



Hamdan bin Rashid  
Named Personality  
of the Year by  
Sultan bin Khalifa  
Thalassemia  
Award

# AIT News Tamayoz

Newsletter - issue 80 October 2013

**On 8th & 9th of October,  
Hamdan Award to Organ-  
ize 8th Adjudication Forum  
and Best Practices Seminar**

Appointing 3 Advisors  
to Communicate  
Online with Hamdan  
Award Targeted

**Development of Personality  
& Skills of 44 Talented Students**



# October 2013

Issue 80

## Issue and Correspondence:

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## OUR VISION

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

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# AIT News amayoz

Monthly Educational Magazine

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## Wishes of 16<sup>th</sup> Cycle

\* In its vigorous quest towards providing excellent services to the educational community, the Award administration depends on the opinions given by its targeted audience in its plan to develop its services and improve the methods of making such services available to them as to ensure the highest level of quality. Pursuant to this approach, all programs and projects of the Award in its 16th Cycle are determined to be subject to the measurement of client satisfaction via all channels of direct and indirect communication. This is an invitation for all to interact and contribute to the Award initiative of the formation of educational excellence and achieving one of the many wishes.

### Wishes of 2013-2014 academic year

\* It is unacceptable at all to turn schools into dens for trafficking contraband and to find school administrations contribute to the waste the future of any student under the justification of maintaining the reputation of the school. In fact, the campaign launched (thankfully) by Dubai Police General H.Q. under the slogan “Schools Without Drugs”, wherein information confirmed that some school administrations failed to perform their duty to report such dangerous practices; such behaviors reveal some of defect aspects in the education management; the thing which makes the Ministry of Education and social institutions face the responsibilities imposed by those frightening facts about the spread of (Tramadol) among students, with the need to deal with this issue with the utmost firmness and wisdom, in cooperation and coordination with security authorities, before such problem becomes worse and the number of victims of our children increases; the thing which makes their future flutter like a falling leaf. In the face of the seriousness of this situation, we shall highlight the need of transparency and communication with official and relevant authorities and to provide information to decision-makers as well as to partner adopting roles in the excellence and quality of education. They are the foundation whereon the duty to protect and maintain student’s safety as a priority before teaching him.

\* Heartfelt thanks to Dubai Police and campaigners! Sincere regards to the teachers and parents who performed their cultural and national duty facing the problem! With our wishes that the campaign will achieve its goal in the 2013-2014 academic year and help affected schools to get rid of this deadly phenomenon.

**Abdul Noor Ahmed Al Hashimi**  
Chief Editor



Introduction

We welcome your contributions and inquiries as to pursue communication with you.  
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Kindly address the letters or emails to the Chief Editor



In Recognition of H.H. Efforts in Improving the Lives of Patients Locally and Regionally,

## Hamdan bin Rashid Named Personality of the Year by Sultan bin Khalifa Thalassaemia Award

His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai, Minister of Finance, and the patron of both Hamdan bin Rashid Award for Medical Sciences and Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance, was named Personality of the Year by the Sultan bin Khalifa Al Nahyan International Thalassaemia Award in its first edition 2011-2013.

Naming H.H. Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum comes in recognition of the efforts exerted by His Highness in improving the lives of thalassaemia patients locally and regionally, and H.H.'s support by the establishment of the first center in the region and the Middle East for the treatment of thalassaemia patients under Dubai Health Authority in 1989. Under the instructions of His Highness, the largest center for thalassaemia in the Arab World has been built and was inaugurated by his Highness in 1995. H. H. also ordered the development of many educational programs that have limited the spread of the disease in the UAE.

In fact Hamdan bin Rashid Award for Medical Sciences has had a significant impact on enriching scientific research that contributed to the development of the thalassaemia treatment.

In the period between 20th and 23rd of October, Abu Dhabi hosts Thalassaemia International Federation World Congress (TIF 2013), with the participation of more than 2000 doctors and specialists, as well as 15th TIF International Conference for Parents & Patients.

The biennial TIF Conference discusses the increase rate in the prevalence of thalassaemia and blood disorders in

### Contributions of Deputy Ruler of Dubai:

- Improvement of the thalassaemia patients' lives locally and regionally
- Supporting the establishment of the first specialized center for the treatment of thalassaemia patients in the region and the Middle East
- Building the largest thalassaemia center in the Arab World inaugurated by His Highness in 1995
- Development of a lot of educating programs limiting the spread of the disease in the UAE
- Enrichment of scientific research that contributed to the development of thalassaemia treatment.

the Middle East and around the world. It is estimated that about 7 percent of the world's population carry the genes responsible for hemoglobin disorders while 500 thousand newborn children every year around the world suffer from severe genetic blood disorders. Abu Dhabi was nominated to host the TIF Conference in recognition of the tremendous efforts made by Sultan bin Khalifa Al Nahyan Humanitarian & Scientific Foundation,

and the achievements made by the UAE 's medical community in raising awareness of this disease.

According to Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan bin Khalifa Al Nahyan, Chairman of Sultan bin Khalifa Al Nahyan Humanitarian & Scientific Foundation, thalassaemia is a source of great concern in the Middle East because of the large increase in the number of injuries over the past few years. However, Sultan bin Khalifa Foundation estimates that one out of every 12 people in the UAE carry the disease.

The Award received 300 nomination to compete in 6 international categories and 14 local categories, representing individuals (doctors, nurses, social networks, researchers, supporters and students) and medical organizations and institutes for thalassaemia centers.

