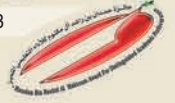




Hamdan bin Rashid honors 120 university students who graduated from Al Maktoum College in Scotland



Launching talented students discovery portfolio soon



3 programs win the UNESCO-Hamdan Prize



202

distinguished people will be present on the crowning podium on 29 April

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OUR VISION

To be pioneers in the management
of excellence in educational
performance and fostering talent

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Monthly Educational Magazine



Cover Story



Hamdan bin Rashid honors
120 university students who
graduated from Al Maktoum
College in Scotland

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Introduction

A Glimpse of Activities and Results of 20th Session

- Hamdan Award witnessed intensive activities during the recent period, taking place in multiple locations. Some of the most important events are the inauguration of the Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Center for Giftedness and Creativity; the talented students of the Center ranked second in the 11th Open Robotic Competition 2018, part of the FIRST LEGO League (FLL) championship, and ranked first in the national robotics championship; not to mention the organization of the Mini Maker Fair as the first exhibition of its kind in the country, as well as acquiring the latest version of ISO 9001 certification.

- Among the top events is the announcement of the 20th session results at all levels and categories. 202 participants won the Award, reflecting 47 % increase compared to the previous session, and a remarkable leap in the category of Arab Educational Research, where the participation grew three times, amounting to 85 researches from 15 Arab countries. 3 researches won, two of them were conducted in the UAE. Furthermore, 150 files participated in UNESCO-Hamdan prize, out of which 3 projects from Indonesia, Chile and Ghana won; not to mention the good performance at the level of the GCC categories, where, for the first time, a teacher from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia won the GCC Highly Distinguished Teacher award.

- The results of the 20th session reflect the Award's successful, confident completion of two decades, in which it managed to maintain the pulse of educational excellence in the societies where it is present. It succeeded in developing its target in stable proportions, expanding its local and foreign partnerships and continuously developing its performance, to serve the support tracks required by the development plans of the Ministry of Education. The Award carried out many activities to promote school efforts in the field of educational excellence and the care of talented and innovators. Such activities have produced good results taking into account the time of work. There is no doubt that this success was achieved thanks to Almighty Allah, and due to belief in the Award's objectives by those in the education field. The success can also be attributed to its eager pursuit of advancing the quality of education and contributing to building a system of care for talented people and innovators, in order to achieve the objectives of education according to the national agenda.

- The third decade of the Award will witness a shift in the services provided to society without any decline in stimulating, encouraging and rewarding educational excellence. Educational research will have an important position in the support of educational decision.

- We congratulate the winners for their excellence, and wish success for those who have not been lucky in the evaluation of the jury. We also thank all the local, regional and international committees that have worked sincerely and proficiently, as well as the strategic partners of the Award, individuals and institutions, locally and internationally.

In conclusion, we invite you to attend the ceremony honoring the winners on 29th of April at the Dubai World Trade Center.

See you next session!

Abdul Noor Ahmed Al Hashimi
Chief Editor

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We welcome your contributions and inquiries as to pursue communication with you.
Please write to us on the following addresses: P.O.Box 88088, Dubai, United Arab Emirates



Including 2 winners of Hamdan Award

Hamdan bin Rashid honors 120 university students who graduated from Al Maktoum College in Scotland



Dubai - 'Akhbar Al Tamayoz'

His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai and Minister of Finance honored 120 students at his palace in Zabeel, including two students who won Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance (Distinguished Student and University Student). The students were nominated by the Award for the 'Multiculturalism and Leadership Skills' program organized by Al Maktoum College for Higher Education in Scotland. The Award's annual participa-



tion comes in the context of contributing to the promotion of cultural communication among people, and instilling the leadership skills in outstanding students, as well as enriching their knowledge with concepts of teamwork and local and global issues. The 120 female students have graduated from Al Maktoum College for Higher Education in Scotland, after spending nearly a month of training and studying in the areas of leadership, management, culture, language and dialogue skills, in addition to many others. This training came in the framework of successive courses for university students who wish to enroll in these educational courses. Many speeches were given during the ceremony, many of which spoke highly of the initiatives of His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, and his giving spirit, which always strives to provide support and assis-



