

Skilled hands for holistic gynecological care



Dr. Yegu Palaniappan
MBBS | MS
Obstetrics and Gynecology

Naseem Medical Centre
Al Rayyan
33313 3275, 4444 0725

Central Inn
Al Sadd
+974 3990 0200
+974 4419 1000

BRAND NEW LUXURY HOTEL SUITES



talabat pro
Unlimited Free Delivery



SPORT | Page 1
Saudi Arabia to host 2027 Asian Cup, World Cup next?

homesous
SPECIAL OFFER
1 Jan 2023 - 4 Feb 2023



GULF TIMES

THURSDAY Vol. XXXVIII No. 12543
February 2, 2023
Rajab 11, 1444 AH
www.gulf-times.com 2 Riyals

Published in QATAR since 1978

www.gulf-times.com gulftimes GulfTimes_QATAR gulftimes GulftimesVideos

Together we can turn the page on cutting edge technology

Amir patronises Police Academy graduation today

His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani will patronise today morning the graduation ceremony of the fifth batch of candidate students of the Ministry of Interior's Police Academy. **(QNA) Page 6**

Visa-free entry to Japan for Qatari citizens

Adviser to the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Dr Majed bin Mohamed al-Ansari said Qatar and Japan have agreed to exchange memorandums on visa exemption for Qatari citizens through the pre-registration system. The new system, which is expected to start summer of 2023, allows Qatari citizens to register and immediately obtain an entry permit. Dr al-Ansari said that the strategic dialogue between Qatar and Japan has attached a special importance to expanding the scope of co-operation between the two countries. **Page 6**

QCB continues with current interest rates

Qatar Central Bank (QCB) has assessed the current monetary requirements of Qatar and decided to continue with the current interest rates for the QCB Deposit Rate (QCBDR) at 5%, Lending Rate (QCBLR) at 5.5%, and Repo Rate (QCBRR) at 5.25%. QCB explained that its decision aims to maintain the current interest rates at an appropriate level to support sustainable economic growth. QCB stressed that it will continue to assess the appropriate monetary policy, taking into account all the aspects, which may affect the financial stability and will review its monetary policy as and when appropriate to address changes in economic requirements. **(QNA)**

ChatGPT sets record for user base: analyst

ChatGPT, the popular chatbot from OpenAI, is estimated to have reached 100mn monthly active users in January, just two months after launch, making it the fastest-growing consumer application in history, according to a UBS study yesterday. The report said about 13mn unique visitors used ChatGPT per day in January, more than double the levels in December. "In 20 years following the Internet space, we cannot recall a faster ramp in a consumer Internet app."

Fierce fighting in eastern Ukraine

Fierce fighting continues in eastern Ukraine, where Russian troops are trying to gain ground near the strategic logistics hub of Lyman, Deputy Defence Minister Hanna Malyar said yesterday. Malyar, said despite heavy losses the Russians were also pressing ahead with an offensive near the towns of Bakmut and Avdiivka. Russia has gained momentum on the battlefield, announcing advances north and south of Bakmut, its main target for months.

Adani cancels share sale as prices nosedives

The flagship firm of Indian tycoon Gautam Adani called off a \$2.5bn stock sale yesterday after its share price slumped by nearly another 30% following allegations of accounting fraud. The five-day rout has now wiped out around \$92bn of the value of the conglomerate's listed units. Bloomberg News said, while Adani's fortune has collapsed by more than \$40bn. **Business Page 2**

Katara Int'l Horse Festival off to spectacular start

Prof Khaled bin Ibrahim al-Sulaiti, General Manager of the Cultural Village Foundation - Katara and chairman of the organising committee of the Katara International Arabian Horse Festival (KIAHF), inaugurated the third edition of the festival yesterday.

KIAHF 2023 is being held under the generous patronage of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani, and continues until February 11.

The festival's opening day saw official visits by Prince Mansour bin Khalid bin Abdullah al-Farhan al-Saud, ambassador of Saudi Arabia, and Najeeb bin Yahya al-Balushi, ambassador of Oman. **To Page 12**



Zaina Al Wajba (Al Wajba Stud), which won the first place in the Yearling Fillies Section A, Class 1A category.



Dignitaries at one of the art exhibitions taking place as part of KIAHF 2023.

Labour law amendments to expedite workers' claims

QNA
Doha

The Cabinet yesterday reviewed and issued the appropriate decisions regarding a draft law amending some provisions of the Labour Law promulgated by Law No. 14 of 2004 and a draft Cabinet decision amending some provisions of Decision No. 6 of 2018 regarding the formation of labour dispute settlement committees, the rules and procedures to be followed before them, the mechanism for implementing their decisions and determining their rewards.

A statement issued by HE Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs said these amendments aim to achieve prompt justice, adjudicate the largest number of labour disputes within the specified legal period, and ensure that workers receive their financial dues as soon as possible.

HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Sheikh Khalid bin Khalifa bin Abdulaziz al-Thani chaired the Cabinet's regular meeting held yesterday at its seat at the Amiri Diwan.

According to QNA, the Cabinet considered the topics on its agenda as follows:

- 1- Approval of the Prime Minister's draft decision amending some provisions of Decision No. 30 of 2019 naming a chairman, vice-chairman and members of the National Anti-Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing Committee.
- 2- Approval of the Cabinet's draft decision amending some provisions of Decision No. 34 of 2001 to form the Co-ordination and Follow-up Committee stipulated in the legislation regulating the Central Municipal Council.
- 3- Approval of hosting the sixth meeting of the General Assembly of the Islamic Organisation for Food Security in Doha in Oct. 2023.
- 4- Approval of a draft agreement between the government of Qatar and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) regarding the privileges and immunities of the ICRC, and inaugurating its mission in Qatar.
- 5- Results of the 38th session of the Council of Arab Justice Ministers.

Qatar Airways, Airbus settle row amicably

Qatar Airways and Airbus announced yesterday that they have reached an amicable and mutually agreeable settlement in relation to their legal dispute over A350 surface degradation and the grounding of A350 aircraft.

A press release issued by Qatar Airways said a repair project is now underway and both parties look forward to getting these aircraft safely back in the air.

The details of the settlement are confidential and the parties will now proceed to discontinue their legal claims. The settlement agreement is not an admission of liability for either party.

This agreement will enable Qatar Airways and Airbus to move forward and work together as partners, the release added.

Noted Aviation Analyst Alex Macheras said: "With Qatar Airways and Airbus reaching an amicable settlement and a "repair project now underway" the Qatari carrier will

"The amicable and mutually agreeable agreement will enable Qatar Airways and Airbus to move forward and work together as partners"

launched prior to the pandemic "Following one of the most high-profile, bitter commercial disputes in aviation history, the two aviation giants have committed to "move forward and work together as partners" - a quick end to a long 26-month dispute."

HIA launches 'next gen' Wi-Fi service

Hamad International Airport (HIA) has launched the 'next generation' Wi-Fi service, 'empowered' by Cisco technologies, across its state-of-the-art terminal to further enhance the passenger experience.

Through 'ubiquitous' high-speed connectivity, passengers who are travelling via Qatar will be able to easily connect with family, friends, and business contacts, a statement said yesterday. **To Page 5**

QFCA to relocate headquarters to Lusail Boulevard

Qatari Diar Real Estate Investment Co (Qatari Diar) and the Qatar Financial Centre Authority (QFCA) have signed a lease agreement for relocation of QFCA's headquarters to Lusail Boulevard.

The agreement includes the lease of around 6,200sq m of office space in one of the state-of-the-art buildings located in Lusail Boulevard. The actual relocation of the QFCA to its new state-of-the-art premises is expected to take place during the first half of 2024, according to a press statement.

The agreement was signed by Abdullah bin Hamad al-Attiyah, CEO of Qatari Diar Real Estate Investment Co, and Yousef Mohamed al-Jaida, CEO and Board Member, QFCA.

Commenting on the signing of the agreement, al-Attiyah said: "We are delighted to sign this agreement with QFCA, one of the key drivers of Qatar's economic growth. We are also pleased that QFCA has selected Lusail City, and Lusail Boulevard in



Officials at the signing of the agreement.

particular, as the new location for its headquarters, joining a highly distinguished group of governmental institutions and bodies. This will truly enhance the overall competitive advantage of the city as an ideal destination for businesses in Qatar.

"Selecting Lusail Boulevard, which has become one of the most attractive destinations in Qatar, for QFCA's headquarters promotes Lusail City as a prime destination for businesses and financial services". **To Page 5**

QFA president elected FIFA Council member

HE the President of Qatar Football Association (QFA) Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa bin Ahmed al-Thani was elected as a member of the FIFA Council, the main decision-making authority of world football's governing body, at the 33rd Asian Football Confederation (AFC) Congress in Manama, Bahrain.

The victory of the QFA President was confirmed after he received the most votes in the election - 40 - from among the seven candidates for the five positions.

In addition to Asian representatives for the FIFA Council, AFC Executive Committee members for the term 2023-2027 were also elected by delegates from the continent's member associations.

The 33rd AFC Congress also witnessed the re-election of Sheikh Salman bin Ebrahim al-Khalifah for the position of President of the AFC, having stood unopposed.

Contesting alongside the QFA President for membership of the FIFA Council were many top leaders of Asian football, such as Do Zhaocai (China) -



QFA President HE Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa bin Ahmed al-Thani.

18 votes; Kozo Tashima (Japan) - 39 votes; Mong Gyu-chung (South Korea) - 19 Votes; Datuk Haji Hamidin bin Haji Mohd Amin (Malaysia) - 30 votes; Mariano Araneta Jr. (Philippines) - 34 votes, and Yasser Hassan al-Misheal (Saudi Arabia) - 35 votes.

When it comes to football in Asia, the governing body is the AFC Congress. For the first time since the extraordinary meeting of the Congress in Paris in June 2019, AFC representatives from different regions and countries got together in person. Gianni Infantino, President of FIFA, was also present at the meeting. **(QNA)**

ONGOING PROMOTION

QAR 10 QAR 15 QAR 20 QAR 30

So much more for so much less

WEEKLY PRICES

Bulk Purchase not allowed. البشراء بالجملة غير مسموح به.



SCAN THE QR CODE FOR LATEST PROMOTION CATALOGUE

VIEW NOW

Promotion valid from 02.02.2023 to 04.02.2023. Purchase limit may apply. Offer valid until stocks last. These Promotions are available only at our major Hypermarkets.



QAR 6.50
QAR 4.50
Apple Royal gala Spain 1kg



QAR 9.00
QAR 5.75
Pineapple Kenya 1kg



QAR 10.50
QAR 6.75
Grapes Black Chile 1kg



QAR 41.75
QAR 35.75
Lamb Cuts South Africa 1kg



QAR 27.75
QAR 20.00
Beef Bone In Pakistan 1kg



QAR 34.00
QAR 20
Chuck Roast Brazil 1kg



QAR 22.75
QAR 14.50
Mullet (Biya) Fish Medium Oman 1kg



QAR 36.75
QAR 31.50
Sea Bass Medium Turkey 1kg



QAR 28.50
Pazhayidom Palada Pradhama 1kg



QAR 20
Crown Long Grain Basmati Rice 5kg



QAR 10
Hayat Cooking Oil 1.8Ltr



QAR 10
Sadia Chicken 1.3kg



QAR 30.00
QAR 20
Brooke Bond Tea Dust 900gm



QAR 43.00
QAR 24.75
Ariel Washing Powder Asstd 3kg X 1pc



QAR 43.00
QAR 24.75
Ariel Washing Powder Asstd 3kg X 1pc

Location



NOW OPEN

LULU HYPERMARKET, BARWA FAMILY HOUSING, MADINATNA

Shop to Win

5

تسوق واربح



+

رق

500,000

QATARI RIYALS

LULU GIFT CARDS قسائم لولو شرائية

Spend QAR.50/- and Get a E-Raffle Coupon to Win 5 Toyota Land Cruiser (GXR-2023) + Gift Cards worth QAR. 5000 X 100 Winners

(For registering please visit customer service counter or lulupermarket.com) Promotion Valid from 18.01.2023 to 20.05.2023, Draw Date: 25.05.2023 at Lulu Hypermarket, D-Ring Road.



SPECIAL SADHYA

PREPARED BY PAZHAYIDOM MOHANAN NAMBOOTHIRI

AVAILABLE IN-STORE & ONLINE

PRE-ORDER UNTIL 2ND FEBRUARY (BEFORE 7:00PM) PICK UP DATE: 3RD FEBRUARY (12:30 PM TO 2:00PM)



22 ITEMS



Per Box QAR 32.00

Ingredients courtesy to: Mamma's Brahmins

Sadya Includes with: Rice (Palakkadan Matta) - Sambar - Avial - Thoran - Rasam - Kalan - Olan - Kichadi - Pachadi - Erusseri - Parippu Curry - Kootu Curry - Palada Payasam - Parippu Pradaman - Pappadam - Injipulu - Lemon Pickle - Kondattam - Sweet Banana Cuts (Sararkara Varatti) - Banana Chips Salted - Banana - Banana Leaf

For Advance Booking Contact Customer Service Counter

Lulu لولو

Where the world comes to shop

حيث يأتي العالم للتسوق

These Promotions are available only at Lulu Hypermarkets- Abu Sidra Mall, Al Khor Mall, D-Ring Road, Al Gharafa, Barwa City, Al Messila

Hayya Card extension set to benefit Qatar travellers

By Joey Aguilar
Staff Reporter

Extending the validity of Hayya Card by a year provides easy access and an opportunity for visitors to revisit and further explore the wide range of tourism offerings in the country, industry experts have said.

"After the World Cup, the country has provided multiple accesses for all nationalities so they can continue and complement their experience during the tournament," Outing Qatar founder and managing director Mosaad Moustafa Eleiwa told *Gulf Times*.

Qatar welcomed more than 1.4mn visitors from different parts of the globe during the 2022 FIFA World Cup, giving them the opportunity to witness thrilling football matches and enjoy an array of entertainment and cultural events. Eleiwa lauded the Ministry of Interior's (MoI) latest decision, which allows Hayya Card holders, including their families and friends to visit Qatar until January 24, 2024, subject with a number of requirements.

He noted that the announcement also came at a time when the Arab Ministerial Council named Doha as the Arab Tourism Capital for 2023, further strengthening its position as a leading tourism destination in the region. "Whether you are looking for sports, culture and arts, a city tour or just a visit, Doha now has a door for everything. Whatever your interest, you will find it here," Eleiwa said, citing Qatar's many tourism infrastructure and offerings.

He added that Qatar has also positioned itself as a favourite luxury destination, particularly hosting multiple five-star ho-



Mosaad Moustafa Eleiwa



Rehan Ali Syed

tels, an efficient transportation system, and world-class infrastructure projects, which have won top global awards such as Hamad International Airport, among others. According to Eleiwa, Hayya Card holders in neighbouring GCC countries such as Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the UAE, among others, have expressed interest to return to Qatar, especially this winter.

"By the way, it (enquiries) started already and I have a lot of friends who are coming to Doha soon either for business or through the Hayya Card, as well as those who want to experience the city. I expect more in the coming 10 days, packing and planning to visit Qatar again," he said, adding that some of their interests include going for the safari experience and city tours, among other offerings. Many visitors, Eleiwa said, are anticipating the upcoming events and sports competitions scheduled to take place in Qatar this winter, including entertainment shows and live concerts.

Qatar is also set to host a series of exciting and crowd-puller events this winter, such as the Doha Jewellery & Watches Exhibition, Qatar International Food Festival and Shop Qatar. The

Qatar GKA Freestyle Kite World Cup 2023 is currently being held at Fuwairit Kite Beach and will conclude on February 4.

