

# Hamdan Award Adds 232 Winners to List of Distinguished

**Saudi Education Officials:  
Hamdan Award Tops Re-  
gional Excellence Awards**

**UAE Education Officials:  
Hamdan Award Established  
All-round Excellence Cul-  
ture Based on Ambition**

**To be Honored  
in Paris Next October,  
3 Projects Win  
UNESCO-Hamdan**

## Special Edition

in light of the 16<sup>th</sup> ses-  
sion closing ceremony of  
the Hamdan bin Rashid Al  
Maktoum Award for the  
Distinguished Academic  
Performance



Cover Story



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**OUR VISION**

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

**OUR Mission**

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

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# Introduction



## 16th Cycle and Change Features

- In a process of sincere national work spanning 16 years in the service of academic excellence and talents welfare, Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum for Distinguished Academic Performance has spared no effort in looking for anything that would achieve the objectives of its Patron in instilling the values of mastery, creativity and quality in the educational awareness so as to be a norm in learning, working and production in all aspects of life.
- Thanks to the empowerment of HH Sheikh Hamdan, the Award concluded its cumulative experience in inventing Arabic Emirati standards and criteria for evaluating and accrediting the quality of academic institutions; the thing which reflects the Award's maturity as well as the utmost trust in its abilities and reliability to play a professional role in applying a model of educational quality on academic institutions in the UAE and the region, especially that quality culture and practices have become noticeable in Education, and investing therein will be a marketing requirement sooner or later, especially that those institutions need an official recognition of their academic quality to meet the requirements of education clients according to the competition standard and 'market' logic.
- New changes in quality-education field and promotion of talents programs are expected to be witnessed by the Award in the next phase; such changes will enrich the Award's value and services for education. This has always been the case with HH Sheikh Hamdan.
- Harvesting its sixteenth Cycle, Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance grants 232 talents the excellence degree and a valuable cash prize, in recognition of their professional elegant production associated with the will of change for the better and their absolute faith in the value of quality, kindness and dedication to work; thus, they were eligible to win and to be honored by His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Patron of the Award. The next cycle will witness the launch of the Highly Distinguished Teacher at the GCC states level, which is the first competition of its kind for talented teachers to win the title of GCC Best Teacher.
- UNESCO-Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Prize for Outstanding Practice and Performance in Enhancing the Effectiveness of Teachers is particularly appreciated by UNESCO within the framework of the strategic partnership between both parties; hence, there was an immediate response to achieve UNESCO's desire of organizing a ceremony honoring the winners at the headquarters of UNESCO in Paris in late October, in the presence of His Highness the Patron of UNESCO-Hamdan Prize and delegations of 186 states.
- Congratulations to the UAE for this distinguished cluster! See you at the next session, Allah willing.

**Abdul Noor Ahmed Al Hashimi**  
Chief Editor

We welcome your contributions and inquiries as to pursue communication with you.  
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Education Officials from Saudi Arabia to “ **AIT**<sup>News</sup>**amayoz** ”:

## ‘Hamdan Award’ on Top of Regional Awards Supporting Education Excellence

Hassan Mohammed – Dubai

Officials at the Saudi Ministry of Education considered Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance the most important award at the regional level due to its contribution in disseminating the culture of excellence. raising the spirit of fair competition in the field of education. and because of the quality of its standards. fair assessment. and clear and all-round objectives.



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**Dr. Abdul-Rahman bin Ibrahim Al Mudaires:**  
Hamdan Award stimulated motivation and competition for excellence and innovation



In their speeches to “Al Tamayoz News” magazine on the occasion of honoring the winners of the 16th Cycle, they appreciated the on-going support and wise directives given by His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid, praising HH’s keenness to patronize all-round excellence in the educational field, until the Award has topped the awards supporting education excellence.

