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Winners Promise “Late Hamdan bin Rashid” to Pursue Excellence Path

Special Edition on the occasion of the 23rd session closing ceremony of the Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Distinguished Academic Performance

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OUR Mission

Upgrading the Academic Performance and fostering talents, through the best local and International programs, to promote positive competition and cooperation, which contribute in building an outstanding educational society.




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Introduction



May Hamdan's Soul Rest in Peace, and May Allah Protect our Honorable Sheikhs

- It is the first closing ceremony in which the patron of educational excellence, the late Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, may his soul rest in eternal peace, is not among us. He was the pioneering administrative and humanitarian model who raised education to a great place in his thought and initiatives. He prioritized educational excellence, in particular talented and innovative students. Moreover, he had taken great care of this sector and concluded each annual edition of the Foundation's awards with a remarkable ceremony, attending them, and personally honoring the winners of the educational excellence awards. He had always responded to the winners' will and desire of taking the honor of shaking hands, receiving the award from him, and standing next to him for documenting the event in memorial photographs, with the feelings of joy overwhelming everyone. And this special relationship continued between the distinguished and the patron of educational excellence. His sponsorship, support, and empowerment illuminated the paths of excellence and pioneering, year after year. These paths have become an intellectual reality, deeply rooted in the academic development plans, reinforcing the role of educational institutions and society in the march towards consolidating excellence as a way of life.
- With his wise insight, Sheikh Hamdan remained abundant in giving, loyal to his country, nation, and the noble human values established by the late Sheikh Zayed, Sheikh Rashid, and the first generation of the founders, may their souls all rest in eternal peace. With sincerity and benevolence, they were followed by their successor of contemporary rulers. May Allah protect them, as they represent the generation of empowerment and development.
- Perhaps what mitigates the painful loss are the lessons that great men leave for human history and future generations. Their legacy is full of the highest manifestations of nobility, morals, virtues, and charity. This is how Hamdan bin Rashid had been, and this is how the sheikhs of the United Arab Emirates continue the path of their ancestors and perform their duty towards the lofty educational and academic missions. They support, motivate, encourage, and celebrate their distinguished children, raising them to the highest ranks of glory and honor.
- It is true that "Bu Rashid" left our world, but his smile is still present, and the nation attended to participate and bless the winning of a new elite of distinguished people in the 23rd edition of the Foundation's awards. With Allah's help, the Hamdan Foundation will continue, as usual, to achieve its lofty goals, under the prudent leadership of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, who is considered a global icon and one of the most prominent initiators in supporting international programs in all fields, especially in humanitarian work and education.
- May Almighty Allah bless Sheikh Hamdan with mercy, grant him Heavens, and protect our honorable sheikhs – the asset to the country, nation, and humanity.

Until we meet again, hopefully!

Abdul Noor Ahmed Al Hashimi
Chief Editor

We welcome your contributions and inquiries as to pursue communication with you.
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Hamdan bin Rashid's
Name Will Always be
Written on Pages of Glory

Officials at Saudi Ministry of Education: Hamdan Foundation Provides Path for the Distinguished

Dubai - Mohammed Ali

Officials at the Ministry of Education in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia affirmed that the Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Distinguished Academic Performance is a role model and a path for those looking for excellence, thanks to its diversity, comprehensiveness, and high standards. The Foundation has supported educational communities to enable them to instill ambition, challenge, and increased motivation through its various fields and different categories and its continuous advancement to reach excellence. In their speeches on the closing ceremony to honor winners of the Foundation's 23rd edition awards, the Saudi officials recalled the efforts of the late Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, whose humanitarian impacts and initiatives reached all around the world. They pointed out that Hamdan's name will always be written in the pages of glory and remembered by all. His award will continue because it is based on well-established scientific pillars that positively impact the advancement of education.





Speaking at the ceremony, Dr. Sami bin Ghazi Al-Otaibi, Director-General of Education in the Saudi Eastern Province, stated, “Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Distinguished Academic Performance is a pioneering regional model in the field of excellence, creativity, and distinction. Every annual edition of the award opens up a new stage of passion and renewed ambition to participate and compete to have the honor of winning it.”

He expressed his gratitude for those in charge of the award, congratulating all the winners of its 23rd edition, begging the Almighty Allah to guide them and all the distinguished people to achieve more active participation, creativity, and distinction.

Rich Source

For his part, Hamad bin Mohammed Al-Issa, Director-General of Education in Al-Ahsa, said, “Quality represents a rich source of excellence and an incentive to excel. Therefore, quality should be sought after in the practices of the distinguished national and international organizations to learn from them, to ensure the transformation from traditional performance to distinguished one by moving to higher ultra-levels of quality. In this sense, the Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum award has become an incubator for those wishing to pursue the path of uniqueness and creativity. Through its standards, it uncovered the potential energies to guide them into a qualitative world of empowerment that leads to production environments. Undoubtedly, this award is one of the greatest achievements of the late Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid and one of the most beautiful images reflecting his appreciation for education and its supporters. Thus, the General Directorate of Education in Al-Ahsa Governorate is keen on participating in this annual competitive award, believing in the originality of its methodology, the durability of its basis, the multiplicity of its benefits, and its great history.”

