

# QC awards QR805,000 to schools for promoting morals among students

RAMY SALAMA  
DOHA

QATAR Charity (QC) recently awarded QR805,000 to a group of schools for promoting good behaviour and positive values among students. The awards were presented to the schools during the celebration of the conclusion of the 'Ana Snafi' (I am Snafi) and 'Habbat Reeh' (Gust of Wind) programmes of the Charity.

The gala ceremony held under the auspices of the Ministry of Social Affairs in cooperation with the Supreme Education Council (SEC) was presided over by the CEO of QC Yousef bin Ahmed al Kuwari, who congratulated the schoolchildren on their participation in these important programmes.

Altogether 80 entries were made by 40 schools, including primary and secondary, girls and boys schools, in six categories including art exhibition (23 entries), radio drama (10), Youtube (13), theatre (15), development projects (11) and blogs (7). The schools bagged 32 of 36



Qatar Charity officials present a cheque to the management of a school, in Doha, recently.

prizes as four awards were withheld for failure to meet the required conditions.

The ceremony, held under the auspices of the Ministry of Social Affairs in cooperation with the Supreme Education Council (SEC), was attended by QC's executive director for local development, Ibrahim al Mohannadi, Dr Zuhair

Mansour Mazidi, head of the Arab Foundation for Community Values, representatives from the Ministry of Social Affairs and the SEC as well as 600 students and parents from the participating schools.

In his opening speech, Yousef al Kuwari said "Qatar Charity is thrilled to repeat its

work with local students through the second edition of these programmes, and we celebrate with them today at the closing ceremony. Our happiness stems from the programme's impact on promoting positive behaviour in the next generation."

He added, "Youths are the foundation of cultural



Pupils of Haleemat Sa'diya Preparatory School for Girls with their prize, in Doha, recently.

progress and advancement. They alone can ensure sustainability and continuity of the programmes, which have become part of Qatar Charity's annual tradition in Qatar."

Kuwari further revealed that the Charity has been working on the development of the programme this year

through the addition of new activities.

He said, "this includes a development project, which is consistent with the concerns of young people and their integration with and passion for modern means of communication."

The second edition of the programmes witnessed the

addition of the blogs and development project categories and establishment of courses in line with the strategy of Dr Zuhair Mansour Mazidi, head of the Arab Foundation for Community Values to promote community values. The focus of the programmes was on the values of 'thanking' and 'trust'.

## DIA hosts 2nd aerodrome task force meet

TRIBUNE NEWS NETWORK  
DOHA

THE Doha International Airport (DIA) was recently honoured to host the 2nd Aerodrome Certification Implementation Task Force meeting of the International Civil Aviation Organisation's (ICAO) Middle East regional office.

The three-day event was aimed at fostering inter-governmental collaboration in the field of aerodrome certification and aviation safety.

The task force meeting brought together operational and safety experts from Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan and the United Arab Emirates, as well as from the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) and the US-based Federal Aviation

Administration (FAA).

Discussions and working papers centred on aerodrome certification requirements for airports in the region and processes and implementation of the mandates, in addition to future programmes.

The Doha International Airport and Qatar's Civil Aviation Authority have jointly undertaken an intense aerodrome certification process and are preparing for the opening of Qatar's brand new Hamad International Airport this year.

Qatar Airways Chief Executive Officer Akbar al Baker, who is also CEO of the Doha International Airport, opened the proceedings of the meet with a welcome speech in which he said the country was looking forward to moving to the Hamad International Airport this year.

## Engineering students urged to take part in infrastructure projects

AILYN AGONIA  
DOHA

DIRECTOR of the Central Planning Office at the Ministry of Municipality and Urban Planning (MMUP) Jamal Shareeda al Kaabi has urged the engineering students in Qatar to take part in the massive infrastructural and transport development projects in the country such as the railway projects.

Kaabi was among the industry experts, who gave updates and key information on the country's future transport and infrastructure plans during the seminar titled "The Future and Challenges of Infrastructure and Transportation in Qatar" held at Qatar University (QU) on Tuesday.

