Gulf Weekly
The community newspaper at the heart of Bahrain
November 26-December 2, 2026 GDNlife BAHRAIN. OURS. YOURS. www.gulfweekly.com Vol 25 - Issue 48

A LEGACY OF LEARNING



BOOK REPORT

By MELISSA NAZARETH
melissa@gdnmedia.bh

A booklet commemorating the life and work of educational pioneer Saeed Tabbara is set to be released tomorrow on the 10th anniversary of his passing, honouring his many contributions to the kingdom's progress.

The 32-page compilation, in both English and Arabic, will highlight the milestones of his career and his role in developing the skilled workforce that supported the growth of Bahrain's industrial sector, featuring memorable visuals.

The launch follows the educator's 503-page biography entitled *Saeed Saeed Tabbara: The Architect of Technical Education*, which was published in 2018.

"The last book was in Arabic and we wanted to share our father's journey with our non-Arabic speaking friends, which is why we are launching the booklet," Saeed's son Dr Khaled Tabbara told *GulfWeekly*.

"It is a tribute to his memory, which remains deeply cherished by his wife, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Though he is no longer among us, his presence endures in our lives and in the memories of all those fortunate enough to have known him," he added.

Saeed arrived in Bahrain in 1940, at the age of 21, carrying an industrial diploma from the National School of Arts and Crafts in Beirut. He began as a teacher at Manama Technical School, now the popular Crafts Development Centre, which had only 25 students then. By 1946, he was appointed as its principal.

Retired associate professor of immunology and medical education leader Dr Khaled highlighted that his parents influenced him and his sisters immensely, encouraging them to pursue successful careers of their own.

"He was a devoted father and mentor to us, and, together with our mother, Aisha Ibo, he instilled in us the values of education, hard work, commitment and good character," he said.

Ms Ibo continues to inspire her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren at the ripe age of 104.

Recounting his high school years, Dr Khaled said: "We lived all our lives on top of the school and could see his office and a good part of the building from the windows of our house. As a teenager, I visited the workshops and found them interesting."

Over time, Saeed expanded the school's specialisations to include electronics, motor vehicle maintenance, an aluminium foundry and more while modernising workshops and equipping them for practical training. Furthermore, he enhanced the curricula to meet global standards.

Hundreds benefited from his many contributions, which included initiatives to improve students' English language skills, sponsoring outstanding graduates to study in the UK and introducing evening training programmes for workers without formal education.

These programmes coincided with a period of major industrial investment in Bahrain, from the late 1960s to the late 1970s.

Saeed served on the Gulf Technical College executive committee and was later appointed vice president of its successor – the Gulf Polytechnic. When Bahrain University was established in 1986, he was a member of the board for eight years, helping to advance engineering and technical education.

"Not every achievement that shapes a nation's history is measured by concrete or steel alone. Some leave a quieter and more enduring legacy by giving people the knowledge and skills to shape their nation's future," Dr Khaled noted, adding that his father's life and work were dedicated in pursuit of this belief.



FLASHBACK: **Bahrain government advisor Charles Belgrave, centre, and Saeed, right, assessing a student in the mechanical workshop in 1952**



PIONEER: **Saeed**

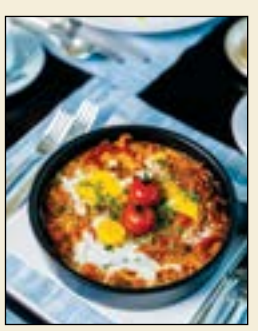


EDUCATOR: **Dr Khaled**

> *"It is a tribute to his memory, which remains deeply cherished by his wife, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Though he is no longer among us, his presence endures in our lives and in the memories of all those fortunate enough to have known him"*



PRECIOUS: **Memory of the family together in 2014 with Saeed, fifth from right, Aisha, sixth from right and Dr Khaled seventh from right**



LEISURE GUIDE INSIDE
SEE PAGES 2-3

Plan a fun weekend with a variety of dining and other offers, from Mexican brunch to Thanksgiving feasts and more, across hotels and clubs in the kingdom.

Leisure Scene



What's on guide

By Julia Cassano

MEXICAN FLAVOURS AT RITZ-CAR

EXCITING flavours, captivating live entertainment and memorable dining moments await at The Ritz-Carlton, Bahrain.

Add a Mexican twist to your weekend with the Brunch Fiesta at Cantina Kahlo. A celebration of bold flavours, delicious food and lively entertainment, this vibrant brunch begins with freshly made guacamole and crispy tortilla chips, followed by an enticing selection of hot and cold appetisers, an array of mixed grills and an irresistible spread of desserts.

Adding to the festive atmosphere, a resident mariachi band fills the afternoon with lively melodies.

Available every Friday and Saturday, from 1pm to 4pm, the brunch is priced at BD35 per person, including soft beverages, or BD45 per person with selected beverages.

