible to review and correct the AI in real time. The second is to protect the AI training data and the ML models, possibly by investing in technologies like homomorphic encryption. The third is guarding against the dangers of ‘concept drift,’ which is when the AI models built using the training data become irrelevant and the system behaves erratically.

Process automation will give way to hyper automation
In 2020, we will begin to see the rise of hyper automation, which is the meeting point of intelligence driven by AI and ML with autonomy driven by robotic and cognitive process automation. Hyper automation will help support dynamic and complex business processes including loan processing, insurance claims, warehouse dispatch, and others. This will provide the unique advantage of mimicking user actions on terminals like carrying out transactions and generating dynamic content contextually to deliver on speed, accuracy, reliability and reduced costs.

Endpoint protection will be a top priority
As the number and types of endpoint devices rapidly proliferate and become ‘smart powered’ by software and connectivity, they become critical targets and vectors for external attacks. Mobile applications may well be the source of the next large-scale enterprise security breach, even as the influx of non-traditional workers and their remote devices continue. As the threat landscape evolves to exploit sophisticated capabilities in the endpoints, so must the protection techniques. In 2020, we’ll see techniques such as data loss prevention (DLP), which prevents users from leaking critical information intentionally or otherwise, and endpoint detection & response (EDR), which continuously monitors events, detects threats, performs investigations, and initiates responses. Such techniques will gain prominence because the logic and intelligence underpinning them will increasingly reside on the devices themselves.

Demand for tools to help standardise data will rise
Democratisation of data has opened up analytics usage to departments that have traditionally not employed analytics for decision-making - such as IT. This means that there are now new and different sources of data that need to be standardised and checked for quality before they can be used for analysis. Getting from data to insight takes far less time when data from various sources are structured to fit a common schema or format, otherwise known as data standardisation. To accommodate this, next year is going to see a rise in the demand for ETL (extract, transform, load) tools, which help cut down the time it takes to standardise data. Analysts have to begin familiarising themselves with newer sources of data and employ ETL tools, when necessary.

Businesses will prioritise controlling cloud costs
The cloud, particularly SaaS, has democratised the use of technology across all business functions. However, it has also resulted in spiraling costs and significant waste due to the decentralised model of consumption. Surveys indicate businesses could be wasting up to 35 per cent of their cloud costs because of duplicate spending and lack of usage. Fortunately, solutions are emerging to help the CFOs and CIOs take control of the situation. For example, a SaaS management platform (SMP) can bring central visibility, control, and manageability for all the SaaS applications used within the business, including cost management. Different services could have different pricing, costing and billing models; and SMPs can help provide cost and efficiency insights at the level of user, department, and organization. Another example, Cloud cost management solutions can provide unified cost management for organizations that use multiple IaaS providers. For businesses struggling with managing cloud costs, these will become top priorities.

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The Reverse Charge Mechanism is one of the important aspects of the value-added tax (VAT) law in Bahrain and it is one of the key elements that attract numerous questions. Queries range from 'how it applies' to 'what is the impact' and 'whether it is a cost to my business?'

For proper compliance, businesses must ensure that they fully understand this mechanism to guarantee correct compliance, especially among small businesses in the country.

If a business in Bahrain is buying goods, the supplier normally adds the corresponding VAT amount to the total price of the purchased items. The supplier is then liable to pay VAT to tax authorities.

Under the Reverse Charge Mechanism, the rule is different. The buyer, instead of the supplier, charges VAT on itself when, say, importing goods or availing of services from abroad.

Hence, the buyer of goods or services becomes responsible for paying VAT to tax authorities rather than the supplier.

For example, you are importing goods worth BD 1 million from outside the GCC. Customs duty assumes 5 percent, or BD 50,000. The standard 5 percent VAT will be charged on the BD 1.05 million, which comes to BD 52,500. When you import, you pay the amount. However, since you are using the goods for your business, you are eligible to claim input credit during the filing of your tax return. Under this scenario, you are still not losing any money. But you still need cash flow to import the goods since input credit can be claimed only when you file your tax return.

When you import goods from the UAE, however, you don’t need to pay VAT at the time of import. It is declared instead as payable to the authority. You only pay when you file your tax return.

In short, under Reverse Charge Mechanism, you are charging VAT on yourself and paying the amount to the authority. But since you are eligible to claim input credit, you can recover the amount 100 percent. Hence, it's not a cost to your business.

Another interesting VAT aspect involves businesses that are not yet VAT registered.

In Bahrain, companies with turnover of above BD 500,000 but below BD 5 million should have registered by the middle of 2019, while small companies are mandated to register before the year ends. Since registration takes place in various stages, there are cases that some unregistered companies are already paying VAT. The question is, can they claim the VAT they paid before their registration? The answer is, yes, they can claim the VAT amount paid prior to the VAT registration, through their first VAT return, provided those goods are used for taxable supplies.

Suppose you purchased goods in January 2019, when VAT in Bahrain has become effective. You paid the corresponding VAT amount even though you have yet to be registered. If those goods are sold to the customers after you have registered, they are considered as a taxable supply, and hence you can claim input tax. If you sold those goods before your tax registration, you are not entitled to claim input tax.

On services, if you pay VAT for services before your registration, you can make a claim, provided you incur some expenses within six months before the date of registration. For example, suppose you are going to register under VAT by 1st January 2020, you can claim input credit for the expenses incurred from 1st July 2019 until December 31, 2019, in your first return.

For proper VAT compliance, it is best to register within the given timeframe.
"If there’s anything that can help providing better healthcare in the future – it’s not money, neither technology but the will to help people in distress. But right investment and latest technology together can always add more value to it."

2ND ANNUAL MIDDLE EAST HEALTHCARE & TECHNOLOGY
February 24th – 25th, 2020 | InterContinental Regency, Kingdom of Bahrain

Highlights of the Program

• Long term strategic plans in healthcare sector
• Policy and regulatory changes, licensing and implementation
• To recognize the role of private sector in developing Middle Eastern healthcare sector
• Inception of technological innovations in medical devices and hospitals
• Financing the healthcare sector in the Middle East

*under process of CPD accreditation from

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New International Exhibition & Convention Centre in Sakhir

The new Bahrain International Exhibition and Convention Centre in Sakhir project had been awarded by the Tender Board to Cebarco Bahrain S.P.C. The total cost of this milestone national project is approximately BHD 83.6 million and construction is expected to be completed within the next two years.

Located next to the Bahrain International Circuit, the new 308,000sqm international exhibition and convention centre will be built on a 1.3-million sqm land lot, and will be five times as big as the current exhibition centre in Sanabis, and the project will be the largest of its kind in the region, and will consolidate the kingdom’s status as a leading tourism and commercial destination in the near future.

The new centre will include 10 exhibition halls with a total area of 95,000sqm along with all the necessary services, in addition to areas dedicated for retail and events.

The facility will also include a 4,500sqm conference hall which will be divided into three separate hi-tech rooms, in addition to 27 small and medium conference and meeting rooms with a total area of about 1,700sqm, as well as two Majlises for VIPs.

The centre will also include an external gate, rooms forguards and control, and parking lots that can accommodate up to 1600 vehicles.

New identity and logo of Manama’s selection as the Capital of Arab Tourism for 2020

The Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority (BTEA) officially revealed the new identity and logo in light of Manama being selected as the “Capital of Arab Tourism” for 2020 during New Year’s Eve celebratory event organized by the BTEA. The selection of Manama as the “Capital of Arab Tourism for 2020” was announced during the 22nd session of the Arab Ministerial Council for Tourism, which was held in Al Ahsa, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

The new Manama logo includes intertwined triangles that combine the prominent elements and iconic landmarks carefully chosen to signify the various elements that embody Bahrain; this includes the Kingdom’s flag, a sail symbolizing the Kingdom’s ancient maritime history, and the Bahrain World Trade Centre (WTC), representing its modern day presence and prosperous future. The colours were similarly chosen to reflect the themes, with the colour red representing Bahrain, the colour yellow symbolizing the sand, and the colour blue representing the WTC.

BTEA also announced its plans to launch the calendar of events and annual festivals with a renewed theme, which will be hosted throughout the year in line with Manama being named as the “Capital of Arab Tourism” for 2020 with an aim to attract a larger number of visitors from inside and outside the Kingdom through the diverse offerings that appeal to audiences of different ages and interests.

BTEA will continue to develop unique tourism projects in line with its long-term strategy that focuses on four pillars – awareness, attraction, access and accommodation; this includes improving the overall accessibility of Bahrain, attracting exhibitions and conferences in larger numbers, enhancing the quality of services in the tourism and hospitality sectors, and finally strengthening the position of the Kingdom as an ideal tourist destination for international tourists, with a special focus on families.

Bahrain Economic Quarterly report

The Ministry of Finance and National Economy published the Bahrain Economic Quarterly (BEQ) Q3 2019 report for Bahrain. The report is a quarterly review and outlook on global, regional and local economic and market trajectory.

Pro-growth initiatives as part of Bahrain’s Economic Vision 2030 continue to help further diversify the Kingdom’s economic base and support non-oil growth, which rebounded to 2% in Q3 from the (revised) 0.5% growth rate seen in Q2. The private sector grew by 1.6% in the Q3of 2019 from a (revised) 0.3% in Q2, while the oil sector contracted by 0.1% as production held steady.

A number of sectors recorded impressive growth in Q3. The transportation and communication sector, supported by Gulf Air’s route expansion, led growth at 6.4% year on year (YoY). The hotels and restaurants sector also grew strongly at 6.3% YoY, as did the manufacturing sector at 4.1% YoY, bolstered by the launch of Alba’s Line 6.

Furthermore, the total number of visitors arriving through Bahrain’s International Airport saw a 2.9% increase to just over 800,000, while the occupancy rate at 5 and 4 star hotels reached 51% and 48%, respectively. Additionally, the average number of stay nights rose to 63%.

Infrastructure investments bolstered growth. Bahrain welcomed the launch of a national broadband network ‘BNET’, the signing of a USD 2.9 billion contract with Saudi Arabia for the transitional phase of the King Hamad Causeway, as well as the approval of electricity and water network expansion projects valued at BD 615 million.

The report also highlights the progress made by Bahrain towards accelerating investment-driven development, as outlined in the World Bank’s Doing Business 2020 report, which has placed Bahrain among the top 10 improvers globally and second among the Arab states. Bahrain also improved five spots and ranked 45th out of 141 countries in The Global Competitiveness Report 2019.

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2020 ‘Bahrain for All’ festival

Bahrain Bay will be the new venue for the annual Bahrain For All festival, which will bring together more than 50,000 people from over 40 local and expatriate communities to showcase their respective cultures. Held under the theme Leaving Nobody Behind, this year’s event will take place on 6th and 7th February on the 7,000 sqm site, which will house more than 250 market stalls and a 128 sqm stage that will feature performances by the Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, Filipino, Jordanian, Thai, Bangladeshi, and Egyptian communities, among others.

The event, now in its ninth year, gives Bahrain’s communities the opportunity to learn about each other’s customs and traditions, sample each other’s cuisines, and watch performances highlighting what makes each of them unique. It also supports local entrepreneurs, with market stalls dedicated to Bahraini businesses and productive families. The event line-up also features live performances by several local DJs and emcees, with a line up to be announced soon. Children with special needs, women's groups, and senior citizens’ societies are invited every year to promote the festival’s message of inclusion for all. The Ministry of Interior, this year celebrating 100 years of Bahrain Police, has offered its popular Police Band, as well as a horse parade.

