

برنامج الجسر الأكاديمي Academic Bridge Program

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## PRESS RELEASE

The ABP gathers QR56,000 to donate to Qatar Charity to build a school in Somalia

Qatar Foundation's Academic Bridge Program (ABP) was successful lately in raising QR56, 000 to donate to Qatar Charity. The money will go towards building an elementary school in Somalia. This is the second time that the ABP raises funds for a school; for in 2011, the ABP managed to raise QR 30,000 for Reach Out To Asia (ROTA) to rebuild a school in Pakistan.

Fund raising started at the very beginning of this academic year (2013-2014), when Ms. Moza Al Boainain, Assistant Director for Students Services at the ABP sought the help of her hugely popular "Social Services and Volunteering" club to raise funds for a worthy cause-to build a school in Somalia. The school was identified by her and Qatar Charity as a viable charity project. So, with the help of the club and the Student Services department a number of activities were launched to raise awareness amongst ABP students and faculty of the needs of others and to encourage people to donate to the cause. One of the projects was a bake sale and the other was the ABP Charity Carnival that took place on Sunday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at the Las building in Education City.

A large number of students, faculty and staff, and their families attended. Some ABP alumni were also present. The ABP also welcomed celebrity and BeIn Sport Broadcaster and Ambassador of Qatar Charity and Audi, Mr. Mohammed Saadon Al-Kuwari. Mr. Kuwari gave a short motivational speech to the attendees about his experience with charity work and the importance of giving back to the community.



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Among those who donated to the "build a school in Somalia" cause were, Mamig Lebanese and Armenian Restaurant in Katara and Red Velvet Cupcakery, also in Katara, who donated prizes, and Qatar Star Catering, who donated lunch boxes.

The carnival was packed with games and activities, such as: face-painting; a mega slide; food & gifts; flowers; and hand crafted boxes and cards made by ABP students.

This collaborative effort not only achieved its goal of raising a significant amount of money but it also provided everyone with a day of fun, games, good food, and enjoyment. The fundraiser was also a good learning curve for ABP students. By getting them actively involved in a charity fundraising campaign, it is hoped that this experience will be the first of many in giving others such a priceless gift – the gift of bringing education to those less fortunate.

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Note to editor:

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