



بكمُتَعَلُّو ومنكمُ تَنْظُر
قيم بن حمد



On the occasion of Qatar National Day, 18th of December and in remembrance of the historic day in 1878 when Sheikh Jassim Bin Mohammed Bin Thani, founder of the State of Qatar, set up the pillars of the Modern State of Qatar,

We extend our heartiest congratulations and greetings to

His Highness

Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al Thani

Amir of the State of Qatar

His Highness

Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani

Father Amir

His Highness

Sheikh Abdullah Bin Hamad Al Thani

Deputy Amir

and to all the honorable people of Qatar

We hope for more returns of this memorable occasion and wish that Qatar always enjoys security, welfare and prosperity under the wise leadership of His Highness The Amir





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MITSUI & CO., LTD.
2-1, Otemachi 1-chome,
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100-8631, Japan



QATAR

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بكم تعلو ومنكم تنظر
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PEARL SCHOOL
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admissions@pearlschool.org

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Pearl Kindergarten - D Cluster
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Pearl School - Al Thumama Campus
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admissions.thumama@pearlschool.org

Pearl School - Al Dafna Campus
Bldg No. 54, Street 748, Zone 66
admissions.wb@pearlschool.org

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Marubeni

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Prime minister meets US officials in Washington, DC



HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani met yesterday in Washington, DC with several members of the US Senate and the House of Representatives. HE Sheikh Mohammed met with Senator Steve Daines, Senator Roger W Marshall, Senator Markwayne Mullin, Senator Jackie Rosen, Senator Brian Schatz, Senator James Lankford, and Senator John Cornyn, as well as Representative Jimmy Panetta and Representative Josh Gottheimer. Discussions during the meeting dealt with the close Qatar-US strategic relations and explored ways to further strengthen them. The meeting also touched on issues of mutual interest. (QNA)



HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani met in Washington, DC with Senator Chuck Schumer, the US Senate Minority Leader. Discussions during the meeting highlighted the close strategic relations between Qatar and the US and explored ways to further strengthen them. The meeting also touched on the latest developments in the Gaza Strip and the occupied Palestinian territories, besides a number of issues of mutual interest. Schumer expressed his appreciation to Qatar for its efforts that contributed to reaching a ceasefire agreement in the Gaza Strip and for its role in securing the release of a number of American citizens detained in Afghanistan. (QNA)

HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani met in Washington, DC with Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the US House of Representatives Brian Mast, and member of the committee Gregory Meeks. During the meeting, the close Qatar-US strategic relations were reviewed, along with ways to support and strengthen them. The meeting also discussed topics of common interest. (QNA)



Cabinet extends National Day congratulations to Amir, recalls legacy of Qatar’s founder

HE the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Defence Affairs Sheikh Saud bin Abdulrahman bin Hassan al-Thani chaired the Cabinet's weekly meeting yesterday at the Amiri Diwan.

Following the meeting, HE the Minister of Justice and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Ibrahim bin Ali al-Mohannadi stated the following:

At the outset of the meeting, the Cabinet extended its warmest congratulations and best wishes to His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani on the National Day. The Cabinet also extended its congratulations to the generous Qatari people and to the residents of Qatar.

On this glorious occasion, the Cabinet recalled with appreciation and gratitude the historic role of the Founder Sheikh Jassim Bin Mohammed bin Thani in laying the foundations of the modern State of Qatar, and expressed its pride in the comprehensive developmental renaissance and prestigious position the country has

achieved under its wise leadership, both regionally and internationally.

The Cabinet praised His Highness the Amir for honouring the winners of the ninth edition of the Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al-Thani International Anti-Corruption Excellence (ACE) Award, which took place in Doha on Dec 14, amidst great international interest, due to the importance and distinction the award has gained, and the significant impact it has had in supporting the values of integrity and transparency, promoting global efforts to combat corruption, and its success in highlighting its seriousness and the need to confront it.

The Cabinet noted the convening of the 11th session of the Conference of the States Parties to the UN Convention against Corruption (COSP11), which was opened by HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani and held in Doha from Dec 15-19 within the framework of Qatar's partnership with the UN to promote integrity and transparency



HE Sheikh Saud bin Abdulrahman bin Hassan al-Thani

at the global level and to support international efforts to combat corruption.

The Cabinet praised the success of the FIFA Arab Cup Qatar 2025, which concludes today amid an atmosphere filled

with feelings of brotherhood, solidarity, authentic Arab values and noble sportsmanship.

The Cabinet expressed its thanks and appreciation to all state agencies that contributed to organising and securing the tournament and provided it with the means for success.


The Cabinet then considered the topics on its agenda and was informed of the Shura Council's approval of a draft law amending some provisions of Law No 3 of 2016 regarding the regulation of birth and death registration.

The Cabinet approved the draft Cabinet Resolution to issue the executive regulations for Law No 6 of 2025 regulating health research, the draft Cabinet Resolution on the National Research Ethical Committee, and the draft Cabinet Resolution on the Committee for Monitoring Health Research.

It approved a draft memorandum of understanding on technical co-operation in the field of tax administration between the General Tax Authority of Qatar and

the Federal Tax Service of Russia, in addition to a draft memorandum of understanding for co-operation in the health field between the governments of Qatar and Portugal.

The Cabinet concluded its meeting by reviewing three reports and making the appropriate decisions regarding them. These included a report on the results of participation in the 29th meeting of the Ministerial Committee for Post and Telecommunications in the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC), the 9th meeting of the GCC Ministerial Committee for e-Government, the joint meeting with the Digital Co-operation Organisation in Kuwait in October, and a report on the results of participation in the 88th meeting of the Gulf Health Council of and the 11th meeting of the GCC Health Ministers Committee in Kuwait in October, and a report on the results of participation in the 5th session of the Qatar-Tajikistan Joint Committee on Economic, Commercial, and Technical Co-operation in Dushanbe. (QNA)



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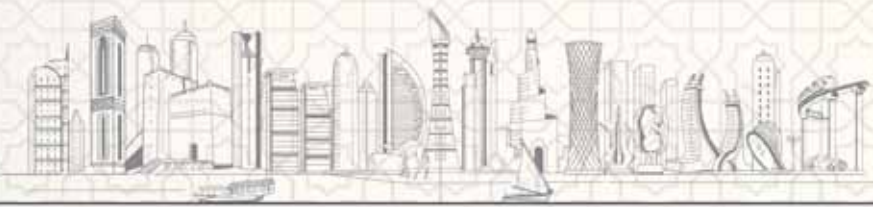

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Ideal Indian School
P. B. No. 2836, DOHA-QATAR Tel : 44684849 (6 Lines) Fax : 44682939
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المركز القطري للصحافة
QATAR PRESS CENTER

**Chairman of the Board of Directors, Board Members,
General Manager and all employees**

Time to ‘renew loyalty, unity and pride’: Speaker

HE the Shura Council Speaker, Hassan bin Abdullah al-Ghanem has conveyed his warmest congratulations to His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani, His Highness the Father Amir Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, His Highness the Deputy Amir Sheikh Abdullah bin Hamad al-Thani, and to the Qatari people on the country's National Day.

Speaking to Qatar News Agency (QNA), HE al-Ghanem said the day serves as a reminder of the values laid down by the nation's founder and the efforts of successive generations that have shaped Qatar's modern progress. He described

National Day as a moment to renew the country's collective commitment to loyalty, unity and pride in its national identity.

HE al-Ghanem noted that this year's National Day slogan, “With you, it rises; from you, it awaits,” – a phrase drawn from His Highness the Amir's 2016 address at Qatar University – captures the core of Qatar's long-term vision, which places people at the centre of every development effort. He said the message underscores the State's philosophy of empowering youth as key drivers of economic, social and technological advancement, and of strengthening Qatar's presence regionally and

internationally.

He emphasised that the National Day celebration reaffirms Qatar's attachment to its core values and reinforces the sense of cohesion between the leadership and the people – a bond he described as a continuing source of stability and strength. The occasion, he added, has become a “unifying national memory,” honouring the sacrifices of the country's founders while renewing dedication to ongoing nation-building.

Reflecting on the Shura Council's achievements, HE al-Ghanem highlighted what he called a qualitative shift during its first legislative term. He said the Council's committees have worked

extensively on core draft laws and the oversight of national strategies, aligning with Qatar National Vision 2030 and the Third National Development Strategy (2024-2030).

The Council, he said, views these strategies as comprehensive national roadmaps aimed at enhancing service quality and economic competitiveness. He added that the Council has supported legislation that advances economic efficiency, improves public services, and strengthens environmental and social development priorities. It has also sought to raise public awareness of parliamentary work and expand channels of engagement with citizens. (QNA)

Amir appoints envoys to Canada, Indonesia

His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani issued yesterday the Amiri Decision No. 64 for 2025, appointing Tariq Ali Faraj Hashim al-Ansari as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Canada. His Highness the Amir also issued the Amiri Decision No. 65 for 2025, appointing Dr Sultan Mubarak Saad al-Dusari as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Republic of Indonesia. The decisions are effective starting from their date of issue, and are to be published in the official gazette. (QNA)

Minister of Interior: Qatar National Day an enduring occasion in memory of every citizen

HE the Minister of Interior and Commander of the Internal Security Force (Lekhwiya) Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani has affirmed that celebrating the Qatar National Day represents an enduring occasion in the memory of every citizen, during which the values of the founder Sheikh Jassim bin Mohammed bin Thani, who established the modern state on the principles of faith, dignity, and unity, are reiterated.



In a statement to Qatar News Agency (QNA), HE Sheikh Khalifa explained that this occasion is a day of pride in and appreciation for the achievements attained by the nation under the wise leadership of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani and His Highness the Father Amir Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani. He added that celebrating this occasion embodies the depth of national belonging and reinforces the values of loyalty and solidarity around the leadership and sincere work for the elevation and prosperity of Qatar. It is also an opportunity to renew the pledge to move forward with confidence on the path of renaissance and comprehensive development.

HE the Minister pointed out that the wise leadership has laid the foundations of sustainable development by following the approach of the founder, who set the cornerstones of the modern state, noting that these values have thus extended from the stage of establishment to a prosperous present. Qatar has witnessed an integrated renaissance across all sectors, from security, education, and health to the economy and infrastructure, allowing citizens today to reap the fruits of the efforts that stemmed from the founder's vision and keen foresight, he stressed.

He added that the State has given great attention to the citizen as the centre and ultimate goal of devel-

opment, by empowering citizens and enhancing their role in building the nation and safeguarding its achievements, affirming that citizens are aware of their history and recognise today that the prosperity and stability achieved are an extension of the founder's approach, which requires continuing along the same path with sincerity, loyalty, and dedication in serving the homeland.

Regarding the Ministry of Interior's Strategy (2024-2030), HE Sheikh Khalifa explained that the strategy was formulated to translate the State's focus toward developing an integrated security system that relies on innovation and modern technology in the service of security and society. He noted that the implementation of the strategy during its first year resulted in numerous achievements, most notably strengthening security and reducing rates of concerning crimes by more than 8% compared with the previous year, in addition to enhancing the efficiency of security response across various security and service departments.

He added that Qatar has topped international indicators of safety and security, ranking first in the

Middle East and North Africa in the 2025 Global Peace Index, and 27th globally according to the Institute for Economics and Peace. He emphasised that this achievement reflects the advanced performance of the security agencies and their ability to maintain security and stability, which constitute the foundation of development and economic progress.

He pointed out the continued development of the Ministry of Interior's digital services through the enhancement of the Metrash 2 application and its website, as well as the launch of qualitative initiatives such as the digital identity, which facilitates the public's completion of transactions quickly and securely.

