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Contents

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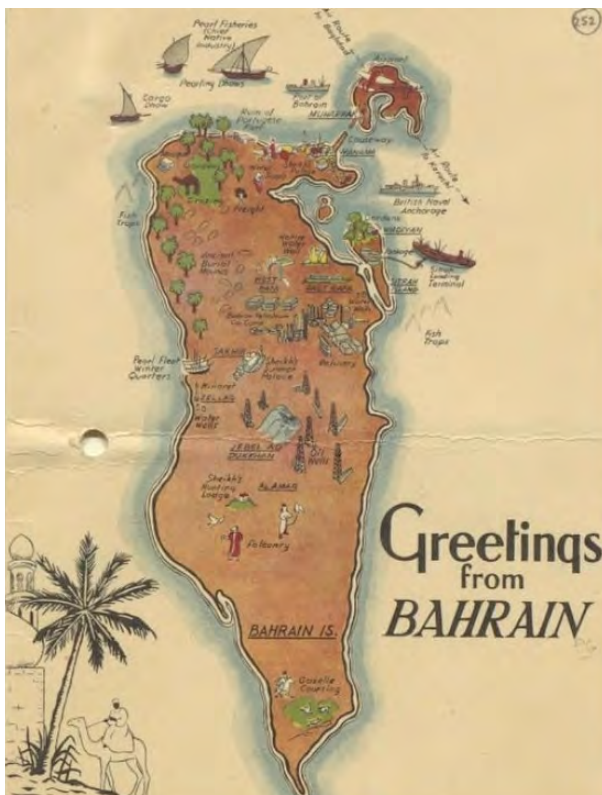
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- 06** Is real estate a good investment in Bahrain?
- 08** Is renting to own a better option than taking a loan?
- 12** How to invest in Q4 2021? - Julius Baer
- 16** One Team, One Run: AUBH completes 5K at 3rd annual President's Run - AUBH
- 18** A luxurious and splendid trip to The Florida Keys
- 24** Race results: 6 hours of Bahrain WEC 2021 Recap
- 26** Jeep Grand Cherokee L debuts in Middle East

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1939 - Map of Bahrain

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Gulf Insider

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IS REAL ESTATE

A GOOD INVESTMENT IN BAHRAIN?

Charlie Cooksey interviews Royal Ambassador CEO,
Eng. Mohamed Al Kooheji.

Fontana infinity is one of the latest and most beautiful developments in the Kingdom of Bahrain. Just recently, Gulf Insider sat down with Eng. Mohamed Al Kooheji, CEO of Royal Ambassador to discuss real estate in Bahrain as well as the newly launched Tower B of Fontana Infinity.

The economy is still recovering from the effects of COVID-19. Why launch the FI Tower B now?

Looking into the investment landscape in Bahrain and different asset classes today – whether bonds, gold, equity, cash, or real estate – I would say that considering real estate is one of the best investments as real estate in Bahrain is undervalued and there's huge

potential for growth.

Looking into bonds, we used to see high numbers in 2017-2018, with bonds with a return of up to 6%. But today, the opportunities are no longer as they used to be, with returns of 2-3.5%.

When it comes to gold, we can see that gold has skyrocketed up to \$2,000. When it comes to other asset classes like cash, today, it's the worst as we can see inflation and today many investors are considering real estate as a good option to hedge against inflation.

We can see that money is losing its value and when it comes to construction and raw materials – it has escalated up to 30%. Gold has gone up from BD 200 per ton to BD 300. We can see the same with copper and lumber as well as with many others.

What does Tower B offer that is different from Tower A?

We have not increased our prices in Tower B. So, there's a huge opportunity to buy in Tower B. There are many people who would like to buy and mitigate the risk of construction. They would like to buy a leased property as well with guaranteed returns to maximize their returns. So, tower B comes as a very good option for them.

We have also considered to provide them with a fully fitted-out and fully-furnished product that offers a different value proposition from Tower A.