The winners from all over the world who have made outstanding achievements in the fields of medical research, health services and innovation in various medical specialties related to thalassaemia receive cash and testimonial prizes.

Mr. Panos Englezos, TIF President stated that thalassaemia is one of the most common genetic and blood disorders diseases known to mankind, and the number of carriers of

the disease in the world hits to more than 490 millions.

"In the absence of comprehensive prevention programs for thalassaemia, children infected by the disease continue to be born, the thing which imposes pressure on the medical, economic and social resources of many countries." He added.

He stated that the conference aims at providing the latest information and developments for patients and their families, and sharing experiences on the best practices followed for dealing with this disease by doctors, specialists, scientists, researchers and other health professionals working in the field of basic patients care.

There were great achievements by the region in dealing with thalassaemia patients in the United Arab Emirates, Iran, Lebanon, Bahrain and Saudi Arabia, which are perfect examples of other countries to be followed.

Free treatment for thalassaemia patients is available in the UAE as it is a hereditary disease with a 25% increase in infection possibility when the parents are carriers of the disease.

Thalassaemia occurs when there is a defect in the gene that controls the production of proteins in hemoglobin; the thing which can lead to anemia. (WAM)



## Reviewing Most Prominent Events .. Board of Trustees: **Hamdan bin Rashid Instructions Contributed to 15<sup>th</sup> Cycle Success**

«Al Tamayoz News» – Dubai

The Board of Trustees of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance announced that the success of the 15th Cycle is attributed to the support and patronage of His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, patron of the Award, and HH's wise directives to work on the best programs and projects that can improve the educational performance on local, GCC, Arab and international levels.

At a meeting held after the end of the 15th Cycle, the Board of Trustees reviewed the most prominent events, especially the 12th Asia Pacific Conference on Giftedness, the historic visit of His Highness, patron of the Award to UNESCO, and the graduation of the third batch of the Gifted Education Diploma.



### **Hamdan Award Participates in 3rd Education Conference of MOE**

«Al Tamayoz News» – Dubai

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance participated in the events of the 3rd Education Conference of the Ministry of Education.

Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi, Secretary-General of the Award attended the launch of the Conference wherein the participants emphasized the need to continue preparation of qualified and effective educational leaders; the thing which reflects the orientations of 'UAE Vision 2021' and 'MOE Vision 2020' in the education field, as well as the need of collective participation for the implementation of strategic initiatives and indicators, in addition to promoting the culture of change and paying attention to the methods of dealing with educational developments. The participants recommended enhancing integration between the school and students' parents within the educational

process, building an integrating professional relationship between the educational system elements and investing such relationship in order to keep up with global trends in the development and improvement of school performance and the establishment of a new phase of institutional work upgraded from dependence and control to a state of coordination and integration of roles within the unity of vision and goal, leading to optimizing control processes and dependence cycle to serve in improving the quality of education.

The Conference stressed on the transition from transformational leadership to educational leadership, and from the concept and practice of learning assessment to assessment for learning, targeting the gradual expansion of the school's role in the process of assessing students with an ongoing diversity of evaluation positions within the concept of continuous evaluation and external evaluation.

The Conference aimed at introduction of new orientations in the 2013-2014 academic year, and presented the most important initiatives which MOE adopts in the new academic year. It also seeks to enhance communication between the field leaders of school headmasters and supervisors with senior MOE leaders and officials, and to contribute to the development of the performance of educational field leaders based on scientific and academic foundations through introducing them to the Arab and international experiments and developments.

The Conference themes and discussions included MOE created and continued projects and initiatives in the new academic year, focusing of the importance of training and sustainable professional development in raising the performance of school leaders as to be reflected on the performance of the school in general.



On 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> of October,

Hamdan Award to Organize 8<sup>th</sup>

Adjudication Forum and Best Practices Seminar

**«Al Tamayoz News» – Dubai**

On 8<sup>th</sup> of October, Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance organizes the 8<sup>th</sup> Adjudication Forum; while on 9<sup>th</sup> of October, it organizes the 8<sup>th</sup> Seminar of Best Practices in the Distinguished Academic Performance at Al Rashidiya Hall at Al Bustan Rotana Hotel – Dubai.

Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi Secretary-General of Hamdan Award cited: “the Adjudication Forum aims at raising the level of adjudication processes, improving the performance of the Award adjudicators both within the UAE and abroad, bringing viewpoints even closer and standardizing adjudication practices and concepts among the members of the jury.”

“The Forum aims at 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.” Dr. Al Muhairi cited.

The Forum activities include the directives of Coordinator-General of Adjudication Committees, Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi, in addition to a training workshop delivered by Major / Salah Al Marzouqi about comparing evaluation the standards of EFQM Program.

As for the 8<sup>th</sup> Seminar of Best Practices, the Secretary-General of the Award stated that it aims at increasing the awareness of academic community towards distinguished academic practices; spreading and transmitting knowledge, expertise, and distinguished experience and deepening excellence culture by means of displaying and documenting the best experiences according to the standards of the

academic performance, honoring distinguished academic achievements besides their authors. It also aims at documenting and defining distinguished academic practices; spreading and disseminating the culture of excellence in academic performance and introducing the winners’ efforts and distinguished innovations as well as crowning of winners’ effort and motivating them to proceed on the excellence way and encouraging distinguished people to apply for the Award. Dr. Al Muhairi said that the Seminar will be accompanied by an exhibit of the winners in of Distinguished Student (both Arabic and English), Distinguished Teacher, Distinguished School and School Administration, and the Education-Supporting Institution, namely, Abu Dhabi Police General Headquarters.

