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## Israeli airstrikes kill at least 492 in Lebanon

AFP/Reuters  
Jerusalem/Beirut

Israeli airstrikes on Lebanon killed at least 492 people yesterday, including 35 children, the health ministry said, marking the deadliest day of cross-border violence since the Gaza war began.

Arab states strongly condemned Israel for the escalating hostilities with Hezbollah, which have intensified to levels unseen in nearly a year.

Israel said it killed a "large number" of Hezbollah fighters when it hit about 1,300 sites in southern and eastern Lebanon, including a "targeted strike" in Beirut.

Hezbollah said Ali Karake, its third-in-command, was alive and had moved to safety after a source said the strike on the capital targeted him.

State media reported new raids in eastern Lebanon, while Hezbollah said it targeted five sites in Israel.

In the coastal Israeli city of Haifa, people were seen running for cover when air raid sirens sounded.

Lebanon's health ministry said the strikes killed 492 people, including 35 children and 58 women, and wounded 1,645 others.



A Lebanese girl, who fled with her family from southern Lebanon, takes refuge at a school in Sidon yesterday.

Health Minister Firass Abiad said "thousands of families" had been displaced.

Explosions near the ancient city of Baalbek in eastern Lebanon sent smoke billowing into the sky.

Israel warned people in Lebanon to evacuate areas where it said the armed movement was storing weapons.

Nasser Yassin, the Lebanese minister coordinating the crisis response, said 89 temporary shelters in schools and the like had been activated, with capacity for more than 26,000 people as civilians fled "Israeli atrocities".

After almost a year of war

against Palestinian resistance movement Hamas in Gaza on its southern border, Israel is shifting its focus to the northern frontier, where Iran-backed Hezbollah has been firing rockets into Israel in support of Hamas.

Israel's military said it had struck Hezbollah in Lebanon's south, east and north.

Israeli Defence Minister Yoav Gallant said: "On this day we have taken out of order tens of thousands of rockets and precise munition."

The Israeli air force said on X it had carried out about 650 strike missions in the past 24 hours, attacking more than 1,100 targets using more than 1,400 munitions.

In response to the strikes, Hezbollah said it had launched dozens of missiles at a military base in northern Israel.

More attacks were expected in Lebanon.

Israel's military spokesperson said Israeli aircraft were preparing to attack strategic Hezbollah weapons stashed in houses in the Bekaa valley and urged civilians to evacuate.

The strikes have redoubled the pressure on Hezbollah, which last week suffered losses when thousands of pagers and walkie-talkies used by its members exploded.

## Amir's UN speech to focus on peace and development



His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani to address the UN General Assembly today.

QNA  
Doha

### Amir arrives in New York

His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani arrived Sunday in New York, to head Qatar's delegation participating in the meetings of the 79th session of the UN General Assembly. His Highness the Amir is accompanied by HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani and an official delegation. (QNA)

His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani will participate in the 79th session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA 79), which is currently being held in the headquarters of the UN in New York.

By partaking in the session, His Highness the Amir is affirming Qatar's support for the UN's essential role and lofty message that aim to benefit the international community, its security, stability and prosperity, and the preservation of its rights.

His Highness the Amir's participation also affirms Qatar's belief in multilateral action and the shared responsibility of all countries and peoples of the globe to bring about change towards peace and prosperity for all.

Since assuming power in 2013, His Highness the Amir has shown keenness to participate in the annual sessions of UNGA, with the aim of affirming Qatar's commitment to its international duties, and conveying the optimistic perspective of Qatar, its people, and its civilised and humanitarian role in various global issues and challenges.

His Highness the Amir is expected to deliver a speech at the opening session of the high-level General Debate of UNGA 79 today, during which the Amir will address the constants of Qatar's policy, the state's positions towards contemporary challenges, and the most prominent local, Arab and international issues. Through his speech, His Highness the Amir is also expected to renew Qatar's permanent commitment to working with the UN and strengthening partnership with its various agencies; so that common global challenges are confrontable and aspired goals are achievable. **To Page 12**

## PM attends GCC meeting in New York



HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani participated on Sunday in the consultative meeting of the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) states, held on the sidelines of the 79th session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York. The meeting touched on the progress of joint Gulf action, co-operation between the GCC states and the United Nations, and the latest developments in the Gaza Strip and the occupied Palestinian territories. They also discussed several regional and international issues of mutual interest. (QNA)

## MoU signed to set up QR1bn salt plant at Um Al Houl

MPHC, QIMC and Türkiye's Atlas Yatirim Planlama have signed an agreement to establish a joint venture - Qatar Salt Products Company (QSalt), which will build a new salt production facility at Um Al Houl in Qatar.

The MoU was signed in the presence of HE the Minister of State for Energy Affairs, Saad bin Sherida al-Kaabi, also the President and CEO of QatarEnergy at the QatarEnergy headquarters, which was attended by senior executives from QatarEnergy and the participating companies.

This strategic partnership, an initiative by QatarEnergy's TAWTEEN localisation programme, brought together Mesaieed Petrochemical Holding Company (MPHC - 40% share), Qatar Industrial Manufacturing Company (QIMC - 30% share), and Türkiye's Atlas Yatirim

Planlama (30% share). The new joint venture will build a QR1bn salt production plant in Qatar's Um Al Houl area and will be operated by Qatar Petrochemical Company (Qapco) and Qatar Vinyl Company (QVC).

Commenting on the occasion, Minister HE al-Kaabi said, "We are pleased to witness the establishment of this very important joint venture that will help enhance Qatar's self-sufficiency by producing both industrial and table salts to meet local demand and to support regional and international exports."

HE al-Kaabi added: "I would like to congratulate all partners and stakeholders in Qatar Salt Products Company on this achievement, which I believe will further support the supply chain and industrial localisation in the State of Qatar, as well as promote sustainable envi-



The MoU was signed in the presence of HE the Minister of State for Energy Affairs, Saad bin Sherida al-Kaabi, also the President and CEO of QatarEnergy at the QatarEnergy headquarters.

ronmental practices."

On his part, Sheikh Abdulrahman bin Mohammed bin Jabr al-Thani, Chairman, Qatar Industrial Manufacturing Company, expressed delight at being part of

this pioneering project, the first of its kind in the region, which employs advanced technology to utilise brine from the desalination process. He praised QatarEnergy's role in boosting private sec-

tor contribution to the national economy.

Nusret Argun, Chairman, Board of Directors, Atlas Yatirim Planlama, said, "We are proud to have come to the realisation phase of this project, which we have taken part in every stage. This facility will be the first facility of the Middle East region and it will serve localisation and supply security by meeting both industrial and food-grade salt needs. As a Turkish company in Qatar, we are pleased to be involved in such a project."

The new plant, which will be built at an estimated cost of about QR1bn, will also produce industrial salts essential for the petrochemical industry, along with bromine, potassium chlorides, and demineralised water, which will be produced at a later stage, contributing to product diversification and economic growth. **To Page 12**

### Gaza massacre toll mounts to 41,455; heavy rain worsens misery of Gazans

Two strikes by Israeli forces killed at least 10 Palestinians, including four children, in the central Gaza Strip yesterday, medics said, as heavy rains flooded displaced residents' tent encampments. Palestinian health officials said at least five Palestinians were killed at a school sheltering displaced Palestinians in Nuseirat, one of Gaza Strip's eight historic refugee camps.

Later, an Israeli airstrike on a house in the city of Deir Al-Balah, where a million people have taken shelter, killed a woman and four children, medics said.

The number of casualties in the Gaza Strip as a result of the Israeli onslaught on it since October 7, has risen to 41,455 martyrs and 95,878 injured.

Heavy rains overnight piled more problems onto Gaza's displaced as downpours flooded tents, washed some of them away, and forced families out of their sleep.

Some placed water buckets on the ground to protect mats from leaks and dug trenches to drain water away from their tents. The price of new tents and plastic sheeting to prevent leaks shot up.

More shelters and supplies to help people cope with the coming winter were needed, the UN Palestinian refugee agency UNRWA said.

Most of Gaza's 2.3mn have been displaced in nearly a year of warfare as Israeli air and artillery strikes have reduced much of the Palestinian enclave to rubble. (Reuters)

### Biden, Harris meet UAE leader on ME

US President Joe Biden met UAE President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed al-Nahyan yesterday for talks on conflicts in the Middle East and Sudan. Democratic presidential nominee Kamala Harris is also meeting the Emirati leader at the White House. Biden, 81, who is in his final months as president, said after shaking hands with Sheikh Mohamed that they were going to "discuss our efforts to end the war in Gaza and a number of issues." He said he had been briefed on developments in Lebanon, where Israeli airstrikes on Hezbollah strongholds had killed 356 people, and that he was "working to de-escalate" the situation. Biden also hailed relations with the UAE, describing it as a "nation of trailblazers."



## PM hosts ministerial dinner on Middle East

HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani, President of the International Peace Institute Prince Zeid bin Ra'ad al-Hussein, and High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Josep Borrell co-hosted the 19th edition of the Ministerial Dinner on the Middle East, on the sidelines of the 79th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA 79) in New York. During the ministerial dinner, the latest developments in the region and means to enhance regional security and stability were discussed. **(QNA)**



## PM meets US Congress members



HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani met separately with Chris Murphy, Gregory Meeks, and Eric Swalwell, members of the US Congress, on the sidelines of the 79th session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York. The meetings discussed the close strategic relations between Qatar and the United States and ways to support and develop them, in addition to several issues of mutual interest. **(QNA)**

## PM meets Luxembourg counterpart in New York



HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani met with Prime Minister of Luxembourg Luc Frieden, on the sidelines of the 79th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA 79) in New York. During the meeting, they discussed relations between the two countries and ways to support and enhance them. They also discussed a number of regional and international issues of common interest. **(QNA)**

## Speaker meets Palestinian, Tunisian envoys



HE the Speaker of the Shura Council Hassan bin Abdullah al-Ghanem met yesterday with ambassador of the State of Palestine to the State of Qatar Fayez Majed Abu al-Rab and ambassador of the Republic of Tunisia to the State of Qatar Farhad Khalif, separately. During the two meetings, bilateral relations between Qatar and Palestine and Tunisia were reviewed, especially those related to parliamentary relations, and ways to enhance and develop them. **(QNA)**

## Transport minister meets Chinese counterpart

HE the Minister of Transport Jassim bin Saif al-Sulaiti met with Minister of Transport of the People's Republic of China Li Xiaopeng, on the sidelines of his visit to the People's Republic of China to participate in the Global Sustainable Transport Forum 2024, held in Beijing from Sep. 25-26. They discussed the bilateral co-operation in areas of transportation and harbours, and ways to enhance this, particularly those related to eco-friendly and smart transportation technologies. **(QNA)**



## AlKhater meets UN official

HE the Minister of State for International Co-operation Lolwah bint Rashid AlKhater met with the United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Senior Humanitarian and Reconstruction Co-ordinator for Gaza, Sigrid Kaag, on the sidelines of the 79th session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York. They discussed co-operation relations between Qatar and the United Nations and ways to support and enhance them. They also discussed the latest developments in the Gaza Strip and the occupied Palestinian territories, as well as regional and international efforts aimed



at achieving a ceasefire in the Strip and ensuring the delivery of humanitarian aid to Gaza without obstacles. Both parties expressed their deep concern regarding the Israeli escalation in Lebanon. HE the Minister

of State for International Co-operation also expressed Qatar's appreciation for the UN's significant role in co-ordinating humanitarian efforts and alleviating the repercussions of the war on Gaza. **(QNA)**

## Labour minister meets envoys of Bahrain, Austria

HE the Minister of Labour Dr Ali bin Smaikh al-Marri met with ambassador of Bahrain to Qatar Mohammed bin Ali al-Ghatam. The two sides discussed important issues of common interest, focusing on the labour sector. HE the Minister also met with ambassador of Austria Erika Bernhard. They discussed strengthening relations between the two countries in the fields of labour, and ways to support and develop them. **(QNA)**



## Qatar-Iran meeting



Qatar and Iran held in Doha their 18th joint meeting for Directors of Coasts and Borders Security, Director-General of Coasts and Borders Security at the Ministry of Interior. Major General Nasser Jabor al-Naimi presided over the Qatari side. The Iranian side was headed by commander of Iran's Border Guard Police Brigadier General Ahmad Ali Goudarzi. **(QNA)**

## Al-Muraikhi in NY meetings



HE the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Sultan bin Saad al-Muraikhi met with Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship of the Argentine Republic Diana Mondino, on the sidelines of the 79th session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York. The meeting discussed aspects of co-operation between the two countries and ways to enhance and promote them, as well as a number of regional and international issues of common concern.