Dr. Abdul-Rahman bin Ibrahim Al Mudaires, Director General of Education in the Eastern Region of Saudi Arabia said: “It is no secret that all nations are assessed by their achievements in science and knowledge as well as their progress and excellence. Thus, our wise leadership has been keen on exerting diligent efforts to achieve sustainable development in the light of accelerating scientific race against time, recognizing that the development will only be achieved through building innovative competitive excellent generation making the future of its homeland and designing the route of its progress. This outstanding generation we celebrate today is the cornerstone which is to be relied on in constructing the pillars of a knowledge-based society.”

“It is obvious that the internationality of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance has a noticeable influence on stimulating motivation and competition for excellence and innovation through the provision of standard criteria and the reference frameworks for institutional work to keep up with the needs of quality education, in order to access to a global knowledge-based society contributing to achieving the aspirations of the educational and local societies; the thing which has contributed to the creation of a significant interaction among schools, teachers and students, for winning the Award which represents a platform of excellence in the educational sector by emphasizing the status of the Teacher and his role in building the generations” Dr. Al Mudaires added.

He also cited: “The role of the Award exceeds being sought by everyone and goes beyond to being a platform for action and guide to a clear path leading to all-round excellence in the field of education through instilling the values of excellence, quality, creativity, innovation, cooperation, integration and the constant quest for best practices that lead to an ever better performance and achievement for the sake of turning excellence into culture, behavior, practice and application.”

He exalted the continued support and wise directives of the Patron of the Award, His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, since it started until it reached this outstanding level, noting that it is an evidence of the keenness of His Highness on patronizing comprehensive excellence in the field of education. Hence, not surprisingly, the Award started from the local to regional and global levels and has become on top of the awards supporting excellence in Education.

Moreover, he expressed his pleasure and delight with the participation of Saudi Arabia in the Award and ranking first in the number of participations and winners at the Gulf competitions, pointing to the win of the Eastern Region of the Distinguished School and School Administration category achieved by Al Dana Elementary School – Jubail Area, and the Distinguished Student category gained by Bashaier bint Abdullah bin Mohammed Al Hammad of Jubail II Secondary School, which reflects the keenness and attention paid by the Saudi Ministry of Education.

## Questionnaire



**Mohammed bin Abdullah Al Tariki:**  
Hamdan Award kindled spirit of fair competition in Education



**Abdullah bin Ibrahim Al Rakiyan:**  
The arena of academic performance is welcoming for educational competitions

Dr. Al Mudaires appreciated the efforts of the Award officials, congratulated all the winners of this outstanding accomplishment urging them to continue excellence, and thanked all those who contributed and supported to excellence to make it a lifestyle.

### Kindling Competition Spirit

Mohammed bin Abdullah Al Tariki Director of Education in Al Zulfi, Saudi Arabia, considered Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance one of the most prestigious awards at the regional level due to its contribution in disseminating the culture of excellence, raising the spirit of fair competition in the field of education, and because of the quality of its standards, fair assessment, and clear and all-round objectives.

“In the race witnessed by the world in the scientific field, the contributions of His Highness the Patron of the Award in the educational sector are still an important and urgent requirement for supporting the educational process and upgrading it to the best. Such support is needed to encourage students and educators to make more effort, excellence and creativity” Al Tariki cited.

Al Tariki stressed on the need for such awards in the Arab countries because all of them share the same goals and justifications.

He pointed out that the competition of the Distinguished Student hosted in Al Zulfi was tough, where the participants of Al Zulfi, Al Qassim and Sabya reflected obvious empowerment, great confidence, and contributions qualifying them all to win; while the Commission was at the level of responsibility and good dealing.

Addressing the winner, Al Tariki said: “You have gained the results of your good deeds! Keep going with the determination and love of your nations and societies which are anticipating a lot from you.” And for the applicant of the next editions he said: “The field of competition is open, and you could be the candidate for winning the Award. Feel free to join the contestants.”

### All-round Award

Abdullah bin Ibrahim Al Rakiyan Director General of Education in Al Qassim Region, Saudi Arabia said: “When ambition is present, giving is glorified, and the ‘nation’ words are written with glittering letters, then we are all at the perfect timing in the distinguished kingdom. The field of educational performance of Hamdan bin Rashid Award is welcoming for competitions in the educational arena. In this way, the win of one of our beloved country sons from Al Qassim in the Distinguished Student was notable. His honoring is a pride for all students from all areas and provinces, and his representation should be showcased, honored and motivated. Therefore, our student Abdullah Al Tarbaq gained the honor of participation and excellence as well as winning this international Award at its 16th edition.