Within the Seminar, training workshops will be held about the categories of Distinguished School and School Adminis-

tration Distinguished Teacher, Education-Supporting Institution and the Best Applied Project.

Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi, Secretary-General of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance will deliver the opening speech at the Seminar, followed by the achievements and future trends of the Ministry of Education, in addition to a lecture by Dr. Ibrahim Al Khulaifi, an educational researcher and specialized trainer in the family psychology.

As well, Mr. Tariq Al Gurg, Chief Executive Officer of Dubai Cares organization will deliver a lecture about global practices and achievements. Lieutenant Colonel / Khalid Abdullah Al Khouri, Director of Education Department at Abu Dhabi Police General Headquarters, talks about the four pillars of excellence: distinguished scholarship system and distinguished education in distinguished country for distinguished citizen.





## Via Facebook, Twitter & Live Chat, in Line with Smart Government Directives, Appointing 3 Advisors to Communicate Online with Hamdan Award Targeted

«Al Tamayoz News» – Dubai

**In its 16th Cycle, Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance appointed three education-expert advisors for the three categories: Best Applied Project, Distinguished School & School Administration, and Distinguished Teacher.**

**3 categories covered by Online Advisor: Best Applied Project, Distinguished School & Teacher**

**Quality programs to upgrade the level of performance, creativity and mastery in education**

**Establishment of a database of targeted enrolled in training workshops, participants and applicants**

Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi, Secretary-General of Hamdan Award stated that the launch of the Online Advisor service is considered as a guide to the platform of excellence since its idea comes in line with the directives of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai, in the smart government initiative.

Dr. Al Muhairi said that the Online Advisor depends on online communication with the targeted to answer any inquiries received from them using the most appropriate ways for them. The project provides several modern communication channels, including e-mail, Facebook, Twitter, instant messaging (Live Chat), in addition to direct contact or meeting at advisory sessions.

He added that the Online Advisor project reinforces the idea of the educational field communication with Hamdan bin Rashid Award for Distinguished Academic Performance, as the program promotes the idea of direct communication with the targeted who wishes to apply for the Award and has inquiries on how to apply or how to prepare the file.

Dr. Al Muhairi cited that Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance have designed quality programs to achieve its objectives in upgrading the level of performance, creativity and mastery in the field of education, and encouraging entrepreneurship, innovation and excellence in all scientific and literary areas, as well as contributing to provide an educational environment that is modern, sophisticated and encouraging for innovation, leadership and excellence, and finally in honoring all the segments and authorities relevant to the education sector,



whether institutions or individuals, providing outstanding achievements and innovations.

Further, he stressed the interest paid by the Award to the education sector being the cornerstone of development process, pointing out that the launching the project of training development was made to highlight the targeted groups of the Award categories who were enrolled in training programs related to the Award categories in order to develop their knowledge in the Award categories criteria by choosing a group of trainees who are ready and show their need for such support.

In addition, Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi stated that the training development is a complementary project to the 'training targeted groups' project aiming at building a database containing the trainees and their data, to communicate with them through the various communication channels by a team of advisors for three categories; namely, Distinguished Teacher, Distinguished School & School Administration and Best Applied Project.

He also explained that under the supervision of Hamdan Bin

Rashid Award for Distinguished Academic Performance – Department of Educational Excellence, the team provides the necessary support and advice in understanding the criteria, how to document evidence in the applications, as well as encouraging and motivating targeted to participate in the Award.

As well, the Secretary-General reported that a database will be prepared compiling the targeted who were enrolled in the training workshops in the categories of Distinguished Teacher, Distinguished School & School Administration and Best Applied Project, in addition to the participants in the previous cycles who were not able to win, and nominated files by the Award. This step aims at communicating with the trainees in these workshops to introduce the Online Advisor program to them, and then to spot the serious targets who wish to utilize the services of the program.

As for the goal of launching the Online Advisor, Dr. Al Muhairi said that the Award seeks to increase the participations and winners of the Award categories, to spread the culture of excellence by encouraging participation in the Award, in addition to promoting direct communication between the targeted groups and Hamdan Award, encouraging them to apply for the Award, and increasing their winning chances through early guidance and advice.

He stated that the advisory session dates will be set in cooperation with the advisor, while the targeted groups can communicate directly with the advisors at the Award website concerning instant messaging and live chat.





## 150 Bahraini Teachers & Educators Participating in 2 Training Workshops

### «Al Tamayoz News» – Dubai

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance organized two training workshops over two days in the Kingdom of Bahrain dedicated to targeted groups of both Distinguished Teacher and Distinguished School Administration categories, as part of the Award's efforts to promote educational excellence culture, establish standards of educational quality at the level of member states of the Arab Bureau of Education for the Gulf

States (ABEGS), and raise the proportion of their participation and interaction.

Both workshops were attended by 150 teachers and administrators from the schools of the Kingdom of Bahrain who have been trained in the skills of dealing with the Award criteria under the supervision and implementation of educational excellence trainers: Samia Mohammed Majan and Rashid Humaid Al Muhairi.

Such training workshops come within the Award's preparations for its 16th Cycle of competitions at the GCC level

aiming to support its targeted groups, to introduce the best applied methods and practices to them when applying to the Award, and to achieve the degree of excellence.

