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### **QF Alumni Awards presented for significant contributions**

THE PENINSULA

**DOHA:** Chairperson of Qatar Foundation, H H Sheikha Moza bint Nasser attended the Qatar Foundation Annual Alumni Forum 2025, held under the theme of 'Togetherness', as it celebrated the achievements and impact of those who have graduated from a unique ecosystem of education, and the enduring ties between them.

Taking place in the year that marks the 30th anniversary of Qatar Foundation (QF), the event was also attended by ministers and dignitaries, as it brought together over 450 graduates from QF's Hamad Bin Khalifa University (HBKU), its seven partner universities, and its schools to build connections — and to share stories, experiences, and the pride and purpose that comes from being an alumna or alumnus of OF.

The 2025 edition of the forum marked the inaugural presentation of the QF Alumni Awards, established to honour QF alumni who have made significant contributions to society through their dedication to social responsibility and civic engagement. The awards – divided into four categories, and designed by Othman Khunji, a graduate of QF partner university Virginia Commonwealth University School of the Arts in Qatar – were presented by H H Sheikha Moza hint Nasser

H H Sheikha Moza said, "We gather

today, as we do every year, to renew the commitment and the social contract that has united us from the beginning — to remain one family, committed to carrying QF's mission forward: building a society armed with knowledge, guided by values, and driven by excellence and global competition.

"This mission is a shared responsibility between the Foundation and all its alumni. In this spirit, the Alumni Forum presents awards for excellence and mentorship in recognition of the dedication and achievements you have made throughout your professional journey."

She congratulated the awardees,

saying, "But our true reward is you. With your determination, authenticity, and unwavering loyalty that truly makes a difference, you continue to be our source of inspiration."

Recipients of the Legacy Awards for senior graduates, awarded to those whose graduation was 10 or more years ago, were HEC Paris, Doha graduate Hamad Al Hajri, and Mouhamed Yazan Abou-Ismail, who graduated from Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar. The Rising Star Awards for junior graduates, given to those who graduated up to five years ago, were presented to Dr. Abdulrahman Al-Subaiey, a graduate of Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar (CMU-Q) and HBKU, and Mariam Al-Dhubhani, a graduate of Northwestern University in Qatar as well as UCL Qatar, a QF partner university between 2010 and 2020.

Meanwhile, the Ambassador Awards, recognizing international impact, were awarded to Sheikha Alanoud Al-Thani, who graduated from both Qatar Academy Doha – part of Qatar Foundation's Pre-University Education – and HEC Paris, Doha; and to Oweis Al-Salahi, who graduated from Northwestern Qatar.

The Mentorship Awards, honouring alumni who have provided outstanding guidance to others, were presented to CMU-Q graduate Asma Aljefairi and HEC Paris, Doha graduate Salman Shaban. 

P2



Chairperson of Qatar Foundation H H Sheikha Moza bint Nasser; and President of Higher Education and Education Adviser, QF, Francisco Marmolejo with QF Alumni Award recipients at Annual Alumni Forum 2025 yesterday.

# Qatar adopts advanced technology to modernise waste management

SANAULLAH ATAULLAH THE PENINSULA

**DOHA:** Qatar is advancing a broader strategy that blends advanced technology with skilled manpower to create a cleaner, more sustainable urban environment.

By introducing environmentally friendly machinery and automated cleaning systems, the country is reducing its reliance on manual labour and enhancing the efficiency and lifespan of its waste management infrastructure.

Director of the Public Cleanliness Department Muqbil Al-Shammari emphasised the shift in the waste management approach, highlighting how advanced equipment is enhancing efficiency and sustainability.

Speaking to Qatar TV recently he said: "In the past, we relied heavily on manpower with limited equipment. Now, there is a balance between personnel and environmentally

By introducing environmentally friendly machinery and automated cleaning systems, the country is reducing its reliance on manual labour and enhancing the efficiency and lifespan of its waste management infrastructure.

friendly machinery. Our equipment can sweep and wash streets simultaneously, and waste containers are cleaned and disinfected automatically, which extends their lifespan," he explained.

Al-Shammari said that all collected waste is directed to the Waste Recycling and Treatment Department, where it is sorted, processed, and either recycled or converted

into useful products.

He said that non-recyclable

waste is transformed into compost, which is distributed to farmers, while recyclable materials are processed and returned to factories for reuse. This creates a closed-loop system that supports Qatar's sustainability vision.

The Ministry of Municipality has launched a pilot initiative to install underground waste containers in select areas across Doha, marking a significant step towards modernising the country's waste management system.

Al-Shammari said that the project aligns with Qatar's environmental sustainability goals and aims to enhance public cleanliness while minimising disruption to residents and traffic. He explained that the underground containers have been strategically deployed in markets, hotels, and shopping malls, as well as other areas with high pedestrian and vehicle activity.

"These underground containers are designed to remain out of sight. People dispose of

their waste into the containers, and specialised collection vehicles empty them late at night, reducing public exposure and maintaining the city's aesthetic appeal," Al-Shammari said. He added that following the pilot phase, the initiative will be gradually expanded to cover more districts of Doba

cover more districts of Doha.

Qatar's central waste treatment facility, processes 2,300 tonnes of household waste daily. This facility receives most of the waste generated nationwide. Household waste is divided into three streams: composting, sorting for recyclable materials, and converting waste into electricity.

The plant produces 50 megawatts of electricity daily, a contribution to the national grid. The process begins when waste collection vehicles arrive at the facility, where they are weighed to determine the volume of waste delivered. Household waste is then directed to the appropriate stream for treatment. 

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## TASMU Accelerator drives startup success and digital transformation

JOEL JOHNSON THE PENINSULA

DOHA: Qatar's drive towards a knowledge-based digital economy has gained new momentum with the latest release of the 2024 Annual Achievements Report for the TASMU Accelerator, an initiative led by the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MCIT).

The report highlights that the programme has become a key enabler of startup success and technological innovation, fostering global collaborations, fuelling economic growth, and accelerating the nation's digital transformation in line with the Qatar Digital Agenda 2030.

According to the report, the TASMU Accelerator has emerged as a strategic catalyst for driving digital transformation and entrepreneurship, empowering startups to scale locally and internationally.

Since its inception, the programme has completed two cohorts, each designed to nurture technology-driven

solutions across priority sectors including healthcare, logistics, environment, and tourism.

The Accelerator has attracted global interest, receiving 1,185 applications from 78 countries across its first two cohorts, highlighting Qatar's growing reputation as a regional innovation hub. Participating startups reported a combined valuation of QR2.92bn, along with QR479m in sales and QR228m in secured funding, underscoring the programme's tangible contribution to the national economy.

The report celebrates the achievements of participating startups, which have won 11 prestigious awards, including nine international and two local, and have launched over 60 pilot projects with key industry players.

These collaborations generated an estimated QR137m in business opportunities, reinforcing the Accelerator's role in fostering partnerships that bridge innovation with market demand. 

P2

## **Empower Youth Conference inspires youth for climate action through green entrepreneurship**

FAZEENA SALEEM THE PENINSULA

DOHA: The Empower 2025 Youth Conference, organised by the Education Above All (EAA) Foundation, a global education and development organisation, through its Reach out to All (ROTA) Programme, marked its 16th edition exploring sustainability, innovation, and environmental responsibility

Over two days, the event brought together more than 300 young participants from Qatar and several other countries, including Pakistan, Kenya, Egypt, Jordan, and Lebanon, in Doha

Each year, the conference takes on a youth-selected theme that reflects current global challenges. This year's theme, "Driving Climate Action through Green Entrepreneurship," was explored through workshops, panel discussions, and youth-led

initiatives. The conference stood out for its unique approach as it is designed "by youth, for youth." From planning and speaker selection to organising workshops, young committees led every stage, with adults offering only light guidance to ensure a safe and empowering environment.

