

JULY 2023

Newsletter

Edition 7

 **AlBanyan**
Voice of THMC



THATAI
HINDU
MERCHANTS
COMMUNITY

THMC

جمعية
تجار
ثاڤي
هندو

Driving Your Entrepreneurial Legacy

MLSD REG. No. 6/C/AC/2018

HAPPY
Islamic
New Year

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Thmcbahrain



Thattai Bhatia Group



@thmcbahrain2018



July 2023

Foreword for Al Banyan Newsletter

Safa Sharif Khaliq,
CEO Export Bahrain



Dear esteemed members of Thattai Hindu Merchants Community:

It is with great pleasure that I pen this foreword for the latest edition of the India Traders Association newsletter to shed light on the remarkable trade relations between the Kingdom of Bahrain and India and the immense potential that lies within this partnership. The trade ties between Bahrain and India are rooted in a long history of cultural, historical, and economic exchanges. Both nations have nurtured a strong bond, not only through diplomatic relations but also through the ever-growing bilateral trade that spans various sectors and industries.

Over the years, Bahrain has emerged as a vital trade partner for India in the Middle East. The Kingdom's strategic location at the heart of the Gulf region, combined with its robust infrastructure, pro-business policies, and ease of doing business, have positioned it as an attractive destination for Indian businesses looking to expand their global footprint. India, on the other hand, is renowned for its diverse economy, skilled workforce, and thriving entrepreneurial spirit. The country's burgeoning consumer market, coupled with its expertise in sectors such as IT, pharmaceuticals, textiles, and engineering, has made it an attractive partner for Bahraini enterprises seeking new avenues for growth.

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Foreword for Al Banyan Newsletter

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The trade relationship between Bahrain and India has witnessed significant growth in recent years. Bilateral trade volume has expanded, and both countries continue to explore new areas of collaboration. Investments and joint ventures between Bahraini and Indian companies have flourished, creating a win-win situation that contributes to economic growth, job creation, and technology transfer.

Furthermore, it is worth highlighting the efforts made by both nations to foster an environment conducive to trade and investment. Initiatives such as the India-Bahrain Business Forum and the Bahrain Economic Vision 2030 provide a framework for enhanced cooperation and create opportunities for further engagement. These platforms facilitate regular dialogue, exchange of ideas, and the development of strong partnerships that drive economic growth for both countries. Let us continue to explore avenues for collaboration, exchange knowledge, and strengthen the ties that bind our nations together. Together, we can unlock the untapped potential and build a future of prosperity and shared success.

Thank you for your unwavering support and engagement with the India Traders Association. I wish you an insightful and rewarding reading experience.

Safa Sharif Khaliq





THATTAI HINDU MERCHANTS COMMUNITY



Message from the Past President - THMC



Dear THMC members,

As I wrap up my THMC Presidency, I can't help but feel a sense of nostalgia and gratitude for the amazing experience that I have had over the last five years. Throughout my tenure, I have had the privilege of working with some of the most talented and dedicated entrepreneurs and nothing could have been achieved without their contribution. I am proud of the work that the Board has accomplished.

Since 2019 when I became the President, the Board has worked tirelessly to make THMC an organization with a clear focus on two key objectives:

First, to uphold and continue the long and rich legacy of our Bhatia businesses; and Second, to provide value to our members and their organizations.

Some of the Board's notable achievements include:

- 1) Successfully registering the THMC with the MOSD.
- 2) Creating a unique THMC brand identity.
- 3) Created the bye-laws.
- 4) Regularising our property documents so that the 2,000 square feet of land, which was not incorporated within the original documentation was subsequently included.
- 5) Raising the profile of Bhatia businesses on every platform.
- 6) Signing MOUs with various other like-minded associations.
- 7) Initiating the Thattai Bhatia history book project, which is expected to be completed by end of this year.
- 8) Welcoming the Honourable PM of India, Shri Narendra Modi to the THMC Complex.
- 9) Creating a THMC membership program, through which members benefitted from several discounts and offers.
- 10) Conducted several learning events on subjects like VAT & Tamkeen subsidies.





THATTAI HINDU MERCHANTS COMMUNITY



- 11) Held the inaugural THMC networking event platform for members which was attended by the Indian Ambassador and several leading businessmen.
- 12) Resolve various issues our community members were facing with regular follow-up & initiatives with local authorities.
- 13) Lastly, and undoubtedly the highlight has been when 76 of our community members obtained Bahraini passports. The THMC was instrumental in facilitating the paperwork for our members and once the passports were issued, we liaised with various government agencies and the Indian Embassy to ensure the appropriate paperwork was completed in an efficient manner. We also assisted members with issues regarding their children's passport.

We are grateful to His Majesty King Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa & HRH Sh. Salman Bin Hamad Al Khalifa CP Prime Minister for this privilege.

I will leave with a sense of accomplishment but much is left to be accomplished especially the THMC Redevelopment Project. Going forward I hope that our community will agree with legacy and continue with the good works.

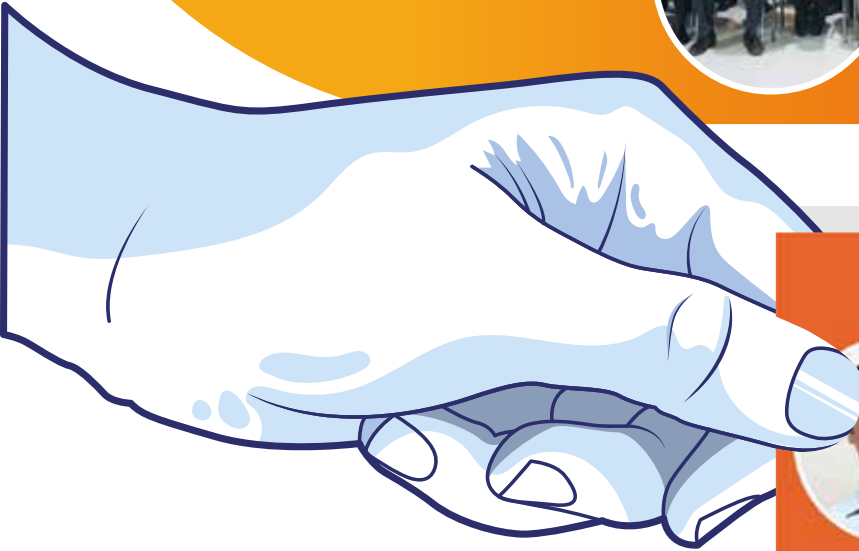
On a personal note, as the THMC President, I am grateful for the opportunities, challenges, and lessons that I have encountered along the way. I would like to thank my wife Sunita, my family, Mr. Navin Megchiani & Mr. Lala Gajria for all their support. My gratitude to all the Board members and THMC members for their cooperation and encouragement extended during my tenure.

