



جائزة خدمة الإنسانية  
ISA AWARD FOR SERVICE TO HUMANITY

HONOURING THOSE  
WHO CONTRIBUTE  
TO SERVING HUMANITY

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## ABOUT THE ISA AWARD

In this difficult world there are those who fight to improve the circumstances of mankind. These individuals and organisations see the pain, strife, and hardships of others and are stirred to bring beauty where there is none, food where tables are bare, and voices where there is only silence.

The exceptional, selfless, and tireless work of these honourable people often goes unnoticed. The Isa Award for Service to Humanity endeavours to promote the work of these extraordinary individuals and organisations and to encourage humanitarian acts of future generations to come.

Established in 2009 by King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, the Isa Award seeks to honour the individuals and organisations around the globe that have served humanity in a profound way.

Named after the late Amir Shaikh Isa bin Salman Al Khalifa, this award celebrates his life-long dedication to humanitarianism and the distinctive impact he made on his country and the world.

The Isa Award is granted every two years to an individual or organisation selected by a committee of distinguished scholars, experts, and public figures. The laureate will be awarded a royal certificate of merit, a gold medal, and a prize of one million U.S. dollars.

## ABOUT SHAIKH ISA

Shaikh Isa's rule was characterised by his dedication to driving resources towards innovative ideas in economic development, international relations, and social welfare.

What people remember most about him is the remarkable charisma he showed in forging strong relationships and partnerships with people from all walks of life. Even after his death, he continues to serve as an inspirational man and ruler.

The humanitarian spirit of Shaikh Isa resonates the most in the progress Bahrain made in education, healthcare, and social welfare during his rule. One of his most prominent projects was to address the housing shortage in the country as the population boomed over the century.

Moreover, Bahrain achieved the highest rate of literacy in the Arab world and provided its citizens with levels of social welfare and healthcare much higher than its wealthier neighbour. Because of his visionary initiatives, Shaikh Isa captured the imagination and admiration of his people and the world.

Shaikh Isa is remembered as a compassionate leader who cared deeply about preparing his country to face the challenges of the 21st century.

The Isa Award serves to commemorate this remarkable statesman who, above all else, will be remembered as a great humanitarian.

**1933**

Shaikh Isa is born

**1952**

Becomes Chairman of Manama Municipality, Khalifa Council & Irrigation Council

**1956**

Heads Legal Regency

**1961**

Becomes Ruler of Bahrain

**1949**

Marries Sha. Hessa bint Salman

**1953**

Appointed to Trusteeship

**1957**

Becomes Crown Prince





**1965**

Introduces new  
Bahrain Dinar

**1971**

Secures Bahrain's Independence and  
UN Membership

**1973**

Creates National  
Council

**1999**

Shaikh Isa  
passes away

**1964**

Establishes Bahrain  
Monetary Council

**1970**

Establishes  
State Council

**1972**

Creates Constituent  
Assembly

**1992**

Establishes State Consultative  
Assembly (Shura Council)

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

### **SHAIKH MOHAMMED BIN MUBARAK AL KHALIFA - CHAIRMAN**

HH Shaikh Mohammed bin Mubarak Al Khalifa is a Deputy Prime Minister in the Kingdom of Bahrain. A public servant throughout his distinguished career, HH Shaikh Mohammed first served his country as a magistrate. He played an active role in the negotiations with the United Nations Fact-Finding Mission which led to the independence of Bahrain. He was the country's Minister of Foreign Affairs and a member of the Supreme Defence Council. One of the highlights of his career was his active involvement in the resolution of the boundary and maritime disputes between Bahrain and Qatar.

### **SHAIKH KHALID BIN ABDULLA AL KHALIFA - FIRST DEPUTY CHAIRMAN**

Shaikh Khalid bin Abdulla Al Khalifa, a Deputy Prime Minister since 2010, began his long and illustrious career as a Roads Engineer in 1966, progressing slowly through the ranks within the Directorate of Works in Bahrain. He served as Minister of Housing for twenty years between

1975 and 1995, then Minister of Housing, Municipalities and Environment between 1995 and 2001 and finally, Minister of Housing and Agriculture until 2002. Moreover, he established Bahrain's Housing Bank and acted as the Chairman of the Board of Directors between 1979 and 2002. Amongst his many achievements in the field was the development and construction of Hamad Town, a government housing facility.