Executive Director of ROTA Abdullah Al Abdulla speaking to *The Peninsula* on the sidelines of the conference said, "Every year, the theme is chosen by the youth themselves, something relevant, new, and meaningful to them."

He added, "We give them the platform to lead, from planning to execution. It's truly about empowering the youth and we must reflect the name Empower in what we do."

Held in Doha on October 17 and 18, the conference convened experts, innovators, and youth advocates to explore how young entrepreneurs can play a pivotal role in driving climate solutions and building sustainable economies.

Al Abdulla emphasised that the conference's mission goes beyond education and it's about empowering through engagement.

"Each participant brings a unique story, a new perspective, and a desire to make a difference. Empower is not just a conference, but it's a movement that connects young people with purpose, action, and hope.

"You can give youth tools, training, and resources," he said, adding, "but without engagement, it's meaningless. Empower is about helping young people take ownership, act on their ideas, and make real impact.

"Our goal is to ensure that every youth who walks out of Empower feels capable of transforming ideas into action," he said

Key sessions included "Youth-led Climate Innovation:

Each year, the conference takes on a youth-selected theme that reflects current global challenges. This year's theme, "Driving Climate Action through Green Entrepreneurship," was explored through workshops, panel discussions, and youth-led initiatives. The conference stood out for its unique approach as it is designed "by youth, for youth."



A view of closing session of the conference yesterday. PIC: SALIM MATRAMKOT /THE PENINSULA

From Grassroots Action to Green Enterprises" featuring Hessa Al Noaimi (Arab Youth Climate Movement Qatar), Abdulla Al Suwaidi (Elite Paper Recycling), Hissa Al Thani (Alga-Q), and Rahaf Abu Mayyaleh (IBTKRGO). Other panels, such as "Empowering Youth for a Green Economy: From Global Policy to Local Action" and "Women Leading the Green Transition: From Policy to Innovation," brought together experts from United Nations Development Programme; Unicef, International Labour Organization, Qatar Science and Technology

Park, Qatar Research, Development and Innovation Council and the Learning for Well-Being Foundation.

Alongside the panels, participants engaged in hands-on workshops that encouraged practical solutions to environmental challenges. 

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#### **EDITORIAL**

#### Qatar welcomes youth

WITH just two weeks to go, Qatar is all set to host the FIFA U-17 World Cup 2025, a tournament that not only shines a light on future football stars but also further strengthens Qatar's growing role as a global football hub. Fans will enjoy 104 matches at the Aspire Zone's modern Competition Complex from November 3 to 27 in what will be the largest edition in the tournament's history, with 48 teams competing for top honours. The final will be played at Khalifa International Stadium on November 27.

For young players, especially those from Qatar, this is a chance to make their mark. Many of them have spoken with pride and excitement with defender Omar Al Marzouqi saying: "The world will be watching us. This is a big opportunity that will open new doors." Teammates Zaid Faisal and Ahmed Saber also spoke about the pride of wearing the national shirt and the hope to one day play in a senior World Cup.

The Qatari team is in Group A with Italy, South Africa, and Bolivia. They open their campaign against Italy on November 3. It's a tough group, but for a team aiming to better its fourth-place finish in 1991, motivation is high. Fans in Qatar and visitors from around the world will enjoy more than football.

The tournament is designed to be a full experience, with cultural and entertainment activities around matches. Tickets start from just QR20 for a Day Pass, allowing access to multiple matches and fan zones. There are also Prime Passes for high-demand games and a "Follow My Team" ticket for those supporting specific teams.

Qatar has already proved its ability to host global events, with the 2022 FIFA World Cup, dubbed the "best-ever" edition, being the biggest example. Now, it's using that experience and infrastructure to build a strong calendar of international football. After the U-17 World Cup, Qatar will also host the FIFA Arab Cup (Dec 1–18) and the FIFA Intercontinental Cup (Dec 10-17), giving fans a packed two months of toplevel football.

The U-17 World Cup brings young talent to the world stage and highlights Qatar's growing role in international football, especially after the national team's qualification for the 2026 FIFA World Cup in North America. Excitement is already building across the region, with the official trophy touring public spaces and drawing fans ahead of kick-off. That excitement is set to continue as Qatar will host the tournament every year from 2025 to 2029.

#### Qatar adopts advanced technology to modernise waste management

**FROM PAGE 1** 

Organic and green waste, including tree trimmings and street sweepings, is converted into compost, while recyclable materials are sent to factories for processing. The remaining waste is utilised for energy production, making the facility a model of integrated waste management.

By integrating human expertise with advanced, eco-friendly machinery, Qatar is not only preserving the cleanliness of its urban environment but also promoting sustainable practices that generate energy, recycle materials, and support agriculture. The project demonstrates a holistic approach to waste management that aligns with the nation's broader environmental goals.

#### QF Alumni Awards presented for significant contributions



**FROM PAGE 1** 

As part of the forum - sponsored by the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Snoonu, Huawei, and Alfardan Group - a panel discussion titled 'The Bridge Between Impact and the Future' featured a diverse group of alumni from across QF's educational landscape, reflecting on the evolving role of graduates in shaping Qatar's future.

The forum also hosted three interactive workshops ahead of the ceremony - focusing on employment opportunities in a diversifying economy, upskilling and reskilling in the digital landscape, and careers in Qatar's health sector - with each seeing distinguished alumni and guest speakers share their insights.

And the Impact Zone celebrated the accomplishments and dedication of QF graduates, highlighting their leadership, community engagement, and successful collaborations among their fellow QF alumni; while a podcast lounge allowed alumni to share personal stories and achievements, and a digital connection wall enabled real-time engagement between graduates who are bonded by their lasting connection to QF.

President of Higher Education and Education Adviser, QF, Fran-Marmolejo



Chairperson of Qatar Foundation, H H Sheikha Moza bint Nasser attending the Qatar Foundation Annual Alumni Forum 2025.

"As we commemorate the 30th anniversary of Qatar Foundation, the opportunity to engage with the alumni of the various institutions that comprise Education City's ecosystem serves as a profound reminder of their pivotal role in advancing the development of Qatar." Over 19,000 students have graduated from QF's schools and universities over the decades, equipped to be leaders, changemakers, and active social citizens who make positive contributions to Qatar, the region, and the world.

Minister of Communications and Information Technology, H E Mohammed bin Ali bin Mohammed

Al Mannai said, "Qatar Foundation's legacy of nurturing knowledge and innovation aligns seamlessly with the vision of our Digital Agenda 2030 to build a connected, knowledge-driven society.

"As we celebrate three decades of QF's impact, we reaffirm our shared commitment to empowering national talent with the digital skills and opportunities that will shape Qatar's future economy. Beyond academic excellence, Qatar Foundation provides experiential and community-driven learning opportunities that inspire creativity, civic engagement, and lifelong

#### Amir sends condolences to President of Kenya

DOHA: Amir H H Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani, Deputy Amir H H Sheikh Abdullah bin Hamad Al-Thani, and Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs H E Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al-Thani sent on Friday cables of condolences to President of the Republic of Kenya H E Dr. William Ruto, on the passing of Raila Odinga, former Prime Minister of Kenya. -QNA

#### Qatar's role for Gaza peace praised at **Unesco Executive Board session**

PARIS: Several member states of the Executive Board of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (Unesco) have commended Qatar's role in promoting peace in the region, in coordination with Egypt, Turkiye and the United States.