I wish the incoming President and his team all the success and assure the Board of my unstinting support.

Finally, I leave you with one thought: in ancient Greece when someone leaves they only asked one question "Did he have passion?" and I am convinced the answer for my Board is a resounding YES.



THMC Benefit Program 2023



The purpose of bringing out a membership card is to create a sense of belonging and exclusivity among members. By having a physical card, members can identify themselves as part of a select group with access to unique benefits and opportunities. This can create a sense of pride and loyalty, which can lead to increased engagement and participation in the organization's activities.

Membership cards can provide a range of benefits to members. For example, they may offer discounts or special offers on products or services, access to exclusive events or activities, or the ability to earn rewards points or loyalty rewards. Some organizations also offer personalized services or support to members, such as dedicated customer service representatives or personalized recommendations based on their preferences and interests.

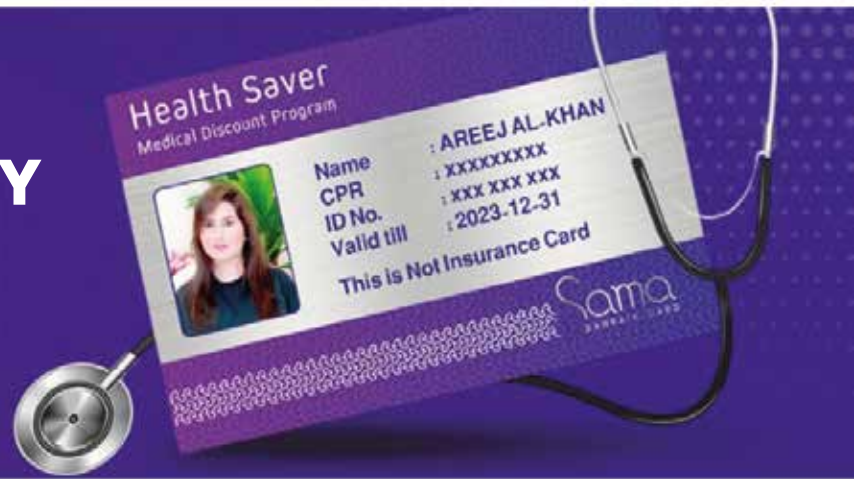
As of -31st DEC 2022- there were 52 member companies and 109 individual members. Two new companies joined the membership while two companies were removed from membership as they had been closed.

As of 30th April 2023, membership stood at 109 members representing 42 Companies.

Any Bhatia businessmen holding a valid Baharini CR can join the THMC and enjoy the following benefits.



WE MAKE QUALITY HEALTH CARE



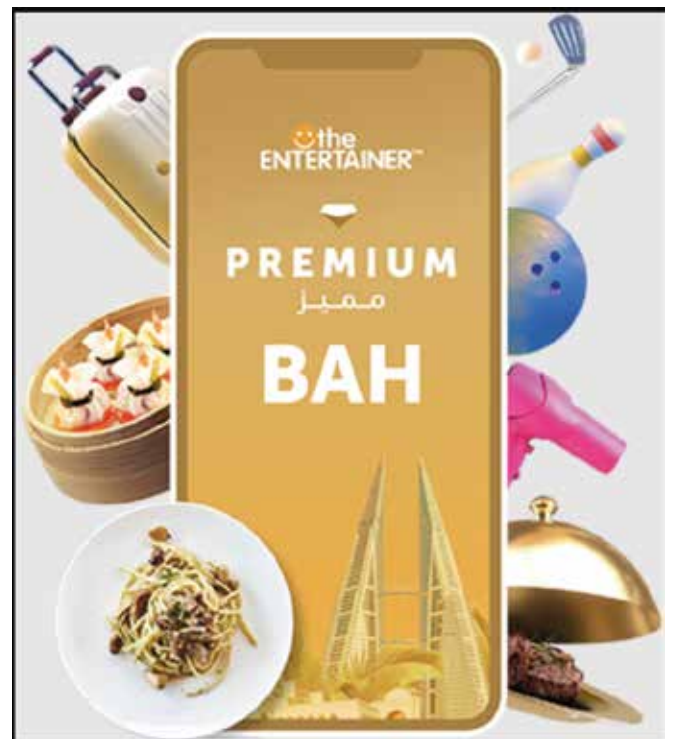
Providing distinguished health care at the best prices within the reach of the largest sector of health service seekers through partnership with a group of the best service providers from medical authorities and bodies in order to achieve the maximum health, service and material return for those wishing to health service and medical care.

170 OUTLETS

Standard retail price: BD 30/- per year

Complementary to THMC members

ENTERTAINER APP



464 brands offering minimum 3 vouchers each with over 2,500 BD savings.

Premium Bahrain Subscription: BD 27/- per year Complementary to THMC members



Premium Bahrain Subscription: BD 27/- per year Complementary to THMC members

THMC Benefit Program 2023



HEALTH CARE



★ ROYAL BAHRAIN HOSPITAL

Following discounts (%) will be applicable at Royal Bahrain Hospital (RBH), Salmaniya &/or Royal Bahrain Hospital Medical Center (RBHMC), Janabiya on the published tariff list of the hospital on cash basis.

Registration 100%	Consultation 10%	Laboratory 15%	Ultrasound 10%
X-ray 10%	MRI 15%	CT Scan 15%	
Maternity IP Packages 5%	Other IP Packages 5%	Room Charges 10%	
Maternity Royal Suite 10%	Dental Consultation 7%	Dental Procedures 7%	Physiotherapy 10%

The above discounts are applicable only where the mode of payment is Cash
Please note the following:

- The service may be availed at either the Royal Bahrain Hospital (RBH), Salmaniya and/or Royal Bahrain Hospital Medical Center (RBHMC), Janabiya

★ AMERICAN MISSION HOSPITAL

S.No	Particulars	Discount
1	Professional/Consultation Fees	15%
2	Laboratory services (excluding already discounted Profiles)	15%
3	Radiology Services	15%
4	Procedures Fee in OPD	15%
5	Medicines/Material/Consumables	7%
6	Inpatient Admission (Package Bills)	5%
7	Inpatient Admissions (Non Package/Running Bills) for Services	15%

Terms and Conditions:

- Members can present their Digital/Physical ID cards to avail the preferred pricing.
- These prices are applicable in case of cash payment only. No discounts are available on the deductible/coinsurance portion if the members hold any insurance policy.
- The insurance members can avail discount only on the uncovered/rejected services only.
- No discounts are available on the on-going promotions from the hospital.