Give your Tuesday evening a delicious twist with an indulgent dining experience at Nirvana. Savour an authentic selection of vegetarian and non-vegetarian tandoori platters, packed with rich Indian flavours and served alongside freshly baked Indian breads and a curated selection of house beverages.

Available every Tuesday from 7pm to 10.30pm, the experience is priced at BD15.

Wake up to beautiful resort views and a breakfast worth getting out of bed for at La Med. Set against a stunning panoramic backdrop, the restaurant's curated buffet offers a tempting selection of morning favourites.

Available daily from 6.30am to 11.30am, the offer is priced at BD17net per adult and BD12.500 per child aged six to 12.

As the sun sets, let the smooth sounds of jazz set the mood at La Terrace. Enjoy an intimate evening under the stars, accompanied by live saxophone performances, a vibrant terrace atmosphere and a delicious selection of beverages.

It is held every Friday from 6.30pm to 9pm. Food and beverages are available à la carte.

Catch all the sporting action across multiple screens while tucking into delicious food and soaking up the lively atmosphere at La Plage for Game Nights. Matches are screened according to the sporting schedule.

For more information or



DIG IN: **Delicious breakfast at La Med**



YUMMY: **Mexican tacos at Car**

FESTIVE CLASSICS WITH A TWIST

CELEBRATE Thanksgiving with your loved ones at Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay.

Elevate your gatherings at CUT by Wolfgang Puck where executive chef Brian Becher adds a contemporary twist to beloved festive classics. Savour Deep-Fried Turkey paired with Cranberry Apple Compote and Brioche Stuffing, and refresh between bites with bespoke beverages. Don't forget to leave room for the silky Kabocha Pumpkin Pie and the spectacular pie display. All this unfolds alongside DJ tunes and the stunning night views of Bahrain Bay. The offer runs today, November 26, from 7pm to 12am, and is priced at BD64 per person

Wolfgang Puck's freshly baked pies are available for takeaway at the restaurant throughout November. Choose from four flavours: classics Pumpkin and Pecan, rich Hazelnut Chocolate, or a fruity Blueberry. There are small and large sizes, with a selection of four small ones featuring each of the flavours. Orders must be placed at least six hours in advance.

Make the most of the cooler evenings with a private seaside escape for two. Set against the sea and city skyline, couples can enjoy their own beach cabana with a choice of three bespoke experiences Emerald, Sapphire and Diamond – each offering a different take on fine dining and luxury hospitality.

Packages include a gourmet menu, sparkling beverages, live entertainment and a gift from Byblos.

Available daily from 7pm to midnight, each experience lasts three hours, with the last seating at 10pm. Prices range from BD175 to BD400.

Take your taste buds on a global journey with Bahrain Bay Kitchen's A World of Street Food brunch, featuring an international spread of Greek chicken gyros, tikka, mutton stew, slow-roasted brisket, fish and chips and more.

Available tomorrow, November 27, from 1pm to 4pm, it costs BD35 including soft beverages or BD48 with a selected beverage package.

Those looking to try something new can explore the latest additions to Bay View Lounge's menu, with dishes including Italian burrata, slow-cooked veal, sea bass fillet and nachos.

Available daily from 11am to 11.30pm, dishes are priced à la carte.

Round off the week with the Secret Garden Spa experience. Enjoy a rejuvenating couples' treatment, pool access and more. The Secret Garden Escape for two is priced at BD245 from Sunday to Wednesday and BD255 from Thursday to Saturday, while the garden treatment add-on is available for BD30 per person.

For bookings and more information, contact 17115500.



MOREISH: **Pies at the hotel**



GLOBAL: **Tasty creations at A World of Street Food brunch**

A FEAST FIT FOR

HEAD to InterContinental Bahrain for the Legendz Sit Down Brunch – an indulgent tableside affair at Legendz SteakHouse.

Begin with an exquisite selection of sharing starters, including Cacio e Pepe Croquettes, Short Rib Sliders or Crispy Fried Shrimp. Continue with mains such as Burrata and Pecorino Ravioli, Stuffed Cornish Hen, Roasted Salmon, and signature Filet Mignon Café de Paris.

The offer runs every Friday, from noon to 4pm, and is priced at BD28net with soft drinks and BD38net with endless selected beverages. Children under six dine for free and those from six to 12 years get 50 per cent off.

A Thanksgiving special tomorrow, November 27, will feature a specially plated turkey dish, served as part of the brunch.

Guests can unwind with Prime Time Thursday at the restaurant, from 6pm to 10pm, featuring one hour of free-flowing signature drinks, selected beverages and a platter of light bites. Then, settle in for a perfectly grilled 200-gram filet mignon, accompanied by your choice of signature sauce and side. Priced BD32net per person.

