

## The Prime Minister Prevents *AlKhabar Al Khalij* from Publishing American Writers

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The Prime Minister, Khalifa Bin Salman Al Khalifa, rejected the proposal from Anwar A. Rahman, Editor-In-Chief of *Akhbar Al Khaleej*, to have American journalists write for his newspaper.

According to *Akhbar Al Khaleej*, A. Rahman told the Prime Minister that he received a call from somebody in the United States who offered to write for his newspapers specifically.

The Prime Minister responded by saying, “We don’t want them ... We have enough writes that we don’t need them. We have skilled writers and journalists with long and solid experience. The most important is that they have proven loyalty to the nation and its issues.”

The Prime Minister added that “those who want to write in for press cannot perform like you all do. Why should we allow them to say what they have in our newspapers? If you wanted to write in their newspapers, would they accept your office? Of course not.”

The Prime Minister continued, saying “Thank God we have free, patriotic men to write for us. They are enough for their nation and more. Respond to those who offered to write for us and tell them thank you, but we don’t want you writing for our papers.”

“I say this because I read articles in English newspapers about Bahrain and written by non-Bahraini writers,” continued the Brown Prince, “and I find them express positions differing from ours. Sometimes they accuse us falsely and don’t hesitate to harm us, and now they want to write in our newspapers? Are they changing their positions? No Anwar, tell them we have enough and more. Tell them, Anwar, that we have enough loyal men.”

The Prime Minister said that Bahrain “usually doesn’t reject anyone,” and that “we have always sought cooperation and exchange of expertise and contributions because we sanctify freedom of speech, but it appears that they don’t have free speech, only there are interests, and they only want publicity based on their interests. Thankfully, there are those who are honest.”

Anwar A. Rahman asked the Prime Minister if he should respond with a rejection, to which the Prime Minister replied, “Those who contacted you forgot that things are not taken this way. They should realize that the fabricated word cannot be considered as freedom of speech, that freedom of speech requires honesty. Therefore, the interest of our nation needs awareness, and a great awareness.”