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## SHAME <br>  <br> MANAMA: Journalists who <br> By BASMA MOWMamed

 spread messages of hate should e publicly shamed, according to an international expert.The media should have freedom, but must only tell the truth and give both sides of the story, stressed former Canadian prime min-
ister Jean Chretien.
ten think media that spread hatred should be艮

## Election boycott call condemned

MANAMA. Bahrain will not Salman during an event at a tolerate attempts by anyone to derail forthcoming parliamentary elections by fomenting violence or spreadiny chaos, a top government minister warned last night
Such incitement, reminiscent of the February 2011 unrest, will be met with the force of law, Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments Minister Shaikh Khalid bin Ali AI Khalifa said
He made the remarks follow ing a recent statement by Al Wefaq National Islamic Society secretary-general Shaikh Ali

Salman during an event al a Samahee, mosque in which he tion with the aim of crippling the elections, which are scheduled to be held next year He said political pluralism and sustained development can only be achieved through fair competition rather than instigation to violence and adoption of terrorism and intimidation tactics that were used during the 2011 by-elections "There is no place for anyone whose main target is to obstruct the nation-building process


Mr Chretien was speaking on the sidelines of a Press conference at the conclusion of the 3 st annual plenary meeting at the Ritz-Carlton Bahrain, Hotel and Spa yesterday The three-day event, organised by the InterAction Counct, was held under the patronage of his Royal Highness Prince Saiman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Premier

Mr Chrétien, who is also the council's co-chairman, said Bahrain is playing a key role in efforts to create a nuclear-free Middle East it is prossibless and we could it is possible and we could have no-nuclear zones in many East South America and Africa " Mr Chrétien said and The meeting reviewed the present state of the world the water-energy-food nexus, religous divide and nuclear nonproliferation, he said proliferation, he said. mmendations wirc which will be distributed world leaders and policy-mak worl Some of the recommen dations include encouraging governments to seek multilateral and sustained co-operation, ceasing construction and expansion of new settlements in Palestinian territories and East Jerusalem by Israel, urying Iran to fully implement its Safeguards Agreement and its other obligations.


Young dancers perform at a show at the Cultural Hall near Bahrain National Museum yesterday A total of 270 dancers from the Ballare School of Performing Art showcased their skills in ballet and contemporary dance to hip-hop. More pictures - Page 14 Picture: JAYACHANDRAN

## Health alert to block virus

MANAMA: Health authorities were vesterday urged to take immediate pre-emplive measures to avert a to take immediate pre-emplive measures to avert a
potential oulbreak or Sars-like coronavirus in Bahrain "Forty-three per cent of the coronavirus-related death cases in the world have been reported in neighbouring Saudi Arabia," Foreign Affairs, Defence and National Securis Commitlee member and MP Sawsan Taqaw said She called on the Health Minisin to outline delailed contingency plans to contain potential outbreak in Bahrain and allay people s fears She urged entry poins 10 aver any coronavins infeclions amon travellers arriving in Bahrain

Full report - Page 2
Budget stalemate warning MANAMA: A Shura Council member yesterday warned about the fallout of continuing stalemate over the 2013-2014 budget on the national economy. "Development projects risk being crippled for lack of funds if the tug-of-war between the government and parliamen
continues," Hala Ramzi Fayiz Quris said. She urge the government and parliament to be flexible for the law on the budget to be passed. She paid tribute to Minister Prince Khalifa bin


## Bahrain this mornlog rat.

Salman AI Khalifa and His Roval Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Premier, for allocating anti-infa


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Dignitaries attend the opening ceremony.

## InterAction Council gets rolling in Bahrain

## Roberto Carrillo <br> robettoddt bh

ceremony of the InterAction Council yesterday at the Ritz Carlton in Seef saw the participation of several former world leaders who are expected to discuss the region's most pertinent issues in the coming days.
The 31st Annual Plenary Meeting of the InterAction Council being held in Bahrain for the first time is being organised under the Patronage of Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa
The council is an organisation of former world leaders who gather to discuss current world issues in order to provide solutions based on their past experiences as

The welcome message on the occasion was delivered by Deputy Prime Minister Shaikh Mohammed bin Mubarak Al Khalifa who was deputised by the Crown Prince to attend the opening ceremony.
He was followed by former


Shaikh Mohammed

Canadian Prime Minister and InterAction Council co-chair ean Chretien who gave the attendees an introduction on the organisation. The keynote was then delivered by Former Jordanian Prime Minister and InterAction Council Member Dr. Abdel Salam Majali who highlighted some of the issues of the Middle East and its root causes
The opening ceremony then ended with several words of appreciation from former Austrian Chancellor and InterAction Council Co-Chair

Mr. Chretien

Dr. Franz Vranitzky.
The keynote delivered by Dr. Majali has set the tone of the discussions which will be on for the next few days. One of the issues he highlighted in his keynote is the importance of pushing for nuclear non-proliferation and eventual disarmament of nuclear powered and armed countries.
"This region is very unique. It includes four countries that aspire to be part of the club of nuclear-armed nations. It has one of the richest and also one of the poorest countries in the
 yet," Dr. Majali said.
"It may have said.

Dr. Majali
world. In the Middle East, the situation is critical. We must all lobby for a nuclear free region or otherwise, we will have a nightmare one our hands," said the former Jordanian president.

Need for constimutional govts
"In the past few years, events that have occured throughout the region have been come to be known as the Arab Spring but in my belief it is a spring that has not fully blossomed


Mr. Vranitzky
internal affair, but soon after, international powers have rushed in to protect their own private interests and later they turned it into a more complicated situation. ${ }^{\text {. }}$

He added that what coun tries can learn from this is that autocratic, one-party leader ships can no longer an accepted form of government

Subjected to political whims
He highlighted that the Gulf region has been always known as a region of peace
and Bahrain has been a para mount of ongoing reform effectively transforming itself into a constitutional monarchy in the last ten years
"However, owing to its strategic geographical location, it has been subject ed to the political whims of the regional powers. What is clear, however, is that regional powers interfering in internal affairs of other nations is no longer a valid way to gain hegemony," Dr Majali added.



His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Haınad Al Khalifa. Crown Prince. Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Premier, hosted a dinner last night in honour of the participants of the 31 st InterAction Council Annuai Plenary Meeting. Deputy Premier Shaikh Mohammed bin Mubarak Al Khillita attended the event held at Sakhir Palace. The Crown Prince intericted with his guests, which included former heads of states and governments. Royal Family members, ministers and leading figures in Bahrail society were also present.



ولي الـعهد يـنـب سمو لـحضور انتتاح محلس العمل المثشــرك.. دحهد بن مبارك الببرين حريصة على التحاون مع العالم ومـساعدة الشعوب


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