Organiser Nivedita Dhadphale explained that the theme of this year’s event aims to promote the UN Sustainable Development Goals of inclusion and inclusivity: “Our theme Leaving Nobody Behind sends the message that everybody, no matter their background, gender, race, nationality, ability or faith, have a role to play in Bahrain’s story. We have taken great care to include all of Bahrain’s communities every year since we launched Bahrain For All in 2013. The event has grown beyond our wildest predictions, and has been attracting larger crowds every time.”

BAC first in the region to implement cloud-based application

In line with its digital transformation strategy, Bahrain Airport Company (BAC) has become the first company in the region to implement IBM Maxima, a new cloud-based application that will streamline assets and inventory management functions at the new Passenger Terminal Building when it launches in 2020.

The Enterprise Asset Management (EAM) application will be fully integrated with different sub-systems, including Oracle Fusion, a cloud Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) application that handles BAC’s Human Resource, Finance, and Procurement functions. These applications will support all of BAC’s operations.

Expanding new opportunities for sustainable growth in Bahrain

The Kingdom of Bahrain, together with the World Bank, has held a joint event on exploring new opportunities for sustainable growth in Bahrain.

The joint event highlights Bahrain’s concerted efforts to reform its economy, which have earned the Kingdom a place among the 10 top improvers in terms of ease of doing business, according to the World Bank. These efforts have also seen the Kingdom improve its overall ranking in the World Bank’s Doing Business 2020 index to 43rd out of 190 countries, up 19 places on year year.

The 2020 Doing Business Report result is a reflection of Bahrain’s far-reaching economic reforms, which include the introduction of 294 business regulatory reforms across the 10 areas measured by Doing Business from May 2, 2018, to May 1, 2019.

Key economic reforms highlighted at the joint event include:

- The IBM Maximo application will play a vital role in helping BAC to manage and operate the new terminal’s high-value physical assets with greater visibility and control, while optimizing performance, extending asset life cycles, and reducing operational downtime and costs.
- Additional benefits of the new application include integrated asset information and history, unified asset management processes, and optimized maintenance work processes. Earlier this year, BAC migrated its server to Amazon Web Services, positioning it alongside a growing number of Bahrain government entities shifting to the cloud platform.

Expediting the construction permit process through the launch of a new streamlined online platform, ‘Benayat,’ resulting in an improvement of 40 places to 17th globally in the indicator for dealing with construction permits.

Streamlining administrative procedures and improving the quality of the land administration system, which has significantly simplified the process of registering a property, improving Bahrain’s ranking by 9 places to 17th globally.

Making enforcing contracts easier by creating a specialised commercial court, establishing time standards for key court events and allowing electronic service of summons, up 69 places to 59th globally.

Allowing debtors to initiate reorganisation procedures, adding provisions on post-commencement financing, and improving voting arrangements, which has increased the Kingdom’s ranking by 33 places to 60th globally in terms of resolving insolvency.

Strengthening access to credit by giving secured creditors absolute priority during insolvency proceedings, and subjecting creditors to an automatic stay that is limited in time with clear grounds for relief during reorganisation proceedings.
ID Card Service Center in Muharraq will no longer open on Saturdays

The Information and eGovernment Authority (iGA) branch in Seef Mall - Muharraq offering updating of ID card details will no longer be open on Saturdays. It will remain open during the normal working days from Sunday to Thursday, along with the Isa Town branch, which will continue to offer this specific service on Saturdays until further notice. The opening days for both branches were previously extended from five to six days to accommodate a heavy backlog of applications for the updating of ID card details.

Kerry Logistics setup its operations in Bahrain to access GCC market

One of Asia’s largest third-party logistics providers, Hong Kong-headquartered company Kerry Logistics Network invest in Bahrain, which is part of their regional footprint expansion plans to enhance access to key markets such as the Saudi Arabia and the opportunity to scale across the wider $1.5 trillion GCC markets, Kerry Logistics cited the EDB as part of their decision-making process in launching operations in Bahrain.

The Kingdom has acted as a commercial bridge between the East and the West for thousands of years. In today's increasingly digital and hyper-connected world, it is the ideal regional logistics hub.

Kerry Logistics manages 60 million square feet of logistics facilities over 53 countries and territories.

iGA launch ePayment services via SADAD

The Information & eGovernment Authority (iGA) has launched a host of new ePayment services in partnership through SADAD, the leading self-payment kiosk.

One of the first services launched through this channel is the payment of the traffic contravention service, offered in coordination with the General Directorate of Traffic. Work is currently ongoing to launch more eGovernment services via the new added payment channel SADAD, in line with the objective to strengthen partnerships between the private and public sectors. This also supports the government's digital transformation, and its transition from being an operator to becoming a regulator of services.

iGA's eGovernment services via its channels, including the ones offered through SADAD, adhere to the highest quality and safety standards, guaranteeing data privacy, and ensuring more streamlined and convenient transactions.

ePayment services are experiencing user growth rates averaging at approximately 37% per year. This is in keeping with which the iGA’s strategy to offer traditional offline services via digital channels. iGA plans to introduce further services through the SADAD network that includes more than 850 kiosks located across the Kingdom.

$60 visa fees for Bahrain citizens wish to visit Turkey

Bahraini citizens wishing to travel to the Republic of Turkey, are now required to pay for an electronic visa fee of $60 for a maximum visit period of 30 days starting from 25 December 2019.

Citizens wishing to visit for a longer period must apply for a visa in person through the Turkish Embassy in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

It is worth noting that the visit visa fees for a period that exceeds 30 to 60 days is determined to be $135, while it is $270 for a period that exceeds 60 to 90 days.

iGA Director of Identity & Population Registry, Shaikh Sabah bin Hamad Al Khalifa said that the decision to change the working days was made after the processing of these applications reduced the workload, allowing for greater appointment availability during official government working hours. The branches were able to satisfy more than 11,000 ID chip updating requests on Saturdays during the second half of 2019, a 20% increase in output compared to the first half.

iGA is directing its resources towards providing most ID card related services electronically. To make an online appointment, customers can visit the National Portal bahrain.bh, choose ‘Appointments Booking and Enquiry’ under Identity Card Services. For more inquiries, customers can use the national suggestions and complaints system ‘Tawasul’, available on the National Portal and at bahrain.bh/apps.
Under the Patronage of
H.E. Shaikh Salman bin Abdullah Al Khalifa
President of Survey & Land Registration Bureau
Chairman of Real Estate Regulatory Authority

BAHRAIN REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT EXHIBITION 2020

13-15 February 2020
City Centre Bahrain

The most dynamic property event at the busiest shopping mall in Bahrain
NBB Open Banking solutions

National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) became the first Bank in Bahrain and the Middle East and North Africa to launch Open Banking solutions.

NBB has spearheaded the development of Open Banking technologies following the regulatory mandates set by the CBB in November 2018 which urged all banks in the Kingdom to adopt Open Banking in line with its long term vision for customer transparency, efficiency and an enhanced experience. NBB has since taken the lead and invested heavily in the development of the necessary systems to meet and exceed the regulatory requirements, fueled by its strategic focus to transform and diversify its business through digital innovation that empowers the customer and supports the Kingdom’s national efforts to progress as a digital economy and solidify its standing as a Fintech Hub.

Following NBB’s partnership with Tarabut Gateway - Bahrain’s first licensed Open Banking fintech provider - earlier this year which paved the way for the innovation of technologies to enable the Bank to deliver secure Open Banking solutions to its customers, NBB has activated the first phase of its account aggregation services through its online App.

The Open Banking services developed by Tarabut Gateway will be rolled out in phases, with Account aggregation being the first. Initially, NBB’s customers will be able to view and track their finances across all their accounts. Financial transactions and fully-fledged services will be enabled as a follow up stage.

NBB’s new Aggregation service will make banking more accessible and convenient for customers by granting them a holistic view of their finances and eventually enabling them to make instant transactions and informed decisions on competitive products and services that best suit their needs, with the click of a button.

Open Banking is built on CBB’s regulatory guidelines which put the customer rights and security as a primary focus; no customer data can be accessed by third parties without proper licensing and customer consent.

NBB customers wishing to benefit from this service can download the NBB Open Banking App and registering online, free of charge.

ASBB special financing offer with competitive profit rates

Al Salam Bank-Bahrain launched its 2020 financing offer, which rewards customers applying for personal or property finance with the Bank. Personal finance applicants will stand a chance to win back their financed amount, while applicants for the bank’s property financing scheme could win complete home furnishings in two draws scheduled during the promotion until 30 June 2020. The Bank will also offer competitive annual profit rates on its financing facilities during this period.

The campaign is open to salaried Bahraini and expatriate employees, Mazaya social housing scheme beneficiaries, and current and non-current customers of Al Salam Bank looking to top up their existing financing facilities by benefitting from the competitive rates; reduce their monthly installments; get extra cash in hand; or extend their financing tenures.

Customers can apply online at alsalambahrain.com or by visiting any of Al Salam Bank’s branches or its Express Banking Business Center in Seef District.

AUB update its WhatsApp Business service

Ahli United Bank (AUB) launched a WhatsApp transactional Business service update as part of growing AUB’s WhatsApp based service range.

The update, according to AUB, includes three distinct features allowing customers to inquire about their account summaries and the last five transactions made with their accounts. Along with enabling money transfers within their AUB accounts including cross currencies by contacting the bank through WhatsApp, AUB WhatsApp Business is identified by a green badge ensuring the security and encryption of messages/transactions.

Samih Abutaleb, Group Head Digital Transformation said, “With this we step into the next phase of offering an innovative and interactive digital experience to our customers, setting a base for us to build on for additional services in the future. AUB is the first bank in Bahrain to provide such a service through WhatsApp. It is part of our digital transformation strategy.”

The service is currently live, and customers can firsthand experience the features of this new digital service.
AIB launch new promotional Credit Card campaign

Al Baraka Islamic Bank (AIB) introduced a promotional campaign whereby any existing credit card holder who refers a friend to apply for a credit card, will be rewarded with 2,000 points in their Al Baraka Rewards Program for each main card issued.

The campaign will begin from January, 2020 and will go on until March 2020. Under the campaign, the bank's cardholders can nominate their friends via either the Bank's Call Centre or by sending the friend's contact details through WhatsApp on 13300400 to start the application process.

All Al Baraka Islamic Bank credit card holders are offered competitive rates and are automatically enrolled in the Al Baraka Rewards program to enjoy benefits and exciting rewards. The Al Baraka Rewards Program is a universal loyalty program that allows members to earn and redeem Al Baraka Points instantly, anytime and anywhere within the rewards network and on the online catalog.

Fatema AlAlawi, Head of the Retail Banking Department of Al Baraka Islamic Bank-Bahrain said, “We believe that this campaign will encourage our existing cardholders to share with their friends and family the wonderful benefits that they avail on a regular basis through our credit cards. With such a diverse range of credit cards that encompass highly advantageous features on each, potential clients are introduced to a whole new world of incentives, rewards and offers that is bound to enhance their lifestyle as well as convenience their financial lives.”

The maximum number of points awarded per cardholder will be 10,000, regardless of the number of cards issued. The Bank will deposit the appropriate points into the customer's AIB Rewards Program account at the end of each month during the campaign period.

BHD 100 million Liquidity Support Fund

The newly-established BHD 100 million Liquidity Support Fund mandate to support private sector companies to pay short term obligations, particularly related to paying suppliers and wages. Credit facilities will be offered at an interest rate of 2.5%.

The announcement of the application opening follows the signing of four agreements between the Ministry of Finance and National Economy and the banking institutions contributing towards the Fund, including the National Bank of Bahrain, the Bank of Bahrain and Kuwait, the Bahrain Islamic Bank, and the Bahrain Development Bank.

