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A PLEDGE OF LOYALTY

■ The King ... appoints a new Cabinet which includes six new faces



■ The Premier ... pledges the Cabinet's commitment to national duties

MANAMA: A pledge of loyalty to the nation went out yesterday as His Majesty the King appointed a new Cabinet.

Prime Minister Sheikh Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa submitted a letter to the King in which he thanked him for his trust in forming the new Cabinet. The Premier pledged the government's

Six new faces – Page 3
Swearing-in – Pages 4-5

commitment to its national duties and also pledged constant evaluation to ensure fruitful co-operation between the government, parliament and Shura Council.

Six new faces feature in the 23-minister Cabinet, which is chaired by the Premier.

New portfolios include two deputy premiers (who also hold other ministries), a new industry minister, separate justice and Islamic affairs ministers and the combination of works and housing.

Municipalities combines with agriculture, while commerce now stands alone.

There are also several new ministers of state, some with specific portfolios, some without.

■ Iraq MPs delay UN vote

BAGHDAD: Iraq's parliament will continue its debate on a UN resolution today, speaker Saadoun Hammadi last night. He did not say if voting would take place today.

A final decision on the resolution passed unanimously by the UN Security Council last week will lie with the Revolutionary Command Council, Iraq's highest authority which is led by President Saddam Hussein.



■ Iraq's parliament meets in an emergency session in Baghdad
automatic weapons fire from an Israeli tank, they said.
Full report – Page 15

■ Four die in Gujarat

AHMEDABAD: Four people were killed and Hindu mourners rioted yesterday in renewed violence in the troubled western Indian state

of Gujarat. Two Hindus were stabbed to death after an election rally in the Kheda district, 80km south of Ahmedabad, and a bomb later destroyed a shop in the same area, killing the owner and injuring his son. Another body with stab wounds was found later in the district.

Pedestrian dies crossing road

By DALAL AL ALAWI

MANAMA: A 43-year-old Indian pedestrian was killed in an accident in Riffa yesterday.

Anthony Robert was crossing Umm Al Nassan Road, when he was hit by a car travelling at high speed, said police.

He died at the scene, after being hurled into a ditch by the impact.

The car careered off the road and into a sand bank next to a house.

Two Bahrainis travelling in the car, Haytham Abdulaziz and Abdulla Mohammed, were taken to the BDF Hospital with minor injuries.

The accident happened at 5pm.

The new Cabinet

- **Prime Minister** Sheikh Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa
- **Deputy Prime Minister and Islamic Affairs Minister** Sheikh Abdulla bin Khalid Al Khalifa (new portfolio)
- **Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister** Sheikh Mohammed bin Mubarak Al Khalifa (new portfolio)
- **Interior Minister** Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Khalifa
- **Transportation Minister** Sheikh Ali bin Khalifa Al Khalifa
- **Justice Minister** Jawad Salem Al Arrayed (new portfolio)
- **Prime Minister's Court Minister** Sheikh Khalid bin Abdulla Al Khalifa (new portfolio)
- **Defence Minister** Sheikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa
- **Cabinet Affairs Minister** Mohammed Ibrahim Al Mutawa
- **Oil Minister** Sheikh Isa bin Ali Al Khalifa
- **Commerce Minister** Ali Saleh Al Saleh
- **Electricity and Water Minister** Sheikh Abdulla bin Salman Al Khalifa
- **Minister of State for Shura Council and Chamber of Deputies Affairs** Abdulaziz Al Fadhel (new portfolio)
- **Finance and National Economy Minister** Abdulla Hassan Saif
- **Minister of State** Abdulnabi Al Sho'ala (new portfolio)
- **Information Minister** Nabeel Yacoub Al Hamer
- **Works and Housing Minister** Fahmi Al Jowder (new portfolio)
- **Minister of State for Foreign Affairs** Dr Mohammed Abdul Ghaffar
- **Industry Minister** Dr Hassan Abdulla Fakhro (new portfolio)
- **Municipalities and Agriculture Minister** Dr Mohammed Ali Shaikh Mansour Al Sitri (new portfolio)
- **Education Minister** Dr Majid Ali Al Nuaimi
- **Labour and Social Affairs Minister** Dr Majeed Mohsin Al Alawi
- **Minister of State** Abdulhussain Ali Mirza (new portfolio)
- **Health Minister** Dr Khalil Ibrahim Hassan