Tower B also comes with different sea views looking into the Hidd and Muharraq Causeways, very unique entrance, and provides more privacy compared to Tower A. In addition to



Eng. Mohamed Al Kooheji



Real estate has always been one of the best asset classes to invest in, in terms of asset appreciation. It's an income generating asset class.

this, Tower B is a huge opportunity for the people who have missed the opportunity to invest during the construction stage of the Fontana Infinity or if they have seen that the market was not in a good state to invest back in 2016-2018. Now, they can see the product is completed, fully-furnished, and leased out with guaranteed returns. So, it becomes comes as a very excellent option for them to buy.

How is real estate a good investment when you compare and take into account other asset classes?

Real estate has always been one of the best asset classes to invest in, in terms of asset appreciation. It's an income generating asset class.

Looking into the other options, whether it's equities, bonds, or gold – today, they have skyrocketed. But when it comes to Bahrain, the real estate is still at the bottom. So, you have a big advantage entering when the market is as low as it is today and selling when it's as high as it used to be.

So, there's huge potential for appreciation as well as yields incomes that gives you handsome returns up to 8-10%. That's what makes it totally different from other asset classes today.

Do you see good substantial appreciation in both short term and long term in Bahrain?

I will say in the long term. Let's say you look at gold as an asset class today – it used to be \$1,000, today it has skyrocketed to \$2,000. Today, entering into the gold market is not advisable if you have not done it earlier.

The advantage of buying real estate today is that you are buying at its lowest point and you are going to have a high gain. When it comes to yields, we're talking about 8-10% yields per year – which is considered to be substantially high compared to any other market where you're getting 1-3% max.

What percentage rental yield can owners expect from their investment?

I would say it varies from 6-9%, depending on the unit, its use, and





We have considered every single aspect of quality when it comes to the project. All the finishes have been selected from Italy.

its size. What makes Fontana Infinity different from any other property is that it offers a different lifestyle and experience with its amenities and services, ranging from its gym to its gaming area, and more. We have considered every possible category of tenant's interest within the property. So, it stands out from any other asset class available within the market.

What makes the Fontana series a good option for residents or buyers?

It has been developed different from any other property. When it comes to space planning, to the public area, to the way the views are displayed within each area, we have considered the amenities within the public area. It is built by the Kooheji Contractors and there is high attention to details when it comes to the services, the finishes, and details.

We have considered every single aspect of quality when it comes to the project. All the finishes have been selected from Italy. We ensure that there are no compromises when it comes to quality. When it comes to the service, you have Royal Ambassador offering five-star services and amenities and you are enjoying a luxury lifestyle standard and a resort feel within a residential tower.

What's your personal favorite part of this whole project?

The Co-working space. We came up with a different concept considering the COVID-19 situation. We have seen people looking into working from home. We provided a 250 sqm co-working space and we found that a lot of people find it very useful for them and it's always highly occupied. 👁️



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IS RENTING TO OWN A BETTER OPTION THAN TAKING A LOAN?

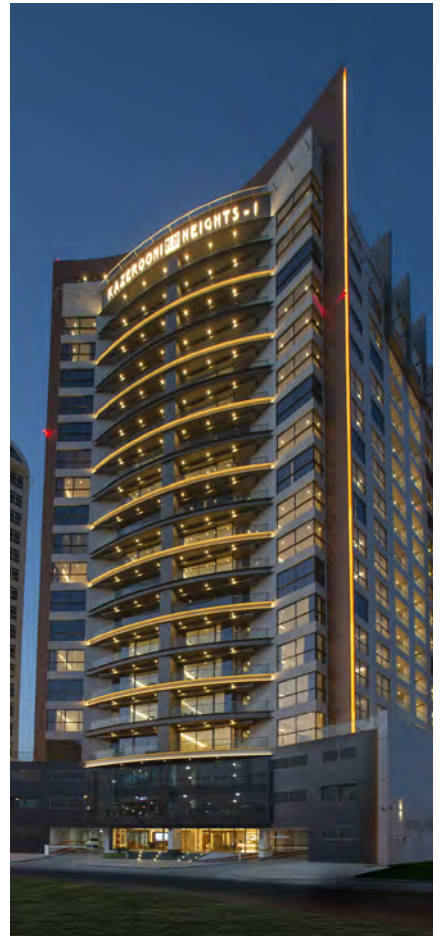
Did you know that Kazerooni Heights lets you rent an apartment with the option to own it after three years?