Applications for large companies with an annual income above BHD 3 million will be received at the following branches of the National Bank of Bahrain: the main branch, Seef Mall branch, Atrium Complex branch, and the Istiqlal Highway branch.

Applications for SMEs with an annual income below BHD 100 million will be received at the following branches of the Bahrain Development Bank: Sitra branch, Riyadat branch, Diplomatic Area branch, and the Hidd Industrial branch.

A new liquidity management tool for the Islamic retail banks

As part of the ongoing efforts towards the development of Islamic banking and promoting liquidity management for Islamic retail banks, the Central Bank of Bahrain (CBB) launched Single binding Wa‘ad based structure facility which is a Shari’ah compliant alternative to the Foreign Exchange Forward.

This tool is based on the “Single Binding Wa‘ad based structure” agreement that has been developed by the International Islamic Financial Market (IIFM) and International Swaps and Derivatives Association (ISDA). It is considered the latest effort by the industry body to improve the available hedging practices in the Islamic banking sector.

The CBB emphasizes that providing such Shariah-compliant product contributes to the diversification of Islamic investment opportunities and enhances the Kingdom’s position as a financial center for Islamic banking.

BHD 3 million will be received at the following branches of the Bahrain Development Bank: Sitra branch, Riyadat branch, Diplomatic Area branch, and the Hidd Industrial branch.

All applications will be reviewed against specified eligibility and a credit evaluation of the company. Credit application requests for large companies are capped at BHD 1 million, and BHD 250,000 for SMEs, with a loan period of up to three years.

The application criteria to be met by large companies includes: holding an active commercial registration; carrying out commercial activities in Bahrain for five consecutive years; a minimum of 51% Bahraini ownership; financial statements for the last four financial years, including for the fiscal year 2018, in addition to positive financial solvency; and a positive gross profit margin for three of the past five years.

The application criteria to be met by SMEs includes: holding an active commercial registration; a minimum of 51% Bahraini ownership; commercial activities operated in Bahrain; no requests for reorganisation or liquidation according to the Kingdom’s bankruptcy law; financial statements for the fiscal year 2018; and a positive gross profit margin for one of the past three years.
The Central Bank of Bahrain (CBB) has issued five silver commemorative medals set to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Financial Services, Educational Services, Security Services, Health Services and Municipality Services in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

**Specifications:**
- **Metal:** Silver 999 Ag
- **Weight:** 31 grams (one ounce)
- **Diameter:** 36 mm
- **Shape:** Circle
- **Design:** as per image

**Obverse:** Five medals, each includes a picture of:
2. Building of Al-Hedaya Al-Khalifiya School.
3. Building of the Police Fort.
4. Building of Salmaniya Medical Complex.
5. Building of Manama Municipality.

**Reverse:** The picture of the 100th anniversary logo.

The silver medals set can be purchased from the Currency Issue Directorate at the Central Bank of Bahrain in Diplomatic Area. Started from the 30th of December 2019 for BD 120/-.

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**First digital personal financing experience through new KFH Jazeel banking**

Bahrain has revamped its mobile application “KFH Jazeel Banking”, the first integrated Fintech digital banking platform in the Kingdom of Bahrain, with an aim to place customer needs and experience as a key element in product development. The revamp of the application comes in line with KFH-Bahrain’s strategy to support the FinTech sector in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

One of the key features of the newly revamped mobile application is the customer’s ability to apply for Tamweely Personal Finance with an immediate initial approval. The feature includes a smart calculator that provides the maximum financing amount for each customer. At the same time, customers can also pay off their current financing obligations from other financing organizations continuously developing the “KFH Jazeel” platform by offering unique services and introducing customers to a sustainable community banking concept.

The application also enables GCC customers to conduct banking transactions and access financial services within the Kingdom of Bahrain, as well as open and manage savings accounts, open Wakala Investment accounts, issue Credit Cards, alongside various other banking services, creating a true digital banking experience.

Abdulhakeem AlKhayyat, Managing Director and CEO, KFH-Bahrain

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**Bahrain Clear Go-Live with Fawateer for online payments**

Bahrain Clear (BHC), a fully owned subsidiary of Bahrain Bourse, launched the electronic payment “Fawateer” to allow investors, brokers, custodians and issuers to pay all outstanding fees and commissions of all services provided by Bahrain Clear in a seamless and secure manner in cooperation with “BENEFIT”, the leading electronic transactions company.

With the Fawateer service, investors, brokers, custodians and issuers will be able to pay the fees for all the services provided by Bahrain Clear, including account opening, opening of investor number (NIN) for individual and institutional, transfer of securities, transfer of dual listed companies’ shares, exempt case securities transfer, securities account statement, and pledge registration.

The value added service will be available through Fawateer’s service on all e-banking platforms and BENEFIT Pay. Bahrain Clear is the first integrated Fintech digital banking platform in the Kingdom of Bahrain directly through Jazeel. In addition, the new update provides a more fluid and intuitive user-friendly interface that can be easily navigated in both languages Arabic and English, enables customers to perform several new banking services, which includes re-activating dormant accounts, updating the account holder info, known as KYC (Know-Your-Customer). In addition, customers can instantly transfer money using only mobile numbers of KFH-Jazeel users and notify those who want to conduct any money transfers.

Abdulhakeem AlKhayyat, the Managing Director and CEO of KFH-Bahrain revealed, “KFH Jazeel is the first application in Bahrain that provides customers with the opportunity to apply for personal finance within 10 minutes only. Launching the new app reiterates our commitment towards continuously developing the “KFH Jazeel” platform by offering unique services and introducing customers to a sustainable community banking concept.”
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Batelco has expanded its cloud connect solutions portfolio with the introduction of Google Cloud Interconnect. The development strengthens Batelco’s cloud services which also includes AWS Direct Connect and Microsoft Express Route and boosts the Company’s global connectivity solutions by offering a secure, reliable and resilient network.

Among the benefits of the cloud solutions are reduced network costs, increased bandwidth throughput, and a more consistent network experience than Internet-based connections, enabling Batelco’s customers to enjoy a consistent and best in class performance.

Google Cloud Interconnect is a dedicated interconnect and provides users with direct physical connections between their on-premises network and Google’s network, allowing the transfer of large amounts of data and resulting in cost efficiency as it does not require the purchase of additional bandwidth over the public internet. Additional benefits to Google Cloud Interconnect, which has become the ‘go-to’ solution to connect premises data centres to Google Cloud, include low latency and highly available connections, enabling users to reliably transfer data between their on-premises and Virtual Private Cloud networks.

Chief Global Business Officer Adel Al-Daylami said, “As a result of this new offering, customers can be confident that they are utilizing highly secure connections, as traffic passes through a service provider with a dedicated connection, enabling our customers to enjoy a private, secure, and high-performance connection to multiple cloud platforms. Customers are also able to scale their connection capacity to meet their particular requirements, helping them to achieve their business requirements and support their digital transformation.”

Batelco is focused on providing the latest communications technologies and expanding its cloud connect portfolio to meet the growing demand for digital solutions. As part of its efforts, Batelco is continuously building the eco-system for future digital needs, with the launch of Global Zone early in 2019, an important step.

Batelco launch SmartConnect service

Batelco launched its ‘SmartConnect’ service on SD-WAN 2.0 technology, with the aim of supporting cloud connectivity, automation and digital transformation services for Batelco’s Bahrain based and international enterprise customers.

Batelco will complement its existing business services by providing customers with simplified management of, and dynamic support for, traditional connectivity, cloud and IoT applications.

Batelco is the first in the Kingdom to offer the SD-WAN 2.0 ‘SmartConnect’ service as part of its digital business strategy, where SD-WAN 2.0 technology can use software-defined networks (SDN) over any type of wide area network (WAN). Batelco customers can enjoy advanced control over their network, allowing network traffic segmentation where data transmissions can be prioritized on reliable pathways and less-critical traffic routed to public internet connections. With the new service, Batelco’s enterprise customers can also reduce their IT admin costs by managing their corporate networks, including branches, data centres and the public cloud, using one unified dashboard. The dashboard will support customers managing key functionalities, such as user access, security as well as quality and performance parameters, across the network. This service will support Batelco’s digital transformation strategy for customers across various sectors such as banking, healthcare, education, hospitality, transportation and energy.

Kalaam wins The Bahrain Award for Entrepreneurship with International footprint

Kalaam telecom, a leading managed solutions provider for businesses across GCC and international markets, has emerged as a winner for The Bahrain Award for Entrepreneurship as the “Enterprise of the Year with International footprint”.

The Bahrain Award for Entrepreneurship celebrated the achievements of Bahrain’s entrepreneurs and their socio-economic role in spurring a private sector driven economy.

Kalaam Telecom’s Chairman, Nezar Al Saie, said, “Kalaam’s success is attributable to a number of factors including a clearly defined strategy of focusing on serving the enterprise market, of expanding its value-added services, and a regional expansion beyond our home market in Bahrain. This award recognizes Kalaam as the only Bahraini telecom company to become a regional operator through the acquisition of Tawasul Telecom in Kuwait.

Kalaam’s motivated, competent professionals understanding of our customers’ needs and focus on delivering best customer experience is a major competitive edge.”

The company currently has a presence in 6 countries including Bahrain, UAE, Kuwait, KSA, Singapore and UK.
VIVA Bahrain changed its corporate identity to stc Bahrain. As a world-class digital leader providing innovative services and platforms to customers in the MENA region, the brand evolution reiterates stc’s vision of leading the change and paving the way into the future for generations to come.

Eng. Nezar Banabeela, CEO of stc Bahrain, stressed that rebranding as stc Bahrain, will further contribute to achieving the company’s vision to lead the digital transformation in Bahrain, by focusing on growth in new unconventional paths, and providing digital solutions that enrich the lives of its customers, as well as providing innovative services and products that enable the business sector to operate more effectively and economically.

He added "We are proud of the success we have achieved in Bahrain and our positive impact on the telecom sector. As the fastest-growing and the most innovative telecom operator in the Kingdom, we continue to invest in next-generation technologies and service the varied needs of our customers with innovative products and solutions. Today, as a leading digital company, stc Bahrain will continue to break boundaries in order to enrich all aspects of our customers’ personal and professional lives. And will continue to drive Bahrain’s digital future with investments in revolutionary technologies and applications.”

Since its launch in 2010, stc Bahrain is credited to have revolutionized Bahrain’s telecom landscape with investments worth of 700 million dinars in infrastructure and resources thereby contributing to the Kingdom’s ICT development and growth.

stc Bahrain was the first local telecom company in the kingdom to offer speeds of up to 42 Mbps for broadband subscribers, and the first company to officially launch the 4G LTE and providing the largest 4G network infrastructure in Bahrain. Ranked first in the quality of services by the Telecommunications Regulatory Authority for several years, the company added an important milestone to its record of achievements by launching the first 5G network in the Kingdom. This was as part of its ongoing initiatives to become the Kingdom’s leading digital enabler for various industries as per Bahrain’s economic vision 2030.

And under its corporate social responsibility arm, Jusoor, the company will continue to uplift Bahrain’s local community through various development and sustainability programs to promote equality and empowerment across different fields such as education, sports, health, culture, environment.

Eng. Nezar Banabeela said, "We are excited about the new future ahead of us and the opportunities that it has to offer. Together with stc group, we are committed to bring greater dimension and richness to Bahrain’s social and economic development as we continue to advance Bahrain’s digital future.”

stc Bahrain customers can experience the 5G home broadband’s new applications such as virtual reality, augmented reality, robotics, cloud gaming, immersive education, healthcare and more.