Six new faces in Cabinet line-up

Compiled by
AMIRA AL HUSSAINI
and **SOMAN BABY**

SIX new ministers will be sworn in with the newly formed Cabinet today.

They are Industry Minister Dr Hassan Abdulla Fakhro, Municipalities and Agriculture Minister Dr Mohammed Ali Shaikh Mansour Al Sitr, Education Minister Dr Majid Ali Al Nuaimi, Labour and Social Affairs Minister Dr Majeed Mohsin Al Alawi, Minister of State Abdulhussain Ali Mirza and Health Minister Dr Khalil Ibrahim Hassan.

The three out-going ministers are Dr Mohamed Al Ghatam (Education), Dr Faisal Al Mousawi (Health) and Mohammed Hassan Kamaluddin (Minister of State).

Following are short biographies of the new ministers:

Industry Minister Dr Hassan Abdulla Fakhro has been His Majesty the King's Adviser for Economic Affairs since May 1999.

He obtained his engineering and economic qualifications for his Bachelor, Master and Doctorate degrees in the UK. He also obtained various economic, business and management diplomas in the US.

Dr Fakhro worked in the oil industry in Bahrain and the US, before being appointed by

the Bahrain Government to establish the Bahrain National Oil Company (Banoco) and eventually became the chairman of its board of directors.

He also played a role in the establishment of Bahrain National Gas Company (Banagas) and was its board chairman for several years.

He was also instrumental in the formation of GPIC.

Dr Fakhro currently chairs the board of directors of Intoil E.C. and Intoil Inc and its associate companies in the US.

Dr Fakhro was the Bahrain Society of Engineers president for several durations and was the chairman of the Federation of Arab Engineers.

He was a member of the board of trustees of the Gulf Polytechnic and later Bahrain University for many years.

Dr Fakhro was a member of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports and a member of the board of trustees of the Bahrain Centre for Studies and Research.

He was also the chairman of the National Committee for Organising Engineering Professional Practice.

Dr Fakhro was secretary general of the Bahrain Philanthropic Society and a member of the Bahrain Red Crescent Society board. He is currently the board chairman of the Bahrain Society for Child Development. He has written two books.

Municipalities and Agriculture Minister Dr Mohammed Ali Shaikh Mansour Al Sitr, born in Sira in 1950, has a BA in Arabic and Islamic Studies from Al Fiqh College, Iraq, diplo-



Expert care at Sulmaniya Medical Complex ... new Health Minister's expertise well-recognised

Specialist in charge of health

HEALTH Minister Dr Khalil Ibrahim Hassan is the Bahrain Medical Society (BMS) president and the first consultant paediatric surgeon in Bahrain.

Born in Manama in 1947, he graduated from the College of Medicine, Damascus University, in 1972.

Dr Hassan completed his surgical speciality training at the University of Edinburgh in 1978, when he also became a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh.

He also had his training in neo-natal and paediatric surgery at the University of Glasgow and became a member of the British Association of Paediatric Surgeons in 1980.

When Dr Hassan returned to Bahrain in the same year and joined the Sulmaniya Medical Complex (SMC), he was the first consultant paediatric surgeon in Bahrain

and the second in the Gulf region.

His expertise was also recognised by the Arabian Gulf University's College of Medicine and Medical Sciences, which appointed him associate professor of surgery. He had also served as the college's assessment and evaluation committee chairman.

