

# Joy of sharing

**BIG-HEARTED** individuals across the kingdom are spreading merry cheer this season as they rally to donate toys to the less fortunate.

The initiative is part of the annual 'Operation Christmas Child Bahrain'.

The donation drive, run by a group of volunteers working under the umbrella of 'A Box of Goodness', aims to provide joy for children aged between two and 10.

"New and used toys are collected to be shared with less fortunate children of all faiths and nationalities in Bahrain," said Sri Lankan-Malay Miranthy Dole better known as Miro, the founder

**COMMUNITY REPORT**  
By MAI AL KHATIB-CAMILLE  
mai.alkhatib@gulfweekly.com



of the initiative. "The toys will be shared during the holiday season to spread happiness and cheer."

'A Box of Goodness' was launched on Instagram in October 2016 as a simple exercise to create the habit of giving. The caring concept rapidly grew into a following, boasting kind-hearted individuals giving whatever

they can to the less fortunate.

The project, which has been conducted for the past three years, is spearheaded by Kelly Kirkpatrick and her two daughters Katie and Isabella.

"We always love to see children smile – so this project along with the



Children providing toys to the less fortunate

Gergaoun Toy Collection is a much anticipated event in our calendar," added Miranthy, the head of business development and marketing at a real estate company.

The toys can be dropped off at the Bahrain Rugby Football Club in Saar, the British Dental Centre in Saar, both St Christopher's School campuses, the Westin & Le Meridien City Centre Bahrain in Seef, and the British Club in Adliya. Collections will be accepted until December 20.

"Please spread the word and encourage your family and friends to open up their hearts and donate new toys for less fortunate little boys and girls in our community," added Miranthy.

Meanwhile, every winter, they collect clothing and linen to be donated as well.

For details, follow @aboxofgoodness on Instagram or contact Kelly on 39303580.



From left, Miranthy with Kelly and her husband Alex and daughter Isabella making a toy drop



A happy child with her gifts



**BAKERS UNITE**  
Sweet cause  
SEE PAGE 3



**MUSIC MADNESS**  
Sound & fiction  
SEE PAGES 4-5



**FEEL THE BEAT**  
Cherishing traditions  
SEE PAGE 5



**F1 RACE**  
Hamilton again!  
SEE PAGE 7



RAWCANDY

Artisan Vegan Chocolate



AVAILABLE FOR  
PICK-UP & DELIVERY





# Gulf Property SHOW

## THE AVENUES BAHRAIN

Your Key  
to Property

**24 - 25 - 26 - 27** November 2021

[www.gulfpropertyshow.net](http://www.gulfpropertyshow.net)

Strategic Sponsors



Gold Sponsor



Venue



Contracting Partner



Organiser





# Cakes for a cause

**COMMUNITY REPORT**  
By MAI AL KHATIB-CAMILLE  
mai.alkhatib@gulfweekly.com

**T**HE Women Across (WA) empowerment team is rallying bakers to join their sweet cause of whisking up goodies to raise funds for The Friendship Society for the Blind.

The Bake Sale, which is in its second edition, has already attracted seven bakers including prominent patissiers Ekta Sethi, Gehna Purohit and Kavitha Chowdhary. The event will be held under the patronage of Shura Council member Mona Almoayyed.

"It's always a great blessing to be a part of a charity bake sale and I am grateful to Women Across for this great opportunity," said Ekta, a mother-of-two who has won numerous baking competitions and is a member of the global Ovenderful Mom Bakers Community.

"Giving our time and talent in service of others is the least we can do and gives us immense joy too!"

Last year, around BD490 was raised for the society with the sale limited to cupcakes. However, this time around, participants can bake to their heart's content.

"This year, we have more items on the menu as in egg-free Parsi mawa cakes, Biscoff cake, rose milk cake, saffron milk cake, chocolate chip cookies, cookie platters, brownies, cakesicles and cupcakes," said Anupama Binu, WA projects co-ordinator. "The cakes will all be themed along the lines of women and festivals which is befitting our cause, especially with National Day celebrations and Christmas around the corner."

Baker Gehna will be contributing to the cause with her daughters, Yana and Shanya.

"I love to bake, so being able to raise funds for a good cause while also having fun is

amazing," said Gehna. "My daughters and I are using our favourite recipes and baking each item with care and diligence."

All baked goodies will be collected until December 10.

Bakers can either drop off their items at a collection point, which is yet to be confirmed, or members of WA will pick up the products. A menu will then be set and individuals will be contacted directly to make any purchases. There is still time for more bakers to join the fundraising fun.

