

BAHRAIN

SUMMARY OF CLAIMS

TYPE	DATE	SOURCE	LIMITS	NOTES
TERRITORIAL SEA	Apr 93	Decree No. 8 of 20 April 1993	12nm	
CONTIGUOUS ZONE	Apr 93	Decree No. 8 of 20 April 1993	24nm	
CONTINENTAL SHELF	Jun 49	Proclamation No. 37/1368	No specific limit	Claimed ownership of specific and absolute jurisdiction and authority over seabed and subsoil.
MARITIME BOUNDARIES	Feb 58	Agreement with Saudi Arabia		Maritime boundary agreement with Saudi Arabia EIF. (Go to State Department LIS page , scroll down and click on LIS No. 12 for U.S. analysis.)
	May 72	Agreement with Iran		Continental shelf boundary agreement with Iran EIF. (Go to State Department LIS page , scroll down and click on LIS No. 58 for U.S. analysis.)
	Mar 2001	International Court of Justice (ICJ) Judgment		Judgment in the case concerning Maritime Delimitation and Territorial Questions between Qatar and Bahrain (Qatar v. Bahrain). (See below.)
LOS CONVENTION	Dec 82			Signed Convention.
	May 85			Ratified Convention.

MARITIME BOUNDARIES

BAHRAIN - QATAR

The following information is taken from the United Nations' [Law of the Sea Bulletin No. 46](#) regarding the International Court of Justice's Judgment of 16 March 2001 in the case concerning **Maritime Delimitation and Territorial Questions between Qatar and Bahrain (Qatar v. Bahrain)**.

The case dealt with the dispute relating to sovereignty over the Hawar Islands, sovereign rights over the shoals of Dibal and Qit'al Jaradah and the delimitation of the maritime areas of the two States.

On 16 March 2001, the Court decided that Qatar has sovereignty over Zubarah, Janan Island, including Hadd Janan, and the low-tide elevation of Fasht al Dibal; and that Bahrain has sovereignty over the Hawar Islands and the island of Qit'al Jaradah. Moreover, vessels of Qatar enjoy the right of innocent passage, accorded by customary international law, in the territorial sea of Bahrain, which separates Hawar Islands from the other Bahraini islands.

As regards the question of the maritime boundary, the Court also recalled that customary international law was applicable to the case and that the parties had requested it to draw a single maritime boundary: in the southern part, the Court drew a boundary delimiting the parties' territorial seas over which they enjoy territorial sovereignty, including the seabed, superjacent waters and superjacent aerial space; in the northern part, the Court had to carry out a delimitation between areas in which the parties have only sovereign rights and functional jurisdiction, i.e., over the continental shelf and in the exclusive economic zone. With respect to the territorial sea, the Court drew provisionally an equidistance line (a line every point of which is equidistant from the nearest points on the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea of each of the two States is measured) and then considered whether that line should be adjusted in the light of any special circumstances. The Court rejected Bahrain's argument that the existence of certain pearling banks situated to the north of Qatar, which had been predominantly exploited in the past by Bahraini fishermen, constituted a circumstance justifying a shifting of the equidistance line. It also rejected Qatar's argument that there is significant disparity between the coastal lengths of the parties calling for an appropriate correction. The Court further stated that considerations of equity required that the maritime formation of Fasht al Jarim should have no effect in determining the boundary line.

The Court concluded that the single maritime boundary that would divide the various maritime zones of the State of Qatar and the State of Bahrain should be formed by a series of geodesic lines joining, in the order specified, the points with the following coordinates:

BAHRAIN - QATAR MARITIME BOUNDARY		
Point	Latitude North	Longitude East
1	25° 34' 34"	50° 34' 3"
2	25° 35' 10"	50° 34' 48"
3	25° 34' 53"	50° 41' 22"
4	25° 34' 50"	50° 41' 35"
5	25° 34' 21"	50° 44' 5"
6	25° 33' 29"	50° 45' 49"
7	25° 32' 49"	50° 46' 11"
8	25° 32' 55"	50° 46' 48"
9	25° 32' 43"	50° 47' 46"
10	25° 32' 6"	50° 48' 36"
11	25° 32' 40"	50° 48' 54"
12	25° 32' 55"	50° 48' 48"
13	25° 33' 44"	50° 49' 4"
14	25° 33' 49"	50° 48' 32"
15	25° 34' 33"	50° 47' 37"
16	25° 35' 33"	50° 46' 49"
17	25° 37' 21"	50° 47' 54"
18	25° 37' 45"	50° 49' 44"
19	25° 38' 19"	50° 50' 22"
20	25° 38' 43"	50° 50' 26"
21	25° 39' 31"	50° 50' 6"
22	25° 40' 10"	50° 50' 30"
23	25° 41' 27"	50° 51' 43"
24	25° 42' 27"	50° 51' 9"
25	25° 44' 7"	50° 51' 58"
26	25° 44' 58"	50° 52' 5"
27	25° 45' 35"	50° 51' 53"
28	25° 46' 0"	50° 51' 40"
29	25° 46' 57"	50° 51' 23"
30	25° 48' 43"	50° 50' 32"
31	25° 51' 40"	50° 49' 53"
32	25° 52' 26"	50° 49' 12"
33	25° 53' 42"	50° 48' 57"
34	26° 0' 40"	50° 51' 00"
35	26° 4' 38"	50° 54' 27"

BAHRAIN - QATAR MARITIME BOUNDARY		
Point	Latitude North	Longitude East
36	26° 11' 2"	50° 55' 3"
37	26° 15' 55"	50° 55' 22"
38	26° 17' 58"	50° 55' 58"
39	26° 20' 2"	50° 57' 16"
40	26° 26' 11"	50° 59' 12"
41	26° 43' 58"	51° 3' 16"
42	27° 2' 0"	51° 7' 11"

Below point 1, the single maritime boundary would follow, in a south-westerly direction, a loxodrome having an azimuth of 234° 16' 53", until it meets the delimitation line between the respective maritime zones of Saudi Arabia on the one hand, and of Bahrain and Qatar on the other. Beyond point 42, the single maritime boundary would follow, in a north-north-easterly direction, a loxodrome having an azimuth of 12° 15' 12", until it meets the delimitation line between the respective maritime zones of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on the one hand, and of Bahrain and Qatar, on the other.