★ KIMS HEALTH HOSPITAL CENTRE,



CASH PATIENT PRIVILEGES

FOR MEMBERS OF THMC

Outpatient Consultation 480 Specialist, 380 GP		Radiology - 20% Off	
Laboratory - 20% Off		IP Packages -10% Off	
Physiotherapy and Home Care - 20% Off		Rooms Rent - 20%	
		Dental -20% Off	
		Outpatient and inpatient	

★ DR ALI MATTAR - DENTAL CLINIC

Package A

Consultation - Bd.25/- 2 Bitewings - Bd.10/- S/P - Bd.10/- Total - Bd.80/-
For THMC Members - Bd.60/-

Package B

Consultation - Bd.25/- , 2 Bitewings - Bd.10/- , S/P - Bd.45/-, 2 Fillings - Bd.100/-
Total - Bd.180/- *For Members - Bd.150/-

* All Other Dental Procedures Will Be Given a Discount Of 15% Off. My Regular Fees. Free Consultation for Invisalign And 20% Off for Orthodontic Procedures. 20% For Root Canal Treatment.

HEALTH CARE



	Brand	Discount
FRAMES & SUNGLASSES	Burberry, Calvin Klein, Carrera, Centro Style, Emporio Armani, Guess, Hugo Boss, Lacoste, Oakley, Polaroid, Ralph, Ray-ban, Sketchers	20%
	Bottega Veneta, Bvlgari, Chanel, Dior, Dolce & Gabbana, Fendi, Gucci, Kenzo, Lindberg, Mont Blanc, Prada, Porsche Design, Rudy Project, Tiffany & co, Versace, YSL	15%
Contact Lenses	Bausch & Lomb, Safilens Bella, Freshlook	20%
Prescription Lenses	Carl Zeiss, Essilor, Egma	20%

* This discount is valid only to THMC members displaying their ID on the app for discount.
Terms & conditions as applicable

★ UFC GYM

The following table outlines Corporate Membership Rates with a 35% discount on 12, 6 & 3 months of membership Inclusive of 10% vat for the Thattai Hindu Merchants Community

MEMBERSHIP TYPE	REGULAR JOINING FEE	JOINING FEE	REGULAR MEMBERSHIP COST	HINDU COMMUNITY MEMBERSHIP COST
12 MONTHS (WORLDWIDE ACCESS)	30.00 BHD	0 BHD	440.00 BHD	284 BHD
12 MONTHS (BAHRAIN)	30.00 BHD	0 BHD	360.00 BHD	234.57 BHD
6 MONTHS (BAHRAIN)	30.00 BHD	0 BHD	342 BHD	223.3 BHD
3 MONTHS (BAHRAIN)	30.00 BHD	0 BHD	148.3 BHD	96.325 BHD

THMC Benefit Program 2023



VENDORS- RESTAURANT



★ OLIVE HOTEL (GAMA HOTEL OUTLET)

LJ's : 15 percent discount on food & beverage
 Pler 14 : 15% percent discount of food and beverage
 Rooms : a 15% discount on the days booking.com rates
 Banqueting : We would offer a 10% discount on food.

★ A La Mode Store (Al Sharif Group)

A discount of 25% on Total Bill

★ Manos Chocolates and Flowers

BD20/- per kilo for Mix Belgium Chocolates.
 10% discount on flower arrangements over BD40.000

Individual rates given for flowers or chocolates or both together
 -5% discount on orders of BD. 15/- to BD.24/-
 - 10% discount on orders of BD 25/- and over

VENDORS- RESTAURANT



COPPER LEAF RESTAURANT	Discount On 15% Total Bill
CENTRAL CAFÉ	Discount 10% On Total Bill
ANGELINA	Discount On 10% dine-in customers.
SPUN CANDY	Discount On 10% dine-in customers.
ASDAL GULF INN – SEEF	20% Discount for Food and Beverages (excluding Alcohol) and 15% discount for laundry.
ISKENDERUN GRILLS RESTAURANT	10% discount on any food services provided by Iskenderun Grills.
ILLY CAFÉ - City Centre	Discount of 10% of Total bill.
BATEEL	Discount of 10% of Total bill.
COPPER CHINMEY	Discount on 15% on Food and Beverage Bills (Strictly Dine In)
UNICORN NORMS RESTAURANT	Discount on 15% on dine in restaurant
INDIAN ZAFFRAN RESTAURANT	Discount on 20% on dine in restaurant.

VENDORS- RESTAURANT



★ EM SHERIF SEA CAFE

Discount on 10% on dine in restaurant.

★ MAYA AL CHOCOLATARIE AND MAYA DELICES

Discount 10% on all purchases

★ LANTERNS RESTAURANT CO. W.L.L.

Member Benefits of the Curry Club card include:

- 25% Off Food on every visit at Lanterns & Lnt Rooftop
- 20% off on beverages at all times at Lanterns & Lnt Rooftop
- 25% on takeaway orders when ordering a takeaway from the menu
- Special Discounted Rates for Outdoor Catering
- 15% discount on the menu when visiting Wok Tok (Amwaj Cineplex) & Curry N Noodles (Juffair Mall)
- Celebrate your birthday or anniversary with us with a complimentary cake on the house

★ KAILASH PARBAT BAHRAIN

20% discount on Total Bill for THMC Members. * Terms & Conditions

★ ASHA SWEETS & NAMKEEN W.L.L

Discount 10% for all THMC Card holders.

★ CAKE BOUTIQUE (MESK HOLDING)

Discount of 10% of Total bill.

★ RAMEE GRAND HOTEL & SPA

20% discount to all the members of THMC

★ BMMI

Discount : BEERS 5%, SPIRITS 10%, WINES 15%. (*products which are on offer or already discounted will not be applicable.

