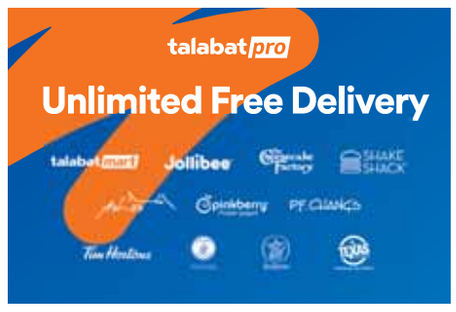
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BUSINESS | Page 1

QSE listed firms earn QR12.54bn net profit in Q1



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Amir graces QU Class of 2023 convocation



His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani patronised the graduation ceremony of the 46th batch (Class of 2023) of Qatar University (QU) students, held at the QU Sports and Events Complex yesterday morning.

This year, 3,913 students graduated from the following academic degrees : bachelor's, diploma, master's, doctorate, and doctor of pharmacy. The ceremony included graduates of the Summer 2022, Fall 2022 and Winter 2023 semesters, as well as those expected to graduate in Spring 2023.

As part of QU's Class of 2023, 767 male students were celebrated yesterday in the male graduation ceremony in the presence of His Highness the Amir, who honoured 107 distinguished male students.

HE the Speaker of the Shura Council Hassan bin Abdullah al-Ghanem, sheikhs, ministers, members of the university's Board of Trustees, QU vice-presidents and the students' parents attended the ceremony, the official Qatar News Agency reported.

QU president Dr Hassan bin Rashid al-Derham handed over certificates to the 767 male graduates in various disciplines.

A film about the students' academic journey was screened in addition to highlighting the achievements of Qatar University during the 2022-2023 academic year, its most prominent activities, programmes and research innovations in various fields.

The ceremony included a speech by Dr al-Derham and a speech by student Abdullah Abdulaziz al-Ansari, who spoke on behalf of the graduates.

"As QU graduates its 46th cohort of graduates, the university continues to chronicle a long history spanning decades in which it contributes heavily to Qatar's development and prosperity, through boosting the labour market with qualified graduates," the university said in a statement.

QU president Dr al-Derham said: "Today, we celebrate the 46th batch of Qatar University graduates who joined the ranks of the over 64,000 graduates of the university since its establishment. Throughout its history since its establishment in 1977 until today, Qatar University has had the honour of contributing to achieving the goals of the state and its leadership's aspirations through its distinguished academic formation, institutional culture, its outstanding scientific and research capabilities, preparing generations of competencies and experiences." To Page 12



Driving licence service added to Metrash2

The General Directorate of Traffic has added a new feature to the service of issuing driving licences to successful students through Metrash2. This was announced by the directorate through its twitter handle yesterday. Mohamed Saeed al-Amiri, officer in the Licensing Affairs Department, said those who request the service must enter personal data and pay the fees. Licence will be issued and dispatched immediately, without the candidate having to go to service centres to receive them. Al-Amiri added that the licences will be visible in the electronic wallet, and the card can be sent by post.

Sudan truce talks yield no breakthrough

Air strikes again shook Sudan's capital yesterday while the latest truce talks in Jeddah yielded no progress and a Saudi diplomat said both sides consider themselves "capable of winning the battle".

The warring generals have sent representatives to Saudi Arabia for talks on establishing a humanitarian truce in an effort also backed by the United States. Washington and Riyadh have labelled these "pre-negotiation talks". By Monday, the discussions had yielded "no major progress", a Saudi diplomat told AFP, speaking on condition of anonymity.

W Canada seeks urgent help to fight wildfires

Canada struggled yesterday to control wildfires that have forced thousands to flee, halted oil production and threaten to raze towns, with the western province of Alberta calling for federal help. Some 30,000 people were ordered to leave their homes over the past three days, as more than 100 fires flared across the province – including 29 currently out of control. Federal disaster officials and the military were on standby. Firefighters have prioritised dousing flames threatening homes and businesses. Many roads near the provincial capital Edmonton were blocked off as temporary shelters welcomed evacuees.

World Judo Championships Doha 2023 open



Qatar Olympic Committee President HE Sheikh Joaan bin Hamad al-Thani and former Prime Minister HE Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa al-Thani with other dignitaries at the opening ceremony of the World Judo Championships Doha 2023 at Ali Bin Hamad Al Attiyah Arena in Doha yesterday. Sport Page 1

Duhail win 8th QNB Stars League title



Al Duhail players celebrate with the Falcon Shield after winning the QNB Stars League for the eighth time yesterday. In the final league fixture, the Red Knights beat Al Shamal 5-2 thanks to four goals from Michael Olunga. Duhail finished on 51 points, two ahead of Al Arabi, who beat two-time defending champions Al Sadd 2-1 yesterday. Sport Page 1

Hamad Port Visitors Centre, a new tourist destination

The Hamad Port Visitors Center is one of the new tourist destinations in Qatar for knowledge and adventure lovers, and is a distinctive addition to the recreational facilities in the country, Mwani Qatar has said.

Highlighting this on social media, Mwani Qatar said it is welcoming the public from Sunday to Thursday, between 8am and 3pm, to visit the centre.

The Hamad Port Visitors Center was inaugurated in November last year. The facility will help educate current and future generations – and introduce visitors and the world – to the history and heritage of Qatar in the field of maritime navigation and trade, HE the Minister of Transport Jassim bin Saif al-Sulaiti had affirmed.

"Unique in design, Hamad Port Visitors Center is purpose-built to showcase the maritime history and achievements of Qatar. The centre includes a maritime museum, a 4D cinema, virtual simulators, auditorium, a kids' play area and an oceanic aquarium, the first of its kind in Qatar," the Hamad Port Visitors Center website (https://visitorscenter.mwani.com.qa/) says.

The Hamad Port Visitors Centre aquarium is "second to none" in Qatar, according to the website. Featuring 17 basins of different sizes, the aquarium displays 80 species of fishes and aquatic creatures – 3,063 in total. It will be a fun destination for students and all types of visitors of all ages to learn more about Qatari marine life and the Umm Al Houl environment in general.

The Maritime Museum at the visitors' centre was built on an area of 1,284sq m to tell fascinating stories; "the story of the shipping containers and container ships, the story of Hamad Port and its importance to our lives, how the port operates and how Qatari maritime heritage and trade evolved over the years."

The 4D cinema is distinguished by its technology, where the seats move with effects in the film, highlighting the "big picture" of the nation's prestigious port and demonstrating the vision, resources and commitment required to deliver the mega-project – Hamad Port – in a fun and enjoyable way.

The gift shop offers the visitors a wide selection of special aquatic gifts and souvenirs, while the auditorium is uniquely designed with a high-quality sound system and 200 tiered seats in a fixed theatre-style set-up designed to provide an optimal experience for visitors.

The centre also offers an outdoor kids' play area that allows them to spend the most enjoyable times of fun and entertainment through many things that they can do, in addition to recreational games such as riding games and others.



The aquarium.

Commitment to sustainability was a major goal in all phases of the construction of the Hamad Port Visitors Centre, which is characterised by its landscapes and green spaces, which provide a relaxed marine related environment for visitors to enjoy the exceptional experience in the centre's facilities.

Tickets can be booked at https://visitorscenter.mwani.com.qa/#buy-tickets

The ticket prices are as follows: QR50 for individuals above 12 years; and QR30 for children aged five to 12 years. Entry is free for children below five years of age.

For group booking (schools, companies, etc), those interested should contact Mwani Qatar.



A view of the Hamad Port Visitors Centre.

LAST CHANCE TO OBTAIN PORTUGAL RESIDENCY & EU PASSPORT

STEP GLOBAL

Following the last announcement of Portugal's Prime Minister, Antonio Costa, announcing officially the closure of the Portugal Golden Visa scheme in the coming weeks, Step Global will be hosting its last Portugal Golden Visa informational seminar this coming Saturday, May 13th, to help interested applicants obtain a Portugal Golden Visa and European Passport. The coveted United States EB-5 Visa Program and Canada Start-Up Visa Program will also be presented on the same day.

What is the EU Portugal Golden Visa?

The Portugal's Residence Permit for Investment (ARI) program, commonly known as the Portugal Golden Visa, was introduced in 2012 and is one of the preferred residency by investment programs in the world. Foreigners can obtain the Golden Visa through the purchase of a real estate property starting at EUR 280,000, provided that they stay in or visit anywhere in Portugal on average seven days a year over a five-year period to maintain their Golden visa status.

Why consider the Portugal Golden Visa?

There are many reasons why people want to invest in the Portugal Golden Visa. The diverse culture, pleasant Mediterranean climate, beautiful architecture, low-cost of living, delicious food and friendly people are what draw people to this quickly growing economy. It is also an ideal location for those looking for a holiday home. The Portugal Golden Visa allows investors to secure EU residency within a short time frame, providing visa-free travel across the EU and Schengen Zone, access to high-quality schooling at relatively lower fees, and offering an abundance of social security and healthcare benefits.



Preeya Malik, Licensed Lawyer and Managing Director of Step Global says "Most UAE residents highly appreciate the quality of life offered in cities like Doha or Dubai and are not willing to obtain a second citizenship or replace their current passport with a more powerful one if it requires them to relocate permanently. As a result, the Portugal Golden Visa is the ideal option since it has a minimum physical requirement of only a few days per year to maintain their Golden Visa status and also be able to eventually obtain an EU passport."



Can you still apply for the Portugal Golden Visa?

An official statement made by the Portuguese government on April 16th has confirmed that all applications submitted before the official closing of the program (when the proposed bill becomes law) will be considered and processed as usual. The proposed bill is expected to become law in mid-June, meaning that applications for Portugal Golden Visas will no longer be accepted after that date. This makes it crucial for those looking to get the Portugal Golden Visa to act quickly so that they don't miss out on this once in a lifetime opportunity.

Which other programs will be presented on that day?

Every individual and family has a different immigration goal with different needs. Some wish for the freedom to travel, while others are looking toward countries offering high-quality and prestigious higher education to their children. Business owners may be seeking a more desirable tax regime, and others yet simply want social security and safety. Step Global has selected the top investment immigration programs globally, which provide only the best benefits to its clientele in the region. Along with the Portugal Golden Visa Seminar, two other programs will be presented on that same day: the U.S. EB-5 Visa Program and the Canada Start Up Visa Program.

US EB-5 VISA PROGRAM

The United States EB-5 Immigrant Investor Program is an old program which was introduced in 1990 to stimulate the US economy through job creation and capital investment by foreign investors. Under the US EB-5 program, investors must invest $800,000 USD in a government approved EB-5 project. The investor, the investor's spouse, and any children under the age of 21 may receive in exchange for their investment, a US green card. The capital invested is refunded to the applicant approximately after five years from the date of the investment and if the investor has spent 2.5 out of 5 years in the United States, they may also apply for US citizenship and passport.

The main motive for UAE residents to apply for this program is education or future career growth for their children. With the U.S. having the highest number of top universities in the world, many families in the MENA region want their children to pursue their education in one of these prestigious schools. By holding a green card, students can considerably increase their chances of acceptance in competitive US programs, avail



resident tuition rates which at times are one-fourth that of international tuition rates and obtain an array of scholarships and government grants which are unavailable to international students. Once the child graduates with a US degree, holding a green card opens the doors to employment opportunities at leading companies as obtaining an H1-B visa through the lottery draw, or even securing employer sponsorship has become more and more difficult – even if an individual graduates from a top US university.

