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REACH OUT TO ASIA'S 'ELEVATE TO EDUCATE' WINS THE HEARTS OF DONORS FOR ITS CHARITY MOUNTAIN CLIMB

Qatar Foundation Member Raises More Than QAR 2 Million For Palestinian Children

Doha, Qatar, 26 October 2014: Reach Out To Asia (ROTA), a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF), today (Sunday) announced more than QAR 2 million has been raised for Palestinian children following the successful 'Elevate to Educate' charity challenge.

Twelve young Qatari volunteers climbed Mount Kilimanjaro in Kenya, Africa's highest mountain. And, in doing so, supported QF's mission to provide world-class education and foster a progressive society by addressing immediate social needs.

The adventure trip was mentored and led by the official ambassador of ROTA, His Excellency Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulla Al Thani, a seasoned mountaineer and the first Qatari to reach the peak of Mount Everest, the world's highest mountain.

ROTA is Qatar's leading non-profit education and community development organisation, committed to providing quality education in communities and creating safe learning environments.

Speaking at a press conference today (Sunday), ROTA's Executive Director, Essa Al Mannai, said: "This has been an incredible journey for the 12 young climbers.

"And all I can say is that I am extremely proud of each and every one of them. They have climbed the highest mountain in Africa to help secure quality education for their brothers and sisters in Palestine. We at ROTA will now do everything in our power to support their courage and positive spirit by ensuring that their efforts have a lasting and meaningful impact."

Commenting on the volunteers' dedication and effort, His Excellency Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulla Al Thani, said: "I am extremely proud of all the climbers who stepped out of their comfort zones, battled against wind and sub-zero temperatures for their country and for the children of Palestine.

“Everyone obtained something back from the mountain that will forever change their lives. I hope to guide more of the youth in Qatar to experience standing on top of a mountain and more importantly, to give back to their community.”

The official sponsor of the Elevate to Educate Challenge was El Jaish Sports Club, with Qatar National Bank (QNB), Zidans Real Estate, Qatar Academy, Qatar International School and Al Jazeera Academy as Gold Sponsors, and Qatar Financial Center and Qatar Olympic & Sports Museum as Platinum sponsors.

The young climbers included: Maryam Al Thani, Asma Al Thani, Noor Al Thani, Bashaer Al Mulla, Dana Al-Anzy, Aisha Al-Naama, Mohammed Al-Naama, Yacoub Alyacoub, Nasser Bin Marzook, Bader Elmadani, Mohammed Fakhro, and Yazan Abughaida.

Dr Thani Abdulrahman Al Kuwari, General Secretary and Executive Director of El Jaish Sports Club, also spoke at the press conference, adding: “As the Official Sponsor of Elevate to Educate, El Jaish Sports Club and its fans are enabling a brighter future for children in Palestine by investing in education and supporting ROTA’s leading and long-running programmes there.

He added, “El Jaish's responsibility is to reinforce the importance of education, especially in countries that suffer from poverty and turmoil. I would like to thank the President of the club HE Hamad Bin Ali Al Attiyah, Minister of Defence, for his continuous support for the young generations and sports. I would like to congratulate the young participants for their successful accomplishment and encourage them to keep up their devotion for good causes around the world.”

ENDS

How to Donate

Online: <https://www.justgiving.com/teams/elevate2educate>

Text: Send ‘E2E’ to 92678 to donate QR 10 to Gaza

For more information on the initiative, visit: <https://www.justgiving.com/rota>

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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 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 the access to the education they need in order for them to realize their full potential and shape the development of their communities.

Further information on Reach Out To Asia can be found at www.reachouttoasia.org

About Qatar Foundation

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science, and Community Development (QF) is a private, non-profit organization that supports Qatar on its journey from a carbon economy to a knowledge-based economy by unlocking human potential, for the benefit of Qatar and the world. Founded in 1995 by His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Father Emir, 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 commercializing 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.