Other major events this winter include Qatar TotalEnergies Open (tennis) and Qatar ExxonMobil Open (tennis), both at Khalifa International Tennis and Squash Complex), Al Shaqab events at the Longines Outdoor Arena Longines Indoor Arena at Al Shaqab, and Ramadan Bazaar.

"Just from yesterday, we started getting calls from GCC nationals about their plan of return to Qatar," he said, noting a positive response based on the new MoI decision and considering the various tourism offerings provided during the World Cup. Eleiwa said another unique offering include giving visitors the opportunity to visit and experience all the football stadiums via a customised tour by Outing Qatar even after the World Cup.

Tawfeeq Travel Group CEO Rehan Ali Syed described the Qatar government's decision to extend the validity of the Hayya Card until January 2024 as an "excellent initiative". "It is extremely important for Qatar to open up and ease the travel requirements for more tourists to visit the country. Tourism has

always been one of the main revenue generators for any country, it will give the right push in all areas of business specially in hospitality and retail," he said, noting that the cruise season in Qatar started seeing an increasing number of visitors to Qatar.

Besides football and world-class stadiums, Syed said Qatar has a lot to offer and positioned itself as a country that has varied offerings for each and everyone whether it is for children, teenagers or adults. He said Qatar showcased its rich heritage, culture, hospitality, and most significantly, the safety aspects of the country. Tourists were keen on visiting the Museum of Islamic Art, National Museum of Qatar, heritage sites, Al Shaqab, Qatar National Library and the beautiful Souq Waqif. "The inland desert experience has also been a memorable one and we can see that during the shore excursion with the cruise, a visit to the inland sea and desert is in huge demand," he added.

Going forward, Syed said Qatar will become an ideal destination for Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions (MICE). He added that corporates in Qatar are planning to hold a number of conferences in the near future.

No health insurance required for GCC citizens to enter Qatar

By Shafeeq Alingal
Staff Reporter

GCC citizens are exempted from the mandatory health insurance while entering Qatar, Dr Yousef al-Maslamani, medical director of Hamad General Hospital, told Rayyan TV on Tuesday.

The first phase of the new health insurance system, which came into force yesterday (Wednesday), implements the provisions of Law No. (22) of 2021 regarding the regulation of healthcare services within Qatar, and stipulates that visitors need health insurance.

Dr al-Maslamani said the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) has prepared mechanisms to implement the first phase of insurance for visitors to the country.

The insurance policy for vis-



Dr Yousef al-Maslamani

itors covers emergency and accident services only, with a premium of QR50 per month at the initial issuance and upon extension of the visa. Visitors can also obtain a health insurance policy that covers additional services, and the premiums for such policies will vary.

The MoPH has identified nine

companies to issue the insurance policy for visitors. They are Qatar Insurance Company, QLM Life and Health Insurance, Gulf Takaful Insurance, Qatar General Insurance and Reinsurance Company, Daman Islamic Insurance Company (Beema), Doha Takaful, General Takaful, Group Doha Insurance and Islamic Insurance.

Ministry unveils website to combat human trafficking

The Ministry of Labour has launched the official website of the National Committee for Combating Human Trafficking (www.ahtnc.gov.qa).

The launch of the new website of the National Committee for Combating Human Trafficking comes within the ministry's vision to promote the transition to digitalisation and providing premium digital services, which contributes to accelerating the completion of transactions and facilitating services provided to the public.

The website contains various sections introducing the tasks and efforts taken by the committee, in addition to a legislative window that aims to raise public awareness of human trafficking issues and how to deal with them. It is an effective online portal for submitting any complaints by the public regarding



human trafficking, to be dealt with within the procedures followed by the committee. It also provides a dedicated window for the Humanitarian Care Home to inform the public of its most important objectives, the services it provides, and the criteria for receiving complaints. The public can report any transgressions, complaints or violations related

to human trafficking crimes via the hotline 16044, or the e-mail Html.gov.qa. The ministry's allocation of direct means of communication and the launch of the website come as part of Qatar's efforts to combat human trafficking, and based on the State's commitment to human rights, and within the framework of its National Vision 2030.

العرض متاح في جميع منافذ سفاري بتاريخ: ٢٠٢٣/٢/٢
Promotion available at all Safari outlets on: 02-02-2023

قد يكون هناك حدود للمشتريات العرض ساري حتى نفاذ الكمية
Purchase limit may apply, Offer valid until stock last only

 22 QR.75 لحم تنزانيان ١كجم Tanzanian Mutton 1kg	 31 QR.50 سمك سي باس طازج تركي ١كجم Fresh Sea Bass Turkey 1kg	 5 QR.00 السردين الطازج عمان ١كجم Fresh Sardine Oman 1kg	 5 QR.50 ملك جوز الهند سريلانكا ١ حبة King Coconut Sri Lanka 1pc
 1 QR.00 ملفوف دوحه ١كجم Cabbage Doha 1kg	 8 QR.50 قرع اللبالب الهند ١كجم Ivy Gourd India 1kg	 4 QR.50 تفاح احمر ايطاليا ١كجم Apple Red Italy 1kg	 2 QR.50 برتقال سيرة اسبانيا ١كجم Orange Navel Spain 1kg
 10 QR.00 بيرديكس دجاج شوية ١٤٠٠ جم x ١ حبة Perdix Chicken Griller 1400gm x 1pc	 20 QR.00 البادية - حليب كامل الدسم ١ لتر x ٤ حبة Al Badia Full Cream Milk 1Ltr x 4pcs	 20 QR.00 بارليمنت ازر بسمتي ٥كجم Parliament Daily Delight Basmati Rice 5kg	 10 QR.00 ار اس زيت زيتون عموه ٥٠٠ مل .١ حبة Rs Pomace Olive Oil Pet Bottle 500ml x 1 pc

PROMOTION STARTED
ITEMS FOR **QR 10**
QR 20 30

Spend Qr 50 & Get a Raffle Coupon to **WIN**

5 NISSAN PATROL 2022

PROMOTION STARTED, VALID UNTIL : 15-7-2023

2nd Lucky Draw on: 20-02-2023
at Safari Hypermarket, Salwa Road

Slovakia president meets Qatar's envoy



Slovakia President Zuzana Caputova met in Bratislava with Qatar's ambassador (non-resident) Sultan bin Salmeen al-Mansouri. Bilateral relations were reviewed during the meeting. The president affirmed the strength of the Qatari-Slovak relations and their development in various fields, praising Qatar's role in providing gas supplies to all major markets in the world, and its contribution to alleviating the energy crisis and achieving stability in European markets. Caputova expressed her hope to enhance ties between her country and Qatar in the future, especially in the field of energy, as well as her aspiration that senior Qatari officials would visit Slovakia, which would support the distinguished relations between the two friendly countries. **(QNA)**

Jordanian, Rwanda security officials in Doha meetings



HE the Director of Public Security Staff Maj. Gen. Saad bin Jassim al-Khulaifi met separately yesterday with Director of the Public Security of Jordan Maj Gen Obaidullah al-Maaytah and Deputy Inspector General of the Police in Rwanda, Felix Namuhoranye, who are visiting Qatar. The two meetings reviewed areas of security and police co-operation between Qatar and each of Jordan and Rwanda, besides ways to enhance and develop them. **(QNA)**

CMC session discusses issue of traffic accidents in Sealine area

The Central Municipal Council (CMC) held its regular meeting on Tuesday, headed by chairman Mohamed bin Hamoud al-Shafi.

Various issues of municipal concern were discussed, including the report of the joint committee of the CMC Services and Utility Committee and

Legal Committee regarding the response from the entity concerned on a recommendation to add a clause in the contracts stipulating a ten year warranty from contractors on their projects.

The CMC also discussed the response to a recommendation on the need to curb the traffic accidents in the Sealine area and

the updates on the issue.

The council discussed the suggestions of the Services and Utility Committee regarding reviewing the plans for the future projects in the country. The CMC also reviewed the suggestion of a member on allowing camel grazing in the open for this year only as an exception.

Jordan speaker holds talks with Qatar's envoy

QNA
Amman

Speaker of the House of Representatives of Jordan Ahmad al-Safadi met with Qatar's ambassador in Amman Sheikh Saud bin Nasser bin Jassim al-Thani. Bilateral relations were reviewed during the meeting.

The two sides affirmed the depth of relations between the two brotherly countries under the leadership of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani and King Abdullah II of Jordan.

Also, they stressed the impor-



tance of maintaining communication and joint consultation to serve the interests of the two countries. Al-Safadi said that the stances of the two countries are in the interest of their causes, foremost of which is the Palestinian cause, confirm-

ing that Jordan, under the leadership of King Abdullah II, will remain a defender of the justice of the Palestinian cause, stressing that the Jordanians stand united behind the Hashemite Custodianship of Islamic and Christian holy sites in

Jerusalem. Al-Safadi congratulated Qatar on its success in organising FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022, as an important event watched by millions around the world, affirming that it presented a bright image of our nation and culture.

The ambassador confirmed that the relations between the two countries are built on solid and strong foundations, and are witnessing progress in all fields, praising the wise leadership of King Abdullah II. He reiterated Qatar's stance supporting the Hashemite Custodianship of Islamic and Christian holy sites in Jerusalem. **(QNA)**

Costa Rica second V-P meets Qatari diplomat



Costa Rica's Second Vice-President and Minister of Sports, Mary Munive Angermuller, met with acting charge d'affaires of the Qatari embassy in San Jose Ali bin Lahdan al-Muhannadi. During the meeting, they discussed bilateral relations. **(QNA)**

Al-Hammadi meets chief of IOFS executive council



HE the Secretary-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Dr Ahmed bin Hassan al-Hammadi met on Wednesday with Chairperson of the Executive Council of Islamic Organisation for Food Security (IOFS) Dr Masoud Jarallah al-Marri, and Director General of IOFS Dr Yerlan Baidalet. The meeting reviewed co-operation ties between Qatar and the IOFS. **(QNA)**





BARWA
بروة

INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN BARWA TENDER

BARWA REAL ESTATE COMPANY WISHES TO INVITE CAPABLE AND COMPETENT COMPANIES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE TENDER DESCRIBED BELOW :

TENDER REFERENCE	TENDER DESCRIPTION	NON-REFUNDABLE TENDER FEES	CLOSING DATE
BRE/RFP/GAM/10056/2022	SUPPLY OF CHILLER OVERHAULING SPARES	QAR 200/-	20 FEBRUARY 2023 1:00 P.M.

TO RECEIVE THE TENDER DOCUMENTS, A COPY OF THE TENDER FEE DEPOSIT SLIP AND COMMERCIAL REGISTRATION OF THE BIDDER MUST BE FORWARDED TO THE FOLLOWING EMAIL ADDRESS: TENDER.PROCUREMENT@BARWA.COM.QA

TO PAY THE TENDER FEE, IT SHOULD BE DEPOSITED INTO THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNT:

BENEFICIARY : BARWA REAL ESTATE COMPANY
BANK NAME : DUKHAN BANK, MAIN BRANCH, DOHA - QATAR
ACCOUNT NO. : 200000008022
IBAN NUMBER : QA04BRWA000000000200000008022

NO OFFERS SUBMITTED BEYOND THE CLOSING DATE WILL BE CONSIDERED.
 TENDER BIDS TO BE SUBMITTED TO:

DIRECTOR- COMMERCIAL & CONTRACTS - GROUP CORPORATE OPERATIONS
 BARWA REAL ESTATE COMPANY
 BARWA AL-SADD TOWERS - TOWER 1 - 17TH FLOOR
 P.O BOX: 27777 DOHA-QATAR






قطر للطاقة
QatarEnergy

General Tenders Committee requests proposals for the following:

Important Notice:
 Suppliers and Contractors who are already registered with QatarEnergy via e-Registration system and are in possession of a valid SAP ID issued by QatarEnergy can "Buy Tender Online and download Tender Document" from QatarEnergy website. Effective 1st February 2016, payment of Tender Fee by Cash and Manual collection of Tender Document is discontinued.

Title of Tender	LEASING OF ACCOMMODATION UNITS AT DOHA
Tender Number	GT23101100
Tender Sale Period	02.02.2023 to 07.02.2023
Tender Closing Date	12.02.2023
Tender Fee	Not Applicable
Tender Bond Amount	Not Applicable
Offer Validity	120 days from the Tender Closing Date
Mid-Tender Meeting	To be advised by QatarEnergy, if required.
Brief Scope of Services/Description	QatarEnergy invites proposals directly from the landlords/owners for the leasing of readily available, fully serviced residential accommodation units located only at any one of the locations viz West Bay, Lusail, Al-Waab or Qatar Pearl. Accommodation units must be within proximity of 10 KM to the American School of Doha (or British International School) as per the following categories: • 20 Nos One Bedroom Apartments (a minimum of 75 Sq.M) • 36 Nos Two-Bedroom Apartments (a minimum of 120 Sq.M) • 6 Nos Three-Bedroom Villas (a minimum of 260 Sq.M) • 21 Nos Four-Bedroom Villas (a minimum of 350 Sq.M) Initial lease period will be for five (5) years commencing on 01/03/2023, in which the first two (2) years of the lease period is committed by QatarEnergy. Further details are available in the Tender Document.
Vendor Registration with QatarEnergy	All prospective Suppliers and Contractors interested to participate in QatarEnergy Tenders shall be in possession of a QatarEnergy SAP Vendor Code, a mandatory requirement for the issue of Tender Documents by QatarEnergy. In respect of the above-mentioned Tender, QatarEnergy, at its sole discretion, may take an exception and consider issuance of Tender to prospective Suppliers and Contractors, who are not in possession of a valid QatarEnergy SAP Vendor Code. If you are not in possession of a valid QatarEnergy SAP Vendor Code and intend to participate in the Tender, a request shall be submitted to QatarEnergy (e-mail: tenders31@qatarenergy.qa) for issuance of Tender. Any such request shall be submitted, within the Tender Sale Period, on your company's letterhead duly signed by an authorised signatory mentioning authorised company e-mail address to receive the Tender Document along with confirmation that your company shall register with QatarEnergy and obtain SAP Vendor Code within reasonable timeline as determined by QatarEnergy. Any such request received by QatarEnergy that is not in accordance with the above-mentioned instructions may not be entertained by QatarEnergy. For more information about Vendor Registration with QatarEnergy, please refer details as below.

- Tender documents can be purchased and downloaded from QatarEnergy Website -> Supply Management -> Tenders page during the Tender Sale Period mentioned above against each Tender. Request for issuance of Tender after the specified Tender Sale Period will not be entertained.
- Always refer to QatarEnergy Website (www.qatarenergy.qa) -> Supply Management -> Tenders page for up to date information on QatarEnergy Tenders. Subscribe to Tender Alert to receive notification in your email on new Tenders.
- Changes to Tender Sale Period and Bid Closing Date will be updated in QatarEnergy website only.
- Brief Scopes of Work for the above tenders are posted on the QatarEnergy website.
- QatarEnergy invites all prospective Suppliers and Contractors interested to participate in QatarEnergy Tenders to register online and obtain a QatarEnergy SAP Vendor Code, a mandatory requirement for the issue of Tender Documents by QatarEnergy.
- Suppliers and Contractors who are in possession of a valid SAP ID issued by QatarEnergy are instructed to maintain their Company Registration and Communication details upto date and valid via QatarEnergy e-Registration system on urgent basis.