HE the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Sultan bin Saad al-Muraikhi met with Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Nicaragua Valdrack Ludwing Jaentschke, on the sidelines of the 79th session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York. The two sides discussed aspects of co-operation between the two countries and ways to enhance and promote them, as well as a number of regional and international issues of common concern.



HE the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Sultan bin Saad al-Muraikhi met with Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Peru Elmer Schialer Salcedo on the sidelines of the 79th session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York. The meeting discussed aspects of co-operation between the two countries and ways to support and enhance them, as well as a number of regional and international issues of common interest. **(QNA)**



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## HEC Paris in Qatar to launch women leaders' programme

HEC Paris in Qatar, a Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF) partner university, is set to launch the Executive Women Leaders' Programme in Doha this coming January.

This innovative, four-month programme is specifically designed to empower women to ascend to senior leadership positions across various industries, equipping them with the skills, confidence and network essential for success in executive roles.

As part of HEC Paris in Qatar's commitment to advancing gender equity in leadership, the Executive Women Leaders' Programme is a strategic initiative aimed at creating lasting, positive change within organisations and communities.

The programme aligns with the Qatar National Vision 2030, by fostering diversity and excellence in leadership education, ensuring that women are well-prepared to drive meaningful transformation in their respective fields.

Dean of HEC Paris in Qatar Dr Pablo Martin de Holan emphasised the significance of this initiative. He said: "This programme exemplifies our dedication to fostering female leadership capable of driving impactful change within their organisations and society. The Executive Women Leaders' Programme is a testament to our commitment to supporting women as they develop the competencies and perspectives to lead with influence and integrity."

Dr Shaheena Janjuha-Jivraj, Associate Professor of Entrepreneurial Leadership



and Diversity at HEC Paris in Qatar, said: "This programme is more than just an educational journey; it's a transformative experience designed to empower women to lead with authenticity and impact. Our goal is to provide a platform where participants can refine their leadership skills and emerge as more confident, effective leaders, ready to tackle the complexities of senior leadership."

Participants in the Executive Women Leaders' Programme will engage in a dynamic and interactive curriculum that seamlessly integrates theoretical knowledge with practical application. The modules are meticulously designed to provide participants with the essential tools and insights needed to lead with confidence, authenticity and strategic foresight in senior roles.

The Executive Women Leaders' Programme is tailored for experienced professionals with a minimum of 10 years of work experience, including at least five years in managerial roles. It is ideal for mid-level to senior executives, entrepreneurs, government officials and non-profit directors ready to make significant strides in leadership and to expand their influence. (QNA)

## MoEHE begins preparations for launch of 18th edition Scientific Excellence Award

The Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE) has announced that preparations are all set for the launch of the 18th edition of the Scientific Excellence Award, for the year 2025, which will be held under the motto "With Excellence, We Build Generations."

In its press release issued yesterday, the ministry said that the award's judging committee will hold introductory meetings on September 25 and 26, followed by the application period running from October 1-31, with winners announced and officially celebrated on February 23, 2025.

The introductory meetings are designed to provide a comprehensive understanding of the Scientific Excellence Award, its vision, mission, categories, eligibility criteria, and guidelines. These meetings will also guide participants through the application process for each category, ensuring all interested parties are well-prepared for the competition.

The statement added that the award's objective is to promote creativity and excellence in Qatari society by bringing together individual and institutional efforts and motivating students towards further achievement and outstanding academic performance, thereby improving the outcomes of the educational process and raising them to match global standards and criteria. Given the importance of the in-

troductory meetings in raising awareness about the Scientific Excellence Award, MoEHE has urged parents as well as school and university administrations and teaching staff to encourage students to attend these meetings to learn about the details of this competitive award.

In this context, Executive Director of the Scientific Excellence Award Maryam Abdullah al-Muhannadi said the MoEHE launched the Award back in 2006 under the generous auspices of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani and that it serves a testament to Qatar's commitment to education, being a solid strategic choice towards establishing a prosperous society and providing an exceptional, innovative education that yields excellence and recognition regionally and internationally. The Scientific Excellence Award includes nine categories: the Scientific Excellence Award for Primary School Students; the Scientific Excellence Award for Intermediate School Students; the Scientific Excellence Award for Secondary School Students; the Outstanding Teacher Award; the Outstanding School Award; the Distinguished Scientific Research Award; the Scientific Excellence Award for University Graduates; the Scientific Excellence Award for Master's Degree Holders; and the Scientific Excellence Award for Doctorate Holders. (QNA)

# How Qatar's Education Above All grew into a notable advocate globally

The Right to Education was first articulated by the UN in 1948, yet millions of children worldwide are still out of schools.

A UN report in 2022 put the number of children who need education support at 222mn, up from 75mn in 2016. This education deprivation is on the increase, mostly due to unrelenting armed conflicts compounded by climate crises, prompting governments and international organisations to show further efforts.

At the forefront of countries striving to subdue barriers to education globally is Qatar.

In September 2018, His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani announced Qatar's pledge to provide quality education to 1mn girls by 2021.

The announcement, during a roundtable on the sidelines of the 73rd UN General Assembly, was part of Doha's ground-breaking initiatives spearheaded by the Education Above All Foundation (EAA) for education and youth development.

The EAA, a brainchild of its founder and chairperson Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, envisions a world where all people have equal access to quality education. Since its inception in 2012, it has harnessed efforts to transform the lives of marginalised children and youth by providing quality, comprehensive and equitable education.

CEO of EAA, Fahad al-Sulaiti told Qatar News Agency (QNA) that the EAA provided top-notch education to more than 17.2mn children and youth across over 65 countries, in collaboration with 100 global partners concerned with humanitarian and development work.

Among the EAA's most notable partners come the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (Unesco), UN Children's Fund (Unicef), UN Office for the Co-ordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), the UN Development Programme (UNDP), the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), and the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).

In collaboration with UN agencies, the EAA has reached over 8mn out-of-school children in more than 30 countries, with the QFFD contributing with 38% of over US\$1bn joint investments in education for the most vulnerable children.

These partnerships have also contributed to enhancing innovative quality education and strengthening legal protection and human rights for children and youth in conflict.

The EAA and the UN agencies, added al-Sulaiti, have partnered across a wide range of projects including constructing schools, offering educational resources and rolling out scholarship programmes, with the aim of assisting millions of the hardest to reach children now out of school.

The EAA and the Unicef have been active in countries like Gambia, Paraguay, Somalia, Tanzania, Zanzibar, and others, where more than 5.3mn children are out of schools. The two sides

**Education Above All Foundation**  
Towards Better Educational Environment for Millions of Children and Youth Around the World

Special Statements to Qatar News Agency |

- 17.2 Million** Children and Youth in 65 Countries Provided with EAA Programs
- +8 Million** Out-of-School Children in +30 Countries Helped by EAA
- 756,987** Children in Gaza Benefited from Improved Educational Environment and Mental Health Support
- 1.5 Million** Children in Africa, Asia and Middle East Benefited from Educate a Child Program

United Nations

CEO of Education Above All Foundation: Fahad Al Sulaiti

are collaborating in the Protect Education in Insecurity and Conflict (PEIC) Programme, part of the Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack (GCPEA). With PEIC's involvement, GCPEA championed the Safe Schools Declaration in 2015, now endorsed by 118 states.

Also among the projects are the Al Fakhora programme in Gaza to improve the educational environment and support the mental health of about 756,987 children, and the Reach Out to Asia programme which helped educate 263,888 children in Bangladesh, Indonesia, and Nepal.

Highlighting the EAA's co-operation with the Unesco, al-Sulaiti said the Educate A Child programme had backed the Unesco initiatives such as the GEM 2019 report, in addition to another joint project that provided education for hundreds of thousands of children in the Asean countries.

He added that the PEIC rolled out TRACE, the Track Attacks on Education (TRACE) Data Portal, a tool applying humanitarian technology to generate reliable, timely data on attacks on education to be freely shared.

This comes at a time when the Al Fakhora programme contributed to supporting the education system in Iraq by developing new curricula and training teachers benefitting 930,776 children.

The Educate A Child programme, another co-operation project between the EAA and the OHCHR, seeks to provide primary education to the most marginalised children in Africa, Asia

and the Middle East, where more than 1.5mn children benefitted from the project.

The programme also collaborated with the OHCHR to launch of the Youth Advisory Board (YAB), a project striving to safeguard and promote the human rights of youth in conflict.

In addition, the EAA collaborated with the UNRWA through the Al Fakhora programme to maintain 43 schools damaged during the conflict in Gaza, benefiting 567,600 children. The Al Fakhora also co-operated with the UNDP on two projects as well, one of which was the Dynamic Futures Scholarship Programme.

This programme empowered 1,000 Palestinian youths through higher education, training and community activities.

The two sides also co-operated through the Right to Education programme to rebuild and restore 99 educational facilities devastated in the conflict in Gaza, while enhancing access to education for 70,000 children and youth, supporting mental health and economic opportunities, in addition to co-operating with UNRWA to return about 70,000 students to schools in Jordan, Syria and Lebanon.

In addition to these projects, the Foundation co-operated with the UNFPA through the Al Fakhora programme to implement 250 youth-led humanitarian initiatives, targeting 18,000 women and youth, a project seeking to rebuild hope for Palestinians in the Gaza project. (QNA)



## WCM-Q reveals five Qatari students as essay contest winners

Five Qatari high school students demonstrated their writing and research skills by winning Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar's (WCM-Q) annual Healing Hands essay competition.

The winners are Saeed Farhoud al-Hajri, Jassim Abdulla Shahbik, Ibrahim Ali Ali (all from Qatar Science & Technology Secondary School for Boys), Jassim Mohamed Hejji (The Gulf English School) and Shaikha Khalid al-Kubaisi (Al Arqam Academy for Girls).

They were judged to have written the best 800-word essays on the topic of the use of AI and machine learning in medicine,

Students were judged to have written the best 800-word essays on the topic of the use of AI and machine learning in medicine

by a panel of experts drawn from the WCM-Q faculty. A further 10 students were awarded honourable mention certificates while 21 students received participation certificates.

The certificates were presented by Dr Rachid Bendriss, associate dean for foundation, student outreach and educational development programmes; and Noha Saleh, director of pre-medical administration, student outreach and educational development.