Homeownership is the ultimate dream for many people. It does, after all, bring a sense of security and is considered the mark of financial stability and adulthood.

One of the common options for buyers is to take a loan, which comes with several pre-requisites such as a good credit score. Another option is to rent-to-own, where you rent a property with the option to buy it after the rent period is over; in some cases, a percentage of that payment is deducted from the purchase price.

Kazerooni Heights offers the rent-to-own option with 100% of the total rent payment deducted from the purchase price. Here are some reasons why you should consider this option...





Kazerooni Heights offers the rent-to-own option with 100% of the total rent payment deducted from the purchase price.

No Down Payment

When renting to own at Kazerooni Heights, you will only have to pay a 3-year fixed monthly rent. The total rent over the 3 years will then be considered as your down payment and will be deducted from the total price of your apartment.

No Loan Required

The rent-to-own option is ideal for those who prefer to make gradual payments as opposed to paying a hefty lump sum.

No Responsibilities


During the 3-year rental period, all service charges related to Kazerooni Heights and Amwaj Islands, as well as maintenance expenses, will be covered – allowing for a worry-free experience.

No Commitment, All the Benefits

Tenants have complete freedom of

choice on whether or not to buy the apartment after the 3-year rental period is over.

Essentially, if you decide to buy the property, you could rest assured that your investment over the 3-years will be securing a down payment for homeownership. Otherwise, you would have rented a luxury apartment with great value for price per square meter, quality finishing, and great amenities – a win-win situation.

The property is also conveniently located near 3 hospitals and is only a short 10-minute drive from the Bahrain Airport. 

For more details about the ownership and investment options, call +973 3977 0009 or visit www.kazerooniheights.com/investment_options/



HOW TO INVEST IN Q4 2021?

Charlie Cooksey talks to **Christian Gattiker**, Head of Research at Swiss Wealth Manager, Julius Baer on investing during the last quarter of 2021.

Are we facing inflation or deflation, and how does it affect investment decisions?

We are facing a bit of both. In the long-run, we're certainly facing deflation, with falling prices in the past 30-40 years and all the more during the pandemic. What changed during this kind of normalisation is that we have had a spike in inflation and the question now is – is it transitory or will it remain this way?

Our take is that we're in a rather intermediate increase of inflation which is very much related to the fact that lots of things were shut down and now reopened, so there's a scarcity of

some things and that pushes up the prices. Then we see a normalisation. That means we'll most probably end up where we were before the crisis. Meaning not deflation, but rather pricing should be in time.

Why do you believe the extent of the global economic recovery is being underestimated?

We suspect that the blueprint is a different one from what we usually have of the growth crisis. The growth path of the recession in the past 40 years was flatter than before the recession. It was always coming down, and a lot of that was due to the fact that there was some intrinsic problem

in the economy that triggered crises such as the housing bubble, bubble in equities, Asian crisis in the 1990s. However, those were market intrinsic forces which needed to be worked out. They were previously successes in the system. A crisis happened and after that you have to work out and rebalance the economy.

This time is completely different. It is comparable to what we had after the Spanish Flu. This is not about the workout, this is about going back to normal. People are eager to catch up – companies are investing like crazy, money is cheap, and we think that this will trigger a virtuous circle which will be beneficial to the economy.



Christian Gattiker, Head of Research at Swiss Wealth Manager, Julius Baer

Our take is that we're in a rather intermediate increase of inflation which is very much related to the fact that lots of things were shut down and now reopened.

What is your view of America's massive fiscal stimulus package?

The initial one which they used to bridge the gap until we were back to normal was certainly helpful. The oversize was really helping the economy to keep going.