On another note, HE Sheikh Khalifa noted that the security leadership achieved by Qatar over the course of a full decade is the result of a wise strategic vision and sustained investment in human capital and infrastructure, pointing out that the State has adopted a comprehensive security model based on proactive prevention, strengthening partnerships between state institutions and society, and respect for the rule of law and public rights. (QNA)

Al-Misnad meets Russia deputy FM



HE the Minister of State for International Co-operation Maryam bint Ali bin Nasser al-Misnad met yesterday with the visiting Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Dmitry Lyubinsky. The meeting focused on bilateral co-operation and ways to strengthen it, along with matters of shared interest. (QNA)

Amiri Guard commander meets French Republican Guard chief



Amiri Guard Commander Lieutenant General Staff Hazza bin Khalil al-Shahwani met yesterday at the Barzan camp with Commander of the French Republican Guard Gen Francois-Xavier Lesueur and his accompanying delegation. The meeting discussed aspects of co-operation in areas of common interest. A number of Amiri Guard senior officers attended the meeting. (QNA)

National Day a symbol of unity: Uzbek ambassador

Uzbekistan's ambassador, Ashraf Khodjaev, has said the Qatar National Day is a living commemoration of the unification of the country under the founder Sheikh Jassim bin Mohammed bin Thani, and a renewal of the founding values that continue to guide Qatar today. He pointed out that this occasion transcends its national dimension to become a symbol of unity and belonging among citizens and residents alike.

In a statement to Qatar News Agency, the envoy said that the National Day for Qatari citizens is a moment of pride in a remarkable national journey, from a small Gulf community to a confident, forward-looking state with a clear long-term vision. For residents, including the Uzbek community in Doha, it is also a day of belonging.

“For us as diplomats, the National Day is also an opportunity to honour Qatar's contribution to regional peace and development, and to express our sincere appreciation for the hospitality extended to Uzbek citizens who live, study and work here,” he added.

Regarding Qatari foreign policy, the ambassador expressed Uzbekistan's great apprecia-

tion for Qatar's dynamic role on the global stage under the wise leadership of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani, noting that the two nations share deep cultural and historical ties.

Qatar's foreign policy stands out for its proactive mediation efforts, which have often helped de-escalate tensions in the Middle East and beyond.

The ambassador noted the great success of the Doha Forum 2025, which has not only showcased Qatar's hospitality, but also fostered global dialogue on pressing issues like regional stability, climate change, energy security, and sustainable development.

“This approach resonates strongly with our own diplomatic philosophy. This aligns well with our own commitment to peaceful resolutions, regional stability and good-neighbourhood,” he said, noting that Qatar has managed to combine breathtaking modernisation with proud preservation of its identity. “What we see around us is not just rapid development, but strategic development guided by Qatar National Vision 2030, with its four pillars of human, social, economic and environmental development,” he said. (QNA)

Japan's envoy hails Qatar's diplomacy, mediation role

Japanese ambassador Naoto Hisajima has affirmed that Qatar's National Day reflects the pioneering spirit established by the founders and the comprehensive development journey embodied in the Qatar National Vision 2030. He extended his congratulations to His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani and to the Qatari people on this occasion.

In a statement to Qatar News Agency, the ambassador said:

“Qatar's diplomatic approach is greatly respected, and we hold it in the highest regard. The State's political strategy is both effective and indispensable in today's complex geopolitical landscape. Qatar's mediation-oriented diplomacy is, in fact, enshrined in its constitution, reflecting a foundational principle of the nation.”

What makes Qatar's diplomacy so distinct, he added, is its ability to serve as a neutral, trusted, and necessary bridge between parties,


serving regional and international stability.

He commended Qatar's role in mediation and conflict resolution, stating: “It has led to critical successes in mediating regional conflicts and facilitating major peace negotiations, such as being engaged in the US-Taliban talks and, more recently, playing an essential and humane role in reaching an agreement in the Gaza conflict.”

He emphasised Japan's deep appreciation for this approach,

which is based on promoting peace and stability, pointing out that the strategic partnership between Qatar and Japan is founded on a shared commitment to humanitarian and development issues, in addition to close co-ordination on various international files.

He also expressed his admiration for the Qatari experience in harmonising modernity with traditions, considering this approach a common thread with the Japanese experience. (QNA)




الأولى
AL-AWALIA

Invitation to Tender

Tender / Auction Number	Subject	Tender / Auction Document Fees (Non-refundable)	Tender / Auction Bond	Tender/Auction Offer	Closing Date
AL-AWALIA/TD/2025/39	Security Services for Qatar Primary Materials Company ("Services")	1,000 QAR	200,000 QAR	Two Bids (Technical & Commercial)	25 December 2025 01:00 PM
AL-AWALIA/TD/2025/40	SAP Rise Cloud License Subscription for Qatar Primary Materials Company ("Services")	1,000 QAR	120,000 QAR	Two Bids (Technical & Commercial)	25 December 2025 01:00 PM
AL-AWALIA/TD/2025/41	Dredging Services at All Gabbro Berths and Return Quay for Qatar Primary Materials Company ("Services")	1,000 QAR	230,000 QAR	Two Bids (Technical & Commercial)	25 December 2025 01:00 PM
AL-AWALIA/TD/2025/42	Design, Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of CCTV Surveillance Systems for Zigzag Road at Rawdat Rashid for Qatar Primary Materials Company ("Works")	500 QAR	16,000 QAR	Two Bids (Technical & Commercial)	25 December 2025 01:00 PM


In accordance with the following conditions:

- Tender Documents can be collected online by sending email to tender.doc@qpmc.qa along with requested documents in point No.2.
- Tender Documents will be shared only after delivery of Deposit Slip Stamped by Commercial Bank along with Authorization Letter to the delegated person signed by authorized person as per Computer ID, Copy of commercial Registration (CR), Business License and Computer ID.
- Bids are to be submitted in two sealed (in red wax) envelopes (Technical & Commercial), and addressed to Tenders and Auction Committee. Tender reference number and subject are to be clearly written on the envelopes, provided that the last date for submitting bids is one o'clock in the afternoon on the closing day. Any bids submitted after this date and time will not be accepted.
- Tenders shall submit the proposals to our head office located at Lusail, Building No. 108, St. No. 303, Burj Marina Tower, 17th Floor before the closing date. (To get the map of the new building, please scan the QR code below).
- Tender Fees are non-refundable and can be transferred online to Account of Qatar Primary Material Company- Bank A/C (4030-45111-006) at Commercial Bank of Qatar. **IBAN No. (QA 19 CBQA 0000 0000 4050 65111 006)**. Tender reference number and subject are to be written on the deposit slip.
- Tender Bond (Bank Guarantee/ Manager Cheque) must be valid for 120 days after closing date and must be submitted in separate & sealed envelope along with technical bid and a photocopy is to be attached with commercial bid. Bids without tender bond will be rejected.
- Bids must be valid for 90 days after the closing date.
- Any queries relating to the Tender Documents must only be raised in writing, preferably by email, to the address specified in the respective Tender Document. Any response issued by Qatar Primary Material Company will be in the form of a question and answer and will be distributed to all Tenders without revealing the identity of the originator of the queries in the Form of Tender Bulletin. Queries must be received at the address specified in the respective ITT Documentation at least five (5) calendar days prior to the tender closing date. Any queries received after such a date will be ignored.
- The amount of the Performance Bond to be provided by the awarded bidder is (10% of the contract value) and its validity period must remain valid under the contract implementation period and the guarantee period according to the terms of the tender.
- The Technical Bids shall be opened within one week of the closing date.
- Qatar Primary Material Company has the right, during the contract period, to request an increase or decrease in the amounts of the items, works or services by a percentage not exceeding (20%) of the contract value with the same conditions and prices, provided that the increase is of the same type of contracted items, works or services.
- Qatar Primary Material Company's tendering terms and conditions apply.
- For any inquiries about the tender except collecting the documents, please contact tender@qpmc.qa.
- Location of the new building



For further Inquiry, please send your queries at email to tender@qpmc.qa or visit Qatar Primary Material Company website at www.qpmc.qa

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AL-AWALIA

Invitation to Tender

Tender / Auction Number	Subject	Tender / Auction Document Fees (Non-refundable)	Tender / Auction Bond	Tender/Auction Offer	Closing Date
AL-AWALIA/TD/2025/43	Crushing & Screening Operation for Production of Primary Construction Materials in Ashghal Logistic Areas for Qatar Primary Materials Company ("Works")	500 QAR	N/A	One Bid (Technical)	25 December 2025 01:00 PM
AL-AWALIA/TD/2025/44	Crushing & Screening Operation for Production of Primary Construction Materials in Rawdat Rashid MM Area for Qatar Primary Materials Company ("Works")	500 QAR	N/A	One Bid (Technical)	25 December 2025 01:00 PM

In accordance with the following conditions:

- Tender Documents can be collected online by sending email to tender.doc@qpmc.qa along with requested documents in point No.2.
- Tender Documents will be shared only after delivery of Deposit Slip Stamped by Commercial Bank along with Authorization Letter to the delegated person signed by authorized person as per Computer ID, Copy of commercial Registration (CR), Business License and Computer ID.
- Bids are to be submitted in two sealed (in red wax) envelopes (Technical & Commercial), and addressed to Tenders and Auction Committee. Tender reference number and subject are to be clearly written on the envelopes, provided that the last date for submitting bids is one o'clock in the afternoon on the closing day. Any bids submitted after this date and time will not be accepted.
- Tenders shall submit the proposals to our head office located at Lusail, Building No. 108, St. No. 303, Burj Marina Tower, 17th Floor before the closing date. (To get the map of the new building, please scan the QR code below).
- Tender Fees are non-refundable and can be transferred online to Account of Qatar Primary Material Company- Bank A/C (4030-45111-006) at Commercial Bank of Qatar. **IBAN No. (QA 19 CBQA 0000 0000 4050 65111 006)**. Tender reference number and subject are to be written on the deposit slip.
- Tender Bond (Bank Guarantee/ Manager Cheque) must be valid for 120 days after closing date and must be submitted in separate & sealed envelope along with technical bid and a photocopy is to be attached with commercial bid. Bids without tender bond will be rejected.
- Bids must be valid for 90 days after the closing date.
- Any queries relating to the Tender Documents must only be raised in writing, preferably by email, to the address specified in the respective Tender Document. Any response issued by Qatar Primary Material Company will be in the form of a question and answer and will be distributed to all Tenders without revealing the identity of the originator of the queries in the Form of Tender Bulletin. Queries must be received at the address specified in the respective ITT Documentation at least five (5) calendar days prior to the tender closing date. Any queries received after such a date will be ignored.
- The amount of the Performance Bond to be provided by the awarded bidder is (10% of the contract value) and its validity period must remain valid under the contract implementation period and the guarantee period according to the terms of the tender.
- The Technical Bids shall be opened within one week of the closing date.
- Qatar Primary Material Company has the right, during the contract period, to request an increase or decrease in the amounts of the items, works or services by a percentage not exceeding (20%) of the contract value with the same conditions and prices, provided that the increase is of the same type of contracted items, works or services.
- Qatar Primary Material Company's tendering terms and conditions apply.
- For any inquiries about the tender except collecting the documents, please contact tender@qpmc.qa.
- Location of the new building



For further Inquiry, please send your queries at email to tender@qpmc.qa or visit Qatar Primary Material Company website at www.qpmc.qa

شركة قطر للمواد الأولية (ش.م.ق) مركزها الرئيسي: الدوحة - قطر، منطقة لوسيل، برج مارينا، رقم 108 | سجل تجاري: 33204 | ص.ب: 22095 | هاتف: 974 4447 9411 | فاكس: 974 4447 9411
Qatar Primary Materials Company (Q.P.S.C.) Head Office: Doha-Qatar, Lusail, Marina Tower No.: 108 | CR No.: 33204 | P.O Box: 22095 | Tel.: +974 4447 9411
Capital 200,000,000 QAR | Paid Up Capital 200,000,000 QAR | info@qpmc.qa www.qpmc.qa 200,000,000 درهم كويتي | رأس المال المدفوع 200,000,000 ريال كويتي | 200,000,000 ريال كويتي المدفوع



New Doha Debates episode explores national identity at Bradford festival

Doha Debates has released a new episode of its global town hall series, “National Identity and the Modern State”, filmed at Bradford Literature Festival.