### QATAR FUEL ADDITIVES COMPANY LIMITED QAFAC

#### TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT

The Tender Committee of QAFAC invites qualified local suppliers to participate in the following Tender in accordance with QAFAC tendering procedures:

S.N	Tender No.	Description	Collection Fee	Tender Bond	Bid Closing Date
1	QTC/057/24	Construction of New Car Park at Lab & HSE Building at QAFAC Plant, Mesaieed	Qrs. 300/-	Qrs. 16,000/-	21 <sup>st</sup> October 2024
2	QTC/079/24	Three (3) Years Call off Contract for Supply of Pantry Items at QAFAC Plant, Mesaieed	Qrs. 300/-	Qrs. 40,000/-	21 <sup>st</sup> October 2024
3	QTC/080/24	Three (3) Years Call off Contract for Supply of Stationary Items at QAFAC Plant, Mesaieed	Qrs. 300/-	Qrs. 50,000/-	21 <sup>st</sup> October 2024
4	QTC/083/24	Three (3) Years Call off Contract for the Supply of Winter Jackets	Qrs. 300/-	Qrs. 30,000	21 <sup>st</sup> October 2024

Interested companies are invited to collect the above tender documents as follows:

- Collection Date :** From Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> September 2024 (QAFAC working days from Sunday to Thursday only)
- Collection Time :** 08:00 a.m. - 14:30 p.m.
- Location :** The Gate, Bay Tower 2, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor, West Bay, QAFAC
- Tender Fees :** As shown above, (Non-refundable) can be paid at QAFAC Doha Office
- Validity :** Offers must be valid for 120 days from closing date.
- Bid Bond :** Offers must include a Bid bond issued from a local bank and valid for 120 Days from closing date.
- Authorization :** Tenders will be issued to authorized company personnel with the following:
  - Official authorization on Company Letter Head
  - Proper Identification
  - Copy of Company's Commercial Registration
  - Focal Point of Contact (Name, Telephone, Mobile & Email)
  - Valid ICV Certificate (Mandatory for tenders # 2 & 3)

Note: "Effective from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023, bids received from Local Companies (established under the Laws of state of Qatar with local Commercial Registration) who are not in possession of an ICV score in the ICV portal by Bid Closing Date (or commercial bid submission date if separately mentioned/notified) will not be accepted. Local Company that have been established for less than 2 years and insurance companies are exempted from this requirement. For further details please visit ICV digital Portal - <https://icv.qa/US>

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Supermarket Manager, Asst Supermarket Manager, Food/ Non-Food section Supervisors needed

- Minimum 3 to 4 years of proven work experience in the above mentioned job role in any of the GCC countries mandatorily, preferably from Qatar.
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# Milipol Qatar 2024 to welcome more than 222 exhibitors

Milipol Qatar 2024, to be held from October 29-31 at the Doha Exhibition and Convention Centre, is set to welcome over 222 exhibitors, 11,500 visitors and 389 official delegates from across the world, showcasing the latest in state-of-the-art security strategies, communication systems, and emergency response tools.



The 15th edition of the event, with the theme 'Technology in the service of security,' promises to surpass the achievements of previous editions, a statement said yesterday. In 2022 alone, agreements with values of QR592mn were achieved. The event will further solidify its status as the region's leading homeland security and safety solutions gathering.

Prefet Yann Jounot, CEO of Civipol and president of the Milipol International Network, stressed the importance of this year's event in addressing global security challenges: "Milipol Qatar 2024 represents not only a platform for showcasing cutting-edge technologies but also a vital forum for international collaboration. This exhibition allows us to bring together global experts and industry leaders to discuss, share, and implement advanced solutions. Qatar's dedication to hosting this event reflects its commitment to staying ahead of the curve in security, ensuring the region remains safe and resilient in the face of ever-evolving challenges," Jounot said.

As the Middle East's homeland security market continues to expand, with an annual growth forecast of 14.5% until 2025, Milipol Qatar continues to attract visionary companies from across the globe.

Joining the international line up is BlackNoise, the European leader in breach and attack simulation and cyber defence validation which will showcase how it enables companies to test and strengthen their protections against evolving cybersecurity threats continuously.

Among the newcomers to the French pavilion are TEB, specialists in video surveillance and integrated security systems and Olvid, developers of an ultra-secure messaging platform certified by ANSSI, which will be showcasing the Crosscall CORE 5 phones - rugged,

waterproof devices recently adopted by French law enforcement for their ability to ensure reliable communication on private networks, even in the most challenging conditions. Also exhibiting for the first time, Es'hailsat Qatar, the country's first satellite operator, will showcase its groundbreaking Es'hail-1 and Es'hail-2 communications satellites. These satellites provide vital Direct-to-Home television and telecommunications services across the Middle East and North Africa, supporting major broadcasters such as beIN Sports and Al Jazeera Media Network.

In addition to these newcomers, global industry leaders such as Saab AB, a Swedish aerospace and defence company; STREAMWIDE, a leading provider of mission-critical communications and operations software; IDEMIA of France, a multinational company specialising in biometric identification and identity-related security services; INFILED of Spain, renowned for its advanced LED display technologies; and VENTUM TECH Qatar, an expert in integrated solutions, will be showcasing advanced security systems, risk management tools, and emergency response technologies.

This diverse lineup ensures that Milipol Qatar 2024 remains at the forefront of global security innovation.

Organised by the Ministry of Interior in collaboration with Comexposium Security, representing the GIE Milipol under Civipol, the co-operation implementer of the French Ministry of the Interior and Overseas, the event plays a crucial role in addressing Qatar's growing security needs and supports the security goals outlined in Qatar National Vision 2030.

## Ministry of Labour offers 80 services online

The Ministry of Labour has converted 80 services from paper-based to electronic, allowing the public and companies to access them entirely online without the need for in-person visits to the ministry's buildings or external government service centres, an official said. Speaking to local Arabic daily *Arrayah*, Abdulrahman Telfat, director of the Rehabilitation and Skills Development Department at the ministry, explained that the digital transformation strategy, is an ongoing process, aimed at creating a leading work environment and providing easy and fast digital services for companies, citizens, and residents. Several new platforms and services have recently been launched by the ministry, targeting specific groups in the community, including citizens, retirees, and expatriate workers. These efforts aim to support

nationalisation efforts, increase the percentage of national workforce in the private sector, and attract highly skilled expatriate labour. Among these services are 'Basher' and the platforms 'Istemer' and 'Ouqouf'. Telfat noted that the new services and platforms help facilitate employment and expedite transaction processing, while reducing the waste of existing skills in Qatar. He noted that through these services and platforms, the ministry can now better understand the workforce needs and skill demands in the private sector, helping make decisions that contribute to improving the work environment. This includes opening new academic specialisations in co-ordination with universities in Qatar and conducting regular surveys to understand the private sector's demand for highly skilled labour.

## Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) A Global Concern



**Dr Sajit Khan**  
Physician-Laboratory  
Medicine/Microbiology  
Micro Health Laboratories  
Qatar

*All species on this planet have an intrinsic drive to adapt and survive. Microbes, as the simplest form of life, are also the most adaptable. These tiny organisms have successfully inhabited nearly every corner of the earth. Their adaptability has enabled them not only to survive the selective pressures exerted by the indiscriminate use of antimicrobial agents but also to evolve into multidrug-resistant organisms (MDROs).*

### Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR): A Pressing Crisis

AMR represents one of the most urgent public health issues globally. It occurs when bacteria, viruses, fungi, and parasites no longer respond to antimicrobial agents. As a result, antibiotics and other treatments become ineffective, making infections harder or impossible to treat. This resistance increases the risk of disease spread, severe illness, and death. The implications of AMR extend beyond human health to affect animal health, food production, and the environment.

### World AMR Awareness Week (WAAW)

is a global initiative aimed at raising awareness and understanding of AMR. The 2024 theme, "Educate. Advocate. Act Now," emphasizes the importance of proactive efforts in controlling this growing threat.

People can carry antimicrobial-resistant pathogens without exhibiting symptoms, a condition known as colonization. These individuals, although not sick themselves, can spread pathogens through person-to-person contact or by touching

contaminated surfaces. Those at higher risk, including individuals with compromised immune systems, recent surgical patients, and those in intensive care, face an increased chance of infection when colonized with such resistant organisms.

### How Antimicrobial-Resistant Germs Spread:

- Person-to-person contact through activities like handshaking, physical contact in schools, or during workouts.
- Between humans and animals, including interactions with pets or visits to petting zoos.
- International travel, where infections can be contracted through contaminated food, water, or medical procedures in areas with higher resistance levels.

### Types of Antimicrobial Resistance

♦ **Intrinsic Resistance:** This is a natural characteristic of certain microorganisms, which is passed down to offspring. It is predictable and consistent within particular bacterial groups or species. Once an organism is identified, its intrinsic resistance traits can often be anticipated.

♦ **Acquired Resistance:** This form of resistance arises when a microorganism undergoes genetic changes, altering its cellular structure and physiology. Unlike intrinsic resistance, acquired resistance is unpredictable and can occur in only some strains of a species. The development of this resistance is due to genetic mutations, gene transfers from other organisms, or a combination of these mechanisms.

### Prevention Strategies for AMR

While antimicrobial-resistant germs will inevitably develop, aggressive global action can slow their spread. A multifaceted approach is essential:

**Improved Infection Control:** Enhancing and standardizing infection prevention and control practices nationwide can limit the spread of resistant organisms.

**Early Detection and Response:** Identifying and containing antimicrobial resistance early is crucial before it becomes widespread.

**Innovation in Hygiene Products:** Developing and enhancing products that improve hand hygiene, prevent infections, and limit the spread of germs can reduce reliance on antimicrobial agents.

**Education and Awareness:** Increasing public and healthcare provider knowledge about infection prevention and control is key to combating AMR.

### Antibiotic Misuse

The misuse or overuse of antibiotics and antifungals contributes to resistance. Healthcare professionals play a crucial role in ensuring the appropriate use of these medications. Rational prescribing practices are essential to prevent the emergence of resistant organisms like MRSA, VRE, and ESBL, as well as Clostridium difficile-associated diarrhea. Some important strategies in healthcare settings include:

- Educating clinical staff on the appropriate use of antibiotics, with input from clinical microbiologists.

- Distributing simplified guidelines to medical staff, ensuring easy access to protocols both physically (e.g., pocket guides) and digitally (e.g., intranet).

- Microbiology labs should practice restricted reporting to encourage the use of narrow-spectrum antibiotics aligned with antibiotic formulary recommendations.

- Prescriptions should only be made for valid clinical reasons, not as a precautionary measure, and documented in patient records.

- Antibiotic therapies prescribed empirically should be reviewed daily. Based on bacteriology results, treatment should shift to narrow-spectrum antibiotics or be stopped if an infection is ruled out.

### Key Takeaways

The global rise in the use of antibiotics and antifungals, especially in low- and middle-income countries, has contributed to the increase in AMR. While antibiotics have become more accessible in some regions, others face shortages, putting patients at risk. Low vaccination rates and poor sanitation infrastructure further increase the reliance on antibiotics.

To address these challenges, every country must strive to reduce unnecessary drug use, improve access to antibiotics, and promote stewardship principles. Through education, environmental safety improvements, and better food safety practices, we can work together to slow the spread of AMR and preserve the efficacy of antimicrobial treatments.

