

# Bahrain royal family to meet opposition

Bahrain's ruling family, which makes up at least half the Cabinet of the Gulf kingdom, is to hold talks with opposition protesters demanding political reform and a more direct say in government



## **King Hamad bin Isa al-Khalifa**

Ruler since 1999, wields ultimate authority. Has made slow progress on unilaterally initiated reforms



## **Sheikh Khalifa bin Salman al-Khalifa**

Prime Minister, has governed country since 1971. Protesters demand his resignation



## **Crown Prince Sheikh Salman bin Hamad al-Khalifa**

In charge of all economic matters and more open to reform. Will hold discussions with opposition

**Al Asalah, Al Menbar:** Islamist Sunni groups, linked to Muslim Brotherhood. Want alcohol ban