CANADA START UP VISA PROGRAM

The Canada Start-up Visa (SUV) Program is a federal government direct permanent residency program promoting entrepreneurship and employment in Canada. The program has a total cost of CAD $195,000 inclusive of investment and fees, placing it even lower cost-wise than some of the most well-known residency by investment programs in the world. Through this route, the investor, the investor's spouse, and any number of children under the age of 22 can be included on a single application for Canadian permanent residency.

The superior social benefits, multiculturalism, and Canada's high level of education along with the safety of the country and its thriving economy, have contributed to the program's popularity. The benefits of being a permanent resident of Canada include the right to live, work, and study in the country, as well as having access to social benefits such as social security or universal free healthcare – an important benefit for those looking to eventually retire.

The program is geared towards experienced entrepreneurs who may have had successful start-ups abroad and would now like to enter the Canadian market with the same business plans. For those individuals with skills and experience in their own field of work, may be pooled as participating members of a Start-Up idea, thus, qualifying through their profile and minimum investment amount rather than through an innovative business idea of their own.

After living three years in Canada, a permanent resident may apply for citizenship and a Canadian passport.

How to Begin Your Immigration Journey?

Immigration is a very personal matter. Step Global, a leading full-service investment immigration firm in the GCC with over 13 years of experience in the investment immigration industry has been putting clients at the forefront of its business. How do we do that? We listen to the main needs of our clients in order to orient them towards the program that suits them best. We only provide advisory and consultancy on the best immigration by investment programs available which allows us to constantly stay updated with the latest regulatory changes in this fast-changing environment. We operate with ethics and transparency, thus helping our clients to pursue their immigration journey with peace of mind.

Come meet the Step Global licensed lawyers for exclusive seminars on Saturday, May 13, 2023, at Le Meridien City Center Doha. The Step Global licensed lawyers, including award-winning Managing Director Preeya Malik, will be in-person to welcome you at the Portugal Golden Visa Seminar at 3 PM, the US EB-5 Green Card Seminar at 5 PM, and the Canada Start Up Visa Seminar at 6:30 PM.

Registration starts today! Due to heavy demand and limited seats, contact the Step Global team now to reserve your session seat before all slots are booked by emailing info@stepglobalgroup.com or calling +971 4 770 7825 or contact us by WhatsApp at +971 55 138 0579.

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3 PM
Portugal
Golden Visa

5 PM
U.S. EB-5
Green Card

6:30 PM
Canada
Start-Up Visa

STEP GLOBAL

QATAR

First integrated care clinic for elderly set up


PHCC and HMC officials at the news conference.

The Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC)'s Department of Geriatrics and Long-Term Care, a World Health Organisation (WHO) Collaborating Centre for Healthy Ageing and Dementia in Qatar, has partnered with the Primary Health Care Corporation (PHCC) to establish the first Integrated Care for Older People (ICOPE) clinic in Al Wajba Health Centre.

The ICOPE healthcare approach helps broader health and social care systems respond more effectively to the diverse and complex needs of older people.

Dr Samya Ahmad al-Abdulla, senior consultant of family medicine and executive director of operations at the PHCC, said: "The clinic has special, highly skilled and trained healthcare staff who are dedicated to the integrated care of older people at the community level."

"Choosing Qatar as the first pilot site in the Middle Eastern region is a great honour, and I appreciate the education and knowledge investment that Dr Hanadi and her team have made in sharing their expertise and helping to train our primary care teams involved in this amazing project," she said. "This is a real demonstration of what collaboration can achieve that is based on a joint commitment to deliver the best evidence-based care to our older population."

National health strategy lead for healthy ageing in Qatar Dr Hanadi al-Hamad, who is also chairperson of the Department of Geriatrics and Long-Term Care at the HMC and medical director at Rumailah Hospital and the Qatar Rehabilitation Institute, explained: "The clinic is set up with a reception desk and assessment and treatment rooms that focus on diagnosing and managing the numerous physiological changes that often occur with increasing age."

"We aim to establish similar clinics in more health centres across the country that are tailored to the needs and preferences of our patients," Dr al-Hamad added.

"ICOPE reflects a transformation in healthcare, where the delivery of care incorporates the whole period that the patient needs treatment," HMC chief medical officer Dr Abdulla al-Ansari said.

PHCC marks World Hand Hygiene Day

On the occasion of World Hand Hygiene Day, observed on May 5, the Primary Health Care Corporation (PHCC) engaged in the 12th hand hygiene campaign in line with the international community's activities.

The campaign targets all primary healthcare staff and society in general through awareness lectures that stress the importance of hand hygiene and proper hand hygiene.

This year's theme for World Hand Hygiene Day is *Accelerate Action Together. Save Lives – Clean Your Hands*, and the event was held on May 7.

Lack of hand hygiene is the leading cause of the spread of many types of bacteria and diseases, such as the coronavirus (Covid-19), seasonal influenza, and diarrhoea.

PHCC Preventive Health Directorate executive director Dr Hamad al-Mudahka said that the PHCC is working to avoid various risks that may occur in health centres.

This is done through making that alcohol-based hand sanitisers are provided, raise awareness of performing hand hygiene using soap and water, and hold events that help consolidate awareness hand hygiene concepts among health centre visitors, in addition to complying to other public health measures, such as wearing face masks and following social distancing.

Dr Khalid al-Awad, director of Health Protection at the Preventive Health at the PHCC, said that the lesson learned from pandemic is the adherence to infection control basics through three main means that come ahead of vaccination: hand hygiene, wearing face masks, and practising social distancing.


Dr Hashem


Dr al-Awad

Infection control co-ordinator Dr Ahmad Hashem said: "Maintaining hand hygiene is not only an effective defence against the spread of serious infections, but it is a very simple and easy thing to do that can make a huge difference.

RAFFLES DOHA
Fairmont DOHA

EMPLOYEE CATERING SERVICE

We would like to announce that Raffles and Fairmont Doha is in the process of searching for a catering service.

The agreement is for 12 months in Raffles and Fairmont Doha employee dining room, with the following requirements:

Breakfast
- Total Covers – 300pax
- Timing from 06:30am until 08:30am.

Lunch
- Total Covers – 500pax
- Timing from 11:30am until 02:30pm.

Dinner
- Total Covers – 350pax
- Timing from 05:30pm until 08:30pm

Midnight Meal
- Total covers – 150pax
- Timing from 01:00am until 03:00am

** The above numbers may vary in case of any special event.
** Tea, Coffee & Water available 24hrs.
** Ramadan – Iftar (180 pax) & Suhoor (150 pax)
** Special Events Celebration with upgraded meals
- Qatar National Day
- Qatar Sports Day
- Christmas Day
- New Year Day
- Eid Al Fitr – 3 days enhance menu
- Eid Al Adha – 3 days enhance menu

** Menu requirements as per detailed Scope of Work.
** Hygiene & Cleanliness requirements as per detailed Scope of Work.

Kindly reach out to the Procurement Office located at Katara Towers, Marina District, Lusail City

to collect the detailed Scope of Work and have a site visit of both dining rooms.

For further enquiries, kindly contact: 4030 7244

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: MAY 22ND, 2023

Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar

Congratulations Class of 2023

XVI 2023 GRADUATION CEREMONY



DOCTORS FROM LEFT TO RIGHT – FRONT ROW: Kholoud Abu-Holayqah, Narjis Mhaimeed, Nada Mhaimeed, Omna Sharma, Mais Ar-Reem Hammoud, Pratyaksha Sinha, Haya Khalifa Al-Sewaidi, Dana Al-Sayegh, Aisha Al Obaidan, Kawthar Al-Najar, Fatima Sajjadi.

SECOND ROW: Omar Khalil, Khalifa Mohammed J A Al-Sulaiti, Hailan Elnaas, Fatima Al-Binali, Zainab Al-Ansari, Reem Chamseddine, Muna Almasri, Najla Al-Eshaq, Shaikha Al-Thani, Lara Miranda, Rawan Hussein, Hiba Naveed, Sara Ahmed Hosny Tomerak, Dabin Chung, Murtaza Qazi.

THIRD ROW: Ali Abdelati, Moayad Homssi, Ahmed Essam Aly, Salah Mahmoud, Krishnadev Vijaykumar Pillai, Jibrail Omer Cheema, Jungyoon Jung, Malik Mushannen, Hasan Alroobi, Bahram Kazani, Khalifa Bshesh, Seon Woo Kim, Zuhair Yahya Sadiq, Daniel Kim, Muhammad Danyal Ahsan.

NOT PICTURED: Abdulla Al-Thani.

QATAR

Transport minister holds virtual meeting with Saudi counterpart



HE the Minister of Transport Jassim bin Saif bin Ahmed al-Sulaiti met with Minister of Transport and Logistic Services of Saudi Arabia Eng Saleh bin Nasser al-Jasser. Aspects of joint co-operation between the two fraternal countries in the fields of transport and transportation and ways to promote them were discussed during the meeting, which was held yesterday through videoconferencing technology. **(QNA)**

Minister of Awqaf meets president of Ethiopian Islamic Affairs Supreme Council



HE the Minister of Endowments (Awqaf) and Islamic Affairs Ghanem bin Shaheen al-Ghanem met with the visiting President of the Ethiopian Islamic Affairs Supreme Council Ibrahim Tufa and the accompanying delegation. They discussed aspects of co-operation and ways to support and develop them in Islamic affairs. **(QNA)**

Official

Amir sends cables of condolences to Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques

His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani, His Highness the Deputy Amir Sheikh Abdullah bin Hamad al-Thani and HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohamed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani sent cables of condolences to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz al-Saud of Saudi Arabia on the death of the mother of Prince Mansour bin Nasser bin Abdulaziz al-Saud. **(QNA)**

Al-Muraikhi meets Uzbekistan top official



HE the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Sultan bin Saad al-Muraikhi met with head of the administration of the Uzbekistan President Sardor Umurzakov, during his current visit to the country. The meeting discussed aspects of bilateral co-operation between the two countries. **(QNA)**

Conference on occupational heat stress begins today

QNA
Doha

The activities of the International Conference on Occupational Heat Stress under the theme 'Implementation, Practices and Sharing of Experience' will kick off today, under the auspices of HE the Minister of Labour Dr Ali bin Smaikh al-Marri.

The Ministry of Labour, in collaboration with the International Labour Organisation, is hosting the conference that will focus on the effects of heat stress in the workplace. The event will explore current and future measures, challenges, and opportunities to adopt an advanced approach in mitigating the impact of heat stress on the work environment. It will also provide a valuable platform for participants, specialists, and those interested in exchanging knowledge and experiences. The conference will highlight successful strategies for reducing occupational heat stress and offer discussions on how to enhance workers' protection, as well as methods to improve occupational safety and health in the workplace.

The conference, which will be held today and tomorrow, will also address topics related to the Qatari experience, the regulatory mechanisms it has implemented to reduce heat stress and legislation regulating working hours during the summer period, in addition to reviewing some experiences in the Arab region regarding the reduction and prevention of heat stress.

A group of international and regional experts specialising in heat stress prevention strategies from the International Labour Organisation and academics from major universities in the US, the European Union, Singapore, Mexico, Greece and South Africa will participate in the conference.