### **TAQI MOHAMMED AL BAHARNA SECOND DEPUTY CHAIRMAN**

Currently the Second Deputy Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Isa Award for Service to Humanity, Taqi Al Baharna's professional trajectory has spanned the financial and business worlds in addition to a notable political and literary career. As Bahrain's Ambassador to the Arab Republic of Egypt between 1971 and 1974, Al Baharna's endeavours were greatly esteemed by the Egyptian authorities. During the same period, he also represented Bahrain in the Arab League and was awarded a First Class Order of Merit by President Anwar Sadat

in 1973. Between 1993 and 2002, he was a member of the Bahrain Shura Council and led its Committee for Foreign Relations. Moreover, Al Baharna has authored a wide body of work, ranging from literary to poetry.

**SHAIKH KHALID BIN AHMED BIN  
MOHAMMED AL KHALIFA  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBER**

Bahrain's Minister of Foreign Affairs since 2005, Shaikh Khalid began his career in the very ministry he now leads before moving to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister in 1995 where he worked as a Chief Liaison Officer responsible for the Maritime Delimitation and Territorial Dispute between Bahrain and Qatar. His contribution and role were so profound that he was awarded the Bahrain Second Class Medal by HM King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa in 2001. After a period in the Court of HRH Crown Prince, Shaikh Khalid was appointed Bahrain's Ambassador to the United Kingdom, Kingdom of the Netherlands, and the Republic of Ireland. Shaikh Khalid is also a member of the Supreme Defence Council, the Economic Development Board and a number of Ministerial Committees.

**DR. MOHAMMED ALI BIN AL SHAIKH  
MANSOOR AL SITRI  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBER**

Professor AlSitri has always placed a great emphasis on Islamic law and education, having spent his life studying Islamic jurisprudence, engaging in local research and service to society. With a series of academic qualifications to his name, ranging from Arabic language to Islamic law and public administration, Professor Al Sitri is an Advisor to HM King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa for Legislative Affairs. A founding member of the Council of Islamic Parliaments and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Jaafari Awqaf (religious endowments), he has also held a number of ministerial portfolios acting as the Minister of Justice and the Minister of Municipalities at different times during his distinguished career.

**SHAIKHA MAI BINT  
MOHAMMED AL KHALIFA  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBER**

A leading figure in the Arab culture and art scenes, HE has spearheaded national efforts to develop the cultural infrastructure for heritage conservation and the growth of sustainable tourism. President of the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities, after holding the Ministry of Culture & Information and then the Ministry of Culture. As the founder of the

Shaikh Ebrahim bin Mohammed Al Khalifa Center for Culture and Research, she launched the nation-wide “Invest in Culture ”initiative, building an unprecedented partnership between the private and public sectors for heritage preservation. HE was honored by International institutions and received the highest decorations from France, Italy, Morocco, Bahrain among others.

**DR. MANSOOR MOHAMMED SARHAN**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBER**

An established historian and academic, Dr.Sarhan has been the Director of the National Library since 2007, having served as the Director of Public Libraries between 1989 and 2006. An author of over 39 different works, Dr.Sarhan has written a number of biographies and cultural histories of Bahrain as well as translating foreign works for the Arab reader. He is a member of the Board of Trustees of both the Isa Cultural Centre, and the University of Bahrain. His interest in education has led him to serve on the Advisory Board of a private establishment - Al Naseem School. Currently he is a member of the Shura Council.

**ALI ABDULLA KHALIFA - BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBER**  
**SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE AWARD**

A writer, poet, researcher and cultural enthusiast, Ali Abdulla Khalifa has been the Director of Cultural Research at the Royal Court since 2001 and the Secretary General of the International Organisation of Folk Art (IOV) since 2016. Amongst his many published works are 'Gulf of Songs,' 'Folklore Inspiration in Creative Works' and 'Folk Arts – Nations in Unison' in addition to a diverse array of poetry collections and operettas. He holds an honorary doctorate from Giuseppe Scicluna International University Foundation in 1987 His work has earned him wide repute, winning him a number of international awards including the Cultural Competence Medal by the late President Bourguiba of Tunisia in 1973, the International Grand Prize for Arts in 2006 Romania and the Competency First Class Medal of HM King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

**GENERAL SECRETARIAT**

The General Secretariat is responsible for overseeing the operations of the Isa Award for Service to Humanity Nomination process and serving as a centralised coordination hub between the Board of Trustees and the Judging committee.