The one which is more long-term and very much infrastructure-related, we think absolutely makes sense. There has been a lack of infrastructure spending, so that will trigger some dividends and there will be future benefits for that. But the way they will finance it is much more neutral than the initial package.

Overall, it's a bit of a left pocket to the right pocket situation, so we don't expect that it will move the needle in terms of growth, but it is something which certainly makes sense for the long-run.

Which companies do you believe currently offer the best investment prospects?

In our view, winter this year is about business models that provide a steady

flow of cash which don't have too much of a risky aspect when it comes to forecasting these cashflows. We think this is the complete opposite of what we had in the first nine months of this year where it was mostly about risky companies – the ones that are heavily tied into the business cycle – highly cyclical companies, and rather weak balance sheets.

We think this has now shifted and the main reason for that in our view is that the best is over in terms of speed in which the economy recovers. It now will be tapering off and that's usually when investors turn back to the neglected part of the stock market. This is usually the quality companies.

Any recommendations from your side?

I think we have plenty. If you look at the stable companies, we think a lot of them are in healthcare, which is going through the roof. We think this is a highly disruptive situation when new technologies and possibilities come into play, such as medical technology, life sciences, and so forth. We think this is very interesting.

The tide has been shifting in plenty of other places too and it's changing the way businesses are run. Look at the circular economy, waste treatment – how do you deal with that? Look at the future of mobility – we had a complete shift to electric vehicles, and the like. There's plenty of opportunities and that's why it boils down to single stocks. I think it's very important to be decisive in the next 6-12 months to tell the one from the other.

Sustainable investments are growing in traction. Do you see this as just a passing phase?

It's a continuation of a long-term trend and as with so many things, the health crisis accelerated this trend. Therefore, yes, we do think this will continue. The boost is maybe unprecedented of what we had in terms of how people looked at this pace, but certainly it will continue.

It's a long-term theme where we see more and more of our clients turning this into one of their major pillars of how they run their wealth. ►►



We see everyone talk about the future of everything; megatrends, mobility, healthcare. How do you see this evolving both short and long-term?

We think the short-term is really about tactics and I'm fully with the people saying that sometimes these things get ahead of themselves. The stocks are just pricy, therefore, megatrend investing can be also a tactical investment for the short-term.

We think the underlying trends we see we are extremely stable in most of the areas you mentioned. This is something which cannot be reversed – technology is a major driver, cheap capital, the playing together of many technologies at the same time, AI – all these are going in a direction that is unstoppable and that makes it so attractive over the 5-10 year horizon.

But if you want to hang in for the long-term, you certainly have to be aware that there's times of doom and gloom and times of euphoria. Therefore, we advise our clients either to be very tactical about it and conscious.

The prime example would be the clean energy after the Biden win. The stock industry tripled within six months after the election. We had to trim the exposure because there's so much priced into these stocks and we've had this correction and then there's also times when you can get it back in again.

What does the future hold for crypto assets and do you recommend them as a safe investment?

We can't tell what the future holds. I think it's a major Darwinian selection process of various technologies, ideas, and ways of cryptocurrencies being set up. The underlying technology blockchain certainly has potential to change the world or at least the way we run business on a global scale. I think we cannot imagine what it will do to the economy.

I like to compare it to the rollout of electric power 150 years ago – nobody had a clue what this was going to do to everyday life and were in no position to forecast that. So, against this backdrop, it's of high uncertainty, it's about getting new standards.


It reminds me a bit of the TMT euphoria 25 years ago where the market was spot on about the fact that something completely new is coming. The trouble at the time was that not all of the new business models were available. It might be the same with some of the crypto space that the next 'gold', US dollar, or reserve currency in crypto is not even available yet today.

So that can insist that we add some caution to the euphoria. We tell investors that it makes sense to have a certain part of the assets, but be aware of the risks and try to learn what it feels like to have it in your portfolio. I think

by eating it, you realize what it does in terms of fluctuations and just keep an open mind to what's going to happen. I think there will be new opportunities along the way.

