

Dr. Naji AlMahdi Resume



Personal Details

Nationality: Bahrain

Phone Number: +971 50 8750109, +971 55 2277500

Email Address: nalmahdi@hotmail.com

Location: Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Profile

Dr. Almahdi is a professional presenter and speaker with over 30 years of experience in the field. He has delivered lectures, workshops, seminars and trainings all over the world to a variety of audience, which includes students, senior government officials, heads of training companies and multinational organizations. He held several senior management roles within the industry, education, training, quality assurance and employment sectors. His performance record includes providing strategic, academic and operational leadership to promote high level of performance and innovation in accordance to the needs of the business community and society at large. Dr. Almahdi has a wealth of experience in developing policies and strategies relating to the performance, quality of education, framework, standards, evaluation, licensing, accreditation, funding, delivery, assessment, verification and organization at all levels of development and implementation.

He has the breadth and depth of experiences across all aspects of higher and vocational education, quality assurance, leadership, organizational planning and development, customer service, curriculum development, research and other related areas. He is also experienced in all management and operational aspects of education including the assessment of educational institutions, management of budgets and business plans, review of staff performance, development of staff, communications and public relations.

His work in industry, education and management is underpinned by academic credentials in engineering, business, education and the arts. Furthermore, his deep knowledge of government, business and industry as well as his ability to develop partnerships enabled him to forge the links between education and the market place. Dr. AlMahdi's continuing interest and professional development in all these areas has greatly enhanced the value of his contributions to education throughout his career.

Some of the major professional achievements of Dr. AlMahdi includes:

- Development and successful implementation of pilot project to license Teachers in Dubai
- Set up system, policies, processes for Recognition of International Qualification
- Set up and lead quality assurance systems at KHDA
- Lead and manage quality audits for higher education institutions in Dubai
- Delivered high level professional training on nationalization, quality, planning, education and enterprise development
- Developed and administered professional training programmes on leadership, quality assurance, planning, information technology and security systems in the various regions
- Development of academic programmes at all professional levels in accordance with international benchmarks
- Introduction of the British BTEC and NVQ programmes in Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Egypt and UAE
- Development of novel and innovative partnership and self-funding programmes with government and industry
- Development of policies and strategies to enhance the outcomes of vocational education
- Conducted External verification of a large number of centers across the world on behalf of Edexcel International

Skills

- Ability to direct complex projects from concept
- Ability to synthesize research and reach conclusions
- Ability to teach, coach, train and develop
- Directs top-level strategic corporate policies and initiatives
- Expertise in HRD, education, training and employment
- Professional auditing, verification and evaluation skills
- Strong managerial and leadership and motivational skills
- Ability to scrutinize technical and financial data
- Exceptional social skills and competences
- Ability to improve efficiencies and effectiveness
- Outstanding communicator, presenter and negotiator
- Outstanding consultancy, advisory and marketing skills

Languages

Read, Write and Speak: Arabic and English

Education

Year	Qualification	Subjects
07/1984	Ph.D. Doctorate at Salford University in Salford, United Kingdom	Aeronautics, Computational Numerical analysis and design, The prediction of High Reynolds number flows in ducts of arbitrary three-dimensional geometry.
06/1979	College Certificate in Teacher Training Professional Qualification at Gulf Technical College in Isa Town, Bahrain	Training needs analysis, Curriculum development, Teaching and Learning, materials development Pedagogy, Assessment, Class Management, Teaching evaluation.
06/1978	B Sc. in Mechanical Engineering with First Class Honors Degree at University of Manchester Institute of Science & Technology in Manchester, United Kingdom	Mechanical Engineering, Engineering design, Fluid Mechanics, Heat Transfer, strength of Materials, Elasticity and Plasticity, Numerical analysis, Material Science, Mathematics for Engineers, Optimization, Business Studies, Electrical Power, Electronics and instrumentation, Numerically controlled machines, Engineering control, Vibration.
06/1975	OND in Technology (with commendation) Diploma at Brighton Technical College in Brighton, United Kingdom	Technology, Electronics, Statics and Dynamics, Strength of materials, Material science, Thermodynamics, Control engineering, Instrumentation, Electrical Power, electronics, Engineering science, Mathematics.
06/1973	Certificate in Technology Certificate at Brighton Technical College in Brighton, United Kingdom	Engineering Technology and Workshop Practice, Mathematics, Physics, Engineering Drawing.
06/1970	Secondary School Certificate Trade School at Manama Technical school in Manama, Bahrain	Motor Vehicle Technology and Practice, Mathematics, Arabic, Mechanics, English.