'Qatar, Kuwait good models in mediation, conflict resolution'

Qatar Press Center hosts Dr Abdullah al-Shayji, professor of political science at Kuwait University, who spoke on challenges facing GCC security

Qatar Press Center (QPC), in co-operation with the Development Department at Qatar Media Corporation (QMC), organised on Tuesday evening a forum presented by Dr Abdullah al-Shayji, professor of political science at Kuwait University.

The forum explored the topic 'Regional and international coalitions and challenges and their consequences on GCC security'. It was held at the QPC headquarters in the presence of Sheikh Khalid bin Abdulaziz al-Thani, Director of the Development Department at QMC, and Faisal Abdulhameed al-Mudhaka, CEO of QPC and Editor-in-Chief of *Gulf Times*.

Dr al-Shayji pointed out that Qatar and Kuwait have presented a good model on the role of small-sized states in mediation and conflict resolution. He stressed that the two nations have been successful in changing the notion that small countries are not effective or influential, noting that both have proceeded to propose suggestions and take decisions that have helped achieve balance at various international levels.

He said Qatar has established a good reputation of being an influential partner and player in various key international and regional issues, and been accepted



Glimpses from the event. PICTURES: Noushad Thekkayil

as a mediator by different parties involved in conflicts. Further, Qatar's hosting of the FIFA World Cup in 2022 was a turning point as the country presented a tournament that is considered the pride of Arabs and GCC countries. He said the success of the country in organising an exceptional tournament made it the best-ever World Cup in history, according to statements by the FIFA president.

Meanwhile, Dr al-Shayji talked about the various alternatives to overcome crises in the GCC region. He said there have been many coalitions involving different countries in the region but most of these failed to achieve the targets they were originally made for. He also spoke about the power of economy in influencing international policies and decision-making, citing China and other key Asian countries as examples.

He added that the huge Asian economic powers are able to change the focus and priorities of the American policies as they are



Dr Abdullah al-Shayji

trying to find ways to face such powers.

Eventually, he stressed the need to establish GCC security co-ordination and overcome the differences among the countries, while focusing on the factors that pose risks to Gulf security. He added that it is important to exchange security information among the GCC countries, develop defence systems and avoid counting on alliances that have proven to be ineffective.

QMC symposium

Qatar Media Centre of the Ministry of Culture will organise next Sunday a symposium on social media platforms at the centre's headquarters. Moderated by journalist Buthaina Abdul Jalil, it will see the participation of journalist Amal Abdulmalik, lawyer Hamad al-Yafei, and psychology specialist Dr Mohamed al-Anzi. The symposium sheds light on digital platforms' contributions to social media in supporting and enhancing the media field. It will also discuss the line between digital and traditional media and the significant legal standards to practice media activity on various digital platforms and their social and psychological impact on society. Director of Qatar Media Centre Iman al-Kaabi indicated that the symposium comes within the framework of the centre's efforts to discuss the media phenomena produced by social networks, which became news platforms that contribute to shaping the media scene at the local, Arab, and international level. (QNA)

HIA launches futuristic Wi-Fi service

From Page 1

Meticulous design studies were undertaken to achieve, what HIA said "seamless Wi-Fi coverage from the curbside of the terminal to the aircraft", and to provide adequate capacity and speed to meet and exceed our passenger's needs.

Special attention was paid to the terminal areas where a high number of passengers spend a significant amount of their time, such as boarding gates, shopping areas, and food courts.

HIA has deployed Cisco Wireless technologies, including indoor and outdoor Wi-Fi6, to support the needs of an increased flow of passengers over the next years.

Further to the high-performance wireless connectivity across the entirety of the airport, it will also lay foundation for enhanced operations with better insights providing amazing experience for passengers.

With this investment, HIA will be able to better understand how passengers move through the airport, including dwell times and traffic flows. This will help optimise retail opportunities and allow passengers to consistently have great experiences.

Millions of visitors from across the world travelling through HIA

can now connect using single-step authentication methods by simply sending a "WhatsApp" message or scanning their printed boarding pass.

Usage statistics in the initial days have shown that over 60% of the visitors prefer the new frictionless connection options. During FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022, more than 2mn passengers enjoyed the new Wi-Fi service by seamlessly consuming over 1 PB (Peta Byte) of content from the Internet.

Thanks to technologies embedded into the new Wi-Fi system at the airport, HIA's mobile app 'HIA Qatar' will deliver improved location-based services. These services include real-time wayfinding for areas like baggage claim, direction to boarding gates and food - as well as beverage and retail offers from Qatar Duty Free (QDF).

To ensure that travellers benefit from the best deals, the 'HIA Qatar' app alerts users when walking past outlets with ongoing sales and promotions. This capability will in future enable new operational uses such as efficient and timely allocation of resources, including wheelchairs, buggies and a variety of aviation equipment and tools.

In addition, improved connec-

tivity is provided for various airport stakeholders and partners, who increasingly rely on wireless connectivity and operational mobile apps for their field staff to contribute to the world-class operations at HIA.

"As the world's best airport, we are continually investing in innovative technologies and solutions to provide our millions of visitors from around the world with easy access and the most seamless of experiences," HIA's senior vice-president (Technology and Innovation) Suhail Kadri said.

"The launch of next-gen Wi-Fi services at HIA not only fits well within our strategy of seamless travel but also strengthens our commitment to continue to be the leading global digital airport."

Hasan Khan, managing director, Cisco Qatar commented: "We are proud to support Hamad International Airport's strategic business goals as it continues to grow and introduce new services to effectively transform the passenger experience. Cisco has a strong technological expertise providing secure, intelligent, and seamless connectivity for various airports across the world; and we're happy to bring these capabilities to Qatar's flagship airport."

QFCA to relocate HQ to Lusail Boulevard

From Page 1

"It's also a significant step that adds a strong advantage and increases the value of the numerous investment opportunities within the city. Further, moving to the new headquarters will allow QFCA to be close to major financial institutions such as Qatar Central Bank, Qatar Investment Authority and QNB, in addition to other financial institutions and entities that have recently relocated to the area."

For his part, al-Jaida said: "The

Qatar Financial Centre Authority is pursuing an ambitious growth strategy, built on our mission to promote Qatar as a leading commercial hub on the world stage. Through the signing of this lease agreement with Qatari Diar, we are pleased to announce the Qatar Financial Centre Authority's strategic relocation to Lusail's commercial boulevard, a modern commercial district at the heart of Qatar's future city and the first smart city in the region. As the country's largest sustainable development, our integration into

Lusail also echoes our shared commitment to a sustainable future.

"The new premises will provide greater space for networking and collaboration with all our existing QFC firms as well as our business partners and prospective clients. This strategic move will enable us to draw on Lusail's state-of-the-art infrastructure, unparalleled connectivity and unique investment opportunities, as the city develops into a premier destination for Qatari and foreign businesses as well as international brands!"



BARWA
بَرْوَا

INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN BARWA TENDER

BARWA REAL ESTATE COMPANY WISHES TO INVITE CAPABLE AND COMPETENT COMPANIES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE TENDER DESCRIBED BELOW :

TENDER REFERENCE	TENDER DESCRIPTION	NON-REFUNDABLE TENDER FEES	CLOSING DATE
BRE/RFP/GAM/10058/2022	SUPPLY AND REPLACEMENT OF CONDENSER TUBE	QAR 200/-	20 FEBRUARY 2023 1:00 P.M.

TO RECEIVE THE TENDER DOCUMENTS, A COPY OF THE TENDER FEE DEPOSIT SLIP AND COMMERCIAL REGISTRATION OF THE BIDDER MUST BE FORWARDED TO THE FOLLOWING EMAIL ADDRESS: TENDER.PROCUREMENT@BARWA.COM.QA

TO PAY THE TENDER FEE, IT SHOULD BE DEPOSITED INTO THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNT:

BENEFICIARY : BARWA REAL ESTATE COMPANY
BANK NAME : DUKHAN BANK, MAIN BRANCH, DOHA - QATAR
ACCOUNT NO. : 200000008022
IBAN NUMBER : QA04BRWA000000000200000008022

NO OFFERS SUBMITTED BEYOND THE CLOSING DATE WILL BE CONSIDERED.
 TENDER BIDS TO BE SUBMITTED TO:

DIRECTOR- COMMERCIAL & CONTRACTS - GROUP CORPORATE OPERATIONS
 BARWA REAL ESTATE COMPANY
 BARWA AL-SADD TOWERS - TOWER 1 - 17TH FLOOR
 P.O BOX: 27777 DOHA-QATAR



Lusail City District Cooling Company
Fully owned subsidiary of Marafiq Qatar

TENDER NO. MQ-LCDC/TDR/LD/NORTH DCP#09/RFP/23/10006 dated 29.01.2023

TENDER TITLE: North District Cooling Plant at Lusail City Development in Qatar.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE WORKS

- The tender as mentioned above under Tender No. and Title for the North District Cooling Plant with water-cooled centrifugal chillers and associated equipment (the "Plant"). The Plant shall be constructed in Lusail City, Qatar. The work involves civil, architecture, process equipment and a Thermal Energy Storage tank as per the scope of work.
- The Successful tenderer shall
 - Be responsible for the Design, Engineering, Procurement, Construction, Testing, And Commissioning of the complete Plant including Thermal Energy Storage (TSE) on an EPC basis in a timely manner as per the requirements mentioned in the Tender Documents.
 - Ensure that the Plant & equipment are supplied in accordance with applicable international standards & codes, good industry practices and Owner's requirements.
 - Comply with all applicable laws in the State of Qatar.

TENDER BOND - QAR 6,500,000/- which should be valid for 180 days from the date of Tender closing.

SITE VISIT - On 12th February 2023 at 10:00hrs local Doha, Qatar Time.

TENDER CLOSING DATE - On 27th March 2023 at 15:00hrs local Doha, Qatar Time.

ELIGIBILITY OF TENDERERS

- EPC Contractor with sound financial capacity. The last three (03) years audited financial statements should show reasonable profits.
- Registered EPC Contractor in Qatar who can engage Grade A Contractor for electrical works and Grade A lead Consultants registered in Qatar (Local regulations shall be followed).
- EPC experience in undertaking similar projects and at least 5 years of GCC experience, preferably in Qatar.
- Successful track record of completion of large District Cooling Plants of minimum 20,000 TR capacity or more, with at least Two (02) plants built and commissioned in the last 5 years.
- Successful track record of execution of large thermal storage tanks of 30,000 TR-hr or more with at least One (01) such installation built and commissioned in the last 5 years.
- Successful track record of execution of reverse osmosis plants of capacity 3,000 m3/day or more with at least Two (02) such installations built and commissioned in the past, either directly or through specialist sub-contractor, in industrial applications, preferably in treating Treated Sewerage Effluent (TSE) water in District Cooling Plants. Preference will be given to tenderers in the following order:
 - Experienced in Qatar
 - Experience in GCC Countries
 - Experience internationally.
- Fabrication, and assembling facility in GCC, preferably in the State of Qatar.
- ISO Certification for Quality, Health, Safety, and Environment.

TENDER DOCUMENT FEE

A non-refundable Banker's Cheque | Bank Demand Draft | Cash for the amount of Three Thousand Qatari Riyals (QAR 3,000/-) shall be made in favor of Marafiq Qatar L.L.C. and submitted at the time of tender collection.

TENDER DOCUMENT COLLECTION

The Tender Document can be collected from the "Procurement Department" of Marafiq Qatar L.L.C., 7th Floor, Katara Hospitality Building, Marina District, Lusail City, Doha, Qatar any day (Except Friday, Saturday & Public Holidays) from 29th January 2023 to 9th February 2023 (both days inclusive), between 09:30 Hours to 15:00 Hours. Tel.: 00974 - 4012 0113 | 120. Fax: 00974 - 4012 0121.

The interested parties must present the following in order to collect the Tender Documents:

- Copy of the Company's Commercial Registration.
- Company's authorization letter must include contact persons' details (e-mail ID, Phone No. etc.) for correspondence and an ID copy of the person who is collecting the Tender Documents.
- Presentation of the receipt for the tender document fee submitted to the Finance Department of Marafiq Qatar L.L.C.

Police College to hold fifth graduation ceremony

The Police Academy is all set to celebrate its fifth graduation ceremony featuring 100 graduates today morning.

The ceremony will feature various programmes including a parade of students. At a press conference yesterday, the Police Academy president Brig Gen Abdul Rahman Majid al-Sulaiti said the students have completed the course with the best academic, military and sports capabilities and skills.

The Training Unit head Lt Col Fahd Saeed al-Subaie, said the parade this year will have 400 cadets from all batches of the academy in addition to 88 students of the 'Police Officers of Tomorrow' programme. The cadets, during the pa-



The Police Academy officials announce details of the graduation ceremony.

rade, will showcase various skills. "Police College candidates present a distinguished military parade every year during the graduation ceremony, and we started preparing last year when committees were

formed for the preparation of the ceremony," al-Subaie said.

Lt Col Yousef Bilal Saeed al-Abdullah, director of the Administrative and Financial Affairs Department, was also present.

AlKhater meets Turkish and Canadian ambassadors



HE the Assistant Foreign Minister Lolwah bint Rashid AlKhater met yesterday with Turkish ambassador to Qatar Dr Mustafa Goksu. During the meeting, they discussed bilateral relations and ways to support and develop them. In addition, they discussed several issues of common interest, particularly girls' education and ways of co-operation between the countries. The ambassador congratulated Qatar for its success in hosting the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022. (QNA)



HE the Assistant Foreign Minister Lolwah bint Rashid AlKhater met yesterday with Canadian ambassador to Qatar Isabelle Marie Catherine Martin. During the meeting, they discussed aspects of bilateral co-operation and ways of enhancing and promoting them, in addition to issues of common interest, particularly girls' education in Afghanistan. The meeting also touched on ways of strengthening partnership in development projects, and Qatar's preparations to host the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (LDC5) next month. The ambassador congratulated Qatar for its success in organising the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022. (QNA)

Qatar, Japan agree to exchange memos on visa waiver for Qatari citizens

Adviser to the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Dr Majed bin Mohamed al-Ansari said Qatar and Japan have agreed to exchange memorandums on visa exemption for Qatari citizens through the pre-registration system for Qatari travellers to Japan.

Dr al-Ansari noted that the new system allows Qatari citizens to immediately register and obtain an entry permit, expecting the application of the system to start in the summer of 2023.

Speaking at the weekly media briefing, Dr al-Ansari said that the strategic dialogue between Qatar and Japan has attached special importance to expanding the scope of co-operation between the two countries in all issues, noting that the next round of the strategic dialogue is scheduled to be held in Doha.

He shed light on HE the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohamed bin Abdulrahman al-Thani's recent tour of Istanbul, Tehran and Tokyo.

Dr al-Ansari added that HE



Officials during the media briefing.

Sheikh Mohamed attended in Tokyo the second strategic dialogue between the governments of Qatar and Japan.

On allowing the burning and tearing of copies of the Holy Qur'an in some European capitals, he affirmed that Qatar swiftly condemned the event at every location it took place, noting that Qatar has issued more than one condemnation in order to emphasise its firm positions on such matters similar to the

ferred specifically to the global threat of Islamophobia at a press conference in Tehran recently, noting that Qatar strives, along with the Arab and Islamic countries, to have a decisive role in this issue.

For his part, Director of Media and Communication Department Ibrahim bin Sultan al-Hashmi reviewed Qatar's stances on several issues recently.

He pointed out that Qatar condemned, in the strongest possible terms, the brutal Israeli aggression at the Jenin camp, which led to several deaths and injuries, and considered it an extension of the heinous and horrific crimes of the occupation against the defenceless Palestinian people, adding that the Israeli occupation has become more reassured than ever before of impunity and unaccountability.