He added, “Every year, our directorate celebrates the results achieved by its winners who achieve the mission of distinction and make it a beacon to reach their goals, and a cornerstone for their performance to record the finest practices and write success stories, so they deserved to harvest the results of their efforts and represent their homeland in an ideal way.”

Al-Issa concluded, “I express my sincerest and heartfelt congratulations to the winners, and I thank Allah for helping them to reap the fruit of their hardworking and painstaking journey of giving. Hence, I advise them to keep moving on the path of excellence, to publish their success stories, and to keep learning from the equality sources to build up a creative and influential generation.”

Care and Diligence

Mohammed bin Abdullah Al-Tariki, Director of Education in Al-Zulfi Governorate, said, “Creativity and excellence are like two rivers flowing from giving, especially in light of the interest and support of the wise leadership of the Kingdom, and its care about creative people. Everyone is aware of the attention education receives from the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud,



Sami Al-Otaibi:
Hamdan Foundation
is pioneering regional
model in excellence
and distinction



Hamad Al-Issa:
Quality is rich source
of excellence
and incentive to excel



Mohammed Al-Tariki:
The Foundation seeks
to improve education
quality and encourages
innovations





Hassan Khurami:
We are keen to participate as we believe in the award's professionalism, adequacy of standards, and quality of outputs

under the follow-up of His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad bin Salman, Crown Prince. The educational field is full of many distinguished projects and achievements, whether at the individual or the collective levels.”

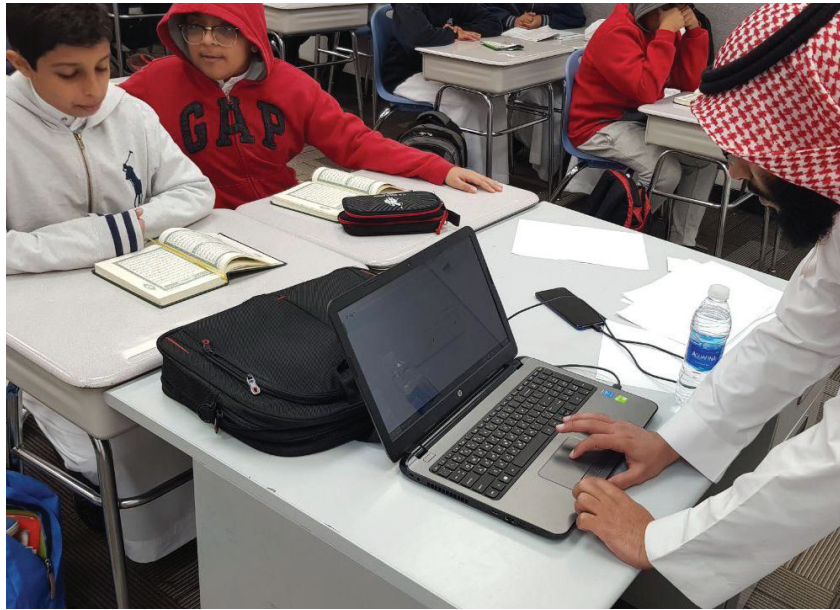
He extended his congratulations and greetings to the student Sulaiman bin Nayef Al-Farraj for winning the award presented by Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Distinguished Academic Performance in its 23rd edition, for the Distinguished Student Category. Al-Tariki also congratulated the student's family, school, teachers, and Al-Zulfi Education.

He added, “Al-Zulfi Education has won several positions in the same award, and it is always a competitor in every forum of knowledge and excellence, thanks to the grace of Allah and to the diligence and persistence of our students, as well as the support and care provided by the Ministry of Education for the creative and distinguished people, in addition to the efforts exerted by the Kingdom, in terms of unlimited support for everything that serves the student and the educational interest as a whole. This award comes among the most famous parts of the late Hamdan bin Rashid's effective participation at the local and international levels, reflecting his financial and moral support for the outstanding educational performance and achievement and care provided to the gifted and distinguished category. Furthermore, the award also seeks to improve the quality of the educational system, encourages initiatives, innovations, and excellence in education and all literary and scientific fields. It provided all necessary care requirements for them, as well as appropriate educational services and programs. Such programs seek to meet needs, sharpen capabilities, and work on their development and advancement.”

Improvement

For his part, Dr. Hassan bin Mohsen Khurami, Director of Education in the Sabya Governorate, said, “Despite the exceptional circumstance and repercussions of the COVID-19 pandemic, and while the whole world faced the challenge of continuing education, and providing a quick and appropriate way to disseminate various information in an e-learning dynamic, open and distributed environment, two Arab role models emerged in the non-interruption and continuation of education remotely, represented by the experience of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. In addition, we saw their determination and desire to implement and improve such model, in order to have a successful comprehensive experience.”