### Courtesy

-Nizam Damani, Manual of Infection Prevention and Control  
-CDC Guidelines Antimicrobial Resistance

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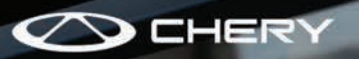
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## Airport Security Department holds workshop



The Airport Security Department yesterday held a workshop titled 'Enhancing Joint Co-ordination in Addressing Security Risks'. The event was aimed at sharing expertise and fostering effective communication among all stakeholders operating in Hamad International Airport (HIA), using the latest approaches, according to a post by the Ministry of Interior on X. A total of 55 officers from the department and other agencies at HIA attended.



## MoPH launches certification in obesity management, bariatric care



The Ministry of Public Health (MoPH), in collaboration with the Qatar Metabolic Institute at Hamad Medical Corporation (QMI-HMC), the Primary Health Care Corporation (PHCC), and in co-ordination with the National Diabetes Committee at the MoPH, has launched a certification for physicians in obesity management and bariatric care. This programme is an innovative educational and training initiative.

The six-month programme is designed to equip primary care physicians with the specialised knowledge and skills necessary to effectively combat obesity. The programme is CPD (Continuous Professional Development) accredited by the Department of Healthcare Professions (DHP) at the Ministry of Public Health.

In his opening remarks, Sheikh Dr Mohamed bin Hamad al-Thani, Director of the Non-Communicable Diseases Prevention Programmes Department at the Ministry of Public Health, called for immediate and decisive action against obesity in Qatar. He highlighted that obesity significantly increases the risk of serious illnesses, including diabetes and cancer, and stressed the urgent need for continuous evidence-based interventions at the community level.

Sheikh Dr Mohamed bin Hamad al-Thani said, "Empowering our physicians with the tools and knowledge to address obesity proactively is not just an initiative, it's a critical mission for the health of our nation. Through this programme, we are ensuring that primary care providers are equipped to tackle obesity with both the expertise and compassion needed to make a real and lasting impact on public health across Qatar."

Professor Abdul Badi Abu Samra, Director of the Qatar Metabolic Institute (QMI) at HMC and Co-Chair of the National Diabetes Committee at the MoPH, emphasised the programmes role as a key element in the upcoming (2024-2030) action plan for Diabetes, Obesity, and Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Diseases (ASCVD).

Professor Abu Samra stressed the importance of integrating obesity management into primary care settings across Qatar, noting that healthcare professionals, starting from primary care, must pay special attention to obesity, as it may be the root cause of many other health issues for patients, such as diabetes, high blood pressure, and mental health concerns. He also underscored the significance of having a two-way referral pathway between primary and secondary care, facilitating access to specialised medical care teams when necessary.

Dr Samya al-Abdulla, Senior Consultant of Family Medicine and Executive Director of Operations at Primary Health Care Corporation, stated, "Primary care physicians are often the first point of contact for patients struggling with obesity. Completing this programme will enable physicians to better manage the complexities of obesity and play a pivotal role in preventing its progression and related complications. This programme empowers them to approach obesity holistically, ensuring patients receive optimal care from the outset, while also significantly reducing the overall burden on the healthcare system."

Dr al Abdulla added, "The certificate in obesity management and bariatric care is not just an educational initiative; it is a vital step towards

strengthening the role of primary care in combating obesity." She also expressed her appreciation for the collaboration with the Ministry of Public Health, the Qatar Metabolic Institute at Hamad Medical Corporation (QMI-HMC), and the respective Scientific and Planning Committee in making this comprehensive programme available to family and community medicine doctors at PHCC.

Dr Mohamed Aly ElSherif, Endocrinology and Obesity Medicine Consultant at the Qatar Metabolic Institute at Hamad Medical Corporation (QMI-HMC), and Chair of the Scientific and Planning Committee, said, "We are proud to launch this six-month, CPD-accredited programme, funded through an educational grant from Novo Nordisk."

Dr Elsherif added, "The programme is designed for physicians interested in obesity management from PHCC and HMC, nominated by their leaders. The curriculum covers a wide range of topics, including behavioural interventions, nutritional counselling, pharmacotherapy, and appropriate referrals."

The programme is divided into three phases: in-person workshops, online training, and clinical training at the National Obesity Treatment Centre and the National Bariatric Centre, at the Qatar Metabolic Institute in HMC.

Participants will also receive SCOPE (Specialist Certification of Obesity Professional Education) certification.

Dr Elsherif expressed his hope for the successful implementation of the programme, highlighting its potential to better support doctors and improve patient care. (QNA)

## QatarDebate wraps up Adjudicators Academy in Berlin

QNA  
Berlin

In co-operation with the Arab Cultural House (The Diwan) in Germany, QatarDebate wrapped up the Adjudicators Academy on Sunday.

Held in Berlin, Germany for three days, the event is part of ongoing efforts to enhance debating skills in Arabic within Germany and expand the debate community in Europe.

The programme prepared participants to become professional debating judges and coaches, and included a range of advanced practical activities and discussions on matters such as managing judging sessions efficiently, addressing potential issues that could pop up during debates, and making sound and objective judgments.

Debate instructor at QatarDebate Center Abdulrahman Alkubaisi said that the event provided rich and carefully tailored training content to enhance individual and



collective skills in debate judging and coaching.

Alkubaisi added that participants learned how to analyse debates and assess the arguments and evidence presented by various parties, in addition to being subjected to a practical test in the form of a mock debate.

In turn, the Director General of the Arab Cultural House Dr Lawrence al-Hanawi stressed the importance of the Adjudicators

Academy in cultivating a culture of discussion and dialogue. He encouraged participants from various backgrounds to exchange opinions and perspectives in a civilised manner and to promote constructive critical dialogue on contemporary issues affecting society.

Al-Hanawi praised QatarDebate's pivotal role in promoting dialogue and constructive discussion, adding that through its rich programmes, the centre has truly



become a haven for free debate and a platform for promoting the Arabic language.

The director general of the Arab Cultural House expressed his hope for further co-operation in the form of more joint training and qualifying programmes for judges and coaches in both Arabic and German, in addition to launching Arab-German cultural and civilisational dialogues under the umbrella of the Oasis of Dialogue.

Moreover, he emphasised the importance of investing in the youth by expanding their knowledge and developing their skills.

Al-Hanawi said that the Arab Cultural House's vision is to bring the Arabic and German cultures closer together, serving as a platform for constructive dialogue and cultural exchange.

He noted that it offers more than 16 cultural programmes, ranging from Arabic language courses



and teaching Arabic musical instruments, to films, photography workshops, and theatre, in addition to issuing the *Der Divan* cultural magazine in both Arabic and German which features a selection of academics.

Al-Hanawi added that the Arab Cultural House also offers various workshops, discussion circles, an audio and podcast library, and translating of Arabic books into German, among others. (QNA)

## Tiggo 9: A Revolutionary Work of the Tiggo Family Design Language



As the high-end flagship model of the Tiggo family, the Tiggo 9 embodies the brand's philosophy of "Conquer with You Guard for Love." Whether navigating bustling urban streets or traversing vast plains, the Tiggo 9 is always the focus of everyone's attention.

Adopting the upgraded Tiggo family design, the Tiggo 9 is grand and majestic, steady yet sophisticated. The simple and sleek body lines, combined with an imposing front face design, showcase the power and safety. The front face design of Tiggo 9 cleverly integrates the principles of bionics, drawing on the the raised tiger eyebrow bow and sharp teeth shape to showcase the domineering, brave power of the front face while also giving the car a vivid, natural, and wild expression. The family style shield grille design and the unique tiger-shaped front face give it a domineering and majestic posture. Tiger eye diamond 3d relief diamond grille adopts the form of three-

dimensional relief to arrange each star diamond in an orderly manner. Each diamond shines with charming and shining brilliance, perfectly integrating nature, art, and luxury. The brand emblem is positioned at the golden ratio center of the grille, exuding a confident and authoritative luxury presence. The biomimetic "Tiger Roar" contour broadens the front end, highlighting the vehicle's strength and power, creating a powerful and recognizable design. The "Tiger Stripe Loop" fog light area is adorned with a repetitive, architecturally artistic sequence of tiger stripes, enhancing the visual depth and three-dimensionality while conveying a sense of dynamic spatial flow.

The body proportions of the Tiggo 9 follow the world's classic golden ratio design philosophy to achieve visual harmony and artistic beauty. The waistline design extends from the front fender all the way to the rear, gradually disappearing at the rear of the car, giving the car a smooth



and composed silhouette. Paired with a full and pure body shape, it showcases a majestic posture and also reflects the pursuit of luxury and quality. The high recognition through tail lights contains sparkling diamonds, which are arranged in an orderly manner like the finest diamond jewelry. They are like the sharp eyes of a tiger in the dark night, full of vitality and artistic beauty, and show luxurious texture in the details.

The Tiggo 9 is not only a luxury car; its luxurious interior and spacious space, combined with high-tech configuration, bring users leapfrog enjoyment and aim to create a comfortable and pleasant driving experience. The ultra-wide smart cockpit features an enveloping design and provides a sense of security and warmth with its horizontal design. At the same time, it also widens the horizontal visual space of the cabin, creating a spacious and comfortable sense of relaxation. The spacious interior

space elevates the space enjoyment to a new level, bringing users a leapfrog enjoyment. The diamond-shaped embossed knobs in the car are finely carved, beautiful and non-slip. The characteristic lines of the door panels are stretched and slender, as elegant and light as silk, giving a noble temperament. The elegant wood-grain diaphragm creates a natural and quiet sense of luxury, making every inch of the car full of warmth and tranquility. The most eye-catching is Queen's co-pilot, which can be comfortably laid down with one click, bringing an excellent experience.

The Tiggo 9, the flagship of the Tiggo family, introduces a revolutionary design language that offers users a new driving experience. This model not only showcases Chery's design prowess but also represents a deep exploration of future automotive lifestyles. Let's look forward to how the Tiggo 9, with its unique design language, will lead a new wave in automotive design.



# Special adviser to UN chief: Amir's speeches focus on joint efforts

**H**E the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General of the UN on Public-Private Partnerships and Islamic Social Finance Dr Ahmed bin Mohammed al-Muraikhi described the speeches of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani before the UN General Assembly as comprehensive.

He added that these speeches address a range of issues, from security and peace to sustainable development and human rights, focusing on international co-operation and collective action, reflecting Qatar's desire to facilitate dialogue between nations and to seek collective solutions.

In an interview with Qatar News Agency (QNA), he added that the annual participation of His Highness the Amir at the UN General Assembly meetings highlights his deep concern for global issues. He added that the speeches of His Highness the Amir also demonstrate a clear vision of the problems and challenges facing the

international community. He also said that this participation reflects His Highness' commitment to actively contributing to finding solutions to regional and international crises.

The Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General noted that His Highness the Amir consistently emphasises the importance of exchanging views and expertise between nations, noting that this approach can contribute to developing effective strategies that support global development and address contemporary challenges, adding that the efforts of His Highness reaffirm Qatar's role as a key player on the international stage.

Regarding Qatar's contributions and its various roles in the UN General Assembly and its partnerships with the international organisation and its agencies, Dr al-Muraikhi said Qatar plays a prominent role in the General Assembly, striving to promote dialogue between nations and

support humanitarian causes by emphasising human rights and sustainable development.

He said Qatar has made significant contributions to UN discussions, and these participations highlight its commitment to international stability and peace.

He added that, through various partnerships, Qatar has built strong relationships with international organisations, collaborating with UN bodies and agencies in education, relief, and development. He noted that this co-operation has enhanced Qatar's influence in international decision-making, giving it a prominent voice on global issues.

He pointed out that Qatar's contributions extend to financial and technical support, investing in development projects in conflict-affected areas and providing aid to refugees and those in need, noting that the focus has been on achieving social and economic stability in these areas, making Qatar a key player on the international scene.