The praise came during the closing session of Unesco's 222nd Executive Board meeting, where representatives from countries including Turkiye, the United Kingdom, South Africa and Oman highlighted Qatar's role in promoting peace during discussions on agenda items related to the Gaza

In a statement delivered during the session, Permanent Representative of Oatar to Unesco, H E Dr. Nasser bin Hamad Al Hanzab, emphasised that education is a shared responsibility of the international community and a critical pillar for stability and peace in Gaza, underscoring the role of Unesco in this regard. -QNA

#### ICLM reiterates support for Palestine's full ILO membership

THE PENINSULA

DOHA: The final communiqué of the 6th Session of the Islamic Conference of Labour Ministers (ICLM) has welcomed Qatar's proposal — in partnership with the OIC Labour Centre; Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC); the Arab Labour Organization; and the International Labour Organization (ILO) — to launch joint regional training programmes aimed at developing unified regional guidelines for the recognition of professional skills and qualifications.

The document underscored the importance of investing in skills development, promoting decent work, and supporting private sector growth to enhance competitiveness among OIC member

states. It also encouraged closer cooperation in the fields of occupational safety and health, agricultural skills development, and the use of digital technologies to shape the future of work.

The ministers reiterated their collective support for Palestine's right to full membership in ILO and other international bodies, highlighting the importance of ensuring decent work and economic opportunities for the Palestinian people.

Delegates also commended SESRIC for its regular assessment of the OIC Labour Market Strategy, which helps track progress, identify challenges, and promote knowledge exchange among member states.

The final communiqué further welcomed initiatives to foster networks of small and medium enterprises, women-led cooperatives, and investment promotion agencies, aimed at empowering entrepreneurship and women's economic participation.

The conference called on member states to leverage artificial intelligence and digital technologies to enhance labour market governance, while ensuring ethical and inclusive approaches to technological change. Held under the patronage of Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs H E Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al Thani, the 6th ICLM concluded on Thursday in Doha, reaffirming the commitment of member states to strengthen cooperation on employment, social protection, and human capital development.

Chaired by Minister of Labour and Chair of the 6th ICLM, H E Dr. Ali bin Smaikh Al Marri, the closing session brought together labour ministers, heads of delegations, and representatives from international and regional organisations, alongside experts and civil society, to adopt the final communiqué of the conference.

In his remarks, Dr. Al Marri praised the "constructive engagement and shared vision" demonstrated by all delegations, which, he said, had "enriched the discussions and strengthened the spirit of partnership among OIC member states." "The exchange of ideas and

best practices over the past two days has shown that when we work together, we can turn shared challenges into shared progress," he said. "Our collective efforts today lay the foundation for fairer, more resilient labour markets across the Islamic world."

#### NHRC, National Committee for International Humanitarian Law discuss strengthening cooperation

**DOHA:** The National Human Rights Committee (NHRC) and the National Committee for International Humanitarian Law (NCIHL) discussed avenues for enhancing cooperation in areas of mutual interest and developing mechanisms for coordination and integration between both sides.

This came during a meeting hosted by the NHRC at its headquarters in Doha, attended by a delegation from the NCIHL, led

by its Vice-Chairman, Faisal Mohammed Al Emadi, along with several officials from both entities. The meeting discussed the interrelation between international humanitarian law and human rights approaches, in addition to highlighting the efforts of the NHRC in this field, particularly concerning human rights in armed conflicts and support for vulnerable and marginalised groups.

Both sides agreed to sign a



NHRC and NCIHL officials during the meeting.

joint cooperation agreement following a study of shared priorities and annual projects that could be implemented, contributing to the development of coordination mechanisms.

They also agreed to form a joint technical team to draft the agreement, which will result in a clear executive agenda for implementing activities and events related to the protection and promotion of human rights.

#### **Empower Youth Conference inspires youth for** climate action through green entrepreneurship

**FROM PAGE 1** 

Among the notable participants was Founder of Greener Future, Aisha AlMaadeed, a Oatari sustainability startup that began as a youth initiative under Education Above All in 2018. What started as a community project has now evolved into a registered enterprise offering eco-consulting and sustainability workshops for businesses, schools, and gov-

ernment institutions. At the conference, AlMaadeed led a workshop titled "AI for a Greener Future," h o w exploring

artificial intelligence can support environmental protection and waste reduction. The session drew enthusiastic participation from high school and university students.

"It's inspiring to see today's youth so passionate about climate action," she told The "They are not Peninsula. waiting for change but leading it. There's no Plan B. It's our planet, and we must act now for future generations."

Empower 2025 Youth Conference also featured youth testimonials, networking opportunities, and the drafting of the Empower 2025 Youth Declaration — a collective call to action urging governments, businesses, and communities to invest in youth-driven climate solutions.

Since its inception, Empower has become one of the region's leading platforms for youth leadership and social innovation.

Over the past 16 years, it has equipped thousands of young changemakers with the skills, knowledge, and networks to lead sustainable development initiatives their communities.

#### **TASMU Accelerator drives startup success**

**FROM PAGE 1** 

A key success factor highlighted in the report is the programme's effective integration within the country's innovation landscape. The TASMU Accelerator facilitated more than 80 strategic meetings between startups and leading national entities, including Qatar Airways and Sidra Medicine. It also partnered with 49 Qatari organisations to support market entry and partnership building, while providing training opportunities for 370 university students, preparing the next generation of digital professionals.

With an emphasis on

capability development, the Accelerator delivered over 2.000 hours of mentorship and 270 hours of specialised workshops, led by international experts covering critical areas such as investment readiness, market entry, and growth strategy. To drive the next phase of startup innovation, the Ministry forged strategic alliances with six organisations for the third cohort of the TASMU Accelerator in September. Speaking to The Peninsula, Eman Al-Kuwari, Director of the Digital Innovation Department at MCIT, stressed that through the development of strategic partnerships both within Qatar and across the globe, the ministry is strengthening the country's role as a leading regional hub for digital innovation.

She underlined that these collaborations enable the exchange of expertise, access to emerging technologies, and the scaling of innovative solutions, placing Qatar at the forefront of the digital economy in the region. Positioned as a gateway for global startups expanding into the MENA region, the TASMU Accelerator continues to align with Qatar's broader vision of becoming a leader in digital innovation and knowledgebased economic growth.

### 'Qatar champions dialogue to foster global peace and stability'

BERLIN: Secretary-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) and Chairman of the Qatar Committee for the Alliance of Civilizations H E Dr. Ahmed bin Hassan Al Hammadi participated in the symposium "Building Bridges: Qatar and Germany in Dialogue for Tolerance, Peace, and Solidarity," held at the Arab Culture House (Divan) of the Embassy of Qatar in Germany.

The symposium was attended by H E Michael Müller, a member of the German Parliament and former Mayor of Berlin, and a group of intellectuals, professors, and those interested in the dialogue of civilizations from both Qatar and Germany.

In a speech at the event, Al Hammadi said Qatar regards dialogue among civilizations as an indispensable mechanism for building bridges

MoFA Secretary-General announces the launch of the fifth edition of the Qatar Global Award for Dialogue Among Civilizations 2025-2026.

of communication between societies and peoples, getting to know each other, promoting mutual respect, and achieving international stability and

He highlighted the importance of this symposium, which focuses on building bridges of cooperation between Qatar and Germany, promoting the values of coexistence and human solidarity, and spreading a culture of peace and non-violence—especially since both countries contribute, through national and international humanitarian institutions, to supporting the

efforts of the international community in the field of human development and in consolidating stability in countries emerging from conflicts and

On the sidelines of the symposium, Al Hammadi announced the launch of the fifth edition of the Qatar Global Award for Dialogue Among Civilizations 2025-2026, under the title: The role of youth in achieving civilizational advancement and promoting human communication. It is in cooperation with the ICESCO Chair in Alliance of Civilizations at the Qatar University's College of Sharia and Islamic Studies.

Meanwhile, the MoFA Secretary-General met in Berlin with State Secretary of the Federal Foreign Office of Germany, H E Dr. Geza Andreas von Geyr.



MoFA Secretary-General and Chairman of the Qatar Committee for the Alliance of Civilizations H E Dr. Ahmed bin Hassan Al Hammadi and other dignitaries at the event in Berlin.

