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Winners of 15th Education Excellence Award at the awards ceremony. PICS: RAJAN



Noor Nahar Al Naimi



Mohammed Ali Salem Al Athba Al Marri

Education Excellence Award shows path of excellence

SAHAULLAHA ATUALLAH THE PENINSULA

Creativity and excellence are the core values for the 72 Qatari students who were honoured during the 15th Education Excellence Award yesterday. These bright students stepped forward in calibrating their skills in the path of mastering knowledge.

The award ceremony was personally attended by Amir H H Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, who handed over the awards to each of the winners. He also highlighted the role of their parents and family members in supporting the students throughout their journey.

The event was one for the books, as the students narrated how overjoyed they were upon receiving the award from H H the Amir himself. *The Peninsula* talked to some of these young brilliant minds on how they shared their talents and made a change in this world.

A winner of gold medal in the

category of secondary school students, Mohammed Ali Salem Al Athba Al Marri, thanked his parents for supporting and encouraging him to participate in the Education Excellence Award.

"I am overwhelmed to stand besides H H the Amir to receive the award. This is a historical moment for me. I cannot forget this for the rest of my life," said Al Marri, a student from Qatar Academy – Doha.

Al Marri said the award will open

opportunities and doors to more achievements in the future.

The project he had submitted is distinctive. He used reusable materials in creating a prosthetic arm. "I produced a prosthetic arm by using recycled materials such as plastic. The parts were designed through AutoCAD and were controlled remotely using the Arduino programming language."

Another winner of gold medal in the award category of secondary school, Noor Nahar Al Naimi, said the

award is a fruitful result of her three year-long efforts. Noor, a student from Al Bayan Secondary School for Girls, said: "The award is really very important for me because I consider it as a starting point for my journey of success. My dream came true today."

With a clear goal in mind, Al Naimi said she wanted to serve the country by becoming a doctor. "I aspire to continue my academic journey and obtain a master's and Ph.D degrees in medicine," she said.

A winner of gold medal in the award category of university graduate, Al Dana Ali Al Yafei, said the recognition is very important and has encouraged her to take higher studies and build confidence.

Speaking about the support she received for the award, Al Dana, a student of chemical engineering at Qatar University, said: "My parents encouraged me greatly. They always stood side-by-side with me throughout the journey. They supported me in all of my projects."

She also thanked her teachers for

their support during the studies and preparing the projects for the award. "I submitted my achievements during the past five years in the university, such as holding team management position and scientific research works," said Al Dana.

Education Excellence Award honours outstanding Qatari students, research scholars, and schools in various fields to promote a culture of creativity and excellence in the Qatari society. It aims to push students to more excellence and outstanding educational attainment, and promote integration between individual and institutional efforts to improve scholarly outputs and bring them to global standards.

Since its inception, the Award has focused on a noble goal of creating an ambitious, skilled and dedicated generation in the field of education.

As the saying goes "The Children are our future," we are confident that for the years to come, we are in good hands. And these students are a living proof.



QNL playing a leading role in preserving Arab, regional heritage

QNA – DOHA

Qatar National Library (QNL) has succeeded in preserving cultural heritage in the Arab region and the Middle East, since its selection in 2015 by the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) to be the regional centre for the preservation of heritage materials in the Arab world and the Middle East, before it was officially opened in March 2018.

The renewal of the agreement between IFLA and QNL recently, for a new period

of preservation and a scientific laboratory, in addition to two other laboratories in which very modern technology is used to remove acidity from papers and collectibles in large quantities, as acidity is one of the most important problems affecting the preservation of heritage collectibles.

The book conservation specialist at QNL added that the role of these laboratories is mainly to maintain the collectibles of the National Library, as the library has thousands of manuscripts, newspapers, photographs, and everything related to docu-

and mold, as well as gases in the air. Books are an ideal environment for insects and fungi, and thus affect the presence of holes in manuscripts or erosion at the edges, as well as oxidation and paper fossilization, in addition to bad preservation, handling, and storage by individuals, all of this affects manuscripts, especially if it has been in the possession of people for hundreds of years. Therefore, the preservation of manuscripts starts from addressing their problems and then correctly preserving them.