Broadening the 5G technology

Zain Bahrain recently launched gaming platform “Zain games”, offers its customers over 1,000 popular games compatible with iOS, Android and Windows operating systems.

Zain Bahrain gaming platform http://www.zaingames-bh.com offers exclusive games to Zain Bahrain customers. Those games are played by millions of users worldwide and produced by well-known global brands like Disney, Sega, Bandai, and Capcom. Here you can find the most popular games such as Pacman, Street Fighter, Sonic, Star Wars, Frozen and more. These games include multiplayers, live challenges, solitaire in all possible game categories.

"We are excited to bring Zain gaming platform to the Kingdom as it complements Zain Bahrain vision to ensure the latest technology is available to all of our customers and to drive Zain’s digital transformation as well as to lead the market with new gaming services” said Mohammed Marhoon Manager, Consumer Marketing

Zain Bahrain customers can sign up for a daily all-you-can-play bundle offer subscription to access top games for a fixed cost rate of 100 fils and enjoy playing without any ads disturbing nor app purchase required. For more subscription information, please visit http://www.zaingames-bh.com or through Zain Bahrain free App.

Zain Games
Zain Bahrain to provide fiber-optic services to Burj Al Saya

Zain Bahrain has signed a strategic partnership with Amlak to provide state-of-the-art fiber optic services to Amlak’s new residential development “Burj Al Saya” located in Busaiteen, northern Muharraq.

Under the terms of the partnership, Zain Bahrain will supply, install, test and commission the state-of-the-art fiber optic service solutions for the new residential building. Connecting and wiring “Burj Al Saya” with modern fiber optic services will provide quick and fast communication to the residents of the building, giving them the opportunity to experience high-capacity data performance is restored, it will automatically switch again to the primary path. Multiple uplink paths can be continuously monitored, where performance of sensitive infrastructure is optimized in live environments as a managed service with Viacloud PATHWATCHER.

High Availability of internet and data circuits is important to operations in the Hospitality, Healthcare, Financial Sectors and other critical deployments. Viacloud PATHWATCHER is a value-added service (VAS) which can be subscribed as an Add-On intelligent service for Viacloud Customers with dedicated connectivity.

Viacloud Telecom is a leading multi-national telecom operator offering high speed internet services over fiber and wireless links, Dedicated Internet, MPLS, Branch Connectivity, Cloud PBX solutions, and other value-added services to customers in the middle east.

Viacloud introduces PATHWATCHER link protection technology

Viacloud Telecom has introduced link protection technology PATHWATCHER, an automated live-monitoring system which monitors data circuits in real time.

PATHWATCHER is designed to actively monitor any changes or disturbances on critical Business data circuits and respond by switching to the best possible path, preventing downtime by automatically acting in the event of a primary link failure. Once the link performance is restored, it

TRA Cyber Safety award

The Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA) has launched the Cyber Safety Award, which aims to encourage community and educational institutions in the Kingdom of Bahrain to create awareness in the field of cyber safety.

In the results of the study TRA recently conducted under the SafeSurf initiative in cooperation with Dr. Nancy Willard, an expert on cyberbullying challenges and threats, was found that youths using the Internet for more than three hours a day leads to the possible emergence of negative or dangerous behaviors and exposure to cyberbullying, causing them psychological disorder and behavioral changes such as depression and a sense of helplessness as well as absence from school and physical violence in some.

“The Cyber Safety Award is presented by SafeSurf to allow young people and adults in the Kingdom of Bahrain to create innovative awareness content in the field of cyber safety” Says TRA’s Director of Consumer Affairs and Media Sh. Abdullah bin Humood Al Khalifa.

“We launched this award to enact TRA’s responsibility to spread awareness among the community, shedding light on the varied risks of the Internet such as cyber bullying, fraud and identity theft and many others that impacts the social, psychological and educational aspect of life.”

The Cyber Safety Award aims to encourage students to achieve a safe cyber culture in order to raise more awareness about its impact on daily life, as well as to open the creative field for the promising talents of the Bahraini young generation and involve them in spreading awareness among the community.

TRA invites those interested in participating in The Award to create a short film (no more than 120 seconds) highlighting the impact of excessive use of social media on young people and their social life. More information on the award can be found on www.safesurf.bh.
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Eagle Hills Diyar, the pioneers behind Marassi Al Bahrain, celebrated a number of milestones, met by the development include completion of the upper ground floor slab on Address Residences Marassi Al Bahrain, as well as the announcement that Dadabhai Construction had been appointed as the contractor responsible for the construction of Address Marassi Al Bahrain.

Address Marassi Al Bahrain, a significant addition to Marassi Al Bahrain’s portfolio of urban developments, comprise a 10 storey building with 155 fully furnished and serviced residences of one, two, three and four bedroom apartments and penthouses, all overlooking the waterfront. Construction of the much awaited project began in March 2019. The luxury development will also include a 10 storey 5-star hotel, which will have 117 rooms and offer a locale that includes retail outlets, signature restaurants located on the water front, business facilities, as well as a spa and fitness centre. The highly anticipated project will also have direct access to the centerpiece of the development, Marassi Galleria, as well as the waterfront promenade. With the piling and substructure of Address Marassi Al Bahrain Hotel and Residences, as well as the lower ground slabs now being completed. The Upper Ground Slab for Address Service apartments is already cast and work is ongoing for the podium level.

Address Hotel Marassi Al Bahrain, is part of a premium luxury hotel group that has positioned itself as a choice perfect for business, leisure and group travelers. Bringing a fresh identity to the global hospitality and service sector by setting new standards with regards to hospitality and service, Address Hotel and Residences offers a more personal engaging experience to its guests in a premium environment through providing luxury, style and elegance.

New tenants to create a one-stop destination at Sa’ada Waterfront

Bahrain Real Estate Investment Company (Edamah) recently signed leases with several tenants, who will be opening outlets at Sa’ada Waterfront.

Namely Food World, which owns a series of supermarkets, department stores and cafes. CrossFit Muharraq, the modern boutique fitness facility located in a spacious 503 square meters facility with waterfront views. As for the F&B outlets first time Bunzz Food Truck launches in the Kingdom of Bahrain, with Kushari Boulevard expanding to their second branch, and Qahwa & Karak expanding to their third Kushari Boulevard, Qahwa & Karak and Karam Al Bahrain. Karam Al Bahrain will open its first branch on an area of 570 square meters, The restaurant will introduce a new concept, offering Mediterranean and traditional Syrian cuisine using the latest technology in the hospitality field and only the best ingredients available in the local market.

The Sa’ada project is a vibrant lifestyle development project providing a community space that combines Family Entertainment Center (FEC), retail and tourism sectors. The second phase of Sa’ada Waterfront will offer the ultimate convenience for visitors, providing ease of access through a multi-story car park building boasting 202 parking spaces, as well as a marina consisting of 37 berths for boats of various sizes.

Sa’ada Waterfront is truly a unique project featuring public promenades weaving throughout and offering visitors the opportunity to spend the day enjoying cafes, restaurants, and entertainment and wellness facilities with waterfront views all in a single place. As project construction is now completed and approximately 30% of commercial units are leased.

Sa’ada Waterfront expected to launch this month, the first tenant of the Project, Naseef Café, will open its doors and Crossfit Muharraq will also be inaugurated during the launch.

Souq Al Baraha

Diyar Al Muharraq has laid the foundation for the Souq Al Baraha project, located in the heart of the city, amongst the residential communities.

All the necessary preparations to begin work on Souq Al Baraha have been completed, and Almoayed Contracting Group has been appointed to complete the entire project and officially launch the project to the public by the end of the first quarter of 2021.

Eng. Ahmed Alammadi, Chief Executive Officer or Diyar Al Muharraq, said: “The market will include a variety of shopping options, serving the needs of both residents and visitors. The design of Souq Al Baraha will reflect the unique architectural culture of the Kingdom of Bahrain, in line with our eagerness to establish a Bahraini identity throughout various residential and commercial projects in the city.”

Souq Al Baraha is anticipated to have over 470 retail stores, including shops that sell fresh produce and food items, such as the fish market, fruits and vegetables market, meat and poultry market, general household goods, tailors, gold and jewelry shops, and traditional Bahraini products ranging from foods to handicrafts. Souq Al Baraha will also have restaurants, cafes, a family recreational center, public facilities, a fuel station, a mosque, and a supermarket.

Diyar Al Muharraq is one of the largest integrated cities in the Kingdom of Bahrain, offering a variety of housing solutions in a luxurious modern lifestyle. The city maintains a uniquely balanced blend of residential, commercial, recreational, and healthcare facilities, creating a fully integrated and futuristic model city.
KP Real Estate S.P.C latest project, Janayin Al Hamala, the well-planned project offers a wide range of services and amenities including a petrol station, and supermarket. With more than 1400 affordable residential units along with 99 residential buildings, recreation parks, shopping and retail spots, educational institutions and a medical center, Janayin Al Hamala guarantees a diverse yet relaxing neighborhood that affords all of your needs.

KP Real Estate’s vision is to create simple and visionary lifestyle options that would significantly improve people’s lives by providing affordable housing units that are the best in class.

The Janayin Al Hamala Community project comprises of 148 luxurious villas already being delivered that are designed to meet the requirements of a modern Bahraini family. The project also comprise of recreational parks, retail areas, educational institutions, a petrol station and supermarket covering an overall area of 630,329 sqm.

The entertainment centre Funscape World at Mall of Dilmunia is currently in its final stages of development. The entertainment centre, the first of its kind in Bahrain, will be located within the Mall’s unique concept and soon be ready to offer visitors an exceptional entertainment experience for the whole family in a fun and novel atmosphere.

Funscape World will offer a wide range of entertainment space which will include various zones, including Funscape Adventure, Funscape Play Zone, Funscape Ice and Funscape Sport, where visitors of all age groups can spend quality time and enjoy fun activities with their families within a safe space that meets international quality and safety standards.

Once launched, Funscape Ice will be a main entertainment attraction in the Kingdom of Bahrain, covering an area of 1,054m2 on the first floor of the Mall. Beyond a space for entertainment, the Ice Rink will also be a place of learning and to encourage ice-skating as a pastime and sport, where lessons will be offered by professional instructors to beginners, and tournaments and various other events will be hosted throughout the year, thereby attracting visitors in larger numbers.

The three other zones, Funscape Play, Funscape adventure, and Funscape sport; will also offer incredible and unique experiences. Funscape Play will cover a considerable space of 2,122 m2 on the second floor of the Mall, which will be suitable for children and adults alike by featuring a number of attractions including token redemption games, soft play area for toddlers, bumper cars, VR games, an indoor rollercoaster, carnival games, video games and more. As for Funscape Adventure, located on the ground floor, which occupies 517 m2 of the Mall’s entertainment facility, cater to the wide age range - starting from 4 and above – and will also include wall-climbing areas reaching up to 12mtrs in height, alongside Zipline facilities reaching up to 20mtrs in height and many more activities. Funscape Sport will be an expansive zone covering 1,837 m2 on the third floor, and will also include two football pitches, robo-goaliekeeper challenges, as well as indoor sporting facilities. In addition, a Football Training Academy will be providing training during scheduled sessions during weekdays, the pitches will also be available to rent.

With its sheer variety and diversity of indoor entertainment elements and a stunning outdoor landscape, Mall of Dilmunia will redefine the shopping experience in Bahrain. In addition to the entertainment aspect, visitors of the Mall will also be able to enjoy a luxurious rooftop setting, which will offer breath-taking views of Muharraq in a vibrant setting complete with food outlets and a variety of cafes.
Second phase of Avenues project

Work on the second phase of the Avenues project will start in the first quarter of 2020, which is expected to be complete in 2022.