During the meeting, they discussed cooperation and relations between the two countries and ways to support and

enhance them, in addition to a host of topics of mutual interest. The meeting was attended by Ambassador of Qatar to

Germany, H E Abdullah bin Ibrahim Al Hamar and the accompanying delegation.

— ONA

#### United Nations House celebrates cultural heritage, peace

THE PENINSULA

DOHA: Cultural heritage is a powerful foundation for dialogue and peace, reminding us of our shared humanity and the values that unite communities across generations. Reflecting this vision, the United Nations House in Qatar is hosting a series of cultural and educational workshops this October in celebration of two globally significant observances: the International Day of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (October 17) and United Nations Day (October 24). Proclaimed by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (Unesco) in 2023, the International Day of the Intangible Cultural Heritage honours the living traditions, expressions, and practices that shape communities and connect generations.

These cultural elements—ranging from oral traditions to craftsmanship—are increasingly at risk due to urbanisation and the loss of intergenerational transmission.

United Nations Day, commemorating the entry into force of the United Nations Charter in 1945, reaffirms the UN's mission to promote peace, human rights, and international cooperation. The preservation of intangible cultural heritage is deeply aligned with these values, fostering dialogue, inclusion, and respect for cultural diversity. To mark these occasions, the



Director of Unesco Doha Office, Salah Khaled, and ambassadors and officials at the inaugural event.

Unesco Regional Office for the Gulf States and Yemen, the Qatar National Commission for Education, Culture and Science, the Ministry of Culture, the Art, Fashion and Cultural Diplomacy Association (AFCD), and Qatar University/College of Education are organising an art exhibition from October 16 to 23, highlighting the richness of Qatari cultural heritage. The 4th Edition of the Art, Fashion and Cultural Diplomacy Exhibition will be led by its Founder and Patron, Farhan Al Sheikh Al Sayed, and Secretary-General Rodica Grigorita, Spouse of the Ambassador of Moldova.

Director of Unesco Doha Office for Gulf States and Yemen, Salah Khaled, said: "Here at the United Nations, a hub dedicated to peace—a value ever more precious amid today's fraught regional tensions—we must remember that our collective responsibility extends to our living heritage. To protect, promote, and pass it on is to directly support the building of a more inclusive and culturally rich world. And it fills me with great hope that we undertake this vital work here in Qatar, a nation that has firmly established itself as one of the world's essential architects of peace and dialogue."

#### MoPH marks Qatar Infection Prevention and Control Week

THE PENINSULA

**DOHA:** The Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) is celebrating Qatar Infection Prevention and Control Week (QIPC) from October 19 to 25, under the theme "Together we Stand UPPP (Unite, Prevent, Protect, Prevail) for Infection Prevention", in collaboration with the healthcare sector in the State of Oatar.

On this occasion, the Ministry, together with its partners, is organising a range of important activities and events, most notably the Annual Conference for Qatar Infection Prevention and Control Week, which will be held virtually on Sunday, October 19, 2025, with the participation of international, regional, and local experts.

The conference will provide a distinguished platform for professionals to exchange knowledge and expertise in a collaborative environment that promotes the safety of healthcare for all.

The Ministry of Public Health has invited all infection prevention specialists, leaders and healthcare workers to join the activities of Qatar Infection Prevention and Control Week, inspired by the International Infection Prevention Week (IIPW) 2025. The initiative encourages the promotion of awareness across health institutions and organisations and the continued strengthening of infection prevention and control practices throughout all healthcare facilities in the State of Qatar.

## PowerMind launches NeuraBots.ai to redefine the future of Al-powered enterprise automation



DOHA: PowerMind, the AI and data solutions subsidiary of TMT, the telecommunications and technology arm of Power International Holding (PIH), has launched NeuraBots.ai, a new Agents-as-a-Service platform built on UiPath's Agentic AI technology, marking a futuristic step forward in the company's digital transformation journey.

The new platform combines artificial intelligence and automation to manage complex workflows across departments, helping organizations work faster, more accurately, and at lower cost. The launch comes as part of PowerMind's mission to accelerate digital transformation across Power International Holding's diverse operations in energy, construction, healthcare, services, technology, real estate, and agriculture.

Built using the UiPath Platform™, NeuraBots.ai allows software robots and AI agents to collaborate with human teams in a single, unified system.

PowerMind has been shortlisted for the Qatar Digital Business Awards 2025 in the Best AI Solution – Corporate category. Built using the UiPath Platform<sup>™</sup>, NeuraBots.ai allows software robots and AI agents to collaborate with human teams in a single, unified system. Since its introduction, the platform has automated many core business processes across Power International Holding's companies, leading to major improvements in productivity, accuracy, and cost efficiency.

Since its introduction, the platform has automated many core business processes across Power International Holding's companies, leading to major improvements in productivity, accuracy, and cost efficiency.

"NeuraBots.ai represents a new phase in our automation journey," said Jasim Abdul Rahman, CEO of PowerMind and Group CIO of Power International Holding. "We're creating an environment where people and intelligent systems work together, enhancing decisionmaking, speed, and precision. This is the future of enterprise operations, adaptive, connected, and intelligent."

The platform is powered by UiPath's Agentic AI, which coordinates autonomous agents capable of handling high-value, cross-departmental tasks. It helps eliminate time-consuming and error-prone manual workflows in areas such as supplier

onboarding, finance, and human resources — common challenges in large, multi-sector organizations

Ashraf El Zarka, Regional Vice President for the Middle East and Africa at UiPath, said: "PowerMind's NeuraBots.ai shows how agentic automation can transform businesses. It sets a new benchmark for how companies in the region use AI to create real operational value."

PowerMind has been short-listed for the Qatar Digital Business Awards 2025 in the Best Al Solution – Corporate category, recognizing its leadership in applying artificial intelligence and automation to business operations. The company said NeuraBots.ai supports PIH's broader goal of building a connected, technology-driven ecosystem across all its subsidiaries, where Al not only improves efficiency but also drives innovation and new opportunities.

# ET HealthWorld honours 33 Holdings and Naseem Healthcare for global drive in healthcare innovation

**DOHA**: The recent recognition by the Economic Times Health-World and ETL Middle East marks a defining milestone for 33 Holdings and its healthcare brand, Naseem Healthcare, as they continue to shape the global healthcare landscape. Naseem Healthcare has been awarded Integrated Clinic Network of the Year, and the visionary leader Mohammed Miandad VP has been honoured as Transformational CEO of the Year. This spotlight from one of the region's most respected platforms celebrates the group's transformative vision where strategic investment, medical excellence, and social purpose come together to drive global impact.

At the heart of their journey lies a shared ambition: to build a healthcare ecosystem that transcends borders. 33 Holdings, through its strategic investment framework, and Naseem Healthcare, through its integrated people-centric model, are together redefining how innovation and compassion can coexist to deliver superior and world-class care to the people in Qatar.

This recognition further amplifies their credibility among global health stakeholders, investors, and



Our journey is more about shaping a future where innovation and compassion go hand in hand.

Mohammed Miandad VP

policymakers, underscoring their role as frontrunners in bridging markets, fostering international collaborations, and advancing equitable healthcare access.

"Our journey is more about shaping a future where innovation and compassion go hand in hand," said Mohammed Miandad, Transformational CEO of the Year 2025. "This recognition reaffirms our belief that purposeful progress in healthcare can truly create global impact."

With strong foundations in Qatar and expanding reach across continents, 33 Holdings and Naseem Healthcare continue to stand as beacons of excellence, leading the next wave of healthcare innovation from the Gulf to the world.



#### **Qatar reaffirms support for Palestine's sovereignty over natural resources**

DOHA: The State of Qatar has reiterated its unwavering stance on the justice of the Palestinian cause and its full support for the Palestinian people's sovereignty over their natural resources and their legitimate rights, including the establishment of an independent state based on the 1967 borders with East Jerusalem as its capital.