He thanked the United Arab Emirates and officials of the Award for the Award’s idea and implementation mechanisms. He also thanked the Ministry of Education and the Minister of Education for activating such a wonderful program.

Al Rakiyan addressed the family and parents of the winner student appreciating their efforts in raising such an excellent output in a nation

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**Jamal bin Musa Fahad Al Fayeze:**  
Hamdan Award is vibrant with anticipation and ambition to obtain aspirations



**Ahmed bin Ali Rabiea:**  
The Award has great influence on creating movement and interaction in educational sector



that is waiting the elevation of its sons and daughters. He also thanked the Activities Department and the Social Activity Department to create the atmosphere, preparing the student and supporting him stage after stage until he is awarded by excellence and success.

### Generous Support and Impassioned Thought

Ahmed bin Ali Rabiea Director of Education at Sabya, Saudi Arabia assured that the field of education is in desperate need of initiatives such Hamdan Award through which efforts are appreciated and rewarded. The Award is the foremost in spreading the culture of excellence in the educational and academic field.

He extolled the obvious and outstanding efforts of the Patron of the Award aiming at the advancement of the educational field through HH's generous support, impassioned thought insightful vision for the aspects of innovation and excellence as well as exploitation of all potential to support excellence in Education.

He pointed out that Hamdan Award plays a major role and has a great influence on creating an interaction in the educational sector at the GCC and Arab level for upgrading the educational process.

Furthermore, he stated that the Department of Education in Sabya Province was lucky for participating and winning the Award in the past few cycles; the thing which has had an effect in improving the level of performance of the participants in the Award, which shows the accuracy of its standards and quality of preparation.

He congratulated the Awards winners at its 16th session and invited them to pursue excellence and progress in Education, pointing out that winning is only the starting point and the first step in excellence and progress domains, calling all segment in Education to participate in Hamdan Award because it is great stimulus and supporter of the progress and advancement in the field. He also expressed thanks, appreciation and gratitude to His Highness the Patron of the Award and the Award's outstanding and creative team.

### Aspiration and Ambition

Jamal bin Musa Fahad Al Fayeze, Chairman of the Distinguished Student central jury at the KSA Ministry of Education, stated that Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance is vibrant with anticipation and ambition to obtain the aspirations of its Patron, who considers the investment in Human as the most important goals HH seeks. HH Sheikh Hamdan set quality and excellence as his aim to assure that they are no more prepared for media consumption and administrative and academic luxury that are praised by executives and leader of Education.

"The quest for access to the world's first knowledge-based society that achieves the aspirations of the leaders and peoples needs making more effort from all educators. There is an urgent need to promote a culture of excellence in the educational sector, with changing the strategies of the targeted segments, serious attempt to change the Human's practices and educational movement, and taking advantage of all the

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techniques, theories and schools which are abundant in our Arabic content and provided by the modern age” Al Fayez added. He stressed that excellence stems from the cumulative stock and quality practices that lead their owner to the podium to highlight the good side. The quality of the product is determined by the quality of the process that led to the production, which is not an easy thing to be achieved, because changing existing culture followed in any organization needs some time.

Al Fayez said: “Honoring outstanding talents represents the reality in Education and its positive movement. Governments, leaders and individuals have sought to establish the principle of quality in all aspects of life, including education. Quality of education is the end of achieving the goals and the consolidation of the constant values that education seeks to achieve.” In addition, he pointed out that these concerns have obvious in the aspirations of the Patron of the Award His Highness Sheikh Hamdan Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, leading HH to adopt a number of awards, on top of which is HH’s Award for Distinguished Academic Performance in all its categories on the local, GCC, Arab and international levels (UNESCO).