Appreciating Hamdan bin Rashid's initiatives to support and assist education and educators in the UAE and abroad

tance to the education sector and its people within and outside the country. The ceremony was attended by Her Excellency Sheikha Lubna bint Khalid Al Qassimi, President of Zayed University; Her Excellency Ouhoud bint Khalfan Al Roumi, UAE Minister of State for Quality

and Life; and Her Excellency Shama bint Suhail bin Faris Al Mazrouei, Minister of State for Youth Affairs, as well as a number of members of the Federal National Council and heads and directors of universities and educational leaders in the UAE in addition to parents of students.



47% growth in number of winners ..
Arab participation increased by 3 times

202 distinguished people will be present on the crowning podium on 29 April

Praise for the efforts and patronage of education by the President of the State, Vice President and Mohammad bin Zayed, and their continuous support for development schemes and programs

Appreciation for Hamdan bin Rashid's efforts supporting MoE in programs, activities and projects of the Award

Hussein Al Hammadi: Extreme care to make Emirati School one of the most advanced in international competitiveness

Dubai - 'Akhbar Al Tamayoz'

On the 29th of April at the Dubai World Trade Center, 202 outstanding people will be present on the crowning podium of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance in its 20th session, with 47% growth in number compared to previous session.

After finalizing the results, the winners were distributed to 177 local competition winners, 19 winners in Gulf countries' categories, 3 winners in the Educational Research at the Arab world level, and 3 winners in UNESCO-Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Prize for Outstanding Practice and Per-

formance in Enhancing the Effectiveness of Teachers.

His excellency Hussein bin Ibrahim Al Hammadi, Minister of Education and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Award, praised the outstanding efforts and sponsorship to support education given by His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE and His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai as well as His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, and





members of the Supreme Council of Rulers of the UAE, for their continuous support for development schemes and programs in the path of excellence, and enabling the Emirati School to be one of the most advanced in international competitiveness.

His excellency also praised the educational initiatives carried out by His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai and Minister of Finance, and his contribution to support the efforts of the Ministry of Education (MoE) through the Award's programs, activities and projects, especially those related to the development and improvement of the educational service, as well as promoting programs directed to discover and nurture talented students, in addition to excellence criteria and nurturing innovation, His Excellency also stressed the MoE's keenness to benefit from the outcomes of the Award as its strategic partner, which grants it the priority in cooperation and

sharing experience.

Al Hammadi thanked His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai and Minister of Finance and patron of the Award, and congratulated HH on the Award's success in its 20th session in all fields. He also congratulated all winners of the Award, and called on them to invest in all opportunities offered to acquire skills and knowledge related to performance development.

Intellectual Environment

Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi, Deputy Chairman of the Board of Trustees said that throughout the course of 20 years, the Award was able to establish the culture of excellence in the field of education, and create an ideal intellectual environment for elements of the educational system related to quality and creativity. The Award also provided specific programs specialized in the field of talent and innovation, which helped upgrade the level of education, and keep pace with the



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 : **Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi:** Hamdan Award has created an ideal intellectual environment for quality and creativity
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.....
 : **Dr. Ali Al Kaabi:** the Award's standards strengthened the spirit of competition among different groups in education
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.....
 : **Dubai Culture and the General Department of Punitive and Correctional Establishments - Dubai Police receive Education-Supporting Institutions Award**
 :





rapid changed of this age and future challenges.

He added that the continuous review of the work done by the Award was accompanied by the continuous development of performance. He then explained that the 20th session has witnessed some new developments in the electronic submission system for some of its categories, namely, Distinguished Project, Innovation, Education-Supporting Institutions, Distinguished Educational Administration, and Distinguished Educator. This developmental process has resulted in a new shift in the application and adjudication processes quality.

Al Muhairi delivered a brief overview of the results of the Award, noting that the last session witnessed an increase in the number of winners by 47% compared to the previous session, and an increase in Arab participation by about 3 times.

