



## QATAR NATIONAL LIBRARY SIGNS MOU WITH QATAR MUSEUMS

*Partnership to Enrich Wider Community by Preserving National Heritage*

**Doha, Qatar, 14 May:** Qatar National Library (QNL) and Qatar Museums (QM) recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the exchange of knowledge and expertise to enhance collective research, education and community development in Qatar.

The MoU outlines cooperation between the two institutions in various areas, including digitisation of historical documents, enhancing e-learning resources, development of training programmes for researchers and librarians, cooperative reference services and shared catalogues, inter-library lending, and document delivery.

Dr Claudia Lux, QNL'S Project Director, said: "Our collaboration with Qatar Museums will serve to further facilitate an enriched learning experience by making our extensive resources widely accessible for everyone in Qatar. Our collective efforts will ultimately contribute to improving learning outcomes and preserving Qatar's rich heritage, while empowering the wider community by providing them with continued learning opportunities."

As a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF), QNL's agreement with Qatar Museums will make lasting contributions to the holistic development of the wider community. It aims to achieve this by spreading knowledge, nurturing imagination, cultivating creativity, and preserving the nation's heritage for the future.

Susan Parker Leavy, Head of the Museum of Islamic Art (MIA) Library, said: "It is with great pleasure that we partner with Qatar National Library to enrich the lives of our local community and support Qatar's progress as an artistic and cultural hub. Having one of the largest collections of books on Islamic art in the region, with over 15,000 books at the MIA Library alone, we are delighted to open these resources up to a wider audience, allowing the community to explore our collections, discover our exhibitions and engage with Islamic art through our publications."

Qatar Museums hosts a number of libraries, including the MIA Library and Mathaf, with additional facilities currently being developed. The MIA Library specialises in the history and preservation of Islamic art, housing books, monographs, periodicals and art auction catalogues detailing the rich history of Islamic art in Qatar and across the region.

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## **Qatar National Library – Bridging with knowledge Qatar's and the Arab and Islamic world's heritage and future**

Qatar National Library (QNL) is a non-profit organisation under the umbrella of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF). QNL is supporting Qatar on its journey from a carbon-based economy to knowledge-based economy by providing resources to students, researchers, and the community in Qatar. It was announced in November 2012 by Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, Chairperson of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development.

QNL carries out its mission through three functions: National Library, University and Research Library, and a Metropolitan Public Library of the digital age. The National Library function collects and provides access to global knowledge relevant to Qatar and the region. It also collects, preserves, and provides access to heritage content and materials about Qatar and the region. The University and Research Library function supports education and research at all levels by providing printed and digital library materials for students and researchers. Metropolitan Public Library delivers library services and information for everyone to enjoy reading, meet people, and become information literate.

### **MEDIA CONTACT**

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**Learn more about Qatar National Library online at [www.qnl.qa](http://www.qnl.qa)**

**Twitter: @QNLib**

**Facebook: [www.facebook.com/TheQatarNationalLibrary](https://www.facebook.com/TheQatarNationalLibrary)**

### **About Qatar Museums**

Qatar Museums connects the museums, cultural institutions and heritage sites in Qatar and creates the conditions for them to thrive and flourish. It centralises resources and provides a comprehensive organisation for the development of museums and cultural projects, with a long term ambition of creating a strong and sustainable cultural infrastructure for Qatar. Under the patronage of His Highness the Emir, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, and led by its Chairperson, Her Excellency Sheikha Al Mayassa bint Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, QM is consolidating Qatar's



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QATAR NATIONAL LIBRARY

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efforts to become a vibrant centre for the arts, culture and education, in the Middle East and beyond.

Since its foundation in 2005, QM has overseen the development of the Museum of Islamic Art (MIA), Mathaf: Arab Museum of Modern Art, and the Al Zubarah World Heritage Site Visitor Centre. QM also manages the QM Gallery at Katara Cultural Village, the ALRIWAQ DOHA Exhibition Space and the Fire Station: Artists in Residence. Future projects include the launch of the highly anticipated National Museum of Qatar and the 3-2-1 Qatar Olympic and Sports Museum.

QM is committed to instigating Qatar's future generation of arts, heritage and museum professionals. At its core is a commitment to nurturing artistic talent, creating opportunities and developing the skills to service Qatar's emerging art economy. By means of a multi-faceted program and public art initiatives, QM seeks to push the boundaries of the traditional museum model, and create cultural experiences that spill out onto the streets and seek to involve a wide audience. Through a strong emphasis on originating art and culture from within and fostering a spirit of national participation, QM is helping Qatar find its own distinctive voice in today's global cultural debates.