The event brought together students from Qatar, the UK and beyond alongside leading thinkers to explore how national identity intersects with modern states, citizenship and belonging.

Moderated by award-winning international journalist, Malika Bilal, the debate featured Dr Wael B Hallaq, Palestinian scholar and professor at Columbia University; Dr Shashi Tharoor, Indian politician and author; and Dr David Engels, Belgian historian. Students shared questions and reflections that enriched the discussion, demonstrating how intergenerational dialogue can

challenge assumptions and spark new insights. Dr Hallaq highlighted the ethical dimension of statehood, noting that “the state has to be renegotiated in terms of the imperatives of ethics”. Dr Tharoor reflected on the historical role of nation-states, observing “the nation-state is the basis on which the world has been organised for the last couple of hundred years, particularly the last century. And to my mind, any alternative is likely to be worse”. Dr David Engels emphasised international co-operation, stating, “the real future of the nation state relies on co-operation with other nation states”. Student perspectives added depth to the conversation. Georgetown University in Qatar student John Carlos Burog,

said he valued the opportunity to connect personal experiences to broader societal issues: “I am glad that we have the chance to tell our stories and relate them to broader problems we have today.” Amjad Atallah, managing director of Doha Debates, said: “Young people are eager to engage seriously with the world around them. When given the space to question, reflect and engage, they don’t just participate, they deepen the conversation through dialogue.” The episode is now available to watch on Doha Debates and Al Jazeera Digital platforms. Additional Doha Debates programming, including debate episodes and The Negotiators podcast, is also available across digital and podcast platforms.

BMW, Mercedes-Benz vehicles, Xiaomi power bank recalled

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoCI), in co-operation with Alfardan Automobiles, has announced the recall of BMW X3 20 xdrive and X3 M50 2025-2026 models, due to a failure in the steering sensor caused by an error in the software, which may lead to a warning message to appear on the screen.

The ministry, in co-operation with Nasser Bin Khaled and Sons Automobiles, announced the recall of Mercedes-Benz S Class 2020-2022 models due to the power transmission control unit programme not conforming to current series production specifications, which could lead to the activation of the fault indicator light.

The ministry said the recall campaign comes within the framework of its ongoing efforts to protect consumers and ensure that car dealers follow up on vehicle defects and repairs.

The ministry said that it will co-ordinate with the dealer to follow up on the maintenance and repair works and will communicate with customers to ensure that the necessary repairs are carried out.

The ministry, in co-operation with Intertec Group, also announced recall of Xiaomi 33W Power Bank - 20,000mAh, manufactured in China, 2024, due to the possibility that the battery will overheat, which could pose a fire risk. The ministry urged all consumers to report any violations or breaches by contacting the Consumer Protection and Combating Commercial Fraud Department, which receives complaints, suggestions, and inquiries through the following communication channels: Call Centre: 16001, e-mail: info@moci.gov.qa, ministry’s accounts on social media: @mociqatar, ministry’s Mobile App: MOCIQATAR (available on iOS and Android devices).

45 MoUs Valued at SAR 6 Billion Signed at MOMENTUM 2025 to Power Saudi Arabia’s Sustainable Development

The MOMENTUM 2025 Development Finance Conference, which ran from 9 to 11 December, saw the signing of 45 Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) and agreements with a total value of approximately SAR 6 billion. Signed by the National Development Fund (NDF) and its affiliated sector funds and banks with leading local, regional, and international partners, these MoUs and agreements will help accelerate investment, empower the private sector, and unlock new opportunities across priority sectors including small and medium enterprises (SMEs), tourism, culture, human capital, infrastructure, and sustainable development.



At the institutional level, NDF signed two strategic agreements with leading global technology and professional services partners to accelerate the use of artificial intelligence, data, and digital solutions across the development finance ecosystem. These agreements aim to enhance NDF’s institutional capabilities, promote innovation in products and services, and improve the overall effectiveness and impact of development financing in the Kingdom.

The National Infrastructure Fund signed an MoU to unify development efforts in support of small enterprises through the joint design of a developmental financing model for SMEs.

The SME Bank signed 19 MoUs and cooperation agreements, advancing finance ecosystem development and strengthening integration between public and private sector entities.

The Tourism Development Fund signed six agreements with a number of government and private-

sector partners, expanding its portfolio. These agreements aim to enhance financing solutions through the Fund’s Tourism Enablement Programs dedicated to micro, small, and medium enterprises.

The Cultural Development Fund signed five credit facility agreements under the Cultural Financing Program, to support a range of cultural projects.

In support of human capital development, the Human Resources Development Fund signed three agreements to empower more than 2,000 job seekers across multiple sectors.

The Saudi Industrial Development Fund signed a cooperation agreement with Saudi Arabia Railways (SAR) to identify opportunities that support the industrial sector, including railway industry development, and to assist investors in localizing goods and services in order to increase local content.

The Saudi Fund for Development signed five development MoUs with Imam Muhammad ibn Saud Islamic University, the Islamic Military

Counter Terrorism Coalition, the Middle East Green Initiative, the Saudi Agricultural and Livestock Investment Company (SALIC), and the Arab Urban Development Institute.

In addition, the Events Investment Fund signed a partnership agreement with Legends Global to enhance the events sector by leveraging international expertise in hosting major global events.

As part of expanding digital solutions dedicated to development finance, Sulaiman Al Rajhi Foundation for Development Finance and Arweqah Alreyadah Company formalized a new partnership agreement to establish a development finance platform.

Collectively, the MoUs signed at MOMENTUM 2025 represent a significant step forward in Saudi Arabia’s efforts to build a diversified, inclusive, and sustainable economy. By aligning public and private capital with national priorities in infrastructure, SMEs, human capital, culture, and green growth, these partnerships will help bridge financing gaps, de-risk strategic projects, and generate long-term value for Saudi citizens, businesses, and communities while contributing to global sustainable development objectives.

With more than 35 dialogue sessions, over 100 speakers from around the world, and an exhibition featuring more than 20 public and private entities, the MOMENTUM 2025 Development Finance Conference stands as a clear manifestation of the Kingdom’s focus on turning collaboration into tangible achievements, drive green and inclusive growth, and contribute to a more sustainable and prosperous future for all.

Justice minister meets Madagascar counterpart

HE the Minister of Justice and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Ibrahim bin Ali al-Mohannadi met with Minister of Justice of Madagascar Fanirisoa Ernaivo on the margins of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC), convened in Doha. Discussions during the meeting focused on avenues for legal co-operation and mutual legal assistance between Qatar and Madagascar, as well as various matters on the conference agenda. (QNA)



QMC CEO meets Gulf Radio and TV director-general

HE CEO of the Qatar Media Corporation (QMC) Sheikh Khalid bin Abdulaziz bin Jassim al-Thani met in his office yesterday with Director-General of the Gulf Radio and Television Corp Majri bin Mubarak al-Qahtani. The meeting discussed ways to enhance media integration among the Gulf Co-operation Council countries, develop joint initiatives in the areas of production and programming, and explore mechanisms for exchanging expertise to keep pace with developments in the Gulf media sector. (QNA)



‘Sana Qatar’ takes visitors on a journey of creativity

The “Sana Qatar” exhibition, held as part of Darb Al Saa activities, is witnessing a wide public turnout, especially from children and families, who experienced interactive artistic experiences that combine creativity, beauty, and modern visual technologies.

The exhibition takes visitors on a unique visual journey, with a variety of displays ranging from digital art scenes to light effects that have captivated young minds and provided families with an opportunity to spend enjoyable time in a purposeful cultural and educational atmosphere.

A number of visitors lauded the exhibition’s content, which caters to different age groups and successfully presents art in the “Sana Qatar” style. They emphasised that it is simple and engaging for children, while maintaining a high artistic value befitting a family audience.

Anas al-Shayji, supervisor of the Sana Qatar event, emphasised that the event embodies a comprehensive digital art exhibition based on immersive video experiences. It utilises the latest display



The large public turnout.



One of the latest display technologies.

technologies to present innovative visual content, allowing the public to interact directly with the artworks and transition from spectator to participant. This contributes to building a deeper and more personal relationship with contemporary art.

Al-Shayji pointed out that the exhibition does not merely present aesthetic displays, but also carries

cultural, social, and technological messages. It constitutes a creative space where art meets modern technology, reflecting Qatar’s vision of employing digital innovation to serve artistic expression, enhance imagination, and highlight aspects of Qatari history and identity in a contemporary style.

He explained that the exhibition comprises three main sections showcasing the country’s journey and development through digital screens spanning the event’s walls. The first section focuses on the Qatari environment through an interactive experience that allows children to create paintings inspired by local animals and birds, which are then instantly transformed and displayed on electronic screens using digital scanning technologies.

PHCC reveals health centres’ working hours on National Day

The Primary Health Care Corporation (PHCC) announced that 21 out of its 31 health centres will be operating during the National Day holiday (December 18). The on-duty health centres will provide family medicine and supporting services continuously from 7am-11pm during the National Day holiday.

These services will be available at the following centres: Al Wakra, Al Mashaf, Al Thumama, Airport, Rawdat Al Khail, Omar bin Al Khattab, Al Sadd, West Bay, Al Ruwais, Al Khor, Leabaib, Umm Slal, Gharafa Al Rayyan, Khalifa City, Abu Baker Al Siddiq, Al Rayyan, Mesaimeer, Muaiter, Al Sheehaniya, and Al Wajbah. Dental services at these centres will operate from 7am-10pm. Al Jumailiya Health Center will operate on an on-call basis 24 hours a day.

South Wakra, Umm Ghuwailina, Al Waab, Abu Nakhla, Umm Al Seneem, Al Ghuwayriyah, Al Dhaayen, and Qatar University health centres will be closed during the National Day holiday, while Al Kaaban and Al Karaana centres will receive urgent cases for adults.

PHCC will provide 24-hour urgent care services during the holiday at 13 health centres: Gharrafat Al Rayyan, Al Sheehaniya, Abu Baker Al Siddiq, Rawdat Al Khail, Al Kaaban, Al Karaana, Al Ruwais, Umm Slal, Leabaib, Muaiter, Al Mashaf, Al Sadd, and Al Wajbah. Speciality clinics will be available according to patients’ pre-scheduled appointments during both the morning and evening periods.

Ophthalmology, dermatology, and Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) clinics will be available at Leabaib and Rawdat Al Khail health centres from 7am-2pm and from 4pm-10pm. Premarital Screening will be available at Leabaib Health Center from 7am-2pm, and at Al Mashaf Health Center from 4pm-10pm. The Community Call Center, reachable at (16000), will provide medical consultation services around the clock. (QNA)

Doha Design District hosts InStudio Fashion Pop-Up, honours local talent



Doha Design District (DDD) successfully hosted the InStudio Fashion Pop-Up, bringing together emerging designers and local brands in a collaborative space dedicated to creativity, collaboration, and artistry.

In partnership with InStudio Club, the activation was held from December 4-8 at the DDD Atrium. It served as a platform for designers to showcase their work to the public, engage with industry peers, and connect with DDD’s growing creative network. The pop-up featured a

diverse line-up of designers including Basic Beige, Dollab, Kham, Keke, Noora F, Essentials by D, Buthaina, Qamra, The Bold Project, Habibi Please, Sara Bonhindi, Untitled QA, Roudee, Tifa Line, Leon’s Club, Azalea Designs, Melor, and VNTG Wear x Retro Trading. Together, the curated selection reflected a diversity of design approaches, highlighting the depth and originality of Qatar’s fashion and design landscape.

DDD director Dana Kazic said: “Initiatives such as the InStudio

Fashion Pop-Up are at the heart of what we aim to achieve at DDD. We offer platforms for designers to showcase their work and collaborate with other emerging artists in a way where creativity can thrive and Qatar’s talent can get the recognition they deserve.”

Throughout the activation, visitors were invited to explore the work of participating designers, engaging directly with creative talent and experiencing the DDD Atrium as a dynamic setting for design-led collaboration.



