

Bahrain's stress on rights protection highlighted

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Human rights and the principles of tolerance, brotherhood and justice are tangibly underlined by Bahrain's constitution, said the Foreign Minister, Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Khalifa. The minister, who was speaking at a Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) conference held in Tehran under the theme 'human rights and cultural diversity', noted that bound by these principles, Bahrain had been keen to contribute to all activities reinforcing the humanity's common principles in terms of heritage, civilisation and faith.

Shaikh Khalid drew attention to the strong interconnectivity among human rights, cultural diversity and humanity's shared destiny, asserting that for narrow personal or individual states interest, certain parts tend to sow sedition, discrimination and wrath among communities. In this context, the minister pointed out to the Islamophobia which had been strongly promoted to sow hatred among peoples of different cultures and faiths, forgetting that Islam basically emerged to preach fraternity, love and tolerance and to reject all factors of disunion.

He highlighted Bahrain's constitution and legislation which stress human rights as well as the values of tolerance, fraternity and equality, noting that the Kingdom had already joined several international human rights pacts that seek to crack down on all forms of gender discrimination, torture as well as inhumane and ruthless penalties and human trafficking.