This came in Qatar's statement delivered by Second Secretary at the Permanent Mission of the State of Qatar to the United Nations, Talal Abdulaziz Al Naama, before the Second Committee of the UN General Assembly

during its 80th session, under the item on the permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources, at UN Headquarters

Al Naama affirmed that the Israeli military occupation of the Palestinian territories, along with systematic human rights violations by Israeli security forces and settlers, and the long-standing discriminatory regime under which Israel exercises control

over Palestinians, undermines the fundamental rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination.

He stated that Qatar has called for an end to the Israeli military occupation and its negative impact on social and economic development and living conditions of the Palestinian people, as well as the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan.

He added that Qatar welcomes the adoption by the General Assembly of the advisory opinion issued last year by the International Court of Justice

regarding the legal consequences of Israel's policies and practices in the occupied Palestinian territories, which affirmed the illegality of the occupation and its resulting practices, and called on Israel to end its unlawful presence and fully comply with its obligations under international law.

Al Naama noted that since the outbreak of the war, Qatar has been committed to providing essential humanitarian and development aid to the Palestinian people in Gaza, despite restrictions on the entry of humanitarian assistance.

This aid has included thousands of tons of food, medicine, medical supplies, shelter materials, field hospitals, and medical treatment for thousands of wounded and ill individuals.

He pointed out that Qatar's total support to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) has reached approximately \$49m, in addition to renewing a multi-year support agreement for 2025-2026 worth \$20m to help the agency fulfil its mandate efficiently, especially amid chronic funding shortages. -QNA

#### Rawabi Wholesale Division celebrates 25 years of excellence with 'Silver Jubilee Bonanza'



Rawabi officials during the celebration.

**THE PENINSULA** 

**DOHA**: Rawabi Wholesale Division, a leading FMCG distribution network under the Al Rawabi Group of Companies, proudly celebrates its 25th Year Silver Jubilee, marking a remarkable journey of growth, innovation, and customer trust since its establishment in 2000.

To commemorate this milestone, the division has launched an exciting customer campaign 'Silver Jubilee Bonanza' offering shoppers a chance to win a brand-new HAVAL H9 SUV and

10 iPhone 17 Air (256 GB). Customers who shop for QR250 or more at any Rawabi Wholesale Division outlet can register their details to receive an E-Raffle coupon and enter the grand draw. The campaign is valid across all divisions — Rawabi Food International, Al Rawabi Food Stuff W.L.L, Emdadco Foodstuff Trading, and Wholesale Plus — catering to both B2B and B2C customers

The Silver Jubilee Bonanza launch event took place on October 16, 2025, at Wholesale Plus, Al Nayef Building, Al Rayyan, inaugurated by Mr. Kannu Baker - Group General Manager, in the presence of Muhammed Jaseel – Associate Director, Naushad KTK -Assistant General Manager (Wholesale Division), along with department heads and store managers from across the group.

From its humble beginnings in 2000, Rawabi Wholesale Division has grown into a major player in Qatar's Fast-Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG) sector, providing high-quality food and non-food products to a wide network of hypermarkets, supermarkets, restaurants, cafeterias, and retail customers. Today, the division serves both business partners

(B2B) and end consumers (B2C) with an unmatched commitment to reliability, affordability, and service excellence.

Speaking on the occasion, Kannu Baker, Group General Manager of Al Rawabi Group, said, "Reaching 25 years is more than a milestone — it's a celebration of our people, our partners, and the trust of our loyal customers. Over the years, Rawabi Wholesale Division has evolved into a strong FMCG brand serving both B2B and B2C markets across Qatar. The Silver Jubilee Bonanza is our way of expressing gratitude to everyone who has been part of this journey. We look forward to continuing our mission of excellence and expanding our reach across the nation."

The Silver Jubilee Bonanza campaign will run from October 15, 2025, to January 15, 2026, across all participating Rawabi Wholesale branches in Qatar.

#### McDonald Qatar fosters culture of care with breast cancer workshop

**THE PENINSULA** 

**DOHA:** McDonald's Qatar has organised a Breast Cancer Awareness Workshop in collaboration with Al Aziziva Medical Centre, bringing employees together to learn, connect, and support one another in recognition of Pink Month.

The initiative reflected the brand's unwavering commitment to employee wellbeing, inclusion, and its purpose-driven culture under the Rahlatuna "Our Journey", Corporate Social Responsibility platform and Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion values.

The workshop gathered more than 100 McDonald's Qatar employees for expert-led presentations by an Obstetrics and Gynecology Specialist from Al Aziziya Medical Centre. The

sessions highlighted early detection, national screening programs, prevention strategies, and balanced lifestyle habits, followed by a Q&A that encouraged employees to address personal health questions directly with the experts.

The session concluded with closing reflections, highlighting the value of education, access to healthcare, and McDonald's Qatar's ongoing commitment to employee wellbeing and empowerment.

The initiative provided exclusive health benefits for employees including 50% discounts on mammograms, reduced rates on medical services, and free consultations across all services, including ultrasound, reinforcing the brand's belief that access to healthcare is essential to cre-

ating a supportive workplace. "Belonging, wellness, and empowerment are at the heart of who we are as McDonald's Qatar," said Imane Abid, Senior HR Manager & Compliance Lead, McDonald's Qatar. "This workshop created a safe and meaningful space where our people felt supported, educated, and valued. Partnering with Al Aziziya Medical Centre allows us to go beyond awareness by offering real health benefits and expert guidance. When we invest in the wellbeing of our employees, we strengthen our culture, our community, and our purpose."

"Our partnership with McDonald's Qatar reflects our shared belief that awareness is the first step toward prevention," said Dr. Islam Khalid Omran, Al-Aziziya Medical Center representative.



Participants during the celebration.

#### Zulal hosts Pinktober awareness event in partnership with QCS



Attendees during the workshop.

THE PENINSULA

**DOHA:** Zulal Wellness Resort by Chiva-Som is proud to announce the successful conclusion of its special "Pinktober" event, held recently in collaboration with the Oatar Cancer Society, as part of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

The event brought together a vibrant community of health and wellness enthusiasts, along with distinguished guests including Mariam Farid, Friend of Chiva-Som in Qatar,

members of the Qatari Businesswomen Association (QBWA), Doha Women Forum, and the Qatar Cancer Society, in a shared mission to promote awareness about the importance of early cancer detection, prevention strategies, and com-

prehensive post-recovery care. Guests participated in a dynamic programme of activities, including expert-led panel discussions focused on integrative health, early diagnosis, and holistic recovery pathways; inspirational testimonials from cancer

survivors, who shared their journeys of resilience and recovery; therapeutic breathing sessions and herbal remedy workshops, aligning with the resort's Traditional Arabic & Islamic Medicine (TAIM) philosophy; a specially curated TAIM-inspired healthy lunch, emphasizing the role of nutrition in wellness and prevention; and in line with the ongoing "Pinktober" campaign, Casuarina Café continues to serve coffee in signature pink cups throughout October, with 10% of proceeds donated to support

breast cancer research and awareness programs through the Qatar Cancer Society.

General Manager of Zulal Wellness Resort by Chiva-Som, Ammar Samad said. "At Zulal, our mission extends beyond wellness retreats, it's about creating a community that champions awareness, prevention, and holistic healing. Seeing so many individuals and organisations come together with compassion and purpose reminds us that early detection, education, and integrated care truly save lives.'