VENDORS- RESTAURANT



★ SUFTEL BAHRAIN ZALLAQ THALASSA SEA & SPA

- 10% discount on Day pass during weekday & weekend.
- 15% discount on La Plage membership, one year package only.
- 20% Discount for the partner and 4 accompanied guests on weekdays (Sun – Wed) only for any Spa treatment for a minimum of 60 and 90 minute treatments.
- 20% Discount on Le Salon a la carte services during weekdays (Sun – Wed) and 15% Discount on weekends.
- 20% Discount for the partner and 5 accompanied guests on Saturday Brunch at Rivaj Restaurant
- 20% Discount for the partner and 5 accompanied guests on Friday Brunch at Saraya Restaurant
- 25% Discount for the partner and 5 accompanied guests on the following Food & Beverage outlets on weekdays and weekends:

* Terms & Conditions

★ GATSBY (Beauty Lounge)

We, offer THMC members 10% discount on every 25 BD or above spent on services at the salon. The discount is not applicable to products and hair extensions

★ MUKTA CINEMA

Discount of 20% for tickets and Food and Beverages

THMC Benefit Program 2023



VENDORS- RESTAURANT



PRIMROSE HOSPITALITY GROUP

★ **Diva Hotel** is a modern 4 star deluxe hotel designed and equipped to highest standards. Be it short term travel, business or pleasure, it is the perfect choice with spacious, well-appointed rooms, eclectic dining and vibrant party venues. We have 167 rooms and 4 outlets, we would be delighted to partner with you for are hotel.

Our outlets and restaurant: La Café, Davy Crocketts, Sky Club and Route24.

★ **Arman Hotel** is conveniently attached to a shopping mall in Juffair, offers one of most spacious and well-designed accommodation in the heart of the city.

The hotel has 150 modern guest rooms with bathtubs and Suites with Jacuzzi are designed for the contemporary business traveller and leisure guest offering complimentary amenities with city skyline view.

Our outlets and restaurant: Go Go Tiger, 777 Club Lounge, Sky7, Dolce Vita, Mijana, Cigar Lounge, Empire café and The Dutch.

★ **Delmon International Hotel** has a great, central location on Government Avenue in the heart of Manama's business area. The Hotel has been offering its fine services for nearly 3 decades.

The hotel has good facilities including an outdoor swimming pool, a gym and free parking on site. There is a nightclub offering live music and entertainment.

VENDORS- RESTAURANT



Our outlets and restaurant: Cafe Sayah, Alomar, Diggers, The Dutch, Alhamra and Eldar.

Our hotels are well known in the hotel industry for its robust relationship with OTA, corporate & travel agencies. We are 4 star hotel and we have carved a unique niche with elegant exceptional services embodying luxury and comfort for all our guests and visitors. Combined with facilities for conferences and banqueting, its a perfect choice for both business and leisure.

★ **Mawasim** 20% discount on Total bill for THMC Members. This is valid for all days of the week (except public holidays) on a la carte menu only. Special discount cannot be availed on the promotional or special menus

★ WokStation

20% discount on Total bill for THMC Members. This is valid for all days of the week (except public holidays) on a la carte menu only. Special discount cannot be availed on the promotional or special menus

★ Kasbah

20% discount on Total bill for THMC Members. This is valid for all days of the week (except public holidays) on a la carte menu only. Special discount cannot be availed on the promotional or special menus.

Terms and Conditions

This offer shall be provided to only THMC members upon flashing their THMC Membership ID cards at the respective restaurants.

VENDORS- RESTAURANT



★ DOME CAFÉ – BAHRAIN

A special corporate discount of 10% on all food and beverages to the members at the below mentioned Dome Café outlets within the Kingdom of Bahrain

Outlets: Dome Café Juffair | Riffa | Seef – Almoayyed Towers

Terms and Condition

- THMC members shall be required to produce their digital ID to avail this offer.
 - This offer is applied on DINE -IN and TAKE AWAY orders only
 - This offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other promotional offer
- choice for both business and leisure.

TRAVEL AND TOURS

★ GLOBAL TRAVEL AND TOURS

Charging 3% discount, Launching Loyalty Program.

★ MANAMA TOURS

Tour Packages 2 Persons Minimum 20BD Voucher for next Tour bookings.

GROUP INSURANCE CONSULTANCY OFFERS



★ GIG BAHRAIN - Partnering with THMC As Official Insurer

★ NEXUS FINANCIAL SERVICES W.L.L.

Life and savings business (includes systematic savings plans and protection policies)

Policy charges to be discounted by the equivalent of one free monthly premium on new business

Personal lines insurance, corporate insurance and employee benefits (incorporates all personal and corporate general insurance business including car, contents, marine, corporate liability, general cover, medical insurance etc.)

Medical fees to be discounted by 20% across all lines

Special premium incentives for business

Followed by standard or better on recovery rate book

Previous Year End USD	(New Bahrain)
201-500K	1.00%
500-1.00M	1.50%
1M+	2.00%

THMC Benefit Program 2023



AUDIT CONSULTANCY



★ ASSURE CONSULTANCY W.L.L

Discounted Rates on Auditing, Accounting and Company Formation Services

★ BNV CONSULTANCY COMPANY W.L.L.

Providing services for Accounting, Audit and Assurance, Business consultancy, HR Support, VAT Consultancy, Tamkeen Jobs assistance, Company formation and for any matters related to the Commercial Registration for SMEs and commercial enterprises.

EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING

★ APTECH INSTITUTE W.L.L.

THMC Member Company Staff Will Get 10% Wavier on Any Scheduled Training Courses of Aptech And 15% Course Fee Discount for Corporate Group Training For Each THMC Member Company With Min 8 People

LEGAL SERVICES



★ ADEL BUÁALI – LAWYER -

Contact person – Mr. Mohammed Al Hayaki (33357999)

<50 Employees - Bd 50/- Per Month Retainer.

>50 Employees - Bd 100/- Per Month Retainer.

All Charges 50% (Not Court Fees)

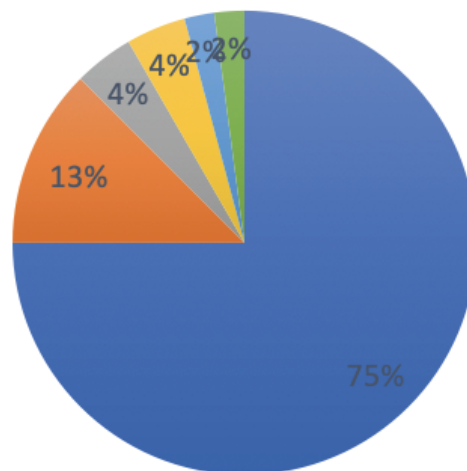
Debt Collection - 6% On Recovery of Debt.

COMMUNICATION

★ STC – Contact person – Mr. Shrelesh Pawar – (33011606)

STC OFFERS TO INCLUDE	THMC
Connections against Individual CPR.	No liability for THMC.
Customized offers to cater individual needs.	Value add proposition for your members
Prepaid & Postpaid Offers	
Mobile number portability	MEMBERS
(Batelco/Zain stc)	Latest 5G devices for better connectivity.
Attractive installments on iPhone & Samsung 5G devices	Retain same number.
Exclusive stock support for iPhone & Samsung devices	

THMC BENEFITS



■ RESTAURANT AND HOTELS ■ HEALTH CARE

■ GROUP INSURANCE

■ AUDIT CONSULTANCY

■ LEGAL SERVICE

■ EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTE



THATTAI HINDU MERCHANTS COMMUNITY



THMC EVENTS

THMC Board Members mourns the sad loss of Dr. Shaikh Khalid Bin Khalifa Al Khalifa.

