



THAI EMBASSY PRESENTS VALUABLE BOOKS TO QATAR NATIONAL LIBRARY

Ambassador's Gift Enhances QF Member's Heritage Collection

Doha, Qatar, 14 February 2015: The Embassy of Thailand in Qatar has presented Qatar National Library (QNL), a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development, with a number of valuable books as part of a diplomatic visit aimed at promoting cultural relations and exchange.

Dr Claudia Lux, Project Director of Qatar National Library, accompanied by number of QNL team welcomed His Excellency Mr. Piroon Laismit and received the valuable books. Dr Lux also, expressed her appreciation and gratitude to the Ambassador for the generous donation.

Furthermore, QNL welcomed a number of high profile Thai officials and diplomats to its Heritage Collection Building last month. The delegation included H.E. Dr. Tej Bunnag, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs in Thailand, and H.E. Mr. Piroon Laismit, Ambassador of Thailand to Qatar.

QNL's Associate Director for Administration and Planning, Eng.Saadi A. Al Said, and Dr Joachim Gierlich, QNL's Associate Director for Special Collections and Archives, accompanied the delegation on their visits and highlighted the rare and valuable materials and manuscripts related to the Arab-Islamic civilization and some of the Heritage Collection's most valuable items.

As a member of Qatar Foundation, Qatar National Library and its Heritage Collection support QF's mission to foster greater understanding and appreciation of Qatar's heritage in support of the Qatar National Vision 2030's goals to promote a harmonious and well-educated community aware of its history.

QNL's Heritage Collection has witnessed previous high profile visits including Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn of Thailand in January 2012. Furthermore, Thailand's former ambassador, H.E. Mr. Panyarak Poolthup, gifted a 200 year-old copy of the Holy Qur'an to QNL in September 2013 which has since benefited local researchers' studies.

Commenting on the donation, H.E. Mr. Piroon Laismit, the Ambassador of Thailand in Qatar, said: "Book is a reflecting medium of philosophy, ways of thinking and civilization of each country. Donating books about Thainess is one of the ways of shaping the corrected idea about Thailand among foreigners and also as a medium of promoting better understanding between Thai and Qatari who have different culture and way of life. With this educational cooperation, the people-to-people tie and understanding especially among younger generation can be strengthened."

In response, Dr Lux said: "The cultural ties between Qatar and Thailand are strong, distinguished and play a great role in promoting cultural and historical exchanges between the two countries."

"The donated books will enrich the Library's collection and enhance researchers' opportunities for study and awareness of Thai culture," she added.

As part of its activities, the Library organises cultural and educational events including the QNL Heritage Collection Open Day which is held annually in April to celebrate the UNESCO's International Day for



Monuments and Sites. The Library also stages community events and training sessions on the use of the online resources offered to researchers, students and residents of Qatar.

Qatar National Library offers free access to a vast collection of online resources including the latest bestsellers, classical works, concerts, top academic journals and documentaries. Anyone who lives in Qatar and has a valid Qatari ID/Residence Permit is eligible for free library registration. To register, please visit: www.qnl.qa

Image Caption:

Image 1: From right to left: H.E. Dr. Tej Bunnag, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs in Thailand, Dr Joachim Gierlichs, Qatar National Library's Associate Director for Special Collections and Archives, Eng. Saadi A. Al Said, Qatar National Library's Associate Director for Administration and Planning and Mr. Piroon Laismit, the Ambassador of Thailand to Qatar viewing Qatar National Library's Heritage Collection

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Qatar National Library – Bridging with Knowledge Qatar'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.

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