## LNG

#### PRESS NOTICE FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION (PQ) OF CONTRACTORS

| No. | PQ TENDER NUMBER / DESCRIPTION  | PQ TENDER ISSUE<br>PERIOD      | PQ FEE | PQ TENDER<br>CLOSING DATE |
|-----|---|--------------------------------|--------|---------------------------|
| 1   | LTC/C/NFW/DREDGING/25 – Provision of Dredging<br>works for North Field West (NFW) Project | 19/10/2025<br>to<br>27/10/2025 | NIL    | 15/11/2025                |

- 1. QatarEnergy LNG (COMPANY), as an agent for and on behalf of QatarEnergy, invites application from eligible, competent, and resourceful contractor for pre-qualification for undertaking the work for "Provision of Dredging Works for NFW Project".
- 2. Scope of Work: Contractor's Scope to execute Dredging works shall include surveying, engineering, design, preparing and submitting documents, securing requisite approvals, procurement, transporting, delivering, reclamation of the identified area, waste disposal, inspection, testing, achieving completion, disposal of unsuitable material and final acceptance of the facility to COMPANY'S satisfaction in compliance with HSE & Security regulations. The scope to be executed by the Contractor shall be on a lump sum compensation basis. The estimated timeframe for the execution is from Q3-2026 to Q3-2027.
- 3. <u>Tender Pre-qualification Requirement</u>: Tenderer interested to participate and pre-qualify as a potential Bidder must have a documented past experience of at least five (5) years as a Contractor in providing Dredging projects of similar size and scope internationally or in Qatar. Tenderer shall provide documents and evidence in support of proven Dredging works experience and capability for Dredging projects of similar size and scope.
- 4. Contractors interested in pre-qualifying as a potential Bidder for the above Dredging works must submit their interest via email at PJoshi@qatarenergylng.qa on or before 27/10/2025 together with a valid copy of their Commercial Registration. Upon confirmation of interest, the COMPANY will issue the Pre-qualification Questionnaire (PQQ). Contractor shall nominate a focal point with official email address, mobile number, and office number for all communications related to the transfer and receipt of the PQQ.

Note: PQ will not be issued to any Contractor who submits their interest after the deadline of 27/10/2025.

#### **Qatar Chemical Company Limited**

Al Dafna – Amwal Tower – First Floor P.O. 24646 Doha / Qatar – Tel. 44847111 – Fax 44847695

| Document No.   | Description  | Tender Bond | Bid<br>Closing Date                                   |
|----------------|--|-------------|---|
| QC/TC/P/110/25 | Three Years Agreement for Supply of<br>Solvent Naphtha 150 / 200 for Q-Chem,<br>RLOC & RLP | QAR 318,500 | 12:00 hrs. on<br>23 <sup>rd</sup><br>November<br>2025 |

ANNOUNCEMENT FOR TENDER

Bidders are invited to submit proposals for the supply of Solvent Naphtha 150 / 200 to Q-Chem's plant in Mesaieed, RLOC's & RLP's plant in Ras Laffan under a call-off purchase order agreement, for a duration of three years

Tender Documents for the above description can be obtained as follows:

A. Pay to Bank and send the original receipt with authorization letter via email.

For each tender pay a non-refundable document fee (cash only) of QR 1,000/- Payable to Q-Chem, Bank Account (Contract Services - Tender) - Account Number 001-242007-003 with HSBC Bank) and submit the original receipt with an Authorization letter on Tenderer Company Letterhead with ID copy of the Tenderer representative via email to tadvertisement@qchem.com.qa in the authorization letter Tenderer shall nominate a single focal point with contact mobile number, official email address, office number, fax number for the communications related to this tender for the transfer and receipt of the tender documents. The Bank receipt must indicate the tender number and the tenderer name (company name).

B. Date and Time of Tender documents Issuance via email

Tender documents Issuance from 19th October 2025 to 23rd October 2025, 8am-12noon.

Proposals should be valid for 240 days from the tender closing date.

D. Submission of Proposals Guldelines for Electronic Bids Submission is attached in the Tender documents.

#### **Gaza Civil Defence** says nine members of family killed in Israeli firing at bus

GAZA CITY: Gaza's civil defence agency said that Israeli forces killed nine members of a single Palestinian family when they fired on a bus Friday, after the military confirmed it had targeted a vehicle that crossed the so-called "yellow line".

Mahmud Bassal, a spokesman for the Civil Defence, which operates under Hamas authority told AFP that the victims were members of the Abu Shabaan family and were killed while "trying to check on their home" in the Zeitun neighbourhood.

The Israeli military said a vehicle had been identified crossing the "yellow line", the boundary behind which Israeli troops are stationed under the ceasefire agreement with Hamas.

"The troops fired warning shots toward the suspicious vehicle, but the vehicle continued to approach the troops in a way that caused an imminent threat to them," the military said in a statement. "The troops opened fire to remove the threat, in accordance with the agreement." -AFP



#### World in brief

#### Russia downs 46 Ukraine drones: Defence Ministry

MOSCOW: Russian air defence systems shot down 46 Ukrainian drones overnight and Saturday morning, including three over the Moscow region, the Russian Defence Ministry said yesterday.

On-duty air defence systems destroyed 41 Ukrainian fixedwing unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) overnight," the ministry said in a statement. Between 800 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Moscow Time on Saturday morning (0500 GMT and 0700 GMT), a further five Ukrainian UAVs were shot down by on-duty air defence systems, the ministry added.  $-XINHU\mathring{A}$ 

#### At least 15 dead in road accident in Brazil

SAO PAULO: At least 15 people died in a road accident when a bus driver going the wrong way lost control of the vehicle in northeast Brazil, police said yesterday.

The tragedy involving the bus carrying 30 people happened late Friday in Pernambuco state.

The driver hit some rocks by the side of the road and then got going in the right direction, but crashed into an embankment and the bus flipped over, the statement said.

Eleven women and four men died in the crash. The number of people injured was not immediately disclosed.

The driver emerged with only slight injuries and tested negative for alcohol consumption, police said. -AFP

#### Fire halts flights at Bangladesh's main airport

DHAKA: A large fire swept through the cargo terminal of Bangladesh's main international airport in Dhaka yesterday, forcing authorities to suspend all flights, officials said. The main airport terminal was not affected, but thick black clouds of smoke swept across the runway. Fire Service spokesperson Talha bin Zasim said 37 firefighting units were battling the blaze, which broke out in the afternoon and later drew in reinforcements from the security forces.

Airport authorities did not immediately answer telephone calls but The Daily Star newspaper, quoting airport officials, said that flights had been diverted to other airports. With firefighters tackling the blaze, the airport was expected to resume operations within hours.

Moinul Ahsan, a senior official at the Directorate of Health, said at least four people had been taken to hospital with minor injuries. - AFP

#### **Trump tells Zelensky to 'make a** deal' as Tomahawk plea misfires

**WASHINGTON:** Donald Trump told Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky on Friday to make a deal with Russia, pouring cold water on Kyiv's hopes for Tomahawk missiles as the US leader renews a push to settle the war.

Trump said as recently as last month that he believed Ukraine could take back all its territory - but a day after agreeing to meet Russian President Vladimir Putin for a new summit, the American had changed his tune, though Zelensky did not rule out Trump changing his mind again in the future.

"It's good that President Trump didn't say 'no,' but for today, (he) didn't say 'yes'" to providing Kyiv with Tomahawks, Zelensky told US broadcaster NBC on Friday.

After meeting with Zelensky at the White House, Trump said on social media that their talks were "very interesting, and cordial, but I told him, as I likewise strongly suggested to



US President Donald Trump welcomes Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky as he arrives for a meeting at the White House in Washington, DC, on October 17, 2025. (AFP)

President Putin, that it is time to stop the killing, and make a DEAL!"

"They should stop where they are. Let both claim Victory. let History decide!" he posted online, while flying to his Florida estate.

Upon landing, he told reporters that Ukraine and Russia should "stop right now

at the battle line."

"Go by the battle line wherever it is or else it gets too complicated," he added.