The International Labour Organisation will review the findings of the organisation's global report on occupational heat stress and international responses to mitigate heat stress, in addition to the European Commission's review of the impact of heat stress on labour productivity in European Union countries.

Education ministry holds training workshops

QNA
Doha

The student admission and registration section of the Schools Affairs Department at the Ministry of Education and Higher Education is holding a series of training workshops for admission and registration officials in government schools during the period from May 7 to 11.

Head of the student admission and registration section Omar Mohamed al-Fadaq said the section strives to support and facilitate the knowledge structures of those responsible for school registration, informing them of the new registration mechanisms and dates as well as the documents required from the parents, with the aim of facilitating the registration process.

He noted that the student admission and registration section has designated Hassan bin Thabit Secondary School for Boys as a venue to receive the trainees from 7 to 11 May according to the approved training schedule and the time specified for each category of government schools.

He pointed out that the Schools Affairs Department has made available professional trainers and qualified employees to train those responsible for school registration and explain the admission and registration requirements as well as the mechanism of action.

Al-Fadaq stressed the student admission and registration section's keenness on spreading the culture of early registration and facilitating things for parents during registration.

Qatari publishers forum takes part in World Book Day event

The Qatari Publishers and Distributors Forum participated in a World Book Day event organised by Lusail University in co-operation with several cultural agencies and centres. The event will run until tomorrow.

The forum's participation in this event stems from its vision to advance societal culture and to build an intellectually educated student community armed with knowledge and capable of bringing about current and future changes. Held at the Lusail University library at the university's campus, the event aims to encourage reading among university students, instil cultural and cognitive values, and to promote the general culture among students and the local community.

Director of the Qatari Publishers and Distributors Forum Riyad Ahmed Yassin said it was good to be part of this important cultural event, expressing his belief that all cultural centres should work to spread the love of books and literature among students and to promote reading by participating in such events. **(QNA)**



Announcement of Public Auction No. (TC/B/18 -1449/202) For the Sale of (135) Salvage Government Cars and Equipment and (49) Abandoned Salvage Cars

وزارة البلدية
Ministry of Municipality
State of Qatar

The Ministry of Municipality announces an auction for the sale of the above-mentioned goods, in accordance with the following conditions:

Auction Venue	Al Rayyan Theatre		
Auction Date	Day	Date	Time
	Monday	22/05/2023	03:30 PM
	Tuesday	23/05/2023	
	Wednesday	24/05/2023	
	or until stock runs out		

General Conditions for Participating in the Public Auction

1- The bidder shall obtain a subscription card for the auction at Al-Rayyan Theater at the time of the auction, by completing the registration procedures on the inspection days specified in the Announcement or before the start of the auction session on the dates specified above, with submitting the following documents:
   - Original and copy of the ID of the persons
   - Original and copy of the CR and establishment registration for local companies
   - Original and copy of the letter of authorization for the representatives of the companies
   - Original and copy of the power of attorney in case of attendance on behalf of natural persons
2- In the event that the auction is awarded to the bidder, the bidder shall pay cash (20%) of the sale value by electronic payment method (credit card), provided that the bidder pays the remainder of the sale value within a period not exceeding two working days (48 hours) from the date of sale, at the headquarters of the Mechanical Materiel Management in Abu Hamour area.
3- If the bidder (buyer) withdraws from the purchase or does not complete the full payment of the value of the awarded vehicle, within a period of two working days, the award shall be canceled. The (20%) collected from the basic price shall be deducted. the bidder is not entitled to recover or claim the aforementioned amount.
4- Each vehicle shall be sold separately at public auction, according to the condition of the vehicle on which it is located at the inspection site with due diligence knowledge.
5- The vehicles offered for sale shall be inspected in the auction venue, as follows:

Inspection site	Scrapyard for abandoned cars of the Mechanical Equipment Department at the Ministry of Municipality, behind Medical Commission - Abu Hamour area
Date and time of inspection	Starting from the date of the announcement till May 24, 2023 (the last day of the sales sessions) from 08:00 AM to 11:00 AM

6- In order for the collection procedures completion, personal identity proof (Qatari ID, passport, commercial registry, etc.) shall be presented upon awarding the auction.
7- Once the sale procedures are completed, the bidder (purchaser) shall not be entitled to replace the name mentioned in the receipt of the bidder with another name.
8- The bidder (purchaser) shall pay the full amount within two working days (48 hours) from the date the auction is awarded.
9- The purchaser shall pay the price of the vehicle and receive the same within (3 working days) from the date of settling its full price. In the event of a delay in payment without providing an acceptable excuse within the specified period, the purchaser shall be committed to paying storage expenses at the rate of (1%) of the vehicle's price per each day of delay. In case of delay for more than fifteen days, the vehicle shall be confiscated and sold at its expense, and it shall be charged the difference, in addition to the administrative expenses at the rate of (10%) of the new price. Furthermore, no increase in the sale price shall be returned.
10- Within a maximum period of 30 days from the date of sale, the purchaser shall complete the procedures for transferring ownership of the awarded vehicle (if so desires), in addition to bearing the prescribed governmental fees, without any responsibility on the Ministry following this period.
11- In the event that the sold vehicle (with regards to the abandoned vehicles) is monitored by the competent authorities on the roads or public squares, the vehicle shall be withdrawn and resold by the Ministry, as well as imposing a fine in accordance with the provisions of Public Hygiene Law No.18 of 2017. Moreover, the purchaser shall not have the right to recover the abandoned vehicle or its selling value.
12- The organizing committee may postpone the sale of the auctioned car/ vehicle to another auction in case the basic value of the same is not reached.
13- The announcement shall be valid as of the date of publication and up until the above assigned public auction session date.
14- To ensure proper organization, individuals under 18 are prohibited from entering the auction.
15- Each bidder may be accompanied by (2 persons –escorts) only.
16- It is strictly prohibited to use all types of mobile phones with the purpose of capturing photos or disrupting the bidders.
17- Each individual shall acknowledge that they have read all terms and policies of the auction adopted by the organizing committee, and also acknowledge their approval of all the committee's decisions regarding the same.

For any inquiries, you can contact this number: 184



Vietnam Vice-President Vo Thi Anh Xuan and her delegation.



Left: Vietnam Vice-President Vo Thi Anh Xuan and her delegation during her tour of the National Museum of Qatar.



HE Sheikha Al Mayassa bint Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani with Vietnam Vice-President Vo Thi Anh Xuan.

Sheikha Al Mayassa meets Vietnam's VP

Qatar Museums Chairperson HE Sheikha Al Mayassa bint Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani and Vietnam Vice-President Vo Thi Anh Xuan have met and discussed ways of strengthening cultural ties between Qatar and Vietnam. A Vietnamese delegation also toured the National Museum of Qatar, which is currently hosting Intercom Doha 2023. **PICTURES:** Qatar Museums

Vietnam VP leaves Doha



Vietnamese Vice-President Vo Thi Anh Xuan left Doha yesterday after an official visit to the country.
She and her accompanying delegation were seen off at Hamad International Airport by HE the Minister of State for International Co-operation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Lolwah bint Rashid AlKhater, Qatar's ambassador to Vietnam Khalid Ali Abdullah Abel, and Vietnamese ambassador to Qatar Tran Dok Hong. ***– QNA***

Dukhan Bank offers customers 10% cashback on first salary transfer

Dukhan Bank has launched a 10% cashback campaign to attract new customers to transfer their salary to the bank.

During the campaign, customers who transfer a salary of at least QR10,000 into a Dukhan Bank current account will receive a cashback of 10% on their first monthly salary credit.

The cashback can be up to a maximum of QR10,000, which will be credited to the customers' prepaid or credit card.

The campaign, which will run until August 31, is part of Dukhan Bank's efforts to attract new customers across the country with value-added products.

Commenting on the campaign, Dukhan Bank chief communications officer Talal Ahmed al-Khaja said: "We are delighted to launch this salary transfer campaign as part of our ongoing efforts to reward our customers for choosing Dukhan Bank as their preferred banking partner."

"This campaign is a testament to our commitment to providing our customers with innovative solutions and excellent value-added services to enable them take advantage of numerous unrivalled and pioneering products and services the bank is reputable for," he said.

Dukhan Bank provides a full range of award-winning Shariah-compliant banking services, including retail, corporate and commercial banking, business banking, private banking, real estate finance, structured finance, investments and asset management.



Customers can learn more about the 10% Salary Cashback offer by visiting Dukhan Bank's website on www.dukhanbank.com or by calling the Contact Centre on 800 8555.

They can also ask the bank's virtual assistant "Rashid" on the website, mobile app or via WhatsApp on 44100888.



Yasir Nainar, Shaijan M O and other officials during the MoU signing ceremony.

MIE-SPPU Institute, LuLu sign accord

The MIE-SPPU Institute of Higher Education (Savitribai Phule Pune University, Qatar Campus) and LuLu Hypermarket have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for a strategic collaboration to support student placements and career growth.

The MoU signing ceremony, at LuLu Hypermarket's regional office in Qatar, was attended by MIE-SPPU vice-president Yasir Nainar and Shaijan M O, regional director of LuLu Hypermarket, Qatar Region.

Also present were MIE-SPPU director Bimalendu B Nath, MIE-SPPU head of operations Dinesh Bakshi, and Shanavas P M, regional manager of LuLu Hypermarket, Qatar Region, along with other officials.

"LuLu Hypermarket is committed to supporting the development of the youth of Qatar," said Shaijan. "With this MoU, we will be able to offer new and exciting opportunities to MIE-SPPU students, enabling them to realise their full potential."

"We are pleased to have signed this MoU with LuLu Hypermarket, a leader in their field," said Nainar. "We believe that this collaboration will provide our students with valuable exposure to the corporate world and help them gain the skills and knowledge necessary to succeed in their careers."

Under the terms of the MoU, LuLu Hypermarket will provide internships, job placements, and career guidance to MIE-SPPU students.

This collaboration is a significant step towards the MIE-SPPU's commitment to providing its students with quality education and a comprehensive career development programme.



The national anthems of Qatar and Azerbaijan were performed by students of a primary school.



The tree-planting ceremony in progress yesterday.
PICTURES: Shaji Kayamkulam

Azerbaijan embassy plants 100 trees in solidarity with Ministry of Municipality

By Tawfik Lamari
Staff Reporter

On the occasion of the 100th Anniversary of the National Leader of Azerbaijan, Heydar Aliyev, the embassy of Azerbaijan in Doha organised yesterday a ceremony for planting 100 trees at the Old Airport Park, in co-operation with the Qatar Ministry of Municipality's "10mn trees' initiative.

Mohamed Ali al-Khoury, director of the Public Parks Department at the Ministry of Municipality and secretary-general of the Qatar Horticultural Expo 2023, represented the Qatari side at the ceremony.

Heads of 27 diplomatic missions accredited in Qatar, officials from the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, representatives of Doha Municipality and the municipality of the Airport Park district also took part in the event.

The national anthems of both countries were performed by students of a Qatari primary school.

In his welcoming speech, the ambassador of Azerbaijan to Qatar Mahir Aliyev briefed the guests about the personality of Heydar Aliyev (May 10, 1923-December 12, 2003), who made an invaluable contribution to the establishment and development of the modern democratic Azerbaijan and thus has become a National Leader of Azerbaijan.

Mahir Aliyev said that with the aim to perpetuate Heydar Aliyev's memory on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the late leader's birth, the embassy took the initiative to plant 100 trees in Doha.

