

Beaches 'vital to Manama growth'

By LAALA KASHEF ALGHATA

A TOP government official is calling for more beaches and public spaces to be created in and around Manama.

Capital Governor Shaikh Hisham bin Abdulrahman Al Khalifa told the *GDN* that the city badly needed beautification in order to improve residents' standard of living and the environment in general.

He said that he hoped to raise money to build a public park similar to Prince Khalifa Bin Salman Park in Hidd.

"Public spaces are very important," said

Shaikh Hisham.

"We lack sea fronts and beach areas here in the Capital Governorate and we need to develop Al Fateh Corniche in such a way so that it serves as a good corniche for the area."

The governor said he wanted to recapture the spirit of the capital from days gone by when it had a closer connection to the sea.

"I remember, along with many other Manama residents, when the seashore was right next to my

house," he said.

"But as things have developed and the sea was reclaimed, it receded.

"We need to redefine our connection with the sea and develop places to attract citizens and expatriates.

"Manama is rich in history and we are the first to have many things in Bahrain – we need to develop in a way to bring beauty to the capital."

Shaikh Hisham also stressed the need for people to maintain an active

lifestyle and expressed his hope that he might make it easier for residents to get some exercise in the open air.

"I want walkways to be built," he said.

"The first one I want to build is from Juffair to the Prince Khalifa bin Salman Park in Hidd.



■ Shaikh Hisham

"Work should start this year, as an agreement has now been signed between the Works Ministry and the Municipalities and Urban Affairs Ministry."

Revamped public gardens across the capital are another aspiration of Shaikh Hisham's.

"I want them to be different so that they're unique," he said.

"We don't want to keep doing the same thing because they are obviously not drawing people's interest.

"If we could raise the money, I would want to create a challenge to build a park like Prince Khalifa bin Salman Park in Hidd in Manama.

"But in the meantime, we will be redoing the Salmaniya Garden near the Andalus Hotel."

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■ Shaikh Hisham, sitting, sixth from left, and Dr Maunder, sitting, seventh from left, with graduates and faculty members

Day of pride for students

A GRADUATION ceremony to honour 85 Bahrain Polytechnic students was held yesterday at Movenpick Hotel Bahrain.

The third CILT International Awarding Ceremony 2014 was held under the patronage of Polytechnic board of trustees chairman Shaikh Hisham bin Abdulaziz Al Khalifa, who presented some students with international diploma certificates and others with international certificate award in logistics and transport.

Both certificates are accredited by UK-based Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport International (CILT).

An appreciation award was also given to CILT moderator Dr David Maunder for his outstanding support.

Present at the ceremony were Polytechnic acting chief executive Dr Mohammed Al Aseeri along with executive and senior management teams.



■ Shaikh Hisham honours a graduate in the presence of Dr Maunder



■ Graduates receive their certificates



■ The audience at the event



ALTERNATIVE
HOGMANY
& CEILIDH

Bahrain Caledonian Society



The British Club

Thursday 26th June 2014

7.30pm - onwards

Smart Casual

10BD inclusive of buffet dinner

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