Woman and Sports
Will - Achievement - Aspirations
2012
Introduction:

On December 1st of each year, The Kingdom of Bahrain celebrates Bahraini Women's Day as a very important national event that enjoys a remarkable interest from all official and private sides as well as civil society institutions in recognition of women's effective participation in and contributions to various sectors and professional disciplines.

At the kind initiative of Her Royal Highness Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al-Khalifa, Wife of His Majesty the King and President of the Supreme Council for Women (SCW), the slogan of the fifth edition of Bahraini Women's Day 2012 was announced to celebrate Bahraini women's sport careers and achievements.

This is an opportunity to shed light on Bahraini women's achievements in the sports sector, the challenges they faced and how they managed to achieve successive historic achievements either through participation in different tournaments or competitions or launch of initiatives capable of attracting sports talents and providing appropriate infrastructure and services to contribute to the building of a distinctive base of female actors in various sports and disciplines for a honorable representation of Bahrain at various levels.

On this occasion, the General Secretariat of the Supreme Council for Women is pleased to issue this booklet which we hope will contribute to the documentation of the goals of this occasion and a part of Bahraini women's sport achievements.

Secretary General
Supreme Council for Women
December 1, 2012
From the Archives

Late Amir Shaikh Isa bin Salman Al Khalifa receives a participating school delegation in the 6th Pan Arab Games held in Alexandria in 1985

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa receives a participating school delegation in the 6th Pan Arab Games held in Alexandria in 1985

His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa receives a participating school delegation in the 5th Pan Arab Games held in Morocco in 1985
Her Royal Highness receives on November 30, 2011 sports women who made achievements.

“Woman and Sports: Will - Achievement - Aspirations”

Bahraini Women's Day 2012's slogan comes to highlight an important aspect of the role of Bahraini women in the field of sports and to record a history full of achievements in this vital field.

The Objectives:

• To document the historical process of the Bahraini women in sport.
• To highlight samples of success stories that contributed to supporting the achievements of women in sport.
• To record the achievements of women in various tournaments and competitions.
• To highlight the challenges faced by women in this vital important area.
• To give an account of the initiatives and efforts which helped women overcome those challenges.
From the Archives

From one of the government schools' celebrations of the Bahrain National Day

From one of the sports tournaments crowning ceremonies
Bahraini women have been interested in and playing sports since old times as they would engage in popular old games with children of the same neighborhood. Indeed, women have excelled in their own popular traditional games, such as Al Sikkina (hopscotch), Al Khabsa (search for an object hidden in the sand), Al Khishisha (hide and seek), Al Lagfa (a five-pebble game), Jump Rope and lots of other games.

With the start of formal education for girls in the Kingdom of Bahrain in 1928, and with sports becoming a main subject on the curriculum, the interest in school sports has increased through practice of simple exercises in the two weekly sports sessions as well as the morning exercises queue. This is in addition to the organized inter-school sports competitions in some individual and collective games, which constituted the first brick for the burgeoning women’s sports in the kingdom along with their participation in annual festivals, the National Day and Accession Day celebrations.
Shaikha Hayat Al Khalifa holds Women's Volleyball Team Cup (second position) at the 6th Pan Arab Games, held in Libya in 1978.

Bahrain Sports delegation leaving for Korea to take part in Korea Open Championship - 1980.
At the academic and educational level, the interest of Bahraini women in the field of sports has increased since the establishment of The Bahrain Teachers Higher Institute for Girls in 1968 and the graduation of the first batch of Physical Education Specialists in 1970.

During the seventies of the last century, the way has been paved for women to be actively involved in sporting activities by organizing women's tournaments in a number of sports games, namely table tennis, volleyball, basketball, and handball. Bahraini women excelled and made great achievements at the time. In 1976, women's sports entered officially in the Bahraini sports federations. In 1977, female teams started taking part in international competitions and at the Arab level, so Bahrain participated in the 5th Arab Tennis Championship and in the eighth Arab Championship, held in 1978 in Libya and won a silver medal in the mixed doubles final.

*First Female Basketball Team of the Hoora Girls' School in 1968.*

*Shaikha Hayat Al Khalifa and Ali Kanoo clinching the first medal in table tennis doubles in 1978 in Morocco.*
From the Archives

Women's National Table Tennis Team participating in the Pan-Arab Games in Morocco - 1985.

