Prominent Bahrainis recollect fond memories of student days in India

Recent statistics reveal that 239 student visas were issued by the Indian Embassy in 2018 alone



Many dignitaries were present at the event.

The event laid a foundation for active engagements among an intellectual group progressing towards the mutual advantage of the people and government of the two countries.

TDT | Manama **Supriya Reginald**

ore than 25 notable dignitaries from various sectors in Bahrain gathered at the residence of Indian Ambassador Alok Kumar Sinha, to launch the Indian Universities Alumni Bahrain.

"When foreign students come to India they arrive as foreigners but in due time they become our family. They take back a bit of India with them and we regard them as our Goodwill Ambassadors," stated Mr Sinha.

"We have a long history of students from Bahrain studying in India," he added.

"India today has emerged as education hub with students from all over the world studying experience. at institutions like IITs, IIMs and space and hi-tech areas.

courses have generated consid- flattery but as a fact. erable interest for students from

towards further strengthening he added. the existing deep-rooted relation-

Recent statistics reflect that 239 student visas were issued by the Indian Embassy in 2018 continue to remain the most preferred destination for Bahraini

Speaking to Tribune, a few their initial experiences of stud-

dul Nabi AlShola, who pursued ministration at St Xavier's Col- ments. lege, Mumbai, said: "My mind is out. I consider the time I spent in baishi. India as the best of my life.



Mr Yusif K Hubaishi recalled the warm hospitality India offered during his student days.



India today has emerged as education hub with students from all over the world studying at institutions like IITs. IIMs and universities of niche courses in space and hi-tech areas.

universities of niche courses in in those four years because the as well. people are friendly, co-operative, "Further, applied professional and hospitable. I don't say this as mainly because I was surrounded

The event aims to contribute culture, religion and much more,"

ship between India and Bahrain. PETROLINK International, recalls then after I married I took my the warm hospitality that overcame his longing for home.

"When I was in Mumbai I lived alone and institutions centered to as a paying guest with an Indian Pune in the state of Maharashtra family, they treated me like their and I go back whenever the opson, I called them 'Uncle' and 'Aunty' and their children treated me like a brother.

Bahraini dignitaries illustrated very good care of me. I still visit about it. They praised the area ving in Maharashtra that has ceimpossible for me to just finish. In the mid of '80s I pursued mented memorable impressions my education and leave because Business, B.Com, and M.Com," we built a very strong bond, I he added. Former Labour Minister, Ab- had to go back to visit and update them about my life and they are for active engagements among Political Science and Public Advery happy about my accomplish-

"I visit whoever is still there still consumed with many mem- and make more memories with ment of the two countries. ories that I can't even single them them, I love that," said Mr Hu-

University on its own to learn and tels, Gulf Hotel and Dilmun, with their education in India."



Mr Hameed Yousif Rahma expressed his fondness towards the Indian educational system.



"This created demand for those in the hospitality field. I applied to a University in Dadar for three years. I was extremely homesick in the first few months but once summer came I told my parents I didn't want to come to Bahrain and wished to take up a summer course for English," he recollected.

Asst Undersecretary for Domestic Trade, Hameed Yousif Rahma states his fond memories in Pune University heartened him to encourage his siblings "I never had a bad experience to pursue their education there

"I never felt homesick in Pune by many friends from Bahrain. "In no other place on earth can I loved the country and educawe come across this diversity of tion; I encouraged my sisters and brothers to go there as well.

"Since then I have visited Pune Yusif K Hubaishi, Director of many times, as a bachelor and children and wife. It brought back many fond memories when I showed them where I studied.

"These memories stay forever portunity arises," he said.

"I chose Pune University because my friends who studied "When I was sick they took there spoke wonderful things Mumbai every two years. It was and the education atmosphere.

The event laid a foundation an intellectual group progressing towards the mutual advantage of the people and govern-

Khalid M Fakhro, also an alumnus of St Xavier's College, Mum-"I went with the intention of bai, said India has one of the best "To me, the education was not pursuing dentistry but enrolled educational systems in the world. only in the classroom but I also in hospitality because during that "I am happy over the fact that found that India as a whole is time (1972) Bahrain had two homany Bahrainis are pursuing



Mr Abdul Nabi AlShola shared his memories as a student in India.



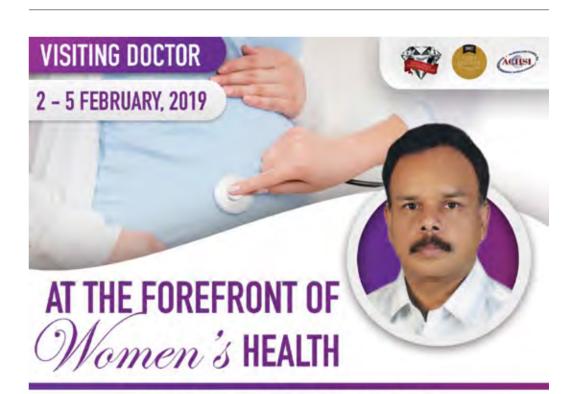
Mr Sinha speaks at the event.



Mr Khalid M Fakhro at the event.



Indian Embassy officials attended the event.



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