



At Seminar of Best Practices, Al Qatami: Upgrading the Educational System to the Best Global Systems



Dr. Al Suwaidi to Adjudicators: Your Impartiality Deepened the Award Good Reputation Locally, Regionally and Globally

Online Advisor Attracts Participants in Khalifa Award Workshops

Hamdan Award Adopts Application Converting 16th Cycle Posters to Footage



UNESCO Director-General Visits Hamdan Award Oblivion Celebrating World Teachers' Day

Stop Junk Food  
**Obesity Deforms our Children's Bodies**

Breast Cancer Awareness Messages by Hamdan Award Employees Posted on Social Media Websites



# November 2013

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## Issue and Correspondence:

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Cover Story

## OUR VISION

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

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**AIT News amayoz**  
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## Excellent Education.. and Leadership

\* When the government allocates 21 percent of the state budget to be spent on education, it means that the government throws all its weight behind efforts to develop education, clearly showing the position taken by education in the government's agenda, which is at the top national priorities. Continuous update of this sector is worthy of such rate of expenditure, which is one of the high rates in the world according to adopted international standards.

\* Some specialized assessments ranked education in the UAE as 'GOOD', and stated that it evolves based on spreading, quality and qualitative development standards. The AED 9.8 billion forms a good factor in promoting the position of the UAE education in international competitiveness as an important support in advancing smart learning project, to proceed towards the implementation of the second stage.

\* During his participation in the 8th Seminar of Best Practices in Distinguished Educational Performance, recently organized by the Award, His Excellency Humaid Al Qatami, Minister of Education (MOE) stated that the MOE is in a race against time to complete the development initiatives in education, which are trusted and patronized by the Government of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai. He added that the project of shifting to smart learning is among the most important initiatives that would raise the UAE to the leadership position in the sustainable renewal of educational sector and creating best practices for smart shifting. However, excellence remains one of the main incentive vocabularies to achieve the UAE Vision 2020.

**Abdul Noor Ahmed Al Hashimi**  
Chief Editor



Introduction

We welcome your contributions and inquiries as to pursue communication with you.  
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Email: [magazine@ha.ae](mailto:magazine@ha.ae)

Kindly address the letters or emails to the Chief Editor

## Hamdan Award Participates in Breast Cancer Awareness Campaign, Dr. Al Muhairi: Human Safety and Health ‘Priority in Sustainable Education’



«Al Tamayoz News» – Dubai

**Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi, the Secretary-General of Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance stated that maintaining the human safety and health is a priority in the sustainable education and human development. He lauded the participation of Hamdan Award in the global campaign for the prevention of breast cancer, which comes in October every year, involving government and private institutions in the UAE, based on community involvement and supporting the programs raising the level of health awareness and prevention of diseases in the society.**

Dr. Al Muhairi cited that Hamdan Award is among the institutions concerned to achieve excellence in education; therefore, it is interested in supporting anything that would accomplish the highest level of achievement levels in various fields, on top of which, health care and disease prevention.

He added that during the preventive campaign period, the Award has changed the color of its logo from red to pink to achieve harmony with this campaign, due to the importance of the Award’s mission to increase awareness in the community.

Al Muhairi declared that the Award participation included some educating and incentive programs stressing the need for regular check-ups which addressed employees and members of the community, as well as producing a video and surveying views of some employees on social websites, to contribute to spreading the campaign’s mission and achieving its objectives; the thing which helped in the formation of common bonds between the Award community individuals and institutions around the campaign. All these activities were posted on the social networking channels and official website of the Award.

Under the slogan “Little time to your health - check now for the sake of your family’s happiness”, the Ministry of Health



**Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi**

(MOH) organized the Early Breast Cancer National Screening Campaign covering all districts in the UAE on 21st of October, under the patronage of His Excellency, Minister of Health,

Dr. Hajar Al Hosani, Director of Maternity & Childhood Central Administration, and Director of the Woman & Child Health National Program in the MOH, stated that the early breast cancer national screening program conducted 118,829 clinical and radiation breast cancer tests for ladies till last August.

She said: “About 5.7 diseases of each 1000 women have been diagnosed bearers of the disease during the Program. Over the last period, positive cases were evaluated and followed

up; whereas 119,000 ladies have been trained on self-examination tests”.

“As well, 1450 doctors and 1830 nurses were also trained on the application of the program in various areas, 54 x-ray technicians and 24 x-ray doctors were trained on the techniques and skills of mammogram”. She added.

“This year’s campaign will increase the awareness of the community members on the way of protection of breast cancer, practicing regular exercises, healthy nutrition such as vegetables, fruits, cereals, and beans and maintaining the right weight”. Al Hosani cited.

Furthermore, Dr. Al Hosani, who is also the director of the Woman & Child Health National Program, stated that the campaign generally aims at increasing the awareness of women about the importance of early breast cancer screening by providing them with the necessary information, and introducing them to the factors and causes of the disease, early detection ways, diagnosis and treatment.

As well, she stated that the campaign raises the health standards of the employees in the health sector, and increases the knowledge, skills and efficiency of healthcare providers. It also provides the community members with accurate information about breast cancer and

mechanisms of early breast cancer diagnosis.

Dr. Al Hosni said that the campaign is designated for educating and teaching about breast cancer diseases as it provides the necessary information for women and society.

Moreover, she declared that the conclusion of a study will be soon announced. The said study was conducted on 1000 women aged 25 + who were selected as statistical sample representing the ladies referred to 14 health centers among the main primary health care centers in the northern regions, in cooperation with the Primary Health Care Directorate.