How would you recommend someone to invest a million dollars if they were looking long term and low risk? What would be your advice to someone in that position?

A conservative investor to us is labeled a 'fixed income investor'. At this stage, roughly, if you split your money in the different pocket, it means that you have more than half of your assets, about 65% in bonds; about 20-25% in equities; some in alternative investments; and the remaining 5% or less in cash. That's usually how you run a portfolio.

That is also our benchmark. At this stage, we're just a bit underweight so we're not fully invested in the fixed income space. We have a slight overweight in equities, but we don't think this is the time to be aggressively far away from where we'd like to be. Therefore, for conservative investors, it's a plus-minus. I would advise a 60-20-15-5 split, bonds-equities-alternatives-cash. 

For more information on Julius Baer, visit their website.



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ONE TEAM, ONE RUN: AUBH COMPLETES 5K AT 3RD ANNUAL PRESIDENT'S RUN

Over 200 runners, and more than 200 attendees and visitors joined the American University of Bahrain for this year's President's Run.



The American University of Bahrain (AUBH) just concluded their annual President's Run held on 18th October, marking the beginning of the new academic year.

The event was under the patronage of His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, who attended the Run's opening ceremony and blew the horn for the runners to start their race.

Dr. Susan Saxton, AUBH Founding President and President of the Bahrain Schools & Collegiate Athletics Association, Dr. Sh. Sager Al Khalifa, kicked off the opening ceremony and welcomed the guests and commemorated His Highness' esteemed presence with a frame of appreciation.

The University's ethos is "Sound Mind, Sound Body" – this annual

sporting event aims to put emphasis on confidence, positive thinking, and resilience necessary for success.

Students, experienced runners, faculty, and influencers were put to the challenge of completing a 5K and enjoyed working as a team.

Senior officials in the Kingdom and youth from national high schools and universities also joined the AUBH Community at the fitness extravaganza.



Students, experienced runners, faculty, and influencers were put to the challenge of completing a 5K and enjoyed working as a team.



During the race, the runners received great support from the volunteers and student marshals who provided them with water and enthusiastically cheered them on. The AUBH President was also running along with the students, role modeling.

Meanwhile, the guests enjoyed the festivities surrounding the event featuring student-owned businesses, supporting students' talents and entrepreneurship.

University professors and admin staff were also present to show their academic spirit and support the runners as they crossed the finish line. There were cheerers motivating the runners the entire way, which encouraged the runners to push forward and keep going. Finishers received medals after the run and a selection of prizes were given out through a lucky draw.

The slogan "One Team, One Run, AUBH!" was truly reflected in the interactive, supportive, and energetic environment that day.

After the run, there was live entertainment kids' activities and a "Meet & Greet" with the AUBH Community.

The Annual AUBH President's Run has rapidly grown over the past few years, with this year's event being the largest.

As their student body keeps flourishing, they further replicate the American experience in Bahrain. The run was an unforgettable feat, and the smile on each race finisher's face is a sight to remember for years to come. 👁️

For more information on AUBH, call +973 7799 9997 or WhatsApp +973 3365 3343, or visit www.aubh.edu.bh

A LUXURIOUS AND SPLENDID TRIP TO THE FLORIDA KEYS

Charlie Cooksey spends a weekend in the Florida Keys in the pinnacle of luxury, checking into Isla Bella Beach Resort and Oceans Edge Resort.

When in Florida, a trip down to The Keys is a must. The Florida Keys are a long strip of tropical islands stretching about 120 miles off the southern tip of the peninsular US state of Florida, running through the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico. This long strip of

islands running through the middle of the ocean ranks high in being one of the most beautiful and spectacular places I've travelled to, and the approximately 4-hour drive from Miami down to Key West is a commute you'll seriously enjoy.

I broke the drive from Miami to Key West into 2 legs stopping over half

way in Marathon, a city in the Keys, and checked into Isla Bella – a luxury resort hotel tucked away in one of the most beautiful parts of Florida and just 2 hours from Miami. A windy driveway lined with over a thousand tall palm trees greet you as you drive into the hotel entrance area, whilst the hotel is just off the main A1A road, you feel truly





Charlie representing Bahrain at the southernmost point of continental USA.