Professional Development

Year	Qualification	Subjects
03/2010	Developing policies on career advising and counseling Professional training by the British Council, Dubai	Techniques, Strategy, Policy development.
03/2010	Employer engagement and enterprise development Professional training by the British Council, London, United Kingdom	Methodologies, Structures, Management, Contextualization.
09/2009	External Verifier Training Professional training by Edexcel, London, United Kingdom	External Verification Annual Training.
05/2009	Strategy Development Professional training by the Knowledge and Human Development Authority, Dubai	Drivers, Internal and external environment, Strategy development, Performance indicators, Review.
11/2008	Jewellery Business Management Professional Qualification at the Jewellery Management Institute in Antwerp, Belgium	Strategy, Luxury goods, Diamond and colored stones, Retailing.

10/2008	Edexcel External Verifier Professional Qualification at Edexcel International in London, United Kingdom	External Verification Annual Training (Since 2001)
06/2006	Jewellery Design Professional Qualification at Dubai Gold and Jewellery Group in Dubai, United Arab Emirates	Detailed Jewellery Designing, Professional Designing.
06/2006	Pearls, Colored Stones and Rough Diamond Grader Professional Qualification at IGI in Dubai, United Arab Emirates	Pearls Grading, Colored Stone Grading, Rough Diamond Grading.
04/2005	Polished Diamond Grader (HRD) Professional Qualification at HRD in Antwerp, Belgium	Polished Diamond Grading.
12/1999	Fulbright Scholarship Professorship at George Washington University in Washington DC, United States	Development of small and medium size enterprises, Business Strategy, Accounting, Financial Analysis, Small Business Enterprise development.
03/1997	Internal and lead auditor Award Professional Qualification at BVQI in Isa Town, Bahrain	Quality Systems, Principle of auditing, ISO 9000, Internal auditing, External auditing, Leading audits. Performance, Financial, IT and Environmental auditing.
12/1994	Human resources development administration Professional Qualification at Human resources Development Bureau, Tokyo, Japan	Human resources planning, Human resource management, HR Strategy, Functional analysis, Development of Job descriptions, Compensation, Rewards, Discipline, Labour unions.
07/1994	D31, D32, D33, D34, D35 and D36 Professional Qualification at NVQ Training & Development Lead Body Awards in London and Bahrain, United Kingdom	D31 - Design assessment methods to collect evidence of competent performance, D32 - Assess Candidate Performance, D33 - Assess Candidate Performance using diverse evidence, D34 - Internally Verify the Assessment Process, D35 - Externally Verify the Assessment Process, D36 - Accreditation of Prior Achievement Advisor award.

Employment

11/2014
Current **Chief**, Qualifications and Awards in Dubai (QAD), at the Knowledge and Human Development Authority

Duties & Responsibilities: Reports to the Director General of the Knowledge and Human Development Authority of the Dubai Government. Duties included: Oversees the quality of technical and vocational education and training (TVET) in Dubai, and ensures that TVET Providers comply with the standards set out by the National Qualifications Authority of the United Arab Emirates (UAE). In support of this role, Dr. Almahdi serves on the UAE Vocational Education and Training Awards Commission (VETAC) as well as the advisory committee of the UAE National Qualifications Authority.

As a keen advocate for technical and vocational education and training, Dr. Almahdi has served on numerous national and international committees for the development and implementation of technical and vocational education and training, and is frequently called upon to be a quality verifier for various international awarding and accrediting bodies. He has wide-ranging experience in the management and operational aspects of technical and vocational education and training, including strategic planning, policy development, management of budgets and business plans, assessment of educational institutions, staff performance reviews, staff development, communication and public relations.

Additionally Dr. Almahdi advises KHDA on matters related to HE institutions, programme approvals and quality assurance.

Main achievements are:

- Developed technical and vocational education and training (TVET) policies and processes
- Lead the development and successful implementation of pilot project to License Teachers in Dubai
- Set up the system for Recognition of International Qualification
- Developed the system of regulating International Certification Organisation (ICO) in Dubai
- Review and recommend TVET qualifications for National recognition by National Qualifications Authority

07/2007
Current

Chief of the National Institute for Vocational Education, Dubai, UAE

Duties & Responsibilities: Reports to the Director General of the Knowledge and Human Development Authority of the Dubai Government. Directly responsible for strategic development and all academic and administrative operations of the Institute.

Duties included: Ensuring that the Institute effectively and efficiently delivers relevant training programmes, Providing leadership to the Institute staff and students, Developing and implementing vocational programmes, Leading and controlling the academic activities, Managing the finances of the Institute, Managing human resources, Managing skill development of academic and non-academic staff, Managing the physical resources, Maintaining liaison with employers, Maintaining and continuously improving the quality of the education and Establishing and maintaining links with regional and international professional bodies.

