



عضو في مؤسسة قطر  
Member of Qatar Foundation

## Academic Bridge Program برنامج الجسر الأكاديمي

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*(For immediate release)*

### PRESS RELEASE

#### *QF's Academic Bridge Program's Thirteenth Graduation Ceremony*

***The biggest day on the calendar of QF's Academic Bridge Program (ABP) – the premier English language university foundation program in Qatar - has finally arrived. Dedicated faculty and staff, proud parents and around 160 excited graduates celebrated the ABP's Thirteenth Graduation Ceremony this Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at the Qatar National Convention Center (QNCC).***

The class of 2014 brings the total number of ABP graduates to over 2650. More than 80% of the graduating class of 2014 is Qatari and the remaining 20% come from 17 different nationalities. The number of girls in the ABP this year is higher, reaching about 70%.

Around 40% of this year's graduating class has been accepted to one of more of Hamad Bin Khalifa University's (HBKU) partner universities. In total, about 90% of ABP graduates will have gained admissions to English language universities both here in Qatar and abroad, mostly the UK or the US.

After the procession of students and faculty into the theater at QNCC, the Qatari national anthem was played followed by a recitation of the holy Quran, by ABP student Ahmad Abdulwahab Al-Motawa. Dr. Miles Lovelace, Director of the Academic Bridge Program gave his comments on the class of 2014 and this was followed by opening remarks from the President of the Student Association, Nouran Allam.

The keynote speeches were given by two ABP graduates: Qatari national, Dr. Aisha Yousuf, who graduated from the ABP in 2002, has gone on to graduate from Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar and is now working as a doctor at Sidra Hospital; and Dr. Saad Kuba from Iraq, who was the 2008 ABP class valedictorian & who has just graduated this year (2014) also from Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar graduate.

This year's Valedictorian was Qatari student, Al-Maha Al-Neama who was the 1<sup>st</sup> in the class academically. The Salutatorian (2<sup>nd</sup> in the class, academically) was Egyptian student Ahmed Hussein Mohamed.



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As one of the centers of the Qatar Foundation, the ABP has served over 2650 young men and women who have attended the English language foundation program over the past 13 years.

Since 2001, the ABP has developed a model curriculum including English, math, science, and computer skills, combined with a wide range of other activities such as debate, MUN, clubs, school newspaper, sports teams, and student government experience. The ABP also organizes several training courses in IELTS, SAT and ACT, and created “The English Room” to help students enhance their English language skills.

Students who perform well at the ABP and meet basic university admission requirements have the opportunity to enter directly into the first year of undergraduate programs at a number of universities in the U.K. and Germany. In addition, students interested in joining certain universities in Qatar may be given credit for courses they took at the ABP. In 2011, the ABP was awarded five years accreditation by the Commission on English Language Accreditation (CEA) in the United States. This makes it easier to fast-track ABP graduates into universities in the United States without the need for them to complete a university foundation year.

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