Isla Bella is set on 24 acres of lush tropical landscaping and nearly one mile of private beach and boasts four dining outlets.

separate and isolated from the rest of the world as you enter the resort.

Isla Bella is set on 24 acres of lush tropical landscaping and nearly one mile of private beach and boasts four dining outlets, five swimming pools, on-site water sports, a fishing pier, marina and stunning Atlantic Ocean views from all 199 rooms.

A smooth, quick check-in process at Isla Bella lobby whilst sipping a cold glass of a refreshing mocktail, and eyeballing the immaculate beach through the big glass windows of the hotel lobby.... It made for great Instagram stories.

My suite had multiple rooms and offered a lot of space yet felt very 'homely' and the view from the room was like something from a postcard. I had a relaxing one night stay here, rose early the following morning to watch the sunrise over the ocean with a fresh cup of coffee using the in-room coffee machine. 'Paradise' is a cliché word today, but going by pure definition, this was it.





Sunset and Mallory Square, Key West



The bedroom has a colonial design with what may be one of the comfiest hotel beds I've slept on!

The second leg of my trip in the Keys I took off from Isla Bella Resort and drove about 1.5hrs from Marathon down to Key West and checked into Oceans Edge. Key West is a whole different vibe compared to Marathon – busy with shops, restaurants, bars and all sorts of events happening.

Oceans Edge Resort & Marina is just a few minutes from the entrance into Key West island. An outstanding resort across 20 acres surrounded by tropical palm trees, clear blue sea, swimming pools and sunshine.

I was totally impressed from first arrival – the design and décor of the lobby and hotel property and also the friendly, welcoming and helpful staff and reception gave a warm welcome and told me everything I need to know about Oceans Edge, as well as offering some great ideas on things to do in Key West – including the Sunset Festival in Mallory Square, I really enjoyed that.

I arrived in my spacious room, dropped my bags on the bed and headed straight out onto the large balcony – partly shaded by hanging palm trees with the view of the marina lined with yachts; I spent a lot of time on this balcony relaxing, reading my book, enjoying a sunrise coffee and watching the world (and clouds) go by. The bedroom has a colonial design with what may be one of the comfiest hotel

beds I've slept on! In my hotel room there was an elegant bathroom with a large glass shower as well as a living/ lounge area. I was glad to be staying here for two nights so I had the time to really feel at home and relax.

Around the resort there are 6 pools each surrounded with comfy loungers, various games such as ping pong tables enjoyed by families (the youngsters also seemed to enjoy playing in the water features!). There is also a gym on site with various cardio machines. Yellowfin Bar & Kitchen is the all-day dining restaurant serving some classic Florida Keys dishes.

Not to be missed are the water activities – including kayaks, scuba diving, snorkeling, paddle boarding etc. To really experience the keys you have to get into the water – so be sure to make the most of this being right on your doorstep. 👁️

For more information on Isla Bella Beach Resort visit: www.islabellabeachresort.com

For more information on Oceans Edge Resort & Marina visit: www.oceansedgekeywest.com

The Bahrain based lifestyle and luxury magazine with style and editorial flair that is enjoyed by affluent customers - both Arab and Expats.



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PART 21

HOW TO WIN IN BUSINESS AND LIFE

Every month **Gulf Insider** publish 2 pages that reveal brilliant secrets for winning in business and life. The techniques are provided by top international experts and we will often summarize an entire book into a single page so you can learn the essence of their wisdom in minutes instead of hours.

Take the time to learn what we reveal each month and you will be rewarded a thousand times over!



EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT EVERYTHING

By **John Lloyd**

Ignorance? You'd better get used to it. In the words of Thomas Edison, 'We don't know a millionth of one per cent about anything'.

Is intelligence a good thing?