"We are open to joining hands with more bakers because the more we sell, the more we raise for charity," said Sumithra Praveen, WA co-founder.

To register, call 39062720 or 32150833, or follow @womenacross\_ on Instagram.

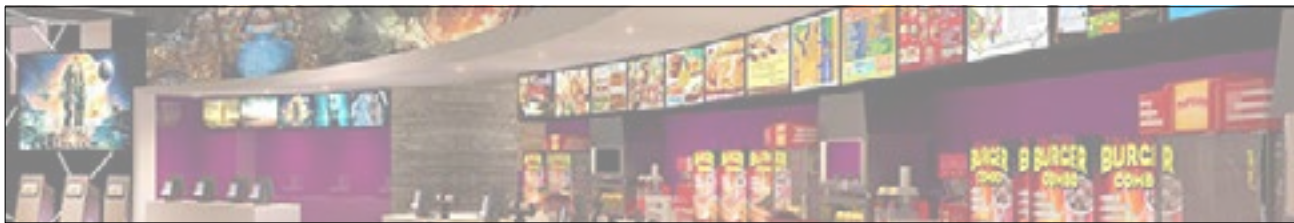


## BEAUTIFYING SPACES

Fifty people of all ages came together to repaint the exterior wall of the Burhani Masjid, behind Salmaniya Garden, as part of the Dawoodi Bohra community initiative to beautify the area. The event marked the first phase of the mosque's beautification project. The next phase involves planting greenery on both sides of the road, after approval from the Capital Municipality.







# Divers' musical t

**COMMUNITY REPORT**  
By NAMAN ARORA  
naman@gulfweekly.com

**O**NCE again transcending the monolith of a music festival, the third edition of Sound + Fiction is set to kick off today, with a special project honouring the heritage of pearl diving music.

Supported by the US Embassy, the musical symposium conceptualised by Bahraini musical platform Museland started off in its current format in 2019, and was conducted virtually last year.

This year, it will start today and run until December 4.

"It's a continuation of the concept, with more live performances, talks, panels and workshops focused on exploring alternative music," Ali Al Saeed, founder and creative director of Museland, told *GulfWeekly*.

"There are about 40 artists, speakers and panellists taking part in this year's event, coming from Bahrain, the UAE, Saudi Arabia and the USA."

The festival kicks off this evening at 7pm at the Beanboat-Tasjeelat facility within Andalus Garden in Gudaibiya, featuring Nahma: A Gulf Polyphony presented by the FLEE Project.

The project aims to honour the memory of valiant pearl



Shots from Sound+Fiction 2019



divers, their culture and their music with a 'transmedia' showcase.

Tomorrow evening, there is a short film screening at the same location, followed by a Noisy Neighbours music session at Alliance Francaise in Isa Town, starting at 8pm.

"The objective of Sound + Fiction is to challenge musicians and music lovers to explore new ways to create

and experience it," added Ali, who is organising the event with programme curator Hasan Hujairi.

"It's about pushing boundaries and promoting a more diverse and eclectic approach to music. For years, I felt music has gotten static, and there needs to be a new wave of fresh voices that break the currents standards and trends."

Friday and Saturday promise a full day of talks, discussion panels and musical showcases, taking place at Wagalag dog park in Saar.

The MuseNight festival will take place on Friday evening at 5pm, with performers including Majaz, Arabstrax, JWA, The Relocators and Aveora taking the stage.

On Saturday night at 5pm, performers including

Conference of Birds, Morjune and Merake, Str8up Rkls and Gofer will serenade music lovers.

Among the panels and talks this weekend is a discussion about reclaiming the narrative around Arab alternative music, reflections on the creative process and a panel discussing what goes into building a music scene.

On Monday, November 29, the symposium will check in with music ecosystem players in Bahrain and talk about how the pandemic has affected musicians and live performers.