The envoy expressed his gratitude to Qatar, in particular the leadership of the Ministry of Municipality for supporting the idea and the implementation of this project.

Philippine embassy honours Guinness title holders

The Philippine embassy in Qatar has congratulated Filipinos Romil Abule and Michelle Butiu for their achievement of Guinness World Records titles – "Fastest Crossing of Qatar on Foot (male and female)".

Abule set the record on October 20, 2022 in one day, eight hours and 59 minutes, breaking Sadok Kochbati's record of one day, 10 hours, 19 minutes, and 18 seconds on February 4, 2022.

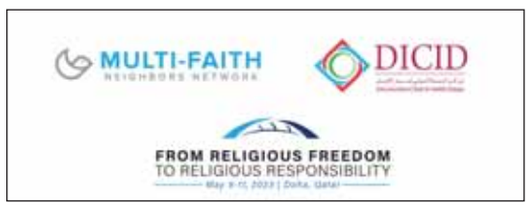
Butiu set the record on April 6, 2023 in one day, six hours, 23 minutes and 42 seconds, breaking Sufiya Sufi Runner's record of one day, six hours, and 31 minutes on January 12 and 13, 2023.

"The embassy commends their great performance and representation of the Filipino community in Qatar," the embassy posted on its Facebook page. "Romil and Michelle's historic milestone is a source of immense pride to our 'Kababayans' not just in Qatar, but around the globe."

"Congratulations to our new title holders and best wishes to their future endeavours," the embassy added.



Doha hosts conference on religious freedoms



Doha will host today an international conference on religious freedoms and responsibility.

Organised by the Doha International Centre for Interfaith Dialogue in partnership with the US Interfaith Neighbours Network, the conference aims to shed light on issues related to coexistence, religious freedom and religious pluralism, from the perspective of religions, legal legislation and human rights, where different religious communities will exchange views to agree on best practices and approaches, to understand each other's perceptions, and to address existing global issues and problems of concern to all, regardless of their religion.

The three-day conference will discuss ways to move from religious freedoms decided by international religions and constitutions to religious responsibility, and this will be done by seeking to find work communities to defend this issue and take more effective measures.

The chairperson of the board of directors of the Doha International Centre for Interfaith Dialogue (DICID), Dr Ibrahim bin Saleh al-Nuaimi, highlighted that the centre has worked tirelessly for years to build bridges between all the parties involved to engage in dialogue over the challenges facing peaceful coexistence between the followers of different religions.

He said that the upcoming conference constitutes an example of this international cooperation, which is a continuation of the initiatives of Qatar, which has spared no effort in calling for peace and establishing a culture of dialogue among followers of religions, openness to other civilisations, and its positive role in issues related to dialogue between civilisations and cultures, which led It earned it a prestigious global position and made it one of the world's most influential countries in such issues.

Dr al-Nuaimi pointed out that Qatar, with its wise leadership, is proactive in all these important issues, and it is a country that is always searching for peace and harmony, and has remarkable contributions and roles in these areas.

He said that the objectives of the conference are based on creating a platform for discussion and interaction between intellectuals, academics, specialised researchers, and those concerned with the subject and issues of the conference, as well as religious leaders and influential decision-makers to develop solutions and action plans for various difficult issues related to coexistence and religious freedom from the perspective of religions, human rights, and legal legislation. – ***QNA***

Manko Doha continues to excite with new and enhanced Mademoiselle Night

The award-winning Parisian ultra-lounge introduces the new Mademoiselle night in town

Manko Doha, the city's number one ultra-lounge and nightlife destination, brings back Mademoiselle Night with a brand new twist.

Experience Mademoiselle Night at Manko Doha every Tuesday evening where live music from Parisian DJs, exclusive handcrafted beverages, and bites come together to create an unforgettable experience for all the ladies.

Ladies get a complimentary glass of French bubbly upon arrival, and all guests can enjoy the Mademoiselle package from 8pm to 10pm at QAR 150 for a selection of bites and a choice of two beverages from the new cocktail menu.

Cocktails featured on the Mademoiselle menu, inspired by popular French figures and dessert, were exclusively created for the evening by Manko Doha's Bar Manager Gautier Blanchard, and are not offered on the usual Manko menu. These include: Edith, inspired by the famous French singer Edith Piaf. This Instagrammable pink cocktail will make you see life in pink (la vie en rose.), and Madeleine, the interpretation of the French cake "madeleine", associated with childhood memories with a creamy foam on top to make this drink a real treat.





The most exciting event of the week, the famous Manko Loko has been moved to every Thursday. Join the Loko ritual with live entertainment and DJs from Paris for the ultimate midnight celebration. Baptiste, Elitsa, Sane and many entertainers continue to fly in on a weekly basis and delight fans in Doha.

Manko Doha is a unique ultra-lounge concept with a chic Parisian atmosphere, weekly guest DJs from Paris, exceptional Nikkei cuisine, and signature Pisco cocktails. Situated atop InterContinental Doha Beach & Spa's La Mar by celebrity chef Gastón Acurio, Manko Doha offers a breathtaking location that complements the nightlife scene with a dazzling view of Doha's skyline.

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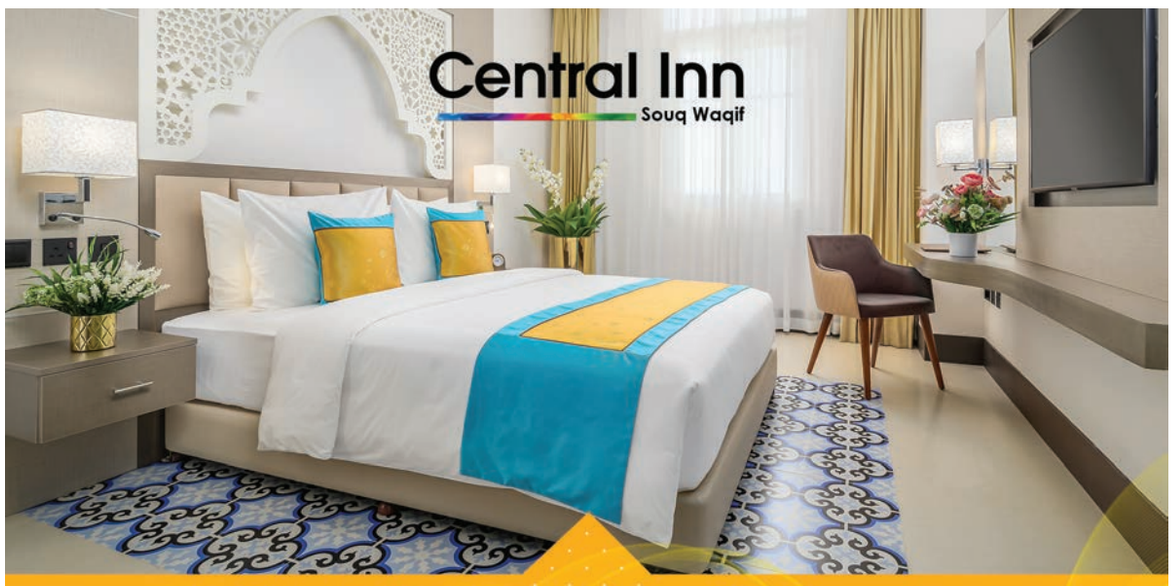
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SCAN NOW

QATAR


HE Sheikh Faisal bin Qassim al-Thani with a group of teachers honoured at the event.


Dignitaries honouring the winners.

ALF honours winners of educational programmes

By Tawfik Lamari
Staff Reporter

Al-Faisal Without Borders Foundation (ALF) has organised an awards ceremony to honour students who won prizes in its educational programmes, 'Destination Imagination' and 'Farm your Country'.

While 'Destination Imagination, is implemented in partnership with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE), 'Farm your Country,' is in co-operation with the Ministry of Municipality, represented by the Public Parks Administration, with the support of the MoEHE during the 2022-2023 academic year. The 'Destination Imagination' being implemented by the ALF for the ninth consecutive year, has been implemented for 40 years in more than 30 countries and about 50 states in the US. The programme aims to empower children and students of all ages, focusing on developing 21st century leadership and consolidate skills.

The ceremony at the Qatar National Convention Centre was attended by HE Sheikh Faisal bin Qassim al-Thani, founder and chairman of the Board at ALF, Maha Zayed al-Rawili, Assistant Undersecretary for Education Affairs at the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, and other officials from educational institutions.

Approximately 700 students representing around 30 government and private schools were honoured for achieving the top three positions in various challenges of the programme out of a total of 70 schools that competed during the 2022/2023 academic year.


HE Sheikh Faisal bin Qassim al-Thani honouring Maha Zayed al-Rawili at the ceremony. **PICTURES:** Shaji Kayamkulam

The 'Farm your Country' programme, being implemented for the eighth consecutive year, aims at teaching students to grow vegetables and ornamental plants, thereby promoting self-reliance, initiative, and utilising their potential to manage their own resources for future generations.

A total of 120 students, representing 12 winning schools, were honoured for achieving the top positions out of a total of 34 schools that competed during the current academic season. HE Sheikh Faisal stated that the ALF programmes have always aimed to provide students from all categories with the basic scientific, engineering, and technological skills that will help them in their academic and future lives.


HE Sheikh Faisal bin Qassim al-Thani with a group of winners.

He congratulated the winners and wished success to the teams that qualified in the 'Destination Imagination' programme to participate in the World Championship in Kansas, US, at the end of this month.

HE Sheikh Faisal also announced a special prize that will be implemented from the next academic season in the 'Farm your Country' programme, by establishing a botanical garden in the school that wins the excellence award.

Maha Zayed al-Rawili, expressed her thanks and appreciation to HE Sheikh Faisal who always supports students and education through important programmes and activities.

Engineer Abdulatif Ali al-Yafaei, general manager of ALF, said the programmes have benefitted more than 10,000 students in the various stages of education.

Citizens keen to ensure names registered on voter list

A considerable number of Qatari citizens visited the voting registration centres for the upcoming Central Municipal Council (CMC) elections to make sure that their names were included on the preliminary lists of voters announced recently.

The preliminary lists were announced through big screens set up at the electoral headquarters located in every constituency. The Ministry of Interior then announced opening the doors for people to submit appeals and grievances regarding voter registration, which will continue until May 11.

Speaking to local Arabic daily Arrayah, Judge Khalid bin Mohamed al-Shareem, head of the appeals and grievances committee in constituency 16, said the committee is receiving appeals and grievances from citizens from 4pm to 7pm every day until Thursday, while the decisions on these will be taken on May 18. Hisham Mohamed Ali, a member of the committee, said there is a unified form for submitting appeals and grievances to the committee. The applicant has to fill in the necessary information and sign on it before submitting the document to the panel, which, in turn, will refer it to the supervisory committee. Meanwhile, a number of citizens have continued to express their demands and hopes from the new council, stressing the need to enhance and upgrade many public services. Rashid al-Hajri, from constituency 16, said infrastructure in his area in Bani Hajar lacks some upgrades and needs to be enhanced with more pavements, lighting and public gardens due to the increasing number of inhabitants there. He said the area also needs a new health centre.



Qatari citizens at a voting registration centre.

Saeed Rashid al-Khayareen, also from constituency 16, said public services in the area have seen considerable development, expressing hope that the newly elected CMC member for the area will continue with such efforts and work closely with the authorities concerned to build on such achievements.