Curiosity is unique to our species. No other life form pokes its nose into things that do not directly concern its own survival or that of its genes. Hedgehogs do not look up at the night sky and wonder what all the sparkly bits are, and lobsters do not worry whether they're popular or not. It's a high calling to wonder, and to try to make a difference.

And it's a high calling to get on with your job without complaint – to chop logs and carry water, as they say in Zen. In many ways, cheerful acceptance of the domestic and mundane is a more enlightened position than curiosity because we are all born curious but serenity takes serious effort.


Not only are there two kinds of intelligence, there are two kinds of ignorance. There's the violent, prejudiced kind, born of received, unconsidered opinion, where the ignoramus is so benighted they don't even know they don't know anything. And there's the cheerful, modest kind that results from direct personal experience, from examining the universe carefully and in detail and coming to realise that, in the words of Thomas Edison, 'We don't know a millionth of one per cent about anything'.

I recently worked on a project at INSEAD, the international business school at Fontainebleau, south of Paris. Soumitra Dutta, the Professor of Business and Technology, revealed that the pace of change is increasing so fast that, if we can be said to have achieved 100 years of technological progress in the 20th century, by the same measure, the 21st century will produce differences equivalent to 20,000 years of change.

Personally, I have decided to relax and enjoy the ride. In the words of the French philosopher and inventor Blaise Pascal, 'It is much better to know something about everything, than everything about something'. All you need to do is to re-acquire the simple joys of childhood – 'Look, Mummy, a leaf! A seashell! A worm!'

Human beings are born with very few fears – falling, sudden movements, loud

noises, that's about it – all the rest have to be learned. We are also all born with insatiable curiosity, yet by the age of about eight this seems to be replaced by a combination of boredom and fear of getting the answer wrong.

If things were rational, it would be the other way around. The older we got, as we realised how inexhaustibly interesting the universe is, the more curious we would become, but the less fearful. After all, as Mark Twain remarked at the end of his life: 'I am an old man and have known a great many troubles, but most of them have never happened.' 

'The Second Book Of General Ignorance' by John Lloyd and John Mitchinson is published by Faber.



HOW TO “WIN” EVERY ARGUMENT

From a neuroscience perspective, when an argument starts, persuasion stops.

This is what happens when a discussion becomes an argument. It's no longer an exercise in logic and reasoning. It's just a fight. And being in a fight brings its own frame of mind; a whole set of attitudes, expectations, and conditioned reactions that go along with arguing. As soon as that happens, no one cares who is right and who is wrong. All that matters is who is friend and who is foe. So if you're trying to win over someone whose natural allegiances are not with you, getting into an argument is a sure way to fail. Nobody wants to admit they're wrong because it's now a status game.

But you still want to know how to win every argument?

Okay, so what happens if you bring video evidence, expert witnesses and logically back them into a corner from which the greatest trial lawyer could not escape? They hate you. That's what happens. Congrats, you're the lucky winner of a new enemy.

There's a better way. Ask yourself "What's my real goal?" It usually breaks

down into one of three categories:


1. "I want to influence them to do things my way." Well, then having them hate you doesn't help. You can get people to do things your way or accept new ideas. There's not necessarily a status game/ego threat there — unless you demand credit for the idea. So the first step is stop arguing and stop trying to "win." Most business arguments fall into this category.

2. "I don't know why I'm arguing but somehow I ended up here." - We've all been there. But trying to "win" is not the solution here either. You don't even really want to be fighting. Most relationship arguments fall into this category. Married couples never resolve most of the things they fight about. Research shows 69 percent of couple's problems are perpetual. Leaving those arguments unfought does not end the relationship. Vicious must-win tactics do. So stop arguing.

3. "I want to prove them wrong." - And here's where you really get into

trouble. You're saying you'll only be satisfied by an admission of error and that runs headlong into the brain shutdown and status game issues. Good luck in your personal war against biology and human nature. You can't make someone admit defeat, but you can make them hate you. And is that your goal? With a clear head, re-evaluate what you really want here.

The only category that makes any sense is number one. But arguing isn't the way. Persuasion is.

