



Press Release

## **REACH OUT TO ASIA VOLUNTEERS HOST COMMUNITY IFTARS IN AL KHOR AND AL SHAMAL FOR MUNICIPALITY LABOURERS**

*ROTA Iftars For Labourers Made Possible Thanks To Willing Volunteers And Generous Sponsorship From Occidental Petroleum Qatar*

**Doha, Qatar, 1 July 2015:** Reach Out To Asia (ROTA), a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF), has continued its busy Ramadan 2015 Project activities by organising two community Iftars for workers in Al Khor and Al Shamal.

Al Khor Municipality labourers enjoyed the first Iftar, whilst the second iftar was held for workers in the Al Shamal Municipality. On both occasions, around 30 ROTA volunteers and 80 workers attended the Iftars, which were funded by Occidental Petroleum Corporation, the exclusive sponsor of ROTA's Ramadan 2015 Project.

As a member of QF, ROTA believes in the importance of unlocking human potential as well as the development and power of human capacities. Its Ramadan initiative aims to raise local awareness of the value of volunteerism and community service, and is in-line with the Human and Social Development Pillars of the Qatar National Vision 2030.

In addition, ROTA's community Iftars present a unique opportunity for volunteers to actively engage with labourers and, through open and respectful communication, learn about their lives and families while sharing their own stories.

Moreover, the symbolic act of sharing Iftar represents a gesture of gratitude and acknowledgement of these labourers for their hard work and contribution to Qatari society. ROTA activities have an established reputation for bridging the gaps between different communities in Qatar while building a strong culture of dedicated community service among volunteers.

Mr Essa Al Mannai, ROTA's Executive Director, said: "For the ninth year in row, Reach Out to Asia continues to extend assistance to local communities and workers in recognition of their contribution to the prosperity of our society. I always thank Allah for the enthusiasm and commitment of ROTA's volunteers who share a common interest in giving back and are aware of the importance of engaging with all segments of society."

Al Mannai added: "I would like to thank the Municipalities' officials, who helped and cooperated with us to reward these workers. I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to



Occidental Petroleum Corporation, our exclusive sponsor for our Ramadan 2015 Project, who has been an invaluable partner over the past four years in supporting ROTA's community development initiatives."

For more information about ROTA, please visit: [www.reachouttoasia.org](http://www.reachouttoasia.org)

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*For further media information and interview requests please contact:*

Yasmin Shehata  
Grayling  
Telephone: +974 3362 1460  
Email: [yasmin.shehata@grayling.com](mailto:yasmin.shehata@grayling.com)

### **About ROTA**

Reach Out To Asia is a non-profit organization launched in December 2005 in Doha, Qatar, by Her Excellency Sheikha Al Mayassa bint Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani. Operating under the auspices of the Qatar Foundation, ROTA is committed to providing high quality and relevant primary and secondary education, encouraging relationships among communities, creating safe learning environments and restoring education in crisis affected areas across Asia and around the world. ROTA envisions a world, where all young people have access to the education they need in order for them to realize their full potential and shape the development of their communities.

For more information about Reach Out To Asia, please visit: [www.reachouttoasia.org](http://www.reachouttoasia.org)

### **About Qatar Foundation**

#### **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. Founded in 1995 by His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Father Amir, QF is chaired by Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser.

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.