Newspaper excerpts depicting Women's National Volleyball Team's first participation abroad in 1978.
Bahraini women’s team also took part in Volleyball Championship in 1978 in the State of Kuwait. A breakthrough in women’s foreign participation took place in the same year at the Bahraini women’s basketball team participation in a friendly match in Kuwait. During the Pan Arab Games, held in the Kingdom of Morocco in 1985, more female players won medals in table tennis. They won gold and silver medals in individual competitions and a silver medal in the doubles.

Women’s Sport is accorded significant interest by Bahraini senior officials at the Bahrain Olympic Committee (BOC) who have been keen on offering women administrative posts in the Committee since 1981.
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From the Archives

One of the winning teams in school sports activities

Bahrain Women's National Volleyball Team participating in the 1st Arab Championship in Tunis - 1980
At the administrative level, Bahraini women were able to participate in decision-making positions and occupy positions in various sport departments at the Ministry of education and sports clubs and on the Board of Directors of the Bahrain Olympic Committee, either by appointment or election. The year 2000 witnessed the establishment of the Women’s Sports Committee at BOC and election of the first Bahraini female President to head the Table Tennis Association.

Bahraini women’s interest in various scientific disciplines of physical education coincided with universities’ launch of educational programmes in this vital area.

Bahraini women were, then, keen to develop their capabilities and skills academically in order to get the highest degrees in the field. The University of Bahrain was among the pioneer universities in the development of the department of Physical Education at the College of Education which became the first Academy of Physical Education and Physiotherapy in the region and was later transformed into a College of Physical Education, the first specialized college in the Arab Gulf States.
الرياضة: الدعم اللامتناهي من قرينة الملك والشيخ ناصر يدفعنا للأمام
اختيارنا للشعراء هذا العام
تكريم وتقبيل

المرأة البحرينية الرياضية متميزة جدا خلال السنوات الأخيرة

تعرضت المرأة البحرينية للرياضة للعديد من التحديات، بما في ذلك الصعوبات المحتملة والاضطهادات. ولكنها نجحت في الاستمرار في المشاركة في الرياضة، وتعزز بناءً على قدراتها الفردية وصواريخها. هذه المرأة البحرينية النشطة في الرياضة توضح أن الرياضة ليست مجرد نشاط، بل هي جزء من الحياة اليومية.

توفر الرياضة للمرأة البحرينية القدرة على التعبئة والتحدي، وتعزز نشاطهم البدني والجميل. وهي تحقق التوازن بين الجنسين، مما يعزز الوعي بالمرأة البحرينية في النشاطات البدنية. هذه المرأة البحرينية النشطة في الرياضة تسلط الضوء على أن الرياضة ليست فقط نشاطًا للرجال، بل هي أيضًا أمرًا مهمًا للمرأة.

تجمع النساء في منافسات الرياضة البحرينية، وتحتفل بالنجاحات التي حققتها من خلال الصبر والعمل الجاد. هذه النساء البحرينيات العاملات في مجالات الرياضة تظهر لنا أن النساء يمكنهن أن تصبحوا نجاحات في رياضة كان نجاحات الرجال في السابق.

تفتخر المرأة البحرينية بالتغلب على التحديات، وتحث الآخرين على التحلي بالصبر والتواصل مع أبطالها. وهي تظهر لنا أن النساء يمكنهن أن تكون نجاحات في الرياضة، وأنهن قادرات على التغلب على التحديات، وتحتفل بالنجاحات التي حققتها من خلال الصبر والعمل الجاد.

تجمع النساء في منافسات الرياضة البحرينية، وتحتفل بالنجاحات التي حققتها من خلال الصبر والعمل الجاد. هذه النساء البحرينيات العاملات في مجالات الرياضة تظهر لنا أن النساء يمكنهن أن تصبحوا نجاحات في رياضة كان نجاحات الرجال في السابق.

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With the beginning of the reform era of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa - may God protect him, women's sports received great interest and patronage as he honoured a number of outstanding sportswomen and decorated them with the Medal of Competence on the Loyalty Day on October 11, 2002. Today, women sports are witnessing a quantum leap that reflects ambition to prove their ability to enrich and support the sports sector through participation in many games. This has encouraged many sports associations to form new teams and national squads and include them in their training programs under the supervision of the best and most competent trainers and administrators.

*His Majesty the King honours Shaikha Hayat bint Abdulaziz Al Khalifa on the Loyalty Day on October 11, 2002.*

*His Majesty the King honours Mrs. Alawiya Khalil on the Loyalty Day on October 11, 2002.*

*His Majesty the King honours Mrs. Layla Al Anooz on the Loyalty Day on October 11, 2002.*
 инвести فلسفة ممتلكات: تنمية ثروة البحرين.