And finally... in a recent TED talk, speaker Daniel Cohen made an excellent point that often gets overlooked: "Losing an argument means you learn something." Knowing how to win every argument would be a terrible personal loss. You don't get any wiser by verbally bludgeoning people. You get wiser by learning. Winning an argument is a short term ego victory. Losing an argument can be a learning experience that benefits you the rest of your life. 



RACE RESULTS.

6 HOURS OF BAHRAIN WEC 2021 RECAP

Atharie Al Salem gives us a recap on the 2021 FIA World Endurance Championship races in Bahrain.

The World Endurance Championship has settled itself in Bahrain for two weeks and saw the end of the first battle on track between cars on the 30th of October, where the weekend presented some exhilarating racing to the race fans during the 6-hour charge.

Toyota Gazoo Racing unsurprisingly took a 1-2 finish in the standings of the Hypercar division, with car #7 of Mike Conway, Kamui Kobayashi, and Jose Maria Lopez taking the overall victory. The standings have been favorable to them all season, despite car #8 taking pole position on qualifying day and running first during free practice sessions. The drivers' title is up for contention at the 6th November 8 hours of Bahrain race. The hybrid car is making history with their GR010 HYBRID in WEC's advanced era of technology. The Alpine car #36 A-480 Gibson took 3rd on the podium, with drivers Matt Vaxiviere, Nico Lapierre and Andre Negrao sharing the podium.



Race highlights

In the sweltering weather conditions at the Bahrain International Circuit, drivers found it difficult to find grip through the tyres and experienced a few spins, run-offs and degradation on track. Namely Dragonspeed USA #21 had a tyre issue, where the rear fell off and driver Montoya had to limp his car back to the pits to resolve the issue under a full course yellow flag period. The car later retired due to aerial problems.

Rino Mastronardi #60 found trouble when it lost two laps in the pits due to a transmission issue and making contact with Francesco Castellacci in the AF Corse Ferrari #54. The D'Station Aston Martin car made a mess as its back panel flew off causing debris motivated full course yellow period (FCY – all cars slow down to 80 KPH).

In the GTE PRO category, the Porsche led the start and controlled the pace and later had a 1-2 finish with car #92 in front, although some argue they have a



The two-day open event was exciting for many as it was coupled with entertainment both local and international.

BoP advantage against Ferrari. GTE AM saw #33 Aston Martin take the top step of the podium. Team WRT had a thrilling win in LMP2 against their competition, as they did in the 24h of Le Mans race.


Event highlights

The two-day open event was exciting for many as it was coupled with entertainment both local and international, fun activities for children, vendors and the roaring of the race cars and their spectacular engines. Popular MBC Action motorsports commentator Firas Nimri delivered his electrifying coverage skills that all racing fans know and love.

The Bahrain team of track officials worked diligently throughout the weekend in the pit lane, grid, parc ferme and even driving the medical car. Their slogan #TogetherWeCan worked seamlessly as the event went on smoothly and most importantly, safely.

Bahrain Motor Federation also invited young karting drivers from BirelArt, Praga

and North Star teams to have special access and meet their heroes.

The World Endurance Championship comes back once again for its second half of the double header and final race of Season 9 to bring a spectacular close for the champions at the 8 hours of Bahrain race on the 6th of November. 

Further event and ticket details are available through the BIC website and social media @bah_int_circuit



Atharie is a multimedia student with a passion for communication and design with a special interest in motorsports, social media and the arts.

JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE L DEBUTS IN MIDDLE EAST




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The newest iteration is designed and engineered to deliver a combination of 4x4 capability, on-road refinement,

The newest iteration is designed and engineered to deliver a combination of 4x4 capability.

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For more information, visit www.jeep-bahrain.com

PHOTO OF THE MONTH



Audi RS Q3 Sportback wrapped in pink to honour Breast Cancer Awareness Month during the Audi Pink Drive held at The Ritz-Carlton, Bahrain.

Photo by Atharie Al Salem

Got some cool car photos we can feature? Send them our way!

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