Both workshops focused on enhancing skill competencies of the trainees on how to harmonize the Award criteria with their performance in the areas of activities and personal initiatives, as well as raising their spirit of creativity, innovation and educational excellence.

Hamdan Award for Distinguished Academic Perfor-

mance is among the leader institutions the field of educational excellence. In addition to its valuable motivating prizes, the Award offers many services to its targeted groups in different countries, and adopts the ongoing measurement and evaluation in developing and modernizing its programs directed to groups of the education system and improving the performance of the beneficiaries; the thing which is consistent with the vision of establishing the methodology of excellence in education culture and giftedness welfare.

### Assistant Undersecretary for Student Activities in the Kuwaiti MOE:

## Participating in Hamdan Award Encourages Innovation & Initiative Spirit

The Kuwaiti Ministry of Education (MOE) –announced its readiness to participate in the three competition categories of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance; namely, the Distinguished Student, Distinguished Teacher and Distinguished School & School Administration.

Mr. Radi Al Uwayed, Assistant Undersecretary for Student Ac-

tivities Department in the Kuwaiti MOE stated that Kuwait participation in the 16th Cycle of the Award comes in the context of seeking to encourage entrepreneurship, innovation and excellence, and to raise the level of performance of the education system.

In a statement to Kuwait News Agency, he said that the participation is resulted by MOE's keenness to sup-

port all efforts promoting the educational process and outstanding performance and to strive to discover more distinguished individuals and successful educational practices and to advertise the same, as well as the dissemination of best practices among stakeholders in education field to take advantage of them.

He added that the Award's working team provided the

support and advice required to understand the application criteria and documenting method of evidences, in addition to their help in encouraging and motivating the targeted groups for participation in the Award by the launch of 'Online Advisor' program on the Award website to communicate with the targeted groups and answer any inquiries in the fastest and most appropriate way.

In a Summer Program Covering Students from 5 Educational Zones,

## Development of Personality & Skills of 44 Talented Students



### «Al Tamayoz News» – Dubai

44 students of the fourth, fifth and sixth grades from Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah, Ajman and Fujairah education zones participated in the summer program held by the applied technology high schools of the Institute of Applied Technology (IAT) – Dubai.

The students passed the brain-power measuring test applied by a psychologist from Umm Al Quwain education zone to nominated students. The talented students in the program

also attended introductory and training courses, as well as scientific and cognitive activities that help in the development of the personal, scientific and leadership aspects they have, enhance the skills of self-learning, creative thinking and social interaction, and enrich their skills through activities, events, and training workshops.

The summer program comes in the context of the National Plan for Nurturing the Gifted implemented by Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Per-

formance.

Through this program, Hamdan Award seeks to provide the necessary care for gifted students within an attractive and distinct educational environment addressing their needs and in commensuration with their abilities according to scientific principles and criteria for the Award. The said program lasted for two consecutive weeks.

IAT teachers trained students in scientific fields; while a group of Gifted Education Diploma graduates from the

first, second and third batches delivered training courses and workshops for the students. Such activities come in line with the activation of Gifted Education Diploma program which was organized by Hamdan Award for a number of teachers and supervisors.

Organized by the Award for gifted students for the second time, the annual summer program aims at providing students with standardized scientific opportunities to practice their hobbies, showcase their abilities and develop them.





# From 105 Applicants, Accepting 20 Participants in GED 4th Batch



## «Al Tamayoz News» – Dubai

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance has chosen 20 teachers and psychologists from different educational zones in the UAE to constitute the 4th batch of candidates to the Gifted Education Diploma (GED), which is implemented by the Award in collaboration with the Ministry of Education (MOE) and Arabian Gulf University (AGU). Out of the 105 applications submitted to the 4th batch of GED program which is implemented in line with the objec-

tives of the National Plan for Nurturing the Gifted, only 42 applications were qualified to the personal interview.

An introductory meeting for participants in GED has been organized by Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance at the UNESCO Regional Centre for Educational Planning in the University City in Sharjah.

Mr. Sulaiman Abdul Khaliq, Chief Executive Director of the Award stated that this quality program has continued accepting candidates for the fourth year to study in GED

program which is intended to meet the needs of the National Plan for Nurturing the Gifted of competencies specialized in spotting and nurturing gifted students .

He added that the Award is committed to a strategic partnership with MOE and AGU in this quality program, which is the first of its kind as it is the first program specialized in the education of giftedness to be applied in the UAE in co-operation with AGU and MOE for teaching talented students. He pointed out that GED program contributes to the development of education systems

in the GCC States, enabling them to provide services and programs to help meet the special needs of gifted students through the preparation of teachers studying the possession of knowledge, skills and experience relevant to the field of gifted education .

Dr. Fatima Al Jassem, GED Coordinator of AGU attended the introductory meeting which targeted introducing candidates to the procedures and requirements of the GED study and helping them to fill out the data in the registration forms to apply for the GED program .







## Providing Parents with Detailed Feedback on their Children Level for Improving Files of Students who Participated in the Last Cycle without Winning

«Al Tamayoz News» – Dubai

Eighteen of the students who participated in the 15th Cycle of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance but were not qualified to winning revised their weaknesses in the third workshop which was concluded at Al Bustan Rotana Hotel – Dubai on 15th of September.

The workshop focused on guiding the students who wish to participate in the 16th Cycle of Hamdan Award how to develop their skills and upgrade their potentials. The workshop also provided advice on the preparations for the current cycle.