He added: “From this determination, we were not surprised to witness the continuation of the Hamdan bin Rashid award despite the sensitivity of the situation and the circumstance, in addition to the good reputation of its founder, may his soul rest in peace. His name that once reached every part of the world will always be written in pages of glory and remembered in the souls, today and every day. The late Sheikh Hamdan realized the pioneering role of quality and excellence in mapping the path of educational excellence. His award will remain forever because it is based on well-established scientific foundations that positively impact the advancement of education. Moreover, Sheikh



Hamdan's good deeds and the award will always continue to extend to all distinguished people all over the world, and even the demand for participation will increase as a reciprocation."

He continued, "We, at Sabya Education Directorate, are keen to participate annually in the award as we believe in its professionalism, the adequacy of its standards, and the quality of its outputs. It affected the competitors, whose participation comes in accordance with the directives of His Excellency the Minister of Education Dr. Hamad Al Al-Sheikh, the first supporter of improving educational outcomes, achieving excellence, and raising standards of education to a world-class level, in order to meet the aspirations of the Kingdom's leadership aiming to make global competitors out of the Saudi school, teacher, researcher, and students."

Skills Development

Omar bin Hajjad Al-Ghamdi, Director of Education in Al-Namas Governorate, stated, "It is no secret that we live, thanks to the grace of Allah, in the homeland of pride and dignity, supported by our wise and generous leadership, where citizens are provided with special care in various fields, especially in building citizens and caring about developing their skills, talents, and culture. This support and generous patronage extend to all official and civil institutions and bodies to achieve lofty goals and the advancement of the country and the citizen in accordance with the specific vision and clear foundations enabling us to live in a vibrant society and to have a prosperous economy in an ambitious nation."

He added, "Hence, excellence has become a requirement that must be achieved to implement high-quality work. We invest our energies, talents, and capabilities optimally. The Ministry of Education has been



Omar Al-Ghamdi:
Excellence
is requirement
for investing
our energies, talents,
and capabilities
optimally

Special Edition





Yousef Al-Khalfan:
The Foundation disseminated excellence culture in academic community and created competitive movement



Mohammed Al-Shehri:
Hamdan Foundation's criteria are diverse, comprehensive, and firm

working on this aspect through training, rehabilitation, continuous work, and participation in student and school competitions on the national and international scale, so that excellence becomes a method for work, rather than a mere reward.”

Commenting on the importance of the award, Al-Ghamdi said, “The Hamdan bin Rashid award, which cares about excellence and distinguished people, is one of the most prominent examples to be emulated at the level of the Gulf and the Arab World as a whole. The award has succeeded in encouraging educational communities to instill ambition, competition, and high motivation through its diverse fields and different categories, seeking to excel forever until it became an honorable model and a methodology for everyone looking for excellence.”

He pointed out that the initiative of the late Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum to establish the award will continue to have a positive impact on education and its affiliates.

He concluded, “I extend my gracious gratitude and praise to our wise leadership and the Ministry of Education for the great care they give to education and educators, not to mention the care, eagerness, and follow-up to the nation’s most precious wealth, and for the distinguished effort it exerts, that has become an emulated behavior for all hardworking people living in the homeland of dignity and pride.”

Accuracy of Standards

Yousef bin Saad Al-Khalfan, Director of the Center for Excellence in Al-Ahsa Governorate Education Department, said: “The Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Distinguished Academic Performance has become one of the leading educational awards at the Arab and international levels, due to the diversity of its fields and the accuracy of its standards that are based on objectivity and transparency. It contributed to the dissemination of excellence culture in the academic community and created a competitive movement that, in turn, led to the improvement of educational practices. The award is one of the legacies of the late Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, appreciating science and its people.”

Honest Competition

Mohammed bin Ali Al-Shehri, Director of the Center for Excellence in Al-Namas Governorate Education Department, said: “The Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Distinguished Educational Performance is increasingly receiving the attention of the Saudi education sector, due to the great interest of the Ministry of Education in providing opportunities for all groups. To participate in the local, regional and international awards, whose very significant role was noted in spreading the spirit of honest competition among the participating groups. This is beneficial to the quality of outputs at all levels.”

He added: “The Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Award is characterized by diversity, comprehensiveness, and firm standards, which adds another dimension -- strength, as it is not easy to obtain, and is considered evidence added to the candidate’s biography. Perhaps it is an appropriate

opportunity to urge everyone to participate and benefit from its criteria to reach the best competition standards at both local and international levels.”

Exciting Journey

Salem bin Mohammed Al-Awaji, the Foundation’s award coordinator at the Education Department of the Eastern Province, said: “The Award has an exciting journey in which creative and distinguished people meet with their high aspirations to reach the peaks of success.”