Department of Education and Knowledge - Abu Dhabi leads number of participations with 88 candidates

Dubai And Sharjah Education Zones top the list of winners

517 local, Gulf and Arab participations in the current session

65 adjudicators assessed files in local, Gulf, Arab and international competitions

'Distinguished Student' takes the lead in categories with 161 winners

The adjudication process lasted from 16 December to 15 February, wherein 65 adjudicators participated at the local, Gulf and international levels. An audit review committee was established to verify compliance with the conditions of participation and the regulations in force in the Award.

Competition Spirit

Dr. Ali Al Kaabi, the General Coordinator of the Adjudication Committees, explained that the 20th session of the Award has witnessed an increase in the number of Arab participants, which confirms that the Award's standards have promoted the spirit of competition in the field of education among different categories. He also mentioned that the number of participants in all categories has reached 517, distributed as follows: 345 local participations, 87 GCC participations, and 85 Arab participations.





The local, Gulf and Arab participations were as follows: 21 in Distinguished School and School Administration category, 298 in Student category, 62 in Teacher category, 6 in Highly Distinguished GCC Teacher, 20 in Distinguished Educator, 8 in Best Scientific Innovation, 4 in Best Implemented Project, 85 in Best Educational Research at the level of Arab World, 4 in Distinguished Family and 9 in Education Supporting Institutions. He also added that Dubai and Sharjah Educational Zones topped the list of winners.

Details

In Detail, the Award had 199 winners in local, GCC and Arab competitions, and 3 in the International Award. The winners were divided into the following categories: 158 in Distinguished Student, 3 in Distinguished University Student, 6 in Distinguished

Two decades of excellence

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance celebrates its twentieth anniversary this year. The Award, for the past two decades, has taken on the task of raising the educational performance in all sectors under the supervision of the Ministry of Education in the UAE, and honoring all groups and entities related to the education sector.

School / School Administration, 3 in Distinguished Educator, 16 in Distinguished Teacher, 1 in Highly Distinguished GCC Teacher, 2 in Best Implemented Project, 2 in Best Scientific Innovation, 3 in Best Educational Research at the Level of the Arab World, 3 in Distinguished Family, and The General Department of Punitive and Correctional Establishments, Dubai Police received Education-Supporting Institutions Award. Dr. Al Kaabi revealed that

the results of the Gulf competitions resulted in 19 winners in different categories. Saudi Arabia topped the number of winners with 11 awards, followed by the Kingdom of Bahrain with 5 awards and Kuwait with 3. He also mentioned that 85 researcher from 15 Arab countries submitted their researches for the Arab Educational Research Award, where 3 researches were nominated for the Award. A special committee was formed to collect and eval-

uate research from participants throughout the Arab world and then to submit the results to the Award's administration according to the specified dates.

Saudi Arabia topped the list with 27 researches, followed by Jordan with 13, Palestine with 12, and the UAE with 8.

The Education and Knowledge Department (Abu Dhabi Education Council) received the highest number of participants during this session. With 88 candidates, followed by Sharjah Education Zone, 86 participants, 47 of which were winners, which makes it the top of the list in terms of winners in the rest of zones. This was followed by Dubai Education Zone 42 winners, Abu Dhabi Education and Knowledge 35 winners, Fujairah 26 winners, Ajman 10 winners, Ras Al Khaimah 6 winners and Umm Al Quwain with one winner.

From Indonesia, Chile and the United Kingdom **3** programs win the **UNESCO-Hamdan Prize**



Dubai - 'Akhbar Al Tamayoz'

Three programs designed to empower teachers have been named as winners of the 2017-2018 UNESCO-Hamdan bin Rashid Al-Maktoum Prize for Outstanding Practice and Performance in Enhancing the Effectiveness of Teachers. The winner programs are: Center for Mathematical Modeling, University of Chile, for its project; Suma y Sigue: Matemática en