An agreement was signed to start work on the development scheme.

Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning Minister Essam bin Abdulla Khalaf sealed the deal with Avenues Company board member, Al-Mabanee Chief Executive Officer Waleed Khalid Al-Sharian.

The lease term extends to 60 years under a contract which amounts to BD 40,000,000. The second phase of Avenues Bahrain will add a leasable area of 40,000 square meters, in addition to 38,000 square meters of rental space in the first phase of Avenues Bahrain.

Bin Faqeeh partnered with AIB to finance Alsidra customers

Bin Faqeeh Real Estate Investment Company S.P.C. signed agreement with Al Baraka Islamic Bank (AIB) to provide financing to potential customers wishing to purchase a villa in Alsidra residential project.

The signing ceremony was held at Al Baraka Islamic Bank headquarters in Bahrain Bay in the presence of Mr. Faisal Faqeeh, Chairman of Bin Faqeeh Real Estate Investment Company S.P.C., and Mr. Tariq Kazim, the General Manager – Business Group of Al Baraka Islamic Bank -Bahrain.

Faisal Faqeeh, Chairman of Bin Faqeeh said: “Under this agreement, our customers will receive various services provided by the bank, in addition to receiving special financing at competitive rates suitable for different categories.”

Tariq Kazim, General Manager – Business Group of Al Baraka Islamic Bank said, “Through this initiative, we aim to provide Alsidra customers with the opportunity to benefit from the bank’s real estate solutions by providing financing services tailored to their needs.”

Alsidra is the first gated residential complex located at Diyar Al Muharraq, comprising 452 luxury villas of varying designs and capacities. The project offers an attractive environment for families by offering different types of villas, ranging from two-bedroom villas to five- bedooms, each villa is designed either by modern or a modern version of traditional designs between Bahraini architecture and modern Moroccan.

Housing loans for Mazaya scheme

Eskan Bank in partnership with National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) is to provide housing loans for Mazaya Scheme beneficiaries.

The agreement was signed by Dr. Khalid Abdulla, General Manager of Eskan Bank, and Jean-Christophe Durand, CEO of NBB to fund citizens wishing to purchase housing units under the Mazaya scheme, formerly known as the Social Housing Financing Scheme.

In order to be eligible for the Mazaya Scheme, it is required procedural and legal requirements, as well as the eligibility criteria for funding are met. This includes providing the necessary documents and financial data, as well as ensuring the availability of financial solvency with the beneficiary to ensure repayment of funding. NBB’s Mazaya scheme features a flexible repayment period of up to 25 years.”

Developments of Jeewan residential project

Diyar Al Muharraq announced the completion rates of phases one and two in the Jeewan residential project are ahead of schedule.

Development of phase one of the project began on November 1, 2018 and phase two on April 15, 2019. The project offers 173 villas in the first phase and 119 villas in the second stage, offering Mazaya beneficiaries the chance to obtain their dream home. Upon completion, the project will add to the overall urban diversity in Diyar Al Muharraq, in addition to strengthening the community surrounding the city.
An Invitation to Attend

On behalf of the Executive Steering Committee, We would like to invite you to attend and participate at the Middle East Metallurgy Corrosion & Coatings Conference & Showcase as Sponsors, Speakers, Exhibitors, and contributing delegates to make this a truly valuable exchange for our industry. The event is scheduled to take place on 7th - 9th April 2020 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates to show itself as an ideal location for the world of business and trade in Middle East.

The upcoming event will gather the technical experts from all over the world to discuss the latest technology related to Metallurgy Corrosion & Coatings for various Industries and to network with key industry peers. The forum will enhance communication and help in exchanging knowledge between the major stakeholders. MECOC will be the first Metallurgy Corrosion & Coatings conference in Middle East. The event will feature technologies from GCC and all over the world that will help Oil & Gas Producers, Power Generators, Aviation industry etc. to enhance and improve materials, metals, equipments and inculcate better corrosion management practices.

The upcoming event will also include key service providers and engineers involved in material & equipment design, standards, corrosion & coating and asset integrity practices that evolves around the prodigy of heavy industries in GCC by providing an all-new perspective on the technology and engineering expertise necessary to power a sustainable outcome for the industry. MECOC will be a high net worth technical conference with the latest innovations available in the market to showcase the importance of the current need today and to adapt the best practices to benchmark the cost-effective methods that will enlighten the end users and operators. The conference will provide a platform to connect with both regional and international experts, focusing on all aspects of production, manufacturing and processing entity’s in the wider world.

We encourage you to participate in the Middle East Metallurgy Corrosion & Coatings Conference & Showcase 2020 in Dubai and wish you a very successful knowledge sharing and business networking event.

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Aion Digital
Investing 1 million USD on Bahraini young professionals

GCC’s leading fintech, Aion Digital, is investing 1 million USD in a youth initiative; the Young Fintech Professionals Program. Aion was recently recognized as “one of the most exciting and innovative global fintech startups” by Fintech Abu Dhabi. As regional first-movers, Aion is now developing national talent pools in financial technology and digital transformation.

In first phase, 10 dynamic Bahraini graduates are being offered full time employment with exposure to technology buildout labs, mentoring, and hands on client experience. Trainees will undergo professional placement across multiple business functions. The objective is to generate skilled and innovative Bahraini thought leaders to drive the digital shift within the GCC in the coming years.

The program is led by Fahad Kazim and Yasser Haji; two highly skilled Bahraini fintech practitioners who have quickly built their reputation in the digital banking space. Aion is building this futuristic talent in line with Bahrain’s Economic Vision 2030 and with support from Tamkeen.

The candidates are being selected from various professional and educational backgrounds, primarily in the fields of computer science, data science and digital marketing. The work environment at Aion ensure exposure to crucial fintech areas such as digital identity, e-KYC, Big Data, AI & machine learning, personal financial management, P2P lending, and more.

The program will scale up to include 100 outstanding young graduates and train them in the digital banking space.

Bahrain IT Graduates Trainee program

A new program for Fresh IT Graduates is launched in Bahrain known as “IT Graduates Trainee Program”, with a special focus on ICT. This is a 3 to 5 months intensive graduate trainee program and will aim at developing the Bahraini Youth for the Kingdom’s ICT landscape and prepare them for the ICT jobs.

The Program start in January 2020 with a chosen 20 IT Graduates, selected after a rigorous round of interviews and placement tests.

This program is applicable for Bahraini IT Graduates and after the conclusion of selected process, will run into multiple phases covering IT work experience under the selected mentors and coaches.

Mr. Ahmed Al Hujairy, CEO of Gulf Future Business said in his statement “We along with strong partnership with the best IT companies in Bahrain have developed this unique program, which will take the most talented Bahraini IT graduates from the Kingdom’s best universities and will help them progress from this program as job ready, experienced, skilled resources raring to start contributing to Bahrain’s IT industry”

Banks’ cooperation with IT companies is essential for digital banking

Yaqoob Al Awadhi
CEO, NGN International

NGN International CEO, Yacoub Al-Awadhi stressed the importance of the efforts made by Bahraini banks to accelerate the process of digital transformation and create the technological infrastructure to implement it.

The effective cooperation between banks and technology companies is important in building a sophisticated digital banking industry, and strengthening the reputation of the Bahraini banking sector.

We are witnessing in the neighboring countries the entry of global virtual banks that compete strongly with the traditional banks of the country due to its low operating costs, headquarters, branches and equipment, and the number of employees. It also provides quick services such as opening a new bank account, money transfer, etc.

From this standpoint, I appeal to all Bahraini banks to quickly adopt the various paths of digital transformation entirely.

The banking industry is witnessing a fundamental transformation in the banking system, as a result of successive developments and innovations in the field of digital technology, which has provided banks with new perspectives towards the digital transformation in products, services and operations with a view to reaching a more comprehensive understanding of the financial consumer’s desires and work to meet their needs.

The digital transformation is an inevitable goal for banks, as it is linked to growth, continuity and interaction with the changes of the financial consumer. This transformation will lead to many requirements for change within the banking institution, whether in the technological structure, processes, products and services to achieve its goals.

Reports predict that artificial intelligence systems will save the banking community more than $1 trillion by 2030. For example, financial institutions are harnessing the power of artificial intelligence to gain more clients and enhance their loyalty by using artificial intelligence tools to predict their behavior patterns and develop banking products and services consequently.”

The importance of a comprehensive study on the impact of the digital transformation in banks, including the Department of credit, investment, treasury and retail, internal audit, operations, finance and human resources, training and enterprise communications.
Google makes products more helpful in Arabic

Google announced the new features on Google Search, the launch of Google Assistant in 15 new countries, a new safety feature on Maps and one million USD grant to scale digital skills programs this year.

Visual Search: A new display of information in a simple one box related to movie timings, music and sports. Camoes-a new feature that allows public personalities, actors and artists to post videos on the Search homepage where they answer popular questions addressed to them.

Google Assistant: Google’s virtual assistant, designed to help people get things done like making calls, playing music and navigate traffic, will be available in Arabic and will understand the local dialects in 15 Arab countries.

Updates on Google Maps: Stay Safe-a feature that gives users an “off-route alert” when a driver has deviated from the suggested route by more than 500 meters, with an option to share live trip update with friends and family.

Motorcycle mode in Egypt-a feature to help Egyptian motorcyclists navigate traffic and avoid congested routes

$1 million grant in digital skills

Google.org is regranting Injaz, an NGO that specializes in youth training, $1 million to scale digital skills trainings in Arabic, to reach a further 100,000 people in 2020.

First Medical appointments App in Bahrain

Invent ITS recently announced that it is preparing in full swing to launch the first platform in Bahrain allocated for booking medical appointments. The platform, which is powered by AWS (Amazon Web Services), will be launched in an event supported by Bahrain Economic Development Board (EDB)

The platform will provide ease of mind for its users as it grants them the ability of seamlessly booking their medical appointments through a simple click, saving them the effort of making phone calls or the time wasted while waiting to be informed about the available appointments and timings.

Invent ITS confirmed that the platform will be available through the website www.medical.bh, in addition to a smartphone app that could be easily installed Apple and Android official application stores.

Invent ITS CEO Mr. Ali Alhalwachi affirmed that Invent ITS has been working on creating preliminary plans and special visionary for this app, aiming to further strengthen Bahrain’s excellence in the field of employing technology in different services and fields.

He added that the new app provides a new dimension in the field of healthcare services in the Kingdom, as it smoothly arranges medical appointments without any conflict and overlapping therein, a matter that may reflect negatively on its flow and could lead to the loss of clients of hospitals and medical clinics in the Kingdom for precious hours of their time.

HUAWEI Mate30 Pro 5G

HUAWEI Consumer Business Group has unveiled the ground-breaking HUAWEI Mate30 Pro 5G, the king of smartphones which has witnessed a growing local demand.

HUAWEI Mate30 Pro 5G comes with HUAWEI EMUI 10, which uses different open source codes, including Android Open Source Project (AOSP). The new device does not pre-install Google Mobile Services, and users will be able to download and enjoy the applications from the HUAWEI AppGallery preinstalled in the device.

Inspired by the design principle of minimalism, the HUAWEI Mate30 Pro 5G showcases the perfect example of how aesthetic design fuses with technology and hosts the latest HUAWEI Mobile Services (HMS). And Users will be able to download and enjoy the preinstalled applications from the HUAWEI AppGallery. All existing HUAWEI devices, whether sold or being sold in Bahrain will continue using Google Mobile Services such as Google Play and Gmail along with required updates.