Dr Hassan was also a visiting professor of surgery at the colleges of medicine at Colorado University and King Faisal University, Saudi Arabia.

At the SMC, he had served as the accident and emergency department chairman and deputy chief of medical staff for training and education.

His organisational ability was recognised by the Bahrain medical community



Dr Hassan

which twice elected him as BMS president in 1983 and this year. He was also the BMS Medical Journal chief editor.

Over the years, Dr Hassan has published 50 medical research and presented 40 research papers to medical conferences in Arab countries, Europe and the US.

He is a member of many professional bodies including the American Academy of Paediatric Oncology, International Society of Surgery, British Association of Paediatric Endoscopy, and International Academy of Basic Science Medical Education.

Dr Hassan is married to SMC consultant physician Dr Salwa Al Mahroos. They have four children - three boys and a girl.

mas from Egypt and New Delhi, two masters degrees - one in Islamic Sharia from the University of Cairo, Egypt, and another in administration from the University of South California, US - and a PhD in administration, also from the University of South California, US.

Dr Al Sitr started his career at the Labour and Social Affairs Ministry as an investigator in the labour disputes department, gradually climbing the career ladder until he was appointed planning and technical affairs director.

He then moved to the Health Ministry, where he held several positions.

Dr Al Sitr was also a Shura Council member for two terms and a member of the National Action Charter committee. His last position was head of the Jafaari Waqf Council. He is also a member of the Federation of Islamic Parliament Councils and a member of the National Action Charter Implementation Committee.

Education Minister Dr Majid Ali Al Nuaimi has been Bahrain University president since April 2001. He is a renowned historian, political analyst, media specialist, sportsman and an enthusiastic social worker, with a special interest in education.

Born in Riffa in 1955, Dr Al Nuaimi has also worked at the BDF, where his posts spanned from officer to staff colonel. He has also a number of military



Dr Al Nuaimi

awards and medals to his credit.

Dr Al Nuaimi began his career at the Foreign Ministry before moving to the BDF, as an officer. He was soon promoted to director of the office of the BDF Commander-in-Chief from 1982 to 1992.

His next appointment took him to the Bahrain Centre for Studies and Research (BCSR), where he was director of the office of the Chairman of the BCSR Board of Trustees, who was Crown Prince and BDF Commander-in-Chief Shaikh Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa at the time.

Dr Al Nuaimi was then appointed director of the office of the Under-Secretary of Defence, also Shaikh Salman at the time.

His last position before becoming university president was director of the office of the Commander-in-Chief of the BDF, with the rank of Staff Colonel.

Dr Al Nuaimi is also an assistant professor of Bahrain history and civilisation at Bahrain University.

Dr Al Nuaimi has also been an active member of the Supreme Committee for the Drafting of the National Action Charter. He has been the secretary for the National Committee for the Support of Jerusalem.

A graduate of Kuwait University, where he majored in history, Dr Al Nuaimi obtained a master's degree in history from Egypt. He also holds a masters degree in military sciences and a PhD from Wales University, in history.

Minister of State Abdulhussain Ali Mirza has worked with Bapco and

the oil industry for more than 40 years.

A former member of the Shura Council, he has been a member of Bapco's executive committee for 22 years and has played a key role in articulating its strategies.

Mr Mirza was the first Bahraini to be promoted to the position of Bapco's deputy chief executive in 1998.

He was also one of the first Bahrainis to be appointed to the position of a general manager back in 1980, when Bapco was owned by American company Caltex.

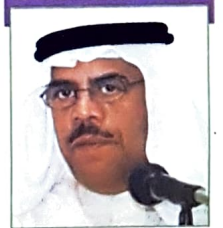
Mr Mirza was entrusted with many executive positions with Bapco.

He has worked on a number of assignments overseas, including a two-year working assignment in New York as the financial adviser for the Middle East at the Caltex headquarters from 1979 to 1980.

Mr Mirza is one of the first qualified chartered management accountants in Bahrain and one of the few Bahrainis who are Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants of the UK.