Next Thursday, December 2, Bahraini singer songwriter Ala Ghawas will delve into the intricacies of creating his latest album, the first recorded fully in his mother-language, Arabic, in an intimate, honest conversation

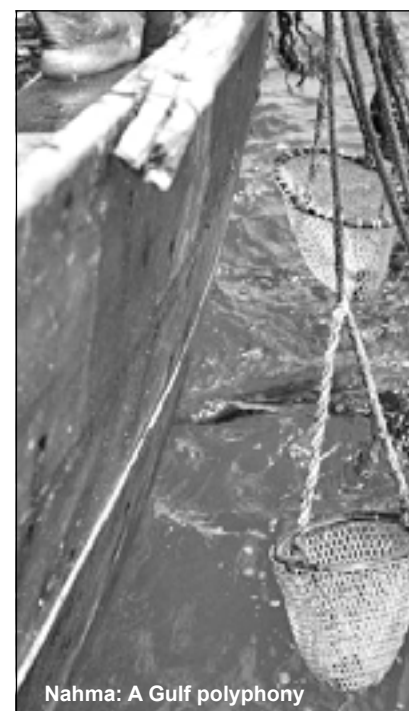
with one of the country's most celebrated composers Mohamed Haddad.

Next weekend, December 3 - 4, will also see music showcases featuring Ahmed Zainal, Na Der, Spceboi, Rashed Aldaen and PapaPush, as well as a number of workshops. There will also be a live performance by Project XO.

"We are looking forward to being back and engaging with both the artists and audiences, creating a community atmosphere," Ali added.

All the events are free and open to the public, but due to limited capacity, some events might require pre-registration.

Visit [www.soundandfiction.me](http://www.soundandfiction.me) for more details.



Nahma: A Gulf polyphony



Majaz

## Melodies

**M**USIC lovers can enjoy a modern take on pan-European chamber music at the Bahrain Cultural Hall tomorrow.

The concert, *Colors of the Saxophone*, will be performed by Arcis Saxophon Quartett, a group of four eclectic saxophonists from Munich, Germany.

The group was invited by the German Embassy and the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities.

Established in 2009, Arcis Saxophon Quartett's mission is to make classical music accessible to everyone. Approaching music from a global perspective, the band has brought melodies from all over Europe to six

**MUSIC REPORT**  
By ZAINAB ALMAHDI

continents.

"After two years since our first visit, we are happy to be back and to enjoy the warm sun of Manama," the band posted on social media.

Through events like these, the embassy hopes to expand the public's perception of Germany.

The embassy wishes to move away from stereotypes like 'good engineering, fast cars, good food and nice scenery,' and to present 'a versatile cultural life', consul Hans-Jürgen Lamprecht told *GulfWeekly*.

The German-Bahraini Film Week, another event run by the embassy, will take place next month during which award-





# Weekly Contribute Beats of life



Arabstrack



A drumming session

**A** musical art form indigenous to the South Indian state of Kerala is being revived - and popularised - by a group of Bahrain-based residents.

The 'Chenda' is a percussion instrument mainly played in Hindu temple festivals or as an accompaniment to an array of folk dances and performances including Kathakali, Koodiyattam, Kannyar Kali and Theyyam.

More than 300 Bahrain residents, including 70 children and 40 women,



**MUSIC REPORT**  
By RAJI UNNIKRISHNAN  
raji@gdn.com.bh

are now picking up the classical style at the Sopanam Vaadhyakalasangham Centre in Gufool under the tutelage of an array of enthusiasts, including award-winning Santhosh Kailas.

"I love this art form and I am glad to see many people coming forward to learn it in Bahrain," said Santhosh who won the Pravasi Kalaacharya award, instituted by an Indian agency, for his contributions to popularising the art overseas.

Other art forms being brought to life at the centre, set up in 2009, include Thayambaka, Panchavadyam and Sopana Sangeetham.

Chenda melam is when a troupe performs together and Thayambaka is a solo showcase. Panchavadyam boasts an orchestra of five instruments including four percussions and a wind instrument. Sopana Sangeetham features an artist singing classical tunes along the sides of a temple's steps to the accompaniment of traditional instruments, idakka and chengila.

"As Chenda melam is a temple art, the access to enjoy it was limited to those living near the temples," said Santhosh, 45, who has 28 years experience in music.

The art form was also restricted to a particular community when caste system was prevalent in Kerala.

"Only they had the



Santhosh



Scan the QR code to learn more

## from Europe



Arcis Saxophon Quartett in Ecuador

winning German films like *Gundermann*, *When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit* and *Too Far Away* will be screened. *Colors of the Saxophone*

will begin at the Bahrain Cultural Hall, near the National Museum, at 8pm tomorrow. Entry is free and only fully-vaccinated or

Covid-recovered individuals will be admitted on a first-come, first-served basis. For more details, follow @culturebah on Instagram.

opportunity to learn it and so the number of performers were few," he pointed out.

"In the past, women weren't allowed to learn the Chenda - this again has changed.

"Today we have many women in the field. It can be described as female empowerment in the field of music.

