



For Immediate Release

ROTA Goodwill Ambassador H.E. Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdullah Al Thani Raises First Qatari Flag on South Pole to Celebrate Qatar National Day

Doha, Qatar, December 19, 2014: After leading the first group of Qatari climbers to the summit of Mount Everest to raise Qatar's flag, H.E. Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdullah Al Thani, Reach Out To Asia (ROTA) Goodwill Ambassador, became the first Qatari to reach the South Pole, where he planted a flag to commemorate National Day.

As part of a two-week excursion titled "*Ski the last degree to the South Pole, bottom of the world,*" Sheikh Mohammed skied from the 89th degree to the 90th degree - traveling approximately 60 nautical miles across windswept terrain and below freezing temperatures to the geographical South Pole.

Sheikh Mohammed commented on the trip saying: "I am extremely proud to be the first Qatari to raise the flag of Qatar on the South Pole. Very few people have been privileged to visit the South Pole. This milestone, I hope, will continue to inspire young people in Qatar as we celebrate our beloved National Day."

As a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF), ROTA contributes greatly towards QF's mission to unlock human potential. ROTA's approach to achieving this is through enhancing skills development, using its sport-based educational programs as a tool for the rehabilitation of children and youth who suffer from wars, political disturbances



and Nature's disasters. And this is the core for sheikh Mohammed Al Thani's visit, which is advocacy for Education.

Mr. Essa Al Manaai, ROTA Executive Director, congratulated Sheikh Mohammed Al Thani saying, "ROTA extends its gratitude to our Goodwill Ambassador, Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdullah Al Thani, who became the first Qatari to raise the flag of Qatar on the South Pole. He is also the first Qatari to raise the flag on Mount Everest. I congratulate not only Sheikh Mohammed but Qatar's extraordinary youth who continue to inspire us as leaders in the community."

Reach Out To Asia is a non-profit organisation committed to providing access to high quality 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 to realize their full potential and shape the development of their communities as role models.

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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 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

About Qatar Foundation

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science, and Community Development (QF) is a private, non-profit organization 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 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.



مؤسسة قطر
Qatar Foundation



REACH OUT TO ASIA
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