Main achievements are:

- Set up academic system and procedures
- Developed partnerships with government and private sector organizations
- Developed resources and income
- Expanded programmes and increased the number of students
- Established a number of new initiatives and academies

01/2003
06/2007

Managing Director, Target Management Consulting, Bahrain

Duties & Responsibilities: Owner and manager of a training and education consultancy that works with various organisations on training and performance assessment projects. Some of the work delivered includes: ILO, Edexcel International, Kuwait Ministry of Defense, Al Aalamiah Institute in KSA, Institute of International Research (IIR) in Dubai and Ruwaad in Sharjah.

Main achievements are:

- Set up academic system and procedures
- External Verification of 16 Colleges and Training Centres from Syria to Malaysia
- Training of internal verifiers and quality assurance managers
- Training of employer organisations on strategic planning in the ILO training centre in Turin, Italy
- Training of senior managers on the development of vocational training systems in the ILO training centre in Turin, Italy
- Performance analysis of a number of Gulf organizations
- External Supervision for projects of the Master Degree Program in Technology Bahrain, Arabian Gulf University, External Supervisor
- Presentation in a number of conferences organized by the Institute of International Research (IIR) External collaboration with the International Labour Organisation in Bahrain, Yemen, Kuwait and Italy
- Training of national entrepreneurs

06/2006
07/2007

Chief Operations Officer, Emirates College for Management and Information Technology, Dubai, UAE

Duties & Responsibilities: Responsible for all academic and administrative operations of the college. Duties included: Ensuring that the college effectively and efficiently delivers the diploma programmes, Providing leadership to the college staff and students, Leading and controlling the academic activities, Managing the finances of the college, Managing human resources, Managing the physical resources, Maintaining and continuously improving the quality of the education.

Main achievements were:

- Set up system and procedures
- Developed resources and income
- Expanded programmes and increased the number of students

10/2004
06/2007

Manager, The Jewellery Institute, Dubai women's College, Dubai, UAE

Duties & Responsibilities: Manage the jewellery institute. Responsible for the development and operation of the entrepreneurship development programme to develop future business leaders in the jewellery sector. Some of the responsibilities include: Development of the training programme, Coordination with the jewellery sector, Coordination with official bodies and Managing the delivery and assessment of the programme.

Main achievements were:

- Established the Jewellery Institute
- Established partnership with Mohamed Bin Rashid Establishment for Young Business Leaders
- Development and Management of Jewellery Business development Programme
- Graduated two cohorts of jewellery entrepreneurs
- Development and management of the Jewellery Sales Program
- Presented an initiative to establish a specialized entrepreneurship center

07/1991
12/2002

Advisor, High Council For Vocational Training, Bahrain.

Duties & Responsibilities: This is in addition to the post of Director General of BTI and complementary to it. The HCVT is the supreme body responsible for vocational training in the country. Contribution to the Council's work has been wide ranging and includes: Maintaining liaison between government ministries associated with human resources in the country: Ministry of Education, Ministry of Oil and Industry, Ministry of Commerce, Liaising with labour representatives, Advising on all aspects of vocational training in Bahrain, Ensuring that appropriate needs analysis studies are conducted, Proposing legislation to regulate education and training activity in Bahrain , Promoting technical and vocational training for women, Developing a strategy for national employment, training and vocational career guidance, Developing national occupational and skill standards, Recommending the establishment of specific councils in appropriate sectors and Training Bahraini nationals to undertake small business enterprise activities.

Main achievements were:

- Development vocational training in Bahrain
- Maintaining liaison between government ministries associated with human resources in the country: Ministry of Education, Ministry of Oil and Industry, Ministry of Commerce and labour representatives
- Development of legislation to regulate education and training activity in Bahrain
- Promoting technical and vocational training for women
- Development a strategy for national vocational career guidance
- Establishment of specific councils in appropriate sectors
- Training Bahraini nationals to undertake small business enterprise activities

07/1991
12/2002

Director General, Bahrain Training Institute, Bahrain

Duties & Responsibilities: Founder of the Institute. Reporting directly to the chairman of the board. Overall responsibility for all academic and administrative operations of the Institute. Directly responsible for strategic development and for providing leadership to the Institute staff and trainees. Duties included: Ensuring that the Institute effectively and efficiently delivers relevant training programmes, Developing and implementing vocational programmes, Establishing small business development programmes, Leading and controlling the academic activities for more than 7400 trainees, Managing the finances of the Institute - a budget of \$ 11 m per annum, Managing the human resources - more than 500 members of staff , Managing skill development of academic and non-academic staff, Managing the physical resources - valued at more than \$ 50m, Maintaining liaison with employers, Maintaining and continuously improving the quality of the training and Establishing and maintaining links with regional and international professional bodies.