“The study’s objectives are to identify the level of health awareness and the extent to which women recognize the ways and means of prevention and protection from the risk of this disease such as healthy food, exercise, and the importance and mechanisms of early screening of breast cancer”, she said pointing out that the study aims at identifying the obstacles preventing women from healthy practices.

The early breast cancer national screening program organized 41 awareness-raising campaigns, established a database containing data and information on all the examined groups of ladies, and issued two books in English on the results and achievements of the program.



**Mariam Al Ghawi,  
Director of Department  
of Gifted Welfare:**

In addition to its excellence in education, Hamdan Award seeks excellence in all aspects, including health, since we are “Distinguished in our Health”. We urge the public interested in Hamdan Award to conduct early screening.



**Marwa Sahrawi,  
Skill Development  
Administrator**

We can overcome breast cancer by early detection. My advice for all young women and each mother is to be conduct self-examination and visit physicians regularly. Let’s protect ourselves because “Prevention is Excellence”.

**Afra Atiq,  
Media Production  
Coordinator:**

Statistics indicate that one out of eight or ten women could be infected with breast cancer; therefore, we should protect ourselves and encourage the people we care about protecting themselves through early screening in order not to be victims of this disease.



**Manal Baharoon,  
Head of Finance Section**

Not only women are infected with this disease, but also men could be infected; and both men and women should educate themselves through reading and visiting websites that contain preventive recommendations.



**Mariam Al Shehhi,  
Head of Competitions  
& Adjudication Section**

Best wishes for a speedy recovery for all patients. I hope women of various ages conduct early screening, whether in person at home or under the supervision of a physician.

**Khulood Ahli,  
Head of Human  
Resources Section**

As employees in Hamdan bin Rashid Award for Distinguished Academic Performance, we like to focus on excellence in all aspects not only in education. My message is “Prevention is Excellence”.



**Azhar Maany,  
Executive Administrator:**

Supporting the international campaign for the prevention of breast cancer is not limited only to women; however, men are also responsible, as there is no man who does not have a mother, sister or daughter he takes care of. I believe that wellness is a crown on the heads of healthy people, and without health we cannot live, nor can we progress in the right path. Allah granted us a lot of blessings.

Although I did not undergo this experience, but I am sure it is difficult. I hope to contribute in raising awareness at every level, especially that the Award deals with the cultural, scientific and academic sector at the level of students, teachers and employees. Therefore, they should be aware of and familiar with the disease. I hope that there will be wider, more comprehensive and useful activities such as conducting screening to everybody in order to help checking people’s health, and to avoid the disease before getting worse. Wishing good health for all!

**Huda Al Hammadi,  
Secretary of Department  
of Gifted Welfare**

My advice is directed to all women, I wish them all conduct the medical examination because it is the first step to treatment.



## IAT Students Training on Skills to Deal with Hamdan Award Criteria

«Al Tamayoz News» – Dubai

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum for Distinguished Academic Performance held a workshop to introduce Distinguished Student category at the Institute of Applied Technology (IAT).

Held in line with the Award objectives of disseminating excellence culture and introducing the Award criteria to all segments in the educational field, the workshop was attended by a number of students who were trained to the skills to deal with the Award criteria.

Ms. Marwa Sahrawi, officer in Skill Development Section in Hamdan Award, delivered the introductory workshop for IAT students covering all categories of education, on



the basis of implementation, follow-up and evaluation of the training activities with the objective of improving the performance of beneficiaries and achieving the Award's development goals.

The workshop is held in the context of the memorandum of understanding concluded between Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance and Dubai IAT.

## 80 GCC Candidates trained to Strengthen Skill Competencies

«Al Tamayoz News» – Dubai

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance held two training workshops over two days in Kuwait and Bahrain. Both workshops are part of the Award's efforts to disseminate educational excellence culture and reinforce standards of educational quality at the level of Member States of the Arab Bureau of Education for the Gulf States (ABEGS), as well as to raise the proportion of participation and interaction with the Award.

Both workshops were attended by 50 students from different schools in the Kingdom of Bahrain and 30 teachers from Kuwaiti schools. They received training to skills to deal with the Award criteria under the supervision and implementation of both educational excellence trainers: Samia Mohammed Majan and Kaltham Al Bawadi.

In the context of the Award's preparations for the 16th Cycle of competition at the GCC level, both workshops targeted categories of Distinguished Student and Distinguished Teacher, aiming at supporting targeted classes, introducing the best methods and practices applied to participate in the Award to them to

be able to achieve the excellence degree.

The concentration of both workshops was focused on enhancing skill competencies of the trainees, especially on how to harmonize between the Award criteria and their performance in the areas of personal activities and initiatives, as well as in the spirit of creativity, innovation and educational excellence.

Based on the Award's interest in providing various services to its targeted in different countries and its continuous keenness to develop and update programs directed at groups of the educational system and to improve the performance of the beneficiaries, the Online Advisor was introduced to the trainees in both workshops. The Online Advisor service was recently launched by the Award recently in line with the directives of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, UAE Vice President and Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai, in his initiative of smart government. The Award allocated experts and adjudicators to communicate with and answer any questions received from the targeted groups via various communication channels including: e-mail, Facebook, Twitter and live chat, in addition to counseling sessions designated to the targeted.

## National Plan for Gifted Exhibited in Turkey

«Al Tamayoz News» – Dubai

During its participation in the 3rd International Conference on Talent Development & Excellence (ICTDE 2013) held in Turkey, Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance exhibited its experience in the formation of the National Plan for Nurturing the Gifted. The ICTDE 2013 lasted for four days with the participation of delegations from 40 countries.