"Thanks to some forward-thinking teachers who believed that art had no caste or religion, we have people performing it today.

"These arts are now performed on stages and are open to all - to study, perform

and enjoy.

"People from all walks of life are taking it up and are getting a lot of opportunities and recognitions. We have big festivals and fairs in temples and outside. So there is hope - the future will be bright for these arts."

Santhosh lauded the support extended by the Bahrain government to similar art forms in the kingdom.

"There are ample opportunities here with the support given by the local authorities, arts, socio-cultural organisations and the media," he added.



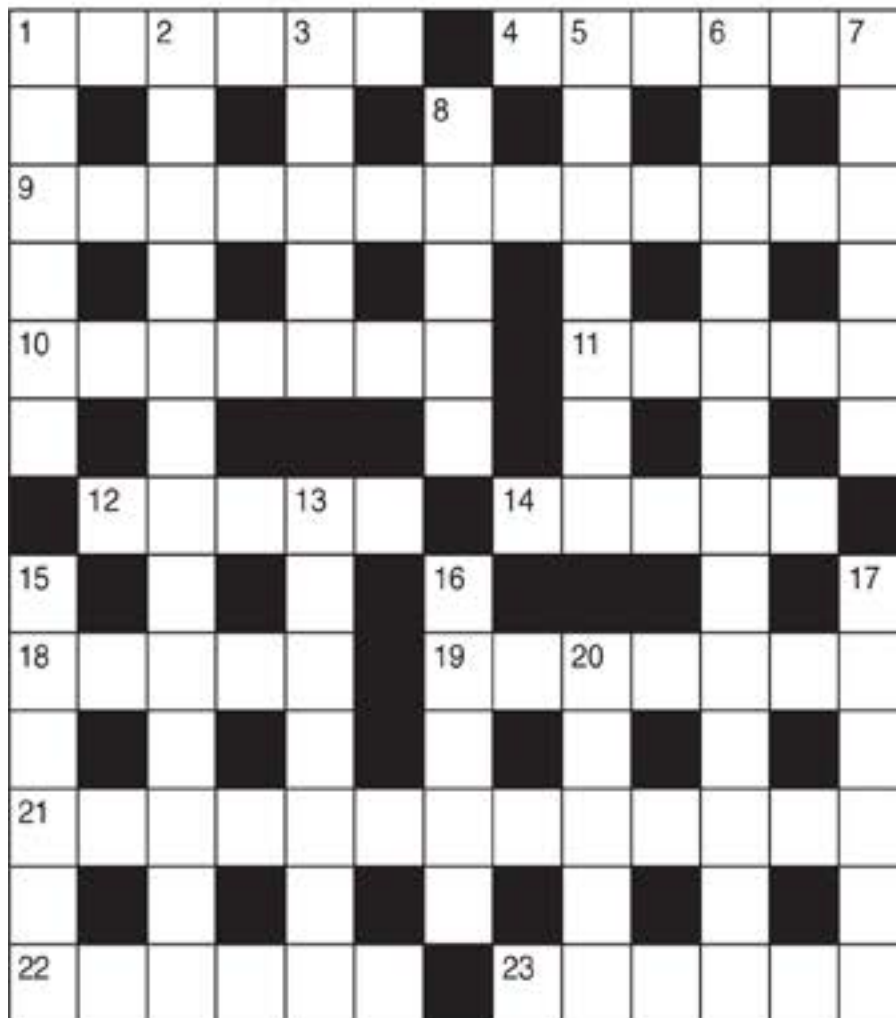
# Time Out



**Hilal Computers**

Maximizing performance and efficiency  
Dell service provider  
Tel: 1729 3749 ext 2220

## crossword break



Solutions in next week's issue.

### ACROSS

1. Pass (6)
4. Annul (6)
9. Trivial (13)
10. Keeper (7)
11. Dwell (5)
12. Wireless (5)
14. Danger (5)
18. Clear (5)
19. Daunt (7)
21. Fire (13)
22. Intensify (6)
23. Mean (6)

### DOWN

1. Show (6)
2. Definitely (2,4,2,3,2)
3. Vision (5)
5. Stir (7)
6. Clearing (13)
7. Epistle (6)
8. Filament (5)
13. Gratify (7)
15. Peaceful (6)
16. Uneven (5)
17. Acutely (6)
20. Precise (5)

### who, what, where, when

WHO ... was the first President of the Royal Academy?

WHAT ... shape is something that is nummular?