He added, “To those in charge of the awards, we thank you again for your great efforts in leading the journey of excellence. To the winners, our most sincere congratulations, wishing you more excellence and giving.”

Ahmed bin Suleiman Al-Fuhaid, Director of the Center for Excellence in Zulfi Education Department, said: “Excellence is an acquired trait that perpetuates human actions and is not achieved out easily, but rather it requires strong will and continuous giving. We, in Saudi Arabia, enjoy the support of the march education leader, the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz, and His Royal Highness the Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman. They both sponsor distinguished people in all fields. On the other hand, over the 23 years since the Hamdan bin Rashid Foundation was launched, it supported and served distinguished practices and the efforts in improving the performance of teachers, students, and schools, to achieve the goals of education, under the follow-up of the Ministry of Education.”

He pointed out that the Zulfi Education Center for Excellence, since the start of the 23rd edition, gave an opportunity to all categories covered by the award by advertising and holding workshops and meetings to explain the criteria and how to participate in the competition.

He continued: “The educational field is full of distinguished and creative people, and the Al-Zulfi education has the honor of winning different categories of this award. It is also a competitor in every forum of science and excellence.”

Pages of Glory

Abdel-Qader Ahmed Abdel-Fattah Al-Hazemi, Coordinator of the Education Department of Sabya Governorate, said: “The name of the late Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum is engraved on the pages of glory. It will be remembered every day. Hamdan bin Rashid’s award will remain a beacon that everyone seeks by adopting its standards in the educational process as a basis for development and improvement of outcomes.”

He added: “Since the very beginning, we have seen the tireless work of the Foundation for advancement, progress, and keeping pace with everything new in various fields. This is aimed at achieving the best practices in the area. There is no more significant evidence than the suspension of most of the awards due to the coronavirus pandemic, while the Hamdan Foundation award did not stop. Moreover, it added a standard for the pandemic and how to overcome difficulties.”



Salem Al-Awaji:
The award is exciting journey where creative and distinguished people meet with their high aspirations



Ahmed Al-Fuhaid:
Hamdan Foundation supported distinguished practices and efforts in improving performance in education



Abdel-Qader Al-Hazemi:
Hamdan Foundation is beacon that everyone aspires to by adopting its academic standards

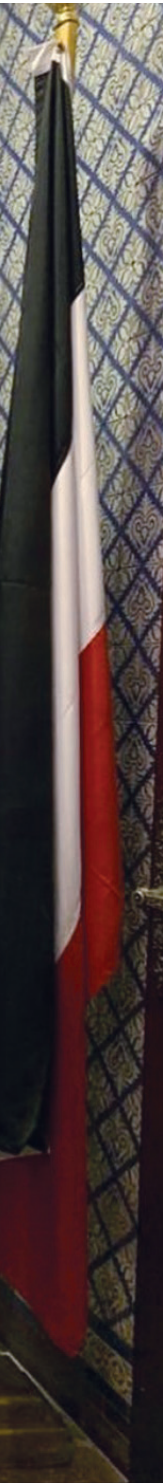


Award Coordinators in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and Bahrain:
Hamdan Foundation..
and Excellence
Pioneer Hub

Dubai – Faten Matar

The award coordinators of the Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Distinguished Academic Performance in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the State of Kuwait, and the Kingdom of Bahrain stressed that the Foundation is an educational edifice and pioneer hub in the field of academic excellence at the national, Arab, and international levels, following the highest standards of quality and excellence. In addition, it is one of the scientific sources that support the march of excellence and the quality of educational performance in the region. Speaking at the closing ceremony for honoring the winners of the Foundation’s awards in its 23rd edition, the coordinators pointed out that the distinguished contributions of the late Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, may his soul rest in peace, have a valuable and growing position embodying noble values and enlightened thought, as he was the greatest supporter of excellence and the distinguished. The late Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum was the person who uncovered the uniqueness of many of those who have been honored with these awards of his Foundation.





Abdullah bin Zahi bin Ali Al-Qarni, General-Coordinator of Awards of the Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Distinguished Academic Performance - boys sector at the Saudi Ministry of Education, said, "Excellence, success, creativity, and advancements are words that can transform an entire nation. They are prominent characteristics for building up a creative and brilliant personality. These were evident features in the late Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid. His character was like an encyclopedia, full of excellence and success, showing great interest in scientists, innovators, thinkers, and distinguished students at all levels." Al-Qarni added, "During his sponsorship time, the Foundation emerged as a top institutional platform, and took a high, prestigious position in the institutional work, spreading its culture in all Gulf, Arab, and Islamic countries. The Foundation assumed its world-class rank through harnessing and providing all possibilities of distinction, success, creativity, and excellence."