The new smartphone is powered by the HUAWEI Kirin 990 5G System on a Chip (SoC), Huawei’s most sophisticated smartphone chipset launched to date. It is designed to bring impressively elevated performance, energy efficiency, AI capabilities, and photography, offering better experiences to a more extensive group of smartphone users. HUAWEI Kirin 990 5G supports 2G/3G/4G/5G full net communication, 5G NSA (non-standalone network) and 5G SA (standalone network).

This is the world’s first Smartphone with a dedicated 40MP Cine Camera and 40MP Supersensing camera as well as an 8MP Telephoto Camera and a 3D Depth Sensing Camera. The SuperSensing Cine Camera is a Dual-main camera system capable of taking stunning photos that rival high-end cameras. The HUAWEI Mate30 Pro 5G is one of the most capable handset for smartphone photography and videography available to consumers that supports Ultra Low-light videos and Ultra Slow-montion videos at 7689fps.

The HUAWEI Mate30 Pro 5G features a big battery of 4500mAh with TÜV Rheinland certified wired and wireless Huawei SuperCharge Technology, the 27W Wireless HUAWEI SuperCharge and the 40W HUAWEI SuperCharge provide users safe and fast charging. The phone provides an upgraded reverse wireless charging bringing users a quick and convenient way to recharge other devices.

It also offers a range of new features that deliver an amazingly smooth and engaging user experience including AI Private View: with this feature activated, the phone can identify the user’s face and automatically hide message content when it detects more than one face. The HUAWEI Mate30 Pro 5G AI gesture control and Intuitive Side-touch Interaction allows users to customise invisible virtual keys for volume adjustment, gaming and camera set-up as well as being ideal for both right and left-handed users.
New LG Gram lineup

LG Electronics’ newest gram laptop computer series – the LG gram 17 (model 17Z90N), LG gram 15 (model 15Z90N), LG gram 14 (model 14Z90N) and 14-inch LG gram 2-in-1 (model 14T90N) – is designed to set a new standard for portable computing and will satisfy the needs of the most demanding users. The 2020 lineup of LG gram laptops stick to the company’s winning formula – lightweight, compact, long battery life – while adding even more performance.

At the heart of the new series is the 10th Generation Intel® Core™ processor with Iris® Plus graphics and up to 24GB of dual-channel DDR4 memory. With double the graphics processing power of last year’s models, content creators will love having the speed and power to edit 4K video on-the-go and users will marvel at how smooth games can be with Iris Plus built-in.

With a larger 80Wh battery in both the 17Z90N and 15Z90N, users can still enjoy hours and hours of use away from an outlet with no sacrifice in portability. The new LG grams also come with Wi-Fi 6 ensuring enhanced wireless connectivity, better efficiency and lower battery consumption. The new LG grams feature Mega Cooling System to keep the devices running cool and quiet under all usage scenarios.

LG gram 17 is the ultimate solution for anyone looking for maximum productivity in a portable form factor. The expansive 17-inch Wide Quad Extended Graphics Array (WQXGA) IPS display delivers highly detailed images with incredibly precise colors. The device’s 16:10 display provides more room to work when editing videos, photos and documents.

The new LG gram 15 and LG gram 14 continue the brand’s legacy of providing long usage times for less charging and more convenience. LG’s svelte laptops are industry benchmarks in its ability to fit a 15-inch display in a 14-inch body and a 14-inch screen in a chassis designed for a 13.3-inch computer.

LG’s ultra-portable convertible laptop, the LG gram 2-in-1 (model 14T90N), returns this year with greater functionality and the addition of Thunderbolt™ 3. Giving users the power to be more productive no matter where they are, this versatile device retains its core DNA, delivering more than 20 hours of worktime in a package that tips the scale at only 1,145 grams.

realme, the fastest growing Smartphone brand

Realme, the fastest growing smartphone brand, is all set to enter the UAE market with a Full Speed Flagship phone as well as other Dare-to-Leap products that promise strong performance, trendy design and premium quality. Founded in May 2018, realme has successfully topped itself as the Global TOP 7 Smartphone with 24 million fans across the world only in 20 months. Realme also is the 1st choice of young people for trendy technology in over 20 markets, including Spain, the UK, France, Italy, China, India and Indonesia.

Committed to provide Dare-to-Leap products beyond expectation in each price segment, realme also encourages the young to break boundaries and create more possibilities. realme believes young people have the power to change the world. Everything is possible, as long as we Dare to Leap.

As a stylish tech brand, realme to leap forward with premium performance, design and quality

With a mission to let more young people enjoy the happy life brought by the beauty of technology, realme designs its products to deliver outstanding performance in a young and stylish manner through devices that can be true allies for the users in a real sense. Thus, realme is dedicated to make all endeavors for Performance Leap, Design Leap and Quality Leap:

Performance Leap: realme believes cutting-edge technology shouldn’t not be limited at high price segment. It is the first to bring pop-up camera into $250-$300 and debut the world’s 1st 64MP Quad Camera to usher a brand-new era of flagship imaging, also leads in the application of 50W SuperVOOC technology enabling 100% charging in 35mins. What’s more, realme invites Aaron Huey, the world-known National Geographic photographer, as its Chief Photographer officer for perfect imaging, and Alan Walker, the world Top 100 DJ, as Chief Earbuds officer to have more people enjoy the true power of music.

Design Leap: Insisting in the philosophy of real design, realme never compromises on aesthetic taste and always leads the new trend in design and provides young consumers with exquisite product to show their outstanding personality. realme believes good design must be human-oriented, and based on the details of daily lives, allowing the young to show their attitude toward life. To deliver that philosophy, realme has joined hands with the world’s top and most famous designer, Naoto Fukasawa to add his unique design style which injects new inspiration for the whole smartphone industry and encourages fans to explore the beauty in their life.

Quality Leap: Quality is our lifeline. As Sky Li, realme CEO & Founder, said: "If our product does not have good quality, then I would rather close the company down." With strict Quality Control System, all products are under over 390 tests to ensure a superior quality before going to the market.

Entering into UAE market, realme to bring its all-star products to the consumers. The Full Speed Flagship realme X2 Pro, the realme 5 Pro and realme C2 that combines speed, power and performance, with a very attractive designs that will give users a fast and immersive experience.

To be a best-in-class tech company, realme makes all endeavors in R&D and exploring future technology. With widespread influence both in the global and GCC, UAE is a key market for realme. All set for the market, realme will create a full range of superior experiences and products with Dare-to-Leap spirit.
MIDDLE EAST STATIC EQUIPMENT ENGINEERING AND MAINTENANCE CONFERENCE
“Static Equipment Current Challenges and Future Solutions”

An Invitation to Attend

On Behalf of the Executive committee we are pleased to invite you for the ”Third Annual Middle East Static Equipment Engineering & Maintenance Conference and Showcase”. A dedicated and prestigious event for the Oil, Gas & Energy Industry, which will commence on 14th to 16th April-2020, Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

ME Static will be a high net worth technical conference with the latest equipment technology & innovation in the market to showcase the importance of the current need and to adapt the cost-effective methods that will enlighten the end users and operators. The program will forage a wide range of topics distinguished by the subject matter experts to feature Engineering, design standards with Maintenance & Reliability as a special focus due to the sheer number of dwindling equipment and quantity of stored fluid in refineries and a petrochemical facility. The necessity to upgrade/replace will connect manufacturing, Commissioning, and processing experts, both regionally and internationally around the wider world to address the best practices and to implement the appropriate service providers.

We hereby invite you to attend this premier initiative as Sponsors, Speakers, Exhibitors, and contributing delegates to make this a truly valuable exchange for our industry, and we encourage you to participate in the Third Annual Middle East Static Equipment Engineering and Maintenance Conference 2020 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates and we wish you a very successful knowledge sharing and business networking event.

Conference Venue:
Dubai, United Arab Emirates

To Register:
Call us at: +971 4 279 0800
E-mail: info@aldrichme.com
Visit: www.staticmiddleeast.com
The new Mercedes-Maybach GLS

The Mercedes-Maybach GLS 600 4MATIC (combined fuel consumption: 12.0-11.7 l/100 km; combined CO2 emissions: 273-266 g/km) represents a new form of luxury in the SUV segment. The Mercedes-Maybach GLS combines the body form and superior, robust technical basis provided by the GLS, the S-Class among SUVs, with all the technical and material luxury of a top-class sedan.

Its spacious interior with the highest-grade materials and extremely effective noise insulation creates a stylish, cocoon-like feel-good atmosphere. From their pleasantly elevated seating position, thanks to electrically operated roller sun blinds on the two rear side windows, the passengers can decide for themselves how much of their surroundings they want to see.

The AIRMATIC suspension included as standard or the optional, fully-active suspensions with E-Active Body Control effectively keep the road bumps at bay.

In Curve drive mode, the Mercedes-Maybach GLS actively leans into bends by up to 3° in three stages, like a motorcycle.

The Road Surface Scan function comprises a stereo multi-purpose camera that continually records the road surface ahead of the vehicle.

The recovery function is included as part of the Off-Road drive program and helps to free the vehicle more easily if it gets stuck in sand, for example.

The V8 engine with a displacement of four litres, which can develop 410 kW (558 hp) and 730 Nm of torque, is an engine variant developed exclusively for Maybach and moves the car discreetly and powerfully.

The 22 or 23-inch wheels were developed exclusively for this model, with the 23-inch version echoing the pinstripe theme.

Another eye-catching feature of the Mercedes-Maybach GLS are the electrically extending running boards. They make accessing and leaving the high seating position both convenient and safe.

With surfaces of anodised aluminium laced with black rubber strips, illuminated in the dark and particularly wide in the area of the rear doors, they ensure a very special visual appeal.

Toyota Granvia 2020

The new Granvia, redefining what premium stands for in the luxury people mover market, designed to provide an exceptional transportation space that addresses the growing demand for high-end shuttles, the new vehicle’s elegant design, luxurious interior, powerful engine, and advanced safety features enable customers to travel in optimal comfort while enjoying total peace of mind.

The new Granvia with premium seating for up to seven people, including two front leather captain’s chairs with armrests and power-adjustment for the backrests. Each chair also offers a fold-out Ottoman leg-rest and individual reading lamp with three levels of brightness adjustment.

The front and rear climate control system incorporates ion generators with nanoe technology that helps to remove bacteria and odours. A rear control panel is available, enabling passengers to adjust the airflow volume, airflow vents, and temperature. Additional cabin amenities include dual-side power sliding doors, LED-type scuff plate illumination for the rear step, and six rear USB ports to keep devices fully charged for business or entertainment. Mesh sunshades are built into the sliding door trim and quarter trim, providing privacy for occupants. Passengers also benefit from ample luggage space, with the rear of the vehicle easily accommodating four large suitcases or four golf bags.

Powered by a 3.5-litre V6 petrol engine with 24 valves, Granvia incorporates Dual VVT-i (Variable Valve Timing-intelligent), high compression and direct injection (D4-S) to generate a maximum output of 278 hp and 351 nm of torque, which is mated to a six-speed automatic transmission.

The cutting-edge safety technology package includes Pre-Collision System, Dynamic Radar Cruise Control, Lane Departure Alert, and Automatic High Beam. In addition, the car offers a comprehensive array of features designed to protect its occupants, including nine SRS airbags, Vehicle Stability Control, Traction Control, Anti-lock Braking System, Electronic Brakeforce Distribution, Brake Assist, Emergency Brake Signal, Blind Spot Monitor, Tyre Pressure Warning System, Rear Cross Traffic Alert and Hill-start Assist Control, among many others.