He added that Qatar condemned and denounced, in the strongest possible terms, burning and tearing copies of the Holy Qur'an in various European countries, noting that double standards are unacceptable regarding the freedom of speech. (QNA)

QFFD, Silatech sign agreement to support global youth economic empowerment

Qatar Fund for Development (QFFD) and Silatech have signed a framework agreement that will expand Silatech's footprint in the Mena region and beyond by targeting more youth economic empowerment programmes.

The framework agreement contributes to Goal 8 of the Sustainable Development Goals, which promotes sustained, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth.

It also contributes to QFFD's vision of giving hope and promoting peace and justice through sustainable and inclusive development.

Deputy Director General for Project Development Sultan al-Aseeri said "youth economic empowerment is an important sector that plays a pivotal role

in improving fragile and marginalised societies in a sustained manner, and this is the most important goal of this agreement." He added that this agreement will give youth in the least developed communities plenty of opportunities to exercise greater control over their resources and life choices, adding that such projects will also contribute to other sectors, allowing people from the least-developed countries to invest in health and education.

"This opens new and diverse horizons to improve their livelihood, whereas we at Qatar Fund for Development believe in the capabilities of youth and their role in building their societies, as they are the most important core for the future," al-Aseeri added.



The framework agreement contributes to Goal 8 of the Sustainable Development Goals, which promotes sustained, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth.

Silatech CEO Hassan al-Mulla said "this co-operation with QFFD is a pivotal step towards achieving our long-term targets of economically empowering 5mn young men and woman across the globe," adding "the

development field requires this type of collaboration between the government and non-government sectors to enhance the impact of our interventions and to amplify the reach of our projects." (QNA)

Awareness drive for Baby-Friendly Hospital initiative

The Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) is running an introductory campaign for the Baby-Friendly Hospital initiative, from January 29 until today, at Sidra Medicine.

The campaign aims to raise awareness on the importance of breastfeeding, enable mothers and pregnant women to identify the best habits they can adopt to ensure appropriate nutrition for them and their children, and showcase global recommendations, the benefits of exclusive breastfeeding up to six months, as well as introduce healthy complementary foods while continuing breastfeeding until the age of two years.

The campaign also introduces the importance of skin-to-skin contact between mother and child from the first moment after birth to strengthen their bond.



In the run-up to the campaign, the MoPH held a five-day workshop from January 22 to 26 in collaboration with Sidra Medicine in order to train breastfeeding counsellors.

The breastfeeding counsellors' training workshop is an accredited workshop launched by World Health Organisation (WHO) and Unicef to support, promote and

protect breastfeeding by training healthcare providers to provide breastfeeding advice and support to mothers. The workshop is designed to equip health workers with the skills to optimally support mothers and their babies in breastfeeding.

The workshop is part of the implementation of the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative launched by

WHO and Unicef in 1991 with the aim of protecting and promoting the health of pregnant women, new mothers and their babies.

This initiative was implemented by the Ministry of Public Health in 2016 and is part of the objectives of the National Action Plan for Nutrition and Physical Activity and in line with Qatar National Vision 2030.

The breastfeeding counsellors' training workshop follows the trainers' course for breastfeeding counsellors organised by the MoPH in 2019 in co-operation with WHO.

The workshop aimed to introduce and explain the recommendations for breastfeeding at health facilities, provide evidence-based recommendations on breastfeeding, understand the importance of communication skills and breastfeeding counselling to improve breastfeeding practices, health and nutrition for mothers and their children. Additionally, the workshop discussed the 10 steps to successful breastfeeding and its application, the role of the International Code of Marketing of Breast-Milk Substitutes in protecting breastfeeding, and the practical application of acquired skills and evaluation of trainers.

QRCS secretary-general meets Palestinian Awqaf minister



The Secretary-General of Qatar Red Crescent Society (QRCS) ambassador Ali bin Hassan al-Hammadi met yesterday with the visiting Palestinian Minister of Awqaf and Religious Affairs Hatem Mohamed al-Bakry and the accompanying delegation. The meeting discussed means to enhance co-operation in the service of the people of Palestine. During the meeting, the two parties asserted the depth of relations between the QRCS and various Palestinian institutions, and the importance of strengthening and developing these relations to ensure the provision of services to the needy in Jerusalem, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, especially in light of the increasing need to support hospitals and health centres. (QNA)

1.3mn patients receive care at Sidra Medicine

Sidra Medicine, a member of Qatar Foundation, has provided medical care for more than 1.3mn patients since it opened five years ago, stressed chief medical officer Prof Ziyad Hijazi. He told local Arabic daily *Arrayah* that Sidra Medicine has 66 clinics and various services and has seen more than 6,700 cases of childbirths to date.

QRDI Council to host webinar on education and research

As part of its efforts to boost national research and innovation capabilities, Qatar Research Development and Innovation Council (QRDI) is hosting a webinar titled 'Education, Research and Service - now Startups too?' on February 8 from 4pm to 5.15pm.

Those interested can register to attend through the link: <https://bit.ly/8FebWebinar>

The webinar stems from 'The Spotlight On' Series, which brings together government policymakers, research and innovation funding agencies, academics, entrepreneurs, and industry experts to share their experiences and insights and address important issues which impact the RDI ecosystem.

During the webinar, Dr Francis Yeoh, senior adviser, QRDI and Professor for Entrepreneurship at the National University of Singapore, will be moderating the discussion between three experts: Prof Dame Fiona Murray, who holds several positions as William Porter Professor of Entrepreneurship, associate dean of Innovation + Inclusion, and MIT School of Management director, and MIT Office of Innovation HQ, scholar-in-residence, The Engine.

The other two distinguished panellists are Ben Mumby-Croft, director of Entrepreneurship, Imperial College London, and Dr Lotfi Belkir, associate director of Entrepreneurial Transformation, Qatar University.

ANNOUNCEMENT
I, KAREN MICHELLE BRION LECARZO holder of PHILIPPINE Passport No. P5571858B QID No. 29060812749 hereby change my name from KAREN MICHELLE BRION LECARZO to KAREN MICHELLE LECARZO MANGUERRA Any objection, please contact THE PERMANENT COMMITTEE FOR NATIONALITY AFFAIRS within 15 days from the publication of this notice.

The Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) is running an introductory campaign for the Baby-Friendly Hospital initiative, from January 29 until today, at Sidra Medicine. The campaign aims to raise awareness on the importance of breastfeeding, enable mothers and pregnant women to identify the best habits they can adopt to ensure appropriate nutrition for them and their children, and showcase global recommendations, the benefits of exclusive breastfeeding up to six months, as well as introduce healthy complementary foods while continuing breastfeeding until the age of two years. The campaign also introduces the importance of skin-to-skin contact between mother and child from the first moment after birth to strengthen their bond.

Ministry, QC launch programme to support humanitarian leaders



The Ministry of Sports and Youth and Qatar Charity launched yesterday a training programme aimed at qualifying youth leaders in humanitarian and development respects, with the participation of HE the Minister of Sports and Youth Salah bin Ghanem bin Nasser al-Ali, CEO of Qatar Charity Yousef bin Ahmed al-Kuwari, and a number of officials.

The Fazaa Al Aadaam Youth programme aims to qualify and train 20 young men and women to provide them with the foundations and standards of humanitarian and development work locally and internationally, and to learn about the experiences of managing humanitarian work by presenting various projects in this field.

It also provides an opportunity for young people to launch humanitarian projects, and follow different standards and models in this regard, as well as mechanisms and methods for implementing projects, and providing

special reports to donors and stakeholders.

Participants in the programme will be able to experience realistic experiences through technical field visits that complement the theoretical experience, and carry out the technical procedures followed in terms of analysing needs and collecting information, in addition to following up and evaluating the implemented projects, and submitting technical reports on them.

Director of Youth Affairs Department Fawaz al-Misifari said in a statement to Qatar News Agency (QNA) that the Fazaa Youth programme stems from the ministry's vision aimed at preparing active and responsible Qatari youth with a sense of patriotism, aware of the humanitarian and development work and its societal impact, and able to understand the surrounding challenges to create a better tomorrow, in line with Qatar National Vision 2030.

He added that the programme

would prepare young people capable of contributing to the development of the humanitarian and development field in Qatar, and to contribute to strengthening its reputation at the international level as an active country in the field of humanitarian and international development.

He added that the programme "Shabab Fazaa" reflects social responsibility and a sense of others, as the people of Qatar are known for their quick response to providing relief to the needy and answering the call, which has been a Qatari approach since time immemorial, and will represent an essential tool for highlighting young people who are able to contribute effectively in the humanitarian and development work sector.

For his part, Assistant CEO of the programmes and Community Development Sector at Qatar Charity, Faisal Rashid al-Fehaida, said in a similar statement to QNA that the programme was approved between the Ministry

of Sports and Youth and Qatar Charity with the aim of co-operation and partnership in the field of humanitarian and development work, highlighting the preparation of young leaders in humanitarian and development work.

He added that the idea of the programme is to form leaders in humanitarian and development work, and to enhance their skills and experiences locally and internationally, as a group of young people of both genders will participate in the programme according to specific criteria that serve the goal of the programme, and provide them with 16 workshops, focusing on international law, the impact of media on humanitarian work, risk and crisis management, planning and development projects, relief, and many of those similar disciplines.

A field trip will also be organised within the programme to visit Qatar Charity projects for refugees and displaced persons abroad, he said. (QNA)

Ministry of Awqaf opens signing up for Young Muhadeth contest



The Ministry of Endowments (Awqaf) and Islamic Affairs yesterday announced opening the registration for the 9th edition of the Young Muhadeth (Public Speaker) contest, organised by the General Directorate of Endowments under the supervision of the Ministry of Education and Higher Education.

Participation registration forms can be downloaded from the new website of the contest, the ministry said notifying that the last date for registration is March 2.

The General Directorate of Endowments has allocated valuable financial prizes for the winners, it added.

The contest comes within the Qur'an and Sunnah servicing fund, said the Director of the General

Directorate of Endowments Sheikh Dr Khalid bin Mohamed al-Thani at a press conference, adding that it targets all male and female students in the schools of Qatar.

He explained that the contest in this edition has become completely electronic, starting from the registration through awarding the prizes to the winners.

A new category will be added this year for the students with special needs he added.

For her part, the Director of Educational Guidance Department Maryam al-Emadi extended thanks the General Directorate of Endowments for organising the competition, and for the constructive co-operation between the two ministries to spread values among students. (QNA)

Qatar Charity to launch 'Saturday Club'

Qatar Charity (QC) Centre for Community Development - Al Rayyan is launching 'Saturday Club', a Qur'anic, cultural, skill, and recreational programme for children.

The initiative will feature a variety of activities to develop the cognitive abilities of participants, improve their level of knowledge and promote educational and Islamic values.

Those interested can visit the community development centre in Al Rayyan on Sundays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 8am to 12noon, and on Mondays and Wednesdays from 4pm to 6pm.

The programme is expected to benefit 120

children, both boys and girls. The aim is to teach them the correct way to read and memorise the Holy Qur'an, promote Islamic values, and impart new skills to them. It will also allow the female employees of the centre to memorise the Holy Qur'an.

There will be special classes for 4-6 years group as well as for girls aged 7-10 years in addition to classes for girls aged 11-14 years. There will also be special classes for beginners aged 18 and above.

The programme will also include various activities, workshops, stories, competitions, and cultural and recreational trips.

Twiga makes Qatar debut at Printemps Doha

Twiga Doha has arrived in Qatar and is looking forward to having guests experiencing the sensory delights of this iconic restaurant, now launching for the first time in Doha Oasis' luxury department store Printemps.

Twiga is a multi-dimensional escape from ordinary where authentic cuisine, eclectic design and lively beats come together in an exciting mix, for the delight of a cosmopolitan clientele. Translating as Giraffe in Swahili, Twiga is inspired by Italian entrepreneur Flavio Briatore's love for Africa. Fascinated by the coastal, milder landscape of Malindi, he wished to translate the city's wild charm into a dynamic dining concept, aiming to become a welcoming, glamorous home-away-from home for a discerning clientele.

Following the launch of Twiga Beach Versilia in 1998, the brand quickly established itself as a go-to destination for an international audience looking to create unforgettable memories. Popping in the trendiest urban hotspots such as Monte Carlo and London, Twiga is on a mission to bring the art of surprise around the world, designing spectacular experiences of extreme quality to offer a vibrant, full-on dining experience with a lifestyle feel.



Designed by architecture firm Sagrada, the eclectic interior design boasts an unconventional décor: the African influence drives the warm interior color palette, inspired by its breathtaking landscapes and wildlife. The New-Asian influence conveys volume and form, recalling the art of origami while the Italian influence brings cohesion, subtlety in pattern, rich textures, and luxurious materials. All together, they offer an imaginative mix of refined ethnic and modern inspirations artfully combined into an exciting and harmonious whole.

Inspired by the urban Twiga Monte Carlo, guests can expect at this Printemps Doha's outpost an extraordinary selection of a la carte dishes including taglioni all'astice, risotto Milanese, lobster Catalana, and sushi selection where Italian and New-Asian flavors come together to deliver an unparalleled culinary experience to suit either a relaxed lunch with family or a fancy dinner celebration with friends.

Follow the latest news @twigadoha @printempsdoha

Tourism opportunities between Qatar and Georgia 'immense'

By Joey Aguilar
Staff Reporter

The post-FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 and post-Covid-19 pandemic period provides tourism opportunities between Qatar and Georgia as both countries continue to witness a growing number of visitors due to their unique offerings, Georgian ambassador Nikoloz Revazishvili has said.

The envoy told *Gulf Times* that in the last few years, Georgia has become one of the most popular tourist destinations for Qatar residents, spending their "holiday vacations in Georgia and many plan to do so this winter". He said the easy and simple visa arrangements, Georgia's proximity to and from Qatar, and Georgia's beautiful nature, charming contrasts, different climates, and a wide variety of historic, cultural and culinary offerings make it a favourite destination for both Qatari citizens and residents.



Georgian ambassador Nikoloz Revazishvili.

"Qatari citizens or QID holders can travel to Georgia without visas. Second, Georgia is very close geographically and it takes just close to three-and-a-half hours to get to Tbilisi on a direct flight. Qatar Airways operates daily direct flights to Tbilisi," Revazishvili pointed out.

He said the number of visitors from Qatar to Georgia in 2022 increased by 27.5% compared to 2021, noting that Georgia has



Georgia will witness a huge number of foreign visitors from various countries during the 2023 Freestyle Ski and Snowboard World Championship, scheduled from February 19 to March 5.

removed all Covid-19 regulations, not only in terms of entering Georgia, but also inside the country starting from June 2022.

According to Revazishvili, the 2023 Freestyle Ski and Snowboard World Championship, which will be held in Bakuriani from February 19 to March 5, will see a huge number of foreign visitors coming to Georgia.

He said a total of 30 medal events are on the programme,

with 16 being contested in the freestyle ski disciplines and 14 in snowboarding.

"Thousands of international guests from 42 countries - athletes, official representatives - are already registered to attend this event in Bakuriani. On the sidelines of the championship, various interesting entertainment events are scheduled, so the visitors can enjoy unforgettable experiences while visit-

ing this beautiful ski resort," Revazishvili said.

He noted that Qatar, on the other hand, successfully hosted the World Cup last year and the prestigious tournament puts the country in the spotlight internationally, underlining its capacity to host and organise international sport events of such magnitude.

"Qatar 'Delivered Amazing'. Many Georgian citizens visited Qatar during the World Cup and everyone left Qatar with positive feelings and a desire to return as tourists.

