

PRESS RELEASE

Dr. Naif Al-Mutawa Announced as Keynote Speaker of the TII 6th Annual Translation Conference: March 23-24, 2015

Doha, 08 March 2015 – The Translation and Interpreting Institute (TII) of Hamad bin Khalifa University (HBKU), a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science, and Community Development (QF), will be hosting Dr. Naif Al-Mutawa as a keynote speaker of the Sixth Annual International Translation Conference. Held at the Qatar National Convention Center on March 23rd-24th, the theme of this year's conference is "Translating the Gulf: Beyond Fault Lines", with discussions focused on expanding the field of translation beyond its traditional borders.

Dr. Al-Mutawa, the founder and CEO of Teshkeel Media Group, is well-known as the creator of THE 99, the bestselling comic book featuring superheroes based on Muslim culture. The series was created after September 11, 2001 to reinforce the positive messages of the Muslim faith, and grew to be an animated series that is now shown in more than 70 countries around the world. Honored by the UNESCO Prize for Children's and Young People's Literature in the Service of Tolerance, Dr. Al-Mutawa also serves as a member of the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on the Future of Media.

Dr. Amal Al Malki, Executive Director of the Translation and Interpreting Institute, commented: "Qatar plays an important role globally as a place to foster conversations on multiculturalism and tolerance. Translation and interpreting have a key role in cultural representation, identity, and the dialogue between the East and West. We are pleased to welcome Dr. Naif Al-Mutawa, a leading entrepreneur and writer in this space, to share his story on THE 99 at the intersection of language and culture."

This year's conference has an impressive line-up and diverse array of topics covered, offering students and community members alike the chance to engage with leading translation studies scholars. Academic panels on subjects such as gender and translation, literature and culture in translation, and media translation technologies are offered. The conference will also offer professional development workshops on sports translation or media translation, similar to the ones the PSC organizes throughout the year.

Led by a distinguished international team of faculty and staff, TII consists of a Postgraduate Studies and Research Department, Language Center, and a Professional Services Center (PSC). It organizes a wide range of international and local events throughout the year, many of which are open to the public. The translation conference occurs yearly and brings international scholars and professionals together for knowledge-sharing and networking.

The conference begins with opening remarks by Dr. Amal Al-Malki at 9:00 AM on March 23, 2015. Those interested in learning more about the schedule of events and speakers, may do so online and register at http://www.tii.qa/register_now.

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About The Translation and Interpreting Institute

Hamad bin Khalifa's Translation and Interpreting Institute (TII) was established with a mission to build translation capacity in Qatar and the region. Under the umbrella of HBKU and as an initiative of Qatar Foundation, TII is situated in the prestigious Education City. It is a physical and virtual space that delivers sophisticated post-graduate translator and interpreter education, high-level training in a range of languages (Arabic, English, French and Spanish) and quality translation and interpreting services of the highest international standards.

TII will contribute to capacity building in the areas of scholarly research and translator training through its Postgraduate Studies, Research Center, Language Center and Professional Services, delivering a qualified cadre of high-level professionals within the region.

About Hamad bin Khalifa University

Hamad bin Khalifa University (HBKU), a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development, is an emerging research university building upon unique collaborations with local and international partners. Located in Education City, HBKU seeks to provide unparalleled opportunities for scholarship, teaching, discovery, and learning for all of its students through an array of interdisciplinary programs.

HBKU's partners are Virginia Commonwealth University in Qatar, Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar, Texas A&M University at Qatar, Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar, Northwestern University in Qatar, HEC Paris in Qatar, and UCL Qatar.