Mr Mirza also serves on many voluntary boards of social and professional societies. He is president and founder member of the Bahrain Management Society, a past chairman of the American Mission Hospital, a founder member of the Bahrain Accountants Society, a member of the Ibn Khaldoon National School board of trustees, past president of the Rotary Club of Sulmaniya and a member of the High Council for Vocational Training.

Minister aware of jobless situation



Dr Al Alawi ... qualified

LABOUR and Social Affairs Minister Dr Majeed Mohsin Al Alawi was Bahrain Centre for Studies and Research assistant secretary-general, prior to his appointment as minister.

Born in 1955, in Qadam village off, Budaiya Road, he completed his higher studies in the UK.

He obtained a Masters of Science in organisational development and a PhD in international relations.

Dr Al Alawi is a member of the International Institute for Strategic Studies (London).

He is also a contributing writer to a number of publications in Bahrain and abroad, including *Al Sharq Al Awsat* in London.

Dr Al Alawi has taken part in various TV and radio programmes on Bahrain TV and Radio, *Voice of America*, *BBC*, *Monte Carlo*, *Sky News*, *MBC*, *Al Jazeera* and *Kuwait Television*.

One of the founders of the Bahrain Freedom Movement, he left for London in 1982.

On his return to Bahrain in November 2000, he was appointed a member of the National Action Charter Implementation Committee, chaired by the Crown Prince and BDF Commander-in-Chief Shaikh Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa.

He also chaired its sub-committee on unemployment, which has submitted a report to the Cabinet on how to tackle the country's unemployment issue on a short-term and long-term basis.

Dr Al Alawi, who is also an author and writer, published his first book, *Gulf Co-operation Council - Constitutional and Political Crisis*, in London in 1985.

His new book on the *Military History of the Middle East 1940-2000* will be published in Bahrain soon.

While in the UK, Dr Al Alawi worked as director and managing director with three companies in the publishing, printing and IT sectors, from 1985 until 2001.

In Bahrain, he has worked with Bapco, Batelco, Labour and Social Affairs Ministry and the Power and Water Ministry in the period from 1971 to 1984.



Mr Mirza

New government

Compiled by AMIRA AL HUSSAINI

Other members of the new Cabinet to be sworn in today are:

★ **Interior Minister Shaikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Khalifa** is a graduate from the Sandhurst Military Academy, in England.

Aged 65, he started his career as a First Lieutenant in 1959 and has since held top positions.

Shaikh Mohammed was appointed Immigration and Passports director in 1967.

He became Public Security deputy director-general in 1969 and was appointed Interior Minister on December 15, 1973.

★ **Transportation Minister Shaikh Ali bin Khalifa Al Khalifa** started his career with the Interior Ministry on October 1, 1975, after graduating from Hendon Police College, London.

He worked at the Training and Operations Directorate for six years.

Shaikh Ali later worked for three years with the General Command of Public Security.

He was appointed Assistant Under-Secretary for Immigration and Passports on May 3, 1982.

Shaikh Ali joined the Cabinet as Transportation Minister on March 21, 1993.

★ **Justice Minister Jawad Al Arrayed** is a qualified lawyer. Born on September 23, 1940, he obtained a degree in English literature at Cairo University, Egypt, in 1959.

He joined Leeds University in England to study law in 1959 and obtained a Bachelor of Law Honours degree in 1963.

Mr Al Arrayed took his Master's degree in law in 1965.

He was appointed Public Prosecution director by the Bahrain government in 1969.

He was appointed Labour and Social Affairs Minister in 1971 and Minister of



■ BDF cadets at a graduation ceremony

★ **DEFENCE Minister Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa**, 56, has a bachelor's degree in military sciences from Britain's Sandhurst Military Academy and a Master's degree in military sciences from the Staff and Commanders College in the UK. Shaikh Khalifa joined the BDF as an officer and has occupied several high offices in its units before his appointment to his current post in 1988. He is the recipient of several Bahraini and international awards.