Regarding Qatar's humanitarian and developmental role through its various initiatives and partnerships with the UN, Dr al-Muraikhi emphasised that Qatar plays a significant and distinguished role in both humanitarian and developmental fields.

This is evident through its numerous and fruitful partnerships with the UN and its different organisations. Through these partnerships, His Excellency said Qatar seeks to enhance and develop comprehensive and diverse initiatives aimed at improving living conditions for people worldwide, whether in education, health or economic development.

He added that, through its ongoing efforts, Qatar demonstrates its deep commitment to achieving sustainable development not only in the region but also globally, reflecting its vision as an active contributor to the wellbeing of societies. He also noted that, through close co-operation with the UN, Qatar contributes to the



HE Special Adviser to the Secretary-General of the UN on Public-Private Partnerships and Islamic Social Finance Dr Ahmed bin Mohammed al-Muraikhi speaks to QNA.

implementation of humanitarian programmes that directly address various crises impacting numerous countries and peoples. These programmes include providing emergency food and financial aid and offering diverse support to countries facing humanitarian crises.

Qatar has also led many projects

aimed at achieving social justice and enhancing job opportunities for both citizens and residents. These efforts not only improve people's lives and alleviate their suffering but also strengthen strategic relationships with other countries and organisations, promoting international co-operation. (QNA)

# Amir's participation in UNGA elevates Qatar's global role

**QNA**  
Washington

**F**ormer Charge d'Affaires of the US embassy in Qatar William Grant emphasised that the participation of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani in the meetings of the UN General Assembly (UNGA), today, consolidates Qatar's international position and confirms the importance that Qatar attaches to the UN and its strong participation in it.

In his remarks to Qatar News Agency (QNA), he indicated that it is almost certain that the war on Gaza will dominate the discussions this year. He added that Qatar has a strong role to play in explaining what it is trying to do and how it is trying to bring peace, not only in Gaza but in the whole region.

Regarding Qatar's active role in the UN, he said Qatar provides voluntary contributions to multiple important UN programmes and has strong activity in various events and sessions, which is noticeable through its representative in the UN.

Concerning the relations between Qatar and the US, the

**Special Interview with Qatar News Agency**

**William Grant**  
Former Charge d'Affaires of US Embassy in Qatar

**Participation of HH the Amir in UNGA Meetings Consolidates Qatar's International Position and Confirms the Importance That Qatar Attaches to UN**

- United Nations
- Qatar Provides Voluntary Contributions to Multiple Important UN Programs
- Qatar-US Relations Become More Important Due to War in Gaza
- Gaza Conflict Demonstrated Importance of Qatar's Role for Peace in Region
- Qatar Helped US a Lot, the Latest of Which Were Contacts with Iran and Afghanistan

former charge d'affaires of the US embassy in Qatar indicated that the relations between the two countries have always been very strong. He noted that the relations have become more important in 2023 due to the war in Gaza, where the two countries have been working in an attempt

to reach a ceasefire.

In this context, Grant praised Qatar's role in this field, voicing his hope that there would be a ceasefire in Gaza soon and that it would be possible to work on rebuilding Gaza and returning to a peaceful situation.

He pointed out that this con-

flict demonstrated the importance of Qatar's role for peace in the region and to put an end to this war that has been ongoing for almost a year. He noted that the US government, led by US President Joe Biden, Secretary of State Antony Blinken, and other senior officials, all communicated with His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani and other Qatari officials to thank them for the important work that Qatar is doing.

In conclusion, he pointed out that Qatar has helped the US a lot, the latest of which was the contacts with Iran and Afghanistan, with which the US has no direct contact, and explained that Qatar plays an important role for the US in helping to establish indirect contacts to address problems that may arise. On the humanitarian side, the former charge d'affaires also noted the assistance provided by Qatar in the US, where it made significant donations to programmes to help veterans who lost their homes in the US, youth groups and others, which shows – in his opinion – the Qatari side that does not engage in politics, but engages in humanitarian relations and maintains the importance of these relations.

# Palestine's UN representative praises Amir's support

**P**ermanent Observer of Palestine to the UN Riyadh Mansour praised the supportive positions of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani for the Palestinian people and their just cause in establishing an independent sovereign state.

Riyadh Mansour expressed to Qatar News Agency (QNA) his gratitude to the government of Qatar and His Highness the Amir for their continuous fraternal positions in support of Palestine, which are received by the Palestinian people and leadership with appreciation and respect.

Regarding Qatar's supportive positions regarding the Palestinian people at the UN, Mansour said Qatar and its Permanent Representative have been at the forefront of countries supporting the rights of the Palestinian people throughout his work at the UN.

He added that his work at the UN mainly operates within the

framework of the Arab Group, which includes HE the Permanent Representative of Qatar to the UN Sheikh Alya Ahmed bin Saif al-Thani, standing united in support of the Palestinian cause.

He added that Qatar has significant initiatives on the global stage and consistently advocates for humanitarian agendas be it by supporting or by hosting international conferences and forums.

Mansour added that Qatar's role in all humanitarian causes is evident to all currently, as it does not limit itself to certain issues, rather it operates within a wide margin, thus, enabling it to have a tangible role in various international causes, including the Palestinian cause.

Since the Israeli war commenced on October 7, Qatar has been doing an exceptional effort to reach a ceasefire in the Gaza Strip together with a number of partners, adding that as of now, Arab, Islamic, and International efforts at the UN resulted



with the adoption of 4 International resolutions in support of a ceasefire, the last of which was resolution 2735, which calls for a ceasefire and the exchange of hostages and prisoners, said the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the UN.

He pointed out that the international community has so far not succeeded in compelling the Israeli occupation to cease its attacks in Gaza, stressing the need for international action, especially on the part of the US, to pressure Israel to stop its aggres-

sion against the Palestinian people and to adhere to US President Joe Bidens initiative, in addition to the relevant international resolutions.

The Permanent Observer of Palestine to the UN remarked that a ceasefire would protect the thousands of Palestinian victims who fall daily, asserting that every day the ceasefire is delayed results in more innocent casualties. He expressed hope that Qatar, with the assistance of the US and Egypt, would succeed in achieving an immediate ceasefire. (QNA)

# Geopolitical risks and economic challenges cast shadow over UNGA agenda

With the increase in geopolitical risks, security tensions, and climate change, it is expected that a number of important and diverse economic issues will be included on the agenda of the 79th session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA 79), as the world has suffered from a broad financial and economic recession in recent years due to various circumstances and influences.

The global economic crises have been exacerbated by many factors and causes, especially the repercussions of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Russian-Ukrainian war that has been ongoing since February 2022, the Israeli aggression on the Gaza Strip, as well as natural factors linked to climate changes that have affected large parts of the world, all of which have cast a shadow over the activity of global trade and economic movement in general.

This comes in light of the efforts to achieve the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Plan, which was adopted in 2015 and focuses on 17 main sustainable development goals and 169 sub-goals, covering a wide range of global issues and working to address them, such as poverty, hunger, health, education, gender equality, clean water, sustainable energy, economic growth, reducing inequality, environmental protection, peace, justice, and strong institutions.

In remarks to Qatar News Agency, economist Fawaz al-Hajri said that there is no doubt that Qatar, under the leadership of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani and his constant participation in the work of the UNGA, has a positive and developmental role in driving the wheel of development, progress, and success for all of humanity. Al-Hajri believes that through the UNGA meetings, Qatar can contribute significantly to creating development opportunities that enable peoples to achieve stability through its financial and in-kind contributions, such as its support for the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) and other UN agencies, as well as supporting many technical programmes that support production and energy exports to the world, investing in clean energy, supporting environmentally friendly policies, developing its sovereign fund, and diversifying

various sources of income. Fawaz al-Hajri anticipates that the most important issues expected to be raised during the UNGA will be those related to the development of humanity through supporting development projects and supporting innovation in various sciences such as medicine and technology, which contributes to the development of peoples, achieving justice and equality, raising the standard of living for all humanity, and eliminating poverty and unemployment. He pointed out that the key economic challenges and issues facing the UN and the international community are eliminating poverty and unemployment, harnessing available economic resources to provide a decent life for all peoples, and benefiting from technological development to increase productivity and wellbeing.

For his part, Associate Professor of investment Risk Analysis at Al Albayt University, Jordan, Dr Omar Gharaibeh told QNA that the UN data indicate that what has been achieved from the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Plan is some progress in terms of goals, although it is clear but little, such as the decline in poverty rates in some areas, for example, Bangladesh from 40% to 20% and Ethiopia from 45% to 23%, increasing access to basic education such as Vietnam by 100% and Malawi by 90%, and improving access to clean water such as Uganda and Nepal from 56% to about 79%.

In the same context, the existence of challenges has slowed the achievement of many goals and hindered progress in some other areas, including eradicating extreme poverty, achieving gender equality, and addressing climate change. Global crises such as the Covid-19 pandemic and increasing geopolitical risks have led to disparities in implementation to achieve the goals from one region to another.

Gharaibeh believes that the challenges associated with financing and partnerships to obtain sufficient resources are among the reasons hindering some projects. Therefore, in light of these challenges facing progress in achieving the sustainable development goals by 2030, there is still a great need for co-ordinated and renewed efforts. (QNA)

# Amir's speeches 'offer visions, solutions for regional and global conflicts'

**H**E the Special Envoy of the Minister of Foreign Affairs Ambassador Faisal bin Abdullah al-Hanzab noted that speeches of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani during United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) sessions are comprehensive and include views on resolving conflicts and addressing regional and international issues.

He explained that Qatar's participation in the upcoming session of the General Assembly will focus on upholding human dignity through building and sustaining peace and promoting sustainable development.

In an interview with the Qatar News Agency (QNA) on the occasion of 79th session of the United Nations General Assembly, al-Hanzab said that Amir's speech at the last General Assembly session in September 2023 did not only reaffirm Qatar's steadfast positions on various issues in the Arab region, such as calling for a just political solution to the Palestinian issue based on international legitimacy, ending the tragedy of the Syrian people, halting the fighting in Sudan, finding a sustainable solution to the political vacuum in Lebanon, settling the Yemen crisis, and achieving a political resolution in Libya, it also proposed

visions for addressing several global problems and issues.

He added that the Amir's speeches called for united efforts to prevent the misuse of cyberspace and to regulate this vital area based on international law, emphasising the importance of international co-operation to prevent the waves of refugees, which have become a real problem for Europe, as well as for African and Asian countries, highlighting the necessity of combating racism, stopping campaigns that incite hatred against entire nations, religions, and civilisations, and stressing the need for international consensus in addressing climate change, environmental issues



in general, and the stark injustices represented by occupation, racism, and war crimes.

Regarding the key points that Qatar will focus on in high-level and extraordinary meetings and during

informal consultations, he indicated that Qatar seeks to participate effectively in UNGA's meetings annually. On the sidelines of the UNGA 79, Qatari officials will hold a series of bilateral and multilateral meet-

ings with their counterparts from various countries and representatives of international and regional organisations, in which they will review ways to strengthen relations in various fields, open new horizons for co-operation, and deepen strategic partnerships. Regarding the developments in the role of Qatar in mediation and peace-building operations in a number of countries such as Palestine, Afghanistan, Sudan, Lebanon, and others, Ambassador al-Hanzab stressed that out of its foreign policy based on the principle of consolidating international peace and security by encouraging the peaceful resolution of international disputes. (QNA)





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# Where is the war in Ukraine heading?

