



DOHA INDEPENDENT SECONDARY SCHOOL FOR BOYS WINS QUR'ANIC BOTANIC GARDEN TREE CONTEST

Competition Held as Part of QBG's Global Earth Day Celebrations

Doha, 1 June 2016: The Qur'anic Botanic Garden (QBG) recently concluded its first cultural competition based on the book, 'Trees: Their Importance and Care from Environmental and Ethical Perspectives', specially selected to highlight the importance of trees in combatting climate change. The inaugural contest was won by Doha Independent Secondary School for Boys.

Held in collaboration with Ali bin Jassim bin Mohammed Al Thani Secondary Independent School for Boys, 10 secondary schools from across the country, forming 12 teams, participated. The competition was designed to enhance the reading skills of high school students and promote the spirit of fair competition.

The contest was held as part of the Qur'anic Botanic Garden's global Earth Day celebrations. As a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF), it also helped to highlight the issue of climate change and desertification, as well as to raise public awareness of environmental issues outlined in the Qatar National Vision 2030 (QNV2030).

The tree contest was held between schools on a league system, with the participation of four judges from the Qur'anic Botanic Garden and the Scientific Research team of the Department of Curriculum and Learning Resources of the Ministry of Education and Higher Education.

The book, which formed the basis of the contest, highlights the definition of 'the tree' linguistically and scientifically, as well as plant life in the Holy Qur'an and Hadith. It also showcases the importance of trees in daily life and their virtual anatomical structure, along with an illustration of how to grow them.

Additionally, it explores the environmental, aesthetical, educational, economical, and monetary value of trees. It was chosen to familiarise students with the critical importance of trees, and the need to ensure their growth in arid climates.

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About Qur'anic Botanic Garden:



The Qur'anic Botanic Garden, a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF), the first of its kind in the world, exhibits all the plant species mentioned in the Holy Qur'an, and those in the Hadith and *Sunnah* (sayings and traditions of the Prophet Muhammad PBUH). The Garden exhibits the botanical terms mentioned in the Holy Qur'an, explaining the significance of their mention in the Holy Qur'an, as well as the scientific explanations of composition, application and usefulness to man. It inspires appreciation of nature by encouraging respect and responsibility for our environment. The Qur'anic Botanic Garden was inaugurated by Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, Chairperson of Qatar Foundation on 17 September 2008. To mark the event, she planted the Garden's first tree, the Sidra (*Ziziphus spina-christi* Willd, Sidr), which is also the symbol of the Foundation.

Qatar Foundation – Unlocking Human Potential

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development is a private, non-profit organisation that is supporting Qatar on its journey from a carbon economy to knowledge economy by unlocking human potential for the benefit of not only Qatar, but the world. Founded in 1995 by His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Father Amir of Qatar, QF is chaired by Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser. QF carries out its mission through three strategic pillars: education, science and research, and community development. QF's education pillar brings world-class universities to Qatar to help create an education sector in which young people can develop the attitudes and skills required for a knowledge economy. Meanwhile, its science and research pillar builds Qatar's innovation and technology capacity by developing and commercialising solutions through key sciences. Finally, its community development pillar helps foster a progressive society while also enhancing cultural life, protecting Qatar's heritage and addressing immediate social needs in the community.

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