He continued, "Our noble Islamic religion calls us to provide quality and distinctively perfect work, as the Almighty Allah said in the Holy Quran, "He Who created Death and Life, that He may try which of you is best in deed: and He is the Exalted in Might, Oft-Forgiving." In addition, Aisha said that the Messenger of Allah (PBUH) stated, "Allah loves that whenever any of you does something, he should excel in it."

Furthermore, Al-Qarni pointed out that, "Any observer of the cognitive and practical aspects of the role played by the Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation, will find out that it is a tangible, practical reality, and a basic concept of competition in light of the dissemination of excellence culture in the educational field worldwide."

Cornerstone

Al-Qarni pointed out that institutional excellence represents the first aspect in the diversity of the Foundation's uniqueness in all its categories, and the cornerstone in cultural growth and creativity. It entrenches a culture of excellence to enhance its paths towards the winner's circles worldwide. Its founder, the late Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, was ingenious, distinguished, and creative. He had the upper hand after the Almighty Allah in laying the foundations and rules of this prominent Foundation from its inception until it turned into a beacon enlightening the path before the distinguished and guiding them, thanks to the support he provided whether in thought, opinion, hard work, funds, effort, and follow-up. Thus, the Foundation succeeded in sustaining and spreading its culture among global institutions through maintaining the stability of its scientific, social, and economic position, in addition to keeping pace with the fast-changing world in its modern information for developing institutional performance with the unlimited support of the late humanitarian leader. His blessed contributions perpetuate excellence through different categories of the Foundation awards since its first steps at the local level in the state of excellence and glory - the United Arab Emirates. Then, the Foundation's culture was spread at the GCC level with distinguished participations in all its categories every year, until it launched a global online center for talent aiming to harness and gather the elite talents scientists, students, and researchers from all international institutions, to exchange expertise and distinguished

Hamdan bin Rashid was greatest supporter of the distinguished. His contributions have values and enlightened thought



Abdullah Al-Qarni: Hamdan Foundation took high, prestigious position in institutional work





experiences in various fields, until it built its legacy of knowledge and skill in the field of educational excellence, sponsoring the gifted, and innovation.

Shedding light on the distinguished contributions of the late Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid, Al-Qarni confirmed that such contributions have a precious and growing position embodying noble values and enlightened thought derived from the insightful visions of the UAE founder, the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, and the consistent and continuous approach led by President His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Ruler of Dubai, Vice President and Prime Minister of UAE, and His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, in supporting science and scientists, helping people to advance, achieving stability and prosperity, and encouraging initiatives aiming to spreading, improving and developing education in all aspects of life.

He continued, "In fulfillment of his saying, (This award, from my point of view, is an incentive and a goal at the same time; it is an incentive driving seriousness, work, and honest competition). So, it has become an important duty to spread its culture in all its categories to extend its benefit to all Arab countries, to encourage students, teachers, and school principals who are competent in carrying out their noble educational mission with honesty and competence, and to meet their needs in accordance with renewable scientific data, and a bright hope that leads them to become active members in their environment and society, and supports serving their countries in all fields."

Wide Resonance

Al-Qarni described the 23rd edition participation as effective and unique in empowering participants by workshops and training courses since the last summer. The workshops were implemented before receiving the participants' files and arbitration by educational departments, urging them to apply for the award to enter its exciting competitive atmosphere. This has a positive impact not only on the winners but also on all applicants who are looking for an opportunity through which the evaluation and assessment of their achievements and innovations are carried out by specialists in the fields of education and arbitration. The award has a wide resonance due to understanding its explanatory evidence for all its categories, the mechanism for applying to it, and how to fill out applications, including conditions, instructions, and the required criteria and documents.

As for his opinion about the Saudi participation in the current edition for all categories, Al-Qarni confirmed, "They are excellent, and their level develops from one edition to the other, thanks, after the help of Allah Almighty, to the Foundation's administration for its support, motivation, and concerted efforts exerted to expand the culture of excellence among the new applicants and help them apply excellence in their work by actively participating in the categories of the Foundation's award, to sustain their awareness and increase their culture with the surrounding community. The procedure followed in this edition to upload files electronically is a promising step in the GCC to keep pace with progress, as it facilitated

the procedures for submitting and arbitrating them locally at educational and central departments at the Ministry of Education.”

Team Spirit

Commenting on the efforts exerted, Al-Qarni said, “The work was completed successfully through the team spirit as all departments of the educational field, represented by the Ministry of Education and its educational departments, including arbitrators, sub-coordinators, administrators, and participants, worked side by side at all categories of the Foundation’s award. We all beg the Almighty Allah to have mercy upon the late Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum and to honor him with the best reward for the support, encouragement, motivation, and help he provided to all applicants and winners of different categories of the Foundation’s award at the Arab, Gulf, and international levels.”