The workshop included an initial adjudication of files of the students enrolled in the program which lasted over a week and was concluded by the third workshop which, in turn, dealt with providing the parents with a detailed feedback on the level of their children's files and how to improve and develop the same in preparation of the final submission.



The third workshop comes within a series of workshops organized by Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance as part of the preparation of distinguished students program implemented by the Award based on its vision of being pioneer in the leadership of excellence in educational performance and giftedness welfare. Held on 11th of April, the first

workshop focused on Distinguished Student criteria and documentation methods; while the second workshop which was held on 24th of June focused on presentation of outstanding models for some of the winning files, in addition to providing individual counseling for students and their parents to guide and prepare them for the current Cycle. Both previous training work-

shops targeted 19 students and their parents aiming to view their files and works on which they worked in the first guiding course. The workshop included psychological counseling and training on the skills to deal with weaknesses in order to improve their performance in certain aspects and to encourage them to put more effort in meeting winning requirements in terms of community and school activities beside the cognitive skills and academic achievement.

In addition to introducing the program objectives, the targeted received training on how to harmonize the Award criteria with their performance in areas like personal activities and initiatives as well as the spirit of creativity, innovation and educational excellence.

The Award was assisted by the adjudication expert Ms. Kaltham Al Bawadi to deliver the workshop because she is experienced in evaluation as she accurately assesses the strengths and weaknesses of the participations contested in the Award's competitions.



## In a Training Course Involving Teachers & Psychologists

# Introduction of Ways to Spot Talented Students

«Al Tamayoz News» – Dubai

**Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance organized a training course for psychologists at the Ministry of Education (MOE), teachers of the resource rooms at school adopting Hamdan program and the senior psychiatric care supervisor in MOE, aiming to introduce the guide of spotting talented students.**



The course is in line of Hamdan Award plan of implementing the first phase of the National Plan for Nurturing the Gifted project.

Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi, Secretary-General of the Award stated that the 'spotting talent' guide is one of the achieve-

ments of the Award Department of Gifted Welfare, which is the latest product in the applications of the discovery of talented students in terms of technologies, standard and guiding criteria. He added that the guide is the first of its kind in terms of inclusiveness in spotting gifted

students in the Arab World, and is one of the comprehensive references in giftedness field as it supplies specialist with skills and information required to identify the concepts of talent and terminology of discovering gifted students and their behavioral characteris-

tics, as well as identifying the mechanisms and methods of detection, diagnosis and treatment of errors associated with the discovery process .

Dr. Muhairi added that the implementation of the course was prepared in cooperation with Dr. Moosa Al Nabhan, Vice Dean of the Faculty of Post-Graduate Studies in the Arabian Gulf University, one of the prominent Arab academics in the field of talent .

Dr. Al Nabhan elaborated how to spot talent, and how important to comprehend the content of spotting on the students and apply the same with scientific precision since this guarantees the best results in the discovery process. Further, he pointed out that the Award in collaboration with the MOE will continue to qualify all the candidates to work in the project besides the batches enrolled in the Gifted Education Diploma implemented in cooperation with the Arabian Gulf University.

## In a Workshop Attended by Students from Ras Al Khaimah,

# Training on Skills to Deal with Award Criteria

«Al Tamayoz News» – Dubai

At the Excellence Welfare Center – Ras Al Khaimah, students from all stages received training on skills of dealing with the criteria of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance.

The Award held a training workshop for Distinguished Student Category in implementation of its objectives in promoting the excellence culture and introducing the Award criteria to the elements of the educational system.

Ms. Khawla Bahloq, Department of Educational Excellence Director at Hamdan Award stated that the Award's plan to meet the training needs of all categories requires organization of other training workshops in education zones such as Abu Dhabi, Al Ain and the Western Region, especially in the categories of Distinguished School, Teacher and Best Project.

She added that workshops reflect the interest of the educational field in the Award and the desire to achieve excellence; the thing which

is consistent with the vision of Hamdan Award in the consolidation of excellence methodology in educational culture. She further stressed that providing training to the targeted groups is part of the support strategy that ensures the leadership in performance excellence and quality education in the UAE.

Ms. Mariam Al Shomi, the adjudicator of the Distinguished Student category and director of the workshop explained the Award criteria in detailed and accurate manner. Targeted groups have been trained on how to harmonize

between the Award criteria and their performance in the areas of personal activities, initiatives and the spirit of creativity, innovation and educational excellence.

Ms. Al Shomi particularly focused on training the students participating in the competitions of the previous cycle who have not achieved the excellence degree qualifying them to win the Award, to encourage them to put more effort in fulfilling the requirements of winning in school and community activities, cognitive skills and academic achievement.



## Lasted for 3 Days and Saw Discussions in Wireless and Mobile Networking, Hamdan Award Sponsors Technological Conference Including 134 Research from 37 Countries

### «Al Tamayoz News» – Dubai

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance sponsored the events of the 6th Joint IFIP Conference (WMNC'13), 2013, which was organized by the Canadian University in Dubai (CUD), wherein 134 research from 37 countries were submitted.

Held at the Atlantis, The Palm Hotel – Dubai, the 3-day Conference was attended by Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi, Secretary-General of Hamdan Award, Sulaiman Abdul Khaliq, Chief Executive Director, and a group of academics, representatives and decision-makers of the most important companies, as well as ministries, municipalities, universities, airlines, IT organizations, banks, and both telecommunication companies in the UAE 'Etisalat' and 'Du'.