ACTA chief holds series of meetings

HE the President of the Administrative Control and Transparency Authority (ACTA) Hamad bin Nasser al-Misnad, who is also the president of the eleventh session of the Conference of the States Parties to the UN Convention against Corruption (COSP11),

held a series of meetings with a number of officials from anti-corruption authorities of several countries participating in COSP11, hosted by Doha from December 15 to 19. He met with a US delegation headed by Deputy Assistant Secretary at the Bureau of

International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs Maggie Nardi; a delegation from Egypt headed by Chairman of the Egyptian Money Laundering Unit, Counsellor Ahmed Saeed Khalil; and a delegation from Iraq headed by the Commissioner of the Federal Commission of Integrity

(FCOI) Mohammed Ali al-Lami. HE Hamad bin Nasser al-Misnad also met with Azerbaijan Prosecutor General Kamran Aliyev; a delegation from Kazakhstan headed by the deputy director of the Anti-Corruption Service of the National Security Committee, Daniyar

Akzhonov; and a delegation from Djibouti headed by chairperson of the Independent National Commission for Preventing and Combating Corruption (CNIPLC) Badria Zakaria Cheikh. His Excellency further held a meeting with a delegation from the Democratic Republic of the

Congo, as well as a meeting with a delegation from Burkina Faso. The meetings discussed ways to enhance co-operation and went over a host of issues related to combating corruption, promoting integrity and transparency, along with strengthening co-operation in these fields. **(QNA)**

Anti-corruption agencies need to co-ordinate efforts to fight graft, stresses ACTA president

HE the President of the Administrative Control and Transparency Authority (ACTA), and President of the 11th session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption Hamad bin Nasser al-Misnad emphasised that anti-corruption agencies cannot confront the phenomenon of transnational corruption in isolation from one another, but rather need practical, fast and secure platforms for exchanging information, co-ordinating efforts and building mutual trust.

In remarks during the opening session of the meeting of Global Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Operations Network (GLOBE Network), held on the sidelines of the 11th session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, His Excellency said corruption has become a transnational phenomenon in recent years, and its practitioners exploit legal and administrative loopholes and complexities, as well as weak international co-operation, to evade accountability.

His Excellency said this is where the added value of the GLOBE Network comes in, as it is a bridge that connects the competent authorities in the States Parties, and provides digital tools and direct communication channels to support investigations and enhance prevention.

He noted that the GLOBE Network meeting, held on the sidelines of the 11th session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, is dedicated to promoting practical co-operation between law enforcement agencies in the field of combat-

ing corruption, and leveraging the constructive opportunities for communication and the exchange of information and experiences that this network provides.

He indicated that the participants' keenness to attend the GLOBE Network sessions reflects a collective commitment to activating co-operation on the ground and turning texts into practical tools in the fight against corruption.

He pointed out that the programme of events for GLOBE Network Day focuses on clear practical paths from transforming data into a strategic vision to moving from hidden data to real shared ownership data, passing through special sessions using information technology and regional frameworks, and working together for change and anticipating the future of the GLOBE Network.

His Excellency noted that these titles represent an integrated path that begins with collecting and analysing information, then exchanging it and translating it into joint work that achieves tangible results.

He said that focusing on proactive data and early indicators of corruption risks represents a qualitative shift in the way we look at combating corruption, because it is no longer acceptable to wait for a crime to occur and then act. Rather, what is required is that we use what is available to us in terms of databases, records and cross-border information to detect patterns of suspicious behaviour before they turn into complex and cross-border issues.

His Excellency added that here, the GLOBE Network and its tools can provide a platform that helps countries connect these points

and transform disparate data into a shared strategic vision.

His Excellency also added that the use of information and communication technology is a key focus of the meeting, whether through the digital platform of the GLOBE Network or through the regional initiatives that will be presented during the sessions.

His Excellency stressed that secure digital systems, instant communication tools, and the ability to share documents and requests in real time can shorten months of traditional paper correspondence and make a real difference in the speed and effectiveness of investigations.

Success in this area also requires, at the same time, investment in building national capacities and developing legislative and regulatory frameworks that ensure data protection and respect for national sovereignty while maintaining the smooth and effective flow of co-operation.

In this context, the ACTA views with great interest the role played by the GLOBE Network in supporting co-operation between the competent authorities and attaches particular importance to building partnerships with international and regional networks and mechanisms that share the same goal, which is to dry up the sources of corruption, protect public funds, and enhance the confidence of societies in their institutions.

HE the ACTA president said that working together for change summarises the essence of their message. Real change is not achieved merely by setting policies, legislation and systems, but also requires clear mechanisms for follow-up and evaluation, readiness to share successful experiences, and to confront challenges and work to

address them collectively.

His Excellency expressed hope that the discussions would contribute to developing ideas and initiatives to enhance the use of the GLOBE Network, with practical work by anti-corruption bodies, and make it an essential tool in any bilateral or multilateral co-operation.

His Excellency hoped that the event would be an additional step toward consolidating the GLOBE network as a leading global platform for co-operation in combating corruption. He also affirmed the readiness of the ACTA to continue working with its partners in the United Nations and the member states of the network to expand its use and enhance its impact in uncovering corruption cases, tracking its proceeds, and recovering them.

President of GLOBE Network Dr Nasser Abaalkhail noted that the opening session focused on the importance of effective and timely information exchange. He pointed out that corruption issues are transnational in nature and emphasising that co-operation among various anti-corruption agencies is essential.

He said that co-operation among various anti-corruption agencies is crucial, and sharing information enables the network to obtain essential information in a timely and effective manner.

During the opening session of GLOBE Network Day, participants discussed the importance of information exchange between anti-corruption agencies, how GLOBE Network tools contribute to supporting practitioners in their daily work, and addressed their experiences in the field of anti-corruption. **(QNA)**

Qatar active partner in supporting international anti-corruption efforts, says PACC president

THE President of the Palestinian Anti-Corruption Commission (PACC) Raed Radwan said Qatar is an active and key partner in supporting international efforts to combat corruption, praising Qatar's pioneering role in advancing Arab and international anti-corruption work.

He told Qatar News Agency (QNA) that Qatar is a prominent member of relevant international and regional anti-corruption conventions.

He noted that more than two years ago, the Palestinian Anti-Corruption Commission and Qatar's Administrative Control and Transparency Authority (ACTA) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to enhance the exchange of expertise and capacity building, adding that they also organised a joint workshop on the right to access information law back, in September.

He pointed out that Doha's hosting of the eleventh session of the Conference of the States Parties to the UN Convention against Corruption (COSP11) is an important platform for bringing together anti-corruption institutions worldwide, discussing a shared agenda that includes international co-operation and the recovery of stolen assets, as well as submitting draft resolutions to develop the experiences of member states.

He pointed out that Palestine's participation in COSP11 reflects its serious desire to benefit from international experiences and exchange expertise in a manner that develops its national experience and enables it to perform its duties efficiently and effectively, in addition to highlighting the ongoing crimes and violations committed against the Palestinian people by the Israeli occupation.

The Palestinian Anti-Corruption Commission president also addressed the challenges facing Palestine due to the Israeli occupation's arbitrary measures, including the fragmentation of Palestinian geography, the closure of crossings, and the with-

holding of tax revenues for more than two years, which have affected citizens' movement and the regularity of official working hours for employees. He stressed that PACC continues to carry out its national duties despite these difficulties.

He noted that PACC operates in accordance with a comprehensive national vision to combat corruption that encompasses state institutions, the private sector, and civil society, with a focus on preventing corruption before it occurs. He also referred to the launch of the national strategy for governance and anti-corruption, which was prepared in partnership with various stakeholders, and the formation of a national team to oversee its implementation.

He further highlighted the Palestinian Anti-Corruption Commission's efforts in inquiry and investigation into suspected corruption cases, noting that more than 30 suspects have been referred to the Public Prosecution. He also underscored its active role at the Arab and international levels, including chairing the fifth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the Arab Anti-Corruption Convention and submitting draft resolutions to COSP10 and COSP11.

He emphasised the importance of developing the Arab experience in combating digital corruption in light of the rapid digitalisation of services and the expansion of the electronic environment, calling on Qatar to lead this developmental track given its advanced expertise and experience.

The Palestinian Anti-Corruption Commission president expressed his gratitude to Qatar, its leadership, government, and people, for their generous hospitality, excellent organisation, and warm reception, wishing the conference success in strengthening frameworks for international co-operation in combating corruption, and continued progress and prosperity for Qatar. **(QNA)**

Organised crimes operate hand in hand with corruption: UN officials at COSP11

By Joseph Varghese
Staff Reporter

Organised crimes operate hand in hand with corruption, noted, senior UN officials at a panel discussion titled 'Corruption and organised crime: Trends, threats and impacts' at the ongoing 11th Conference of the State Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption (COSP11).

"Organised crimes do not operate in isolation. On the contrary, it depends heavily on corruption to survive, expand, and escape investigation, prosecution, and penalties," ambassador Delphine Hournau-Pouézat, permanent representative for France to the Office of the United Nations and International Organisations in Vienna told the audience.

She said that corruption allows criminal networks to infiltrate public institutions, undermine rule of law, economic development and security, and to operate within chains.

"It also undermines the sustainable development, especially as it is a key enabler for crime that



Officials at the panel discussion. **PICTURE:** Shaji Kayamkulam

affects the environment. Interventions to protect the planet need to be rooted in the understanding that corruption can facilitate crimes that have an impact on the environment and can undermine responses to these crimes," she continued quoting the report of United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

Ambassador Peter Burian, permanent representative of Slovakia to the UN International Organisa-

tions in Vienna, highlighted the need for more finances for the work of the UNODC.

"The shortfall is 42% for next year and actually for 2027, the shortfall is even greater at 72% if no new finances are brought in. So something needs to be done because we will be discussing these new trends, new methods which the organised crime groups are using. Without the proper financing, it is almost impossible, if not im-

possible at all, to really be in this kind of fight where the organised crime benefits from enormous resources."

Meanwhile, ambassador Bakyt Dzhusupov, co-ordinator of Economic and Environmental Activities at Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) stated that there should be a comprehensive approach to security, prosperity, political, military, economic

and environmental and human dimensions.

"This should be supported by strong regional defence and co-operation on the ground. This mandate also includes a long-standing commitment to engaging youth in peace and security, reflecting OSCE's recognition that investing in young and secure societies across the region," he noted.

Dzhusupov remarked that corruption and organised crime remain among the most pressing issues and a critical mechanism that allows criminal networks to de-squeeze and reintegrate illicit funds.

"To effectively prevent money laundering, we must strengthen our understanding of the human dimension and, in particular, of the individuals used to move illicit funds. One of the most OSCE's added values is to draw attention to the emerging and overlooked trends, leveraging our strong presence in the field. A particularly underexplored issue is the growing recruitment and exploitation of young people as money used by organised crime groups," he explained.

Dzhusupov said that the OSCE

conducted the first international multi-country study examining the role of financial literacy in preventing youth recruitment into money laundering activities. "Our research draws from data from 21 OSCE participating states, documenting new patterns into the recruitment of minors and young adults, including those below the age of criminal liability. It identifies the risk factors that heighten young people's susceptibility towards recruitment and highlights the increasingly strategic use of social media to lure youth into criminality with false promises of quick cash status and belonging," he highlighted.

The panellists also underlined the need for increasing the involvement of civil society in acting against corruption. "The OSCE stands ready to continue supporting participating states in deepening research, strengthening early prevention efforts, and addressing the human dimension of money laundering, especially youth recruitment," added, Dzhusupov.

The session was moderated by Vera Strobachova Budway, senior economic officer at the OSCE Secretariat.

