

Msheireb Mosque at Msheireb Downtown Doha receives 'Abdullatif Alfozan Award for Mosque Architecture'

Doha, Qatar, 15th March, 2017: Msheireb Mosque, located in the heritage quarter of Msheireb Downtown Doha (MDD), has been awarded the prestigious 'Abdullatif Alfozan Award for Mosque Architecture' which honors mosques in the GCC for their sustainability and architectural features.

Msheireb Mosque has won the award, thanks to its adoption of new technologies and meticulously planned architectural features that helped it to surpass 122 other mosques nominated for the award. The design of the building is based on traditional Qatari mosques, which have for centuries used orientation, shading, natural ventilation and water to create comfortable environments for prayer and worship.

The building has received the Gold LEED accreditation for its effective energy conservation, along with the quality of its design. It incorporates a tailored daylight design, to create dynamic sun patches inspired by Qatari motifs within the main hall during prayer hours, and needs no artificial lighting during daytime hours. Embracing key principles of Islamic art, geometric patterns and designs, Msheireb Mosque fuses modernist ideas with a historically familiar arrangement of Islamic volumes, spaces and thresholds.

Eng. Abdulla Hassan Al Mehshadi, Chief Executive Officer at Msheireb Properties, said, "We are honored to receive the 'Abdullatif Alfozan Award for Mosque Architecture' which recognises the architecture of the mosque and its sustainable features. The award underlines Msheireb Properties' commitment towards sustainability and demonstrates our support of the main pillars of Qatar Vision 2030. It also demonstrates our success at combining new technology and traditional architectural language to create modern buildings that are sensitive to their surroundings and enhance the local landscape."

Eng. Ibrahim Al Jida, Chief Executive Officer at Arab Engineering Bureau, the executive architectural and engineering office of the project said: "We are delighted to have won the Al Fozan award. Msheireb Mosque and its courtyard have been built to create an urban oasis, a peaceful place to pray away from the hustle and bustle of the nearby streets. Wherever possible, we have utilised the country's unique environmental conditions, such as year-long sunshine, to create an aesthetically pleasing place of worship and at the same time conserves energy and resources."

With its new design and architecture concept, Msheireb Mosque was inaugurated in Ramadan 2016. The mosque is located within Phase 1 of Msheireb Down Town, and spread over an area of 1,400 sqm. Easily accessible from around the Msheireb neighbourhood and the adjoining souq area, the mosque has prayer halls for both men and women and accommodates 600 worshippers. It also has a dedicated parking area and lifts from the basement.

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About Msheireb Properties

Msheireb Properties is a real estate company and a subsidiary of Qatar Foundation. The company was established as a commercial venture to support the Foundation's aims as well as the realisation of Qatar's 2030 Vision.

Msheireb Properties' mission is to change the way people think about urban living and improve their overall quality of life, through innovations that encourage social interaction, respect for culture, and greater care for the environment.

Msheireb Properties spent three years researching Qatari architecture and numerous approaches to urban planning all over the world with the most respected experts in the industry – in order to realise an architectural language rooted in the best of the past that may be preserved for and by future generations.

The company's name, Msheireb, means 'a place to drink water' and is the historical name of the downtown area of Doha. The company's corporate identity depicts the mouth of a stone well, a feature of traditional Gulf societies, and its distinct ink effect evokes classical Arabic calligraphy.

Msheireb Properties recently achieved ISO certification from the British Standards Institution for quality (ISO 9001:2008), environmental performance (ISO 14001:2004), and occupational health, safety (BS OHSAS 18001:2007) and international ISO 31000:2009 Risk Management Standard.

About Msheireb Downtown Doha

The "Msheireb Downtown Doha" (MDD) project aims to create a legacy for sustainable urban development in Qatar by reviving the old commercial district of Doha with a new architectural language



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that is modern, yet inspired by traditional Qatari heritage and design. The entire development is designed to consume fewer resources, generate less waste, lower costs and achieve a reduced carbon footprint. On completion, MDD will be the world's largest certified sustainable community with over 100 commercial buildings, 900 residential units accommodating more than 2,600 residents and over 10,255 car parking spaces. The 310,000 square meter development can host over 60,000 visitors. All the planned buildings meet the LEED Gold standard for environment performance and some buildings will aim for a Platinum rating.

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