The WMNC'13 is the world's leading discussion forum for researchers, practitioners and students. It saw dialogues and discussions covering developments in mobile and wireless networks, services,



Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi

applications and mobile computing.

The conference was opened by Buti Saeed Al Ghandi, Chancellor of the Canadian University of Dubai, who praised the commendable progress made by Dubai in the field of wireless and mobile networking and emphasized the importance of using such state-of-the-art wireless and mobile technology to the future of Dubai.

"The United Arab Emirates has shown its commitment to enhance the Federal Government infrastructure and to provide E-services to both



Buti Saeed Al Ghandi

nationals and expats in the economic, social and medical spheres." He said.

He added that the E-Government of Dubai has made giant strides in the process of accelerating the level of e-transformation in the cyberspace of communication and IT in order to provide better services facilitation services through networks and Internet to help people save money and efforts in an easy and affordable way.

Dr Karim Chelli, President of Canadian University of Dubai, said: "The Canadian University of Dubai is com-

mitted to the full extent to support the strategies and vision set by the government, and wireless and mobile networking is a crucial role in that vision.

He pointed to the partnership in the research field set up by the University in Canada with different parts of the world, adding that the organization of this event is of extreme importance to the Canadian University of Dubai as CUD has had a record number of submitted papers.

The conference witnessed participation of the best experts in wireless and mobile networking field, most notably: Prof. Muriel Medard from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), USA, Prof. Norman Beaulieu from Alberta University, Canada, Prof. Abbas Jamalipour from Sydney, Australia and Prof. Bayan Sharif from Khalifa University, Abu Dhabi.

The participants shared their experiences by the speeches they delivered in front of hundreds of invited guests coming from 37 countries. 134 research papers were discussed by a committee composed of 80 experts.





## In Student Conference Sponsored by Hamdan Award, 128 Students Presenting Practical Projects to Raise Talents & Innovations

### «Al Tamayoz News» – Dubai

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance sponsored the 7th Student Conference of Chemistry and Geology under the slogan «Student Innovations to Solve Innovative Problems», organized by Chemistry Department at the Sharjah Educational Zone .

Attended by at least 128 students from different emirates, the Conference targeted outstanding and talented students from public and private secondary schools all over the UAE .

Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi, Secretary-General of the Award stated that Hamdan Award adopts supporting its strategic partners as a priority, especially the Ministry of Education (MOE), educational zones and schools with the aim of raising the level and efficiency of interaction with the Award criteria and its project to take care of gifted students .

He said that taking care of gifted students comes within the framework of the Awards strategy to implement the project of National Plan for Nurturing the Gifted in collaboration with MOE. The Award seeks to give

the opportunity and provide a margin of freedom for students to highlight their excellence and intellectual creativity in troubleshooting life problems related to Applied Sciences, studying and developing appropriate solutions for the same by communicating with community-based organizations to participate in the study of institutional projects that support and serve the community .

Dr. Al Muhairi added that the Conference achieved its objectives thanks to good organization conducted by Sharjah Educational Zone. A competition of

applied projects was organized to encourage students, support their abilities to participate actively in the service of the country, and to upgrade their scientific, performance, mental, social and administrative skills; the thing which contributes to improving their ability to search and investigation and to highlight their talents and creative ideas .

He also stated that the projects were adjudicated by committees including a number of faculty members in the UAE schools, educators of MOE and academic specialists.

## At a Conference Attended by Hamdan Award in USA, Identification of Latest Global Theories in Talent

### «Al Tamayoz News» – Dubai

Aiming to develop its work professionalism, get an overview on global best practices, and identify the latest theories in the field of talent, Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance, on 10th of August, attended the 20th Biennial Conference of the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children (WCGTC).

Considered as one of the most important international conferences in the field of talent, the WCGTC conference was held in conference rooms at the Galt House Hotel in Kentucky, USA. It had lasted for five days, and a group of talented people

worldwide attended therein.

The WCGTC conference, which is organized biennially in different countries, reviewed the most important practices in the talent field and the latest scientific theories. As well, topics such as: creativity and evaluation, spotting talents, creative education and psychological needs of gifted, in addition to educational techniques and guidance and counseling methods of gifted students were discussed in the organized workshops. The WCGTC conference was associated with an exhibition of the latest tools of technology in the gifted education field. However, the WCTGC is non-profit organization specializing in the field of gifted education.

In an interview with **AIT News amayoz** ,  
**Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi, Secretary-General  
of Hamdan Award:**  
**Increasing Distinguished  
Student Shares & Creative  
Characteristics List  
for Gifted Students**



**Interview by : Samer Salah**

**Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi, Secretary-General of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance announced increasing the shares of Distinguished Student at the 16th Cycle, pointing out that this step keeps pace with the developments experienced by educational field in the UAE, and comes in line with the increase in the number of teachers, students and schools, private schools in particular.**

In an interview with «Al Tamayoz News» magazine, he explained that shares has been re- scheduled and updated of in proportion to the current reality of the participations, and that such increase included all educational zones.

He reported that the current Cycle saw minor amendments in some criteria including various categories of the competition, attributing reasons thereof to feedback received from the education field, observations of clients and adjudicators, and changes in grading some standards or repetition or typographical errors avoided by current amendments, noting that such amendments aimed at facilitating things on participants.