Línea (Adding it up: Mathematics online) in Chile; Sabre Charitable Trust, for its project; Fast-track Transformational Teacher Training (FTTT) Program, in UK-Ghana; and Directorate for the Development of Teachers and Teaching Personnel for Early Childhood Education and Community Education, Ministry of Education and Culture, for the project; Diklat Berjenjang: (Increasing the Effectiveness of Rural Early Child-

hood Teachers through Locally-Based, Innovative Professional Development and Capacity-Building) in Indonesia. In details, Center for Mathematical Modeling, University of Chile is rewarded for its Suma y Sigue: Matemática en línea (Adding it up: Mathematics online) program which was developed to address the performance gaps in mathematics between students from different socioeco-

nomic backgrounds and improve the quality of maths teaching in general. It is a 'learning by doing' program organized by grade levels and curricula, enabling teachers to focus on their specialized area of mathematics teaching. It blends face-to-face sessions with intensive virtual instruction. The program is scalable, easily accessed by teachers in remote areas, and it promotes inclusion. The Center for Mathemati-

cal Modeling (CMM) is a world-class center for research and advanced training in applied mathematics in the Faculty of Science and Mathematics of the University of Chile.

In 2014 (CMM) together with the Ministry of Education, developed the 'Suma y Sigue' program, to improve mathematical education in a manner that is scalable throughout the country, easily accessible for teachers who work in distant places, and that meets teachers' specific needs for quality professional development focused on specific mathematical knowledge for teaching.

The program participates in strengthening of teaching capacities in public schools in urban and rural areas. So far, it has impacted 940 teachers belonging to 240 urban and rural public schools, and also the training of 41 teacher educators from 20 universities of 11 regions throughout the country.

Giving

The Sabre Charitable Trust is selected for the Fast-track Transformational Teacher Training (FTTT) Program from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The Sabre Charitable Trust, is an education charity working in Ghana. Among its mission is to give young Ghanaians the best possible start to their education, enabling them to achieve their full academic potential.

The FTTT is a highly innovative and impactful approach to training teachers in various professional environments in Ghana. It promotes child-centered and play-based pedagogy in early education to replace traditional talk chalk disciplinarian methods.

Practicing teachers receive a two-year training, combining workshops with smaller peer group meetings in which they are paired on the basis of their complementary strengths to engage in classroom

940 teachers belonging to 240 public schools benefitted from the Center for Mathematical Modeling

Training 41 teacher educators from 20 universities of 11 regions throughout Chili

The FTTT project established 164 Model Practice Classrooms across four districts

Training over 790 College Tutors, GES Officers, Head Teachers, Teachers and Student Teachers in active and play-based pedagogy

7,828 teachers from 25 districts in Indonesia participated in 'Increasing the Effectiveness of Rural Early Childhood Teachers'

150 nominations submitted by the Governments of UNESCO's Member States and UNESCO partner organizations

observations and in class coaching.

The Fast-track Transformational Teacher Training (FTTT) program is drawn directly from the Ministry of Education's Operational Plan to Scale Up Quality Kindergarten Education Nationwide, which was published in 2012. Since 2013, the Sabre Trust, in collaboration with OLA and Holy Child Colleges of Education, and Ghana Education Service in the Central and Western regions, has operationalized and scaled the FTTT approach. In the process, the project has established 164 Model Practice Classrooms across four districts, and trained over 790 College Tutors, GES Officers, Head Teachers, Teachers and Student Teachers in the active and play-based pedagogy

Honoring

UNESCO-Hamdan Prized

also decided to honor Directorate for the Development of Teachers and Teaching Personnel for Early Childhood Education and Community Education, Ministry of Education and Culture. For its project; Diklat Berjenjang: (Increasing the Effectiveness of Rural Early Childhood Teachers through Locally-Based, Innovative Professional Development and Capacity-Building) in Indonesia. The program is rewarded for bringing quality professional development to early childhood teachers, notably in the poorest and most remote areas.

It helps meet Indonesia's need for teachers skilled in creating stimulating learning environments for young learners. It helps identify potential teacher trainers and provides step-by-step written guides, follow-up assignments and exchanges. The program began in

2012 with an initiative of the Indonesian Ministry of Education and Culture (MoEC), and it aims to promote more accessible higher quality professional development for early childhood teachers, especially in rural villages. Hence, MoEC embarked on an effort to prepare teachers to meet competency standards.

It developed a series of training modules aligned with teaching standards and beginning at a basic level. As a result, access to professional development program increased in poor and rural areas. Since 2016, 7,828 teachers in 25 districts have participated, with another 7,500 teachers to be trained in year 2017.