WHERE ... was the US civil rights activist Al Sharpton born?

WHEN ... did the writer W. Somerset Maugham die?

WHO ... was President of Ireland from 1976-90?

WHAT ... two colours are on the flag of Vietnam?

WHERE ... in Europe did Sali Berisha become Prime Minister in 2005?

WHEN ... did the German politician Jürgen Möllemann die in a parachuting accident?

### just so

com #2 mand

XIS LBOW

YOUR

d d  
o o  
o o  
g g  
o o  
n n

## darn tough sudoku

So you think you're good enough at Sudoku to crack this baby? Remember, we were the first in the Gulf to bring you this bit of Japanese mayhem...so we don't kid around

### Last week's sudoku

3	4	9	7	1	6	5	2	8
8	6	2	9	5	4	7	1	3
1	7	5	2	8	3	6	9	4
9	2	3	4	6	1	8	7	5
4	5	6	8	9	7	1	3	2
7	8	1	5	3	2	4	6	9
6	1	4	3	2	5	9	8	7
5	3	8	1	7	9	2	4	6
2	9	7	6	4	8	3	5	1

7	8	3	4	2	6	1	9	5
2	6	1	3	9	5	8	7	4
9	4	5	7	1	8	2	6	3
5	9	4	2	8	7	6	3	1
6	3	8	5	4	1	9	2	7
1	7	2	6	3	9	4	5	8
3	1	6	8	7	2	5	4	9
8	5	7	9	6	4	3	1	2
4	2	9	1	5	3	7	8	6

### darn tough sudoku

6	9	8	3	5	1	7	4	2
4	5	1	8	2	7	6	3	9
7	3	2	4	9	6	1	5	8
5	2	6	1	3	4	8	9	7
3	4	9	7	8	2	5	6	1
8	1	7	9	6	5	4	2	3
9	8	4	6	7	3	2	1	5
2	6	3	5	1	8	9	7	4
1	7	5	2	4	9	3	8	6

Sudoku

2			5			3		6
		5	3		4		2	9
	9			2		4		
	6	2			1	9		4
9		7		8		1		
		8	9			5	3	
		6					1	
8	5			4	6	7		
	2		1	7				8

Sudoku

8		2		4				1
9					5			4
		5				6		
	3		8		4		1	
	8	9	2		1	4	7	
	2		5		3		6	
		8				5		
4				5	8			9
7			3					6

### Last Week's Leisure Solutions

#### CROSSWORD BREAK:

Across: 1 Amalgamate; 7 Rinse; 8 Replace; 10 Wayfarer; 11 Rule; 13 Infect; 15 Divest; 17 Easy; 18 Mediator; 21 Spindle; 22 Inert; 23 Dependence.

Down: 1 Annoy; 2 Abeyance; 3 Girder; 4 Mope; 5 Traduce; 6 Drowsiness; 9 Electorate; 12 Division; 14 Festive; 16 Defend; 19 Theme; 20 Idle.

JUST SO: Archangel, Pay attention, Half baked, An open book.

WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN:

Meleager; Knee; Mexico; 1974; Ralph Bunche; A Brazilian dance; Philippines; 1930.

### Darn Tough Sudoku

						5		
			2	8			3	
1	6				4			
	1					2	7	3
7			1		9			5
4	3	8					1	
			6				2	4
	9			7	3			
		5						



# MotoringWeekly

The top motoring and motorsport news

## Bring on the next two!



Hamilton in action with Verstappen

**S** EVEN-TIMES world champion Lewis Hamilton enjoyed a straightforward Sunday drive to win the inaugural Qatar Grand Prix for Mercedes and trim Max Verstappen's Formula One lead to eight points with two races remaining.

Red Bull's Verstappen was second, after starting seventh following a five-place grid drop for failing to respect warning flags in Saturday's qualifying, but took a bonus point for fastest lap.

Double world champion Fernando Alonso was third for Renault-owned Alpine – the 40-year-old Spaniard's first podium finish since he was second in the 2014 Hungarian Grand Prix with Ferrari.

"It was pretty straightforward, it was pretty lonely at the front," said Hamilton, who led from pole position and was never challenged over the 57 laps of the floodlit night race that finished under virtual safety car conditions.

"Of course, I enjoy those races where you're battling through but we needed those points, so I think a real solid job from the team... Bring on



Hamilton crosses the finish line to win the Qatar Grand Prix

the next two."

The win was Hamilton's seventh from 20 races this season, second in a row, and the record-extending 102nd of his career also continued his strong pedigree at new circuits on the calendar.