With Russian President Vladimir Putin's war of aggression against Ukraine now well into its third year, there are mounting questions about whether any sort of peace or victory is possible.

Much depends, of course, on how one defines those terms. For Putin, the explicitly stated objective is to eliminate Ukraine as an independent nation-state and subject it to Russian control. Yet after two and a half years and a massive mobilisation of military resources and manpower, Russia controls only around 18% of Ukraine's territory, and most of that was grabbed back in 2014. Set against Putin's war aims, the invasion has been a miserable failure.

Could this change? For a Russian victory to be even remotely possible, the West would need to end all forms of support – financial as well as military – to Ukraine, and the Ukrainian people would need to lose their will to resist. Absent either – or probably both – of these outcomes, Putin's war aim seems unachievable.

There are no signs of a loss of will on the Ukrainians' part. While a minority of respondents in opinion polls say they could accept some territorial concessions as a price for ending the war, these losses would fall far short of anything that would eliminate Ukraine from the map.

The many billions of dollars that have been flowing into Ukraine from Europe, the United States, and elsewhere have been crucial, and there are indeed questions about whether such support would continue if former US president Donald Trump retakes the White House in November. But one must remember that the even larger sums coming from the European Union represent little more than 0.3% of GDP for each member state, on average. With no sign that Europeans' political will is weakening, this support could perhaps be increased if necessary.

## Ukraine's future must be firmly secured by membership in the EU and reliable Western security arrangements

Moreover, Europe's production of ammunition is expanding, with projections that output will reach two million artillery rounds next year. Russia, meanwhile, seems to be struggling to increase production, and has become increasingly reliant on ammunition from North Korea.

This is part of a larger pattern. The Russian armed forces have consistently failed to pull off any successful large-scale offensive operations since the first weeks of the war. Though they have certainly tried – setting their sights on Kharkiv this summer – they have failed time and again. The bulk of Russian advances have been made by pulverising smaller cities.

To be sure, the Ukrainian army has had its challenges. It succeeded in pushing Russia back around Kherson and Kharkiv in 2022, but then its highly anticipated counteroffensive in the summer of 2023 failed spectacularly. Still, the sudden offensive into Russia's Kursk region last month has demonstrated new and impressive capabilities, as well as reminding the world of the Ukrainian forces' sheer grit and adaptability.

As matters stand, however, the Ukrainian army appears to have little chance of retaking the territory that Russia has occupied. It might well repeat the success of the Kursk operation somewhere along the front lines, which would have important political implications; but achieving sustained results beyond that will be challenging.

As long as Putin and his inner circle believe that they can grind down the will of the Ukrainians and their Western backers, they will continue the war. But when it dawns on them that this will not happen, and that Russia is on a path of increasingly rapid decline, things will change. Though it probably won't happen this year, it is not unlikely in 2025. Then, perhaps, one can envisage some sort of interim arrangement that ends the fighting, albeit without delivering "victory" to either side.

A lasting peace, however, is a more challenging prospect. It will not be possible until two conditions are met. First, Putin would have to lose power. He controls the Kremlin and Russian society with an iron grip, and he is far too wedded to his imperial obsession ever to accept a real peace. Second, Ukraine's future must be firmly secured by membership in the EU and reliable Western security arrangements.

Then, and only then, might peace be possible. Such an outcome would be a victory not only for Ukraine, but also for Russia. Freed from self-destructive imperial projects, it could finally start to work on becoming a normal, prosperous twenty-first-century nation-state. – Project Syndicate

## New Sri Lankan president takes charge



Sri Lanka's new President Anura Kumara Dissanayake speaks with the military and police chiefs after being sworn in as president at the Presidential Secretariat in Colombo yesterday. (Reuters)

# Technology in education: Today's innovations, tomorrow's challenges

QF experts explore how, in the midst of intense digital transformations, it has become essential for teachers to use innovative and engaging methods to support student learning

The 21st century is witnessing an unprecedented technological and informational revolution that has brought about dramatic transformations in different fields of knowledge and human experience. This revolution has touched every aspect of life, leading to a new era of global connectivity and cultural exchange.

At the heart of these transformations, digital technology has emerged as one of the most significant results of technological progress. Initially, its use was limited to being a tool for social interaction; a luxury that could be dispensed with without impacting our daily lives. However, over time, it has evolved to influence every aspect of our lives – extending far beyond being merely a means of communication, and taking on pivotal roles in areas such as healthcare, increasing productivity, improving quality of life, enhancing security and safety measures, and equipping people with job skills.

Over recent years, many educational institutions – from schools and vocational institutes to colleges and universities – have integrated digital platforms into their teaching methods. Students have embraced these platforms as valuable educational tools, leading to the emergence of blended learning, where traditional classroom learning is blended with online education. And this has raised questions about the role of technology in the educational process, and its impact on students.

As Al-Jawhara H al-Thani, Head of Wellbeing and Safeguarding at Qatar Foundation's (QF) Pre-University Education, says: "Technology occupies a significant part of our lives, with mobile phones now viewed as powerful educational tools. However, sometimes it can be challenging for children to use them consciously and responsibly, and this difficulty extends to many adults as well. "I believe the key is to ensure that their environment remains stimulating by providing engaging classrooms that reflect their reality."

This view is supported by Fatima al-Mutawaa, a Research and Grant Specialist at QF member Doha International Family Institute (DIFI). Reflecting on research conducted by DIFI, she said: "The study indicates that effective integration of technology in the classroom results in valuable educational experiences, boosts student performance, and fosters advanced thinking and collaborative problem-solving. "Students who use the internet for academic purposes, for instance, generally attain higher grades than those who use it primarily for entertainment."

On the other hand, technology comes with its own challenges. With the increasing integration of digital tools and platforms into



Fatima al-Mutawaa, a Research and Grant Specialist at QF member DIFI.

educational curricula, concerns have emerged about the misuse of technology for purposes other than education.

"There has been a significant rise in cyberbullying among students, resulting in increased stress and anxiety that adversely affects their concentration, motivation, and academic achievement," says Al-Mutawaa. "Many parents have reported that their children have faced negative online interactions, highlighting this as a major concern."

"Another troubling trend is the increase in cyber extortion cases, where students are threatened with the exposure of personal information or photos unless they meet specific demands. We call on the community to report these incidents."

Al-Mutawaa explained that cyberbullying and extortion lead to severe emotional and psychological stress, affecting students' well-being and academic performance. She

believes it is essential for parents and educators to establish clear policies and support systems to address these issues and ensure a safe online environment for all students.

Al-Thani added: "Managing distractions is not just up to the students; the educational environment also plays a crucial role. It should be engaging enough to keep students motivated without them having to look elsewhere."

"Giving students sufficient time to interact with peers and the freedom to organise their own schedules is essential. Also, students' interactions with their daily lives outside the classroom are significant. The lessons they learn in school should be relevant and applicable to their real-world experiences."

For more information about the study conducted by the Doha International Family Institute, visit: <https://difi.org.qa/press-release/difi-addresses-digital-changes-and-their-impact-on-families-in-a-changing-world/>

The 30th anniversary of the International Year of the Family Conference on Family and Contemporary Megatrends, organised by DIFI, will be held from October 30-31, 2024 at Qatar National Convention Centre. It will bring together experts, policymakers, and thought leaders from around the world to discuss the challenges and opportunities facing families and societies in the modern era. For more information about the conference and its sessions, and to register, visit [www.difi.org.qa/iyf30/](http://www.difi.org.qa/iyf30/)



### Education City - The City Beyond Education x Qatar Foundation

QF's Education City is an exciting destination that offers Qatar's communities and visitors a wide range of activities and experiences. From sports, culture, arts, and heritage to architecture, environmentally focused outdoor spaces, and accessibility-friendly events, Education City is The City Beyond Education.

To explore upcoming events and happenings, and find out how to reach Education City, please visit: <https://www.qf.org.qa/education/education-city>. You can also book your classes, events and activities on the Education City App, which can be downloaded through Apple or Google Play.

### Qatar Foundation - Unlocking Human Potential

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF) is a non-profit organisation that supports Qatar on its journey to becoming a diversified and sustainable economy. QF strives to serve the people of Qatar and beyond by providing specialised programs across its innovation-focused ecosystem of education, research and development, and community development.

QF was founded in 1995 by His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, the Father Amir, and Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, who shared the vision to provide Qatar with quality education. Today, QF's world-class education system offers lifelong learning opportunities to community members as young as six months through to doctoral level, enabling graduates to thrive in a global environment and contribute to the nation's development.

QF is also creating a multidisciplinary innovation hub in Qatar, where homegrown researchers are working to address local and global challenges. By promoting a culture of lifelong learning and fostering social engagement through programmes that embody Qatari culture, QF is committed to empowering the local community and contributing to a better world for all.

For a complete list of QF's initiatives and projects, please visit: [www.qf.org.qa](http://www.qf.org.qa)

To stay up to date on our social media activities, follow our accounts on: Instagram, Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn. For any media inquiries, please contact: [pressoffice@qf.org.qa](mailto:pressoffice@qf.org.qa)

### DIFI

A member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF), Doha International Family Institute (DIFI) is a global policy and advocacy body working to advance knowledge on Arab families and promote evidence-based programmes at national, regional, and international levels.

DIFI was established in 2006 under the 2004 Doha Declaration, which affirms the international community's commitments to strengthening the family considering it is society's natural and basic unit. DIFI encourages governments, international organisations, and members of civil society to take measures to enhance and support the family, to achieve the vision and the ultimate goal of effectively empowering it.

As a QF member, DIFI is a vital contributor to QF's efforts to build healthy, highly educated societies, founded on cohesive, close-knit families, in the State of Qatar and the region as a whole. Moreover, DIFI has a special consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

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## Qatar supports UN objectives, regional stability, says adviser on US foreign policy

Energy strategist and adviser on US foreign policy Dr Umud Shokri has noted that Qatar has demonstrated strong support for United Nations objectives and regional stability over the past decade through co-operation with other regional and international actors.

In an interview with the Qatar News Agency (QNA), he said that Qatar firmly believes in the importance of commitment to the UN's objectives and the support and enhancement of multilateral co-operation.

Dr Shokri expressed his eagerness to listen to the speech of His Highness the Amir

Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani at the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) meeting, currently held in UN headquarters in New York.

He expects His Highness the Amir to focus on the situation in Gaza, regional and global co-operation, the need for reform in global governance structures, as well as other significant global issues such as cybersecurity, global education, and climate change.

Dr Shokri added that Qatar is highly interested in the energy sector and is keen on expanding its investments and partnerships, particularly as a major player in the

liquefied natural gas (LNG) market.

Therefore, he said that it is anticipated that His Highness the Amir will address these topics in his upcoming speech.

Dr Shokri emphasised Qatar's strong role in regional stability and the global energy market, stating that the Qatari role will increase in the coming year.

The adviser on US foreign policy said that this UNGA session will be more significant than previous ones, adding that there will be a major discussion at the upcoming session concerning Palestine and Israel, especially regarding the current war in Gaza.

He pointed out that without an agreement between the two sides and a ceasefire, it is extremely difficult to deliver humanitarian aid to Gaza, where the people have been living in a state of war since the events of October 7 and are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance.

Regarding relations between Qatar and the US, Dr Shokri explained that over the past decade, there have been strong relations between Qatar and the US in areas such as energy, defence, and advanced technology.

On the political relations front, he highlighted the desire of both countries to

strengthen their ties in all areas.

He expressed optimism about the future of Qatar-US relations, noting that Qatar has very strong financial potential and the US possesses advanced technology, with no conflict between the national interests of Washington and Doha.