Ali al-Khayareen, another citizen, said all voters have high hopes that the polls will result in the election of the most qualified candidates who will offer citizens public services that improve their lives and cope with the increasing number of inhabitants.

Qatar attends Arab meeting to update media action plan

Qatar, represented by Qatar Media Corporation (QMC), participated in the fifth meeting of the expert group on evaluating and updating the Arab Media Action Plan Abroad, at the headquarters of the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States in Cairo.

QMC was represented at the meeting by Head of the International Co-operation and Conventions Department Sheikh Ahmed bin Thani al-Thani, and Director of the Planning, Quality and International Co-operation Department Ahmed Ghassab al-Hajri.

Plenipotentiary Minister and Director of the Technical Secretariat of the Arab Information Ministers Council at the Arab League, Faleh al-Mutairi, said in a press statement that the meeting reviewed the observations and views of Member States on this plan, which were agreed to be submitted to the next meeting of the Permanent Committee of Arab Information Ministers and the 53rd session of the Council of Arab Ministers of Information, to be held in Morocco in June.

Al-Mutairi explained that the Arab Media Action Plan Abroad is based on three main themes


QMC officials at the meeting.

— the Palestinian cause, the phenomenon of terrorism, and highlighting the correct image of Arabs and Muslims abroad. The plan was approved by the Arab Ministers of Information in 2001 with the aim of upgrading the role of the media and employing it to achieve the widespread dissemination of the Arab perspective, thus supporting Arab issues abroad. The plan was updated in 2006 and 2014.

NHRC calls on citizens to play their part in CMC election process


The second meeting held by the NHRC's Visits and Monitoring Committee to review the monitoring of the 7th Central Municipal Council (CMC) elections is to ensure free and fair elections that conform to national and international human rights standards.

QNA
Doha

HE the Deputy Chairman of the National Human Rights Committee (NHRC) Dr Mohamed bin Saif al-Kuwari called on citizens to play their role in the electoral process of the 7th Central Municipal Council (CMC) elections 2023, noting that the Qatari legislation and international covenants recognised that the right to vote and to stand for election is a right for every citizen, male and female, without discrimination to participate in managing the public affairs of the State.

Al-Kuwari pointed out the importance of the participation of Qatari women to emphasise the importance of their role in society and guarantee women's rights in practice, in addition to the necessity of youth participation as the makers of the future.

This came during the second meeting held by the NHRC's Visits and Monitoring Committee, headed by him to review the monitoring of the 7th Central Municipal Council (CMC) elections, to ensure free and fair elections that conform to national and international human rights standards.

The challenges that faced the members and employees of NHRC during monitoring the previous elections were discussed, as well as studying holding two seminars, the first of which targets youth and women, while the second one targets candidates of the 7th Central Municipal Council, while the Visits and Monitoring Committee reviewed the report of the 2019 Municipal Elections Monitoring Committee.

Al-Kuwari said that the permanent committee for visits and monitoring, whose membership includes a group of members and employees of the NHRC, will participate in monitoring the elections, noting that this participation comes in implementation of the Qatari constitution and regional and international human rights conventions, in addition to the implementation of Decree-Law No 17 of 2010 organising the National Human Rights Committee, in which Article 2, Item 3 provides that "monitoring what is raised about the human rights situation in the country, and coordinating with the concerned authorities to respond to it.





French magazine explores smart city innovations at Msheireb

Representatives from the renowned French magazine *Transitions & Energies* paid a visit to Msheireb Downtown Doha (MDD) yesterday to gain insights and inspiration from the smart city's remarkable achievements, with the aim of incorporating them into their upcoming project.

Director Gil Mihaely and chief editor Eric Leser were present at a special presentation hosted by the Msheireb Properties team who showcased the cutting-edge smart and sustainable features of MDD, solidifying its position as one of the world's foremost smart and sustainable city districts.


French magazine representatives during their visit to MDD.

As key figures leading a project focused on promoting sustainability, Mihaely and Leser expressed their deep admiration for the innovative smart city concept realised in Msheireb Downtown Doha. They underscored the pivotal role of effective technology utilisation in achieving a sustainable future, further emphasising the significance of MDD's achievements.

Acknowledging the tireless efforts and forward-thinking vision of Msheireb Properties, the two distinguished experts commended the company's dedication to incorporating the latest smart solutions into urban developments while simultaneously preserving the authenticity and heritage of the national architectural language, a press statement noted.

Transitions & Energies, led by Eric Leser, is an ambitious project encompassing a website and a quarterly magazine. Its content is dedicated to promoting effective and realistic transition strategies aimed at gradually shifting away from fossil fuels.

Qatar, ICRC discuss co-operation on aid to Sudan people


HE the Minister of State for International Co-operation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Lolwah bint Rashid AlKhater held a virtual meeting with President of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Mirjana Spoljaric yesterday. They discussed co-operation between Qatar and the ICRC, especially in providing assistance to the Sudanese people, particularly in the health field. The two sides asserted the necessity of securing humanitarian corridors so that aid can reach the areas most affected by the fighting in Sudan, such as Khartoum and Omdurman. HE the Minister of State for International Co-operation commended the great and vital role that the ICRC plays in mitigating the effects of the tragic repercussions of the fighting in Sudan. For her part, Spoljaric voiced ICRC's appreciation to Qatar and its various institutions for running the airlift, which was launched Friday to support those affected by the fighting in Sudan. **(QNA)**

QRCS allocates $1mn to implement urgent relief interventions in Sudan

QNA
Doha

Qatar Red Crescent Society (QRCS) has announced the allocation of $1mn to implement urgent relief interventions for the deteriorating humanitarian conditions in Sudan, aiming to provide support to 17,000 families, about 119,000 people, in co-operation with its partners from the Sudanese Red Crescent Society and the Sudanese Ministry of Health.

In a statement, QRCS said that it will implement a six-month urgent intervention in the fields of health, nutrition, water, sanitation and shelter, in addition to non-food relief items. QRCS indicated that a plane arrived at Port Sudan Airport from Doha carrying a shipment of urgent humanitarian aid, within the framework of QRCS's urgent relief plan in Sudan.


Aid distribution in progress.


QRCS and other officials with shipment.

Qatar's ambassador to Sudan Mohamed bin Ibrahim al-Sada, QRCS director of the Relief and International Development Sector Dr Mohamed Salah Ibrahim and president of the Sudanese Red Crescent Society received the plane. According to the statement, the plane is carrying 22 tonnes of humanitarian aid, including medical and food equipment and materials for the benefit of people affected by the current events, provided by QRCS. In a related context, QRCS affirmed its continuation to provide assistance to those affected by the events in Sudan for the third day in a row, by distributing food baskets to those affected in the state of Gezira, where the distribution included two shelters for the affected people who were displaced to the city of Rifa'a, and five shelters in the city of Al Hasaheisa in co-operation with the Sudanese Red Crescent Society and the humanitarian aid commission in the state of Gezira. The assistance included support for 95 families in these centres, which include about 650 individuals. QRCS, in partnership with the Kuwaiti Red Crescent Society, and co-ordination with the Sudanese Red Crescent Society, provided urgent aid to those affected by the events in Sudan, including food baskets and sanitary materials to more than 2,500 families who were displaced to the city of Wad Madani in the state of Gezira.

QRCS marks World Red Cross, Red Crescent Day

Qatar Red Crescent Society (QRCS), along with members of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), highlighted the efforts of volunteers and humanitarian workers to mark 'World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day' yesterday (May 8).

The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement is the world's largest humanitarian network, comprising ICRC, Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), and International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), in addition to 192 National Societies.

In a press statement, QRCS' acting secretary-general Faisal Mohamed al-Emadi stressed that this occasion – themed 'Everything we do comes #FromThe Heart' this year – is an opportunity to praise the efforts of the National Societies' affiliates and their key role in alleviating the suffering of the needy, standing by them, supporting and providing them with relief and preserving their dignity.

He cited the efforts of National Societies' in helping and empowering local communities through various programmes, as well as developmental, educational and awareness initiatives. "We congratulate all workers in humanitarian organisations and associations, as well as volunteers, who work tirelessly to provide humanitarian and relief services throughout the world, helping alleviate suffering among those in need and those affected by natural disasters and humanitarian crises.


A humanitarian worker engages with young children.

He added that QRCS will continue to support humanitarian workers and strengthen its joint co-operation with humanitarian organisations and partner national societies, "so that humanitarian assistance can be provided worldwide."

About her experience in providing humanitarian support to those affected by the typhoon "Famco" in the Philippines, Fatima Abdeen, a disaster response specialist at the International Relief and Development Sector at QRCS, said: "One of the unforgettable experiences in November 2020 was that I travelled with the relief team heading to the Philippines to provide relief assistance to the affected people from the typhoon Famco, and assessing the needs and the resulting damage.

"This experience is an unforgettable lesson from my practical experiences that gave me lessons on how to act wisely in the upcoming experiences. I learned a lot personally and practically, and I also benefited from the participating team and the experts in the field.

May 8 commemorates the birthday of the Swiss humanitarian activist Henry Dunant, the founder of the International Humanitarian Movement, which consists of 192 national societies around the world that provide humanitarian support to their local communities and even to the needy.

Qatar Charity rebuilds 326 homes for Rohingya refugees

With the support of the philanthropists in Qatar, Qatar Charity (QC) has started to rebuild 326 homes for Rohingya refugees in Balukhali camp in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, which were destroyed due to a fire that broke out in the refugee camp in March.

Qatar Charity has started the construction process according to the design of houses approved by the Office of Refugee Affairs, Relief and Return, Government of Bangladesh, with each house containing two living rooms for every affected family. This step was greatly welcomed locally, as the authorities thanked people in Qatar and QC for providing such assistance to the Rohingya refugees, and expressed their appreciation for the continuous humanitarian efforts it is providing at refugee camps in Bangladesh.

Meanwhile, the refugees welcomed the project, especially since most residents of the camp, which was burned, have left to live in other refugee camps. Mura Begum, a refugee whose house was burned, said: "Thank you to the people in Qatar for providing a home for my family. We escaped from the fire and took refuge with my family in a nearby camp. I am grateful for what Qatar Charity provided, which enabled me to return to live in my home."

On March 5, a massive fire broke out in the Balukhali refugee camp in Cox's Bazar, according to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. The fire displaced about 12,000 refugees, destroyed more than 2,000 refugee homes, and damaged hospitals and education centres in the region.


From the project.



Qatar Charity has previously rebuilt 537 homes for Rohingya refugees in the Kutupalong camp in Cox's Bazar, which was subjected to a massive fire in 2021, as thousands of refugees were evacuated to temporary camps on Bhasan Char Island, and more than 9,500 shelters were destroyed.


Engineer Omar Ali al-Ansari

QRDI announces revamped research portfolio

The Qatar Research, Development, and Innovation (QRDI) Council has announced the launch of a newly revamped research programmes portfolio funded by its division, the Qatar National Research Fund (QNRF).

The new suite comprises three primary programmes: the Academic Research Programme, the National Research Programme, and the Research Talent Programme, a statement said yesterday. This initiative is part of the QRDI 2030 Strategy to enhance scientific research and foster RDI talent.