■ Shaikh Mohammed bin Khalifa



■ Shaikh Ali



■ Mr Al Arrayed



■ Shaikh Isa



■ Mr Al Saleh



■ Shaikh Khalifa

State for Cabinet Affairs in 1973.

Mr Al Arrayed was then appointed as Health Minister and Environmental Protection Committee chairman in February 1982 and became Minister of State in June 1995.

He is a member of the Honourable Society of Gray's Inn (one of the British Bar's Inns of Court).

Mr Al Arrayed also led the Bahrain legal team at the hearings into Bahrain's border dispute with Qatar, at the International Court of Justice, in The Hague.

In 1999, Mr Al Arrayed was appointed Minister of State for

Municipalities and Environmental Affairs.

★ **Prime Minister's Court Minister Shaikh Khalid bin Abdulla Al Khalifa** is an engineer by profession.

Born in Muharraq in 1944, Shaikh Khalid obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering from Cairo University in 1966 and a Master's degree with specialisation in roads, from the US, in 1969.

He was the first Bahraini engineer with a specialisation in designing roads at the roads section in the Public Works Directorate.

He became Public Works

director in 1971 and was appointed Housing Minister when the ministry was constituted in 1975.

In 1979, he was appointed Housing Bank chairman of the board of directors and in 1987, he was appointed president of the Central Municipal Council.

Shaikh Khalid was appointed Housing, Municipalities and Environment Minister in 1995.

In 1999, he was named Housing and Agriculture Minister. Shaikh Khalid is a member of the High Council of Youth and Sports and the

Supreme Council of Traffic.

★ **Cabinet Affairs Minister Mohammed Al Mutawa** has a Bachelor's of Arts in philosophy, sociology and psychology.

He started his career with the Bahrain government in 1972 as an officer of Youth and national activities at the Labour and Social Affairs Ministry.

Mr Al Mutawa, born in September 1947, was appointed Cabinet Affairs director in 1970.

From 1977 to 1993, he was the Prime Minister's Office director-general.

Mr Al Mutawa was appointed

Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs in 1993 and in June 1995 became Cabinet Affairs and Information Minister.

He was appointed to his current post in 1999.

★ **Oil Minister Shaikh Isa bin Ali Al Khalifa** was born in 1942. After schooling in Bahrain, he attended the first year Faculty of Law at Cairo University in 1959 and higher studies in London University from 1960 to 1963.

Prior to becoming Oil and Industry Minister in 1995, he was the Labour and Social Affairs Minister for one year.

Shaikh Isa started his government career as commissioner of labour and manpower in 1963.

He was appointed commercial registration director in 1969 and was deputy president



■ Shaikh Khalid



■ Mr Al Mutawa

CROSS THE BALL



HERE'S WHAT TO DO
The ball has been obliterated from the picture - right - Mark a Cross (x) with a ballpoint pen where you think the centre of the ball is.

Five crosses per entry with a maximum 10 entries allowed

It is important that full name, address and CPR card number is given, or the prize may be invalid.

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EMPLOYEES OR RELATIVES OF DAR AKHBAR AL KHALEEJ ARE NOT ALLOWED TO ENTER THE COMPETITION
The judges decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.
Prizes must be collected within one calendar month.

This week's BD50 prize has been won by Rizalto D'Faraon, Flat 23, Bldg 1018 Road 2923, Manama 329, out of 132 entries.
He/She should contact the GDN on 620222 for details of how to collect his/her prize.
The BD50 prize is on offer again next week, rolling over each week until it is won.
All you have to do is place five crosses where you think the exact centre of the ball is in the accompanying picture. Original coupons only will be accepted, not photocopies.
Send your entry to Cross the Ball, Gulf Daily News, PO Box 5300, Manama, Bahrain.