January 2023



The Board and members of Thattai Hindu Merchants Community deeply mourn the sad loss of Dr. Shaikh Khalid Bin Khalifa Al Khalifa Chairman of the Board of Trustees of King Hamad Global Center for Peaceful Coexistence, Deputy Chairman of Board of Trustees, Executive Director of Sh. Isa Cultural Center. May the Almighty give the family strength to bear this loss.

A member of the kingdom's ruling family, Al Khalifa was one of the first Bahrainis to visit Israel after the signing of the Abraham Accords in September 2020, and called for peace and coexistence among all religions, sects and peoples. The doctor was seen as one of the most prominent supporters of launching the King Hamad Center for Peaceful Coexistence, and played a major role in Bahrain's steps towards peaceful coexistence. He was also among the officials who planned Pope Francis's landmark first visit to Bahrain in November 2022.



THATTAI HINDU MERCHANTS COMMUNITY



THMC EVENTS

THMC Board Members visits the UK Embassy

September 2022

THMC Board Members visited the UK Embassy to pay their last respect on the demise Late Queen Elizabeth II, the UK's longest-serving monarch.



Ms. Theresa May visit to THMC Complex

November 2022

Member of Parliament & Former Prime Minister of UK Most Honorable Ms. Theresa May visited THMC Complex on 15th November 2022

THMC Board Members briefed her on the rich culture & legacy of the complex & the Redevelopment Plans. The Board members highlighted the culture of tolerance & religious diversity and thanked His Majesty King Hamad Bin Isa Alkhalifa & HRH CP & PM Shaikh Salman Bin Hamad AlKhalifa for pursuing religious tolerance and coexistence in the Kingdom. Most Honorable Ms. Theresa May praised the work of the Bhatia community & appreciated their contribution to Bahrain society.





THATTAI HINDU MERCHANTS COMMUNITY



THMC EVENTS

THMC Board members meet the Turkish Ambassador

February 2023

THMC President Bob Thaker Vice President Mukesh Kavilani & Joint. Treasurer Yogesh Bhatia met the Turkish Ambassador Her Excellency Ms Esin ÇAKIL and expressed their sorrow and condolences on the death of Turkish citizens.

The THMC board and members reiterate their full support to the Turkish Government and people and stand by them in their time of grief.



THMC Board Members - with the Turkish Ambassador H.E Esin ÇAKIL

THMC Board members meet the Tamkeen CEO

March 2023

THMC President Mr. Bob Thaker, Vice President Mr. Mukesh Kavalani and Board member Mr. Kumar L Gandhi met the Tamkeen CEO Her Excellency Ms. Maha Abdulhameed Mufeez at the Tamkeen Office.

They discussed areas of cooperation and both agreed to work closely to enhance skill sets of Bahraini workforce to achieve HRH's vision for 2030.



THMC Board members - meeting with Tamkeen CEO



THATTAI HINDU MERCHANTS COMMUNITY



THMC EVENTS

THMC MOIC India Event

March 2023

On the side lines of the official visit to India, THMC hosted a lunch in honour of H.E Mr. Adel Abdulla Fakhro Minister Of Industry & Commerce, Mr. Mohamed Al- Kooheji, 2nd Vice Chairman of Bahrain Chamber and H.E Mr. Khaled Al- Rumaihi Chief Executive of Economic Development Board and H.E Iain Lindsey. BCCI Board Members, officials of MOIC, EDB, Bahrain chamber & delegates attended the lunch.



President of THMC Mr. Bob Thaker & Vice President Mr. Mukesh Kavalani thanked the Excellencies for attending the lunch and highlighted the role of Bhatia entrepreneurs in the economic development of Bahrain. He reiterated the commitment of Bhatia community to His Majesty's the King & HRH CP & PM's Vision 2030

Bahrain- India business forum

March 2023

During the Bahrain- India business forum in Mumbai THMC President Mr. Bob Thaker presented on behalf of the Bahrain Chamber on the history of Chamber and its activities. Mr Thaker highlighted the several achievements of BCCI and it's proactive role in Bahrain's economy.



THMC EVENTS

THMC visit the Malaysian Ambassador

May 2023

The Malaysian Embassy had invited the THMC Board Members on the 15th of May 2023, to meet the Malaysian Ambassador His Excellency Ambassador Shazryll Zahiran and discussed various opportunities to further enhance business relations between THMC members and Malaysian companies. Moreover, they shared the history of Bhatia community in Bahrain and details of the THMC redevelopment project



THMC visit the German Ambassador

May 2023

The German Embassy had invited the THMC Board Members on the 16th of May 2023, to meet the German Ambassador His Excellency Ambassador Mr. Clemens Hach and discussed various opportunities to further enhance business relations between THMC members and German companies. Moreover, they shared the history of Bhatia community in Bahrain and details of the THMC redevelopment project.



THMC AGM meeting

May 2023

THMC successfully conducted its Annual General Meeting for 2022 on Friday the 5th of May 2023 at the THMC Hall. More than 60 members and families attended the meeting



THMC EVENTS

THMC visit the UAE Ambassador June 2023

The UAE Embassy invited the THMC Board Members on the 11th of June 2023, to meet the UAE Deputy Ambassador Mr. Mansour AlJuwaied and discussed various opportunities to further enhance business relations between THMC members and UAE companies.

THMC President Mukesh Kavalani shared the history of Bhatia community in Bahrain and details about the upcoming THMC redevelopment project.



THMC visit the Philippines Ambassador June 2023

The Philippines Embassy invited the THMC Board Members on the 13th of June 2023, to meet the Philippines Ambassador Her Excellency Mrs. Anne Jalandó-On Louis and discussed various opportunities to further enhance business relations between THMC members and Philippine companies.

THMC President Mukesh Kavalani shared the history of Bhatia community in Bahrain and details about the upcoming THMC redevelopment project.



THMC visit the Thai Ambassador June 2023

The Royal Thai Embassy invited the THMC Board Members on the 19th of June 2023, to meet the Thailand Ambassador His Excellency Mr. Piyapak Sricharoen and discussed various opportunities to further enhance business relations between THMC members and Thailand companies.