Qatar ‘continues to ramp up cultural presence on global stage’



HE the Chairperson of Qatar Museums, Sheikha Al Mayassa bint Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, has affirmed that in 2025, Qatar continued to ramp up its cultural presence on the global stage. To mark the nation's National Day, Her Excellency extended, through Qatar News Agency (QNA), her profound thanks and gratitude to His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani

in recognition of his judicious guidance and enduring confidence, as well as a national vision that has made culture a core pillar in the development path and an effective component in strengthening a tight-knit society, which continues to remain open to the world. The year 2025 represented a pivotal milestone in this national pathway, with Qatar honouring landmark achievements which underscored a

decades-long gestating institutional work, marking 50 years since the establishment of the Qatar National Museum (QNM), and 20 years since the inception of Qatar Museums (QM), HE Sheikha Al Mayassa highlighted. HE Sheikha Al Mayassa noted that these institutions were established to serve the society, protect the national memory, as well as the shared cultural heritage.

She pointed out that the nation strengthened this presence through outstanding achievements that have elevated its cultural presence to new heights, represented in launching Qatar's permanent national pavilion in the Giardini of the Venice Biennale, in addition to the hosting of “Art Basel Qatar” in Doha, a move that underscored the confidence of global cultural institutions in the Qatari cultural scene.

In addition, HE Sheikha Al Mayassa emphasised that these integrated milestones confirm the nation's enduring belief in the fact that when culture is pursued with a clear-eyed vision and strategic objective, it becomes a strength that shores up the community's cohesion, thereby contributing to building an enduring legacy that positions itself as a pillar for the generations to come. **(QNA)**

PSG legends join Qatar National Day celebrations at Aspetar

In a festive atmosphere filled with joy and national pride, Aspetar, Orthopaedic and Sports Medicine Hospital, celebrated Qatar National Day.

Coinciding with the arrival of world-renowned sports figures in Doha for various international events, the celebrations featured special guests from Paris Saint-Germain's (PSG) legends. Former stars, Javier Pastore of Argentina and Pedro Pauleta of Portugal toured the hospital, posed for photos with attendees, and expressed their admiration for both the festive spirit and Aspetar's world-class medical model, which represents Qatar's excellence on the global stage.

The event brought together Qatari citizens, staff, and visitors from diverse nationalities and cultures, creating a vibrant scene that blended sports, health, and culture within one of Doha's most prominent sporting landmarks.

The celebrations drew a large audience of Aspetar employees, athletes, patients, and visitors to Qatar, all united by their shared appreciation of the nation's values of authenticity, dignity, and identity.

Representing more than 75 nationalities, the Aspetar community came together under the banner of love for Qatar and its deep-rooted spirit of hospitality, respect, and cultural diversity.

The occasion featured traditional and folk performances that



Aspetar officials at the celebration.

beautifully reflected Qatar's rich heritage and patriotic spirit.

Khalid Ali al-Mawlawi, Aspetar acting director general, remarked: “We take pride in the hospital's achievements, made possible through the support of our wise leadership. This national occasion embodies unity and teamwork within Aspetar and strengthens our shared commitment to excellence and service. It motivates us to continue advancing the hospital's mission and reinforcing Qatar's position as a global hub for

sports medicine and athlete care, in line with the Qatar National Vision 2030.”

The day's activities included traditional games and competitions, a calligraphy exhibition highlighting Qatar's cultural identity, and a tasting experience of authentic Qatari cuisine that added a distinctive local flavour to the celebrations. International visitors enjoyed a unique opportunity to explore the country's traditions and social customs firsthand.

To mark the occasion, Aspetar

also released a special edition of its magazine dedicated to National Day. The issue highlighted the hospital's journey since its founding in 2007, spotlighting its achievements in sports medicine and the contributions of Qatari professionals who have helped build its status as a leading medical institution in the region and beyond.

It also featured inspirational stories about innovation in athlete care and photo spreads showcasing Qatar's beauty and cultural heritage.

Celebrating Qatar National Day: A home away from home, but better



By Roudi Baroudi
Doha

Every country's founding holiday is a special one for its people: whether they have much to celebrate or much to fix, every year brings a date when they can reflect on the past and think about how to build a better future. Qatar's National Day is different. Of course the citizens of this state mark the day with all manner of events and expressions of pride and appreciation, and Qataris have plenty for which to be thankful, including unparalleled prosperity, sky-high standards of living, and rock-solid stability. The difference is that in Qatar's case, citizens of other countries are just as excited. Why? Because this country has made it a priority to be a driving force for dialogue, fairness, empathy, and peaceful diplomacy. Because so many people from so many other places feel so safe and welcome here. Because so many others who have never even been to Qatar have benefited from its activist

and hopeful foreign policy and/or its generous and helpful humanitarian programmes. Because so many wars and other crises have been ended or alleviated by Qatari influence. For Lebanese expatriates like me, the State of Qatar and its people have been nothing but supportive. Some expats have arrived here with nothing, their homes and livelihoods damaged or destroyed by foreign bombs or domestic mismanagement. Others have arrived as students, young managers looking for career advancement, tech geniuses playing all manner of wizardry, or investors hunting for proverbial unicorns. All are welcomed with care, compassion, and respect, making this country feel just like home – but better.

Frankly, there has never been a nation-state quite like today's Qatar, a place so well-run and so well-disposed that newcomers don't just feel grateful – we feel just as loyal to Qatar and its Amir, His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani, as the Qataris themselves.

His Highness the Amir deserves massive credit for the phenomenon described above. Like his father before him, His Highness the Amir has invested his own personal prestige in ensuring that Qatar retains its independence, and that it uses that freedom of action for good. A thousand congratulations, then for His Highness the Amir and all of his subjects: you have a built a truly special country that inspires love and devotion from all who embrace it.

Swedish envoy highlights Qatar's diplomacy

Sweden's ambassador to Qatar Gautam Bhattacharyya, said Qatar's constructive and forward-looking diplomacy has earned admiration far beyond the region, pointing out that the country's consistent engagement for dialogue, mediation, and peace is something that Sweden highly values.

In a statement to Qatar News Agency (QNA) on the occasion of Qatar National Day, he said, “Our countries share a commitment to multilateralism, sustainable development, and humanitarian engagement – areas where Swedish and Qatari perspectives often meet, whether in the UN context or through regional co-operation.”

Bhattacharyya expressed his admiration for the significance that this day holds in the Qatari society, noting that, during his time in Qatar, he has seen how deeply this day resonates not only with Qatari citizens, but residents as well, who feel part of Qatar's journey. He described Qatar National Day as a celebration that beautifully reflects the country's unity, pride, and remarkable sense of purpose, as well as a day that speaks to belonging and ambition – qualities that Sweden deeply respects and shares.

He hailed the wide-ranging renaissance that Qatar has been witnessing across various sectors, saying that the scale and ambition of Qatar's transformation are remarkable. “From its investments in education, innovation, and infrastructure to

its commitment to sustainability and diversification, the country is shaping a modern and forward-looking society. Sweden sees strong complementarities here – our companies and institutions are active in fields such as clean energy, digital solutions, transport, and life sciences, which align closely with Qatar's national priorities,” he added. He also pointed out that the co-operation between the two countries is not limited to trade, but extends to culture, research, and people-to-people exchange, noting that these many points of contact throughout the year reflect not only shared ambition but a genuine partnership built on mutual learning and respect. The ambassador concluded by highlighting the visit of Queen Silvia of the Kingdom of Sweden to Qatar, in February 2025, describing this visit as a significant milestone that crowned the Swedish embassy's efforts in strengthening ties between the two countries.

“These encounters have strengthened our people-to-people bonds, increased mutual understanding and opened new avenues for collaboration in innovation, trade, industry, climate change, sustainability, and cultural dialogue” he added. He affirmed that Sweden and Qatar share a spirit of openness, creativity, and forward thinking, expressing his confidence in the continued growth of bilateral relations between the two countries in the years ahead. **(QNA)**

QND an occasion to continue success, reinforce identity and national unity: Tunisia envoy

Tunisia's ambassador to Qatar Farhad Khalif stated that the celebration of Qatar's National Day is a momentous occasion for the Qatari people to remember the sacrifices of their forefathers in laying the foundations of the state and consolidating its unity.

He said it is also a time to instil in present and future generations the importance of upholding Qatari identity and national unity, and to continue advancing along the path of the nation's founders toward success and progress.

In a statement to Qatar News Agency (QNA), His Excellency added that the National Day also marks a pivotal moment in the history of the Qatari people and serves as a launching point for the establishment of the modern state.

He extended his heartfelt congratulations to His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani and to the Qatari people on this auspicious occasion.

The envoy praised the comprehensive renaissance Qatar is witnessing, noting that the country's development trajectory under Qatar National Vision 2030 is achieving remarkable prosperity across all sectors. This progress, he stressed, is the result of meticulous planning, effective strategies, and a steadfast commitment to implementation, all aimed at serving the public good and ensuring the best quality of life for both citizens and residents.



He emphasised that this sustained success is reflected in various aspects of daily life in Qatar, through pioneering infrastructure projects, world-class sports and cultural facilities, and robust support for the health, education, and academic sectors.

These, he noted, are the cornerstones for building generations capable of positively contributing to economic and human development.

The Qatari model, he commented, stands out for its prudent management of the country's oil and gas resources to achieve comprehensive development.

He commended Qatar's foreign policy at both the regional and international levels, describing it as highly active and centred on mediation diplomacy and good offices. This approach, he underlined, enables Qatar to play an effective role in conflict resolution and in promoting peace, security, and stability globally.

He added that Qatari diplomacy has spared no effort in acting as a credible mediator in numerous conflicts, achieving tangible positive outcomes, particularly in relation to the war in Gaza and the criminal assaults and acts of genocide committed by the Israeli occupation against the Palestinian people in the Strip. Despite significant challenges and obstacles, Qatar has remained committed to playing a pivotal role in ceasefire negotiations. He affirmed that Qatar's policy of positive

mediation and its successes in this field have enhanced its stature and influence, bolstered confidence in its diplomacy, and earned it increased regional and international recognition.

Speaking on bilateral relations between Qatar and Tunisia, His Excellency highlighted the deep-rooted and multifaceted ties of brotherhood and co-operation between the two countries.

He noted that both nations are committed to preserving and continuously developing their distinguished relations across political, economic, cultural, social, educational, and sports domains. This is achieved through intensified visits and meetings between senior officials and the enrichment of the legal framework for co-operation and consultation. He pointed out that, thanks to the shared will of their leaderships, Qatar and Tunisia are keen to further elevate their fruitful co-operation, particularly in economic and investment fields, based on the principles of fraternity, mutual respect, and shared interests.

He expressed hope that the coming period will witness further progress and tangible achievements in bilateral relations, especially in light of the upcoming eighth session of the Joint High Committee, which will serve the interests of both brotherly peoples.

He also emphasised the valuable contribution of the Tunisian community residing in Qatar to the country's development journey and to strengthening the bonds of brotherhood and co-operation between the two nations. **(QNA)**

Qatar making steady progress under Amir's wise leadership: PM

From Page 1

In this context, he emphasised that the state and its institutions are moving steadily toward achieving the goals of Qatar's Third National Development Strategy for 2024-2030, which was developed under His Highness the Amir's guidance to realise the country's strategic priorities for this phase.

On Qatar's efforts to strengthen regional and international security and stability, the PM said the country, through its active partnership with the international community, is doing everything it can to promote peace and international security and to advance sustainable development for all humanity. He added the founder had championed dialogue and peace, and that Qatar has followed this inherited path, with mediation becoming a firmly established principle enshrined in the Constitution, rather than merely a political option.

He added that, through its quiet diplomacy and firmly established global credibility, Qatar has become a model in efforts to resolve complex conflicts through dialogue and peaceful means, as well as to prevent them through preventive diplomacy. He pointed to Qatar's mediation aimed at ending the war in the Gaza Strip, its positive contribution to facilitating a peace agreement between the Republic of Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and its broader mediation efforts extending from Latin America to Africa and Asia.

He said that Qatar's approach to mediation, together with its hosting of major global events such as the Second World Summit for Social Development, the first formal meeting of the United Nations General Assembly to be held outside New York or Geneva, underscores the country's firm commitment to peace, international solidarity and multilateral co-operation, and reflects

its standing as a strategic partner of the United Nations. He added that these efforts have strengthened Qatar's global stature and its active role at both the regional and international levels.