Ms. Hayat Mohammed Al Shehhi, graduate of Gifted Education Diploma program delivered a seminar entitled «National Plan for Nurturing the Gifted in the UAE» aiming at transferring Hamdan Award experience in the field of talent to global academic forums, to share experiences with professionals and centers of Gift, highlighting the National Plan for Nurturing the Gifted adopted Hamdan Award. Moreover, The ICTDE 2013 which is organized in different countries on biennial basis reviewed a variety of topics related to giftedness such as talent and creativity development. Parallel workshops were organized and lectures were delivered by international speakers. ICTDE 2013 was hosted by Turkish Ministry of Education, International Research Association for Talent Development and Excellence (IRATDE), and the Turkish Association for the Education of Gifted Children. ICTDE 2013 focused on early potential talent, and early learning pathways to develop these talents. It outlined experiences of the talent field from different institutions all over the world with the objective of sharing experiences and identification of best existing practices.

# Online Advisor Attracts Participants in Khalifa Award Workshops

«Al Tamayoz News» – Dubai

**Launched by Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance at its current Cycle with the objective of providing its distinguished public with modern developmental methods, Online Advisor program attracted the participants in the workshops activities of Khalifa Award for Education.**



During its participation in the workshops, the visitors of Hamdan Award pavilion showed obvious interest noticed through their various inquiries in respect of participation in the 16th Cycle.

The Award participated in the workshops carried out by Khalifa Award for Education in the headquarters of the Khalifa University of Science and Technology, Abu Dhabi.

This participation comes in line with the plan adopted by Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance for the dissemination of excellence culture and introducing the standards of excellence to all segments of the educational field, as well as achieving the vision adopted by Hamdan Award in being pioneers in the leadership of the educational performance excellence and gifted welfare.

Ms. Khawla Bahloq, Department of Educational Excellence Director at Hamdan Award stated that Hamdan Award mission is to elevate the performance of education and gifted welfare through constructive cooperation with other educational awards in the United Arab Emirates; the thing which contributes to establishment for a distinctive academic community, and raise the level of performance, creativity and mastery in the educational field. She added that the Award strives to discover and employ all scientific and educational data for the development of excellence



programs through Assessment & Design Section (ADS) which focuses on the development operations in management and in the standards of excellence and competition by means of advisory and training services prepared by ADS to the targeted groups of all fields.

At the end of the workshop, Mrs. Amal Abdelkader Afifi, Secretary-General of Khalifa Award delivered a shield and certificate of thanks to Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance in recognition of its active participation in the activities of Khalifa Award for Education, stressing that cooperation with Hamdan Award strengthens the principles of educational excellence among students.

The Secretariat and the Executive Committee of Khalifa Award for Education carried out 12 various training workshops to introduce its fields to students of Khalifa University of Science, Technology and Research, Abu Dhabi.

Workshops included Khalifa Award fields of the Creative Teacher, Technical Teacher, Educational and Institutional Performance, Higher Education, People with Special Needs, Education & Sustainable Environment, Education & Community Service, Projects & Innovative Educational Programs within the UAE and the Arab World, General & Procedural Educational Research within the UAE and the Arab World, and Educational Authoring for Children. Workshops were carried out by

the Executive Committee members of Khalifa Award as well as adjudicators of various fields representing institutions of higher education from the University of Sharjah, United Arab Emirates University, in addition to cultural institutions such as: Abu Dhabi Culture and Heritage Authority, Family Development Foundation, Abu Dhabi Education Council, Ministry of Presidential Affairs, Ministry of Education, Zayed Higher Organization for Humanitarian Care, and Dubai Police General H. Q.

Workshops were controlled by a number of winners at the 4th Cycle (2010-2011) who presented their excellence aspects and methods of participation and winning Khalifa Award.

People who wish to apply for the various fields of Khalifa Award were attracted to the workshops which revolved around explaining and clarifying the concepts of each field, in addition to the conditions of application thereof and the standards whereon applications are evaluated.

The participants discussed the fields of Educational Projects and General & Procedural Educational Research, methods and ways of preparation of the same, in such a manner qualifying them to win Khalifa Award, as well as the actions, requirements and organization structure to be followed in the preparation of research, in addition to the steps for preparation of procedural research questionnaire, how to apply and analyze the same.



## 1st Local Award to Adopt and Keep Pace with Smart Shift, Hamdan Award Adopts Application Converting 16th Cycle Posters to Footage

### «Al Tamayoz News» – Dubai

In its advertising campaign for the 16th Cycle, Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum for Distinguished Academic Performance adopted OGLE platform to become one of the leading government institutions and the first local award adopting this smart application.

OGLE converts an image to moving footage, called «Augmented Reality». This application reads and transfer symbols applied in the photo by OGLE company, and then converting it into a graphical or footage material.

The application is a special camera by OGLE, where the user directs the camera lens of

the smart device to the encoded image by the application; the thing which leads to loading the image on the phone or smart device and converting it to moving footage.

This step comes in the context of the Award strategic plan to keep up with the requirements of administrative development in the Government of Dubai to improve performance, and to expand services supporting distinguished groups in a form keeping pace with technological developments and simulating the smart services.

Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi, Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees and the Secretary-General of the Award commended the keenness to



launch the quality applications aimed at development and improvement in the field of education and innovation in order to establish a creative community that is able to pursue excellence.

He stated that the innovative platform «OGLE» is consistent with the creativity and innovation values of the smart government that are implemented by the Award to meet the requirements of administrative development in the Government of Dubai with the objective of improving performance and innovation through the expansion of services and programs supporting excellence and introducing every new and advanced trend to achieve and maintain

outstanding performance levels meeting and beating expectations in the field of excellence and creativity.

On the other hand, Mr. Atiq Al Muhairi, co-founder of OGLE Company expressed his happiness in dealing with Hamdan Award citing: «Hamdan Award encourages UAE, GCC and Arab talents and promotes the spirit of dedication and innovation in education».