"Qatar represents one of the growing tourist destinations for Georgia, especially for family travellers. You can find everything in Qatar - rich history and cultural experience, amazing local and international cuisine, amazing hotels and resorts, nice beaches, shopping and etc. I am sure we will witness significant growth in tourism in coming years in both destinations - Tbilisi and Doha," the envoy said.

Fanar, Grand Mosque continue to impress tourists



The Sheikh Abdullah bin Zaid Al Mahmoud Islamic Cultural Centre (Fanar) continues to draw visitors while holding various activities for Muslim communities.

According to a statement from the Ministry of Endowments (Awqaf) and Islamic Affairs, the programmes include religious lectures for Indonesian community members. With the arrival of cruise ships to Doha Port, there is an increase in the number of visitors to Fanar, to learn about its role and the educational programmes offered. Last week, 263 people of different nationalities visited the centre. Fanar's programmes were attended by 76 Indonesians including 64 students and their parents.

The centre has 16 volunteer teachers. The Imam Mohamed bin Abdul Wahab Mosque (Grand Mosque) was visited by hundreds of tourists during the past week. A total of 74 English, Spanish and Russian tourists visited the mosque last week.

"Grand Mosque, a cultural destination that features the local architecture, was visited by thousands during the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022. A comprehensive description about the mosque is given to the visitors while detailing the local architecture, its components, its decoration, and the methods used in construction in the past are introduced," the statement added.

WCM-Q diabetes researcher ranked among world's best

Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar (WCM-Q) clinician and researcher, Dr Rayaz Malik has been ranked among the world's leading experts in the fields of diabetic neuropathy and diabetes complications.

Dr Malik, professor of medicine and assistant dean for clinical investigations at WCM-Q, was seventh for diabetic neuropathies and 13th for diabetes complications, in a ranking of the most influential clinical researchers across the world.

This list was independently compiled by Expertscape, the world's leading index of academic achievement and expertise in healthcare. It ranks the performance of researchers impartially, using a series of objective metrics to judge the number and quality of research papers and the impact factor of the journals in which they have been published over the last ten years.

Expertscape's analysis determined that Dr Malik's record of publication over the past ten years puts him in the top 0.0076% of 170,863 published authors for diabetes complications worldwide. Diabetes complications include



Dr Rayaz Malik

heart disease, stroke, damage to the eye (retinopathy), kidneys (nephropathy) and nerves (neuropathy).

Dr Malik said: "It is very gratifying to achieve such recognition based on approximately 280 publications since my arrival in Qatar, arising from excellent collaborations between Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar, Hamad Medical Corporation, Sidra Medicine, and Qatar University. We believe our innovative approach to identify nerve damage is and will have a major impact on the health of people with diabetes and other neurodegenerative diseases."

In November 2022, Dr Malik was also awarded the prestigious Gold Medal lecture from the Gulf Association of Endocrinology and Diabetes.

Elections announced for Indian embassy apex bodies

The biennial elections to three apex bodies under the Indian embassy will be held on February 17 according to a circular issued yesterday.

The elections to the Indian Cultural Centre (ICC), Indian Community Benevolent Forum (ICBF) and Indian Sports Centre (ISC) will be held online, explained T Angelina Premalatha, counsellor at Indian embassy and the chairperson of the Election Committee.

"Online elections for the post of president and four managing committee members and three representatives of associate organisations will be held for ICC, ICBF and ISC for the term of 2023 to 2024 will be held on February 17 in accordance with the constitution and bylaws of the respective apex bodies," said the statement.

Last date for submission of nominations to all the three apex bodies is February 7 and the last day for withdrawal of nominations is February 8. The final list of candidates will be published on February 10 and the online elections held on February 17. The timing of the elections will be announced later and the results will be declared on the same day.

HBKU Press publishes book on cybersecurity

The HBKU Press has launched its newest addition to the Simply Said book series, *What You Should Know About Cybersecurity* by Dr Mohamed al-Dorani.

The series calls upon leading authorities to provide accessible explanations on typically complex but critical subjects concerning everyday issues.

"HBKU Press started the Simply Said series to break down challenging problems and cater to readers who are routinely affected by various phenomena that can be difficult to decipher without technical training," said executive director Bachar Chebaro.

What You Should Know About Cybersecurity tackles the most pressing issue of cybersecurity and its development in today's rapidly digitising era. As communication, business, banking, and daily lives become increasingly more reliant on online use, cyberattacks and the consequent need for more comprehensive cybersecurity measures are similarly on the rise.

Dr al-Dorani seeks to equip

"The aim of having this book published is to shed light on the dangers of cybercrime and cyberattacks that have been causing so much concern and damage to individuals, corporations and countries. I hope this book can add to the education and awareness of readers"

the novice reader with a basic yet thorough and crucial understanding of cybersecurity and how to best ensure optimal digital health. "The aim of having this book published is to shed light on the dangers of cybercrime and cyberattacks that have been causing so much concern and damage to individuals, corporations and countries. I hope this book can add to the education and awareness of readers," he said.

Dr al-Dorani is a key player in the development and understanding of the cybersecurity field in Qatar. He earned his MBA from the University of San Francisco before completing his postgraduate research at the esteemed Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr al-Dorani then went on to achieve a PhD in Information Systems and Telecommunica-

tions from George Washington University. He has overseen the first bachelor's degree in Cybersecurity at the Community College of Qatar by developing and teaching his course 'Hacking and Counter Measures and Cyber Crime'.

"I have dedicated the past six years in my capacity as an expert on the subject to spread knowledge and stress the importance of cybersecurity to students, in addition to consulting various clients in the private and public sectors," said Dr al-Dorani, who has published three books over the past five years and helped over 100 Qatari male and female students graduate with a bachelor's degree in cybersecurity.

The book starts with an in-depth glossary of relevant terms in the cybersecurity field and continues to discuss each of these themes in detail, breaking down the normally overwhelm-

ing topic down into clearly organised and insightful chapters. Each chapter explores a theme most casual readers are already familiar with, including password security, a universal Internet practice for all users.

Dr al-Dorani devotes an entire chapter to the importance of robust password security measures and urges readers to take advantage of two-factor authentication features and avoid bad password habits that could potentially leave personal accounts vulnerable to cyberattacks.

He continues to delve into a variety of case studies to explore these vulnerabilities further, which affect not only personal users, but larger companies, organisations, and entities which house sensitive data and information that could potentially be exploited in various ways.

"The book explains what the countermeasures and basic minimum protections are that one can undertake to maintain infection-free digital devices, especially with the widespread use of social media applications," added Dr al-Dorani.

Qatar Museums kicks off 2023 with vibrant February programme

Qatar Museums (QM) has announced the continuation of its monthly activity programmes aimed at inspiring creative interaction among the local community. QM has planned a series of free to attend workshops, events, and activities throughout February.

Inspired and led by Qatar's diverse creative community, the programme facilitates an exchange between the public and all art forms, from storytelling, guided interactive tours, and art workshops.

National Museum of Qatar (NMQ): Storytelling Session at NMQ Library - Every Monday and Wednesday, 9am-12noon (45 minute sessions for up to 25 students from Grades KG, 1 and 2), in Arabic and English. Children will listen to stories related to Qatar's environment, and after the reading, can partake in fun and interactive activities related to the stories. For inquiries and bookings, contact schoolsnmq@qm.org.qa

Natural Environments in Qatar and Sustainability Initiatives Guided Tour at NMQ: February 12 and 19, 4pm-5pm (Arabic)

February 15 and 22, 4pm-5pm (English). NMQ's Learning Team invites adults aged 16+ on a journey to discover how Qatar's geography has shaped different habitats resulting in the evolution of diverse animals, plants, and natural resources, in celebration of Qatar's Environment Day. For inquiries and bookings, contact toursnmq@qm.org.qa

I Really Want to Win Storytelling: Heritage Garden at NMQ: February 11, 4pm-5pm (English), Audience: 9-11 years

The Library Team at MNOQ invite

families to enter the imaginary world of stories at this storytelling session. Afterwards, children will take home their own handmade memento as a keepsake. For inquiries and bookings, contact librarynmq@qm.org.qa

Museum of Islamic Art (MIA): Baghdad Family Day, MIA Atrium, February 11, 2pm-4pm. MIA welcomes families to come and enjoy a host of activities in celebration of Family Day and learn more about the ongoing Baghdad: Eye's Delight exhibition. For inquiries and bookings, contact educationmia@qm.org.qa

Beginners Ruq'ah for Women: MIA Seminar Room, February 5-8, 4pm-6pm, to learn one of the most common types of Arabic calligraphy script. Developed at the Ottoman court, Ruq'ah script was broadly used in daily communications, magazines and book covers, because of its clarity and simplicity. For inquiries and bookings, contact educationmia@qm.org.qa

Ottoman Design: Debriefing Room - MIA, February 11, 4pm-5.30pm. This course allows children and teenagers to learn about the different types of art found in the MIA. Students use basic geometry tools such as a compass and ruler to make some of the structures commonly seen in Islamic art. For inquiries and bookings, contact educationmia@qm.org.qa

Watercolour painting: MIA Art Workshop, February 19, 20, 21, 5.30pm-7pm. In this workshop students will produce a watercolour sketch using drawing and watercolour painting techniques on paper. For inquiries and bookings, contact educationmia@qm.org.qa

Acrylic painting for teenagers: MIA



Art Workshop, February 28, 4pm-6pm. Participants will be introduced to Islamic Art with a gallery tour, then will draw and paint a chosen object which inspired them. For inquiries and bookings, contact educationmia@qm.org.qa

Lusail Museum: Tales of a Connected World Exhibition. Curator-led tours, QM Gallery - Al Riwaq, every Thursday until April 1, 12noon-2pm. The curators of Lusail Museum invite the public for a tour of the Tales of a Connected World exhibition, and view the world-class collection of Orientalist art, archaeological artefacts, and media dating from antiquity to the 21st century. The curators will also discuss plans and their vision for the future museum. For inquiries and booking, contact education@qm.org.qa

Use Your Imagination - Creative Writing Workshop: QM Gallery - Al Riwaq (Education Space), February 19 and 20, 4pm-6pm (Arabic & English), for young writers (aged 12-16). The first day will involve a walk-in gallery conversation, discussing individual perceptions of the collection. The class will then learn about the principals of writing a short story. On the second day participants will create a main

character inspired by the exhibition, using different artistic techniques. For inquiries and booking, contact education@qm.org.qa

Seeing people: QM Gallery - Al Riwaq (Education Space), February 22, 4pm-6pm (Arabic & English). The curators of Lusail Museum invite the public to an interactive guided tour of the Tales of a Connected World exhibition, and create an artwork inspired by the various artworks on show. Participants will be encouraged to take inspiration from the way subjects expressed in paintings used to dress, pose, and look. Artwork can be in the form of a short video, photography, or mixed media artwork. For inquiries and booking, contact education@qm.org.qa

Be Part of Your Favorite Masterpiece: QM Gallery - Al Riwaq (Education Space), February 26, 4pm-6pm (Arabic & English)

Families with kids 12 years+ are invited to a workshop, where they will choose their favourite masterpiece from the exhibition and incorporate personal photos using image transferring techniques. Participants will learn about how scenes of everyday life, whether realistic or imagined, were a particular source of interest to film makers and photographers. For inquiries and booking, contact education@qm.org.qa

Travel Memories Not to Be Forgotten: QM Gallery - Al Riwaq (Education Space), February 21, 3pm-5pm (Arabic & English)

12 years and above to examine the Tales of a Connected World exhibition and create their own travel journal. For inquiries and booking, contact education@qm.org.qa

Art Mill Museum 2030 Exhibition: Small Houses with Big Impact Art Workshop, Al Najada House 15, February 6, 10am-12pm (Arabic & English). Children aged 10 and over are invited to explore the architecture that reflects the history, culture and living conditions of people of the past, in particular, houses built from mud houses. These houses serve as a marker of the region's heritage and historical depth, and illustrate how people of this period were able to sustain their civilisation by developing this unique form of architecture. For inquiries and booking, contact education@qm.org.qa

Plant's Effect Art Workshop by Learning and Outreach - Audience Engagement Department: Al Najada House 15, February 15, 12pm-2pm (Arabic & English). As part of the Art Mill Museum 2030 exhibition, QM Learning and Outreach department invite those aged 10 years and over to a Botanical art workshop, inspired by the future Art Mill Museum's garden, and by the various plants that are native to Qatar. During the exhibition tour, participants will learn about the garden, and will use the plants as a source of inspiration in their artwork. For inquiries and booking, contact education@qm.org.qa

Dadu, Children's Museum of Qatar: Dadu on Tour, Until February 4, 9am-5pm from Saturday to Thursday, and 1pm-5pm on Fridays. The activity will take place at Owaina Park, Al Wakra. Schools may book by e-mailing daduschools@qm.org.qa, and the members of the public can register online.

Mathaf: Arab Museum of Modern Art, Art lessons with Ismael Azzam,

Manara studio - Mathaf, every Sunday and Monday, 4pm-7pm, to learn portraiture, using a range of different mediums. Lessons are offered to people with basic to intermediate sketching and drawing skills. Each participant must bring their own sketchbook. Admission is free, and participants must be 18 years old and over. For inquiries and booking, contact education@qm.org.qa

Experience Al Jazeera: Creating Logos from Calligraphy Workshop, February 12, 13, 26 and 27, 4pm-5.30pm, for teenagers. For inquiries and booking, contact education@qm.org.qa

Posting a Story Through Social Media: February 19, 4pm-5.30pm, for teenagers. During this interactive workshop, participants will gain the skills and resources they need to cover stories from their community through social media. For inquiries and booking, contact education@qm.org.qa

Telling a Story Through Mobile Photography: February 20, 4pm-5.30pm. The workshop will demonstrate how to extract relevant information interviewees, based on any topic of interest, and deliver it to the viewer. For inquiries and booking, contact education@qm.org.qa

Training for Teachers: February 2 and 9, 12pm-2pm (For English language teacher and technology teachers), February 1, 6, 7, and 8, 12pm-2pm (For Arabic language Teachers and ART teachers)

QM's department of Learning and Outreach invites secondary and high school teachers to attend free training workshops and tours of the Experience Al Jazeera exhibition. For more information please email: education@qm.org.qa

TRAGEDY
Massive fire kills 15 in complex in east India

At least 15 people died, while dozens were injured as a result of a massive fire that erupted in an apartment complex in Joraphatak, Dhanbad. Local media sources said the fire, which erupted in an apartment spread rapidly before the firefighting teams rescued residents trapped from the sixth and seventh floors of the complex. Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren described the accident as "extremely heart-wrenching," adding "the district administration is working on war footing and treatment is being provided to the injured." Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed his deep anguish for the loss of lives in the Dhanbad fire.

ACCIDENT
Two skiers killed in Kashmir avalanche

Two Polish skiers were killed and 21 other people rescued in Kashmir, India, yesterday after an avalanche swept through the popular ski resort of Gulmarg, police said. The skiing group was made up of Russian and Polish nationals and two local guides, police said. A rescue operation was launched following the incident, Kashmir's police chief Vijay Kumar said, and two bodies were recovered. Police later said 21 skiers and two local guides had been accounted for. The skiers were hit by the avalanche in the Affarwat area of Gulmarg, Kumar said, days after heavy snowfall in the hills of Kashmir. Police identified the two Polish skiers as Krzysztof, 43, and Adam Grzech, 45.