The Briton took the chequered flag, waved by Qatar's Olympic high jump champion Mutaz Barshim, a hefty 25.743 seconds ahead of Verstappen.

Verstappen, who has nine wins this year, carried

out another solid piece of damage limitation as Red Bull cut Mercedes lead in the constructors' standings from 11 to five points.

"Of course, our starting position was a bit compromised but luckily we had a really good start," said Verstappen, who was fourth by the end of the opening lap and up to second after the fifth.

"I know it's going to be difficult to the end, but that keeps it exciting. It's going

to be a tight battle until the end."

The Dutch 24-year-old can still win the championship with a race to spare at the next event in Saudi Arabia, if Hamilton fails to score.

Team boss Christian Horner will have to watch his language then after collecting an official warning from stewards for referring to a 'rogue marshal' in a heated reaction to Verstappen's penalty.

Mexican Sergio Perez



Hamilton celebrates on the podium

was fourth for Red Bull with Frenchman Esteban Ocon fifth for Alpine in a race livened up by a spate of punctures late on among those trying to make a single pitstop work.

They included Hamilton's team mate Valtteri Bottas, who was the only driver still to pit when his front left deflated after 33 laps.

The Finn, who also had a three-place grid penalty, pitted from third place and returned in 14th with a new front wing and set of hard tyres. He was then told to retire from 12th with 10 laps to go.

Lance Stroll took sixth for Aston Martin, ahead of the Ferrari pairing of Carlos Sainz and Charles Leclerc.

Lando Norris finished ninth for McLaren and Sebastian Vettel 10th for Aston Martin.

Williams pair George Russell and Nicholas Latifi suffered late punctures, with the latter parking up beside the track and triggering the virtual safety car, rendering needless a final Verstappen stop for fresh tyres to be sure of fastest lap.

FIFA president Gianni Infantino brought the World Cup trophy with him, showing it off while FIA head Jean Todt held the F1 trophy alongside, at a race also attended by former England captain David Beckham.

The next Grand Prix will be held in Saudi Arabia on December 5.



# Path to success



**SPORT REPORT**

By MAI AL KHATIB-CAMILLE  
mai.alkhatib@gulfweekly.com

**P**ARA athletes from around the globe are gearing up to compete in the 2021 Asian Youth Para Games (AYPG), to be held in the kingdom for the first time.

The fourth edition of the Games, which will run from Saturday until December 8, will feature 750 para athletes from 29 countries.

All aged under 20, the brave heroes will gun for gold in different sporting events staged in Khalifa Sports City, a multi-use stadium in Isa Town, and Isa Sports City, the national indoor sports facility.

"I am confident that the Games will be successful," said Shaikh Mohamed bin Duaij Al Khalifa, the president of the Bahrain Paralympic Committee (BPC), at a conference held in the Isa Cultural Hall. Ali Almajed, secretary general of the BPC, Hassan Abdullatif, executive director of the Games, BPC members of the board as well as other sporting officials were present. "It will showcase the kingdom's ability to host such large-scale events as well as shed light and raise awareness on paralympic sports," he added. "I can't stress enough the importance of hosting these Games in Bahrain. It will have a positive political, economic and social influence, contributing to the implementation of the Sustainability Development Goals set by the United Nations."

"It will also encourage and empower athletes with impairments. They make



Throwback to a Para athlete in action



up 15 per cent of the world's population, equating to approximately one billion people globally.

"We have one of the largest youth communities in Asia and it's important to give them an opportunity to compete in a fair 'Games'. The Asian Youth Para Games will motivate the next generation to continue in the path of success and leave a legacy – not just in Bahrain but in Asia as well."

The para athletes will be competing in nine different events that include athletics, badminton, goalball, boccia, powerlifting, swimming, table tennis, taekwondo and wheelchair basketball. There will also be 1,526 delegates and 200 referees.

Shaikh Mohamed also praised the organising committee's co-ordination and co-operation between various government entities and committees such as the Asian Paralympic Committee, as well as the US Embassy in Bahrain. Charity champions Bahrain Mobility International will be volunteering and aiding in the games' success as well.

The previous edition of the AYPG was held in Dubai in 2017 featuring as many as 800 athletes from 30 nations with Japan finishing on top with 43 golds in their total of 98 medals. Iran and China followed with 39 and 27 gold medals, respectively. For details, follow @bahrainnpc on Instagram.



The conference



The mascot called BulBul