He also noted that Qatar's official bid to host the 2036 Olympic and Paralympic Games highlights the country's advanced position on the international sports stage and its organisational readiness, demonstrated by its widely praised hosting of the 2022 FIFA World Cup.

The PM noted that Qatar's international distinction also extends to its ranking at the top among Middle East and North Africa countries in the 2025 Global Peace Index as well as its placement eighth worldwide and first in the Arab world in the category of the safest and most socially peaceful countries. He said that these comprehensive achievements drive us to give even more for the present and future of the beloved nation, under the banner of the wise leadership. **(QNA)**

Euronews launches travel channel with Media City Qatar

From Page 1

“Euronews Travel builds on this success by delivering modern, globally focused tourism content that highlights distinctive destinations around the world,” he added.

Al-Khouri noted that more than 300 companies are now registered with Media City Qatar, including major international media organisations, stressing that the goal is to support their expansion and reinforce Qatar's position as a regional and global media hub.

Klaus Strunz, Chief Executive Officer and Editor-in-Chief of Euronews, described the project as a major global media initiative.

“Our aim is to create a global platform that showcases tourism opportunities and presents destinations, including Doha, to international audiences,” Strunz said. He added that Euronews considers travel “an



integral part of journalism”, noting that accurate information enables audiences to make informed decisions.

Strunz also said Euronews' interest in the region is driven by its cultural richness and diversity, underscoring the importance of presenting realities accurately to global audiences.

Labour minister says Qatar advancing towards new milestones

HE the Minister of Labour Dr Ali bin Smaikh al-Marri has said that Qatar National Day represents a cherished national occasion that recalls the country's glorious history and inspires renewed determination to continue the path of development and achievement under the wise leadership, ensuring Qatar's continued leadership across various fields.

Speaking to Qatar News Agency (QNA) on this occasion, His Excellency said Qatar continues to advance steadily towards achieving further milestones across multiple sectors, in line with Qatar National Vision 2030 and the Third National Development Strategy.

He noted that this year's National Day slogan, drawn from the words of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani – “With you it rises, and from you it awaits” – highlights the central role of Qatari youth in sustaining the path of giving and development and in building on the legacy of their forefathers across various fields.

He added that Qatari youth represent a cornerstone of national development and bear a major responsibility to take initiative and innovate in advancing the nation towards greater achievements and excellence, reinforcing the foundations of prosperity and sustainability for future generations.

Guided by the directives of His Highness the Amir, the minister said, the Ministry of Labour has focused over the past four years on developing national capabilities through vocational training and qualification programmes, empowering Qatari talent to compete effectively in the labour market and play an active role in the private sector as partners in comprehensive national development.

He stated that the private sector requires qualified national talent to sustain its growth, noting that it plays a central role in achieving Qatar National Vision 2030, diversifying the national economy, and increasing its contribution to gross domestic prod-

uct. In this context, he explained that, through direct partnerships with private sector institutions and companies, the Ministry of Labour has, since 2021, successfully employed approximately 7,800 Qatari citizens and children of Qatari women, reinforcing efforts to expand national talent participation in the labour market.

He affirmed that the Qatar Award for Localisation in the Private Sector, established under Amiri Decree No. (27) of 2025, represents a positive competitive incentive that encourages private sector institutions and companies to attract and retain national talent.

HE the Minister of Labour

and Chair of the Workforce Planning Committee underscored the committee's role in strengthening co-ordination between government entities and the private sector to advance effective national workforce planning and establish clear criteria for employing national talent across both the public and private sectors.

He also stressed the importance of aligning the outputs of the education system with current and future labour market needs and proposing appropriate employment ratios for national talent across government entities and key private-sector economic sectors.

He further explained that

the ministry has prioritised strengthening the labour sector's digital infrastructure through the rollout and continuous enhancement of electronic services, facilitating procedures, accelerating transactions, and improving overall workplace efficiency.

He emphasised the importance of public-private partnership in enhancing labour sector performance and achieving development goals, noting that the ministry has held a series of consultative meetings and workshops with private sector representatives to improve the work environment in a manner that serves the interests of all stakeholders. **(QNA)**

Deep-rooted ties between Qatar, Kuwait praised

Charge d'Affaires of the Embassy of Kuwait to Qatar Mohammed Fahd al-Zoubi affirmed that Kuwait's participation in Qatar National Day celebrations comes as an embodiment and translation of the distinguished and deep-rooted bilateral relations that unite the two fraternal countries, based on a historical co-operative and co-ordination foundation that unites the leaderships of the two countries and their brotherly people.

In his remarks to Qatar News Agency (QNA) on the occasion of Qatar National Day, the Charge d'Affaires of the Kuwait embassy to Qatar reiterated his congratulations and best wishes to the leadership, government, and people of Qatar on the occasion of Qatar National Day. He voiced Kuwait's wishes for the Qatari people to achieve further progress, prosperity, elevation, and success, under the wise leadership of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani, His Highness the



Deputy Amir Sheikh Abdullah bin Hamad al-Thani, and the wise government. He said that the State of Kuwait reiterates the congratulations and best wishes of Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Mishal al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah, Crown Prince of Kuwait Sheikh Sabah Khaled al-Hamad al-Sabah, Prime Minister of Kuwait Sheikh Ahmed Abdullah al-Ahmed al-Sabah, and the noble Kuwaiti people, on the occasion of Qatar National Day 2025, which is being celebrated this year under the theme “With You It Rises, From You It Awaits.” He added that

Kuwait also celebrates with Qatar the achievements that have been made throughout this year, which included the success of Qatari mediation efforts in various regional and international conflict zones, both internal and external, not to mention the successful hosting of the emergency Arab-Islamic summit in September to discuss the Israeli strike, and the leadership of Kuwait's delegation to it by the representative of the Amir of the State of Kuwait, Crown Prince of Kuwait Sheikh Sabah Khaled al-Hamad al-Sabah. Mohammed Fahd al-Zoubi highlighted Qatar's hosting of several international and objective events, such as the UN Second World Summit for Social Development and the adoption by the international community, with the consensus of all members of the UN General Assembly, of its “Doha Political Declaration.” This would not have been achieved without the wise vision of the leadership of this fraternal country, its wise government and its loyal people. **(QNA)**

Omani envoy: Qatar a model of development, diplomacy

Ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman to Qatar Ammar bin Abdullah bin Sultan Albusaidi said that the Qatar National Day is a dear occasion that embodies unity, development, and loyalty to the founder, Sheikh Jassim bin Mohammed bin Thani, who laid the modern state's foundations. Speaking to Qatar News Agency (QNA) on the occasion, he said National Day reflects belonging and pride in Qatar's successive achievements across various fields, noting that this occasion's celebrations attract wide participation from both citizens and residents alike, in appreciation of the country's comprehensive advancement, which has made Qatar a model to be emulated in development and national cohesion.

He pointed out that Qatar pursues a foreign policy based on dialogue, diplomacy, and mediation, a wise approach that embodies the vision of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani in enhancing



regional and international security and stability. He highlighted that Doha has become an important hub for dialogue and the peaceful resolution of disputes, earning it global appreciation and respect, adding that Sultanate of Oman values this positive role, which is consistent with its firm policy of supporting peace and mutual understanding among people. The ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman to Qatar expressed his appreciation for the tangible development he has witnessed in Doha, noting that Qatar has achieved significant progress in infrastructure, education, health,

economy, sports, and culture, to the extent that it has become a regional capital hosting major global events. In this regard, he said that the Qatar National Vision 2030 represents an ambitious roadmap for building a sustainable future that balances economic, social, and environmental dimensions, with the achievements realised in recent years reflecting the Qatari leadership's determination to excel and innovate. Regarding bilateral ties, ambassador Albusaidi affirmed that relations are firm and strategic, based on mutual respect and joint co-operation, adding that they witness continuous development in economic, investment, and cultural fields, in addition to political co-ordination on regional and Arab issues. He expressed his country's aspiration to expand bilateral co-operation in a manner that serves the interests of the two brotherly peoples and strengthens the path of development and stability in both countries. **(QNA)**

QRCS president praises Qatar's resilience

President of Qatar Red Crescent Society (QRCS) Yousef bin Ali al-Khater affirmed that Qatar National Day is a great national occasion that renews the spirit of loyalty and belonging to Qatar, expressing his wishes for continued security, safety, and stability in the country.

In a statement to Qatar News Agency (QNA), he said Qatar faced unprecedented challenges in 2025, amidst geopolitical conflicts and grave violations of international humanitarian law, in addition to the economic complexities and climate changes witnessed in the region and the world. He affirmed that the State has demonstrated its resilience and steadfastness, adhering to its regional and international role based on its national interests, the principles of its foreign policy, and its deeply rooted humanitarian values. Qatar Red Crescent Society (QRCS) has been, and

remains, an integral part of this national approach, continuing its humanitarian mission towards those affected by crises and disasters in various countries around the world, and working to develop a new institutional strategy that keeps pace with the requirements and developments in humanitarian and development work. This strengthens its role as a supporting arm of the State and underscores its unwavering commitment to respecting international humanitarian law, he said.

He added that humanitarian work faces increasing challenges, most notably the difficulty of accessing conflict zones, the global funding crisis, and the growing needs of the most vulnerable groups and communities. He noted that the QRCS is committed to fulfilling its humanitarian duty, based on its values and principles, and in co-ordination with local and international partners. **(QNA)**

QND celebrates national identity, strengthens development

President of the General Real Estate Regulatory Authority (Aqarat), Eng Khalid bin Ahmed al-Obaidli has affirmed that National Day is a cherished national occasion for the people of Qatar, renewing their belonging, loyalty, and allegiance to the homeland and its wise leadership. It is also an occasion to celebrate national identity and a milestone for reinforcing awareness of Qatar's history and journey, which

has become a model of progress and stability. In a statement to Qatar News Agency (QNA), Eng al-Obaidli affirmed that the National Day is a celebration of the founders and an expression of loyalty to the wise leadership that has placed the human being at the forefront of its priorities, and the focus and ultimate goal of development. He extended his warmest congratulations and best wishes to His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin

Hamad al-Thani on the occasion. He also pointed out that this National Day's slogan “With You It Rises, and From You It Awaits,” embodies a deep belief in the pivotal role of the nation's citizens in advancing the march of development, renaissance, and prosperity led by His Highness the Amir. Al-Obaidli added that celebrating the National Day has become a deeply rooted practice, emanating from the hearts of Qataris. **(QNA)**

QND ‘commemorates Qatar’s continuous journey of development’

Ambassador of Saudi Arabia to Qatar Prince Saad bin Mansour bin Saad bin Saud bin Abdulaziz al-Saud has said that Qatar National Day, which is celebrated on Dec 18 of every year to commemorate the country's founding by Sheikh Jassim bin Mohammed bin Thani, is not only a national celebration, but a reminder of a continuous journey of building and development.

In an exclusive statement to Qatar News Agency (QNA), the Saudi ambassador said that celebrating Qatar National Day is a renewal of the pledge and loyalty of the founder's principles, a strong incentive to move forward towards achieving Qatar National Vision 2030 (QNV 2030) and a more prosperous future. It is also a symbol of internal and external achievements, and confirms that Qatar is a strategic partner to many countries, foremost among them being Saudi Arabia, he added.

Over the decades, Qatar has transformed into a success story and a model of modern renaissance in various economic, educational, energy, health and technology fields, resulting in major national projects such as Hamad International Airport, Hamad Port, the Doha Metro and the



modern road and tunnel network that connects cities and regions with high efficiency, he noted.

The Saudi ambassador stressed that this journey confirms that Qatari citizens are a key axis in the country's development process, and a fundamental supporter of all national projects, which culminated in Qatar hosting the biggest global event – FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022, which has been praised as one of the best organised editions of the global tournament.

These successive achievements are evidence of Qatar's ability to engage in long-term strategic planning, which is embodied in QNV 2030, representing the road-

map for achieving sustainable development, enhancing quality of life, and preserving cultural identity, he continued.