OFFICIAL
Austin visit to see deal on base access: Philippines

US Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin's visit to the Philippines this week is expected to bring an announcement of expanded US access to military bases in the country, a senior Philippines official said yesterday. Washington is eager to extend its security options in the Philippines as part of efforts to deter any move by China against Taiwan, while Manila wants to bolster defence of its territorial claims in the disputed South China Sea. Austin arrived in Manila on Tuesday, and will meet his Philippine counterpart and other officials today "to build on our strong bilateral relationship, discuss a range of security initiatives, and advance our shared vision of a free and open Pacific," he said.

DISASTER
Strong earthquake hits Mindanao

A magnitude 6.0 earthquake struck Mindanao in the Philippines yesterday, the European Mediterranean Seismological Centre (EMSC) said. The quake struck at a depth of 2kms, the EMSC said. It was felt in Davao City, hometown of former president Rodrigo Duterte, the region's civil disaster agency said on Facebook. Photos and videos on social media showed people evacuating shopping malls and a university to open spaces in the city, while lights hanging in a church swayed. The earthquake was felt more strongly in the nearby province of Davao de Oro. Damage and aftershocks were expected, the country's seismology agency said in a report.

LAW AND ORDER
Egyptian police arrest five over spoof prison visit video

Five social media content creators have been arrested in Egypt after publishing a widely viewed comic sketch about a visit to an Egyptian jail, two lawyers said yesterday. The video clip titled "The Visit" shows a woman visiting her fiancé in prison. The two engage in banter with several other characters, including a prison guard, who appear at the detention centre. The three-minute video was published on January 13 and has been viewed more than 7mn times on Facebook. Five people who appeared in the video were arrested by National Security agents before being transferred to the prosecution and ordered detained for 15 days pending investigations, a lawyer said.

US, India tie-up aims to compete with China

Reuters
Washington

The White House yesterday launched a partnership with India that President Joe Biden hopes will help the countries compete against China on military equipment, semiconductors and artificial intelligence. Washington wants to deploy more Western mobile phone networks in the subcontinent to counter China's Huawei Technologies, to welcome more Indian computer chip specialists to the US and to encourage companies from both countries to collaborate on military equipment such as artillery systems.

The White House faces an uphill battle on each front, including US restrictions on military technology transfer and visas for immigrant workers, along with India's longstanding dependence on Moscow for military hardware. Biden's national security adviser, Jake Sullivan, and his Indian counterpart, Ajit Doval, met with senior officials from both countries at the White House to launch the US-India Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies.

"The larger challenge posed by China — its economic practices, its aggressive military moves, its efforts to dominate the industries of the future and to control the supply chains of the future — have had a profound impact on the thinking in Delhi," Sullivan said.

Doval will also meet Secretary of State Anthony Blinken during his three-day visit to Washington DC. New Delhi has frustrated Washington by participating in military exercises with Russia and increasing purchases of the country's crude oil, a key source of funding for Russia's war in Ukraine.

But Washington has held its tongue, nudging the country on Russia while condoning India's more hawkish stance on China.

On Monday, Sullivan and Doval participated in a Chamber of Commerce event with corporate leaders from Lockheed Martin Corporation, Adani Enterprises and Applied Materials.

Telangana upgrades school facilities



A teacher conducts a class using laptops at a government high school in Hyderabad yesterday, under the newly introduced programme "Mana Basti - Mana Badi" (Our area - Our School) for overall effectiveness and infrastructure development of government-run schools in India's Telangana state.

India govt hikes spending, shuns populism in last pre-poll budget

Reuters
New Delhi

India yesterday announced one of its biggest ever increases in capital spending for the next fiscal year to create jobs but targeted a narrower fiscal deficit in its last full budget ahead of a parliamentary election due in 2024.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's party has been under pressure to create jobs in the populous country where many have struggled to find employment, although the economy is now one of the world's fastest-growing.

"After a subdued period of the pandemic, private investments are growing again," Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said as she presented the 2023-24 budget in parliament.

"The budget makes the need once again to ramp up the virtuous cycle of investment and job creation. Capital investment is being increased steeply for the third year in a row by 33% to Rs10tn."

The capital spending increase to about \$122.3bn, which would amount to 3.3% of gross domestic product (GDP), will be the biggest such jump after an increase of more than 37% between 2020-21 and 2021-22.

Total spending will rise 7.5% to Rs45.03tn (\$549.51bn) in the next fiscal year starting on April 1.

Sitharaman said the government would target a fiscal deficit of 5.9% of GDP for 2023-24 compared with 6.4% for the current fiscal year and slightly lower than a Reuters poll of 6%.

The aim is to lower the deficit to 4.5% by 2025-26.

Brokerage Nomura said the budget "prudently pushes for

growth, without rocking the macro boat?"

"In the event, the government has presented a good budget. It has pushed for growth via public capex and continued on the path towards fiscal consolidation, without offering much in terms of outright populism."

Capital Economics said the "absence of a fiscal blowout", a recent drop in inflation and signs of moderating growth could convince India's central bank to slow the pace of rate hikes next week.

It said there was still a chance of fiscal slippage as campaigning kicks off for the election, in which Modi is widely projected to win a third straight term.

The finance ministry's annual Economic Survey, released on Tuesday, forecast the economy could grow 6% to 6.8% next fiscal year, down from 7% projected for the current year, while warning about the impact of cooling global demand on exports.

Sitharaman said India's economy was "on the right track, and despite a time of challenges, heading towards a bright future". Her deficit plan will be aided by a 28% cut in subsidies on food, fertiliser and

petroleum for the next fiscal year at Rs3.75tn.

The government cut spending on a key rural jobs guarantee programme to Rs600bn — the smallest in more than five years — from Rs894bn for this fiscal year.

The government's gross market borrowing is estimated to rise about 9% to Rs15.43tn next fiscal year.

Moody's Investors Service said the narrower fiscal deficit projection pointed to the government's commitment to longer-term fiscal sustainability, but that a "high debt burden and weak debt affordability remain key constraints that offset India's fundamental strengths".

Among other moves to stimulate consumption, the surcharge on annual income above Rs50mn was cut to 25% from 37%.

Since taking office in 2014, Modi has ramped up capital spending including on roads and energy, while wooing investors through lower tax rates and labour reforms, and offering subsidies to poor households to clinch their political support.

A lack of jobs for young people, and meagre wages for those who do find work, has been one of the main criticisms of Modi.

Defence budget raised to \$72.6bn

India yesterday proposed Rs5.94tn (\$72.6bn) in defence spending for the 2023-24 financial year, 13% up from the previous period's initial estimates, aiming to add more fighter jets and roads along its tense border with China. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman allocated Rs1.63tn for defence capital outlays — an expenditure that would include new weapons, aircraft,

warships and other military hardware. She said Rs2.77tn would be devoted to military salaries and benefits in 2023-24, Rs1.38tn on pensions for retired soldiers, and further amounts for miscellaneous items. Sitharaman also revised the defence budget for the current financial year ending in March to Rs5.85tn from earlier estimates of Rs5.25tn.

Lost radioactive capsule found in Australian Outback

Reuters
Sydney

Australian authorities yesterday found a radioactive capsule smaller than a coin that was lost in the vast Outback after nearly a week-long search involving around 100 people along a 1,400km stretch of highway, officials said.

The Caesium-137 capsule lost in transit more than two weeks ago was discovered when a vehicle travelling at 70km per hour equipped with specialist detection equipment picked up the radiation, according to officials from the state of Western Australia.

The search team then used portable detection equipment to find the capsule, which was located about 2 metres from the side of the road in a remote area far from any community, they added.

The radioactive capsule was part of a gauge used to measure the density of iron ore feed from

Rio Tinto's Gudai-Darri mine in the state's remote Kimberley region.

The gauge was being taken to a facility in the suburbs of state capital Perth — a distance further than the length of Great Britain.

Rio was willing to pay for the cost of the search if asked by the state government, iron ore division head Simon Trott told reporters.

"Of course the simple fact is this device should never have been lost," he said. "We're sorry that that has occurred and we're sorry for the concern that that has caused within the Western Australian community."

People had been told to stay at least 16.5 feet away if they spotted the capsule, because exposure could cause radiation burns or radiation sickness.

However, driving past it was believed to be relatively low risk, akin to taking an X-ray.

Western Australia's Emergency Services Minister Stephen Dawson said the find was an "extraordinary result" after a search

involving the state's emergency response department, defence authorities and radiation specialists.

"When you consider the scope of the search area, locating this object was a monumental challenge, the search groups have quite literally found the needle in the haystack," he said.

A 20-metre exclusion zone has been set up around the capsule while defence force members verify it via a serial number. It will then be placed in a lead container and stored overnight at a secure location in Newman, a mining town roughly 1,200km north-west of Perth, before being taken to the state capital today.

The silver capsule, 6mm in diameter and 8mm long, contains Caesium-137 which emits radiation equal to 10 X-rays per hour.

Officials said the capsule apparently fell off a truck during transport and landed on the side of the road, adding that it was unlikely there would be contamination in the area.

Anti-Israel protest



Palestinian women hold banners to show their support to Palestinian prisoners held in Israeli prisons, in Gaza City, yesterday.

UK's teachers and civil servants join mass strike

Reuters
London

Up to half a million British teachers, civil servants, and train drivers yesterday walked out over pay in the largest co-ordinated strike action for a decade, with unions threatening more disruption as the government digs its heels in over pay demands.

The mass walkouts across the country shut schools, halted most rail services, and forced the military to be put on standby to help with border checks on a day dubbed "Walkout Wednesday".

According to unions, as many as 300,000 teachers took part, the biggest group involved, as part of wider action by 500,000 people, the highest number since 2011, when civil servants walked out en masse.

Prime Minister Rishi Sunak condemned the strikes which forced millions of children to miss school.

"I am clear that our children's education is precious and they

deserve to be in school today being taught," he said.

His government has taken a hard line against the unions, arguing that giving in to demands for large wage hikes would further fuel Britain's inflation problem.

Tens of thousands of education workers marched through central London with placards which read "Children Deserve better" and "Save our Schools, Pay Up".

Taking part in the march, primary school teacher Hannah Rice, 32, said she hoped the scale of the action would send the government a strong message.

"This government should be ashamed of the way they are managing things," she said. "It's clear people are unhappy, it's clear that there needs to be a change."

The PCS Union, representing about 100,000 striking civil servants from more than 120 government departments, warned of further co-ordinated strikes.

"If the government doesn't do something about it, I think we will see more days like today with more and more unions joining in," PCS general secretary Mark Serwotka said.



CHAIRMAN

Abdullah bin Khalifa al-Attiyah

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Faisal Abdulhameed al-Mudahka

Deputy Managing Editor

K T Chacko

- 📍 P.O.Box 2888, Doha, Qatar
- ✉ editor@gulf-times.com
- ☎ 44350478 (News),
- ☎ 44466404 (Sport),
- ☎ 44466636 (Home delivery)
- ☎ 44350474
- 📘 facebook.com/gulftimes
- 🐦 twitter.com/gulftimes_Qatar



Three cheers for hybrid work

There is no shortage of hyperbole in the debate about whether companies should demand a full return to office work. According to Citadel's Ken Griffin, the hedge fund owes its record-breaking \$16bn haul last year to its staff's full-time presence in the office. But such sound bites ignore all the benefits that remote work offers to employers, employees, and the economy more broadly.

Naysayers dismiss employees' preference for remote work as a manifestation of entitlement or "quiet quitting" (doing the bare minimum to remain employed). But that snap judgment is far too crude. A recent study by Harvard University economist Raj Chetty's Opportunity Insights lab estimates that there are around 2.6mn people in the United States who should be working, but are not. At a time when many employers cannot fill vacancies, offering greater flexibility both increases the applicant pool and contributes to higher retention rates, easing the pressure on hiring.

Happier employees also tend to be more productive. Survey data on attitudes toward remote work from multiple countries show that many employees were surprised by their own productivity during the pandemic. Remote work saved them hours of exhausting commutes, and they were able to tailor their days to do their work when they felt most productive. Women and parents of young children especially came to appreciate – and make the most use of – this newfound flexibility.

More broadly, remote work offers greater opportunities for labour-market participation to talented individuals who had been previously disadvantaged by time or mobility constraints (including not just women and parents but also people with disabilities). Research by Harvard's Claudia Goldin shows that the need to work long hours outside the home at prescribed times is one of the most important challenges that women (especially those with a college education) face in the labour market.

Covid taught us some valuable lessons and accelerated innovation in certain sectors

Remote work thus could help eliminate some of the tension between career and family. But as the pandemic taught us, leveraging remote work to the fullest requires complementary policies, especially adequate childcare. Otherwise, remote work will not spare women from the double duty of full-time employment and managing household and childcare responsibilities.

If broadly implemented and accompanied by the right policies, remote work would deliver far-reaching benefits for the overall economy. It would reduce labour costs and thus inflationary pressures, because employees could move to cheaper locations. And these relocations could in turn lower congestion costs, making commutes easier and less expensive for those who still need to be physically present in the workplace.

In real-estate markets, rents and house prices would be more evenly distributed geographically. Though this might raise prices in some previously low-cost locations, it would eliminate the extraordinarily high rents and house prices found in highly congested areas such as the New York City metropolitan area or the San Francisco Bay Area.

Of course, there are also some disadvantages to consider. In some sectors, employers worry that a lack of structure, office "culture," or the ability to monitor employees' progress will drive down lower productivity. And since remote work is not an option in many industries – from restaurants to healthcare – its uptake might add another dimension to labour-market inequality.

Still, even those workers who need to show up every day would benefit indirectly from remote work, through the reduction in commuting costs, rents, and house prices. Moreover, if markets are functioning properly, there should be a compensating differential for workplace labour. Employees already seem to recognise this tradeoff. Recent estimates suggest that, on average, employees would be willing to give up 5% of their pay to work from home 2-3 days per week.

Critics of remote work also often argue that personal interaction (at the proverbial water cooler) fosters creativity and innovation, as if to suggest that new ideas never emerge from a Zoom screen. And, of course, many employers and employees (especially younger cohorts) cherish a good office culture. But most of these needs can be met through hybrid models, whereby employees are physically present on a few pre-determined days of each week or month.

Finally, it is true that the widespread adoption of remote or hybrid work would have serious implications for the future of city centres, particularly those that are deemed less appealing or competitive. The advantages of remote, and especially hybrid, work seem to outweigh the disadvantages, especially if such work is supplemented by complementary policies to provide childcare and support urban development.

The Covid-19 pandemic was horrible for everyone. But like every crisis, it taught us some valuable lessons and accelerated innovation in certain sectors. Remote and hybrid work are a silver lining of a prolonged tragedy. We should cling to it. – Project Syndicate

To Advertise

✉ advr@gulf-times.com

Display

☎ 44466621 ☎ 44418811

Classified

☎ 44466609 ☎ 44418811

Subscription

✉ circulation@gulf-times.com

© 2023 Gulf Times. All rights reserved



Davos Man has a people problem

Globalisation is currently running into the wall of identity, which the prevailing institutions have failed to reconfigure or even acknowledge

By **Antara Haldar**
Cambridge

One of the most iconic images of our time shows a polar bear marooned and adrift on an ice floe. Few other images capture the reality of climate change so viscerally. And now, ironically, Davos Man finds himself in a similar metaphorical position. His natural habitat, the hyper-globalised world of the past half-century, is shrinking, and he has gone from skiing in the Swiss Alps to skating on thin ice.

Of course, globalisation – the integration of national and regional economies through cross-border trade and investment – long predates Davos Man. Ever since the dawn of industrialisation in the 1800s, technological progress (steamships, railroads, the telegraph, automobiles, airplanes) and financial innovations (like the gold standard) have led to an increasingly interconnected global economy.