The festive season is round the corner. Celebrate Christmas Eve on December 24, from 7.30pm to 12am, at Legendz SteakHouse with a curated set menu. Enjoy a festive welcome drink and an intimate dining experience.

Continue the festivities with a delightful Christmas



VIBE: **Gatsby-inspired musical evening**



CELEBRAT

brunch on D
featuring liv
Both the d
BD32net w
selected bev
years dine f
Prefer to c
slow-roaste
stuffing, sea
homemade
available fr
2027 and is
four to six p
48 hours in
Selections.
Elsewhere
hosting the
a curated se
food pairing
outstanding
will each w
competition
from 8pm t
For booki

Leisure Scene

Weekly Entertainment

RLTON



tina Kahlo

bookings, contact 17586499 or email rc.bahrz.restaurant.reservations@ritzcarlton.com.

'LEGENDZ'



E: **Enjoy Christmas brunch with Santa**

ecember 25, from noon to 4pm,
e music and a special visit from Santa.
dinner and brunch are priced at
ith soft drinks and BD42net with
verages. Children between six to 12
or BD22net.
elebrate at home? Get the signature
d turkey complete with savoury
sonal accompaniments, rich
sauces, and a festive dessert. Offer is
om today, November 26, to January 3,
priced at BD72net. The feast serves
people. Orders must be placed at least
advance and can be picked up from

at the hotel, Downtown Bar is
Jazz Age, featuring smooth tunes,
lection of beverages with exquisite
gs, and a Gatsby-inspired vibe. One
gentleman and one elegant lady
in a special prize in the Best Dressed
. Offer runs tomorrow, November 27,
o 12am and is priced at BD28.
ngs or more infomation, call 36967701.

TRADITIONAL FAVOURITES

SHERATON Bahrain Hotel is bringing people together over a selection of dining experiences this festive season, from lively Friday brunches and traditional Thanksgiving dishes to a specially prepared feast for those celebrating at home.

WILD will host a special dinner tomorrow, November 27, from 7pm to 10pm. The evening will feature traditional holiday favourites and sharing dishes, offering an opportunity to enjoy the occasion with family and friends. Prices start at BD24.500net per person.

Celebrate at home with Sheraton's Turkey Takeaway Feast, designed for those hosting their own festive gatherings. Available as a whole roasted turkey in two sizes or a deboned turkey log, the package includes all the traditional accompaniments, from sage and onion stuffing to gravy and cranberry sauce, roasted pumpkin soup, seasonal salads, classic side dishes and desserts. Prices start at BD150, with the takeaway available throughout the festive season.

Guests can make the most of their Fridays with the hotel's weekly brunch, combining international favourites at WILD with grilled specialities from Golestan Persian Grill. Live cooking stations add to the experience, while guests can also enjoy access to the outdoor pool, live entertainment and activities for children. Held every Friday from 12.30pm to 4.30pm, packages start at BD35net per person, with children aged six to 12 receiving 50 per cent off.

For more information or reservations,call 17533533 or WhatsApp 38885408.



JUICY: **Festival turkey with scrumptious sides**

LET US SING CAROLS

ENJOY the most wonderful time of the year at Dilmun Club Bahrain, with Christmas carols and dinner with the Manama Singers.

Head to the club today, November 26, for a night filled with festive cheer, a specially crafted scrumptious feast and heart-warming music.

For reservations or more information, call 17690926.



VENUE: **The club in Um Al Hassam**

TREE LIGHTING FUN

THE festive season is just round the corner, and the British Club Bahrain has planned a magical tree lighting ceremony tomorrow, November 27.

It features performances by the Jazz Orchestra of Bahrain and Manama Singers.

Guests can soak up the atmosphere while enjoying seasonal beverages and traditional mince pies as Christmas lights illuminate the club.

Entry is free for members and costs BD2.500 for non-members.

For more information, call 17728245.



FUN: **Enjoy brunch with loved ones**

POOLSIDE BARBECUE WITH A VIEW

JOIN Aqua Vista for a sun-drenched Friday Pool Brunch, featuring panoramic ocean views, DJ sets, and an exquisite feast with an outdoor barbecue station, complete with complimentary pool access.

It is being held tomorrow from 1pm to 4pm and costs BD17 with soft beverages and BD27 with selected beverages.

For more information or reservations, call 17177333.

BRAIN-BUSTERS

Quizmaster and Radio Bahrain host Shannon Crockett, who has been entertaining people across the island with his brain-teasing quiz night sessions, has offered to put *GulfWeekly* readers' general knowledge to the test. Join in the fun every Thursday with Shannon's seven brain-busters.



11) What was the name of the tour and subsequent documentary that Michael Jackson was rehearsing for in 2009 when he died?

2) How many legs does a crab have?