THMC EVENTS

THMC visit the Governor of Northern Province.

June 2023



The Governor of the North receives the delegation from Thattai Hindu Merchants Community in Bahrain on 18th June 2023.

His Excellency Ali bin Sheikh Abdul Hussain Asfoor Governor of Northern Province, Mr. Mukesh Kavalani Executive Chairman of Thattai Hindu Merchants Community of Bahrain and the accompanying delegation were present.

At the outset of the meeting, the Governor of the North welcomed the Executive Chairman of the Thattai Hindu Merchants Community and his accompanying delegation, including the level of bilateral relations and cooperation between The Kingdom of Bahrain and The Republic of India in various spheres, noting the role of The Association in supporting the economy and promoting trade cooperation between the two friendly countries.

On his part, Mr Mukesh Kavalani expressed his thanks and appreciation to the Northern Governor, assuring his eagerness to co-operate with the Governor in the events and programmes organised by him.



THMC EVENTS

THMC farewell dinner for the Indian Ambassador .

June 2023



THMC Board Members hosted a farewell dinner for the Indian Ambassador H.E Mr. Piyush Srivastav & Mrs. Monica Srivastava on 23rd June 2023. He was presented a traditional Bahraini memento the Board wished them good luck for the future.

THMC visit the Turkish Ambassador

June 2023



THMC President Mr. Mukesh T Kavalani, Past President Mr. B.C Thaker, Treasurer Mr. Kumar L Gandhi, and the Board Members Mrs. Bharti L Gajria and Mr. Jayant Lalchand met the Turkish Ambassador Her Excellency Ms. Esen Çakıl, on the 21st of June 2023 and discussed various opportunities to further enhance business relations between THMC members and Turkey companies. President Mukesh Kavalani shared the history of the Bhatia community in Bahrain and details about the upcoming THMC redevelopment project.



THATTAI HINDU MERCHANTS COMMUNITY



TURKISH CITY NAMES ROAD “KING OF BAHRAIN AVENUE”



The Turkish city of Elbistan in Kahramanmaraş province has launched an avenue under the name “King of Bahrain Avenue”.

On the occasion, HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, extended his deepest congratulations to His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa on the well-deserved appreciation by Turkey, as a tribute to the royal efforts and directives to deliver relief aid to those affected by the devastating earthquake that had struck the country, based on the distinguished fraternal Bahraini-Turkish relations.



THATTAI HINDU MERCHANTS COMMUNITY



HM King Hamad attends King Charles III Coronation

04th May 2023

His Majesty King Hamad, accompanied by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Prime Minister, attended the Coronation of King Charles III of the United Kingdom, held in London.

HM King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa receives his Personal Representative

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa received at Safriya Palace today his Personal Representative, President of the Supreme Council for Environment (SCE), His Highness Shaikh Abdullah bin Hamad Al Khalifa.

HM the King commended the role & programmes of SCE to protect the environment and wildlife in the Kingdom of Bahrain. H.H. Shaikh Abdullah bin Hamad Al Khalifa presented a briefing to HM the King on the kingdom's plan to handle the rise in sea level in the region and expressed utmost thanks and appreciation to HM the King for his directives and support to the efforts of SCE to achieve the desired goals.



HM the King for his directives and support to the efforts of SCE to achieve the desired goals.



Bahrain launches e-Passport



Bahrain's Nationality, Passports and Residence Affairs (NPRA) yesterday announced a major overhaul of its passport system, with the introduction of e-passports featuring advanced security measures. (Full story on page 3). In picture above are ministers during the launch of the new ePassport

E-passport is an achievement that could improve the classification of the passport of the Kingdom of Bahrain globally due to its high quality, characteristics and security specifications, which adhere to accuracy and all international standards, in addition to helping to obtain visas and get visa exemption from various countries of the world.

Public Security chief attends workshop on digital currencies

A forum themed "Digital currencies between the current situation and future challenges", has opened today at the headquarters of The Royal Academy of Police", in the presence of 84 officers from various directorates of the Ministry of Interior.

Public Security Chief Lieutenant General Tariq bin Hassan Al Hassan attended the symposium along with the Bahrain Institute Banking and Finance (BIBF) director-general Ahmed Abdul Hameed Al Shaikh and other officials. Lt. Gen. Al Hasan stressed the Interior Ministry's on developing the human resources and expanding the use of modern technology to upgrade cadres, reach professionalism and provide the best level of security services. He commended the level of cooperation and coordination between the Ministry of Interior and the Bahrain Institute for Banking and Financial Studies in holding such orum on cryptocurrency, stressing the institute's commitment to promoting national staff in the field of digital currencies.

Bahrain's coexistence model commended by IPU participants

12th March 2023



The Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) 146th Assembly on its second day featured a General Debate on “Promoting peaceful coexistence and inclusive societies: Fighting intolerance,” that hosted high-level Speakers from various countries. The debate was moderated by the 146th IPU Assembly President Speaker Ahmed bin Salman Al Musallam.

The Speaker highlighted the importance of international cooperation in order to bring positive change. He stressed the significance of working on solutions for the economic and social damage caused by the pandemic, climate change and immigration. Al Musallam also stressed the need to enhance positive engagement on topics such as women and youth empowerment, gender equality, and sustainable development.

“Bahrain has become a pioneering model for coexistence among different religions and cultures, thanks to the visions of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa that resulted in gaining international confidence to host such events,” the AP Speaker said.

Al Asoomi expressed his pride in the Kingdom’s achievements and stressed the parliament’s keenness to invigorate its capability to support Arab issues in international forums. The model of values and tolerance championed by Bahrain was praised by many participants.

The Assembly aims to work intensively to build peaceful, inclusive and stable societies, in which there is no place for terrorism, extremism and violence.

Bahrain Permanent Representative to UN meets UN undersecretary

31 st March 2023

Ambassador Jamal Faris Al-Alrowaiei, the Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the United Nations (UN) met with Philippe Lazzarini, Under-Secretary-General of the UN and Commissioner-General of the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).

The meeting discussed means to develop cooperation between Bahrain and the UNRWA. The two sides also reviewed the activities and operations carried out by the UNRWA and its humanitarian role. The Ambassador affirmed Bahrain's keenness to cooperate with the UN and all its agencies.



Ambassador Jamal Faris Al-Alrowaiei, the Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the (UN) met with Philippe Lazzarini.

BIBF, Saudi GASTAT sign MoU

31 st March 2023

The Bahrain Institute of Banking and Finance (BIBF), has recently signed into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the General Authority for Statistics (GASTAT) in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. This strategic partnership aims to foster the development of capabilities in the fields of finance, digital transformation, leadership, and management.



