



Nominations open for Isa Award for Services to Humanity

Winner will receive a Royal Certificate of Appreciation, Gold medal and US \$1 million

● **Nominations will be accepted until January 20th**

TDT | Manama

The Isa Award for Services to Humanity has officially opened nominations for its sixth edition (2023/2024).

The Secretariat General of the Award said they welcomes submissions from individuals, organisations, scientific research centres, and pioneers who are funding humanitarian projects

worldwide.

To be eligible, the humanitarian work must positively impact a wide range of people without any discrimination, and it should be non-political and non-profit in nature.

Nominations will be accepted until January 20th.

The winner will be honoured with a Royal Certificate of Appreciation, a pure gold medal, and a grant of US \$1 million during a ceremony in Bahrain in June 2025.

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa established the award in 2009 as a tribute to His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Salman

Al Khalifa, who dedicated his life to serving humanity.

The Board of Trustees, led by His Highness Shaikh Mohammed bin Mubarak Al Khalifa, the Special Representative of HM the King, oversees the Isa Award for Service to Humanity.

Ali Abdullah Khalifa, a member of the Board of Trustees and Secretary-General of the Award, emphasised that the award showcases the uniqueness of the Kingdom through pioneering global initiatives and the recognition and encouragement of humanitarian work.

Isa Award is presented biennially to individuals and pro-

jects in various fields, including disaster response and relief, education, community service, promoting dialogue among civilisations, human tolerance, social peace, urban development, climate change, environmental protection, scientific achievement, poverty alleviation, and any other field of humanitarian service.

A panel of experts from around the world will evaluate and judge the nominees' contributions in their respective fields.



HM King's speech further strengthens Bahrain's ties, says Dr Al Dhaen

TDT | Manama

MP Dr Mariam Al-Dhaen has expressed admiration of the speech delivered by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa during the 18th Consultative Meeting of the Supreme Council of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and GCC-Central Asia Summit (C5).

The speech, she highlighted, reflects His Majesty's dedication to reinforcing bonds between Bahrain, Arab States, and friendly countries.

In his address, HM King had said: "The key to achieving sustainable collective renaissance requires us to take more serious and effective measures to advance comprehensive partner-



ships that strengthen human solidarity in the face of crises, to strengthen areas of security coordination, to protect and secure

freedom of navigation for oil and energy supplies and global trade, and to prohibit weapons of mass destruction."

HM had also underlined the importance of linking the outcomes of our strategic dialogue and political coordination with

international policies and UN commitments in accordance with institutional frameworks and mechanisms to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals

In her remarks, Dr Al-Dhaen said the Royal speech recognised the deep historical ties and cooperation while prioritising development and peace. His Majesty's efforts align with safeguarding spiritual values and cultural gains.

"The King's commitment to promoting peace and tolerance, fostering dialogue among religions and civilizations, and denouncing hate speech while combatting hostile terrorist forces and their financing is instrumental in shaping a re-

gional society based on peaceful coexistence and mutual trust, preserving the sovereignty of states, and ensuring long-term development," Dr Al-Dhaen said.

Furthermore, Dr Al-Dhaen praised the strategic dialogue and political coordination, which has enhanced Bahrain's international standing across various fields.

She also commended the Government of Bahrain's dedication to accelerating the adoption and integration of international goals into development projects and policies, as well as their commitment to achieving zero neutrality and aligning the government's program with sustainable development goals.

”
The Royal speech recognised the deep historical ties and cooperation while prioritising development and peace.

DR MARIAM AL-DHAEN

After Bahrain, Almond ice-cream is now taking Saudis by a storm

● **Normally, prices range from 3 to 4 dinars per kilo, gradually dropping to around two dinars by mid-month**

● **For one kilo, price has peaked to 10 dinars**

TDT | Manama

Almond ice cream, which has been a huge hit among Bahraini this season has started gaining new grounds across the border, with it now becoming a sensation among Saudis, particularly in Qatif.

The delightful treat, reports say, has paved the way for various new almond-based products, including almond juice and "Slash" almond ice cream, creating a surge in demand and prices for almonds.

According to a report by AlAyam, quoting Al-Sharq Al-Awsat, the mastermind behind the almond ice cream storm is Sami Al-Arajneh, an agricultural engineer. He described the current almond season as historic, with a significant surge in demand



Pictures courtesy of AlAyam

from countries like Bahrain, Qatar, and Kuwait.

The surge in demand has propelled almond prices to unprecedented heights, with one kilo now reaching 10 dinars.

Normally, the almond season commences in June, with prices ranging from 3 to 4 dinars per kilo, gradually dropping to around two dinars by mid-month. However, this year's situation has been reversed due

to the overwhelming demand, resulting in soaring prices.

The introduction of new summer products, especially almond ice cream, has further fuelled the high demand for this delightful fruit. Reportedly, Al-Arajneh, along with a dedicated team from Al-Mahrah, worked to create almond ice cream and other exciting products.

Almond ice cream has become a hit, attracting not only the Gulf



population but also the European and East Asian communities.

Beyond its delicious taste, almond ice cream is gaining popularity for its health benefits, being free of preservatives and milk derivatives.

Additionally, the product's versatility allows even those with dental issues, like the elderly or individuals wearing braces, to savour almonds in the form of ice cream or juice, which has

contributed to the to the widespread appreciation of this nutritious and delightful fruit.



Almonds contain lots of healthy fats, fiber, protein, magnesium, and vitamin E. The health benefits of almonds include lower blood sugar levels, reduced blood pressure, and lower cholesterol levels. They can also reduce hunger and promote weight loss.

Almonds need really hot weather and cool winters to grow

Almond growers rent bees for pollination and it significantly increases the cost for them