But this process has not been continuous. An earlier wave of globalisation came to an abrupt halt in the early 1900s with the rise of nationalism and protectionism, culminating in the Great Depression and fascism. Yet since the end of World War II, and especially following the Cold War, the international order has been deliberately geared toward American-led globalisation, with the Bretton Woods Institutions (the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, and the World Trade Organisation) providing the basic architecture.

Conceived by the World Economic Forum in 1971 (but unnamed until 2004), Davos Man became the avatar of this process. Each year since, the WEF has staged its flagship gathering in the Swiss Alps to extol the virtues of free trade and capital-market liberalisation as instruments for underwriting peace and prosperity.

But now, many fear that globalisation is in retreat for the first time since 1945. The United States and China are undergoing a large-scale "decoupling." And the rise of populist movements in advanced economies – epitomised by Trumpism and Brexit – has placed the Global North's right-wing nationalists on the same page as the Global South's left-wing anti-colonialists. Both are deeply suspicious of multinational economic arrangements that are seen to undermine national sovereignty.

Against this backdrop, Davos attendees spent this year's gathering fretting over matters of taxonomy ("Re-Globalisation or De-Globalisation?"), while *The Economist* ran a cover story on the new threats to globalisation emanating from its erstwhile champion, the US. Morgan Stanley, meanwhile, has warned clients about globalisation going into "reverse."

But the change we are witnessing is about much more than supply chains and semiconductors. More fundamentally, what the economic sociologist Karl Polanyi called the "disembedding" of economic systems from social ones appears to be hitting its limits.

In strictly economic terms, the case for globalisation will always be compelling: the logic of comparative

advantage dictates that if countries leverage their own strengths – their unique combination of resource endowments, geography, human capital, and so on – and then trade with the rest of the world, everyone will end up with more in the aggregate. Economic studies show that almost every country in the world has grown richer as a result of globalisation. Globally, poverty and inequality (at least between countries) have declined markedly.

But economic actors are real people with "sticky" psychological traits. They have personal and social identities, and deeply held values. They are not "commodities" or mere factors of production that gravitate like atoms toward their most productive use. Whether they are workers displaced from their jobs by outsourcing or farmers unable to sell their produce because of international agreements, they have understandable objections to globalisation's race-to-the-bottom dynamics.

The popular resistance to globalisation is not cognitive but affective, born of an anger over feeling "left behind" or "swept up." According to Pew Research, a sense of belonging (or not belonging) to a "community" is the key factor determining whether people's sentiment toward globalisation is positive (or negative). Globalisation is currently running into the wall of identity, which the prevailing institutions have failed to reconfigure or even acknowledge.

Though its influence runs deep, the Bretton Woods order rests on the thinnest possible political foundation. It is constituted by multinational

corporations, a handful of international organisations that are famous for their lack of accountability to the public, and a thicket of extraordinarily complex and highly technical trade agreements. None has any direct relationship with ordinary people or their communities.

Unsurprisingly, the consensus on globalisation began to fray with the backlash against top-down trade talks and the punitive, procedural mechanisms of the WTO. These mechanisms stand in stark contrast to the bottom-up climate movement. The climate movement reminds us that if we want to reap the economic benefits of a globalised economy, we need genuine global governance, both to distribute the gains from trade more fairly and to forge a new social contract that offers a sense of global community.

As I have argued previously, this vision of global governance is less utopian than it sounds. The challenges that globalisation is facing reflect the true nature of markets and economies as fundamentally social phenomena. In an age of "polycrisis" and "permacrisis," to borrow Davos Man's lingo, we need to shift the paradigm of globalisation to focus not only on goods, capital, and services but also on people.

Ultimately, it is impossible to sustain global markets without global governance based on a broadly shared moral consensus. If Davos Man wants to avoid becoming completely obsolete, he will need to acquire some social skills.

– Project Syndicate

● *Antara Haldar is Associate Professor of Empirical Legal Studies at the University of Cambridge.*



In strictly economic terms, the case for globalisation will always be compelling: the logic of comparative advantage dictates that if countries leverage their own strengths and then trade with the rest of the world, everyone will end up with more in the aggregate

FBI searches Biden's Delaware beach house for classifieds

The US Justice Department was searching President Joe Biden's second home, a beach house in Rehoboth, Delaware, yesterday as part of its investigation into improper storage of classified materials from his time as vice-president. Biden's personal attorney, Bob Bauer, said in a statement that the search was planned and conducted with the president's "full support and co-operation." The search by FBI agents appears to represent an expansion of the probe into Biden's handling of classified documents. Materials were earlier found at his home in Wilmington, Delaware, and an office he used during the time between his service as vice-president under Barack Obama and his presidential election. The issue has created a political headache for Biden, who is expected to announce a re-election campaign in the coming weeks or months. It has stripped him and fellow Democrats of a weapon against former president Donald Trump.

Astronomers document a not-so-super Milky Way supernova

By Will Dunham, Reuters
Washington

Supernovas are not always so super. These explosions that mark the death of a star often are spectacularly energetic. But once in a while they are a complete dud. Scientists yesterday detailed one of the duds — a massive star that had so much of its material siphoned off by the gravitational tug of a companion star in a stellar marriage called a binary system that by the time it came to explode at the end of its life cycle it could barely manage a whimper. Its eventual explosion was so tame, in fact, that the collapsed star — now an incredibly dense object called a neutron star — remains in a docile circular orbit with its companion. A more powerful explosion at the very least would have resulted in a more oval-shaped orbit and even could have sent the star and its companion hurtling in opposite directions. This binary system, studied using a telescope at the Chile-based Cerro



An undated illustration shows the binary star system CPD-29 2176, located about 11,000 light years from Earth. (Reuters)

Tololo Inter-American Observatory, is located about 11,000 light years from Earth in our Milky Way galaxy in the direction of the constellation Puppis. A light year is the distance light travels in a year, 5.9trn miles (9.5trn km). The neutron star's mass is about 1.4 times that of our sun,

having previously been 12 times more massive than the sun. Its companion star boasts a mass 18 to 19 times greater than the sun after cannibalising its mate. The two stars orbit around each other every 59-1/2 days, separated by about eight-tenths of the distance existing

between Earth and the sun. The anemic stellar explosion that did occur was called an "ultra-stripped" supernova. These happen when a massive star collapses as it runs out of fuel in its core, but cannot manage a strong blast because a companion star has sucked off much of its outer layers and removed material that otherwise would be violently ejected into space. "Since there is little material in the stellar envelope, there is almost no ejecta from the shock of the collapse," said Arizona-based astronomer Noel Richardson of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, lead author of the study published in the journal *Nature*. Study co-author Clarissa Pavao, an Embry-Riddle undergraduate student studying physics, described the explosion as: "Faint, subtle and passive." "If there was more of an explosion, the orbit would not be circular," Richardson said. "A normal supernova wouldn't necessarily destroy the companion, but could disrupt the orbit a lot more. It could, for example, give a kick to the system that either

makes the orbit much more elliptical or even sends the surviving star and the neutron star on fast trajectories in opposite directions with speeds that could even send them out of the galaxy." The type of binary system examined in this study is rare, with roughly 10 estimated to exist in a Milky Way populated by about 100-400bn stars. Unlike the lonely sun, perhaps half of our galaxy's stars reside in binary systems. Scientists have pondered whether planets capable of harbouring life exist in such systems, as depicted, for example, with *Star Wars* character Luke Skywalker's home planet Tatooine. "We know of some systems that are binaries with planets, but these are harder to confirm, and all of these are for stars with masses like our sun," Richardson said. "In the case of these massive stars, we have not yet detected planets around them. The stars weigh so much more and are more luminous than sun-like stars, making the planet detection more difficult than around the smaller stars."



A family speaks with Southwest associates at the Austin-Bergstrom International Airport in Austin, Texas. (AFP)

1,467 US flights cancelled amid ice storm

Airlines cancelled over 1,400 flights in the United States yesterday, after an ice storm hit states from Texas to West Virginia. A total of 1,467 flights within, into or out of the United States were cancelled, while 527 flights were delayed as of 6.48am ET, according to flight-tracking website FlightAware. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) on Tuesday warned in a tweet that travellers could expect to see some snowy conditions in certain areas including Dallas, Fort Worth and Memphis, which could delay certain flights. "The ongoing winter storm will continue to bring hazardous impacts to North and Central Texas

through at least early today morning," The US National Weather Service said in its Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas area forecast discussion. Low-cost carrier Southwest Airlines Co led cancellations with 487 flights, while Fort Worth, Texas-based peer American Airlines Group Inc closely followed, cancelling nearly 480 flights. Southwest and American did not immediately respond to Reuters' requests for comment. The latest cancellations come nearly a month after Southwest faced US government backlash for cancelling 16,700 flights over the holidays, as it grappled with bad weather and outdated technology.

Romanian court rejects Tate's detention plea

Divisive Internet personality Andrew Tate will remain in police custody until February 27 after a Bucharest court rejected his appeal against his detention yesterday. Tate, his brother Tristan and two Romanian female suspects have been in police custody since December 29 pending a criminal investigation into alleged human trafficking and rape and charges of forming a criminal gang to sexually exploit women. They have denied the accusations. Their detention

was extended until the end of this month on January 20. On Wednesday a Bucharest court upheld the decision and rejected Tate's appeal. Prosecutors can ask Romanian courts to extend the suspects' detention for up to 180 days. Under Romanian legislation, prosecutors have filed charges against the four suspects, but the case is still under investigation and has not gone to trial. "You know I'm innocent," Tate told reporters as he was taken inside

the courtroom earlier in the day. Asked whether he was hoping to be released on Wednesday, he said, "There is not much justice in Romania." Prosecutors have said the Tate brothers recruited their alleged victims by seducing them and falsely claiming to want a relationship or marriage. The victims were then coerced to produce pornographic content for social media sites that generated large financial gain, prosecutors said.

Ukraine raids tycoon's home, tax office in wartime clampdown

Reuters
Kyiv

Ukrainian authorities raided an influential billionaire's home yesterday in what an ally of President Volodymyr Zelensky touted as a sweeping wartime clampdown on corruption that would change the country.

Separate raids were carried out at the Tax Office and on the home of an influential former interior minister, two days before Kyiv hosts a summit with the European Union at which it wants to show it is cracking down after years of chronic corruption.

Ukraine sees Friday's summit as key to its hopes of one day joining the bloc, a goal that has grown more urgent following Russia's invasion, and has

also embarked on a political shake-up in which over a dozen officials quit or were sacked last week.

Security officials searched the home of businessman Ihor Kolomoisky, one of Ukraine's richest men and a one-time Zelensky ally, in what several media outlets said was an investigation into possible financial crimes.

Kolomoisky could not immediately be reached for comment. He has previously denied any wrongdoing.

The Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) later said it had uncovered a scheme to embezzle more than \$1bn at oil producer Ukrmafta and oil refining company Ukratnafta, companies that Kolomoisky used to partly own.

Photographs circulating on social media appeared to show

Kolomoisky, dressed in a sweat-suit, looking on in the presence of at least one SBU officer inside a large wooden home. Reuters could not immediately verify the authenticity of the images.

In a statement that did not name Kolomoisky, the SBU published the same photographs, but with the person's face blurred out.

David Arakhamia, a senior member of Zelensky's Servant of the People party, confirmed the search of Kolomoisky's home as well as the separate raids conducted at the Tax Office and at the home of Arsen Avakov, a former interior minister. Arakhamia said the entire management of the Customs Service was set to be dismissed and that high-ranking defence ministry officials had been served with notices informing them they were suspects in a

case. He gave no details. "The country will change during the war. If someone is not ready for change, then the state itself will come and help them change," Arakhamia wrote on the Telegram messaging app.

In a statement, the Prosecutor General's Office later said "corruption in a time of war is looting" and said four senior current and former officials had been served "notices of suspicion", along with the senior management of Ukratnafta.

The head of the State Bureau of Investigation said the law enforcement action was "only the beginning".

Ukraine's long-running battle against corruption has taken on vital significance, as Russia's invasion has made Kyiv heavily reliant on Western support and it needs to carry out reforms to join the 27-nation EU.

Germany 'needs more Leopard tanks urgently'

Germany needs to order new Leopard tanks quickly to replace those going to Ukraine, Defence Minister Boris Pistorius said yesterday, adding he did not care where the money came from. "For me, the crucial fact is that we have to order new tanks, not in a year, but swiftly, so that production can begin," he told reporters on a visit to a tank battalion in the western town of Augustdorf, which has been chosen to supply 14 of its Leopard 2 tanks to Kyiv. "Where will the money come from? Let me casually put it like this: Frankly, I don't care. It is essential that we can provide them (the tanks) quickly," Pistorius said. The minister was responding to the question

of whether he was pushing for an increase in a 100-billion-euro special fund set up for the modernisation of the military following Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February 2022. Pistorius said he had held his first talks with defence industry managers on Tuesday but declined to provide details. "It was about figuring out who can do what — and what do both sides expect from each other," he said, adding there was an agreement to meet regularly in future. Pistorius aims to accelerate arms procurement and ramp up ammunition supplies in the long term after almost a year of arms donations to Ukraine has depleted

German military stocks. Even before Russia's invasion of Ukraine, Germany was €20bn short of reaching Nato's target for ammunition stockpiling. Asked about calls to reintroduce conscription, which was suspended in 2011 partly to save money, Pistorius said such a move would not plug short-term gaps in the Bundeswehr's manpower. "The suspension of conscription was a mistake but not one that we can correct swiftly. We have other challenges to master right now, which will cost a lot of money, time and energy — and tackling these is my priority."

Baldwin charged for 'reckless acts' in *Rust* shooting

Reuters
Hollywood

Actor Alec Baldwin was charged with involuntary manslaughter on Tuesday for showing a "reckless" disregard for safety that led to the fatal shooting of cinematographer Halyna Hutchins on the set of the Western movie *Rust* in New Mexico in 2021, according to court documents.

District Attorney Mary Carmack-Altwerdt filed charges following months of speculation as to whether she had evidence that Baldwin acted with criminal negligence when a revolver with which he was rehearsing fired a live round that killed Hutchins.

Baldwin and set armourer Hannah Gutierrez-Reed were each charged with two counts of involuntary manslaughter. The most serious charge, which carries a potential sentence of five years in jail, would require prosecutors to convince a jury that Baldwin acted with wilful disregard for the safety of others.

A lawyer for Baldwin declined to comment. Gutierrez-Reed's lawyer said the prosecutor had "completely misunderstood the facts and has reached the wrong conclusions." Baldwin's case is remarkable in that there is little or no precedent for a Hollywood actor to face criminal charges for an on-set shooting.

A statement of probable cause by the prosecution's special investigator, Robert Shilling, made clear Baldwin was being charged as an actor and producer on the low-budget movie.

Baldwin's failure to get sufficient firearms training, check with the armourer whether the revolver was loaded, or address safety complaints from crew were cited by Shilling as some of his many "extremely reckless acts or reckless failures to act" in the 10-day period leading up to Hutchins' death.

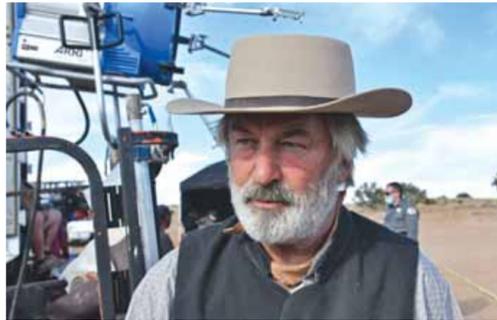
The 30 *Rock* actor has denied responsibility for the shooting inside a movie-set church, saying Hutchins directed him to point the gun at the camera, he cocked the revolver but

never pulled the trigger. Baldwin said live ammunition should never have been allowed on the set and it was the job of Gutierrez-Reed and first assistant director Dave Halls to ensure the gun was unloaded, a position supported by many actors and the SAG-AFTRA union.