The demand for accessible, high quality professional development increased from the village to national levels, as 100% of targeted villages entered into agreements to participate in this pilot program.

The three winners were selected from 150 nominations submitted by the Governments of UNESCO's Member States and UNESCO partner organizations on the recommendation of an International Jury of education professionals. The participants were distributed according to the geographical representation of all UNESCO regions as follows: 37 from Asia and the Pacific by 25%, 24 from Africa by 16%, 34 from Arab countries by 23%, 41 from Latin America and the Caribbean by 27%, in addition to 14% from Europe, and 9% from North America.

Established in 2009 with funding from His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai and Minister of Finance, the Prize is awarded every two years to projects that have made outstanding contributions to improving the quality of teaching and learning, especially in developing countries or within marginalized or disadvantaged communities.



Pursuant to agreement between MoE and Hamdan Award targeting students from grade 4 to 8

Launching talented students discovery portfolio soon

Dubai - 'Akhbar Al Tamayoz'

The Ministry of Education (MoE) and Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance concluded a joint cooperation agreement to implement a talent discovery portfolio for a number of schools, which will soon come into force for students from grades 4 to 8.

The agreement, which was concluded on the sidelines of the announcement of the results, stipulates the forma-

tion of a committee by both parties whose task is to plan and coordinate in the joint initiatives between the Award and the Ministry through informing the MoE about the tools of discovering talented people and research related to them. The agreement shall be implemented in the UAE schools, in order to establish criteria on choosing trainers, tools and candidates on which it will be applied.

It also covered training candidates who are graduates of the Gifted Education Diploma

program or those who meet the requirements, to apply and correct the first stage of the portfolio, as well as issuing certificates to teachers and trainees, provided that the training requirements are met.

The terms of the agreement also stipulates the implementation of the second stage of the portfolio to the students who passed from the selected schools. The tests will be marked and the results obtained will be published. Then results of the students will be

submitted to the MoE. The implementation of the terms will be followed up between the parties and along with the preparation of periodic reports on what has been accomplished.

Quality Projects

His Excellency Hussain bin Ibrahim Al Hammadi, Minister of Education and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Award, said that the Award's record of quality projects has qualified it to the lead position for over 20 years in the



development and leadership of distinguished performance in the field of education, especially in educational excellence, and care of the talents. The fruitful experimental cooperation between MoE and the Award in the implementation of the portfolio of gifted students discovery in the incubator schools has been culminated by entering into a memorandum of cooperation to apply the battery of discovery of talented students after the success of the experiment. Application will start soon for students in grades 4 to 8. Gifted students portfolio will spot produce student in specialized programs that respond to their abilities to serve the aspirations of the society in the future industry of scientists and innovators. These elites will receive appropriate care through follow-up, guidance, and support in the context of the orientation towards achieving the goals of education according to the

National Agenda. Al Hammadi added that the Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Center for Giftedness and Creativity provides quality services to students and the community in the field of talent and innovation according to the highest standards. He stressed that the Award is moving steadily towards achieving the goals set for it in diversifying its services and expanding its partnerships with specialized organizations and institutions.

Knowledge Society

Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi, Deputy Chairman of the Board of Trustees, highlighted the importance of signing the cooperation agreement with the MoE in its capacity as the body entrusted with the development of a distinctive educational system that helps to build an advanced knowledge society. This intersects with the objectives of the Award seeking to up-

Hussein Al Hammadi: the Award's record of quality projects qualified it to the lead position for over 20 years

Jamal Al Muhairi: Developing, testing and introducing talent discovery mechanism is reflected positively on educational process

grade education system in various stages. He said, the portfolio is one of the most important tools of the Award in discovering and nurturing gifted students in the UAE, according to international mechanisms and standards, and we are pleased that this effective tool contributes to the support of Emirati students. The Award recognizes the importance of identifying and nurturing individual talents. This objective is sought by His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai and Minister of Finance, Patron of the Award, by collaborating with the International Association for Talent Development and Excellence Research to develop, test and introduce a talent discovery mechanism in the country. These efforts will ultimately be reflected positively on the educational process as a whole and on the talented Emirati student.