«We are proud to deal with an institution updated with the latest technological development in communicating with its targeted groups. We hope to continue our relationship with Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum for Distinguished Academic Performance».



added Al Muhairi. The application is available in the App Store, iTunes and Google Play as free utility application to the general users of smart phones and devices (Android) such as: iPhone, iPad, iPod, Samsung Galaxy, etc.

In its quest to achieve the goal of adding a new characteristic to its advertising campaign, Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance held several meetings with OGLE. The Award decided to give life to its advertising publications and posters for better interaction with the targeted and audience through contracting with OGLE to encode all its publications, so that people can shoot any poster of the 16th Cycle using a smart device to convert such poster to moving 3D graphic material on the device screen.

The Award was not satisfied by mere adopting such innovative platform to impress the target audience; rather, it

intended to make the audience see the consistency between the poster and film encoded therein, and here starts the story of the campaign slogan “Distinguished Education, Distinguished Country”.

The Award decided to highlight yellow color in all the posters and publications, which is the dominant color in the main poster of the current Cycle. Yellow was chosen for two reasons: it is globally used as a symbol of education for the current year, and it is the color of one of the most important elements in the field of education, i.e. school bus, which transports students to schools, which is often painted yellow.

The Award decided to produce 3D graphic showing a school bus heading towards Hamdan Awards building passing by the traffic boards having the names of Hamdan Award competitions and ending up in the Awards building where we find Hamdan Award logo under which the Cycle’s

slogan “Distinguished Education, Distinguished Country”, along with sound effects entertaining viewers.

The Award harmonized between the poster and graphic by coloring the Cycle’s number “16” gray to be converted, while being encoded by OGLE to video, to become the road whereon the bus is driven with its yellow color that matches the rest of the poster. Here lies the symbolism between a school bus and the Award’s bus: the school bus takes students to science and learning, and the Award’s bus takes students to excellence.

#### How to use OGLE?

The OGLE mark is located at the bottom left part of the poster, near the Award logo to draw the attention of the target audience, immediately under OGLE mark the steps of use are found; they are as follows :

To view the advertisement, download OGLE application from iTunes or Google Play

stores on your smart device. After activating the application, point the camera lens on the entire poster, click on your device screen to fix the motion of the image and enjoy the show.

To view the advertisement, download OGLE application from iTunes or Google Play stores on your smart device. After activating the application, point the camera lens on the entire poster, click on your device screen to fix the motion of the image and enjoy the show.

The 16th Cycle advertisements were distributed to all educational zones inside and outside the UAE by Hamdan Award, which is one of the pioneers of adopting Augmented Reality (AR).

OGLE platform was launched at the beginning of 2013, and the number followers amounted to 15,000 people within the first few months. Among OGLE customers was companies and institutions of the private sector.



## Through its Delegation in France and Germany, Hamdan Award Celebrates World Teachers' Day



Irina Bokava visiting Hamdan Award Pavilion

«Al Tamayoz News» – Dubai

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance took part in the celebrations of World Teachers' Day conducted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization "UNESCO" at its headquarters in France. The Award delegation was headed by Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi, Member of the Board of Trustees, Chairman of UNESCO-Hamdan Prize Committee, who stressed that the participation of the Hamdan Award in this global event will contribute to the development of joint efforts between UNESCO and the Award aiming at improvement of teaching and learning quality through the activities related to teachers included in such events.



Dr. Al Suwaidi added that the Award nominated a delegation from the winners of UNESCO-Hamdan Bin Rashid Al-Maktoum Prize for Outstanding Practice and Performance in Enhancing the Effectiveness of Teachers to participate in curricula workshops organized by UNESCO alongside World Teachers' Day in Germany for four days.

In the context of the Award's efforts supporting, encouraging and helping the employees to enhance the performance and effectiveness of teachers in order to achieve the objectives of Education for All, the winners represented Hamdan Award in Berlin, introducing it

### UNESCO-Hamdan Prize winners participate in workshops about curricula

#### Discussing challenges facing education and teachers

to targeted groups, answering their questions and inquiries. The dialogue sessions and workshops held at the ceremony discussed the challenges facing education and teachers and how to overcome them in order to improve the quality of education and teachers, in addition to discussing their role in the harmonization of educational systems with constructions to develop them in light of thinking globalization. The Award also participated in the exhibition accompanying the event introducing the latest publications of the Award to the targeted groups. The slogan "A Call for Teachers" is the slogan chosen for the events of World Teachers' Day organized by UNESCO in cooperation with the International Labor Organization (ILO), United Nations Development Program (UNDP), the United Nations Children's

Fund (UNICEF) and the Education International (EI).

In the celebrations of this year, UNESCO highlighted the huge shortage of well-supported teachers, professionals and trainers who shall be available for the advancement of education quality. The challenge is not only to recruit sufficient number of teachers, but it is also associated with hiring qualified teachers. In most cases, teachers lack necessary rehabilitation, are paid low wages, and suffer from the decline of their status in society. The celebration of World Teachers' Day focused on the problem of the huge shortage of professional, well-trained and well-supported teachers, as well as the obstacles confronting improving the quality of education and the role of teachers in the preparation of qualified citizens. Several workshops were also held during the event to review the results of a study conducted by UNESCO about the quality of education in 10 Arab countries, including the UAE.

Since teachers are the most powerful force with the ability to facilitate access to education and to ensure equity and quality in the educational sector, then the call addressed for teachers is in fact a call for the provision of quality education for all.

Quality education is important because it offers the hope and promise of a better standard of living. There is no stronger foundation for lasting peace and sustainable development than a quality education provided by well trained, valued, supported and motivated teachers.

