

# Future of Artificial Intelligence in Bahrain and GCC

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## Abstract

The Kingdom of Bahrain has always been the first in strategy setting and the first to bring in innovation and services among the GCC countries. The current and future era are the era of Artificial Intelligence. For all countries, their GDP growth is dependent on Artificial Intelligence, hence it's important that the Kingdom of Bahrain to fast-track Artificial Intelligence for its stronger GDP support. Bahrain has a history of remaining largely self-dependent on local talent for technology. In the 1940s, the first mega IBM computer was installed in the Bahraini oil field, and in the 1970s, major companies such as Cable and Wireless International invested in training local talent, sending engineers to UK centers for training, Bahrain's adoption of AI technology will help grow its GDP by 8.2 percent per year by 2030, according to a report on AI adoption in the Gulf by consultancy PwC. Local universities have developed programs such as that, that have graduated thousands of students. With the vast knowledge base, experience, and spirit of innovation that has grown locally amongst Bahrainis, AI, and technological human capital is a major strength for a country that positions itself as the future Silicon Valley of West Asia. There is currently no regional research and development center that might have the capability of innovating and developing AI solutions for regional consumption, reducing the need to import technologies from other regions..

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## Biography

Participated as a key speaker and chairman in over 200 technology conferences in Middle-East and Europe to cover latest technologies such as Artificial Intelligence, Cloud Computing, Big Data, Cyber Security and Digital Transformation. He also published articles in relation to the above topics. Dr Haji managed to achieve forty three top Middle-Eastern technology awards, including 12 CIO distinguished awards. Additionally, Dr. Haji is part of several advisory boards of key technological events in the Gulf and

he is participating in several judging panels for reputable technology awards. Furthermore, he has featured on 19 international technology and aviation magazines cover pages with over 80 interviews. Moreover, published four books in English and Arabic on Artificial Intelligence, Digital Transformation post COVID-19, Technology Management and Organization Culture and over 500 articles on technologies with international press and media in both English and Arabic languages.