The new Granvia is available in a choice of four exterior colours, White Pearl CS, Black, Gray ME, and Silver ME. Meanwhile, interior colour options include natural beige or black-coloured seats, which can be combined with Woodgrain or Black Metallic ornamentation. The vehicle comes equipped with newly-developed 17-inch alloy wheels that further express its elegance and high-quality feel.
Land Rover Defender 110

The New Land Rover Defender 110, the iconic 4x4 reimagined for the 21st century, will be available with 5+2 seating in a choice of four distinct Accessory Packs and 170 individual accessories.

Maxus D90

The Maxus D90 appeals to the middle- and high-end SUV segment with its state of the art technology and safety features.

The all-new Tiggo 8 is the latest addition to the Chery line-up of a 7-seater SUV that boasts a fashionable, spacious and technologically savvy design.

Chery Tiggo 8
Hyundai develops world's first road noise active noise control technology

Hyundai Motor Group announced the development of the world’s first Road Noise Active Noise Control (RANC) system. The first-ever system dramatically reduces noise within the cabin of a vehicle.

RANC builds on the Group’s current Active Noise Control (ANC) technology, which actively reduces noise by emitting soundwaves inverted to incoming noise. ANC is a software-driven technology that analyses the in-cabin sound to decrease engine and road noise, versus the passive method of blocking noise through sound insulation. The technology is already available in some Hyundai Motor Group vehicles.

With the first-ever RANC technology, Hyundai Motor Group is able to greatly improve in-cabin quietness. The new system can analyze various types of noise in real-time and produce inverted soundwaves. For example, there are different types of road noises that the new technology can process, such as resonant sounds created between tires and wheels or rumble sounds coming up from the road.

The working principle of RANC is as follows: Using an acceleration sensor, RANC calculates the vibration from the road to the car and the control computer analyzes road noise. As its computation and signal transfer speeds are optimized, it only takes 0.002 second to analyze the noise and produce an inverted soundwave, generated by the DSP (Digital Signal Processor). The microphone constantly monitors the road noise cancelation status, and sends the information to the DSP. RANC is able to conduct accurate noise analysis and rapid computation to combat road noise for the driver’s seat, the passenger seat and rear seats separately.

Vehicle interior noise primarily comes from three sources: vehicle powertrain noise, road noise, and wind noise. There is almost no powertrain noise from electric and fuel cell electric vehicles, so quelling road and wind noise becomes even more imperative. Utilizing RANC can significantly reduce road noise and create a serene cabin for future electric and fuel cell vehicles.

The technology will begin to be applied to an upcoming Genesis model.

Best ever promotion on the F-PACE and E-PACE

Euro Motors Jaguar Land Rover recently introduced an exciting new campaign for Jaguar’s popular SUVs, the F-PACE and E-PACE.

When purchasing the SUVs during the campaign, customers are presented with the following amazing offers as below:

- Complimentary 5 year warranty and service package including brake pads and brake disks
- Free insurance
- Free registration
- Free window tinting

The E-PACE is Jaguar’s award-winning compact SUV that packs the design and performance of a Jaguar sports car into a spacious, practical and connected all-wheel-drive vehicle. Trademark Jaguar driving dynamics and design put the brand’s sports car DNA in a practical design filled with advanced technologies to keep you connected. The exterior design is inspired by the Jaguar F-TYPE and characterized by the distinctive Jaguar grille, muscular proportion and short overhangs that give the E-PACE a bold and purposeful stance, instantly communicating dynamic agility. Jaguar sports car DNA is also evident in the fast sweep of the roofline and the distinctive side window graphic.

The Jaguar F-PACE, Jaguar’s most practical SUV, blends sporty handling and breathtaking beauty with everyday practicality and efficiency. The F-PACE has every aspect of Jaguar’s DNA incorporated into its essence, with this being exemplified through its refined control ride and engaging handling, defining characteristics of the prestigious brand.

The SUV provides the driver with state-of-the-art technology, such as optional Head-up Display and Activity Key, as well as advanced driving aids to make every journey easier and more relaxed. These include advanced InControl multimedia system, which keeps one entertained and ensures that they are always connected to the outside world.

Largest dedicated Truck Service Centre

brahim K. Kanoo’s Michelin Truck Service Centre (MTSC) in Salmabad is a new, full-service facility created in partnership with Michelin to enhance the operational efficiency of the growing medium and heavy truck industry in the Kingdom.

Spread over 17,000 square feet, the state-of-the-art facility contains a large tyres warehouse, spanning over 75,000 square feet, with a capacity to stock 100,000 tyres in recommended storage conditions.

The Michelin Truck Service Centre boasts seven dedicated servicing bays, which cater to tyre change, wheel balancing, alignment, oil change, greasing in addition to repair work for truck and earthmover tyres. The centre has specialised solid tyre pressing and foam filling facilities, which considerably reduce vehicle down time and help businesses to reduce wastage of slightly damaged tyres.

For customer enquiries and reservations, the centre is open from 8am to 5pm Saturday to Thursday, and can be contacted on 17488866.
أرغب في التطور بطريقة تقليدية.
I’m wishing for a twist on Traditional.

س모어스 홀드 초콜릿
S’mores Hot Chocolate

س모어스 موكا
S’mores Mocha

Wish upon a COSTA
In a significant move to bring quality cardiac services to the people of the country and to fight heart disease, Bahrain Specialist Hospital (BSH) has collaborated with Apollo Hospitals, Asia’s largest and most trusted multi-speciality chain of hospitals. The BSH Apollo Heart Center will touch 1.5 million hearts to keep heart diseases at bay, which is the No.1 cause of death in Bahrain.

The Heart Center at Bahrain Specialist Hospital will be operated and managed by Apollo Hospitals and will provide treatment for all aspects of adult cardiology ranging from interventions to cardiac surgery. With infrastructure such as third-generation state-of-the-art Cath Lab, Cardiac Critical Care Units and Intensive Care Unit, the center will provide advanced comprehensive cardiac care. An experienced team of doctors, nurses, technicians, and paramedics are deployed from the Apollo Heart Institute in Hyderabad to serve the people in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

The BSH Apollo Heart Center will be the first comprehensive tertiary level cardiac care for patients in the private space in Bahrain that will tackle the local burden of the disease to reduce coronary morbidity in the future.

Apollo’s network allows a natural back-up for services such as cardiac surgery and transplant for cases that require more advanced attention and care than what is locally available.

BSH Apollo Heart Center will work to address a critical health issue in the Kingdom. The center is well equipped for elective, urgent and emergency cardiac surgeries with facilities that keep up with technical progress and scientific knowledge and is suitable for the use of advanced medical equipment.

With a team of board-certified cardiologists, cardiothoracic surgeons and cardiac anesthesiologists experienced in Coronary Artery Stenting, Laser Angioplasty and in techniques as advanced as Percutaneous Transluminal Septal Myocardial Ablation, the center will also offer minimally invasive treatments for cardiac and vascular diseases by using cutting-edge technologies that meet international standards for cardiac care.

The Cath. Lab. is a dedicated facility with a recovery unit where hemodynamic and angiographic diagnostic studies, coronary and other angioplasties, placement of intravascular stents, embolization of vascular structures, direct emergency revascularization of acute myocardial infarction, and minor surgical procedures, primarily for vascular access or more major surgical intervention are performed.

Wellness 360’ experience at Royal Beach Club

The Ritz-Carlton, Bahrain embarks on a new adventure of wellness and tranquility as it reveals the final stages of the Royal Beach Club renovations this season. Guests can fully immerse themselves in a total ‘Wellness 360’ experience with the completion of the new indoor heated pool and locker facilities, along with a new, modern juice bar, aptly named “La Vie.”

Featuring a modern design and sleek wooden interiors, the newly enhanced indoor heated pool will offer a year-round aquatic experience with daily classes for both children and adults. The Club’s changing rooms, as well, will see a 360 makeover with key-pad locker facilities, shower areas, private changing rooms, towel-service and Asprey bath products. Guests and Members will also leave happy and quenched at the resort’s new juice bar, La Vie. The new “on-the-go” healthy dining concept reveals a modern menu of detox and energy smoothies, juices, coconut water, Nai teas, and more.

For traveling guests into the Kingdom, a new ‘Wellness 360’ package availis an island retreat for the mind, body and soul. Retreat packages start at BHD 180++ per night with a minimum 2 night stay, and offer luxury airport transportation, Club Room or Villa accommodations, a personalized fitness and training itinerary, nutrition consultation, two “La Vie” juice bar vouchers daily, 120-minute Body Wrap and Stress Relief Massage and hydrotherapy marina bath experience at The Ritz-Carlton, Spa, “Dream Well” amenity kit with personalized eye mask and calming-pillow spray mist in lavender scent and USD 100 dining credit.

The Royal Beach Club at The Ritz-Carlton, Bahrain is open daily from 5:30 a.m. - 10:30 p.m. Ladies-only and Mixed-gym classes are offered daily starting from 6:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m., and include: Pilates, Yoga, Body Pump, TRX, Spinning, Tennis, Stretching, Abs & Core, and Boot Camp.

Fuddruckers new branch open in Diplomatic Area

This is the seventh location in Bahrain for the Texas-based heritage brand, which is known as the home of the “World’s Greatest Hamburgers.” The new restaurant offers a fresh and modern decor for Fuddruckers’ diners. Accommodating approximately 90 to 100 guests, the 193 square meter eatery covers two floors of dining area and is conveniently situated at the heart of the bustling business district of the Diplomatic Area.

It is the perfect setting for family gatherings, business lunch meetings or just a quick stop for dinner. The restaurant is open 24 hours with dine-in, take-out and outdoor catering options always available.
Al Zayani Investments enters into F&B market with Costa Coffee franchise

Costa Coffee and Al Zayani Investments Group signed a franchise partnership. The newly established Al Zayani Investments F&B arm - Al Zayani Foods SPC, have been granted exclusive development rights to Costa Coffee in Bahrain. Costa Coffee, is a global success story with nearly 4,000 stores across 32 countries. Al Zayani Investments Group, known for their diversified portfolio of ventures, have taken their entrepreneurial success into the new line of business with a strong and positive agenda of action.

The partnership of Costa and Al Zayani is perfectly matched with Costa’s commitment to delivering outstanding handcrafted coffee, healthy menu choices and exceptional customer service aligned with the Al Zayani philosophy of providing the highest quality products and services to its valued customers while employing the highest standards of work ethic. The first store under the new partnership, is opened at the Bahrain City Centre, reflects local tastes and preferences, including homegrown specialties and twists on old classics, backed by talented baristas, great service and an ambience of comfort. Al Zayani Foods will be building new Costa Coffee stores across Bahrain which reflect these joint values and commitment to great tasting coffee.

Ramez opens new hypermarket in Muharraq

Extensive 5,000 sq. ft. new Ramez hypermarket in Halat Bu Maher, Muharraq consists of 2 floors, in addition to 250 sq. ft. car parking space accommodating more than 220 vehicles, is also 7th in the kingdom and 42nd in the region.

RAMEZ Al Hala provides tens of thousands of high quality and value-for-money products under one roof, mainly: home appliances, clothes, cosmetics, stationary, furniture, toys, kitchen kits, and many more. Plus fresh food sections: Meat, poultry, seafood, fruits and vegetables, dairies, spices and much more. RAMEZ new Hypermarket also contains a special display area for Bahraini products that showcases plenty of commodities such as: dairy products, spices, fruits and vegetables, etc.