In terms of foreign policy, Qatar has established its presence by adopting an active diplomacy based on the principles of dialogue, mediation, and peaceful conflict resolution, he pointed out, indicating that these efforts have contributed to achieving consensus on many regional and international issues, which has earned Qatar widespread international respect.

With regard to Saudi-Qatari relations, the Saudi ambassador emphasised that they are based on a deep legacy of historical social and cultural ties.

The leadership of the two brotherly countries has been keen to leverage this legacy to advance their relationship to broader horizons and a steadily positive trajectory, through the Saudi-Qatari Co-ordination Council, which includes subcommittees and specialised working groups focused on strategic and vital sectors such as energy, investment, education, culture, and defence, thereby enhancing economic integration and policy co-ordination on important regional and international issues, he added. **(QNA)**

QND an occasion to uphold justice and strengthen national identity: SJC chief



HE the President of the Supreme Judiciary Council (SJC) and President of the Court of Cassation Dr Hassan bin Lahdan al-Hassan al-Mohannadi affirmed that Qatar's National Day is an enduring national occasion in which we recall the values instilled by the founder, Sheikh Jassim bin Mohammed bin Thani. On this day, he confirmed, the judiciary reaffirms its steadfast commitment to upholding justice and the rule of law, and to supporting the state's journey towards security and stability. In an exclusive statement to QNA, he stated that celebrating National Day greatly contributes

to instilling and reinforcing the values of loyalty and belonging by highlighting unity and giving, fostering pride in the nation, and raising awareness of the state's efforts and achievements across various fields. He added that the broad participation in National Day celebrations reflects a deep societal consensus on national principles and demonstrates the people's bond with their leadership. This is evident in the judicial sector through its continuous efforts to enhance performance and embody the principles of justice as part of loyalty to the nation and respect for its legal journey. He also noted that the judicial sector has witnessed significant progress this year in digitising judicial procedures, completing programmes and projects under the National Initiative to Develop Justice Systems, achieving high case resolution rates while maintaining judicial quality, expanding remote trials, enhancing governmental

integration in enforcing rulings, and improving services through the use of artificial intelligence technologies. Additionally, initiatives have been launched to raise the efficiency of judicial and administrative personnel, in alignment with Qatar National Vision 2030 and the Third National Development Strategy 2024-2030. He highlighted the contribution of modern technologies, particularly digitisation, AI, and robotic processes, in improving the quality of judicial work, facilitating access to services for litigants, accelerating procedures, and ensuring data transparency, all of which have positively impacted the delivery of swift justice and enhanced the efficiency of the judicial system in line with best practices. In conclusion, HE Dr Hassan bin Lahdan al-Hassan al-Mohannadi revealed that the Council is preparing to launch the second phase of the National Initiative to Develop Justice Systems. **(QNA)**

Qatar marks National Day with focus on achievements: QNA chief

HE the Director-General of Qatar News Agency (QNA), Ahmed bin Saeed al-Rumaihi has hailed Qatar's National Day as a recognition of the country's long trajectory of achievement from the era of its founder to the present day. Speaking ahead of the commemoration marked annually on December 18, al-Rumaihi said the occasion reflects the progress made since the time of the founder Sheikh Jassim bin Mohammed bin Thani and highlights the continued contributions of Qataris under the leadership of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani. “Each new day in Qatar brings a new accomplishment or a remarkable success,” al-Rumaihi said, adding that the occasion



serves as a reminder of the efforts of previous generations who laid the foundations for the modern state. Al-Rumaihi said that this year's National Day slogan, “With you it rises, and from you it awaits,” – a phrase drawn from a 2016 speech by His Highness the Amir as an affirmation of the country's belief that human development

is central to long-term progress. He added that Qatar's policies under His Highness the Amir have enabled it to attain a prominent international standing and to build what he described as an influential diplomacy focused on peace and stability. He highlighted ongoing large-scale investment in education, health, and energy, as well as development strategies that place people at the core of national planning. Qatar's role as a host of major global sporting and cultural events has further elevated its international profile, he noted. Al-Rumaihi said Qatar has succeeded in establishing a diversified and innovation-driven economy supported by advanced infrastructure, which he described as a model for the region. **(QNA)**

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Who's afraid of stablecoins?

US President Donald Trump's embrace of so-called stablecoins as a means of projecting America's financial power and preserving the dollar's global dominance has spurred calls for a "strategic response" by the European Union. If Europe does not stake out its position in this techno-financial revolution, the argument goes, its monetary sovereignty and financial stability will deteriorate. But the warnings are as unwarranted as they are ominous.

The main catalyst of Europe's stablecoin anxiety is the Trump administration's Guiding and Establishing National Innovation for US Stablecoins (GENIUS) Act, which aims to promote dollar-backed stablecoins by implementing a comprehensive regulatory framework for them. But the legislation's actual provisions closely resemble those in the EU's 2023 Markets in Crypto-Assets (MiCA) Regulation, which was passed as a precaution, before stablecoins had much financial significance. So, from a regulatory perspective, the United States has not pulled ahead of Europe. But, even if it had, stablecoins are poorly suited to propel the transformation its proponents anticipate and its detractors fear.

Stablecoins operate essentially like money market funds that pay no interest: the issuer takes one unit of a fiat currency from a depositor, and puts the equivalent into that depositor's digital wallet. The main difference is that stablecoins are based on the same blockchain technology – a type of distributed ledger – that underpins cryptocurrencies.

This is where the problems arise. As the name suggests, blockchain transactions are not processed individually, but rather are grouped into "blocks", which are approved simultaneously, at discrete intervals. In the case of Bitcoin, one block can contain up to 4,000 transactions, with approvals happening every 11 minutes or so. This makes it unsuitable for most retail transactions.

Stablecoins might be useful in cross-border retail transactions, especially remittances

payment systems, which process transactions individually – and instantly. The "distributed ledger" component further complicates matters. The basic idea of a distributed ledger is that the transaction record (ledger) is held by thousands of so-called miners around the world. This is grossly inefficient (TRON's ledger, for example, comprises over two gigabytes of data), especially compared to a traditional payment system, in which each transaction is stored only once, on a single centralised account or ledger.

Moreover, given the global distribution of these nodes, issues with data latency and participant availability may slow down data validation. This further undermines stablecoins' prospects for use in everyday transactions, particularly in advanced economies, where fast, efficient retail-payment systems are already in place.

Stablecoins might be useful in cross-border retail transactions, especially remittances. But, while remittances are important to many economies, their scale is limited: about \$700bn are sent annually – less than the GDP of a mid-size European country, and a tiny fraction of US GDP. In any case, a family in a developing country receiving stablecoins from a relative working in Europe or the US would still have to bear the costs of converting them into the local currency (or US dollar bills), in order to use the funds at home.

One might assume that stablecoins are better suited for wholesale payments: the number of transactions is much smaller, the amounts are larger, and "instant" settlement is irrelevant. But here, too, issues arise. Transactions on a blockchain are not anonymous but "pseudonymous": all transactions are fully visible, but the wallets' owners are identified only by addresses comprising a long string of numbers and letters. The problem is that, if a supplier wants to be paid, it must share its wallet's address with its client, who can then follow all future transactions involving that wallet – including, potentially, sensitive commercial information. The client might even share the address with the supplier's competitors.

Criminals – such as those carrying out ransomware attacks – circumvent this issue by immediately forwarding payments to another wallet or even a number of new wallets. But legitimate firms cannot obfuscate their accounts in this way without raising red flags for potential partners and clients and, potentially, inviting money-laundering investigations. While less suspicious ways of minimising this problem exist, they complicate cash management. Stablecoins are simply not a convenient means of payment in industry or among banks, and they are also unlikely to become a popular investment since they do not yield any interest.

Crucially, the barriers to widespread use of stablecoins are structural: they cannot be overcome without fundamentally transforming how the instrument works. As this becomes apparent to businesses, consumers, and financial investors, the current hysteria is likely to peter out. Europe's "strategic response" to the GENIUS Act should be to remain calm. – Project Syndicate

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Qatar a beacon for world peace, security, stability

In a world rife with crises and conflicts and facing multiple challenges, Qatar stands out as a shining beacon of dialogue, mediation, and the promotion of peace, security, and stability around the world, thanks to the wise guidance and sound vision of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani.

Under the wise leadership of His Highness the Amir, Qatar has demonstrated its unwavering commitment to the just causes of peoples and to providing necessary support to Arab and other countries worldwide. Its sustained humanitarian efforts have become a prominent feature at both regional and international levels, positioning Qatar as a model to be emulated in supporting just causes.

Mediation and the peaceful resolution of conflicts have become core constants of Qatar's foreign policy. This approach has earned the country a distinguished regional and international standing as a peace-making state, with its efforts achieving notable successes that have been widely praised by states, as well as international and United Nations organisations and bodies.

Under the leadership of His Highness the Amir, Qatar has consistently raised the banners of peace, security, development, and prosperity, while calling for the preservation of human dignity across all regional and international platforms. It has worked to overcome obstacles and extinguish conflicts around the world, guided by the conviction that peace and stability are the shared aspiration of all peoples, that lasting peace is built on justice and dialogue rather than force, and that true security is achieved only when individuals feel dignity, safety, justice, and fairness.

The speeches of the Amir on numerous occasions at the United Nations and in Arab, regional, and international forums have not been mere formal statements. They have carried sincere and powerful humanitarian messages, affirming that Qatar has been and will remain a source of relief for the needy, a supporter of the oppressed, an advocate of truth and justice, and a firm adherent to moral values. Through these positions, Qatar has presented to the world a bright model of a state that fosters security and safety, builds peace and hope, and strengthens bridges of dialogue, solidarity, and co-operation to achieve dignity and prosperity for all.

Qatar has continued to work with its regional and international partners to bring conflicting parties to the negotiating table, seeking to establish the peace and security long desired by peoples who have suffered from wars and crises and borne their heavy consequences.

In this context, the Amir has consistently participated in the annual meetings of the United Nations General Assembly, reaffirming Qatar's commitment to mobilising all its efforts and capabilities to support global peace, security, stability, development, and prosperity.

His Highness the Amir's addresses to the General Assembly have offered insightful

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مئوية تأسيس الدولة
القطرية
الشيخ تميم بن حمد آل ثاني

HH the Amir
Sheikh
Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani

Under HH the Amir's Leadership..
Qatar Is Shining Beacon for Promoting
World Peace, Security, and Stability

HH the Amir's Speeches in Arab and Regional Forums
Include Sincere and Strong Humanitarian Messages

demonstrate the state of qatar's unwavering commitment to just causes and its provision of support regionally and internationally	embody the state of qatar's support for the oppressed, and its advocacy for truth and justice	provide insightful strategic visions and successful solutions to many crises
affirm qatar's continued efforts with its partners to bring the conflicting parties together and establish peace	translate qatar's support of humanitarian causes, making it a model to be emulated in supporting just causes	
supporting mediation efforts, dialogue, and the peaceful resolution of conflicts, making the state of qatar a peace-making country	consolidate the state's belief that true security is only achieved through dignity, safety, and justice	

strategic visions, practical humanitarian initiatives, and realistic approaches to addressing many of the challenges facing the region and the world. They have emphasised dialogue and diplomacy as the most effective means to end wars and crises, with His Highness repeatedly stressing that while the path of peaceful conflict resolution may be long and demanding, it remains far less costly than war.

On many occasions, the Amir has underscored that Qatar's foreign policy rests on firm and stable principles that safeguard national interests, align with its values, reflect its Islamic, Arab, and Gulf identity, and honour its international obligations and partnerships in confronting global challenges for the benefit of all humanity.

Qatar's foreign policy is also grounded in political realism and a clear assessment of its capabilities. It adopts dialogue and preventive diplomacy, supports consensual political solutions, seeks the peaceful settlement of disputes, and undertakes mediation where possible, requiring flexibility and responsibility in fulfilling this role.

Qatar's regional and international efforts, under the wise leadership of His Highness the Amir, have contributed significantly to strengthening its global standing and associating its name with successful initiatives aimed at defusing crises and containing conflicts worldwide.