The event was organised by Qatar Road Safety Studies Centre (QRSSC) at QU's College of Engineering in collaboration with the Central Planning Office (CPO) in the Ministry of Municipality and Urban



Participants at the Future and Challenges of Infrastructure and Transportation in Qatar seminar, in Doha, on Tuesday. (HANSON K JOSEPH)

Planning. "We are pleased to have with us today with other key stakeholders including Ashghal and Qatar Rail with whom we have been working hand-in-hand to facilitate cross-agency collaboration, one that has constantly proven to be extremely effective. A lot of effort is going into ensuring that the state's

planned world class transport and infrastructure developments are delivered in time for the FIFA World Cup in 2022", al Kaabi said.

He added, "We hope, by organising this seminar, we have given the students a chance to see how they, the future generation of Qatar's engineers, can bring about a change in the country they

live in and would like to have a key role in its development."

Meanwhile, Director of the Qatar Road Safety Studies Centre Dr Khalifa bin Nasser al Khalifa who opened the seminar, underlined the importance of the event not only in highlighting the strong partnership between QU and public

and private institutions across Qatar but in providing future engineers with opportunities to learn from the experts.

In his presentation, CPO Director of Planning and Engineering Ruari Maybank talked about traffic management during road construction.

Maybank called for collaborative effort to address traffic situation during construction activities.

He stressed the need for an effective business and public information system as well as enforcement and regulation mechanism for effective traffic management.

Another speaker, Ashghal's Manager of the Drainage Projects Department and Manager of the Highway Projects Department, Nasser Gaith al Kuwari gave an overview of the latest developments in the infrastructure sector including the Inner Doha Re-sewerage Implementation Strategy as well as the development plans for the local roads and sewerage.

## TAMUQ inaugurates sixth honour society

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DOHA

TEXAS A&M University at Qatar (TAMUQ) recently hosted its inaugural initiation of the engineering university's sixth honour society, Phi Kappa Phi.

The oldest and largest of all academic honour societies in the US, Phi Kappa Phi recognises deserving faculty, staff and students from all disciplines across the college campus.

Reinforcing its mission of supporting academic excellence, TAMUQ is home to six student chapters of some of the world's most prestigious honour societies including one chapter that marks a first international chapter.

These six societies include Phi Kappa Phi; Tau Beta Pi, engineering; Omega Chi Epsilon, chemical engineering;

Eta Kappa Nu, electrical engineering; Pi Tau Sigma, mechanical engineering; and Pi Epsilon Tau, petroleum engineering.

At Texas A&M at Qatar, more than 95 junior and senior students have been inducted as members of these honour societies since 2011.

"Because of Texas A&M University at Qatar, these honour societies are the first of their kind in the Middle East, I am honoured to be selected by this international fraternity for my academic achievement, and I am proud to represent Aggie engineers in this part of the world," said Mohammed al Kharusi, petroleum engineering graduate, class 2013.

"The six international honour societies at Texas A&M at Qatar reflect the outstanding quality of our engineering programmes," said Dr Hamid



Members of Texas A&M University at Qatar's Phi Kappa Phi group at the inauguration ceremony, in Doha, recently.

Parsaei, associate dean for academic affairs. "We are proud to recognise the achievements of our top students through their membership in these elite organisations."

Tau Beta Pi is the only engineering honour society representing the entire engineering profession. It is the nation's second-oldest honour society, founded at Lehigh University

in 1885 to mark those who have conferred honour upon their alma mater by distinguished scholarship and exemplary character as students in engineering, or by their attain-

ments as alumni in the field of engineering, and to foster a spirit of liberal culture in engineering colleges. There are now collegiate chapters at 241 US colleges and universities,

28 active alumnus chapters in 16 districts across the country, and a total initiated membership of about 540,000.

Omega Chi Epsilon is the national honour society for chemical engineering. The society promotes high scholarship, encourages original investigation in chemical engineering and recognises the valuable traits of character, integrity and leadership. It serves both undergraduate and graduate students and fosters meaningful student-faculty dialogue.

A club of Omega Chi Epsilon was established at Texas A&M University at Qatar in 2012, and the first initiation ceremony included 25 students, all of whom were undergraduate students. In 2013, sixteen additional students, both undergraduate as well as graduate students were initiated.