تهدف استراتيجية ممتلكات لخلق القيمة المضافة في أصول مملكة البحرين الإستراتيجية غير النفطية، وتنوع محفظتها الاستثمارية بشكل متوازن، لتحقيق عائدات مالية مستدامة، وذلك من خلال أكثر من 35 شركة ضمن محفظتها الاستثمارية. 

ممتلكات: مستثمر للأجيال القادمة

www.dmhc.bh
Bahraini Women’s Day 2012 Activities

Bahrain Women’s Sport Games
Under the patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa, Wife of HM the King and President of the Supreme Council for Women, the Bahrain Women's Games were held in October and November 2012 in cooperation with the Bahrain Olympic Committee and the General Organization for Youth and Sports. The tournament covered many games such as table tennis, basketball, bowling, gymnastics, games for people of special needs, shooting, futsal and a marathon.
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1942</td>
<td>A Lebanese Sports Expert was recruited and appointed as a Physical Education Inspector.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1946</td>
<td>Beginning of regular physical education with the arrival of the first Egyptian mission.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1947</td>
<td>First big Sports Festival held at Khadija Al Cobra and Aysha Um Al Mumineen Primary Girls' Schools.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1967</td>
<td>School girls take part in the activities marking the first celebration of the Education Day.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1969</td>
<td>School boys and girls take part in a ceremony marking education golden Jubilee.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1973</td>
<td>First basketball competition between Basra female students and secondary school girls in Bahrain.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975</td>
<td>Bahraini School girls represent Bahrain in table tennis in Alexandria in their first participation abroad.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>Female students take part in the inter-school tournament held in Tunis.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From the Archives

Bahrain Women’s National Football team wins third position in West Asia championship in Abu Dhabi - 2010

Bahrain Men’s and Women’s National Teams arrive at Seoul Airport to take part in Korea Open Tennis Championships

Bahrain Women’s National Football team wins third position in West Asia championship in Abu Dhabi - 2010
# Beginnings of Women’s Sports in Bahrain’s Sports Associations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Association</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Bahrain Table Tennis Association</td>
<td>1976</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Bahrain Volleyball Association</td>
<td>1976</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Bahrain Basketball Association</td>
<td>Mid-seventies</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Bahrain Swimming Association</td>
<td>1979</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Bahrain Athletics Association</td>
<td>1981</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Bahrain Volleyball Association</td>
<td>1982</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Bahrain Tennis Federation</td>
<td>1984</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Bahrain Badminton &amp; Squash Association</td>
<td>1984</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Bahrain Mind Games Association</td>
<td>1985</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Bahrain Disabled Sports Federation</td>
<td>1990</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Bahrain Motor Federation</td>
<td>1998</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Bahrain Self-Defence Association</td>
<td>2001</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Bahrain Cycling Association</td>
<td>2001</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Bahrain Handball Association</td>
<td>2002</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Bahrain Football Association</td>
<td>2002</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Bahrain Gymnastics Association</td>
<td>2003</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Bahrain Maritime Sports Federation</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Bahrain Royal Equestrian and Endurance Federation</td>
<td>Not Specified</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Edha’at, a book on women’s competitive sports, issued by BOC in 2005
From the Archives

First ever Bahraini female participation in Olympic Games was through Sprinter Mariam Al Hilli in the Sidney Olympics 2000

Shooting Champion Azza Al Qasmi hoists Bahrain flag in London Olympics 2012

First ever Bahraini female participation in Olympic Games was through Sprinter Mariam Al Hilli in the Sidney Olympics 2000
Pioneering is not that much easy. Yet, Bahraini women attained this stage through hard work: they went through the experience, confronted the challenges, worked hard and made outstanding achievements. They excelled in athletic competitions and won a lot of medals. They also granted Bahrain its first Olympic medal in history when Sprinter Mariam Jamal won the bronze in the 200m race at the London Olympics 2012.
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The General Secretariat of the Supreme Council for Women would like to thank all those who helped in providing the information contained in this booklet on the beginnings of Bahraini women’s sports and the achievements they made at various levels and in different sports.

For better provision and documentation of accurate data and information relating to the history of women’s participation and involvement in the sports process, the General Secretariat of the Supreme Council for Women is eager to receive any data or information which can be of use in documenting women’s work and achievements in this important sector. We hope everyone will contribute to the SCW database, meant to highlight the role of woman as man’s active partner and competitor in this vital area.

Bahraini Women Database - Women Information Centre - Supreme Council for Women
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Fax: 17415310
Email: info.women@scw.bh
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