Ramez AL Awadi Chairman of RAMEZ Group mentioned that, "We are committed to train and deploy more young talented Bahrainis in all our branches and outlets, and we are keen to continue supporting Bahrain labor force by giving employment to more Bahrainis in retail sector, and we are proud to announce that RAMEZ Halat Bu Maher branch employees are all Bahrainis. RAMEZ Group steady confidence in the bright future of Bahrain, looking forward to enhance its local presence with its upcoming Janabiya branch that will be open soon to serve broader segments of locals, expatriates and visitors."

Carrefour 0% Interest scheme

Carrefour partnered with CrediMax to launch a 0% interest scheme which can be availed on select purchases until 31st March 2020.

The offer is applicable to any of Carrefour’s customers who are Credimax cardholders or MaxWallet users, who purchase electronic items in stores worth a minimum of BHD 50 and a maximum of BHD 1,000.

Jerome Akel, Country Manager of Carrefour in Bahrain at Majid Al Futtaim Retail said, “We’re proud to be offering our customers more flexibility and convenience with their purchases through our partnership with CrediMax. Now, shoppers can own the latest gadgets sooner and with less strain on their finances, the promotion is available for a limited time only however, so we encourage them to visit our stores before the end of March to avoid missing out.”

Participating Carrefour stores include those located in: Bahrain City Centre, Bahrain Mall, Enma Mall, Seef Mall Arad, Manama, Exhibition Road, Budaiya Jawad Dome and Muharraq.

Gulf Air expands International Sales with APG IET

Gulf Air signed up with APG to benefit from their latest ticketing solution APG IET being a worldwide solution for airlines wishing to develop their global sales by interlining. Through APG IET, Gulf Air will become ticketable by thousands of additional travel agents in BSPs (billing and settlement plans) where the airline is not present and in combination with airlines with whom they do not directly interline. APG IET will facilitate and bring high yield sales from brand new markets and act as a suitable addition to Gulf Air’s global distribution strategy.

Gulf Air currently flies to 48 destinations in 27 countries and in codeshare with more than 10 global airline partners.
Help children with Autism enjoy a stress-free holiday

Holidays are known to bring waves of joy and excitement into homes. While most families are excited about the upcoming holiday season, families with children who have autism are preparing for challenges of their own. Dr. Heba Shata, Founder and Director of the Child Early Intervention Center and Skills Education Center, has put forth some essential tips for families who have children with autism.

1. Giving and receiving gifts
Receiving gifts can get a little too exciting for children so we can help them understand polite giving and receiving of gifts.
- Encourage children to participate in the gift-giving process by letting them pick the gifts and wrap them
- Teach children to receive gifts through role-play of accepting gifts and thanking for it.
- Help them write thank you cards, so they understand how to thank people politely for gifts.

2. Energy during holidays
Holidays often mean sweet treats and delayed bedtimes. Use the following strategies to manage energy levels and make bedtime successful.
- Keep children active during the day with outdoor activities, so they are tired by night.
- Limit their consumption of sweet treats as they are high in sugar and caffeine and cause children to be overly active during bedtime.
- Have a regular sleep routine for children during on holidays by planning activities that motivate them to wake up early and get ready for the day.

3. Schedules and routine during holidays
Make as little changes as you can in children’s schedule during holidays as children may have difficulty with the new routine. These tips help make their holiday schedules less stressful.
- Have a holiday calendar listing all the events and activities in writing, drawing, or picture format depending on the child’s understanding level.
- Start the day with the calendar and prepare children by helping them understand what is going on and when.
- Engage children by letting them add new events to the calendar and explain why it is necessary to attend certain important events.
- If there are debatable events, prepare the child and explain the things expected, and include children’s input into decisions about attending the event.

Sustainable eatery Eighty Thirty

Bahraini legacy restaurant group, Al Abraaj Restaurant Group, launched its latest innovative restaurant concept - Eighty Thirty. This sustainable eatery launched its flagship pop-up concept location in Aali Mall with a vision to establish an ever-changing menu that introduces Bahrain to new products and concepts.

Acting upon the global shift in preferences for eateries that are gradually adopting flexitarian diets - Eighty Thirty is a refreshing take on a plant-based diet. The concept draws inspiration from the world’s environmental concerns. The name was uniquely coined to bring about awareness to the fact that the planet is home to forests that account for EIGHTY percent of terrestrial organisms, and these forests cover THIRTY percent of the earth’s landmass.

This sustainable eatery would accommodate a fast casual menu catering to vegetarian and vegan dietary preferences. The interior embraces a green leafy ambiance that provides an immersive experience of being in the Amazon rainforest. The menu includes several plant-based varieties of classic burgers, hotdogs and nugget varieties, spinach salad and citrus Salad. The eatery has also established a strategic collaboration with Beyond Meat. By combining expert innovation with simple, non-GMO ingredients, they deliver the meaty experience you crave without the compromise. Another interesting social responsibility initiative by the brand is to set aside an amount to plant a tree upon the purchase of a tree-inspired dessert that is available on the menu.

Eighty Thirty, is led by a skilled all-women team and serves as a platform to showcase the prowess of Bahraini women in the culinary industry.

Furthermore, The restaurant has adopted plastic-free practices and an internal filtration system to avoid the usage of bottled water. Al Abraaj group aims to lead their sustainability and recycling practices within the operations for all the brands with Eighty Thirty as the first step in that direction.

ReadON.ai for Special Education and Cognitive Remediation

Rising Technologies, Bahrain launched ReadON.ai, technology for Special Education and Cognitive Remediation in Bahrain.

An award-winning SaaS-based AI platform for students to improve reading fluency and comprehension. Developed in Canada by Orange Neurosciences, READON.AI is a revolutionary tool that aims to empower caregivers to help exceptional people to Read and Succeed. ReadON is a Digital Therapy to assist Psychologists, Psychiatrists, Special Education Providers who work with children and adults with Dyslexia, Learning Disabilities, ADHD, ADD, Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Advanced technologies used in ReadON will empower current therapists, special educators and Schools in Bahrain to improve their service delivery and provide effective results faster. Parents can also use services of ReadON at Rising Tech’s ReadON Centre.
Building on their history of success, the SARKCO Group companies have come together to enhance their business portfolio as a single entity.

destination within the region. We are excited to be part of this positive ambience, contributing our services and specializations to the nation’s advanced business infrastructure. Bahrain continues to play a vital role in creating opportunities, promoting an investment-driven economic development in line with the principles of the Economic Vision 2030. We share the same values, to put the country and the people of Bahrain at the heart of everything we do. These shared ideals and commitment to service and quality are the foundation of our business philosophy and lies at the core of everything we do. It is our endeavor to live up to that promise."

Building on the success of each of its group companies, SARKCO Group will endeavour to further strengthen its offering. Among its group companies is Dar Al Bina Construction, formed in 1984, having made a name for quality construction projects in the Public and Private sectors.

The SAK Merchant Marble Mining company which owns marble mining and manufacturing resources in Italy and Pakistan provides high grade marble for the region.

SAK Hospitality has owned a five Star resort in Bosnia, Sarajevo.

The Group also owns The Bahraini Factory for Fragrance and Cosmetics in Bahrain.

Diggers has made its mark selling and hiring Heavy duty machinery for excavation and construction work.

Real Estate firm, ARK Properties is involved in the buying and selling of Real Estate and property across the region.

Home automation control and security systems company, ACT, provides smart solutions for the corporate, residential, manufacturing and the hospitality industries with state-of-the-art technology and expertise.

HK Jewellery manages fine jewellery businesses in the highly competitive Hong Kong market, bringing expertise in design and production and pledging sterling quality and service to its clientele.

Leveraging on the strength of its companies, their combined years of experience and a team of professionals bringing expertise and business acumen to the offering, the SARKCO Group is all set to become a significant contributor to Bahrain’s economic development, and a viable partner for sustainable commercial growth and expansion in the Middle East.

Kanoo Shipping launches operations in Antarctica

Kanoo shipping, a fully owned business division of Yusuf bin Ahmed Kanoo, YBA Kanoo, has launched its Antarctic operations through its office in South Africa by handling the private jet, Dassault Falcon 7X. The Seatrade Middle East & Africa Ship Agent of the year in 2018 & 2019, provides a range of services to support national bases in Antarctica, including logistics support for numerous flights and ship agency services for cargo vessels that sail to the ice shelf each year.

"It is not often that a ship agent can possibly claim to be the first on a continent; but Kanoo Shipping have put in a claim following the handling of the first of this year’s flights supporting various Antarctic research bases. We have developed a great relationship with many of the Polar Research Organizations worldwide to support both their flights, personnel and equipment as well as their vessels through our Kanoo Shipping Africa operation based in Cape Town. The world is no longer big enough" Jonathan Bygrave, Divisional CEO of Kanoo Shipping said.
## Bahrain Economic Quarterly - Q3 2019

### Q3 2019 Real GDP Growth

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>GDP</th>
<th>Oil</th>
<th>Non-Oil</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Q3 2019</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Fastest Growing Non-oil Sectors in Q3 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Growth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transportation &amp; Comm.</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotel &amp; Restaurants</td>
<td>6.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Market Share for PR Coverage

#### Banking

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bank</th>
<th>Share</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CBB</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NBB</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BISB</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASB</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BBK</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Telecom

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operator</th>
<th>Share</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Batelco</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STC</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRA</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zain</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kalaam</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Largest Non-oil Sectors in Term of % of GDP in Q3 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Financial Corporations</th>
<th>Manufacturing</th>
<th>Government Services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diyar Al Muharraq</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
<td>14.9%</td>
<td>10.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eagle Hills Dilmunia</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bin Faqeeh</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kooheji Development</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Major Highlights in Q3 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aluminium Production</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Money Supply (M3)</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Sector Bahraini Employment</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Tourist Stay</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Real Estate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diyar Al Muharraq</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kooheji Development</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Other Business

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALBA</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GPIC</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gulf Air</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E.K. Kanoo</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAC/BAS</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Company Name</td>
<td>Tender Subject</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bahrain Tourism &amp; Exhibition Authority (BTEA)</td>
<td>Management and Operation of the new Bahrain International Exhibitions &amp; Conventions Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tatweer Petroleum W.L.L</td>
<td>Supply of VIMEC VALVE or equivalent required for Field Maintenance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministry of Health</td>
<td>Supply of Drugs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministry of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning (Works Affairs)</td>
<td>Supply of Glassware and Consumables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministry of Housing</td>
<td>Al Lawzi Housing Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bahrain Airport Company</td>
<td>Supply of Personal Transportation Scooters (Segways) for Staff Circulation within the new BIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bahrain Authority for Culture &amp; Antiquities</td>
<td>Catering &amp; Hospitality of Kingdom of Bahrain Pavilion at Expo 2020 Dubai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electricity and Water Authority</td>
<td>Levelling of Land and Construction of Boundary Wall at EWA premises, Sufala</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministry of Finance</td>
<td>The Ministry of Finance and National Economy needs proposals for 2 Oracle Apps Developers and 1 Oracle Apps DBA to support Oracle E-Business Suite 12.1.3.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gulf Aviation Academy</td>
<td>Video Wall Screen for Air Traffic Control Simulator</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: www.tenderboard.gov.bh
www.arabianindustry.com/tenders
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Conference | Exhibition | Workshops | Awards | Startups | Deep Dive

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HR STRATEGY SUMMIT</th>
<th>HRTECH SUMMIT</th>
<th>OLD SUMMIT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

- 50+ SPEAKERS
- 40+ EXHIBITORS
- 1000 VISITORS
- 25 FREE SEMINARS
- 6 WORKSHOPS
- 10 HR DEEP DIVE SESSIONS
- 15 AWARDS
- 3 BREAK OUT SUMMITS
- 12 STARTUPS
- 1 MEMORABLE EVENT

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