Engineer Omar Ali al-Ansari, Secretary-General of the QRDI Council, remarked: "Launching this newly revised scientific research programmes' portfolio embodies our dedication to sustaining competitive research funding. This is critical as we seek to maintain and bolster the community of scientific research talent and capabilities in Qatar."

The Academic Research Programme, focuses on supporting R&D institutions in conducting research that generates new knowledge and advances scientific understanding while promoting the cultivating of scientific researchers.

The National Research Programme, the second initiative, supports research activities that contribute to addressing long-term national challenges and priorities. This programme currently includes three jointly funded calls: Path Towards Precision Medicine (PPM), a joint call with the Qatar Genome Programme; Food Security Call, a joint call with the Ministry of Municipality-Qatar; QNRF-TUBITAK Academia-Industry Cooperation Call, a joint call with the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkiye (TUBITAK).

The third programme, the Research Talent Programme, aims to develop, retain, and attract a strong base and pipeline of research talent in Qatar. Recipients of this fund will have the opportunity to pursue research-related careers and acquire the skills necessary to succeed in an innovation-based economy.

This program currently has two open calls: Graduate Student Research Award (GSRA) and The Undergraduate Research Experience Programme (UREP).

GSRA enables local eligible institutions to support prospective faculty and researchers through a competitive sponsorship programme, to undertake research-based graduate studies toward masters or doctoral degrees through two tracks: GSRA local and GSRA international. The UREP is designed to cultivate a research culture and develop research capacity by allowing students to gain experience working with faculty members, research staff, and other students through their one-year involvement in the UREP grant.

Riham Daher, RDI Programme Director at the QRDI Council, said: "The new portfolio has been shaped with input from our research community over the past year."

Details about the three new programmes are available on the QRDI Portal, where applications can be submitted. The QRDI Portal, with new versions released annually, adapts to the changing needs of stakeholders within the research and innovation ecosystem. Each phase introduces new features and functionalities.

The first phase, launched in 2021, included User Registration, Entities, Facilities, Equipment, and Services.

The second phase recently launched with RDI Projects, RDI Publications, and Collaboration Opportunities. QRDI Portal V3 plans to add more features covering Sectorial Communities, Talent Profiles, Data Sets & IP, and Events this year, the statement added.

COMMENT

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GULF TIMES

Ukraine's N-deal with Canada's Cameco has big risks, rewards

Ukraine's 12-year deal to buy enough uranium from Canadian miner Cameco Corp to power all of its nuclear reactors gives each side the right to change sales volumes with two years' notice, the Ukrainian state-owned utility Energoatom told Reuters.

The unusual flexibility of the deal announced in February, the details of which have not been reported previously, reflects the uncertainties caused by Russia's war with its neighbour and underlines the high stakes for both parties.

For Cameco, the risks are financial. For Ukraine, reliance on a single provider leaves it with few alternatives to maintain power supplies.

"There's a lot of flexibility" in the deal, Energoatom CEO Petro Kotin told Reuters in an interview. "The agreement is up to 2035, but two years prior to supply of the uranium, we are to (give) them an indication of what we will need, what volume of uranium we will require."

Prior to Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February last year, Ukraine ran its nuclear reactors on Russian fuel, producing 55% of the country's electricity.

Ukraine has since ceased Russian fuel purchases and has turned to Western companies such as Cameco.

Last year Cameco restarted the world's largest high-grade uranium mine in northern Saskatchewan, as a more than decade-long slump in the sector eased, partly because of the Ukraine war and partly because of global efforts to reduce carbon emissions.

As the company ramps up production for the Ukraine contract, its biggest so far, it is also betting on winning more deals from eastern European countries as they try to reduce dependence on Russian energy.

The stock of Cameco, the world's fourth-largest uranium producer, is up more than 50% since January 31, 2022, when expectations Russia, a big uranium producer, would launch a full-scale invasion spurred an extended rally.

Under the agreement with Energoatom, worth at least $4bn at current prices, Cameco will supply Ukraine with uranium hexafluoride (UF6) from 2024-2035, allowing the country to end its reliance on Russian fuel.

The 12-year deal will supply the nine reactors under Ukrainian control

The deal will supply the nine reactors under Ukrainian control, with an option to supply six captured reactors in the southeastern Zaporizhzhia region if Ukraine retakes them.

Cameco, like Energoatom, can adjust how much uranium it delivers on two years' notice, Kotin said.

A spokesperson for Energoatom said there were no restrictions on how much either side can adjust the deliveries.

The two-year window to adjust volumes without limit offers flexibility well beyond the normal uranium contract adjustments of 5%-15% annually, Nick Carter, executive vice-president of UxC LLC, an independent research firm focused on the nuclear fuel cycle, said.

For Cameco, the biggest risk is that Ukraine, whose energy grid and thermal power generators have been military targets since the invasion, might require less uranium should Russia capture or damage more reactors.

Cameco would then have to "find a home for this previously contracted material," Carter said.

"We have plenty of visibility and advance notice regarding the annual volumes required under the contract, which provides us with flexibility to adjust our plans, including for production if circumstances require," Cameco spokesperson Veronica Baker said in a statement, declining to confirm deal terms.

Finding new buyers at short notice could be costly.

Contracted uranium prices are typically higher than spot prices, meaning that Cameco may take a discount if Ukraine purchases less uranium due to the war's impact, Carter said.

Alternatively, if prices spike during the next 12 years, Cameco may be unable to fully cash in with so much production dedicated to Ukraine unless it scales back those sales, Carter added. He expects prices to continue rising in the next two years.

"I think Cameco has more to lose here than the Ukrainians if the (market) price were to continue higher," Carter said.

Kotin said Energoatom will buy Cameco's uranium at a price based equally on a fixed price and a market price. Such an arrangement partly protects Energoatom from price spikes.

Baker said it was normal for sellers and buyers to face risk from commodity price swings.

Energoatom's risk is that Cameco chooses to sell it less uranium so that the miner can cash in on higher prices elsewhere, but that seems unlikely, Carter said.

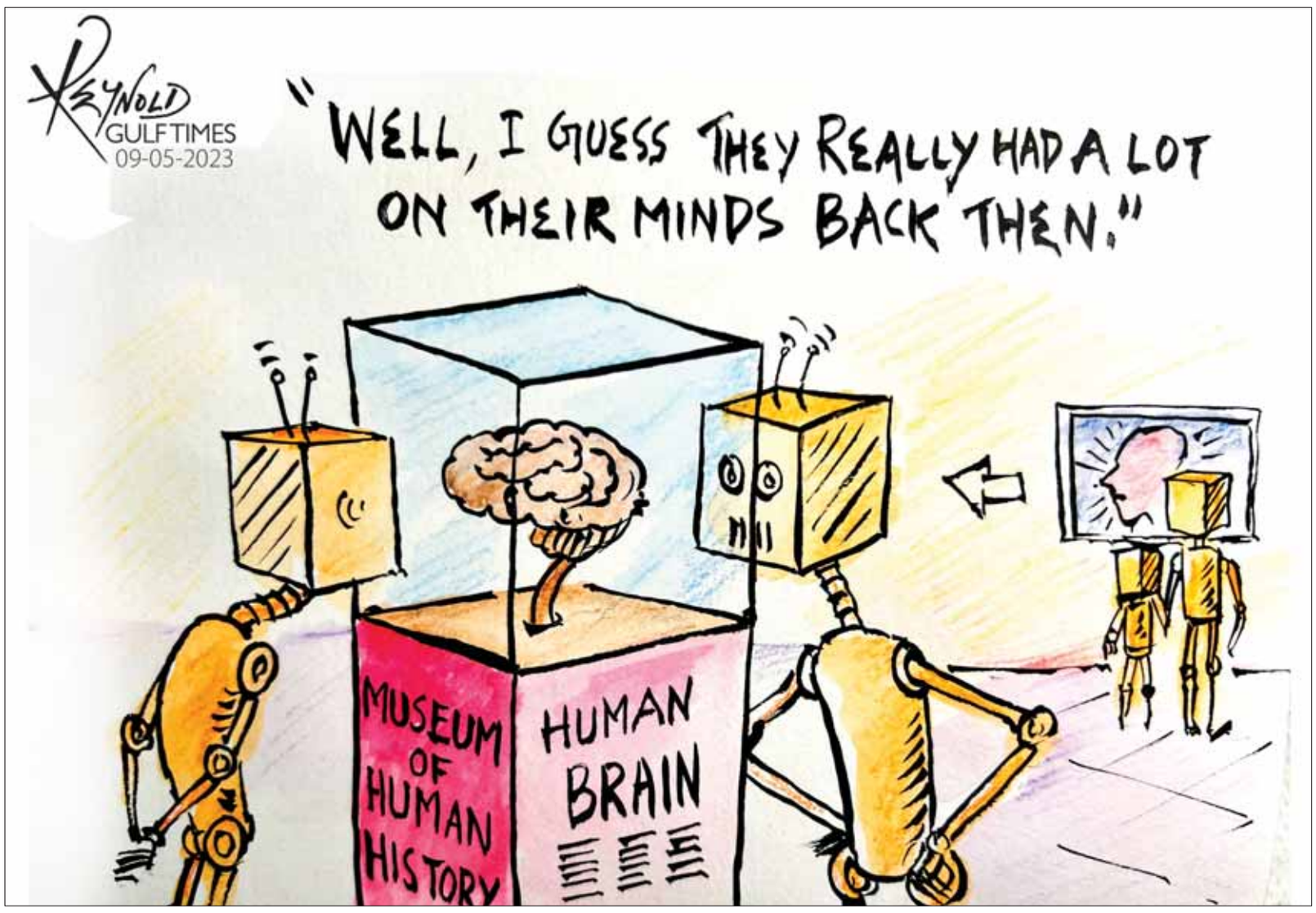
The main alternative to Cameco, French state-owned company Orano, told Energoatom it cannot supply it with more uranium until 2030, Kotin said. Orano declined to comment.

To hedge against the risk of relying so much on a single supplier, Ukraine is trying to expand its domestic nuclear industry, Kotin said.

— Reuters

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Russian mercenary boss deepens fog of Ukraine war

■ Mercenary chief's 'withdrawal' seen by Ukraine as bluff
■ Prigozhin seeks to dodge blame for failing to take Bakhmut
■ Risky attempt to force hand of Putin and defence chiefs

By Mark Trevelyan, Andrew Osborn and **Jonathan Landay**
London

An extraordinary announcement by Russian mercenary leader Yevgeny Prigozhin that his fighters will abandon the Ukrainian city of Bakhmut looks like an exercise in blame avoidance and disinformation, Russia specialists and military analysts say.

But it takes his conflict with defence chiefs to a new level in what has been a difficult week for Moscow, two days after a purported drone attack on the Kremlin. It also highlights Russian frustration at failing to complete the capture of Bakhmut after more than nine months of costly, intense battle.

Prigozhin delivered an effective ultimatum to President Vladimir Putin and the military establishment on Friday by saying Wagner would quit Bakhmut on May 10 and withdraw to "lick its wounds" after suffering exponentially rising losses. He accused military bureaucrats of starving it of the ammunition it needed.

But many months of impetuous tirades from the former Kremlin catering magnate, a master in the art of self-promotion, have made clear that his words are seldom to be taken at face value.

Ukraine immediately scented a bluff. Its deputy defence minister said Wagner was actually bringing in fighters from other parts of the front line to try to complete the capture of Bakhmut in time for Russia's World War Two Victory Day celebrations next Tuesday. Reuters could not independently verify those movements.

