



QATAR FOUNDATION'S EDUCATION CITY: PERSONIFYING NATIONAL PROGRESS

Bespoke Campus Inspires Continued Quest For Knowledge And Diversification

Doha, Qatar, 15 December 2015: As part of the ongoing 20th anniversary commemoration of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF), a two-day architectural conference, entitled 'Learning from Education City', provided an excellent opportunity for QF to celebrate its architectural prowess, as well as showcase its marked progression as a model for international inspiration.

The event, which took place in Hamad bin Khalifa University's (HBKU's) Student Center and attracted 245 conference attendees, including 74 students, illustrated the inspiration and creativity behind many of QF's iconic developments. Highlighting QF's dedication to creating an environment that is dedicated to learning, the conference was a tangible demonstration of QF's commitment to unlocking human potential.

Ameena Ahmadi, Technical Director, Capital Projects, Qatar Foundation, commented on the event, saying: "We are very proud to be celebrating Qatar Foundation's 20th anniversary on an occasion where we can share a glimpse into the making of Education City. We hope that 'Learning from Education City' becomes an on-going platform encouraging discussion and debate to enrich the profession. There's a lot more to be shared and presented, and this year's conference is a great starting point."

Attendees were given the opportunity to explore a number of key campus landmarks, including Northwestern University in Qatar (NU-Q), Qatar National Library (QNL), and Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar (CMU-Q). Several of the tours were led by the signature architects involved in the respective projects, which provided a unique insight into distinguishable structural features and their underlying creative concepts.

Speakers such as Ibrahim Jaidah, who designed some of the first buildings in Education City, and Hiroshi Aoki and Karim Chahal, members of the team who created the first masterplan of Education City, were also in attendance, enriching the nostalgic quality of the event, as well as further celebrating QF's incredible journey from paper to fruition.

The conference was also attended by Pakistan's Ambassador to Qatar, Shahzad Ahmad; the President of Qatar Foundation, Engineer Saad Al Muhannadi; and the Deputy Chief Executive Officer of Qatar Rail, Engineer Hamad Al Bishri.

As a testament to the success of the commemorative gathering, QF are in the process of making the conference an on-going initiative. Undoubtedly, it will continue to attract the international attention of architectural specialists and designers as a platform to discuss, debate, and develop buildings which will maximise human potential, motivating learning and creativity essential for growth and development.

Image Caption:

Image 1: (Centre) Engineer Saad Al Muhannadi, President of Qatar Foundation, alongside the 'Learning from Education City' volunteer committee and guest speakers in the Qatar Foundation Headquarters.

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Qatar Foundation – Unlocking Human Potential

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science, and Community Development (QF) is a private, non-profit organisation that is supporting Qatar on its journey from carbon economy to knowledge economy by unlocking human potential, for the benefit of not only Qatar, but the world. QF was co-founded in 1995 by His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Father Amir, and Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, Qatar Foundation's Chairperson. QF's work encompasses education, research and community development. World-class universities are brought to Qatar to help create an education sector in which young people can develop the attitudes and skills required for a knowledge economy. At the same time, QF builds Qatar's innovation and technology capacity by developing and commercialising solutions through key sciences. The Foundation also works to foster a progressive society while enhancing cultural life, protecting Qatar's heritage and addressing immediate social needs in the community.

For a complete list of QF's initiatives and projects, visit <http://www.qf.org.qa>