Last week's competition with the ball showing

set to be sworn in

Deputy Prime Ministers

★ **DEPUTY Prime Minister and Islamic Affairs Minister** Shaikh Abdulla bin Khalid Al Khalifa was born in 1922 and educated in Bahrain.

He became a judge in the Bahrain courts in 1951 and was a judge at the High Appeal Court from 1957 to 1962.

In 1962, he was appointed president of the Riffa Municipality and from 1967 to 1970, he was president of the Manama Municipality and chairman of the Planning and Co-ordination Board.

He became Municipalities and Agriculture Minister in 1971 and has been Justice and Islamic Affairs Minister since 1975.

chairman. Mr Al Saleh, who was deputy chairman of the Shura Council, became a minister in June 1995.

He is the chairman of Bahrain Stock Exchange and the Bahrain International Exhibition Centre.

★ **Electricity and Water Minister** Shaikh Abdulla bin Salman bin Khalid Al Khalifa, born in 1946, joined the BDF in 1967.

In 1968, he graduated from the Mons Officer Cadet School in Aldershot, UK.

Shaikh Abdulla obtained his master's degree in military sciences in 1973. He was appointed BDF assistant chief-of-staff for operations in 1977 and chief-of-staff in 1988.

He was also awarded several national and foreign decorations, including the Shaikh Isa bin Salman Al Khalifa Order, Al Fateh Order, Hawar Order, Al Hilal Distinguished Order from Pakistan, The Liberation of Kuwait Order, the Order of Bahrain and

★ **DEPUTY Prime Minister and Foreign Minister** Shaikh Mohammed bin Mubarak Al Khalifa, 66, was educated in Bahrain before going on to the American University of Beirut and London University for higher studies.

He worked as a judge at Bahrain courts in 1961 and 1962.

He moved to the Information Directorate and was director from 1965 to 1970.

Following independence, he was appointed Foreign Affairs and Information Minister in August 1971.

He held the information portfolio until January 1973.

★ **Works and Housing Minister** Fahmi Al Jowder is an engineer by profession. Born on April 26, 1964, he took his Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering from Bahrain University in 1986.

Mr Al Jowder obtained his Master of Engineering Management degree in construction and facilities from George Washington University, Washington DC, in 1994. His last position before being appointed Works

Minister in 2001 was with the Crown Prince's Office/Defence Ministry, where he was project manager. Mr Al Jowder was responsible for the planning, design and construction supervision of the BD10 million Zayed Housing Project, near Isa Town.

He started his career with the Defence Ministry in 1985 as a training engineer. In 1987, he was promoted to assistant project officer for the construction supervision of a BD4m military camp. The fol-

★ **Minister of State** Al Sho'ala was born on May 15, 1948. He graduated in economics and political science in 1973 from St Xavier's College, Bombay University, India, after his schooling in Bahrain.

On his return, he worked with the Foreign Ministry.

In 1974, he started his own business and established a group of companies dealing in advertising, publishing, public relations, market research, trading and industry.

When the Shura Council was set up in 1993, Mr Al Sho'ala was appointed as a member and was later elected to its five-member executive committee.

He was also the chairman of the General Organisation for Social Organisation for Social Education, the High Council for Vocational Training and a member of the Board of Trustees of Bahrain University.

He was appointed Labour and Social Affairs Minister in June 1995 until his new appointment as Minister of State.

★ **Minister of State for Foreign Affairs** Dr Mohammad Abdul Ghaffar has been Bahrain's Ambassador to the US from 1994 until his appointment in April 2001.

He took his Bachelor of Arts degree in political science in Pune University, India, in 1974.

He had his MA in political science from New School for Social Research in New York, 1981, and PhD in political science from State University of New York at Binghamton in 1991.

He joined the Foreign Ministry in 1975, and was appointed Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Bahrain to the United Nations, New York, in 1990.

Dr Abdul Ghaffar was appointed Bahrain's Ambassador to the US in 1994 and non-resident ambassador to Canada in 1996.



