



QATAR FOUNDATION ORGANISES EXCITING SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATIONS

Darb El-Saai Tent Activities Designed To Highlight QF's Mission And Vision

Doha, Qatar, 7 November 2015: Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF) will take part in this year's National Day celebrations at Darb El-Saai from 8th to 20th of December 2015, by hosting an array of exciting activities designed to showcase QF's overarching mission and vision.

The QF tent, where up to 5,000 visitors are expected to attend each day, will highlight the important work the Foundation does to unlock human potential and foster an engaged and progressive society as part of its continued efforts to contribute to the Qatar National Vision 2030.

A QF passport will be distributed at the welcoming counter to guide visitors through the inspirational activities that have been specially-designed to provide stimulating learning opportunities. The five categories include: Education and Lifelong Learning; Research and Innovation; Health, Sport, and Wellbeing; Cultural Development and Heritage; and Preservation and Sustainability.

Education and Lifelong Learning

Education is integral to Qatar Foundation's mission; QF believes it is the first step to empowering people and building a brighter future. This year, a number of academic institutes and science and research centres are participating in the tent under the umbrella of Education and Lifelong Learning, including Georgetown University in Qatar (GU-Q). The QF partner university is set to organise a knowledge-based game that will educate visitors about different countries.

Additionally, Sidra Medical and Research Center will play host to two activities. The first game will teach children about healthy food items, while the second will educate children on the different parts of the body.

Texas A&M University at Qatar's (TAMUQ) 'Lego Mindstorms' activity will enable visitors to build robots and learn how to programme them, while Reach Out To Asia's (ROTA) activities

will reflect real-life situations of countries in need, such as a damaged school structure with changeable elements like windows and doors, in order to inspire children's imagination.

Research and Innovation

This category will create a platform for the youth to foster their skills for key industries in Qatar contributing to the nation's development. TAMUQ will demonstrate how to make artificial snow that is non-toxic and lasts for days, while Stars of Science will display a video of the award-winning work by season six winner, Mohamad Al Housani, who will also give a talk about his journey. The pop-up booth also plans to engage the general public and tap into their inner innovator by asking them to respond to a question that will be posted on social media for people to vote.

Activities for Health, Sports and Wellbeing

There will be additional activities and events dedicated to raising awareness of the importance of adopting healthy, active lifestyles. One such activity will be a game conducted by Qatar Diabetes Association that teaches children to identify the different food groups. Additionally, Weill Cornell Medicine – Qatar will highlight 'Sahtak Awalan' (*Your Health First*), an on-going campaign that encourages young people to make positive lifestyle decisions.

Cultural Development and Heritage Preservation

The Cultural Development and Heritage Preservation section will feature various activities that reflect QF's pride in supporting national identity and nurturing a sense of belonging in Qatar. As a school of international affairs, GU-Q will provide flag tattoos for children, Qatar National Library will present a puppet show to educate children about traditional stories and songs, and TAMUQ students will present video interviews with family members discussing Qatar's historical development.

Sustainability

A number of exhibits and activities have also been set up to promote sustainability that, in-turn, highlight QF's dedication to seeking environmentally-friendly solutions. These include a hands-on activity by TAMUQ where different age groups will observe and experiment with alternative green energy sources. In addition to this, a workshop by Qatar Solar Technologies will require visitors to put together a Qatari flag lantern using solar energy, stationary items, and recycled material.

Qatar National Day is celebrated every year, and is a national commemoration of Qatar's unification and independence. QF's tent at Darb El-Saai will be open throughout the country's National Day celebrations, and will be open to all members of the community.

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Qatar Foundation – Unlocking Human Potential

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science, and Community Development (QF) is a private, non-profit organisation that is supporting Qatar on its journey from carbon economy to knowledge economy by unlocking human potential, for the benefit of not only Qatar, but the world. QF was co-founded in 1995 by His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Father Amir, and Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, Qatar Foundation's Chairperson. QF's work encompasses education, research and community development. World-class universities are brought to Qatar to help create an education sector in which young people can develop the attitudes and skills required for a knowledge economy. At the same time, QF builds Qatar's innovation and technology capacity by developing and commercialising solutions through key sciences. The Foundation also works to foster a progressive society while enhancing cultural life, protecting Qatar's heritage and addressing immediate social needs in the community.

For a complete list of QF's initiatives and projects, visit <http://www.qf.org.qa>