Videos from inside the church prior to the shooting show Baldwin with his finger on the trigger, Shilling said. An FBI forensic test of the revolver found it "functioned normally" and would not fire without the trigger being pulled.

The prosecution used Baldwin's comments to media against him, saying the investigation showed he deviated from firearm safety protocols that he laid out in television interviews. "Baldwin would have been better served not making public statements about these incidents," said Kate Mangels, an attorney with entertainment law firm Kinsella Weitzman Iser Kump Holley.

Still, prosecutors could face long odds convincing a jury Baldwin is criminally liable as



This file handout photo released April 25, 2022, courtesy of Santa Fe County Sheriff's Office and part of the investigative files, shows actor Alec Baldwin being processed after the death of cinematographer Halyna Hutchins at the Bonanza Creek Ranch in Santa Fe, New Mexico, on October 21, 2022. (AFP)

he was assured the gun was not loaded and it will be difficult to blame him for all the movie's alleged safety failures, legal analysts said.

No other *Rust* producer has been charged.

Charging documents held Gutierrez-Reed responsible for "allowing live ammunition on

the set," but did not accuse her of physically introducing them onto the production.

Gutierrez-Reed has said she brought two boxes of dummy rounds onto the set from a previous movie. Supply company PDQ Arms and Prop also provided dummy rounds and blanks. An FBI test found live

long Colt .45 rounds taken from PDQ in Albuquerque did not match those found at the movie set, including the round that killed Hutchins and wounded director Joel Souza.

As armourer responsible for firearm safety and training, Gutierrez-Reed failed to provide sufficient instruction to Baldwin, check rounds loaded into the revolver or remain present in the rehearsal to ensure the actor did not point the weapon at Hutchins, the special investigator said.

Gutierrez-Reed has said she checked that the rounds were dummies before handing the gun to Halls and leaving the church due to Covid protocols. Halls then handed it to Baldwin, telling him it was a "cold gun," meaning it did not contain an explosive charge, according to police.

Halls has signed a plea deal for a misdemeanor charge and is expected to cooperate with the prosecution.

Gutierrez-Reed has said prosecutors denied her requests for extra firearms training, includ-

ing with Baldwin. Gabrielle Pickle, line producer on the movie, on December 20 testified to New Mexico's worker safety agency (OSHA) that all of Gutierrez-Reed's requests for extra days for armourer duties were granted.

On December 7 Gutierrez-Reed testified to OSHA that Baldwin's lack of knowledge and "poor form" in using a revolver may have led to the discharge that killed Hutchins.

Her lawyer Jason Bowles said Halls, her senior in the production, was at fault for not calling Gutierrez-Reed back into the church to perform her armourer duties.

"We will fight these charges and expect that a jury will find Hannah not guilty," he said in a statement.

The defendants face a court arraignment, which can be done virtually, then a preliminary hearing where a judge will decide whether there is probable cause to move forward with a trial. Preliminary hearings are typically scheduled within 60 days of charges being filed.

WISE launches Doha Learning Days Festival

◆ 2022 WISE Awards winners honoured

By Joseph Varghese
Staff Reporter

The World Innovation Summit for Education (WISE) launched Doha Learning Days (DLD) Festival yesterday and honoured the winners of 2022 WISE Awards at a special ceremony in the presence of HE the Minister of Education and Higher Education Buthaina bint Ali al-Jabr al-Nuaimi at Msheireb Museums.

While innovation in education marked the opening of the festival, it was also an occasion to highlight the winning projects of the WISE awardees. WISE, Qatar Foundation's (QF) global education initiative, selected the winners from among projects worldwide for their innovative approaches to pressing education issues and positive impact on their communities.

Minister al-Nuaimi, addressing the gathering at the opening ceremony, congratulated the award winners for their innovative and inspiring projects in addressing a number of global education challenges socially, environmentally, and economically.



Dignitaries applaud the 2022 WISE Awards Winners.

"Such activities and projects urge educators to awaken motivation and reflect on education as a value and impact to believe in the capabilities of young people, and the role of education in refining and investing these capabilities," she said.

"It always leads us to pose exciting challenges and inspiring competitions in which we target young people, not only to

win awards and incentives, but for higher goals represented in employing science and knowledge to improve the quality of our lives, and the lives of others around us."

The minister also disclosed that Ministry of Education and Higher Education, in co-operation with the Doha International Family Institute at QF and a group of partners in the commu-

nity, has launched a programme called 'Tansheea' targeting young people by preparing and strengthening the aspects that direct their energies which will benefit them and their communities.

Stavros N Yiannouka, WISE CEO who gave away the awards, highlighted the partnership with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education and with lo-



2022 WISE Awards winners with HE the Minister of Education and Higher Education Buthaina bint Ali al-Jabr al-Nuaimi and WISE CEO Stavros N Yiannouka. PICTURES: Thajudheen

cal partners in making the WISE events highly impactful and innovative. He also announced that the 11th edition of the global biennial WISE summit - one of the largest and most influential education gatherings - will take place from November 28-29, bringing an international network of educators and innovators to Doha to collaboratively share ideas and creative solutions to pressing challenges.

The ceremony, hosted by Ahmed al-Mansoor, an educator at Qatar Academy for Science and Technology, one of QF's Pre-University Education schools, turned the spotlight on global education challenges and the role of WISE in recognising and encouraging innovation to find new ideas and solutions.

In an outdoor setting at Msheireb Museums, fostering a vibrant learning ecosystem is a goal of WISE-DLD Festival. The event will showcase local initiatives and encourage the community to take part in over 50 hands-on experiential learning activities with a strong youth empowerment focus. The festival welcomes the public until February 4.

The six WISE Awards winners are from Mexico, Qatar, Kenya, India and the US, and the ceremony celebrated the projects as models of excellence that inspire innovative, creative action to support equity, access and quality education. Qatar-based teachers and practitioners can gain more insights from the six winners by registering for the

exclusive WISE Awards Master-class Series on Saturday.

Zubair Junjuna, CEO and founder of ZNotes delivered a keynote address at the opening ceremony highlighting the importance of providing fair and equal access to education. He touched on his experience in setting up the online community-led learning platform, ZNotes, when he was 16 years old with its mission to enable high-quality education for all through student-built content and peer learning.

Junjuna is among the 20+ content partners collaborating with WISE DLD to curate an exciting programme of workshops, master classes, and informal activities focusing on career development, financial literacy, tech skills, well-being, and the arts.

Students learn about making the world a better place for people with autism

Raising awareness of autism and reducing the stigma around it in Qatar was the focus of a session at Doha Learning Days, an initiative of World Innovation Summit for Education (WISE), by Qatar Foundation which got under way at Msheireb Downtown Doha, yesterday.

The session, titled My Different Friends, featured interactive activities organised by three Qatari mothers who established the Autism Parents Platform, and brought together students, educators and parents.

Students aged from 8-10 learned about autism and the most important challenges the parents and children with autism face, with the aim of enhancing their awareness and recognising why it is important to accept each other's differences.

During the session, a My Different Friends activity booklet was distributed to the students, including interactive graphics and data. Fatima al-Muraikhi, one of the mothers who led the activities, explained through the drawings how differences exist in everyone, from names and faces to ways of thinking.

"Differences are everywhere, even in the types of play that we prefer and the ways in which we express our feelings," she said. "Diversity in us, and in all aspects of life, is what makes it more beautiful."

The students drew their



Mothers of children with autism led the workshop.

faces as an interactive activity that highlights the different ways in which people express themselves. They also introduced the ways in which people communicate with others and with the things around them, whether through colours, hand signals, speech, or writing.

Aisha al-Amari, who was also among the mothers of children with autism leading the session, spoke about autism spectrum disorder, and the most important features that distinguish children with autism. "Children with autism have different ways of expression, and they learn how to live with this

spectrum that accompanies them for life," she said. "Providing support, assistance, and acceptance to them can contribute to improving their lives for the better."

During the session, the students sent special messages to community members to make the world a better place for people with autism, such as "Be a friend, be kind, bullying is unacceptable."

The Autism Parents Platform was established on Instagram two years ago, with the aim of providing services to families of children with autism. It organises awareness workshops and events, and training sessions in shop-

ping malls and entertainment centres to enhance employee awareness on how to deal with children with disabilities.

At the end of the session, the students wrote down expressions of support, love, and support for all children with autism, stressing that they would accept and defend them when they are being bullied, and that they would be their friends for life.

WISE Doha Learning Days 2023 continues until February 4 in partnership with Visa, with ExxonMobil as the event's platinum partner. Strategic partners are Msheireb Museums and Swiss Wealth Manager, Julius Baer.



Youth participated in a masterclass at the Doha Learning Days festival.

Youth attend interactive workshop at Doha Learning Days festival

Teaching young students how to work collaboratively to address business challenges and identify opportunities to solve existing challenges was the focus of a half-day workshop yesterday, as part of Doha Learning Days, an initiative by Qatar Foundation's (QF) World Innovation Summit for Education.

Attended by over 26 students from the SEK International School of Qatar, the interactive workshop was led by Noura al-Jurdi, manager, Entrepreneurship Programmes at Injaz Qatar. She started off with an introduction to the basics of entrepreneurship, and highlighted that an entrepreneurship perspective is valuable for each and everyone, regardless of their profession.

In the first half of the exercise, students were asked to look around the room they were in and spot an innovation, following which, they were asked to look around to spot

a problem and then propose a solution for it. The students' proposed ideas all the way from an app that can help people dress up, to portable laptop chargers, to having an app that could help track and feed stray cats.

They were then introduced to the five main components of a business idea - and one of the main elements of successful entrepreneurship is having a good business plan and what this means. They also learned the importance of working as a team and spent some time discussing the question of "what is more important - the idea or the team behind it," to which many responded that in most cases, the idea is only as good as the team behind it.

Yazan Leo Soboh, a participant, said: "The workshop kept us engaged the whole time. Also, in addition to improving our knowledge about entrepreneurship, it tested us on other skills like public speak-

ing - something that's of huge importance for those of us that plan on being entrepreneurs in the future."

In the last hour, as part of their assessment, the students were asked to think of a profitable business solution that fills a gap in the market while having a positive impact on the environment. Divided in five groups the students came up with a range of innovative ideas including recycling pencils, a smart trash can, using abandoned buildings to house vertical farms, recycling toys and creating an advanced environmental awareness programme that targets adults.

The winning proposal was called Retoy - it was built around the idea that existing toys sitting unused and forgotten in homes can either be recycled to create new ones or those that are in good condition can be resold or even rented, all through a digital platform.

Katara Int'l Horse Festival off to spectacular start

From Page 1

KIAHF 2023 has been organised by Katara in co-operation with Qatar Equestrian Federation (QEF) and Qatar Racing and Equestrian Club (QREC). The opening day of the event witnessed the Katara International Arabian Peninsula Horse Show in different categories. The show will take place until February 4.

KIAHF also includes the Arabian Horse Auction (February 6), and the prestigious Title Show (February 8-11).

Speaking at the inauguration, Prof al-Sulaiti said: "The Katara International Arabian Horse Festival has become a milestone and a distinctive part of the programme of Katara festivals and activities throughout the year. KIAHF is presented in a more distinctive way, befitting the ancient history of Qatar and en-

riching the authentic heritage of Qatari equestrian sport.

"Since the launch of the Katara International Arabian Horse Festival, we have set clear goals that we have strived to achieve. In addition to preserving our authentic heritage, there have been efforts to make this festival among the most famous international horse show festivals."

He stressed that KIAHF has the participation of the world's best purebred Arabian horses judged according to the highest standards of arbitration. KIAHF also makes Qatar a global centre for the auction of the most authentic and highest quality Arabian horses. He added that Katara was keen to enhance the cultural dimension of the festival through various cultural activities.

Prof al-Sulaiti also thanked all the sponsors of the festi-

val. Bader Mohamed al-Darwish, president of QEF, acting CEO of QREC and KIAHF Title Show manager, praised the co-operation and partnership between Katara, QREC, QEF and Al Shaqab, a member of Qatar Foundation, and the great efforts of Prof al-Sulaiti in making KIAHF one of the best equestrian events in the world.

Al-Darwish said the opening day's competitions emphasised the strength of the competition across all categories.

He also hoped that Qatar's successes in hosting the world championships for horses would continue, especially as Katara will host the 2023 and 2025 editions of the World Championships for Purebred Arabian Horses, to be held for the first time outside Paris in 40 years.

KIAHF 2023 carries a total prize money of QR17,083,500

and has the participation of 18 countries, including those from the Arab region, Europe and the US.

The International Arabian Peninsula Horse Show has a total prize of QR3,093,500 as well as in-kind prizes for various categories.

KIAHF 2023 presents more than 30 events and activities at the festival site on the Katara Corniche.

The exhibition, 'Symphony of Authenticity' by artist Ali al-Mimar has opened and will continue until the end of the festival in Building 47. The exhibition includes 17 paintings about horses.

The festival also features a number of art exhibitions that will be opened in the coming days of the festival, including the 'Interactive Mirrors' exhibition, which is the first-of-its-kind at Katara and Qatar; the exhibition

of Peter Upton's paintings, and the 'Brazilian Sculptures' exhibition by Roberto Clazzini - Al-Karimah, and the 'Collectibles' exhibition of Sheikh Faisal Bin Qassim Al Thani Museum and Qatar National Library.

The popular KIAHF Saddle Drawing Competition has the participation of 30 artists from within and outside Qatar. The winner will get QR30,000 as the top prize, while the second prize is QR20,000 and the third (QR10,000).

The 'Best Picture' Competition on Arabian purebred horses has a top prize of QR12,000 and other prizes. The competition is open to all Qatar citizens and residents.

The competition will be held on the Auction day on February 6. Those interested can find the details of participation from the festival website at kiahf.qa

KIAHF 2023 Day 1 results

- **Yearling Fillies Section A (Class 1A)**
 1. Zaina Al Wajba (Al Wajba Stud): 91.44 points (won by type).
 2. Sabah Al Nasser (Al Nasser Stud; owned by Sheikh Nawaf bin Nasser al-Thani): 91.44 points.
 3. Namaria El Aliya (Al Alya Stud; owned by Sheikh Meeshal bin Eissa al-Thani): 91.25 points.

- **Yearling Fillies Section A (Class 1B)**
 1. Lateen Al Danat (Al Danat Stud): 91.94 points.
 2. D E'Nayah (Dubai Arabian Horse Stud): 91.63 points.
 3. Hala Al Hilaliya (owned by Barrak Yaqoub al-Hajeri): 91.38 points.

- **Fillies 2 Years Old Section A (Class 2A)**
 1. D A'Beer (Dubai Arabian Horse Stud): 92.44 points.
 2. Leena Al Nasser (Al Nasser Stud): 92.19 points.
 3. AK Dana (owned by Abdulla Khalifa J A al-Kuwari): 91.69 points.

- **Thursday schedule**
 - 3.30pm-5.10pm - Yearling Colts (Class 3).
 - 5.30pm-6.25pm - Colts 2 Years Old (Class 4).
 - 6.30pm-8.35pm - Fillies 3 Years Old (Class 5).
 - 8.40pm-9.15pm - Colts 3 Years Old (Class 6).

The results of the poetry competition - 'Poet of the Safinat' - dedicated to Nabati poetry, held in December will be announced on the sidelines of the festival.