Dr. Ahmed Al-Shaikh, CEO of the BIBF, and Mr. Muhammad Al-Rasheed, Vice President of GASTAT

Under the terms of the MoU, both parties will collaborate to design and deliver specialised training programmes. Leveraging BIBF's extensive experience of over four decades in diverse business disciplines including banking, finance, financial technology, and digital transformation, these programmes will address the specific needs of GASTAT.

Iftar brings together officials, diplomats, business community

19 th April 2023



Türkiye's embassy in Bahrain has hosted a traditional Turkish iftar attended by officials, diplomats and members of the business community.

Turkish Ambassador Ms. Esin Çakıl said in her remarks that the shared iftar during the auspicious month of Ramadan reflected a unique facet of the strong and deep Bahraini-Turkish relationship.

"We welcome the blessed Lailat Al Qadr (Night of Destiny), which is more auspicious than a thousand months, with hope and peace. May Lailat Al Qadr be a blessing for our citizens living in Bahrain, the people of Bahrain, the Turkish nation and the entire Islamic world."

Bahrain and Türkiye are marking 50 years of diplomatic relations. Members of the Turkish-Bahrain Interparliamentary Friendship Group last week met with Ambassador Çakıl and discussed concrete steps to deepen inter-parliamentary cooperation and strengthen bilateral relations, mainly in trade and tourism.

Çakıl, who was appointed to Bahrain in 2021, is the third Turkish woman ambassador to the Kingdom following Hilal Başkal (2005-2001) and Hatun Demirer (2018-2013).



NSSA showcases Bahraini AI innovation

18th April 2023

Bahrain's National Space Science Agency (NSSA) showcased an innovative system for monitoring and tracking small sized space debris. This came during the seventeenth session of the International Space Operations Conference, which was hosted by Mohammed Bin Rashid Space Centre (MBRSC) in the UAE.

The conference witnessed a great turnout from various major space agencies and specialized international companies. More than 1,200 people participated and the center witnessed the publication of more than 560 research papers. Aerospace engineer Reem Senan participated in this conference with several of scientific researches specialized in space technologies and systems and artificial intelligence.

One of the most prominent research papers specialized in employing artificial intelligence techniques in the process of automatic detection, monitoring and control of space debris in low Earth orbit using satellites. The innovation relies on the use of nano-satellites, which contain optical sensors by employing artificial intelligence algorithms to monitor and track space debris, as the accuracy of the system, according to experiments, reached %92.

Senan said that the innovation highlights the Kingdom's efforts to preserve the space environment free of space debris and contributes to protecting the environment in general. The conference is one of the major international conferences, and one of the largest scientific forums specialized in the field of space, its research and innovations.

The conference is held for the first time in the Middle East and North Africa region since its inception in 1990.

The Kingdom of Bahrain is the best destination for expats to get started aboard

1st
 globally

According to The Expat Essentials Index issued by InterNations

- 82% Easy to find housing
- 82% Easy to live in without speaking the local language
- 67% Easy to deal with the local authorities
- 70% Easy to get the visa



Central Bank of Bahrain
 February 2023 فبراير 2023

عمليات نقاط البيع والتجارة الإلكترونية
 POS and Ecommerce Transaction

13,592,521
 عدد عمليات البيع
 Volume (Number)

318.2
 قيمة عمليات البيع (مليون دينار)
 Value (BD Million)

77.0% عملية لائتمسية Contactless	13.8% عملية تجارة إلكترونية E-commerce	49.0% عملية لائتمسية Contactless	34.6% عملية تجارة إلكترونية E-commerce
الشهري Monthly ▼ 9.2%	السنوي Yearly ▲ 19.2%	الشهري Monthly ▼ 6.3%	السنوي Yearly ▲ 17.0%

COUNTRY	RANK	ACCESS
Japan	1	193
Singapore	1	193
South Korea	2	192
Germany	3	191
Spain	3	191
Finland	4	190
Italy	4	190
Luxembourg	4	190
Austria	5	189
Denmark	5	189
Bahrain	61	87
Fiji	61	87
Guyana	61	87
Botswana	62	86
Jamaica	62	86
Oman	63	82
Papua New Gui...	63	82
Saudi Arabia	63	82
United Arab Emi...	16	178
Romania	17	176
Bulgaria	18	175
Chile	18	175

Bahraini-Indian economic ties discussed

31st May 2023



Abdulla bin Adel Fakhro, Minister of Industry and Commerce with **Dr. Ausaf Sayeed, the Secretary for Consular, Passport, Visa and Overseas Indian Affairs** and **Indian Ambassador HE. Piyush Srivastav**.

Abdulla bin Adel Fakhro, Minister of Industry and Commerce, held a meeting with Dr. Ausaf Sayeed, the Secretary for Consular, Passport, Visa and Overseas Indian Affairs at India's Ministry of External Affairs, and his accompanying delegation, who are on an official visit to the kingdom to attend the sixth session of consultations between Bahrain and India.

The minister affirmed the depth of ties between Bahrain and India, stressing the importance of developing the economic partnerships and achieving common goals. He also highlighted Bahrain's suitable investment environment. He highlighted the initial positive results of the official visit of the Bahraini economic delegation to India.

Dr. Sayeed hailed the great efforts made by the Government of Bahrain to develop the flow of investments and economic cooperation between the two countries.

Indian Economic News

LOK SABHA SPEAKER EMPHASISES BAHRAIN 'SIGNIFICANCE' TO INDIA

While attending the 146th Inter-parliamentary Union Assembly (IPU) in Bahrain's Exhibition World, the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, Shri Om Birla, spoke about Bahrain's importance to the Indian community.

During his visit, Shri Om Birla met with the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Chairman of the Shura Council to discuss bilateral relations between India and Bahrain.



Shri Om Birla met with the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Chairman of the Shura Council

“We had fruitful bilateral meetings. We will work together in the fields of Trade, Technology and Tourism. Chairman of the Shura council told me India is a second home for Bahrainis,” he said.

Shri Om Birla also met members of the Indian diaspora in Bahrain who praised the freedom to express their culture and religion in the country. Expressing his gratitude to the leadership for organising the IPU in Bahrain, he said,

“I congratulate the leadership, Government, and Parliament of Bahrain for successfully organising the IPU Assembly.”

When asked about the significance of the IPU to India and other Asian nations, he said, “IPU General Assembly discusses several important global issues, sharing Parliamentary

experiences of all countries. Several countries, including our neighbouring nations, participated in the IPU. It gives a platform for enabling and empowering people's representatives to work towards the betterment and development of our people.” He added, “We agreed to co-operate to create a society where people may work together in peace, without intolerance.” The Lok Sabha Speaker's visit highlights the growing ties between India and Bahrain and the potential for increased cooperation between the two nations.