UNESCO Partners are also urged to organize events around the world in order to make World Teachers' Day a truly international celebration. Irina Bokova, UNESCO Director-General stated: «the most important factors to ensure that quality of education are the professional knowledge and skills of teachers», hoping to enable teachers to obtain an enhanced initial training and to get the professional development and support they need on an ongoing basis.



In their 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Forum,  
Dr. Al Suwaidi to Adjudicators:

**Your Impartiality Deepened the Award  
Good Reputation Locally, Regionally  
and Globally**



## Al Marzouqi Proposes Establishing Model School Adopting Hamdan Award Criteria



**By: Mohammed Ali**

**Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi, Member of the Board of Trustees, General Coordinator of the Adjudication Committees in Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance stated that the impartiality of Hamdan Award adjudicators by pursuing accuracy when evaluating applications have contributed to establishment of the good reputation gained by the Award over the last few years on the local, regional and global levels.**



**Non-compliance with the number of attachments for any category leads to exclude the application**

**7 training courses organized in the UAE and 3 in the GCC states**

**Corrupted or unreadable e-files is among the most common problems facing adjudicators**

Dr. Al Suwaidi called for abiding by the number of attachments in any category, stressing that the size of attachments should not exceed the specified number, in both hard copy and soft copy documentation, to avoid excluding the application in later stages.

In the presence of Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi and the Award coordinators in the UAE and the GCC states with number of adjudicators, Hamdan Award held the 8th Adjudication Forum on 8th of October at the Al Bustan Rotana Hotel, Dubai.

Dr. Al Suwaidi started his speech thanking the trainers of the Award adjudicators for their exerted efforts and for their cooperation with the Award management in training of the GCC adjudicators, praising the efforts of the GCC coordinators for their cooperation in organizing the courses in their states.

He declared that two steps towards excellence were applied this year, the first one is guidance of students as 7 training courses were organized in the UAE and 3 in the GCC states; while the second one is guidance of teachers

because some teachers have inquiries regarding adjudication and evaluation; the thing which attributed greater importance to the Forum.

He praised the remarkable development of the UAE as well as the Government of Dubai shift from E-government to Smart one, pointing out that the Award follows the same steps by launching Online Advisor this year, utilizing the potentials provided by tech-

nology and social networks.

In the context of his speech, Al Suwaidi stated that there are problems facing adjudicators represented in some corrupted or unreadable soft copy attachments, in addition to the difficulty of communicating with their owners, especially on vacations.

He stressed on the adherence to the receipt and delivery dates of the local and GCC competitions, declaring 17th

of November as the date to start adjudication in educational zones in local competitions, and the same date for delivering nomination applications from schools to the Award Coordinator in the GCC states.

As an explanation, he said that if the activity was evidenced by an international organization, it will be deemed international, and if by a ministry of local area authority, it will be deemed local. He also pointed out that the soft copy will be sufficient if it is complete, stressing that quality is to be taken into account, not just quantity.

Dr. Al Suwaidi stressed on abiding by the number of attachments for each category as follows: (Distinguished Student, 100 pages or 50 sheets of paper; University Student, 100 pages or 50 sheets of paper; Distinguished Teacher, 250 pages; Highly Distinguished Teacher, 250 pages; Distinguished School & School Administration, 500 pages; Best Applied Project, 100 pages; Best Scientific Innovation, 100 pages; Distinguished Social / Psychological Worker 250 pages; Distinguished Supervisor, 200

### Ensuring Meeting the Requirements

Instructions are essential for the adjudicator to accept or reject the application form, to qualify it to the theoretical adjudication stage or not; therefore, it is the duty of any adjudicator to ensure the following:

1. compatibility of the application form with the stage of the applicant.
2. that the attachments to the application form contain the evidences and proofs supporting the applicants' answers.
3. a "CD" or any similar device containing the student's introduction of himself/herself.
4. authenticated recommendation letters.
5. the number of pages as specified.
6. seals and signatures on the application form (the school headmaster, the educational school, etc.).
7. the nominated student has earned a minimum percentage of 90% of the total grades for the last three years.
8. evaluation in academic grade sheets in numerical values, not descriptive evaluations.
9. two years should have passed since the last time the student won the Award.
10. attach a soft copy photograph of the applicant.



pages; Distinguished Family, 300 pages; and Education-Supporting Organizations, 50 pages).

Dr. Al Suwaidi emphasized that submitted works are deemed to be the property of Hamdan Award and all submitted works will be kept and will not be returned to participants. Thus, coordinators should make sure that applicants submit copies, not originals of their attached certificates and documents.

He called coordinators of the Award in the UAE and outside to take all necessary measures to guide the targeted groups to comply with the guidelines and the conditions of application for each category, such as academic degrees, annual reports, and the size of attachments, etc.

Also he urged to provide advice and support for those wishing to participate in all categories of the Award, and to ensure that the conditions of application for each category applies to the application forms before they are delivered to the Award management, as well as to stick to the dates of receipt and delivery of participants' works.

Dr. Al Suwaidi cited that the conditions for participation in competitions of Distinguished Student have been amended so that the students

of first and second primary grades may not participate in competitions of Distinguished Student; rather, participations begin from the third grade above.