Żelensky meanwhile said after the meeting that Russia was "afraid" of the US-made longrange Tomahawk cruise missiles, and that he was "realistic" about receiving the weapons from Washington. — AFP

#### Idea of German 'draft lottery' sparks govt row

**BERLIN**: Germany is seeking to boost military recruitment to deter a hostile Russia, but a proposed "draft lottery" has sparked a row in the ruling coalition and unsettled many young people.

The flashpoint issue of

bringing back any form of military conscription has rattled the government of Chancellor Friedrich Merz's conservative CDU/ CSU bloc and the centre-left Social Democrats of Defence Minister Boris Pistorius.

Merz — citing dangerous

tensions between NATO and Russia and doubts about future US security commitment to Europe — has pledged to build up the continent's "strongest conventional army" and tasked Pistorius with attracting new troops. -AFP

#### Disgraced US ex-congressman walks free after Trump commutes sentence

**WASHINGTON:** President Donald Trump on Friday said he was commuting the sentence of disgraced former congressman George Santos (R-New York), ordering Santos's immediate release from prison, where he was serving time for identity theft and wire fraud.

"George Santos was somewhat of a 'rogue,' but there are many rogues throughout our Country that aren't forced to serve seven years in prison," said Trump in a social media post announcing the commutation. "Therefore, I just signed a Commutation, releasing George Santos from prison, IMMEDIATELY. Good luck George, have a great life!"

Santos, who was expelled from the House after being accused of financial misconduct and telling myriad lies about his background, was sentenced to more than seven years in prison after pleading guilty to federal charges of aggravated identity theft and wire fraud. He was less than three months into his sentence when his release was ordered.

As of late Friday, Santos was still being held at FCI Fairton, a medium-security facility in New Jersey, according to the Bureau of Prisons. Andrew Mancilla, one of Santos's lawyers, said he expected that Santos would be released Friday evening. — **WASHINGTON POST** 

#### Assange seeks jail term for Spaniard who spied on him

**MADRID**: Julian Assange has asked Spain to hand a 20-year jail sentence to the head of a security firm who spied on the Wikileaks founder for the United States.

Assange's lawyers suggested the the jail term for David Morales, accused of discovery and disclosure of secrets, bribery, money laundering and illegal possession of weapons, in a statement seen by AFP yesterday.

Assange was released from a high-security British prison last June after a plea bargain with the US government over Wikileaks's work publishing top-secret military and diplomatic information. He had spent five years behind bars fighting extradition from Britain and another seven holed up in the Ecuador embassy in London where he claimed political asylum.

Between 2015 and 2018, the Spanish company Undercover Global oversaw the embassy's security. -AFP

#### Thousands flee Philippine coast as storm makes landfall

MANILA: Thousands of residents fled their homes along the Pacific seaboard of the Philippines yesterday as Tropical Storm Fengshen made landfall, triggering warnings of coastal flooding.

The storm barrelled into the municipality of Gubat at the southeastern tip of the main island of Luzon late afternoon, with gusts of up to 80km an hour, the government weather service said.

Authorities said there were no immediate reports of serious damage or casualties, with evacuations already carried out in hazard-prone areas and lowlying communities.

"We had heavy rain and wind gusts, though they were not that strong," Gubat rescuer Ryan Estrellado said.

Fengshen will likely intensify before making a second landfall in central Luzon today, the weather office said. The weather bureau warned of a "minimal to moderate risk" of coastal flooding, with waves reaching up to two metres. -AFP

#### **PENOMAG**

#### **CHANGE OF NAME**

ı, Saiful Islam Md Sabu Mollah سايفول موللا

Holder of Bangladesh Passport No. EK0068872 (Qatar ID No.29805000881) hereby change my name to

#### **MD SAIFUL ISLAM MD MOLLA** مد سايفول اسلام مد مولا

Any objection, please contact the Immigration and Passport Office within 15 days from the publication of this notice.

#### US sinks deal on decarbonising ships

LONDON: An international vote to approve cutting maritime emissions was delayed by a year Friday in a victory for the United States, which opposes the carbon-cutting plan.

The London-based International Maritime Organization (IMO), a United Nations body that governs shipping, voted in April for a global pricing system to help curb greenhouse gases.

But a vote Friday on whether to formally approve the deal was delayed until next year after **US President Donald Trump threatened sanctions** against countries backing the plan. -AFP

#### **PEST CONTROL SERVICES REQUIRED**

PISQ invites approved pest control companies to submit their sealed bids for providing services at the school, having Valid Pest Control License from MOECC (Qatar) . Submission Deadline: [31-10-2025] at Pakistan International School Email: info@pisqdoha.com P.O Box 1930 Qatar for inquiries, contact: Tel: +974 44683250 www.pisqdoha.com



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Since 2015, the MED Conference has been bringing together top-level political and institutional representatives and media to discuss some of the key issues for the Mediterranean and to improve intra-regional cooperation.

#### At the invitation of organisers *The Peninsula* participates in Mediterranean Dialogues Conference in Italy

#### Editor-in-Chief attends discussions on intra-regional cooperation

**THE PENINSULA** 

NAPLES: Editor-in-Chief of The Peninsula Dr. Khalid bin Mubarak Al-Shafi participated in the Mediterranean Dialogues Conference 2025 held in Naples, Italy.

Since 2015, the Conference has been bringing together, on a yearly basis, top-level political and institutional representatives, officials, experts, analysts and representatives from society, economy and media to discuss some of the key issues for the Mediterranean and to improve intra-regional cooperation.

The first day of Mediterranean Dialogues 2025, October 15, was closeddoor roundtables while a number of important sessions were held on October 16-17 in which a wide-ranging subjects revolving around Mediterranean region from politics to security and economy to energy were discussed by delegates participating in the event.

Dr. Khalid bin Mubarak Al-Shafi was the only Editor-in-Chief of a Qatari newspaper who participated in the conference and attended a number of important sessions on October 16-17.

The 11th edition of the 'MED -Mediterranean Dialogues Conference', organised by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI) in collaboration with ISPI (Italian Institute for International Political Studies) took place at the historic Royal Palace in Naples.



Editor-in-Chief of The Peninsula Dr. Khalid bin Mubarak Al-Shafi attending the Mediterranean Dialogues Conference 2025 held in Naples, Italy.

The 11th edition of the 'MED – Mediterranean Dialogues Conference', organised by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation in collaboration with ISPI (Italian Institute for International Political Studies) took place at the historic Royal Palace in Naples.

The institutional opening session also featured remarks by Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy, Antonio Tajani.

A number of important session held on October 16 including "Pathways to peace: Engagement, cooperation and consensus in the Middle East" which was held in cooperation with the Middle East Peace and Security Forum. Another session "After Sharm El-Sheikh: A new Middle East?" was also attended by Vice President of the Council of Ministers and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Italy, Antonio Tajani; Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates, Palestinian National Authority, Varsen



Aghabekian Shahin; Minister of Foreign Affairs, Iraq, Fuad Hussein; among others.

Gilbert Achcar, Emeritus Professor, SOAS University of London; Mirette Mabrouk, Senior Fellow and Founding Director, Egypt and Horn of Africa Programme, Middle East Institute among others participated in another session "After Sharm El-Sheikh: A time of reckoning for the

Middle East?" on October 16. The important sessions of October 17 include "From Yemen to the Horn of Africa: Securing the Red Sea" which was held in cooperation with Chatham House while another session "The future of Palestinian governance" was

also addressed by Hugh Lovatt, Senior

Policy Fellow, European Council on

Foreign Relations among other

participants. Another important session on October 17 included "Facilitating peace: Mediators beyond (regional) borders" which was organised in cooperation with Center for International Policy

Research while "Syria's transition: Taking stock a year in" session was held in cooperation with Geneva Call.