Kimberly Marten, a professor at Barnard College and Columbia University who specialises in Russian security issues, said Prigozhin and his mercenaries are "essential elements of Russian military intelligence, so we don't believe anything he says".

"This is all smoke and mirrors, so we are just guessing," said Marten, who has testified multiple times to the US Congress on Wagner. She noted it would be foolhardy for any commander to "broadcast" their intentions to their enemy five or six days in advance.

What looked real, however, was Prigozhin's fury at Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu and Chief of General Staff Valery Gerasimov. He hurled abuse on both their names in a tirade filmed in front of dozens of bloodied corpses, and said he would hold them responsible for "tens of thousands of Wagner dead and injured".

Some saw Prigozhin's move as a desperate gamble to try to force Moscow to give him the extra supplies and Russian troop support he needs — and one that might work, because Russia has paid too high a price to give up now on Bakhmut.

"If this (pullout) is exactly what happens, we should expect the Ukrainian army to attack during the rotation and the loss of all, or most, of the city," wrote a Russian military blogger, Zhivov Z.

Alexander Bovdunov, a political analyst, told Russia's 'Argumenty Nedeli' news portal: "Wagner is our most effective assault infantry. It must get everything it needs. Internal bureaucratic conflicts must recede into the background if Russia is to achieve victory."

Austrian analyst Gerhard Mangott said if Prigozhin really withdrew, "this would be much too quick for the Russian regular armed forces to take over the positions of the Wagner fighters in and around Bakhmut."

"If he really means it ... this would give the Ukrainian armed forces the opportunity to seize parts, or the whole of Bakhmut from the Russians," he said, adding this would be a disaster for Putin and Shoigu.

Yohann Michel, an analyst at the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London, said Prigozhin's statement looked like an attempt to transfer blame for the failure to take Bakhmut, and an indication that its capture remained elusive.

He also questioned whether Prigozhin had the agency to withdraw without Kremlin permission. "If Putin wants him to be in combat, he'll force him in one way or another to do so."

Michael Mulroy, a former senior Pentagon official, said Prigozhin's latest comments could be a bluff or a sign he was truly short on manpower, saying Russian commanders had treated Wagner "as if they were totally expendable".

Western intelligence assessments have regularly concluded that Wagner is one of Russia's most effective battlefield units because of its ability — up to now — to absorb high casualties and carry out full frontal attacks using "human waves".

Although it started out as a force of around 10,000 made up of former professional soldiers and special forces, its momentum — however slow — became contingent upon a constant supply of new recruits which dried up when the defence ministry in February stopped it from using convicts recruited from prisons.

The US intelligence community estimated that up to 40,000 convicts were fighting for Wagner at one point.

Wagner has since opened recruiting centres to try to replenish its ranks at the same time as the defence ministry itself is recruiting professional soldiers.

Marten said its involvement in the battle for Bakhmut, including fighters recruited from Russian prisons, had allowed Putin to avoid declaring a full-scale mobilisation.

Whatever its immediate intentions around Bakhmut, Wagner is likely to remain a significant player in the war, given Prigozhin's personal ambitions and determination to stay in the limelight. Pro-war bloggers reported that former deputy defence minister Colonel General Mikhail Mizintsev, sanctioned by Western countries for orchestrating the brutal siege of Ukraine's Mariupol, has been newly recruited to Wagner as a deputy commander.

"We will lick our wounds, and when the motherland is in danger, we will rise again to defend it. The Russian people can count on us," Prigozhin said on Friday. — Reuters



Military medics evacuate a wounded Ukrainian serviceman from a frontline medical stabilisation point near the frontline city of Bakhmut, Donetsk region on Friday. **(AFP)**

Awqaf to hold symposium on 'Zakat and Development'

The Ministry of Endowments (Awqaf) and Islamic Affairs will hold a symposium on 'Zakat and Development' at the Sheikh Abdullah bin Zaid al-Mahmoud Islamic Cultural Center today.
The symposium is an extension of the series of cultural and intellectual seminars held by the Ministry's Department of Islamic Research and Studies in celebration of the 14th Sheikh Ali bin Abdullah Al-Thani International Endowment Prize.
Yemeni researcher Fayez Yahya Shubail, who won the prize, will participate in the symposium to speak about his research findings, ideas and visions, along with Head of the Department of Fiqh and Usul al-Fiqh at the College of Shariah and Islamic Studies at Qatar University Dr Salih Qadir al-Zanki.
In a statement yesterday, the Department of Islamic Research and Studies said the theme of the prize in its 15th year is: 'Social solidarity and its role in achieving societal security'.
It covers a number of axes the most important of which are: types of social solidarity, its dimensions, fields, resources and expenditures; means and obstacles to the implementation of those means and the solutions proposed for them between reality and hope; the legal rooting of social solidarity and community security; and contemporary calamities and their impact on achieving social solidarity, community security and legal solutions to them. (**QNA**)

35th Doha Theater Fest kicks off on 16th

The Ministry of Culture will organise the 35th edition of Doha Theater Festival at the Drama Theater in the Cultural Village Foundation – Katara, under the auspices of HE the Minister of Culture Sheikh Abdulrahman bin Hamad al-Thani. The event will take place from May 16-29.
Director of the Theater Affairs Center Abdul Rahim al-Siddiqui said the festival is among the oldest festivals in the region, and this year has new features that he hopes will become a tradition to be repeated in the coming years.
With the participation of 13 diverse theatrical performances, the festival, he said, will be held with all the elements of theatrical creativity from groups, institutions, amateurs, universities and communities, explaining that a show entitled "50 Years of Theatre" will be held on the opening night of the festival to highlight the march of Qatari theatre since its inception until today. (**QNA**)

Awqaf opens new mosque at Umm Al Seneem



The Ministry of Endowments (Awqaf) and Islamic Affairs, represented by the Mosques Department, recently inaugurated Al Walideen Mosque at Umm Al Seneem.
The mosque, according to an official Awqaf statement, can accommodate more than 1,400 worshippers. It's spread over an area of 19,252sq m.
The mosque was endowed by Ali Mohamed Ali Ahmed al-Emadi and it comes within the framework of Awqaf's plan to expand the number of mosques and develop them in all regions of the country.
Also, it's to keep pace with urban growth and population increase in line with the Qatar National Vision 2030.
The new mosque with number MS 323 includes a main prayer hall that can accommodate 1,250 worshippers. Also, there is a women's hall that can accommodate 160 worshippers with entrances and exits. The mosque is surmounted by a high minaret and attached to the mosque are two houses for the Imam and a residence for the Muezzin.
The Department of Engineering Affairs is concerned with providing the needs of the regions in the country in terms of mosques and chapels. It provides the regions with temporary mosques and supervises their preservation while preparing the annual plan for the maintenance of mosques and Imams' residences. These all are in co-ordination with the competent authorities, supervising the preparation and implementation of construction and maintenance works for mosques and supervising the construction projects of mosques and imams' residences. Owned by the endowment in terms of designs, technical and engineering specifications and implementation, and the preparation of a database on mosques and chapels and their workers.
In mosque designs, the administration takes into account different areas of lands on which mosques will be built, the requirements for green buildings and sustainable buildings.
These are done while focusing on the conditions for sustainability in the use of electricity and water, and preserving the aesthetics of heritage in designs that reflect the authenticity of Qatari and Islamic heritage in accordance with the highest standards.

Georgetown University in Qatar seniors poised to graduate



Ask Maryam Abdulaziz al-Thani what it was like to share a global stage with diplomats, scholars, and world leaders as part of her impressive experiential learning experiences at QF partner Georgetown University in Qatar (GU-Q), and she'll offer a humble and grounded reply: "It allowed me to serve my community."

The president of the GU-Q Ambassador Society is also a devoted student, majoring in Culture and Politics with multiple ongoing research projects focused on issues affecting women's lives in Qatar. "It is incredibly important to have local women discuss and be a part of scholarly research that affects them," she explains, "because there are some nuances that are only experienced and observed when you live through the social fabric of a society."

Maryam is one of 105 students who will be recognised at GU-Q's upcoming commencement ceremony for the Class of 2023 to be held at Qatar National Convention Centre. They will soon join more than 215,000 Georgetown University alumni working in diverse fields across the region and beyond. With their strong foundation in global affairs, cultural fluency, and a passion for social impact, these individuals embody the university's mission of fostering global citizenship and are poised to become the future leaders, changemakers, and ambassadors of positive change in a rapidly evolving world.

Waqar Basit Butt, who majored in International Economics, said: "GU-Q provides the perfect environment for students to learn about regional, as well as international, issues under the guidance of brilliant professors.".

He also enriched his education by taking advantage of the study abroad programme, and enrolled in courses at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). His academic journey has earned him a place on the Dean's Honors List and recognition through prestigious awards and induction into the honour societies.

"One thing that I am really proud of achieving at GU-Q is starting the Mental Health Society in my first year," said Waqar. The club played a crucial role during the challenging times of the pandemic by providing a platform for students to discuss important topics and promote mental well-being.

Zain Assaf has also spent her time at GU-Q devoted to both her studies and her community. Her personal background has ignited her interest in understanding how power operates within the context of the Palestinian cause. Zain also pursued a Certificate in Media and Politics, jointly offered by GU-Q and Northwestern University in Qatar. Her exceptional work in the programme was recognized with the Best Certificate Thesis award.

Zain currently works as a part-time Assistant Engagement Producer at Al Jazeera English. Her writings have also been published by Palestine Square and Doha News. Also an ambitious student with a passion for learning, Ahmad Majid Al Kuwari's journey at Georgetown has been driven by a desire to explore the world through the lens of academia, with a particular interest in Qatar's foreign policy and defence strategies. "My love and passion for the field of international affairs and diplomacy is one of the main reasons why I joined Georgetown," he said.

Ahmad also actively engaged in a host of extracurricular activities. He shared his experiences and insights with prospective students at admissions events and Model United Nations conferences, fostered cultural exchange through the Al Liwan Qatari Student Association, and participated in Georgetown University's Doyle Faculty Fellows Program, which supports full-time faculty in designing or redesigning an undergraduate-level course in order to engage aspects of difference, equity, and inclusion within the classroom setting.

GU-Q's Bachelor of Science in Foreign Service (BSFS) stresses multidisciplinary studies in a global context. It is the same program and curriculum offered at the Georgetown University Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service in Washington, DC. The BSFS degree is offered in one of four majors: International Economics, International Politics, Culture and Politics, and International History.

Aljam'a to celebrate QF students



Qatar Foundation's (QF) annual Aljam'a event dedicated to celebrating Education City students – and their achievements – will return this week. Open to the whole community, the three-day event will run from 3pm-8pm daily from May 11-13 at Multaqa. Themed around the four key areas of a market, carnival, showcases, and workshops, Aljam'a offers visitors the opportunity to participate in activities and workshops, interact with peers and colleagues, and learn more about QF's vibrant education ecosystem. Dr Mohamed Shaheen al-Kuwari, director of Student Life at QF's Higher Education division, said: "Aljam'a provides a platform for our students and alumni – and those who support them – to meet in a relaxed environment and share their experiences as part of QF's diverse educational ecosystem.