## VISION

The Isa Award recognises the world changers amongst us whose tireless service through acts of compassion and innovation has helped in restoring faith in humanity and in producing a better world for succeeding generations.

## MISSION

The Isa Award for Service to Humanity has been established with a three-fold goal, to create awareness of extraordinary humanitarian endeavours across the world, to inspire more people to achieve excellence in humanitarian accomplishments, and to honour individuals and organisations who have singularly demonstrated an ability to make a positive impact in the world.

## AWARD CATEGORIES

- 🕒 Disaster Prevention & Relief
- 🕒 Education
- 🕒 Community Service
- 🕒 Dialogue Among Civilizations
- 🕒 Human Tolerance
- 🕒 International Peace
- 🕒 Urban Development
- 🕒 Environment and Climate Change
- 🕒 Scientific Innovation
- 🕒 Poverty Alleviation
- 🕒 Other Related Fields



# RULES OF ENTRY

The Isa Award for Service to Humanity is awarded to exceptional individuals or organisations whose selfless actions produced long-term benefits to the general public, enhanced efforts in finding solutions to humanitarian and social problems and issues, and adopted creative ideas and theories to raise the standard of life.

The nominees are selected by a judging committee who examine their contribution to humanity in fields that include disaster prevention and relief, education, community service, dialogue among civilisations, human tolerance, international peace, urban development, environment and climate change, scientific innovation or poverty alleviation.

- The nomination forms must be submitted in either English or Arabic.
- The applicant shall not be less than 18 years of age.

- Only those applications that comply with the official nomination criteria shall be approved.
- The humanitarian project objective must be clearly defined.
- The details of the quality and quantity of the targeted category must be clearly outlined.
- The form must include the precise humanitarian impact of the project and its underlying benefits to humanity.
- Facing the challenges for the service of humanity must be outlined.
- The Secretariat shall notify the candidates in writing that their applications have been received.





# NATURE & OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT

- The project will have to be purely humanitarian in its scope, and its nature and objectives should be explained in clear details.
- The project will neither be political in nature nor be affiliated to any political party.
- The beneficiaries of the project will not be limited to any one country but expanded to include a broader geographical territory.
- The award applicant shall not receive financial support from any governmental authority but shall rely on the contributions from individuals and institutions.
- The application form must include the number of individuals linked with the project – employees, associates, board members and other stakeholders.
- The application form must provide a detailed overview of the community's relationship with the project.
- The form must include details about relations with other international organisations that are connected to the project.
- The form must provide full details about any other local, regional or international awards that the project has received or has been nominated.
- The form must provide information on how the project would be managed in the absence of the candidate for the award.

In applying the nomination criteria to the candidates, they would be grouped as individuals and institutions. The criteria applicable to each of the candidates shall be sorted accurately by correctly sorting, comparing the level of service performance, its varied dimensions, project output, its spread, diversity and humanitarian value. There will be a brief assessment of the award candidates that would include examining the performance of the individuals, relief centers and services projects, provided that there will be further research, audit and evaluation of the final short-listed candidates.

The Jury Committee will review the short-listed candidates and their requests, provide substantive merits on the differentiation between each of the candidates, explore the circumstances surrounding the selection process, and submit recommendations to the Secretariat and the Board of Trustees with their final decision. After the study and evaluation of each individual candidate, the Committee shall come to a second assessment that would include three names. These names will be displayed with a distinctive sign of the candidate's work, the Jury Committee will then complete its work and present its results to the Board of Trustees.

## FIELD VISIT

The Board of Trustees will assign a group to undertake a field visit to the project site and conduct a personal interview with the potential applicant. The group will comprise members of the secretariat, advisers and other competent professionals with experience in diverse areas.

## THE LAUREATE OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

The final stage of the process would be to inform the laureate and make an official announcement. The name of the Isa Award for Service to Humanity Laureate will be announced at a press conference in the presence of local, regional and international media.

The Isa Award for Service to Humanity will be presented to the laureate at a high profile event to be held in the Kingdom of Bahrain under the patronage of His Majesty the King of Bahrain. Numerous dignitaries, public figures and other distinguished personalities from Bahrain and outside will be invited for the event. The laureate will receive a royal certificate of appreciation, a 21K. Gold Medal and US\$ 1,000,000 in recognition of their outstanding services to humanity.





# CONTACT

For further information on the Isa Award  
for Service to Humanity and to obtain  
nomination forms, please visit our  
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