He said that we need a paradigm and forward-looking shift, and to look ahead to highlight our educational outcome in the Arab world, and the GCC Council. Hamdan Award has raised the status of education and educated people, highlighting their abilities and practices until it has become a reference for all other awards in the Arab world due to the existence of a number of experts who contributed by their thoughts, experience and aspirations. It is the fruit of the tireless efforts.

He pointed out that the Award has created a competitive educational movement for all participants from the GCC countries, paving the way to excellence according to total quality standards; it is the ambition of students which shows them the hard work approach between originality and excellence.

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As well, he praised the KSA's keenness on participation in the four categories of the Award, which was culminated with the approval of His Highness the Saudi Minister of Education, the deputies and undersecretaries of the Ministry and the general managers, in order to highlight the national educational outcome which makes us all proud of. KSA completes the pioneer participations and previous records which highlighted the leading models with their significant impact in the dissemination of the excellence culture with the efforts of the former coordinators of arbitrators given to the boys and girls who have significantly contributed to realize these aspirations.

He pointed out that Saudi Arabia tops the numbers of participations and winners in the current cycle due to the efforts of the coordinators, assistants and central and sub-committees of arbitration for boys and girls, which offer models from the field of education. He added "We are proud of them and their outstanding achievements in terms of methods of performance, diversity in the best and leading practices and experience that are carried out in reality achieving the results which brought them to the podium.

Al Fayez congratulated all the winners in the current cycle, in the UAE, GCC countries, the Arab states and the world countries including all students, teachers and schools, of all categories of the Award. He congratulated them for meeting all the Award criteria excellently, calling for highlighting the same by applying them in the field of education, and achieving leading results to the targeted, drawing the shield of excellence given by Hamdan Award on the winners' chests.

Addressing the applicants who did not win, he cited: "The outstanding is indefatigable. On the contrary, failure to meeting the standards forms a motivation and challenge to get to the podium by benefitting from the guidance and corrections and being careful to address deficiencies received by the feedback. We pray to Allah to bless the winners and achieve the ambition of non-winners in the coming cycles; however, (all are winners when entering the midst of challenge and excellence)."

Education Officials from Abu Dhabi, Dubai and Fujairah to “AIT<sup>News</sup> amayoz ”:

## Hamdan Award Established All-round Excellence Education Based on Unlimited Ambition

Hassan Mohammed – Dubai

Officials of the educational field from Abu Dhabi, Dubai and Fujairah stated that Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance has contributed in shaping the culture of the “all-round excellence” based on strong unlimited ambition, which is the cornerstone of building for the future. Being honored by such an award is a strong incentive that enhances the outcomes of the educational field and increases the creative initiatives whose influence is reflected positively on the performance of students.



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**Dr. Amal  
Al Qubaisi:**  
The purpose of  
educational awards  
is to raise teachers’  
morale to excel at  
work



In their speeches to “Al Tamayoz News” magazine on the occasion of honoring the winners of the 16th Cycle, they appreciated the follow-up and support paid by His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid, Deputy Ruler of Dubai, Minister of Finance, and HH’s tireless keenness to provide the educational field, materially and morally, as well as the perseverance of HH’s Award with the development and motivation about creative practices that are beneficial to the educational system.

Dr. Amal Al Qubaisi, Director General of Abu Dhabi Education Council (ADEC) stated that the main purpose of the educational awards is to increase the social appreciation for teaching, by raising the morale of the teachers to excel in their work, to be ambassadors for disseminating the culture of excellence in their schools, and to contribute to the achievement of the educational advancement which we seek because it is the component of progress and civilization of any country.

“When we think about the future of the UAE and the future of our nation as a whole, education is the basis; thus, educational awards rely on various promotion and stimulation methods to encourage the largest number of different segments to apply for and participate in the Award in order to disseminate the Award’s culture in the sector through holding workshops and awareness lectures, as well as the formation of training, arbitration and activities committees associated with the Award, in addition to launching excellence prizes that improve performance and enhance excellence” Al Qubaisi cited.

Moreover, she stressed that such projects are necessary in the field of education because they are raising the performance of all elements in the sector through the ongoing support given by Hamdan bin Rashid Award for Distinguished Academic Performance, which covers all educational aspects.