QF graduate aspires to teach, practise law to serve country

Abdulrahman Saad al-Qahtani, adviser at Qatar Development Bank, and a 2023 graduate who earned a PhD in Economics and Islamic finance from Qatar Foundation's (QF) Hamad Bin Khalifa University is impacted by the saying "Seek knowledge from the cradle to the grave."
This was a phrase that al-Qahtani would read every day on a wall in his school, and the impressions of those words began to be etched in his mind from his childhood. His passion for knowledge was further fuelled by his father, who also studied law, and became a chief public prosecutor.
For al-Qahtani, his father is his role model and an immense source of inspiration, and his wish is to follow his father's footsteps and continue his legacy of serving society and achieving justice.
"I am extremely proud to have fulfilled my father's dream of obtaining a doctoral degree, which he was unable to complete due to his responsibilities in taking care of me and my siblings," says al-Qahtani. "It was a tough journey, but through hard work, dedication, and perseverance, I was able to achieve this goal and make my father's dream a reality."
Al-Qahtani grew up in a family of 17 siblings, where obtaining the best education and advancing through academic degrees was a top priority for their father, with most of them graduating in fields of law, engineering, sustainability, and others.
Nine of the 17 siblings have studied at QF – in HBKU and at Texas A&M University at Qatar – seven of whom have already graduated, including him and his sister, Muneera al-Qahtani, who celebrates alongside him this year by also receiving a PhD in sustainable energy.
Al-Qahtani says: "During my work as a legal counsellor for over ten years at QF, I learned that QF's leadership believes in the culture of lifelong learning, strives for it, and continuously applies it. This was a turning point in my life. Seeing prominent leaders continuing to educate themselves with persistence and passion was a living example that the journey of learning never ends, and we must always strive for personal and intellectual growth."
"I dream of teaching law at HBKU and opening a law firm that serves those who cannot afford lawyers' fees," he says. "I am passionate about the law and believe that my mission is to use my knowledge and skills to help those in greatest need, as a way of serving Allah. Whether through teaching or practising law, I am determined to make a positive impact on the world and fight for justice. And I hope to inspire others and enable them to join this profession."



Abdulrahman Saad al-Qahtani

QF graduate's bid make a true model for an inclusive society



Reem Abuzeid

Reem Abuzeid's impact on the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 is as dramatic as some of the goals that were scored on the pitch during the world's biggest sporting event. Her work as an audio describer led to such passionate comments as "your voice made me live the show"; "we can imagine the whole venue"; "we enjoyed the show because of you".
Abuzeid will be soon celebrating her graduation from the Audiovisual Translation Programme in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, part of Qatar Foundation's Hamad Bin Khalifa University .
"Working in a role that makes something accessible for someone made me feel useful," said Abuzeid. "Their words touched my heart deeply. It made me realise how my work as an audio describer can help people, and possibly impact their lives positively."
Abuzeid was part of the accessibility expert teams that participated in The Children's Art Exhibition, Reesha: We Welcome the World to Qatar 2022, as an audio describer of the paintings, which took place in the lead up to the World Cup at Qatar National Library .
She also participated as an audio describer and voice talent in the Seeroo fi al Ardh multisensory experience that offers the visually impaired community a chance to enjoy the final art work of the late acclaimed artist M F Husain, which is based at QF's Education City. In addition, she was among the audio describers of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 opening ceremony's preshow.
Abuzeid said: "On the World Cup opening ceremony preshow, we audio-described all the details – from the jerseys, flags, mascots, to the traditional Qatari attire for men and women – in both Arabic and English languages.

Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar celebrates 104 new graduates

Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar (CMU-Q), a Qatar Foundation partner, celebrated the graduation of 104 students yesterday. The graduates received their diplomas in front of faculty, family, friends, alumni, and special guests.
The Class of 2023 includes graduates from 32 countries, including over 30 Qatari nationals.
Michael Trick, dean of CMU-Q, addressed the graduates: "Class of 2023, the world will continue to change in unexpected ways, but you know how to face change and drive progress in a way that will make the world a better place."
The president of Carnegie Mellon University, Farnam Jahanian said: "Graduates, the world is eagerly awaiting to hear what you have to say and to absorb the impact of your work. I am confident that when you speak, you will speak with confidence and with kindness. And when you act, you will act responsibly, applying your talents and intellect for widespread benefit."
CMU-Q announced a number of awards during the ceremony. Ihab Younis, associate teaching professor of biological sciences, received the Meritorious Teaching Award. The dean recognised five Qatar campus scholars, Fatima Alhamadi, Ihsane Sadiki, Nour Ali, Mohamed al-Jawaheri, and Premices Irakoze, with Alhamadi and al-Jawaheri also named as Andrew Carnegie Society Scholars.
Five students received Outstanding Academic Achievement Awards for placing first in their respective programmes: Zoya Farooqui for biological sciences, Ekram Bouhroum for business administration, Nour Tamer Elsayed Ali for computational biology, Abubakr Ahmed Bakri Mohamed for computer science, and Erin Susan Thomas for information systems.
Representing the class were Latifa Alnaimi as poem reader and Malak Alseaf as the student speaker. The Class of 2023 includes graduates in biological sciences, business administration, computational biology, computer science and information systems.



CMU-Q holds graduation of Class of 2023 yesterday.

QATAR





Snapshots from the event yesterday.



Amir graces QU convocation of Class of 2023



HE the Minister of Education and Higher Education Buthaina bint Ali al-Jabr al-Nuaimi.

From Page 1

Dr al-Derham also highlighted the university's international achievements as well as the improvement in the global rankings by several organisations.

He then advised graduates: "Today, you are at a critical milestone. Just recently, you were students in university halls, and now you are receiving your graduation certificates in front of the leader of our beloved nation."

"Tomorrow, you will start your career and contribute to the building of your country and your nation," he added. "Therefore, my dear sons, you must always remember your responsibilities towards Allah Almighty, your beloved country, and His Highness the Amir of the country."

"Remember His Highness's words when he honoured us with a visit to the university on October 19, 2016, where he advised you, saying, 'the human being is the most important building block of a nation and its greatest investment'," Dr al-Derham continued. "'Qatar has invested in its youth, it progresses by you and looks forward to you'."



Abdullah Abdulaziz al-Ansari

Representative of the 46th graduating class, al-Ansari, said: "On a podium where 45 representatives of graduates have stood before me, they have been honoured to recall the heroic achievements and glorious history of Qatar before the leaders who made it possible. Qatar's star shone brightly in the sky of achievement, unparalleled by any of its contemporaries."

Dr Khalid al-Hashimi, QU professor from the College of Business and Economics and host of the ceremony, said: "Qatar University, this towering academic institution, has been and will continue to be, by the grace of Allah, a shelter for knowledge, a fuel for innovation, and a hub for scientific research."

"Since its establishment in the late 1970s, tens of thousands of graduates, both male and female, have graduated from it," he said. "Each graduate has his or her own unique story and narrative they have written with their minds and hands."



Some of the graduates at the ceremony.





A graduate being honoured by the QU president.



A moment to be proud of.

Qatar University on the verge of approving new strategic plan: president



Dr al-Derham

Qatar University (QU) President Dr Hassan Rashid al-Derham has said that the university is on the verge of approving its strategic plan for the next phase in line with the Third National Development Strategy (2023-2030).

He was giving a speech to celebrate the graduation of its 46th batch of students.

Dr al-Derham said that throughout its history, since its establishment in 1977 until today, Qatar University has had the honour of contributing to achieving the goals of the state and its leadership's aspirations through its academic formation, institutional culture, scientific and research capabilities, preparing generations of competencies and experiences.

"Today, we celebrate the 46th batch of Qatar University graduates – a new group of 3,913 male and female graduates – to join the ranks of the more than 64,000 graduates of the university since its establishment," he added.

He said that Qatar University works towards achieving and sustaining three integrated goals; quality in the educational process, excellence in scientific research, and advancement in institutional work and administrative efficiency.

Dr al-Derham added that one of the fruits of these efforts was the university's achievement this year of the highest level of institutional accreditation from the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC), one of the world's leading academic accreditation institutions.

At the international level, Qatar University has continued to make progress in the global university rankings this year.

According to the QS World University Rankings, the university has been ranked 208th in the world and 226th by the Times Higher Education World University Rankings.

Qatar University has also achieved second place among Arab universities in both rankings.

Dr al-Derham noted that the university will host two important conferences this year: the General Conference of the International Association of Universities, which was founded in 1950 and includes more than 600 universities from over 120 countries, and the International Conference on Interprofessional Education and Collaborative Practice (IPECP).

Both of these conferences will be held for the first time in the Mena (Middle East and North Africa) region. – ***QNA***

Wide range of presentations at Intercom Doha 2023 Conference

The activities of the Intercom Doha 2023 Conference continued yesterday at the Qatar Museums' premises.

Hosted by the Qatar National Committee of ICOM, the three-day conference, which got underway on Sunday, comes under the theme *The Future Museum: Framing the Skills and Mindsets of the Visionary Leader*, and is organised by ICOM-Intercom in partnership with Qatar Museums, in collaboration with CIMAM, ICOM SEE, and ICOM Croatia with the participation of delegations from around the world.

In a statement to Qatar News Agency (QNA), Intercom chairperson Dr Goranka Horjana said that the conference comes with a clear objective to set a course for new and successful museums' leaders, something which is very important, because in changing environmental circumstances, new mindsets of museum directors, persons in charge of museums are needed to secure a sustainable future for museums.

The conference has an interesting format including keynote presentations, presenters, and "poster" sessions. This is also a meeting point for professionals to exchange ideas and benefit from each other's experiences.

The director of the Department of International Co-operation in Qatar Museums (QM), Dr Fatima al-Sulaiti, said that the posters' session that was embraced by the Qatar National Library (QNL) is part of the conference, where research programmes have been presented with the engagement of researchers and employees, including museums professionals from 12 countries.

The posters discuss different topics that highlighted the challenges facing the museum sector, in addition to the positive topics pertaining to the museums for which research poster sponsors work.

Meanwhile, Dr al-Sulaiti pointed out that the posters depicted the obstacles that face museums, including ways to overcome them, which would lay out solutions for the museums' department in a better way.

She indicated that the scientific or academic posters are usually used by researchers and academics, and are either showcased in universities and local forums, or conferences to highlight the ideas of research and projects.

Dr al-Sulaiti explained that the research poster is a kind of presentation of ideas and projects in one paper summarising the most important achievements, and highlighting the research idea clearly and directly to members of the public.

The Head of the Cameroon Department of International Museums Association (ICOM), Christian Nana, hailed the good organisation of the conference to discuss everything that concerns museums' leaders.

He hoped that the next conference would be organised in Doha because Qatar enjoys a premium reputation for organising international forums.

Nana said that he aspires to forge partnerships with Qatar Museums and deepen the cultural ties between the two sides.

The event also featured the remarks by professor and head of the Department of Art and Design at the Hang Seng University of Hong Kong, Desmond Hui, under the theme of *Visions for the Future: A Cross-Cultural Exchange*, National Museum of Tanzania director-general Dr Noel Biseko Lwoga, and Cristina Beard from the Lugo regional museums network, along with William Geblerkpor from the Museum of Natural and Cultural Heritage at Shai Hills, University of Ghana, under the theme of *The Museum as a Family Home: Reshaping a New Mindset for Museum Leadership in West Africa*.



The intervention from Anna Dentoni from Galata Museum, Genoa, Italy came under the title *Leadership and Patrons*. – ***QNA***