Dr Shokri affirmed in the conclusion of his interview that Qatar supports the US's goal and initiative regarding the cessation of the war on Gaza, highlighting Qatar's role in facilitating an agreement between Israel and Hamas, the need for humanitarian aid to enter Gaza, and the release of hostages. - QNA

## 3-day seminar on drugs, their impact on societal security

Under the patronage of HE the Minister of Interior and Commander of the Internal Security Force (Lekhwiya) Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, the seminar on "Drugs and Their Impact on Societal Security" commenced on Sunday.

The three-day seminar is organised by the Ministry of Interior (MoI), represented by the Centre for Security Research and Studies at the Police Academy, in collaboration with Saudi Arabia's Naif Arab University for Security Sciences and the GCC Criminal Information Centre to Combat Drugs.

The opening session at the Police Academy was attended by HE the Minister of State for Interior Affairs Sheikh Abdulaziz bin Faisal bin Mohammed al-Thani, Naif Arab University for Security Sciences (NAUSS) president Dr Abdulmajeed bin Abdullah Albanyan, and a number of MoI senior officials and specialists and various concerned entities and experts.

The seminar discusses various topics and axes on drugs and their impact on societal security, and highlights the role of civil society

institutions in reducing the spread of drugs.

In his speech during the seminar, Police Academy president Brigadier-General Abdul Rahman Majid al-Sulaiti said the seminar represents a practical model of serious co-operation and active security co-ordination.

He said that the Police Academy looks forward to this seminar contributing to highlighting the latest preventative and therapeutic interventions and having a positive impact in achieving the desired goals of this co-operation, as well as being a scientific platform for launching effective recommendations and qualitative programmes that have a positive role in safeguarding societies.

Dr Albanyan warned of the destructive effects of drugs, highlighting that they target young people who are the pillars of the future, are linked to the spread of crime that cause great harm to the family, and result in serious security, economic, and environmental consequences for societies, in addition to their connection to corruption and illicit financial flows.



Snapshots from the three-day seminar on 'Drugs and Their Impact on Societal Security' at the Police Academy.

The first day of the seminar saw the presentation of several papers on anti-drug experiences from Qatar, France, and Egypt.

The director-general of drug enforcement at the Ministry of Interior, Staff Colonel Rashid Saree al-Kaabi, presented a paper titled *The Role of Civil Society Institutions in Combating Drug Abuse and Its Impact on Society - Strategies and Challenges: A Case Study on Qatar*.

He highlighted Qatar's anti-drug strategy, the role of civil society in drug prevention, challenges, and the joint preventative programmes



and activities conducted with civil society institutions.

Dr Dominique Luciani Mian, a faculty member at the department of private law and criminal justice at France's University of Lyon, discussed *The French Experience in Combating Drugs: Reality and Prospects*.

Major-General Dr Hisham al-Zoghbi, former assistant minister of interior for the anti-narcotics, weapons, and ammunition sector in Egypt, presented a paper on *Towards a Comprehensive Strategy to Combat Drug and Psychoactive*

*Substance Crimes*, in which he shed light on the global situation and proposed a modern security strategy for combating drugs.

The seminar included a presentation by Dr Khalifa Jaham al-Kuwari, the assistant director-general of the Naufar Centre, on *Strategies for Establishing a National and Regional Model for Combating Drug Addiction in the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) Countries: A Practitioner's Perspective*.

Dr Iman Rajab, director of the Regional Centre for Combating Drugs and Crime at the NAUSS,

contributed a paper on the subject of *Drug Prevention Programmes and Policies: Between Reality and Expectations*.

Chief executive of Saudi Arabia's National Committee for Combating Drugs (Nebras), Dr Sami bin Khalid al-Hamoud, focused on the role of family skills in addiction prevention.

The final paper of the day was presented by Ion Graba from Romania's Combating Organised Crime Directorate, discussing co-operation in security and judicial fields to tackle drug-related challenges.

The first day of the seminar also witnessed the display of a documentary about the NAUSS and the Police Academy.

The film highlighted the co-operation between the two parties and the mutual activities and visits to achieve the desired goals of the two institutions. - QNA

## Doha Forum, IPI sign MoU

The Doha Forum and the International Peace Institute (IPI) have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to collaborate on developing content to address issues related to global governance and help shape the agenda of the Doha Forum's annual flagship event, scheduled to be held from December 7-8, under the theme of *The Innovation Imperative*.



Under the MoU, the IPI joins the Doha Forum's expanded network of partners, which includes world-class research centres in the US, Europe, and the Middle East, as well as Asia, Latin America, and Africa.

The MoU was signed on behalf of the Doha Forum by the general manager Maha al-Kuwari, and by IPI president Prince Zeid bin Ra'ad al-Hussein, President of the Institute. - QNA

## Qatar at meeting of 9th Arab Media Excellence Award Committee

Qatar has participated in the first meeting of the Arab Media Excellence Award Committee, in its 9th edition, held yesterday at the headquarters of the General Secretariat of the Arab League in Cairo.

Qatar was represented in the meeting by the deputy permanent representative of Qatar to the Arab League, Maryam Ahmed al-Shibi.

Al-Shibi underlined in her speech during the meeting the importance of the role of the media in light of the crises and intertwined and interconnected challenges witnessed by the Arab world, referring in this context in particular to the tragic events and deteriorating humanitarian conditions witnessed by the Gaza Strip as a result

of the Israeli aggression.

She stressed the need to support Arab media initiatives in confronting the misleading and distorting facts practiced by some media outlets, noting that the media has become an effective "weapon", whether for destruction or creation.

Al-Shibi expressed her thanks to Kuwait for sponsoring and supporting this award.

She also appreciated the efforts of the Technical Secretariat of the Council of Arab Information Ministers for following up on the work of the award in terms of editing and preparation.

Ambassador Ahmed Rashid Khattabi, the assistant secretary-general and head of the Media and

Communication Sector at the Arab League, said in a statement published by the Arab League that the 9th Arab Media Excellence Award will be held under the slogan *Arab Youth and New Media*, and that applications for the award will be accepted from October 1 until March 31, 2025.

He said that the conditions for applying for the award and the target groups will be announced via the Arab League's official website.

The General Secretariat of the Council of Arab Information Ministers launched the Arab Media Excellence Award in 2015 as one of the activities to celebrate Arab Media Day, which falls on April 21 of each year, where a specific topic is determined to win this award



Maryam Ahmed al-Shibi

that is presented to Arab media institutions and media professionals who have presented distinguished media works that serve the issues of the Arab world.

The award includes is divided into four main categories - radio, television, newspaper, and electronic media works - and several sub-categories. - QNA

## 9th Sheikh Faisal Bin Qassim Al Thani Educational Research Award launched

Al Faisal Without Borders Foundation (Alf), in co-operation with Qatar University (QU)'s College of Education, announced yesterday the launch of the 9th edition of the Sheikh Faisal Bin Qassim Al Thani Educational Research Award for the academic year 2024-25.

The award, given annually to outstanding researchers from academic scholars, teachers, school principals, and professional practitioners in the Arab world, is aimed at promoting research, knowledge production, enhance educational practices, and develop educational policies.

Alf general manager Abdullatif Ali al-Yafei noted that in the 8th edition of the award in 2023, more than 300 researchers from various educational fields across different categories participated from all over the Arab world.

This year, the Alf aims to further globalise the award and build international partnerships to enhance its impact.

College of Education dean Dr Asma Abdullah al-Attayah emphasised the significance of the ongoing partnership with the Alf in supporting the journey of research excellence.

She described the award as a beacon for developing educational research and providing an opportunity for researchers from various Arab countries and experts.

In a statement, HE Sheikh Faisal bin Qassim al-Thani, chairman of the Alf board of trustees, noted that through this award, the Alf seeks to support educational research for students, researchers, academics, educational leaders, and teachers across various educational institutions in the Arab world, promoting a culture of educational research, development, and advancing



Engineer Abdullatif Ali al-Yafei and Dr Abdel Latif Sellami.

teaching and learning practices to keep pace with the rapid changes.

QU president Dr Omar al-Ansari highlighted the importance of the award, which he said reflects Qatar's commitment to fostering a culture of excellence and innovation to enhance the processes of teaching and learning.

Dr Abdel Latif Sellami, director of the Educational Research Centre at the QU's College of Education, and a member of the award's executive committee, recalled that the first meeting was held earlier this month.

## QC project enhances educational stability in Yemen

Qatar Charity (QC) has implemented a significant project to support education in Yemen's Hajjah and Ibb governorates, a statement said yesterday.

The project involved renovating several non-operational schools, providing incentives to hundreds of teachers, and distributing school bags and supplies to thousands of students at the start of the new academic year.

The project, which began last year and was completed this year, comes amid a severe deterioration in Yemen's educational conditions, as reported by international humanitarian organisations.

The ongoing crisis, now in its ninth year, has negatively impacted the continuity of education in schools due to a lack of necessities and the suspension of teachers' salaries.



This situation has, in turn, exacerbated the issue of student dropouts.

The project aims to enhance educational opportunities and encourage students to return to school.

It included key activities focused on improving educational

conditions and supporting teachers and students in these marginalised areas and villages within the two targeted governorates.

The education support project rehabilitated eight schools in remote and marginalised villages and provided financial incentives to

more than 300 teachers, both male and female, for several months.

Around 4,100 students received school bags containing essential school supplies and stationery.

Fathi Abdu Ali al-Basir, head of the projects and equipment division at the Education Office in the Ibb Governorate, expressed gratitude to the QC for its support in the education sector in Al Dhihar and Dhi As Sufal districts.

In a related development, the QC's intervention at Ali Bin Abi Talib School in Hajjah Governorate has made a significant difference.

Principal Ahmed Qa'id al-Sharqi said the assistance has revitalised the school, and stabilised the educational process.

"We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Qatar Charity and to the generous people of Qatar," the official said.



# MoECC launches eco-friendly 'Green Cement'

The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MoECC) has announced the introduction of "Green Cement", made from solid sewage waste, in line with environmental and sustainability standards and in support of the circular economy.

The announcement came at a seminar under the patronage and in the presence of HE the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Dr Abdullah bin Abdulaziz bin Turki al-Subaie.

The seminar was attended by HE the Minister of Municipality Abdullah bin Hamad bin Abdullah al-Attayah and HE the Minister of Education and Higher Education Buthaina bint Ali al-Jabr al-Nuaimi.

The research team, which includes Dr Mohamed Saif al-Kuwari and Dr Khaled Hassan, in collaboration with Queen's University Belfast of the UK and several government entities and private sector companies that contributed to the project, were honoured on the occasion.

The seminar featured a visual presentation of the project by the research team, with the attendance of consultants and experts in the fields of environmental sustainability, road construction, cement, and building materials.

The project was discussed from both technical and practical perspectives.

In his address, HE Dr al-Subaie, praised the efforts of the scientific research team in transforming solid sewage waste into environment-friendly green cement, aligning with Qatar National Vision 2030 Vision and sustainability.

He stressed Qatar's interest in supporting and promoting scientific research and innovation, under the wise leadership's directives.

The minister also highlighted the ministry's focus on applied scientific research that tackles the challenges in the fields of the environment, climate, wildlife, and sustainability, while encouraging researchers to conduct purposeful scientific studies.

Dr al-Kuwari, an environmental expert and engineering adviser at the Office of the Minister of Environment and Climate Change, stressed Qatar's commitment to protecting the environment and maintaining its natural balance to achieve comprehensive and sustainable development for all generations.