Achieved 1st position locally in the national FLL championship
Hamdan Creativity Team ranked second in the FIRST LEGO League

Dubai - 'Akhbar Al Tamayoz'

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance has achieved local and global accomplishments in the field of talent. The Award organized various workshops and session in March dedicated to discovering and nurturing talented people.

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Center for Giftedness and Creativity ranked second in the 11th Open Robotic Competition 2018, part of the FIRST LEGO League (FLL)

championship, held in Cairo. Hamdan Creativity Center team attained two additional awards: 2nd position in the basic values, and 3rd position in the table competition. Furthermore, the team won first place at the UAE level in the third national robotics championship FLL.

On the other hand, Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance organized scientific workshops for students as part of the Gulf Talent Day at Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Center for Giftedness and Creativity.

The General Conference of the Bureau of Arab Education for the Gulf States issued a resolution at its 23rd session approving the Gulf Talent Day, and marked the first week of March as an annual celebration of the 'Gulf Talent and Creativity Day'.

The Arab Bureau of Education for the Gulf States, since its inception, pays great attention to Talent and Creativity, as a part of its vision of the role that must be played by the educational institutions to grow and cultivate the seeds of excellence and creativity. In addition to the belief that

nurturing talented and creative people is a necessity in the journey of progress and development in all spheres of life.

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Center for Giftedness and Creativity has organized an educational and mentoring session for parents of talented students entitled 'How to Maintain My Talent'. The session was presented by Amena Al Jasmi, where she introduced the audience to know to deal with talented students, in addition to maintaining and developing their talents.

Encouraging qualitative initiatives
and honoring their initiators

Launching 'Best Initiative in the Year of Zayed' Award

عام
زايـد



YEAR OF
ZAYED



نبـنـكـر المـسـتـقـبـل

Dubai - 'Akhbar Al Tamayoz'

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance has launched an appreciative award in recognition of the best qualitative initiatives offered by different authorities in the UAE on the occasion of the Year of Zayed, 2018.

The new award targets public and private sectors in the UAE for their efforts to contribute to the legacy of the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, the founding father of the UAE. The award will be granted only once on the occasion of 'Year of Zayed'. One winner will be selected to receive the winning trophy and a certificate of appreciation. Concerned entities are advised to apply online, by filling out the form on Hamdan Award website www.ha.ae.

Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi, Deputy Chairman of the Board of Trustees and Secretary-General of the Award, said, the 'Best Initiative in the Year of Zayed' represents a qualitative addition to Ham-

dan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance. It is a tribute to the legacy of Sheikh Zayed, the founding father of the UAE. Moreover, it is part of the series of events marking the 'Year of Zayed', the initiative launched by His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE.

"This appreciative award aims to motivate institutions to participate in quality initiatives that reflect the highest values and objectives of the Year of Zayed as a pioneering step to inform the generations of the achievements of the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, may his soul rest in peace, in the march of building the country. The award is meant to deduce useful lessons, and document the best qualitative initiatives that succeed in reflecting the ideas and visions of Sheikh Zayed, and develop them to continue the renaissance and development in all areas, especially education, which is the cornerstone

The new award
targets public and
private sectors in
the UAE

Forming committee
to set up criteria
and evaluate the
initiatives submit-
ted online

for the qualifying generations capable of promoting the UAE and establish its superior position among nations.

The procedures of the award will commence immediately after the handover of the initiatives. An internal committee will be formed to set the criteria for selecting the best initiative. The committee will evaluate the initiatives based on the pre-approved criteria. Then, the candidate institutions will be interviewed in the second week of the same month to select the winners.

Once all the procedures are completed, the winner will be contacted and then announced through the social networking sites and the website of Hamdan Award. The winners will be honored at the closing ceremony of the 20th session on 29 April.

The year 2018 in the UAE celebrates the centennial of the founder of the UAE, to highlight his role as a builder of the UAE, as well as his local and international achievements.