Dr. Al Muhairi cited that the conditions for participation in competitions of Distinguished

Student have been amended so that the students of first and second primary grades shall not be eligible to participate in competitions of Distinguished Student; participations begin from the third grade. He said that the reason for this amendment is due to a lack of participations and the difficulty of reflecting excellence at this stage wherein the student 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 excluding the year of application as some applicants find receiving certificates in the middle of the school year difficult; the thing which impede the work of the central adjudication committees checking and registering attachments.

The Secretary-General of the Award noted the emiratization policy of adjudication committees adopted by the Award, pointing to seeking to inlaying committees with various institutions and government departments, as well as federal institutions interested in the quality and educational excellence sector.

Dr. Al Muhairi stressed updating the adjudication list to keep pace with developments in the field of education, pointing to the Adjudication Forum to be held on the 8th of October, aiming at raising the level of adjudication processes, improving the performance of the Award adjudicators both within the UAE and abroad, bringing viewpoints even closer and standardizing adjudication practices and concepts among the members of the jury.

He added that the among objectives of the Forum 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. He referred that the 8th Best Practices Seminar to be held on the 9th of October, which aims at increasing the awareness of academic community towards distinguished academic practices; spreading and transmitting knowledge, expertise, and distinguished experience and deepening excellence culture by means of displaying and documenting





the best experiences according to the standards of the academic performance, honoring distinguished academic achievements besides their authors. It also aims at documenting and defining distinguished academic practices; spreading and disseminating the culture of excellence in academic performance and introducing the winners' efforts and distinguished innovations as well as crowning of winners' effort and motivating them to proceed on the excellence way and encouraging distinguished people to apply for the Award. Answering a question about the extent to which the Award utilized the spread of social networking media and modern techniques in the identification of others' experiences and bridging the distance and time gaps to reach the optimal programs and methods for the application of practices of quality education, Dr. Muhairi cited that the Award has launched services the Award clients and categories including advisory

services, guiding workshops and courses specialized in educational excellence for all standards.

He explained that the introduction of new E-services will be implemented on stages, all of which will be available through the website intended to be developed by the Award, referring that all this leads to the E-adjudication.

He noted that the Award adopted the philosophy of remote training, and communication with the Award categories over 24 hours, as well as attracting views and suggestions of the public to contribute to the design of programs leading to educational excellence.

Dr. Al Muhairi stated that Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance appointed three education-expert advisors for the three categories: Best Applied Project, Distinguished School & School Administration, and Distinguished Teacher.

He explained that that the

launch of the Online Advisor service is considered as a guide to the platform of excellence since its idea comes in line with the directives of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai, in the smart government initiative.

He said that the Online Advisor depends on online communication with the targeted to answer any inquiries received from them using the most appropriate ways for them. The project provides several modern communication channels, including e-mail, Facebook, Twitter, instant messaging (Live Chat), in addition to direct contact or meeting at advisory sessions.

As for his expectations of participation numbers this year, Dr. Al Muhairi expected increase in participations, especially as the coordinators of current Cycle insisting on competition on achieving the top position, describing the preparations made by educa-

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### **Providing E-services to clients and developing the Award website soon**

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### **Amendment of attachment condition to include last 3 years excluding application year**

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### **Emiratization policy of adjudication committees, and inlaying adjudication committees with various institutions and government departments**

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tional zones as positive in increasing the number and quality of participations; the thing which with eventually increase in the number of winners.

Dr. Al Muhairi estimates increased number of applications on Arab Educational Research based on the number of inquiries received and still being received by the Award, expressing his anxiety that none of the research involved in the previous cycle was qualified to the rank of winning.

In his answer to the question of his assessment of the last cycle participation, Dr. Al Muhairi said that last year files were characterized by seriousness and excellence; the thing which was noticed clearly and evidently from the high percentage of winners compared to applicants. This suggests that applicants further understood and comprehended Award's criteria, pointing out that there are no intentions

now to add new categories to the Award.

The Secretary-General of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance urged participants in the competitions of the 16th Cycle to deal with the standards of application form deliberately; the thing which makes winning prizes easier, pointing out that winning gate is open wide before all applications that meet the international standards for the Award, and that the mere participation is real benefit because its standards and provisions put and lead applicants to the excellence way.

Dr. Al Muhairi called local and GCC education field to participate in the activities of the Award, especially as the winners have proven that they are true ambassadors for the culture of excellence and quality they are trying to promote in their schools and among their

classmates; the thing which achieves one of the most important strategic objectives of the Award.

Al Muhairi added that the Award will join UNESCO in World Teacher's Day celebrations where the Award will participate in the talk sessions to introduce the initiatives launched by Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance in enhancing educational excellence by supporting teachers at the local and regional levels through the support of education in general and allocating categories for teachers such as: Distinguished Teachers, Highly Distinguished Teachers, Best Arabic Educational Research and GCC Distinguished Teachers, as well as the support of teacher at the international level through the UNESCO-Hamdan bin Rashid Award Prize which rewarded the best prac-

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**Hamdan Award to join UNESCO in World Teacher's Day celebrations**