He specifically pointed out the priority areas, such as greenhouse gas emissions, air quality, biodiversity, water, the circular economy, waste management, and land sustainability.

This research promotes public-private sector partnerships to invest in natu-



Dr Mohamed Saif al-Kuwari speaking at the event.

ral green cement for use in construction projects and the manufacturing of engineering materials.

The production of "Green Cement" involves processing sludge from solid sewage waste through burning, grinding, and mixing it with stimulating materials.

It has been practically applied in the manufacturing of building blocks and foam concrete using recycled materials.

This innovation contributes to reducing the carbon footprint and protecting air, soil, and groundwater quality from pollutants while minimising the environmental impact of sludge.



HE the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Dr Abdullah bin Abdulaziz bin Turki al-Subaie (centre) with HE the Minister of Education and Higher Education Buthaina bint Ali al-Jabr al-Nuaimi and HE the Minister of Municipality Abdullah bin Hamad bin Abdullah al-Attayah at the seminar yesterday.

The idea for this innovation originated from the ministry's research team in collaboration with researchers from Qatar and Queen's University Belfast.

The project was submitted to the Qatar

National Research Fund competition in its 12th cycle in 2021 and underwent scientific and technical evaluation by global reviewers and experts in the field, achieving the highest evaluation grade (A) for a period of three years.

According to the available data, the accumulated sewage waste amounts to approximately 40,000 tonnes annually, which can be used to produce 40mn blocks or 150,000 cu m of foam concrete annually, contributing to reduced production costs.

The innovation is part of the MoECC's efforts to promote environmental sustainability and support the circular economy, which aims to reduce waste in materials, goods, and energy while maximising their sustainable use.

It also implements the fourth pillar of Qatar's Environment and Climate Change Strategy and is in harmony with the third National Development Strategy (2024-2030), which focuses on conserving natural resources, protecting ecosystems, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and enhancing resilience to future environmental threats.

## Green cement, an environment success story

The research project to make "Green Cement" from sewage sludge was undertaken by the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MoECC) in collaboration with Infrastructure Research & Development (IRD) at the Qatar Science & Technology Park (QSTP).

The project, titled "Green Cement: Scientific Innovation for a Better Environment and a Circular Economy", aligns with the Qatar National Environment and Climate Change Strategy 2030, which aims to develop a circular economy and implement efficient waste management practices.

The project addresses environmental challenges while implementing sustainable economic opportunities, in line with the Third National Development Strategy 2024-2030 and Qatar National Vision 2030.

On May 1, 2020, the Qatar National Research Fund

(QNRF), a division of the Qatar Research Development and Innovation Council (QRDI), awarded a \$599,894 grant to the MoECC scientific research team to produce green cement from solid sewage waste.

That project, titled "Development of a Novel Technology for Producing Green Cement and Advanced Construction Materials from Solid Waste", was developed by MoECC engineering consultant and environmental expert Dr Mohamed Saif al-Kuwari, IRD managing director Dr Khaled Hassan, scientists and researchers from Queen's University Belfast in the UK, and representatives from the Public Works Authority (Ashghal) and the construction industry.

The "Green Cement: Scientific Innovation for a Better Environment and a Circular Economy" project is set to serve the environment by reducing reliance on Portland cement and its high carbon footprint, preserving air, soil

and groundwater quality pollutants through the safe disposal of sewage sludge.

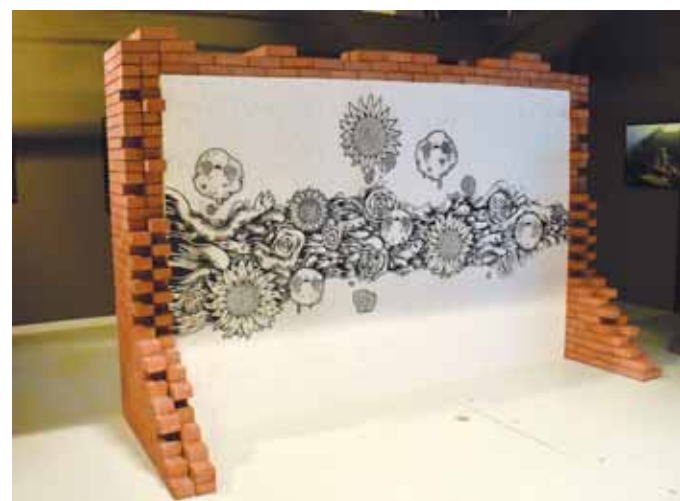
It also provides a sustainable option for specialised concrete applications in roads and infrastructure projects.

Sewage sludge is a sink for contaminants and its production increases every year due to population growth, leading to environmental challenges.

The World Bank report has estimated increased generation of global urban waste to reach 3.4bn tonnes by 2050.

Accumulation of such solid waste materials may cause environmental damage, destroy ecosystems, and create health risks for people, as well as its role in climate change and greenhouse gas emissions.

Hence, the urgent global need to develop waste management systems to reduce environmental damage and raise the rates of economic exploitation of this waste through recycling resources.



## Reverie Ruins installation portrays war-torn memories

By Joey Aguilar  
Staff Reporter

Artists Abdulla AlSallat and Oleksandra Umanska have partnered to produce stunning pieces, which reflect the haunting memories left behind by war-torn buildings.

Titled *Reverie Ruins*, this mixed-media in-

Left: A piece that represents a single wall from a ruined building adorned with a mural.

*Reverie Ruins* explores the deeper emotions tied to architectural destruction with both artists offering unique perspectives.

stallation - which fuses traditional drawing with 3D rendering - explores the deeper emotions tied to architectural destruction with both artists offering unique perspectives.

"What makes it unique is the emotional response to the real things that are happening in the world, and our approach to that response makes it different," AlSallat told *Gulf Times*.

Umanska, deeply connected to her Ukrainian heritage and the ongoing war in her country, created 3D renderings of buildings destroyed by the conflict.

AlSallat, in turn, drew over these images, expressing his feeling-driven reaction to the evocative structures.

Sharing the personal impact of the project, Umanska said: "We wanted to focus on the architecture, on the buildings destroyed by the war; if those buildings could talk, what stories could they say?"

"It's 3D-rendered but it's all based on real images and real reference images so there's a lot of references from the real buildings that were destroyed by war," she said.

"I myself am Ukrainian, so I had a strong attachment to the issue and I wanted to represent it in my art and Abdulla was very supportive of the idea," Umanska pointed out, noting that the artwork itself presents a powerful visual, including a piece that represents a single wall from a ruined building adorned with a mural.

*Reverie Ruins* brings the forgotten past into the present, raising questions about memory, loss, and the silent witnesses to human suffering.

About the future of art in the digital age, Umanska said: "I think both are very different and also incredibly interesting."

"I'm not talking about artificial intelligence (AI) digital artworks, I'm actually talking about 3D artists who generally spent as much time as traditional artists," she added. "So I think both are important, both are interesting."

AlSallat echoed this sentiment. "Any form of self-expression, there will



Oleksandra Umanska and Abdulla AlSallat showcase their works at 'A House Overlooking the World' exhibition at the Fire Station: Artist in Residence. PICTURES: Thajudheen

always be a space for it, whether it's traditional or non-traditional art," the Qatari artist said. Oleksandra loves to visualise her work or her vision through 3D designs.

"We're both expressing something and I think that's what's important and there's always a space for that," he added.

Both artists lauded the "Fire Station: Artist in Residence" programme for its support and resources, noting that such platform offers opportunities for local artists as well as those that moved to Doha from abroad - having exactly the same opportunity.

"We had amazing studio given to us for entire year, where we managed to do this beautiful work and the support of a great team," Umanska said.

*Reverie Ruins* is on view at "A House Overlooking the World" exhibition at Fire Station's Garage Gallery.

This latest show will run until December 31, providing visitors a window into the diverse artistic practices of 17 creators, all reflecting on the theme of self-discovery in a rapidly evolving world.

## QNL invites avid readers, book enthusiasts to join

The Qatar National Library (QNL) has launched its September 2024 membership campaign, targeting book enthusiasts and avid readers under the theme *QNL 4ALL*.

QNL is offering new subscribers who download its mobile app and borrow at least five books, either physical or digital, the chance to enter a prize draw.

Two lucky winners will be chosen at random on November 17.

This year's campaign will also reward the QNL's top 15 book borrowers of the 2023-24 year with special library gifts, split evenly among children, young adults, and adults. - *QNA*

## MoU signed to set up QR1bn salt plant

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This innovative facility will utilise reject water recovery from reverse osmosis (RO) desalination units, transforming waste from desalination processes into a valuable resource.

With a production capacity of 1mn tonnes per year, the plant will significantly reduce Qatar's reliance on imported raw materials, addressing the current import of approximately 850,000 tonnes of table and industrial salts annually.

As part of the TAWTEEN programme, the project will benefit from initiatives to enhance local content and support the growth of domestic industries. This collaboration highlights a strong public-private partnership aimed at achieving key national objectives.

## Amir's UN speech to focus on peace and development

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The participation of His Highness the Amir in the successive sessions of the UN General Assembly (UNGA) strongly confirms the support provided by Qatar to the UN, and its central role in organising international relations as well as the rule of law.

For many years, the UN platforms have acknowledged Qatar's active and permanent presence in the UN's various meetings and conferences at the highest levels, as well as the country's continuous contributions to serving humanity through the constructive decisions and initiatives it presents.

Over the past years, Qatar has received many messages of thanks and gratitude from the UN for its prominent roles in various fields, especially those related to human rights, such as establishing peace and security around the globe, and providing humanitarian and relief initiatives for afflicted and poor countries.

The president of the UNGA 79, Philemon Yang, will open the general debate today, after which world leaders will take turns to speak from national perspectives on this year's theme of *Leaving no one behind: acting together for the advancement of peace, sustainable development and human dignity for present and future generations*.

According to the UN website, a large number of representatives are participating in UNGA 79, including 78 leaders and presidents, two vice-presidents, one crown prince, 28 heads of government, three deputy prime ministers, and 13 ministers.

Brazil will be the first to deliver a speech before the UNGA, followed by the US as the host country of the international organisation's headquarters, after which representatives of member states will follow throughout the days of the general debate.

This debate is considered the highlight of each new session of the UNGA.

It is a global summit during which a large number of state and government leaders, or sometimes their deputies, meet within the UN premises and take the podium of the General Assembly Hall one by one to address an issue of their choice before the world.

In addition to the general debate, the UNGA holds several meetings on the margins of the high-level week of the session, namely: the Summit of the Future, the Plenary Meeting on Addressing the Existential Threats Posed by Sea Level Rise, the Plenary Meeting to Commemorate and Promote the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, and the Special Meeting on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR).

During the high-level week, two meetings mainly focusing on the situation in Palestine will be held.

The first meeting on September 25 will feature keynote speakers including Chief of UN Relief Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) Philippe Lazzarini and former UK prime minister Gordon Brown.

On September 26, the second high-level meeting will address support for UNRWA, during which UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres is expected to deliver opening remarks.

On September 10, the UNGA started its 79th regular session (UNGA 79), chaired by Yang. During this session, the State of Palestine obtained an official seat among the UN member states for the first time.

In his speech during the opening of the 78th UNGA, UN chief Guterres concluded the session by saying that "we close this 78th session of the UN General Assembly after a tumultuous year. A year of continued poverty, inequality and injustice. A year of division, violence, and conflict. A year that was the hottest on record".

At the same time, he indicated that "this session also closes at a time of growing hope and inspiration in what we can achieve if we work as one".