■ Shaikh Abdulla bin Khalid

of naturalisation committee from 1970 to 1978.

Shaikh Isa was Assistant Under-Secretary for Immigration and Passports from 1978 to 1982, and head of Civil Service Bureau from 1982 to 1995.

He was appointed Oil and Industry Minister in June 1995.

★ **Commerce Minister** Ali Saleh Al Saleh

was born on December 28, 1942. He took his Bachelor's in Commerce degree from Ain Shams University, Cairo.

After his graduation in 1966, he returned to Bahrain and joined the family foodstuff wholesale business.

Mr Al Saleh returned to the family business in 1976 and was a board member of the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry from 1976 until 1993. He also served as chamber deputy



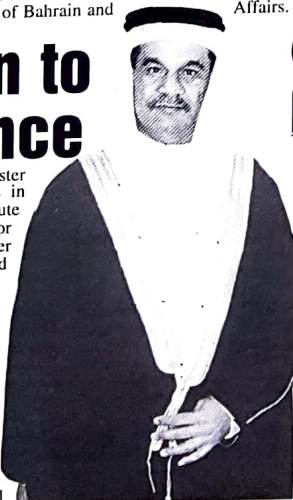
■ Shaikh Abdulla bin Salman

BMA veteran to retain Finance

★ **FINANCE** and National Economy Minister Abdulla Saif was educated in schools in Bahrain before going to the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants, in the UK, for higher studies. He also attended various other courses at the International Monetary Fund Institute and other international organisations.

Mr Saif, born on March 10, 1945, in Muharraq, started his career as an apprentice at Bapco in 1957, where he served in all departments until 1971.

From 1971 until 1974, he was Civil Aviation Directorate finance and administration head. He was then appointed Bahrain Monetary Agency deputy director general in 1974 and became director general in 1977. He was appointed Bahrain Monetary Agency governor in 1981, a post he held until his appointment as Finance and National Economy Minister in June 1999.



■ Mr Saif ... experience

Career journalist keeps Information

★ **INFORMATION** Minister Nabeel Al Hamer was born in Manama on October 25, 1950. He obtained a Bachelor's degree in journalism from Baghdad University in 1973.

Mr Al Hamer, who became Information Minister in June 1999, started his career as a journalist in 1968, working with *Al Adwa* newspaper.

He joined the Information Ministry's news department in 1973, where he worked as a journalist until 1975.

He then joined the *Bahrain Al Youm (Bahrain Today)* magazine for two years, before being appointed news affairs and public relations superintendent at the Information Ministry in 1976.

Mr Al Hamer was *Gulf News Agency* director-general from 1978 until he was appointed chairman and editor-in-chief of Arabic daily *Al Ayam* in 1989.

Mr Al Hamer, who was appointed minister in April 2001, is married and has three sons and a daughter.



■ Mr Al Hamer ... re-appointed



■ Mr Al Fadhel

the Order of Merit from Egypt. On February 5, 2001, Shaikh Abdulla, who is married with several daughters and sons, was promoted to Lieutenant General. His hobbies are hunting and golfing.

★ **Minister of State for Shura Council and Chamber of Deputies Affairs** Abdulaziz Mohammed Al Fadhel was born in 1948 and educated in Bahrain.

He graduated from the Manama Secondary School in 1967 and attended the Higher Institute for Teachers in Bahrain for one year. In 1969, he joined the Amiri National Guard as cadet. He attended a number of military and administrative courses and graduated from the Jordan Military Academy in 1977.

In 1988, he became BDF Assistant Chief of Staff (operations), a post he held up to his ministerial appointment as Education Minister in June 1995, which he left in 1999 to take up his new position as Minister of State for Shura Council Affairs.



■ Shaikh Mohammed bin Mubarak



■ Mr Al Sho'ala



■ Mr Al Jowder



■ Mr Abdul Ghaffar