3) Angel Falls is the world's highest waterfall. In which country is it located?

4) What is the name of the famous premium bottled water brand from Norway?

5) Which famous British author wrote the screenplay for the Bond film, *You Only Live Twice*?

6) The current *Guinness Book Of Records* champion for The World's Longest Moustache comes from which country?

7) In a Thanksgiving episode of *Friends*, which unconventional ingredient does Rachel include in her 'traditional English trifle'?

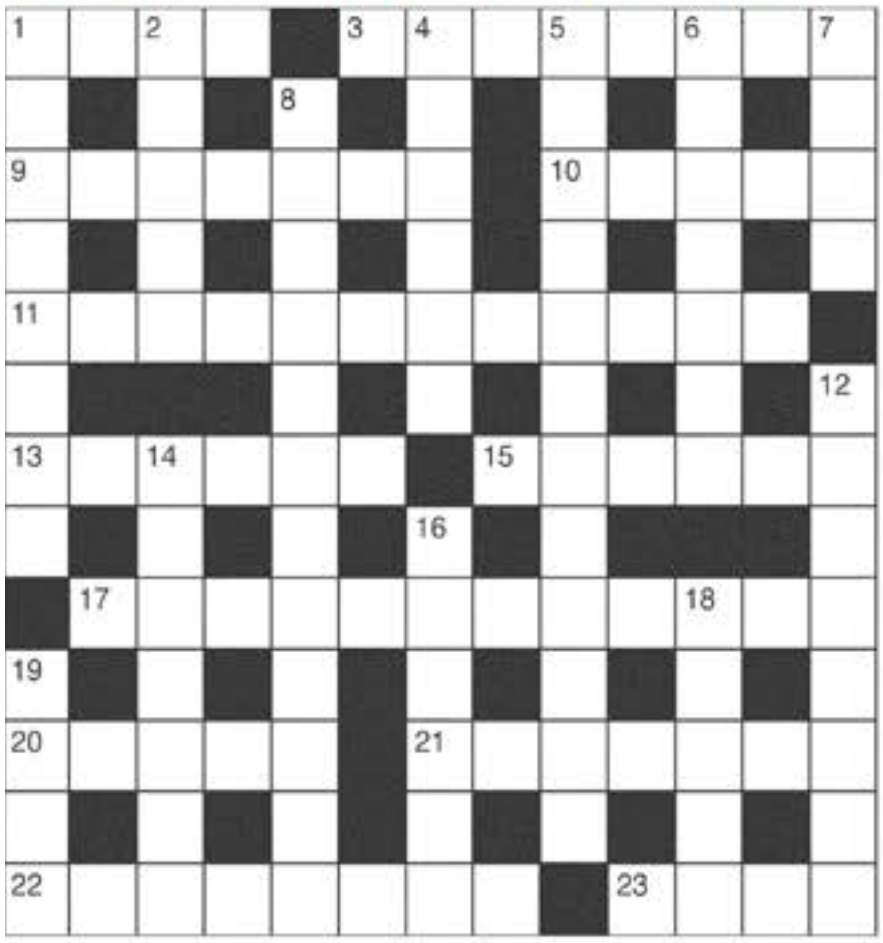
ANSWERS

1) *This is it*
2) 10
3) Venezuela
4) Voss
5) Roald Dahl
6) India
7) Beef

Time Out

Hilal Technology
Maximising Performance and Efficiency
Dell Service Provider
T: +973 36 222 684 | hilal-technology.com

crossword break



Solutions in next week's issue.

ACROSS

1. Attendant (4)
3. Gone (8)
9. Insult (7)
10. Junction (5)
11. Independent (12)
13. Disc (6)
15. Accumulate (6)
17. Refractory (12)
20. Boredom (5)
21. Prolonged shortage (7)
22. Make-believe (8)
23. Dropped (4)

DOWN

1. Dais (8)
2. Blunder (5)
4. Ensnare (6)
5. Judgement (12)
6. Slumber (7)
7. Obligation (4)
8. Tory (12)
12. 'On the wagon' (8)
14. Purify (7)
16. Sour (6)
18. Quarrel (5)
19. Cry (4)

who, what, where, when

WHO ... scored a maiden century for India in the 1st Test against England in March, 2007?

WHAT ... does PVFS stand for?

WHERE ... was the writer J.R.R. Tolkien born?

WHEN ... did Europol, the EU criminal intelligence agency, become fully operational?

WHO ... wrote the song *Piggies* on the album *The Beatles*?

WHAT ... Premier League football team did Craig Short play for from 1995-99?

WHERE ... in the Mediterranean would you find a flag featuring a Trinacria?

WHEN ... was the author Paul Auster born?

just so


m r o w
shook shook shook shook shook
CHARDONNAY ♀♀♀ & ♬
knickerknickerknickerkn