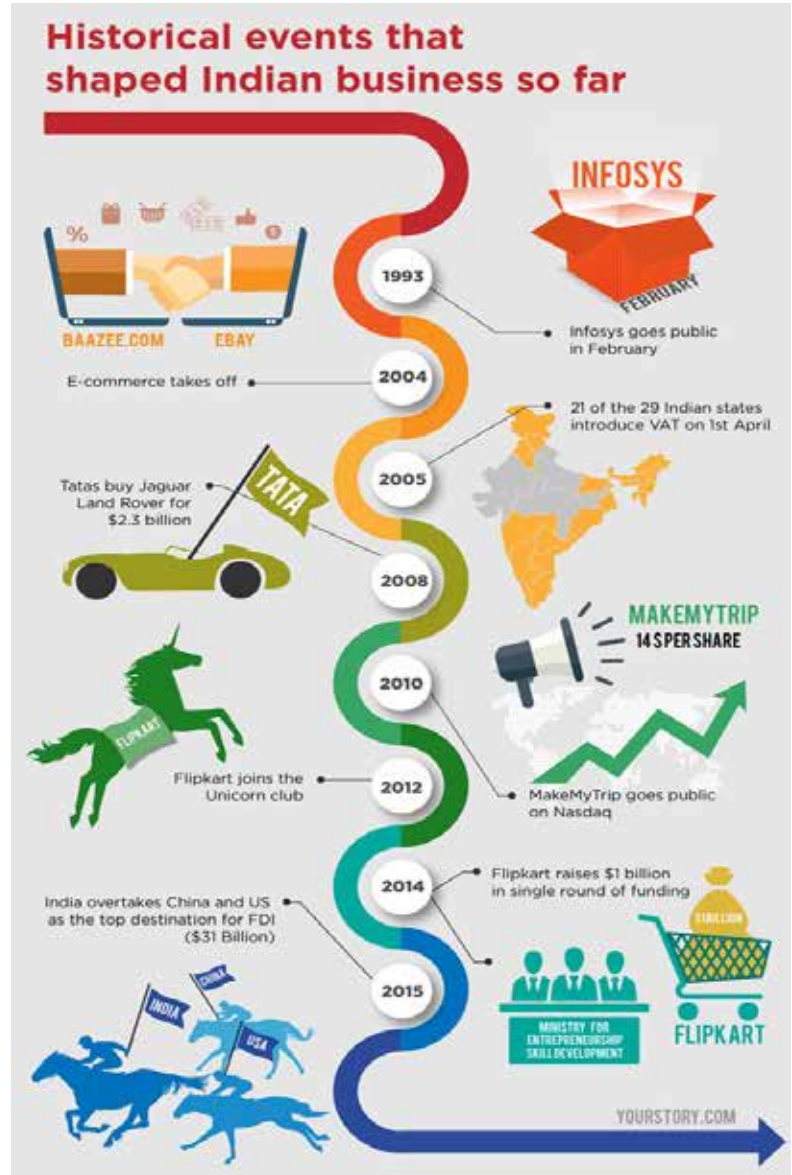


Indian Expats Are Visiting Bahrain In A Large Number

Like an oyster, Bahrain may look rough on the outside; but once you have a deeper understanding, you will be able to see the numerous gems this nation has to offer. Sitting in the centre of the Persian Gulf region is the beautiful island nation Bahrain. Surrounded by water on all sides, the island nation is one of the most liberal nations in the Gulf. The name Bahrain means "two seas" - was one of the first states in the Middle East to discover oil and to build a refinery. Its also known as the Financial Capital of the Middle East.

Indians come to the Kingdom for greener pastures, seeking jobs to support their families back home. But now, they are embracing the Kingdom in the form of tourism. Increasing Indian arrivals can boost the Kingdom's tourism sector as they add thousands of high-net-worth individuals and potential tourists despite slowdown trends in Europe and West Asia.

The Bahrain Tourism and Exhibition Authority (BTEA) has also put India on the priority list by maintaining an office in the country to collaborate with travel agents and tourism players.



Bhatia History Project

Dear THMC members,

Jai Shree Krishna.

Our Thattai Bhatia History Book Project has seen tremendous progress, despite the unprecedented events over the last year.

We are delighted to inform you that we have appointed a Historians and Researchers Ms. Swaleha Razi Ullah, Ph.D.Scholar, Department of History, University of Karachi, Pakistan to obtain information from various journals, articles and global libraries that are directly relate to our community in Thatta. She will also contribute in tracing the origin of Thattai Bhatia community in Thatta, and history with respect to their early occupation, socio-economic and political activities.



Ms. Swaleha Razi Ullah, Ph.D.Scholar,
Department of History, University of Karachi

We also received a great response to our request for old photographs, and we thank all of you that have taken out the time to scan and send them to us.

As we work on completing the final chapters of the book, we would appreciate your support and co-operation, so kindly send us any old photographs you may have. Every contribution will be rightly acknowledged. Please email your photographs to thmchistory@gmail.com.

If there are any questions that you may have, you can reach out to me & the following:
Bharti Baloor: 39443055 | Mukesh Megchiani: 39644939 | Amit Karani: 39601789

We look forward to your positive response at the earliest.

Regards,

Deepali Kavalani.

Bhatia History Project

Hello Everyone,

As we continue to work on our Thattai Bhatia History book Project, we would like to capture the important contributions made by our community members in all spheres of social life in Bahrain. With this in mind we are requesting you to submit information about your family members / elders that have been active with NGO's, charity societies, public offices etc.

We require you to send us the name of the person, the organisation they were/are associated with and any images & Articles related to their contribution

We would like to expedite this process; to this end we need your co operation and assistance. Kindly do send us your information - please rest assured that names of all contributors will be acknowledged and mentioned in the book.

We look forward to your positive response at the earliest.

Please email this information to

thmchistory@gmail.com

ABOUT THMC

MISSION

THMC aspires to build on the strong legacy of the Bhatia business community, and to become Bahrain's leading entrepreneurial organisation

VISION

To strength the Bhatia entrepreneurs in Bahrain by always learning & evolving to make a positive impact on the society whilst continuing to retain our traditional values.

HISTORY

THMC was created in the early 1940s to strengthen the community and provide a platform for businessmen to address the various challenges facing them.



THE THMCI
TRADE HOUSE
MIDDLE EAST
COMMERCE

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