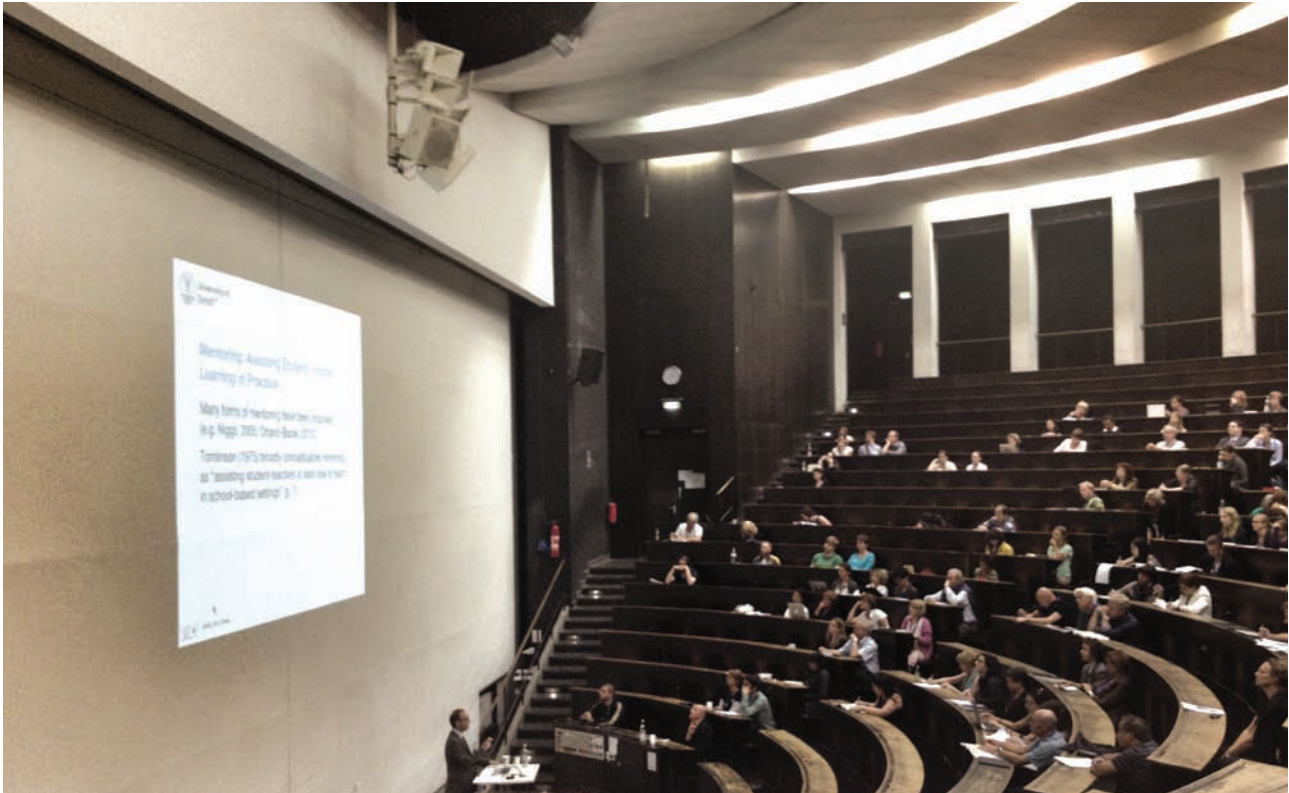
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**20 teachers to GED program, 3 of them are men**

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**Successful spring and summer programs for gifted students**





tices in support of the teachers. The Secretary-General of the Award revealed a project of preparing a list containing the creativity characteristics of gifted students aiming at spotting and discovering talented students in the UAE. Concerning Gifted Education Diploma (GED), Dr. Al Muhairi pointed out that the 4th batch of the program, which includes 20 teachers had finished the theoretical part of the program; while the teachers are currently working on exciting the practical part of the program in the schools in application of what they have already studied in the theoretical part. He stated that GED students had faces a 'discharge' problem, so the Award worked in coordination with the Ministry of Education (MOA) and AGU to overcome this problem; thus, most of the GED period becomes in summer, and the Award also communicated

with school administrations and educational zones to facilitate the GED students task. Dr. Al Muhairi stressed that the AGU in Bahrain formally requested adopting the book entitled «Reference Guide in Spotting Talented Students», which the Award commissioned Dr. Moosa Al Nabhan, Vice Dean of the Faculty of Post-Graduate Studies in AGU to prepare. He described the book as the first reference in Arabic in the field of spotting talented students, pointing out that there is no book in Arabic fully designated to tackling the issues of discovering talented; rather there is information available within one or maximum two chapters in some books, noting that what distinguishes this book from other Arab and foreign books whose titles refer to spotting and identification of talented students is that it ensures a sufficient background

to help in the formation of a detailed systematic and training culture in the process of discovering talents. He referred to the Award participation and presenting practical experiments in the 20th Biennial Conference of the World Council for Gifted and Talented Children (WCGTC) Kentucky, USA, and the Conference of the European Association for Research on Learning and Instruction (EARLI) in Munich, Germany, and the 3rd International Conference on Talent Development & Excellence in Turkey, with the objective of sharing experience in the field of talent care and developing the national cadre therein. Dr. Al Muhairi admired the success of the spring and summer programs for gifted students, noting that the students who joined these programs experienced training courses in psychological, social and

scientific skills. He stated that among the positive aspects of the summer program this year is that it was carried out in the IT institutes where the potential and specialists were available; the thing which was had positive impact on the students. Dr. Al Muhairi reported that the number of beneficiaries of enrichment programs in the spring reached 25 applicants, while the total number of enrolled students amounted to 33; while in the summer program, the number of applicants was 60, while the enrolled students was 48. He added that the Award is currently preparing a winter camp for talented students; and have just finished preparations of two programs: one of them is dedicated to develop the psychological and social skills of talented students and the other one is to guide their parents.