Al Qubaisi lauded the follow-up of HH Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid and his tireless keenness to provide the educational sector with the required material and moral support, highlighting the perseverance of Hamdan Award in the development until it has recorded many achievements since its inception until its 16th Cycle. She also praised HH’s continued support which is necessary to motivate teachers towards creative practices that are beneficial for the efforts exerted to develop the educational system.

She pointed out that the presence of Hamdan bin Rashid Award for Distinguished Academic Performance in addition to other educational awards and prizes including Sheikh Khalifa Award for Education and Sharjah Award for Excellence in Education undoubtedly forms a strong incentive enhancing the outcomes of the educational sector and increases the creative initiatives whose influence is reflected positively on the performance of students.

Al Qubaisi added that the increase of participating numbers each year clearly indicates that the culture of excellence has been continuously increasing more and more; the thing which places the Award in front the difficult challenge of making excellence for the generations to come through the formulation of very accurate and sensitive standards to build the future with excellent people.





**Dr. Ahmad Eid Al Mansouri:**  
Hamdan Award supplied thousands of producers on land of excellence and innovation

Furthermore, Al Qubaisi stated that ADEC has spared no effort in providing all the supplies and requirements needed to support the applications submitted to Hamdan Award: preparations for the 16th Cycle began early by organizing a series of training workshops in different categories, depending on the needs. As well, there was collaboration with Hamdan bin Rashid Award by providing a number of specialists in the methods of preparation and organization of files.

Al Qubaisi expressed her thanks to all people who exerted efforts in the spotting excellence and highlighting talents. She also congratulated the winners of this cycle, wishing them to keep on their giving and efforts.

As well, she addressed those who were not so lucky to win recommending them to re-apply next year, wishing everyone (students, teachers and administrators) to participate in the Award because it is a true instrument in the assessment of excellent performance.

### Land of Excellence and Innovation

Dr. Ahmad Eid Al Mansouri, Director of Dubai Educational Zone (DEZ) stated that while celebrating its 16th edition, Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance has supplied thousands of producers on the land of excellence and innovation and in the educational and academic sector, besides its contribution to the formation of an all-round excellence culture that is built on strong unlimited ambition. Hamdan Award has become, as usual, a solid cornerstone in building the foundations for the future.

“The Award which opens its arms to ambition, embraces creativity and elevates accomplishment only aims high; it is the basis of building the coming generation, the first step in the advanced civilizations stairs, and our compass towards the summit and the ultimate goal i.e. building for humanity as a whole” Al Mansouri said.

“Our coveted Award elevates today, deriving its annual ambition from its patron, HH Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Minister of Finance, Deputy Ruler of Dubai, who undoubtedly reached the end of performance in the way of excellence and progress, in such an unconventional and untraditional award that reached the horizons of empowerment and renovation, until it has eventually become an ambition for anyone considering a better future, in the UAE and abroad. It is a competition-worthy award that deserves to be honored as much as its distinguished honorees do,” he added.

He pointed out that this honoring stimulus notion, that enables us all to make a better performance, should remain mainly present in the course of educational construction, aiming for a brighter future. People of Education do really need such certificate and honor. Hamdan Award is a word that makes the community of education more coherent, driving its ambition towards the summit. Thus, we need the Award since it instills in us the seeds of will and determination to reach the upper ranks of winning and honor.

He said that for the third year in a row, schools of DEZ and the Knowledge and Human Development Authority (KHDA) have been able

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**Mohammed Salem  
Al Dhaheri:**  
The Award  
contributed to  
supporting the  
process of excellence  
of education at UAE  
and Arab levels



to win Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance in all categories of the 16th Cycle, receiving the largest number of prizes by obtaining 66 ones. However, he reaffirmed that participation alone is not enough, winning is the most important: this is approach in DEZ for the coming years, so that we will be able to achieve the of the wise leadership's vision of maintain being number one forever.