With the aim of unleashing creative potential of talented students Hamdan Award and University of Sharjah conclude strategic agreement on the Apprenticeship Program

Dubai - 'Akhbar Al Tamayoz'

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance has entered into a strategic agreement on the Apprenticeship Program with the University of Sharjah at the University's headquarters. The program includes 4 consecutive levels over 4 to 7 years. This agreement comes in line with the Award's endeavors to support and nurture talented students in the UAE. The Award, in cooperation with the University of Sharjah, presents the 'Apprenticeship Program', which supports talented students in different fields, both individually and collectively, through outstanding experts, in order to achieve the best possible investment in the talented students' skills.

The Apprenticeship is an enrichment program aimed at providing gifted students with individual opportunities in line with their scientific tendencies and personal abilities. The student would be empowered to connect, scientifically speaking, with one of the distinguished specialists in the fields in which the students excels. This can be achieved through scientific projects that help develop the student's scientific, research, personal and social skills, in addition to the development of cognitive skills and problem solving.

Scientific and Practical Projects

The University will also provide the students with the opportunity to implement and participate in scientific and practical projects, which will contribute to refining their sci-

entific expertise, those that are not available in traditional schools. Talented students in grades 10, 11 and 12 (general and advanced) between the ages of 15 and 17 can participate in the Program, provided that they have passed the nomination criteria by Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance.

Specializations in the program include all fields of science and literature, such as medicine, engineering, mathematics, physics, software, space, and energy, as well as literary fields, including poetry and writing.

Concluding the strategic agreement was attended by Chancellor of the University, Dr. Hamid Majoul Al Naimiy, who signed on behalf of the University, and Secretary General of the Award, Dr. Ja-



mal Al Muhairi, who signed on behalf of Hamdan Award. The event was also attended by Dr. Suleiman Abdul-Khaleq Al Ansari, Executive Director of the Award, Dr. Mariam Al Ghawi, Director of the Gifted Welfare Department, Dr. Al Siddiq Ahmad Al Mustafa Al Shaikh, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs of the University, and Dr. Muammar Ali Baltayeb, Vice Chancellor for Scientific Research and Graduate Studies.

Bridges of Cooperation

Dr. Hamid Majoul Al Naimiy, Chancellor of the University welcomed Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi, Secretary General of the Award, and the accompanying delegation, stressing that the University, since it was established by its President His Highness Dr. Sheikh Sultan bin Mohammed Al Qasimi, Member of the Supreme Council and Ruler of Sharjah, has been working on nurturing and developing the community in line with its mission, which requires setting bridges of cooperation and development with various national and local establishments. The University's role has grown until the point where it has become now a research

Individual Plan

The Apprenticeship Program is based on the individual plan to be built by the specialized expert supervising talented students, to meet their scientific, psychological and social needs. The University will provide scientific equipment and train talented students at the hands of elite professors and experts to enable them to acquire specialized research skills in their scientific and literary fields of interest. This will in turn reinforce the scientific and professional orientation of talented students at an early age.

Dr. Hamid Majoul Al Naimiy: Adopting talented ideas and turning them into actual projects

Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi: Cooperation with University of Sharjah is qualitative addition to the ambitious program

The program includes 4 consecutive levels over 4 to 7 years

university at the level of recognized international universities, thanks to the University's high-level research structure.

He noted that this agreement would carry out such role using the best possible practice, by nurturing talented students, adopting their ideas and transforming them into actual projects, which will in turn contribute significantly in the community service and development. He added that the University currently offers 31 graduate programs, while launching 50 more is on the way after obtaining the required academic credits.

Quantum Leap

Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi, Secretary General of the Award,

said that the current agreement is considered a quantum leap in establishing the leading Apprenticeship Program, especially in cooperation with the reputable University of Sharjah. He also said that the Award considers this cooperation a remarkable addition for the ambitious program through the University's scientific cadre and distinguished academic level.

"We are keen on providing the best quality programs designed for students, whom are members of the Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Center for Giftedness and Creativity, and also for the Apprenticeship Program, which is considered one of the most effective talented people programs."

Al Muhairi expressed the hopes for the future to strengthen the University's role in refining the talents of outstanding students, and consolidating their scientific majors, in a way that serves the educational system of the UAE, and contribute to the advancement of educational performance. These goals would help achieve scientific leaps that match the aspirations and hopes of the wise leadership.