Moreover, Al-Qarni called for launching a satellite channel aimed at highlighting the efforts of the Late Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid, contributing to supporting science and spreading the Foundation’s culture and news concerned with aspects of excellence and technology, presenting and exchanging field visits for distinguished Gulf and Arab teachers, and selecting qualified authors, presenters, directors, arbitrators, and delegates to document the Foundation’s effort, work, and archive that is rich with aspects of excellence over the previous editions.

He pointed out that “the excellence of Saudi nationals is deemed as an extension of the support, assistance, and follow-up that we find for the education sector from the wise government of the Kingdom, aiming to maintain the quality of the educational outcomes. Today, we keep rising and occupying first positions at the global, Arab, and Gulf countries’ levels, thanks to the innovations presented by our young generation that deserved to be praised for contributing to the fulfillment of the indicators and requirements of the vision of giving and development 2030 aiming to reach global entrepreneurship, supported and followed-up by the King of persistence, determination, and humanity, the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, and His Royal Highness the Crown Prince, the faithful young, devoted, dedicated, and ambitious Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud. Hence, we pray to Allah to bless them, prolong their lives, and perpetuate them as an asset for Islam and Muslims. This has spread the spirit of competition and the search for excellence among the Saudi courageous and devoted youth to honor and represent the nation in the best way in all competitions. The youth of Jebel Tuwaiq were able to show a positive image of the nation, not only in this edition but in all previous editions of the Foundation’s award and among its various categories.”

Al-Qarni pointed out that excellence and creativity are a souvenir and beacon from the people of the Arab Gulf states, each in the name of his proud homeland, saying, “I take pride in praising those brilliant winners and honorees in all categories of the Foundation’s award, praying Allah to crown their efforts with more creativity, success, progress, and giving, and to follow the distinguished approach to make bright achievements and reach the most prominent podiums. The noblest word, the most generous thanks, and the sincerest gratitude are extended to all of you





and for all members of the Foundation's General Secretariat, the chairmen of the committees, the members of the arbitration committees, the staff, and all workers, who devoted most of their time for harnessing and encouraging excellence in the Gulf and Arab surroundings, to keep pace with progress and excellence, and to work in a spirit of sincerity, in order to reach up the ambitious values and honorable principles."

He added, "Efforts exerted by this prominent Foundation are to continue by the blessing of the giving of its late founder Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum. It will continue its leadership achievements, excellence, and creativity. So, I hope you all will follow his footsteps, may the Almighty Allah sustain your brilliance, and shower you from His grace and giving. We will be with you forever."

Appreciation and Recognition

Al-Qarni extended his sincere thanks, gratitude, and appreciation to Dr. Hamad bin Mohammed Al Al-Sheikh, Saudi Minister of Education, for his support, assistance, and continuous follow-up to the coordination teamwork at the Ministry, and for his relentless pursuit to achieve the best-advanced results in this Foundation in all its brilliant categories. Furthermore, He expressed his gratitude for Dr. Abdul Rahman bin Mohammed Al-Asimi, the former Deputy Minister of Education, for his guidance, keenness, direct supervision, and real-time follow-up, as well as for Dr. Mohammed bin Saud Al-Muqbil, the Undersecretary for Public Education, for his unlimited support and encouragement to reach the platforms of excellence and distinction. He also thanked Prof. Dr. Saleh bin Abdulaziz Al-Nassar, the Secretary-General of the Education Award for Excellence, for his supervision, dedication, concern, constant questioning, and participation in the Foundation's central committees, providing all means for progress, creativity, and excellence for the students participating and winning in this 23rd edition, and for his heartfelt congratulations through contacting all winners and their parents and arbitrators. In addition, Al-Qarni expressed his appreciation to Abdul Aziz bin Ali Al Yahya, the Director-General of Student Activities, for his honorable stance and support for the central arbitration committees at the Headquarters of the General Administration, and to the colleague Laila bint Abdul Rahman Al-Mutarak, the Executive Director of the Education Award for Excellence, for her daily support and encouragement as well as standing with everybody side by side. He also extended his gratitude for Dr. Hanan bint Salem Al-Baqawi, the General-Coordinator of the Foundation for Girls, in recognition for her teamwork spirit and harmony, coordination, understanding, and communication, following the footsteps of the lofty achievements and aspirations for a homeland of giving and development, and for the colleague Nasser bin Mohammed Al-Huwaish, and Nawal bint Abdullah Al-Saif for their support and dedication, and to all fellow, arbitrators, and colleagues at the ministry level, each in his name, for their vigil and supervising keenness on the accuracy, achievement, and fairness of arbitration, and for all education directors, colleagues, and sub-coordinators for their support to spread the culture of the award and contribute to the sharing of distinguished files. He said, "We look forward to witnessing more achievements in the upcoming editions."