Further, he stressed that such excellence is a natural product of the distinction of Strategic Planning & Corporate Excellence Unit (Excellence Awards Team) in DEZ, in terms of preparedness, guidance and follow-up of the participations of the educational sector in the various awards and categories, in an embodiment of the great motto (Our Ambition to Stay in the Lead). Before this victory, DEZ awards team undertook effective communication with the field of education allocating two days per week for holding of workshops and lectures encouraging participation and supporting win; the thing which resulted in a big victory for Dubai schools qualifying the Emirate to be in the lead for three consecutive years.

He stressed that the task of DEZ and KHDA is still continuing with winning, honoring and absolutely 'number 1' - "this promise to Education which we have great confidence in."

"Congratulations to our children, our colleagues and our extended family in the field of education, for their unparalleled achievement in Hamdan Award for Distinguished Academic Performance, wishing everyone to keep their success, excellence and winning in mind, so that to keep the wheel of ambition that we enjoy in Dubai evolving, in Education, as well as in all other areas" Dr. Mansouri cited.

### Close Relation with Education

On the other hand, Mohammed Salem Mohammed Al Dhaheri, Executive Director of ADEC School Operations stated that educational awards are closely related to the field of education, because such awards play a key role in the instilling and disseminating the culture of excellence in the educational and academic field.

"Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance is among the foremost educational awards that have the favor of stimulating innovative and talented people. It has contributed significantly to supporting the excellence of education not only at the level of UAE, but also at the Arab world through its attention paid to the outstanding segments as they are a national future treasure that can be relied upon to ensure the security, stability and future of the region" Al Dhaheri added.

He pointed out that the Award has contributed to the creation of motivation among the different categories in the field of education through fair competition towards excellence with clear standards, in addition to highlighting the creative aspects among administrators, teachers and students.

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Al Dhaheri cited: “Thanks to the sponsor of the Award His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai and UAE Minister of Finance, who earned the title of the ‘Humanitarian Person of the Year’ in 2000 for his support of many charitable projects. HH also gained the title of the ‘Best International Person’ in 2005 in the fields of health, education and sport by the International Hospital Federation (IHF).”

“The international achievements registered under HH’s name include receiving the highest medal of appreciation from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 2006, in recognition of HH’s exerted efforts in support of the programs of education and science. In addition, HH Sheikh Hamdan well-deserved the title of ‘Person of the Year’ in 2007 by Sharjah Award for Voluntary Work, in recognition for his many contributions in support of voluntary work” Mr. Al Dhaheri added.

Furthermore, he stressed that the task of educational awards is to participate with educational institutions in improving learners and their associates including individuals and educational institutions through the competitive method and positive cooperation represented in competitions; motivation; spotting and nurturing talents; research, development and international participation; improving educational performance; and taking care of gifted people through the best local and global programs for positive competition and cooperation. All the above will contribute to establishing a distinguished learning community, in order to rise to the prestigious rank of our outcome to the





**Dr. Abdulla  
Al Karam:**  
Hamdan Award  
produced positive  
energy in the  
process of raising  
education



developed world categories.

He pointed out that excellence is a motto that has been sought by ADEC which has spared no effort to reach and sit on top thereof. ADEC promotes education (students, teachers and school administrations), not for the aim of only gaining awards, but this is a beginning for a bigger ambitions in order to achieve excellence and upgrade work; which is an effort that will not end at this point, rather, it entailed greater responsibilities.

Al Dhaheri concluded that the most distinguished people are people with high spirit whose thoughts are ahead of their time; they believed in their thoughts and worked on them until they reached the goal; and so are they in ADEC- they had the standards of excellence, worked on them until they achieve the goal. They deserved excellence and wrote their names with the winners of the 16th Cycle.

At last, he called on those who did not win to prepare to participate in the next cycle, and know more about the Award criteria until such criteria become part of their lives, and thus to be reflected on their performance in education, in order to disseminate the culture of excellence so that it is absorbed in all the educational field.

### **Positive Energy**

In the same context, Dr. Abdulla Al Karam, Chairman of the Board of Directors and Director General of Dubai Knowledge and Human Development (KHDA) stated that over 16 years Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance has succeeded in promoting the thought of educational excellence and produced positive energy that has always been the fuel for raising the quality of education in the UAE.