The event aimed at fostering an open and informal high-level debate on the challenges of the enlarged Mediterranean, in order to highlight the centrality of this strategic region for Italy's foreign policy and to define a "Positive Agenda" for the relaunch of the region.

Managing Editor of The Peninsula, Mohammed Osman Ali, accompanied the Editor-in-Chief to the Conference. MED - Mediterranean Dialogues builds upon five pillars: Shared Security, Shared Prosperity, Human Dimension, Power of Narratives and Culture for

This year's edition is exceptionally hosted in Naples, in collaboration with the Neapolis 2500 National Committee, highlighting the city's historic role as a political and economic crossroads between Europe and the Mediterranean, and celebrating 2,500 years since its founding.

#### Stars of Science finalists race towards the title of top Arab innovator

**THE PENINSULA** 

**DOHA:** After weeks of intense competition, Stars of Science has announced its top three finalists for Season 17, each driven by a shared mission: using innovation to solve realworld problems. The finalists -Saudi Arabia's Razan Salem Bahabri, Algeria's Laid Dardabou, and Jordan's Mohammad AlShaikh Saleh will now compete for the title of Top Arab Innovator, which will be decided by jury deliberation and public voting. The winner and runner-up will share the Grand Prize.

Among the finalists is Razan Salem Bahabri, a Saudi completing her PhD in biomedical engineering, whose invention uses wearable gaming systems to support stroke patients in their rehabilitation journey. Her innovation merges therapy and technology to make recovery more interactive and accessible.



The three finalists of Stars of Science.

"I wanted to prove that science can be personalized and empowering," said Bahabri. "Too often, rehabilitation feels clinical and detached. My goal is to bring empathy back into recovery - where patients are not just treated, but truly engaged."

Also vying for the top prize is Laid Dardabou from Algeria, who holds a PhD in Animal Nutrition and Physiology, who created a smartwatch-based system that tracks biomarkers such as Vitamin D and serotonin to detect early signs of depression and anxiety. Motivated by a deeply personal story, Dardabou's invention could change how mental health is monitored worldwide. "This project began as a promise," he said. "Someone close to me suffered from undi-

agnosed depression caused by

a Vitamin D deficiency. I wanted to ensure others never go through that same experience. Stars of Science gave me the tools to transform that promise into innovation."

Completing the trio is Mohammad AlShaikh Saleh, a Iordanian Postdoctoral Research Fellow with a PhD in Electrical and Computer Engineering, who has developed an AI-powered device that monitors electric vehicle (EV) battery health, reducing costs, waste, and emissions. His invention combines artificial intelligence with physics-based models to deliver accurate, transparent predictions helping advance global sustainability goals. "I wanted my research to make a tangible difference," said Saleh. "My device supports the shift toward electric mobility by building trust in EV technology and aligning with sustainability visions across the Arab region."

Throughout Stars of Science Season 17, the finalists have transformed their ideas into working prototypes through a rigorous process of testing, mentorship, and collaboration. Supported and backed by the **Qatar Science and Technology** Park (QSTP) as ground facilitator and incubator, a panel of world-class experts and an expansive alumni network, they've refined their innovations into solutions capable of making a real impact.

Don't miss your chance to support the region's brightest innovators - and to be inspired by how science is shaping a better future for all. Cast your vote now as public voting is now open on www.starsofscience. com and will close on October 23, at 3 pm GMT (6 PM Doha time). The grand finale will air on October 24, at 9pm Doha time when the winner of Stars of Science Season 17 will be revealed.

#### **Brit Gala? British** Museum to host fundraising ball

LONDON: The British Museum hosts its inaugural fundraising ball yesterday, a glitzy event that has been touted by many observers as London's answer to New York's Met Gala.

The museum, which boasts one of the largest permanent collections on the planet, said the ball aims to "celebrate London's status as one of the world's leading cultural capitals" and become a new fixture of its social calendar.

The theme, less ambitious than the Met's elaborate fashion cues, is "pink" -inspired by the "colours and light of India" as the museum's exhibition on "Ancient India: living traditions" draws to a close.

It will be chaired by arts patron Isha Ambani, daughter of Asia's richest man Mukesh Ambani and a director on the board of his oil-to-technology

conglomerate Reliance. The ball's committee features veteran British supermodel Naomi Campbell, Italian fashion designer Miuccia Prada, Spanish designer Manolo Blahnik and Bollywood actress Sonam Kapoor.

Helen Brocklebank, CEO of British luxury sector body Walpole and on the ball's organising committee, said London's social calendar has "always lacked a big crescendo moment... until now".

Describing the ball as "Met Gala ambition with UK uniqueness", Brocklebank said on social media that the event is "set to become London's centrepiece".

Highlighting involvement of prominent writers, artists and architects, British Museum director Nicholas Cullinan has insisted the ball will stand apart from New York's Met Gala. — *AFP* 

#### **Katara Arabic Novel Festival continues on Day 6**

**THE PENINSULA** 

**DOHA**: The activities of the eleventh edition of the Katara Arabic Novel Festival continued for the sixth consecutive day yesterday.

A dialogue session entitled "The Novel Through Dark Lenses" was held, featuring Kholoud Hamad, a writer and the Vice Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Qatar Cultural Center for the Blind. The session was moderated by Mohammed Al-Shahwani, who is the Head of the Cultural Literature Department at Katara.

The writer highlighted that the concept of the novel through dark lenses does not pertain to blindness, but rather to an alternative form of vision, asserting that writing represents a light that cannot be extinguished.

She discussed various

topics, beginning with an introduction to the realm of the novel and the reasons behind our inclination to write it. The second topic addressed the distinctions between the novel the story, and the short story, noting that the differences are found in aspects such as length, time, character count, events, language, and conclusions.

In the third section, there was discussion on the difference between blind and sighted writing, based on differences in perception, not ability. They explained how the blind reconstruct space using other senses (sound, touch, smell, time), along with the technical tools used by the blind in writing (screen readers, Braille, voice dictation).

Hamad also addressed the impact of the absence of visual imagery on the formation of

language and narrative rhythm. In the fourth section, they discussed blind Arab novelists and their experiences, including: Khalil Muhammad Ibrahim (Iraq) – The State of Beggars (2014); Abdul Hamid Younis (Egypt) – his works in folklore and popular narrative; and Taha Hussein (Egypt) – The Days and The Call of the Curlew as a founding historical model. It was concluded that creativity does not require two eyes, but rather linguistic and human

In the fifth section, there was discussion on the narrative code of writing through dark

Meanwhile, the Boys' Novel and Fine Arts Workshop concluded its activities today at the Katara Arabic Novel Library, Building 48. Khaled Al-Mohannadi, Director of the



One of the stalls at the festival.

Katara Arabic Novel Library, distributed certificates of appreciation to the participants. The workshop, led by trainer Ilham Mujahid Al-Amri, spanned two

On the first day, the novel "The Strange Journey: Sons of the Moon" by Abdul Majeed Zaraket was discussed. This science fiction and adventure novel is composed of an imaginary frame story that narrates a cultural and intellectual journey within which stories are generated: myths, fables, and stories.

### TRENDING IN **QATAR** On The Peninsula social media platforms

#### Flight safely diverted to Shanghai after battery fire in Air China's cabin

A commercial passenger flight has been safely diverted to Shanghai after a battery stowed in a passenger's carryon luggage caught fire.

#### **UN aid chief foresees** 'massive job' ahead in Gaza

The United Nations' aid chief took stock of the monumental task of restoring basic necessities in the devastated Gaza Strip.

#### **Thousands flee** Philippine coast as storm approaches

Thousands of residents fled their homes along the Pacific seaboard of the Philippines as tropical storm made landfall.

#### **Brewing crisis: NY faces** soaring coffee costs

Coffee-lovers are facing increasing pain as they pay for their espresso shots and elaborate pumpkin spiced lattes as the cost of beans has jumped 21 percent.