For more than two years, Qatar

has made intensive efforts, in co-ordination with regional and international partners, to halt the war in the Gaza Strip and alleviate the suffering of the Palestinian people, mobilising its political and humanitarian resources to achieve sustainable solutions that ensure security and stability for Palestinians and the wider region.

Recognising that instability knows no borders and that humanity's destiny is interconnected, Qatar has also pursued diplomatic efforts to help resolve other crises, including the Russian-Ukrainian conflict and disputes in Africa and other regions.

Qatar's engagement in Africa has yielded tangible progress towards peace, notably through the signing of the Doha Framework Agreement for Peace between the government of the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Congo River Alliance (March 23 Movement). This underscores Qatar's enduring role as an active international partner committed to peaceful conflict resolution.

The Doha Framework Agreement represents a significant achievement, building on the momentum of the Doha Declaration of Principles signed in July. It reaffirms both parties' commitment to addressing root causes through structured dialogue, confidence-building measures, and gradual de-escalation, while emphasising civilian protection, human rights, the safe return of

displaced persons, and national reconciliation.

Qatari diplomacy has also played a key role in peace efforts in Darfur through the Doha Document for Peace, the hosting of the Lebanese National Dialogue, talks between the United States and the Afghan Taliban that led to a peace agreement, mediation among Chadian parties resulting in the Doha Agreement for Peace in Chad, and multiple initiatives involving Somalia, Kenya, and other states.

Qatar's mediation extends beyond conflict resolution to humanitarian assistance in disaster-affected and fragile regions, reflecting its belief in collective action to address shared global challenges, promote social development, combat poverty, expand employment opportunities, and safeguard human dignity for a more just and prosperous future.

His Highness the Amir has repeatedly affirmed that Qatar will remain an active international partner and a supporter of social development, through aid, contributions, and sustained efforts to empower youth in the Middle East, offer hope and opportunity, and advance peace across the region.

Despite persistent challenges and complexities, Qatar's record remains rich with achievements in resolving regional and international crises and contributing to positive outcomes across the Arab world and beyond. (QNA)

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Under HH the Amir's Leadership..
Qatar Is Shining Beacon for Promoting
World Peace, Security, and Stability

The State of Qatar's Developmental and Humanitarian Efforts

Supporting Social Development Efforts and Providing Assistance to Many Countries

Addressing humanitarian needs in disaster-stricken and troubled areas	Promoting social development and supporting international efforts aimed at eliminating poverty
Increasing job opportunities, and promoting everything that guarantees human dignity	Support young people in the Middle East, and making efforts to bring peace to the region

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Under HH the Amir's Leadership..
Qatar Is Shining Beacon for Promoting
World Peace, Security, and Stability

The State of Qatar's Political and Diplomatic Efforts

Hosting the Lebanese National Dialogue and mediating between Somalia, Kenya, and many countries of the world

Stopping the war in the Gaza Strip and alleviating the suffering of the Palestinian people, harnessing all its political and humanitarian capabilities	The signing of the Doha Framework Agreement for Peace between the government of the Democratic Republic of Congo and the March 23 Movement
Sponsoring negotiations on establishing peace in Darfur region and the signing of the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur	Hosting Talks between the United States and the Taliban movement, which concluded with the signing of the peace agreement by both parties
Sponsoring negotiations between the Chadian parties, which culminated in the signing of the Doha Agreement for Peace in Chad	Contributing to resolving numerous international crises, such as the Russian-Ukrainian crises

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On the occasion of
Qatar National Day, 18th of December
and in remembrance of the historic day in 1878 when
Sheikh Jassim Bin Mohammed Bin Thani,
founder of the State of Qatar,
set up the pillars of the Modern State of Qatar,

We extend our heartiest congratulations and greetings to

His Highness
Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al Thani
Amir of the State of Qatar

His Highness
Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani
Father Amir

His Highness
Sheikh Abdullah Bin Hamad Al Thani
Deputy Amir

and to all the honorable people of Qatar

We hope for more returns of this memorable occasion and
wish that Qatar always enjoys security, welfare and prosperity
under the wise leadership of His Highness The Amir

بكمُتعالو ومنكمُ تنظر
تميم بن حمد



ABDULLAH MUFTAH
Chairman

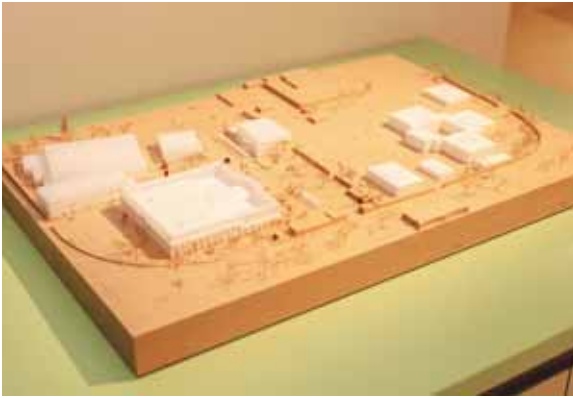


Mathaf announces major expansion led by Lina Ghotmeh

Mathaf: Arab Museum of Modern Art, the world's leading institution for modern and contemporary art from the Arab world, announced that a major campus expansion is under way, led by the celebrated Lebanese-born architect Lina Ghotmeh, founder and principal of the Paris-based studio Lina Ghotmeh – Architecture, the architect behind the future Qatar Pavilion in the Giardini di La Biennale di Venezia.

Timed to coincide with Mathaf's 15th anniversary, the phased expansion was inaugurated on Tuesday (December 16) with the opening of a newly created, majlis-inspired library and conversation space dedicated to art publications from the region, built around a set of flexible, building-block-like furniture units that can be reconfigured to meet different needs.

In the years ahead, what is today the museum's parking lot and plaza will be redesigned into studio facilities for artists and designers working in ceramics, glass, sound, and textiles. These developments highlight Mathaf's position as the world's leading centre for displaying and researching Arab modernism and mark the beginning of a new era for the institution, where it will become a place for creating and



New developments highlight Mathaf's position as the world's leading centre for displaying and researching Arab modernism

developing new art and ideas, a statement said.

Zeina Arida, director of Mathaf: Arab Museum of Modern Art, said, "By expanding Mathaf's programmes and spaces to include residency studios, makerspaces, and workshops for ceramics and glassmaking, as well as a unique sound residency programme, we are transforming the Museum into a place where artists can also create. This significant development will enhance visitor experience, strengthen community engagement and reinforce Qatar's investment in developing infrastructure for its growing creative economy."

Lina Ghotmeh, founder and

principal of the Paris-based studio said, "It is my honour to accept this remarkable commission and to have the opportunity to create new spaces for Mathaf and transform its architecture. The Arab Museum of Modern Art is a rightly cherished and unrivalled institution that will evolve into an active Museum of making and learning, in addition to exhibiting and displaying. Alongside the future Qatar Pavilion in the Giardini di La Biennale di Venezia, this expansion will offer the world a remarkable space for the presentation of art and ideas, especially by artists from our part of the world."

The first phase of the expansion, already completed, reconfigures the museum's ground floor into

an open-plan library that offers visitors the opportunity to browse Mathaf and Qatar Museums publications, as well as an extensive selection of art books. It also functions as a community hub, hosting a wide range of events, workshops, and talks. The Majlis is complemented by an expanded book and gift shop, which is operated by QC+, as well as a café offering casual dining.

The redesigned atrium features a newly commissioned portrait of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani by world-renowned Chinese painter Yan Pei-Ming. The painting will join portraits of His Highness the Father Amir, Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, and Her High-

ness Sheikhha Moza bint Nasser, which were commissioned for the opening of Mathaf in 2015.

Later phases of the expansion will establish a unified museum campus by transforming existing warehouses into specialised studio facilities developed for the functional programming in collaboration with established artists acting as advisors. Those will include: A state-of-the-art ceramics studio, developed in consultation with the ceramicist Adrian Müller, equipped with specialised kilns and shared dry and wet studio spaces, enabling ceramicists to produce large-scale works; A makerspace devoted to glassmaking developed with artist Matteo Gonet, woodworking, and materi-

als experimentation; and a sound studio equipped with state-of-the-art facilities developed with Tarek Atoui.

These spaces will form the core of a new residency programme. The ceramics studio will provide space for ceramicists to create large-scale artworks, host open studios, and conduct public workshops. An exhibition by Atoui, which opened yesterday foreshadows future residencies for artists working with sound.

The entire campus will be unified by a new curtain-like architectural skin, bringing coherence to its volumes, while a new earthen ground plane will connect the site through a landscape designed to respond to the regional climate.

Old Doha Port marks QND with destination-wide heritage celebrations

Old Doha Port will welcome residents and visitors to experience a destination-wide programme of heritage-led activities across Mina District and Mina Park to mark Qatar National Day. The celebration reflects the port's identity as a historic maritime gateway and a living destination rooted in Qatar's past. The programme highlights Old Doha Port's role in preserving and showcasing Qatar's maritime heritage, drawing inspiration from the sea, traditional livelihoods, and the community spirit that shaped Doha's early development.

Visitors can enjoy National Day activations today, including live demonstrations by traditional craftsmen, Arabic coffee experiences, and performances by a traditional band across Mina District from 3pm to 10pm, alongside youth-led National Ardah performances from 3pm to 5pm. These experiences celebrate the values, traditions, and shared heritage that continue to define Qatari identity.

At 6:12pm, the national anthem will be played across Old Doha Port as part of the Government Communications Office's "One Nation,



One Oath" initiative. The moment will be observed as a unified national tribute, bringing visitors together in reflection and pride.

Visitors can also explore the Old Doha installation at Mina Park, which offers a journey through the earliest neighbourhoods that shaped the capital. Through detailed models and storytelling, the installation brings to life the architecture, community spirit, and daily rhythms of Doha between the 1930s and 1950s. It reflects how traditions defined life in the farij, offering today's audiences

a deeper connection to the heritage that continues to influence Qatar's identity.

Rasta Festival began animating Mina District yesterday (Dec 17) with live music, street fashion, culinary showcases, and interactive art. Highlights include a lively colour parade, butterfly stilt walkers, colourful drummers, and musical performances by a violinist, saxophonist, and accordion player. Held daily from 4pm to 11pm, the festival will conclude tomorrow, celebrating movement, creativity, and youth culture in the heart of the waterfront.

WEEKEND DEALS

15 QR.75

لحم بقري باكستاني بالعظم ١ كجم
Pakistan Beef With Bone 1 kg

35 QR.75

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35 QR.50

لحم خروف استرالي ١ كجم
Australian Lamb 1 kg

16 QR.75

جمبري ايران ١ كجم
Fresh Prawns Iran 1 kg

7 QR.50

ماكريل عمان ١ كجم
Fresh Mackerel Oman 1 kg

27 QR.00

سمك بومفريت ابيض اماراتي ١ كجم
Fresh White Pomfret UAE 1 kg

1 QR.50

بطاطس باكستاني ١ كجم
Potato Pakistan 1 kg

1 QR.00

ملقوف السعودية ١ كجم
Cabbage KSA 1 kg

5 QR.75

بروكلي صيني ١ كجم
Broccoli China 1 kg

2 QR.50

قرنبيط السعودية ١ كجم
Cauliflower Ksa 1 kg

4 QR.00

بابايا خضراء
سريلانكا ١ كجم
Green Papaya Sri Lanka 1 kg

2 QR.50

موز اكودور ١ كجم
Banana Ecuador 1 kg

3 QR.25

كمثري صيني ١ كجم
Ya Pear China 1 kg

4 QR.00

كيوي صيني ١ كجم
Kiwi China 1 kg

10 QR.00

زين زيت دوار الشمس ١.٥ لتر ١ حبة
Zain Sunflower Oil 1.5 Ltr x 1 pc

9 QR.75

سيارا دجاج شواية ١٤٠٠ جم ١ حبة
Seara Chicken Griller 1400 gm x 1 pc

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