“This positive energy was reflected in the continuous pursuit of aspirants to the podium of honor through the competition among projects and ideas that promote educational excellence. The fruit has become noticeable on our students who are the end of any accomplishment and the focus of each excellence” Dr. Al Karam added.

He stated that the Award was a breakthrough to estimate the success through the dissemination of excellent experiences, not only through the stimulation of educators in the UAE, but also on the regional and international levels, in order to share best practices; the thing which is seen as an addition to what is the process of education in the United Arab Emirates.

Moreover, he praised the patronage of the Award by His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai and Minister of Finance, which represents an extension of the UAE leadership’s vision of the importance of Education in the development process; it is also an interest seen in HH’s keenness to enhance the performance of the Award year after year.

He pointed out that the Award radiated towards the surrounding region from Dubai which has established its position today as a destina-

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**Juma Khalfan  
Al Kindi:**  
The Award has  
leading role in  
supporting and  
highlighting best  
practices and  
outstanding efforts

tion of regional education and learning. It has become a favorite destination for seekers of excellence in the social development sector. This was evident in the annual growth in the number of private schools and branches of international universities in Dubai year after year; the thing which has contributed to supplying the education sector with a variety of options with international standards.

Dr. Al Karam stressed that Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance has established the culture of taking care of and disseminating excellence and distinction among educational institutions within and UAE and abroad in various categories. Educational awards are looked at as a breakthrough towards sharing successes among different categories of educational excellence.

Dr. Al Karam expressed sincere thanks and appreciation to His Highness the sponsor of the Award, and to every teacher, school administration and effective person in the academic community who contributed to the success of Dubai schools to obtain the first rank in the competitions of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance.

He stated that Dubai, the excellence city, is continuing its role as a model to be followed in teaching and education; while the higher education sector has become today a reflection of a growing economy, innovative society, and package of various employment opportunities for graduates.

### Leading Role

Juma Khalfan Al Kindi, Director of Al Fujairah Education Zone (FEZ) assured that Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance is still topping the list of educational awards contested by distinguished segments and people wishing to have remarkable position in the educational community in the UAE. It is an award which occupies that special position in the educational arena locally and at the Gulf States, Arab, and international levels.

He pointed out that receiving this Award is itself a lucrative, because of its leading role in supporting and highlighting best practices and outstanding efforts in the performance of teachers and administrative bodies in the field of education.

He appreciated the efforts, support and sponsorship provided by His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, as well as HH's persistence that the Award expands to cover all areas of education on Earth. The Award has become fertile ground for competition and innovation which is added to the list of HH's accomplishments and successes reaped by the Award, thanks to HH's continuous efforts. The outcome of this 16th session is the unchallengeable evidence of HH's sincerity and dedication in the service of this vital field.

He stated that the participation of FEZ in the 16th edition of Hamdan Award is relatively distinguished, as FEZ participated in the Distinguished Social Specialist, Educational Research and Distinguished Educational Project, in addition to the Distinguished Teacher and

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Distinguished Student, while FEZ wished to participate in many other categories of the Award.

Al Kindi concluded: "On behalf of all employees and educators, we extend the best congratulations to His Highness as we congratulate all the winners in this session, wishing them more success and excellence in their lives. I recommend participants who did not win in this edition to continue their efforts by participating to reach excellence. As well, I invite all groups in the field of education to enter the midst of this important area by participating in this educational award which seeks to disseminate the culture of excellence."

On his own behalf, and on behalf of DEZ, Mr. Al Kindi expressed the sincerest thanks and appreciation to His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, patron of the Award, for HH's continuous support for the distinguished segments and people aspiring to excellence and innovation, as well as to the secretariat of the Award and all its officials and all employees in the educational zone, whether through coordination of the Award or the jury stating: "we would not achieve this success and excellence unless with consolidating efforts, keenness to dedicated work and their willingness to exert their time and effort, because time and effort are the most important causes and factors that help to achieve the aspirations even if they are far away or impossible."