

# الوثيقة

تصدر عن  
مركز الوثائق التاريخية  
بمملكة البحرين

العدد العاشر - السنة الخامسة

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damaged or lost, especially when the few people mastering the old Turkish language all over the world are extinguishing.

From time to time, Archives authorities express their hopes to achieve the tedious task of "Indexing" the treasurable documents of these Archives. But "Indexing" is an ambitious plan that require the staffing of a large number of interested specialists. If bridges of co-operation could be extended between Gulf Documents Centres and these Archives with the aim of preparing Indexes for the documents and manuscripts, so much will be gained by both parties.

Indexing the documents will lift a heavy burden up the shoulders of Archives' authorities. On the other hand the participating of Gulf Documents Centres in the process of carrying out this objective, and in return obtain a copy of every completed index will save both parties enormous efforts and endeavours. It will also make easy for each Centre to examine the documents it obtained and request other documents of interest to it in the first place without having to go through tens of thousands of documents in order to find what it wants. These indexes in themselves will be of great value not only to the Gulf States but also to the Arab and Islamic States.

Taking into consideration the fact that preparing or even starting the process of preparing these indexes will not cost much, we should be stirred to effectively start carrying out this general project. The objective is of course enormous, but the wished benefits are more enormous and greater than whatever efforts may exerted or money spent. These benefits will not keep within limits of Today's generations who are exerting every possible effort to circumscribe the events of their important and inveterate history but will outlast to so

During the objective, valuable and wide ranged discussions that took place in it's 9th Conference held in the United Arab Emirates last November, the secretariat general of documents and research centres in the Arab Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Countries, laid before the conference a working paper suggesting new ideas about how to put to order the use of documents related to the Gulf area in Foreign Archives. The advantages extend to include saving needless efforts and costs as well as consolidating the spirit of co-operation among member states and sharing what one member state might obtain of these documents.

The discussions which took up and engrossed almost one complete session were concentrated on the Ottoman Archives. Two important remarks were made by the speakers. First: Archives which are available to researchers and those which are still out of reach are vastly rich with documents related to the Gulf area, the Arabian Peninsula and even the Islamic area. The reason behind this is the fact that the Ottomans used to register almost everything and keep what they registered in safe places. As the Ottoman Empire was so immensely vast, reports and letters never stopped between rulers, leaders, messengers or even agents on one side and the central government on the other side. These letters and reports represent a very fertile and rich source for contemporary researchers in the history of the area. It is perhaps a source richer than the archives of Holland, Britain and Portugal.

The second remark was made by researchers frequently visited these archives in the last recent years. They briefed the conference on how these ancient documents are kept in an underdeveloped way. Some of them are not touched for more than a century now, and are thus threatened to be

and development. Throughout the last twenty-five years, and thanks to the conscious and wise policies adopted, Bahrain could lay the solid foundations for the long awaited security as well as supporting the atmosphere of stability for which it craved and longed.

Enjoying this atmosphere, it was possible for Bahrain to start achieving the clear aspirations of progress, prosperity and catching up with the vanguard of civilization conformably with astonishing as well as admirable levels. The features of progress which extended throughout the last twenty-five years to include all aspects of human activities will remain a prominent landmark in the history of this country and will proudly chronicle the fruits of the sincere efforts extended, the wise policies adopted and the atmosphere of stability and security achieved. Long remembered will be the consuming industry, relentless and limitless endeavours to achieve great aspirations and pave the way to accomplish more and more of limitless aspirations. Doubtless, it was a great endeavour that managed and led the ship through the stormy waves of the Gulf, and led the march of progress through the clashing waves of the age until it reached the shores of progress and development.

On this auspicious occasion "Al Watheeka" extends sincere felicitations to His Highness the Amir, Shaikh Isa Bin Sulman Al Khalifa, His Excellency Shaikh Khalifa Bin Sulman Al Khalifa the prime minister, His Excellency Shaikh Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa the crown prince, and finally to the government and the people of Bahrain. May God the Almighty help and lead to success every sincere and good intention and every honest endeavour aiming at the prosperity and well-being of this country and its citizens.

*IN THE NAME OF GOD, THE BENEFICENT,  
THE MERCIFUL*

## **A WORD ABOUT THIS ISSUE**



**By**

**H.E. SHAIKH ABDULLAH  
BIN KHALID AL KHALIFA**

Few days ago, Bahrain celebrated the dear and glorious occasion of the 15th anniversary of its National Day which coincided this year with the Silver Jubilee of the Accession to the throne of His Highness The Amir, Shaikh Isa Bin Sulman Al Khalifa. And as a matter of fact, anybody engaged in dealing with the History of Bahrain would be dazzled with the achievements of these 25 years which immeasurably excell all other achievements accomplished throughout the inveterate and deep-rooted History.

These islands witnessed the birth of History as well as the passage of so many centuries. All along these ages, Bahrain was the scene where so many events took place and consequently deprived it of any real chance to achieve growth