He said that the reason behind this amendment is the lack of participations and the difficulty of reflecting excellence at this stage wherein the stu-

### **Difficulty of communicating with the applicants with missing files hinders adjudicators**

### **Modification of the participation terms in Distinguished Student competitions**

#### **Coordinator of the Award in Kuwait:**

#### **The 8<sup>th</sup> Adjudication Forum is Educational Gathering**

Mr Naji Al Zamel, the Coordinator of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance, Director of educational activities department in the Kuwaiti Ministry of Education stated that the 8th Adjudication Forum is an educational gathering for the participating teams, with the objective of sharing experiences and identifying the Award criteria which highlight the importance of education and its fundamental role in building and developing communities as well as social progress. Mr. Al Zamel cited that the Kuwaiti delegation participating in the 8th Adjudication Forum was composed of adjudicators in the Distinguished Student, Distinguished Teacher and Distinguished School Administration.

He said that the Award aims to raise the level of performance, creativity and mastery in the field of education, and contributes to the promotion of entrepreneurship, innovation and excellence in all literary and scientific fields, in addition to providing an educational environment and conditions that are modern, sophisticated and encouraging innovation, leadership and excellence.

Finally, Al Zamel stated that the Award is honor for all segments and authorities relevant to the educational sector, institutions and individuals, who provide outstanding achievements and creations, praising the academic and educational role played by patron of the Award, His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai and Minister of Finance, and his contribution to the upgrading educational systems in the GCC states and the Arab world.

dent depends on the parents to highlight his/her excellence.

He pointed out that the applicant is required to submit attachments for the last three years other than the year of application, as some applicants suffer from difficulty of receiving certificates in the middle of the year; the thing which impedes the work of the central adjudication committees checking attachments. Major Salah Al Marzouqi, Administration of Quality Management Director at the Dubai Police General H.Q. delivered training workshops, comparing the criteria of the European Foundation for Quality Management and those of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance.

Major Al Marzouqi tackled the methodology and its characteristics, which is logic and clarity, focusing on the customer needs of and taking their requirements into account. The methodology has work procedures and specific and clear mechanisms that are easy to be implemented and followed. The purpose of the methodology is clear and declared for all concerned parties, in addition to documenting all the elements, steps and procedures of the methodology such as «brochures, website, diagrams».



Major. Salah Al Marzouqi

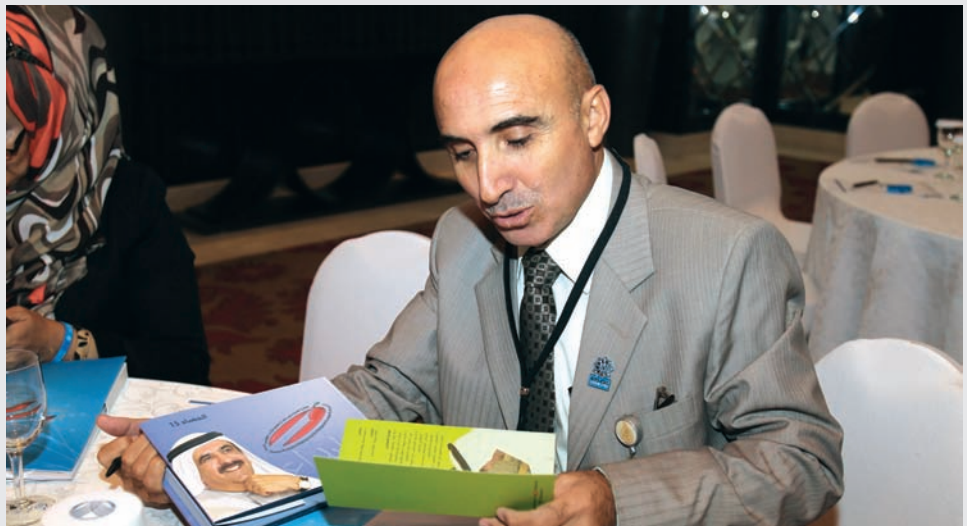
## Workshop establishing a strategic plan for Hamdan bin Rashid School

Major Salah Al Marzouqi, Administration of Quality Management Director at the Dubai Police General H.Q. carried out a workshop to prepare a strategic plan for Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum School for Distinguished Academic Performance, proposing the possible idea of establishing a model school in the UAE adopting all Hamdan Award criteria.

The Adjudication Forum aims at upgrading the adjudication operations, and improving the performance of Hamdan Award adjudicators in the UAE and abroad. It also seeks to bring the views and unify the concepts and adjudication practices among the juries members.

The Forum also seeks training adjudicators on modern models of the evaluation of excellence in government performance criteria, and presenting the remarks and updates of the new cycle in regards to competition and adjudication, as well as the direct communication and formation of climates suitable to support the relationship between the Award and its adjudicator at all levels.

At the end of the Forum, Dr. Al Suwaidi honored Major Salah Al Marzouqi for presenting the workshops and his remarkable cooperation. Al Suwaidi concluded the Forum thanking local and GCC central adjudicators for their efforts and cooperation throughout and after the adjudication period, as well as for their continuous cooperation with the Award.





H.E. Minister of Education, Chairman of Hamdan Award Board of Trustees at his speech



## In the 8th Seminar of Best Practices, Integration in Presentation of Experiences and Live Models Waiting to be Imitated

Mohammed Ali

The 8th Seminar of Best Practices in Distinguished Educational Performance introduced live models that should be imitated by the targeted groups; while the presentation of experiences in various aspects of educational performance was integrated. Organized by the Award, wherein a group of experts and leading figures in the educational and social development are hosted, the Seminar was inaugurated by His Excellency Humaid Mohammed Al Qatami, Minister of Education, and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance, on the 9th of October at Al Bustan Rotana Hotel.