Educational Mobility

Dr. Hanan bint Salem Al-Baqawi, General-Coordinator of the awards of the Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Distinguished Academic Performance for the Girls' Sector in the Saudi Ministry of Education, said: "The Hamdan bin Rashid Foundation is an educational, scientific edifice, and a pioneer educational hub in the field of educational excellence at the local, Arab, and global levels, following the highest standards of quality and excellence. It contributes to the educational movement and accelerates the wheel of excellence in the Arab World. It is also considered as an attractive motivator for all categories of the educational process to excellence, innovation, and development. Through my participation as a coordinator of the award and as an assistant in the past years, I noticed educational mobility at all levels to implement the standards of excellence, in preparation to join the award and ascend the podiums. The participations came from several Saudi educational departments in the regions and governorates; and this contributed greatly to the dissemination of the excellence culture, which has always been called (igniting the fuse of excellence) in educational departments."

Dr. Hanan added, "The biography of the late Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, may his soul rest in peace, carried a rich legacy of educational achievements at the local, Arab, and global levels. It sparked an inspiring educational ideology that enriched education and its affiliates in excellence and innovation. He supported it with local, Gulf, Arab, and international educational platforms and awards. He was extremely generous with education, and his life was filled with inexhaustible giving.



Hanan Al-Baqawi:
Hamdan bin Rashid
sparked inspiring
educational ideology
that enriched education
and its affiliates

Special Edition





Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum was a man of virtues. He has done a lot of good deeds and sponsored distinguished achievements in the fields of science. The pioneers of quality and excellence in his prestigious foundation have followed his lead. They spare no effort in developing the award's standards and continuously updating its mechanisms to keep pace with the technology and information revolution. His honorable biography is immortalized in the pages of science and excellence that extended to the whole world. We plea Allah to reward him for all his good deeds and for the knowledge he contributed to be spread." She continued: "Educational institutions seek to create a distinct and attractive educational environment, so they establish awards in many scientific and educational fields. They aim at improving the quality, efficiency, and effectiveness of educational institutions, raising the level of educational performance, developing the performance of their affiliates in order to raise the quality and distinction of education, and encouraging and honoring the creative and distinguished members of the educational process."

Dr. Hanan stressed the importance of awards in the educational institutions in the Arab World, as well as creating bridges of cooperation among these institutions sponsoring excellence, as they contribute to encouraging and spreading a culture of excellence in the educational field. They work on developing the performance of male and female students and highlighting the role and importance of the teacher, school leadership, and creating a distinctive educational performance through creating the standards of excellence in the Arab World and upgrading it to global levels.

She indicated that the whole world faced the emergence of the coronavirus pandemic last year, and educational systems were not immune from this pandemic and its repercussions. Therefore, it was necessary to confront this crisis, protect about six million students and ensure their safety from infection with the epidemic. Consequently, it was dealt with in a clever and professional manner, in accordance with the public interest and ensuring the safety of all participants in the educational process. Several urgent decisions and procedures were adopted, perhaps the most prominent of which is the launch of the "madrasati" platform. The platform has embraced the remote educational process since the emergence of the pandemic until today, offering 23 educational channels that contributed to the continuation of the educational process while preserving high efficiency and great interaction between students, teachers, and parents. Dr. Hanan also pointed out that the Hamdan Foundation, in such circumstances, was keen on the optimal investment of technology and automating the stages of the award from uploading files, arbitration, and nominating candidates. At the same time, I was concerned about the low participation of different categories in the Hamdan Foundation award in this exceptional year. However, after commencing the current edition and starting to receive applications, I observed distinguished achievements in the educational field, some of which are from remote education departments in the Saudi governorates, and I touched on the enthusiasm, dedication in performance, and investment of all available technologies to prove excellence, which reflected the Saudi Ministry of Education' ability to deal with the pandemic and to overcome its nega-



tive effects and repercussions. Among these achievements, I mention filling and winning the Saudi nomination quota for all categories for two years in a row (the girls' sector) thanks to Allah Almighty and then to our belief that the challenge creates strength and that behind every adversity there is an opportunity.

She addressed all the winners, saying, "The pandemic did not prevent you from winning and ascending the excellence podiums, but rather the crisis motivated you to create and innovate in teaching and learning. We have witnessed creative methods, which supported the continuation of the distance learning process. I hereby remind you of your sustainable duty in spreading the culture of excellence and conveying distinguished practices. You are the champions of the promising future in the world of rapid changes to provide patterns of high-quality learning. You won in the participation in creating the future of your homeland and raising it to the highest levels."

Active Role

Nasser bin Mohammed Al-Huwaish, Assistant-General-Coordinator of the Foundation's awards in Saudi Arabia, said, "The Hamdan bin Rashid Foundation enjoys a great position at the level of the educational community. Since its inception, it has played an active role in upgrading educational processes and transferring them from creativity to the space of excellence, reflecting the vision of the late Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, the patron of the award, as well as the mission of its aspired culture to preserve its pioneering role, on the one hand, and to sustain its regional and international spread, on the other. It was a fertile oasis



Nasser Al-Huwaish:
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Mansour Al-Daihani:
The Foundation has clear and insightful vision to sparkle creativity world



Fatima Al Nashmi:
Hamdan Foundation proved authenticity and capabilities by working despite coronavirus pandemic

embracing talented, creative, and gifted people. It is worth mentioning that the Saudi Ministry of Education pays great and continuous attention to the award by disseminating the excellence culture and holding routine training courses and practical workshops to spread the award in the educational field.”