On whether the centre preserves manuscripts and collectibles for institutions in Qatar other than the library, Maxim Nasra said the team is currently preserving the library's manuscripts, and cooperation is being carried out with various institutions on certain projects so that the library team maintains a project for a specific institution, which is what was done with Qatar University.

In addition, the library provides an Ask the Conservation Specialist service through its website, in which the library responds technically to the problems faced by the heritage of families, manuscripts, and ancient documents, and provides them with technical information through which heritage can be preserved.

With regard to the library's role as a regional centre for IFLA, Nasra told QNA that the library plays its leading role in coordinating conservation efforts and initiatives among the Arab countries in the Middle East and North Africa, indicating that the selection of the library for this role came after competition with a number of institutions in different countries since 2015 and then it was renewed in 2018, and the agreement will be renewed again this year until 2024 and this is based on the projects submitted by QNL and the new plan.



of three years, came in support of its six-year efforts in preserving the Arab heritage in the region, after the great success achieved by the library over the past six years, during which it launched many projects and initiatives.

QNA visited the QNL to learn about its role in preserving Arab and regional heritage and the services it provides in this regard.

In a statement to QNA, book conservation specialist at QNL, Maxim Nasra, said that the library, to perform its role in preserving the heritage, whether the heritage of the library or the Arab or regional libraries, owns a group of laboratories that work to achieve these tasks. There is a laboratory for conservation and

mentary heritage. Preserving this heritage is done by addressing it with regard to minor problems such as humidity and heat, in addition to preventive conservation, which works to preserve this heritage in appropriate environmental conditions.

He added that the conservation team's primary mission is preventive conservation, therefore, specialists interested in preserving this heritage must be studying materials science and documentation techniques, especially since manuscripts are exposed to many problems, including environmental conditions such as heat and humidity that affect the paper or the materials on the paper and cause stains, along with insects, fungi

Oil and gas solutions

Qatar is world's number one exporter of natural gas, a major energy resource used globally. The Qatari oil was first discovered in Dukhan, back in the 1930s. The finding completely changed the economic model of the then pearl merchant society. Qatar was able to reach its current development levels thanks to its oil and gas industry, which has become the heart of its economy. It is estimated that 70% of the country's revenue comes from the sales of this industry. It also makes up 60% of Qatar's GDP and constitutes 85% of its total exports.

With most of Qatar's oil production sights being off-shore, a need for ensuring their security is primordial. Negligence and reckless conduct can therefore have drastic consequences, as we have seen with the 2010's BP oil spill.

Avoiding oil spills that could pollute the waters and endanger animal and human has therefore become a standard for oil and gas production sites.

To do this, engineering companies around the world, such as Bayanat Engineering, employ technological solutions in three main domains: communication, surveillance and air traffic management.

Surveillance and communication

Any potential accident starts with prevention. An elaborate and timely surveillance system is absolutely paramount to avoiding any and all malfunctions on the production site infrastructure. Being able to detect a problem beforehand is, therefore, the goal of all of the services provided by the engineering companies. From cameras to body temperature scans, these help not only ensure the safety and proper working of the site, but of its employees as well, whose wellbeing is to be taken care of.

But in case an accident or an unfortunate



event does take place, the managing bodies need to be informed about as soon as possible, to prevent further consequences. This is why efficient communication systems have to be provided to the staff of a production sight. Bayanat specialises in radio based equipment which facilitates the smooth flow of information between the receptors. In fact, related technology, such as radars, is also used to find oil and gas fields and communicate a timely response to these via the radio itself. A rather invidious, but definitely essential use of communication in the oil and gas industry.

Air traffic management

You may be wondering what air traffic management has to do with oil and natural gas. It is important to understand that any aircrafts, vehicles or vessels in the vicinity of the production sites could pose a potential threat unless specifically authorised or requested by the facility.

Hence, they are monitored via air traffic management solutions, including the aforementioned radio equipment, as well as sonar solutions, such as echosounders.

Bayanat, a company that is famous for equipping the world-famous Hamad International Airport, is a specialist of air traffic management. It provides technology to Qatar's own oil and gas industry. For a full catalogue of their solutions, visit their website www.bayanatengineering.qa