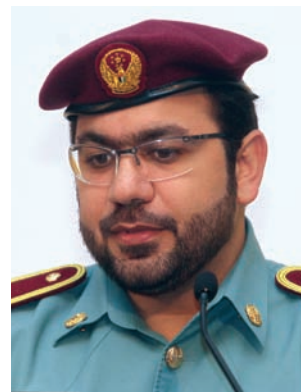
Dr. Ibrahim Al-Khulaifi



Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi



Abdullah Al Shehhi



Jassim Mohammed Al Harmoudi

Participants motioned prolongation of the Seminar to two days due to the intensity of the events therein, so that one day is allocated to the nomination application, and the other day to the interpretive guide, especially in the category of Distinguished Teacher.

This annual tradition is organized with the purpose of transmission of ideas and opinions about the techniques of application and nomination, in addition to the authentication mechanisms presented by the winners in the previous cycle of the Award.

The Seminar was attended by students, teachers and members of faculties and administrative bodies of the UAE, as well as a number of educators and coordinators of the Award in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states.

His Excellency introduced smart learning experience in the United Arab Emirates,

pointing out that on the basis of the directions of our ambitious country, Ministry of Education (MOE) was keen on adopting one of the important leading initiatives; namely, Mohammed Bin Rashid's Smart Learning Program (the Program).

He stated that the Program aims at bringing the educational system to be among the top global systems and in the forefront of high-end educational practices; the thing which correspond to the splendor and prosperity the UAE witnesses in various aspects of life.

H.E. declared that the Program continues over 5 years and is implemented on 3 stages: the first one is preliminary stage, which was launched during the last academic year in 14 schools, the second one is application stage, extending from 2013 up to 4 years to come, and will apply the Program in various schools.

Moreover, he announced that

the number of schools adopting the Program increased from 14 to 123 schools this academic year, and the number of students benefiting from the Program (in 7 and 8 grades) amounted to 11402 students, while the number of trained and qualified teachers implementing the Program numbered 1343 teachers.

As for the third stage, the development and follow-up, H.E. pointed out that it includes continuous update of all elements of the Program, such as: systems, devices, interactive methods etc.

His Excellency stated that on 10th of April, 2012, the Program was launched under a special blessing and in the presence of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, UAE Vice President and Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai.

He added that the Program is one of the most ambitious

**Al Qatami:**  
Upgrading the educational system to the best global systems

**Dr. Al Muhairi:**  
Educational excellence language is spread throughout the community

initiatives implemented by the MOE, with the support of the Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA) and the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Fund to achieve the paradigm shift required in education.

H.E. considered that the implementation of the Program depends on an integrated holistic view to the educational system and its key elements, including development of methods and enrichment curricula, diversifying sources of knowledge, development of e-content and testing and evaluation tools, and dissemination of smart classrooms with their modern technology components, as well as development of teaching methods based on education technology, providing schools, students and teachers with laptops and tablets and supplying schools with high-speed internet networks.

He said that the objectives of the Program is to achieve UAE Vision 2021 in the provision of a first-rate educational system, improving education outcomes, linking the student with knowledge society empowering him of the language of the age and the tools of modern technology, in addition to contributing to the promotion of government policies and vision towards global competitiveness, raising the level, environment, facilities and quality of educational services of the school, as well as activating the role of parents, strengthening their partnership in the educational process, and finally empowering teachers and administrators of updated education arts and modern styles of leadership.

### Foundations of Success

He stressed that some of the Program ingredients of success include the availability of unlimited support by the leaders of the UAE, presence of clear vision and action plan, availability of developed infrastructure in schools, existence of a close partnership with specialized long-standing national institutions, in addition to the strong desire of development existing among students, teachers and school administrations.



Afra Atiq Faraj

### Continuous update for the Program elements: interactive devices, systems and curricula

### Features of distinguished practices are found in schools

### Launching quality programs targeting knowledge transfer and employment to obtain development and modernization

### Quality Programs

H.E. Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi, Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Secretary-General of the Award discussed the importance of disseminating different humanitarian practices in the field of education, and the role of such practices in improving the performance through enhancing the educational awareness in the culture of quality education, as well as the implementation of quality programs that support the development orientations of education.

The Secretary-General of Hamdan Award praised the Award keenness in launching quality programs aiming at knowledge transfer and employment to obtain development and modernization, pointing out that the Seminar is one

of these programs contributing to increasing the educational community awareness towards distinguished educational practices and to establishing the culture of excellence.

He mentioned that it is important to draw the attention of decision-makers in academic sector towards various humanitarian practices in the field of education, especially practices concerned with the quality and performance improvement.

H.E. stated that processes like innovation, simulation, imitation and reproduction have become one among the most prominent renovation and development tools that add key values in the cognitive cumulative experiences.

Dr. Jamal pointed out that Hamdan Award has sensed this value and begun to launch quality initiatives with the objective of transferring and employment of knowledge in the development and modernization purposes. Among such initiatives comes the Seminar of Best Practices in Distinguished Educational Performance, which was established to be directed to the empowerment of students and excellence seekers, so that they benefit from the excellent experiences of educational performance to develop their own abilities, depending on the Award creative applications and practices resulted by the Award competitions.

Al Muhairi stated that the Seminar is one of the key projects whereon the Award depends in the dissemination of educational excellence, expanding the frame of passion for quality performance, providing true information stimulating formulation of the visions supporting decision-maker in educational sector, and supporting improvement motives of the educational system elements.

He commented on the educational excellence language found in the community, as well as the features of the excellent practices spread in UAE schools, after the excellence methodology and tools became available, citing: «the Award has become one of the most prominent educational awards contributing to UNESCO pro-

grams to support and dissemination teachers practices; the thing which confirms that the initiatives of the Award and the efforts of its strategic partner i.e. Ministry of Education, continue to achieve our wishes in establishing a distinguished human society that is able to pursue being distinguished».

Dr. Al Muhairi said that the Seminar provides the opportunity to host an elite of the UAE, GCC, and Arab figures who are deemed leaders in educational and social work, adding a great deal of attraction and literary and scientific value of this event.