He concluded, “The Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Distinguished Academic Performance has become a more distinguished, brilliant, and solid incubator for the distinguished. It has promoted creative thinking in the educational field, brought about a conscious movement that revealed talents, energies, and creative capabilities, encouraged the spirit of initiative and honest, educational competition. It also freed the target audience from hesitation and fear, granting them confidence and courage, entrusting them with great responsibility and honesty, and stimulating their determination and persistence towards continuous participation, innovation, and creativity.”

Insightful Vision

Similarly, Mansour Abdullah Al-Daihani, Coordinator of the Foundation’s awards in the State of Kuwait, said, “The late patron of the Foundation, Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum had an enlightened thought and insightful vision, which is reflected by the noble goals and lofty aims which he had always aspired to achieve in all scientific fields around the world. Losing such a great person is considered a loss of the greatest supporter of excellence and distinctive individuals, the person who was behind the uniqueness of many people who received the honor of winning these awards sponsored by the Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation, which motivated them to continue in their creativity and giving. The Foundation has a clear and insightful vision and an inspiring message to establish the foundations of success and sparkle in the world of creativity.”

He added, “The Foundation reflects the noble vision and goal that its patron, the late Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid aspired to. The goal of establishing a high-quality educational system with outstanding performance, believing in the importance of science and knowledge as an effective tool for development. All this indicates his insightful vision for the future, which is based on developing the educational system to reach the highest goals of human building. It also shows his wise insight towards moving forward to highlight the lofty position of teachers and their role in building generations, and to emphasize the status of school as an attractive environment for education.”

Mr. Al-Daihani continued, “For any society, to be pioneer needs a scientific methodology based on human building in order to reach the high quality life; and the Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Distinguished Educational Performance is one of the mechanisms for raising and improving the quality of the pedagogical and educational process, whether in the methods of teaching, the management, or the learning environment. It aims at supporting the educational programs and projects that enhance modern educational values and trends seeking to develop and improve educational practices, raise the level of performers in the academic field, and create a unique and attractive educational environment to work in. The Hamdan Foundation is charac-

terized by its integrated approach that establishes the ideology of quality in performance and learning outcomes. It aspires to contribute to providing a modern and advanced educational environment and settings that encourage innovation, leadership, and excellence, paving the way for a culture of excellence that should be attained in education and other fields.”

He also pointed out that it is crystal clear that the Foundation’s awards created a fertile environment of meaningful educational competition, which achieved harmony with the educational system. It also contributed to raising academic levels according to scientific foundations based on exchanging experiences between the Arab countries in general and Gulf countries in particular. This emphasizes the importance of such educational awards, which the entire Arab World is witnessing. Having such awards is a pride for everyone who belongs to the educational field. They seek to inspire the elements of the educational system, and achieve high quality in every educational act. They aim at awakening enthusiasm, motivating spirits, and promoting excellence and distinction as the two mottos for everyone who contributes to the field of education. Mr. Al-Daihani stated that the importance of educational awards lies in their pioneering role towards the development of societies, human building, and elevating the educational process by sponsoring a distinguished group of students and educators, discovering the sources of their creativity and abilities, and presenting them to the educational field. From a practical point of view, the Hamdan Foundation contributed to providing an advanced educational environment that incubated excellence. It also stimulated performers to accomplish high-quality achievements in school activities and for the targeted groups by the award.

Educational Renaissance

For her part, Fatima Ahmed Khalifa Al Nashmi, Coordinator of the Foundation awards in the Kingdom of Bahrain, said, “The Hamdan bin Rashid Foundation is one of the scientific sources that support the march of excellence and the high-quality educational performance in the region. The late Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, who was the pillar of the educational renaissance in the region during his long journey, had always supported and improved the chance for children and young people to obtain the best educational opportunities. Education was reinforced by his endless support for this distinguished scientific edifice until it completed its twenty-third edition, at the end of which we were heartbroken by the loss of the sponsor, founder, and supporter of this foundation.”

She added, “The Hamdan Foundation has proven its authenticity and capabilities by running its awards events, despite the coronavirus pandemic – the great challenge that faced the whole world, paralyzing the largest and strongest sectors. The Foundation chose to continue its path using all possible means, and providing support to all the Foundation’s coordinators at the local and regional levels, which resulted in the completion of the 23rd cycle as scheduled. It was a brilliant success that we, the members of the Ministry of Education in the Kingdom of Bahrain, were honored to be a part of.”