Main achievements were:

- The development of the National Vocational Training Centre (with 250 trainees, 50 staff members and one training program) into the Bahrain Training Institute (with 7400 trainees, 505 staff, and more than 70 training programmes in 2001).
- Carefully built and sustained Industrial Liaison and Collaboration over the years.
- From a centre lacking financial control and accountability, the Institute became accountable within six months and profitable within two years.

- BTI has established a high reputation for quality and the BTI qualifications have international acceptance. BTI has earned consistently good reports on its quality control systems from external bodies such as the International Labour Organisation (ILO) as well as external accreditation bodies.
- Produced a five-year development plan for Bahrain Training Institute from 1997 until the year 2002. The Strategy Document, examined at the highest levels of Government.

09/1986
06/1991 **Head, Continuing Engineering Education Department,** University Of Bahrain, Bahrain.

Duties & Responsibilities: Assistant Prof. Associate Prof. (from Jan 91), responsible for establishing the Continuing Engineering Education Department at the College of Engineering. Developed professional programmes for the training of technicians as well as courses, conferences and seminars. Chairman of Committee for Curriculum Development. Instruction of undergraduate students. Academic advisement and counseling. Supervision of students during on the job training. Taught many mechanical engineering subjects, but mostly Fluids and Thermodynamics. Other responsibilities included: Development of laboratories and workshops of the mechanical engineering shops department, Development of the associate degree, undergraduate and postgraduate curriculum, Establishment of the Continuing Engineering Education Department and Establishment of the External Service Laboratory.

09/1984
08/1986 **Assistant Professor, Deputy Head,** University Of Bahrain, Bahrain

Duties & Responsibilities: Deputy Head of the Mechanical and Chemical Engineering Department, responsible for laboratories, time-tabling, curriculum development and teaching of fluid mechanics and thermodynamics courses.

09/1982
08/1984 **Research Fellow,** Salford University, Salford, United Kingdom

Duties & Responsibilities: Research and Development as well as teaching laboratory sessions to second and third year B. Sc. Students

07/1978
09/1978 **Planning and Quality Control Engineer,** Middle East Engineering Limited, Bahrain.

Duties & Responsibilities: Repair and maintenance of General Electric gas turbines. This work included the dismantling and re-assembling of turbines.

07/1977
09/1977 **Safety Officer,** Aluminum Bahrain
Internship/Vacation entry level position

Duties & Responsibilities: Plant safety, Safety audits, Safety reports

07/1976
09/1976 **Assistant Mechanical Engineer,** Aluminum Bahrain
Internship/Vacation entry level position

Duties & Responsibilities: Helping Mechanical Engineers complete mechanical engineering works on conveyer belts, structures and vessels.

07/1975
09/1975 **Assistant Design Engineer,**
Aluminum Bahrain Internship/Vacation entry level position

Duties & Responsibilities: Helping Design Engineers in finalizing and drafting mechanical engineering design

07/1974
09/1974 **Draftsman,** Aluminum Bahrain
Internship/Vacation entry level position

Duties & Responsibilities: producing engineering drawings

07/1970
02/1972 **Motor Mechanic,** Aluminum Bahrain, Bahrain.

Duties & Responsibilities: Repair and maintenance of vehicles and machinery used in the aluminum industry.

Associations

- 05/2014 **American Society for Training & Development**
Member
- 09/1997 **International Society for Performance Improvement**
Member
- 06/1997 **Bahrain Society for training and development**
Member
- 06/1996 **International Council of Small Businesses**
Member
- 05/1995 **International Federation of Training & Development**
Honorary Treasurer

Awards

- 07/2002 **Sh. Isa Bin Salman AlKhalifa award**
The King of Bahrain
- 07/2000 **Minister Of labour and social affairs award**
Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Bahrain
- 07/2000 **IFTDO Award**
International Federation of Training Organisations
- 06/1999 **Fulbright Scholarship Award**
Fulbright Foundation
- 08/1983 **Sponsored Research Fellow**
Science & Engineering Research Council, UK
- 07/1980 **PhD study scholarship**
Gulf Polytechnic, Bahrain
- 07/1978 **B Sc. study scholarship**
Ministry of Education, Bahrain
- 03/1972 **Diploma study scholarship**
British Council, UK
- 08/1970 **The Technical school Award**
The Amir of Bahrain

Presentations and Public Speaking

Dr. Almahdi is a well-known guest on radio and television programs. Participated in debates and presentations on matters of education and training