In conclusion, Hamdan Award Secretary-General expressed thanks to His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai and Minister of Finance for the generous material and moral support for education, as well as to the MOE, headed by H.E. Humaid Mohammed Al Qatami and to the Chairman and Members of Hamdan Award Board of Trustees.

### Energies of Excellence

In the second paper entitled «You are great, just release your innate energies of excellence from restrictions», Dr. Ibrahim Al-Khulaifi, Chairman EduGlobe Educational Company, Associate Professor in the Department of Educational Psychology, Kuwait University, and founder of the four global bilingual schools; namely: Al Takamul International School, Al Maaly School, Al Hayat International Bilingual School – Kuwait branch, and Al Hayat International Bilingual School – Qatar branch, and founder of nurseries (Afnan nurseries).

### Breaking Poverty Cycle

Mr. Abdullah Al Shehhi, Senior Fundraising Specialist in Dubai Cares delivered the third paper entitled «Dubai Cares, Local and Global Achievements».

Mr. Al Shehhi stated that Education is the most effective tool to break the cycle of poverty, a belief held by the founder His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai. It



was from this belief and the desire to give children - regardless of their nationality, creed or religion - the opportunity to become positive contributors to society, that His Highness established Dubai Cares in September 2007. He cited that the mission of Dubai Cares is to increase children's access to quality primary education is realized through integrated programs that eliminate the underlying obstacles that prevent children from going to school and learning.

Al Shehhi added that this is achieved through school feeding, early childhood education, curriculum development, literacy and numeracy through teacher training, school infrastructure as well as water, sanitation and hygiene in schools.

Further, he elaborated that gender equality is a cross cutting theme in all Dubai Cares' education programs with an approach that aims to secure equal access for boys and girls to safe learning environments with adequate facilities, materials and academic support from qualified teachers and engaged communities.

Reaching more than 8 million children in 31 developing countries, Dubai Cares, with the support of the UAE community, is making a difference in the lives of children and their communities by achievements including: building and renovating over 1,500 schools and classrooms,

providing more than 1,000 water wells and potable water sources, constructing over 3,000 latrines in schools, providing everyday nutritious food to more than 500,000 children in schools, training over 23,000 teachers.

Moreover, Dubai Cares contributed to keeping more than 2.3 million children free from intestinal worms through its de-worming activities, distributing over 2.1 million books written in local languages, and establishing over 6,750 Parent-Teacher Associations.

Entitled: «the four pillars of excellence: distinguished scholarship system and distinguished education in distinguished country for distinguished citizen», the last paper was delivered by Major / Jassim Mohammed Al Harmoudi Head of Planning and Educational Programs in the Abu Dhabi Police General Headquarters, the 15th Cycle winner of Hamdan Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance in the category of Education-Supporting Institution. Major Al Harmoudi explained that the Department of Education initiatives that helped winning Education-Supporting Institution prize are: Educating Emiratisation and Emiratisation of Education; My Knowledge Makes me Unique; Your Children, Our Children; Guide Me; My Leaders, My Example; and

### **123 schools adopting Smart Learning**

### **11402 students benefiting from the Program**

### **1343 trained and qualified teachers implementing the Program**

My Community is my Country, My Country is my Community. At the conclusion of the presentation, Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi, Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Secretary-General of the Award honored the speakers who have contributed to highlight the literary and scientific values of this ceremony.

The Seminar participants expressed their happiness for the size of benefit they gained from attendance, highlighting the successful and applicable experiences because the speakers presented the best practices in a smooth and concentrated way.

Mr. Hassan Haji Haji, teacher of geography and economics at of Rashid bin Saeed School for primary and secondary education in Hatta, Dubai stated that the Seminar was characterized with well organization in terms of time and place, as well as the welcoming hospitality.

Mr. Haji pointed to the large

number of participating educators, students and other segments in addition to the lectures delivered therein, especially smart learning experience, all these factors have carried momentum knowledge in terms of information because the participants recognized the stages of smart learning applied in the UAE.

He stated that because some of the winners in the previous Cycle presented their ideas and work on the application and nomination techniques as well as authentication mechanisms by hard copy and soft copy files, it has become easier for new applicant to document his/her work properly and soundly. As well, he mentioned that the Seminar was distinguished in terms of the training workshops held for various categories of the Award, including: (Distinguished Teacher, Distinguished Family, Distinguished Administration, etc.), pointing out that he attended a workshop on Distinguished Teacher which was extremely wonderful in terms of information and presentation although it lasted about four hours interrupted by a break.

Furthermore, Mr. Haji motioned that the Seminar shall be extended to two days, so that one day is allocated to nomination applications, and the other day to the interpretive guide, especially regarding Distinguished Teacher.



## Parallel Exhibition Attracts Participants in the 16th Cycle, Active Participation by Women in Training Workshops

On the sidelines of the 8th Seminar of Best Practices in Distinguished Educational Performance, training workshops were held targeting Distinguished Teacher, Distinguished School & School Administration, Education-Supporting Institution and Best Applied Project.

The workshops attracted the people interested in participating in the 16th Cycles, especially in Distinguished Teacher as this category received active participation by women.

Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi, Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Secretary-General of the Award visited the exhibition, wherein the best practices were outlined by the winners of Distinguished Student (Arabic and English), Distinguished Teacher, Distinguished School & School Administration, and Education-Supporting Institution; namely, Abu Dhabi Police General Headquarters.

Visitors briefed on the reasons that helped the exhibitors win in the 15th Cycle of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum. The participants answered questions of people wishing to participate, especially in respect of ordering files, documentation and evidence collection.



