

PRESS RELEASE

VODAFONE AWARDS WINNERS OF ITS 2ND LITERARY COMPETITION

Doha, 12 March 2015: Vodafone held an awards ceremony today for the winners of its 2nd literary competition, under the auspices of H.E Dr. Hamad Bin Abdulaziz Al Kuwari, the Minister of Culture and Heritage. The competition, titled “I treated you with honesty, guidance and integrity”, which comes from a verse in a poem written by Qatar’s founder Sheikh Jassim Bin Mohammed Al-Thani, was launched on the 14th of December 2014 in line with the theme of the last Qatar National Day celebrations.

Present at the event was H.E Dr. Hamad Bin Abdulaziz Al Kuwari, the Minister of Culture and Heritage, H.E Sheikh Dr. Khalid Bin Thani Al Thani, Chairman of Vodafone Qatar and Mr. Kyle Whitehill, Chief Executive Officer of Vodafone Qatar. They handed over the trophies and certificates to the winners in addition to appreciation mementos to those who ensured that the initiative achieved resounding success. The ceremony also witnessed an outstanding performance by award winning sand drawing artist Shaima Al Mughairy and a poem by the writer Mohammed Yacoub Al Yousef inspired by the competition’s title.

In the award ceremony’s opening note, Mohammed Al Yami, Director of External Affairs at Vodafone Qatar, said “ What started out as a humble idea to play a role in reviving and preserving the heritage of Qatar which is key to the Qatar National Vision 2030, now in its 2nd year, Vodafone’s literary Competition has undoubtedly grown to become a successful means to preserve the Arabic language and encourage creative writing which are important threads of our Arab culture and tradition. In addition, it is very meaningful that this competition, which annually coincides with our beloved country’s national day, is giving both citizens and residents a means to express their love for this great nation.”

“We’re very proud of the response and praise this initiative has gained from both Qatar’s literary experts and the public which motivates us to grow this competition bigger and better each year. We are also extremely grateful for the support and encouragement we have received from H.E Dr Hamad Bin Abdulaziz Al Kuwari, Culture and Heritage, which has been essential to the success of this initiative.”

“I would like to congratulate all the winners and thank everybody who took part in the competition. I would also like to thank the competition’s judges and everybody who worked on making the competition a success.” Al Yami concluded.

The winners in the competition’s story collection category are:

- 1st place and winner of the QR 50,000 prize is Alaa Abdelmonem Ibrahim
- 2nd place and winner of the QR 30,000 prize is Usama Abdelfatah Al Shazly
- 3rd place and winner of the QR 20,000 prize is Shamaa Shaheen Al Kuwari

The winners in the competition’s short story category are:

- 1st place and winner of the QR 20,000 prize is Hajaj Ramadan Nassar
- 2nd place and winner of the QR 15,000 prize is Mohammed Saif El Dawla
- 3rd place and winner of the QR 10,000 prize is Ahmed Ibrahim Abualala

Vodafone received more than 120 submissions for the competition which were subsequently assessed by an independent panel of judges, headed by Dr Fatima Al Suwaidi, who is also Assistant Dean of Outreach & Engagement- College of Arts & Sciences at Qatar University.

The winning submissions will be posted on Vodafone’s website and social media for the public to enjoy reading.

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About Vodafone Qatar Q.S.C

Vodafone Qatar Q.S.C. ("Vodafone Qatar"), part of one of the world’s largest telecommunications group, the Vodafone Group, is the holder of the Second Public Mobile and Fixed Telecommunications Networks and Services License in the State of Qatar.

Vodafone Qatar switched on its mobile network on 1 March 2009 and shortly after started delivering great value to its customers with a range of exciting products and services. Having built a world class converged IP network, Vodafone launched fibre-based consumer and enterprise fixed-line services commercially in October 2012.

Vodafone's objective is to be one of the most admired brands in Qatar and the Company is committed to providing world class telecommunications infrastructure to support Qatar National Vision 2030. Effective January 2015, Vodafone Qatar has become fully compliant with Islamic Sharia practices throughout its business, including commercial and financial operations.

Please visit www.vodafone.qa for more details.

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