Study documents advances in high-speed genetic diagnosis. P4-5

Cover Story

Swift score

Showbiz

Farah's Mrs. Serial Killer to have no song, no dance. Page 15

Back Page

QBWA celebrates works of successful Qatari women. Page 16
**PRAYER TIME**

- **Fajr**: 3.36am
- **Shoroq (sunrise)**: 5am
- **Zuhur (noon)**: 11.33am
- **Aar (afternoon)**: 3.01pm
- **Maghreb (sunset)**: 6.05pm
- **Isha (night)**: 7.35pm

**USEFUL NUMBERS**

- **Emergency**: 999
- **Worldwide Emergency Number**: 112
- **Kahramaa – Electricity and Water**: 991
- **Local Directory**: 180
- **International Calls Enquirers**: 150
- **Hamad International Airport**: 40106666
- **Labor Department**: 44508111, 44406537
- **Mowasalat Taxi**: 44588888
- **Qatar Airways**: 44496000
- **Hamad Medical Corporation**: 44392222, 44393333
- **Qatar General Electricity and Water Corporation**: 44845555, 44845464
- **Primary Health Care Corporation**: 44593333, 44593363
- **Qatar Assistive Technology Centre**: 4493363
- **Qatar News Agency**: 44450205, 44450333
- **Q-Post – General Postal Corporation**: 44464444

**Humanitarian Services Office**

(Single window facility for the repatriation of bodies)

- **Ministry of Interior**: 40233371, 40253372, 40253369
- **Ministry of Health**: 40253370, 40253364
- **Hamad Medical Corporation**: 40253364, 40253365
- **Qatar Airways**: 40253374

---

**Quote Unquote**

“A positive attitude causes a chain reaction of positive thoughts, events and outcomes. It is a catalyst and it sparks extraordinary results.”

— Wade Boggs

---

**Community Editor**

Kamran Rehmat

e-mail: community@gulf-times.com

Telephone: 44466405

Fax: 44350474

---

**Athiran**

**DIRECTION**: Vivek

**CAST**: Fahadh Faasil, Sai Pallavi, Atul Kulkarni

**SYNOPSIS**: In an isolated hospital in the high ranges of Kerala, an autistic patient with special skills piques the interest of a psychiatrist, whose investigation into her past leads to startling revelations.

**THEATRES**: The Mall, Landmark, Royal Plaza

---

**Missing Link**

**DIRECTION**: Chris Butler

**CAST**: Hugh Jackman, David Walliams, Stephen Fry

**SYNOPSIS**: Tired of living a solitary life in the Pacific Northwest, Mr Link, who is 8 feet tall and covered in fur, recruits fearless explorer Sir Lionel Frost to guide him on a journey to find his long-lost relatives in the fabled valley of Shangri-La. Along with adventurer Adelina Fortnight, the trio encounters their fair share of peril as they travel to the far reaches of the world. Through it all, they learn that sometimes one can find a family in the places one least expects.

**THEATRES**: The Mall, Royal Plaza

---

**The Mall Cinema (1)**: Avengers: Endgame (2D) 2pm; Avengers: Endgame (2D) 5pm; Avengers: Endgame (2D) 8pm; Avengers: Endgame (2D) 11:15pm.

**The Mall Cinema (2)**: Athiran (Malayalam) 2pm; Avengers: Endgame (2D) 4:45pm; Avengers: Endgame (2D) 7:30pm; Avengers: Endgame (2D) 10:45pm.

**The Mall Cinema (3)**: Strike (2D) 2:30pm; Missing Link (2D) 4:15pm; Avengers: Endgame (2D) 6pm; Athiran (Malayalam) 9pm; Oru Yamandan PremaKadha (Malayalam) 11:30pm.

**Landmark Cinema (1)**: Athiran (Malayalam) 2:15pm; Strike (2D) 4:45pm; Strike (2D) 6:30pm; Oru Yamandan PremaKadha (Malayalam) 8:15pm; Kanchana 3 (Tamil) 11:15pm.

**Landmark Cinema (2)**: Strike (2D) 2:30pm; Madhura Raja (Malayalam) 4:30pm; Avengers: Endgame (2D) 7:30pm; Avengers: Endgame (2D) 11pm.

**Landmark Cinema (3)**: Avengers: Endgame 2pm; Avengers: Endgame (2D) 5pm; Avengers: Endgame (2D) 8:15pm; Oru Yamandan PremaKadha (Malayalam) 11pm.

**Royal Plaza Cinema Palace (1)**: Strike (2D) 2:15pm; Avengers: Endgame (3D) 4:15pm; Avengers: Endgame (2D) 7:30pm; Avengers: Endgame (2D) 11pm.

**Royal Plaza Cinema Palace (2)**: Kanchana 3 (Tamil) 2:15pm; Missing Link (2D) 5:15 pm; Oru Yamandan PremaKadha (Malayalam) 7pm; Ajax vs Tottenham Hotspur live.

**Royal Plaza Cinema Palace (3)**: Athiran (Malayalam) 2:30pm; Avengers: Endgame (2D) 5pm; Avengers: Endgame (2D) 8:15 pm; Athiran (Malayalam) 11:30pm.
**EVENTS**

**Islamic Design Workshop**
WHERE: Artist Cafe
WHEN: Tomorrow
TIME: 6pm – 9pm

Ramadan is around the corner. Let’s create a festive mood in our homes and our hearts. At the Islamic Design workshop, you will learn interesting facts about this design, draw and paint it. You will be using professional art materials that guarantee long life of your artwork. The groups are small, hurry up to reserve a place.

**Syria Matters Exhibition**
WHERE: Museum of Islamic Art
WHEN: Ongoing till tomorrow
TIME: 9am – 7pm

Museum of Islamic Art (MIA) in Doha presents a major exhibition, co-curated by MIA Director Dr Julia Gonnella and Rania Abdellatif, as part of the MIA ten-year anniversary celebrations.

**Artistic Gymnastic Classes**
WHERE: Qatar Academy Msheireb
WHEN: Ongoing
TIME: 3:15pm – 4:15pm

The olympic sport using horizontal bar, rings and floor exercises on mats for the children from age 4 till 16.

**Cycling: Losail Circuit Sports Club**
WHERE: Losail Circuit
WHEN: Ongoing
TIME: 5pm

Losail Circuit Sports Club, in association with Qatar Sports For All Federation, invites all cyclists, runners and walkers to train under the floodlights of Losail International Circuit every Wednesdays.

**Syria Matters Exhibition**
WHERE: Museum of Islamic Art
WHEN: Ongoing
TIME: 9am – 7pm

Museum of Islamic Art (MIA) in Doha presents a major exhibition, co-curated by MIA Director Dr Julia Gonnella and Rania Abdellatif, as part of the MIA ten-year anniversary celebrations.

**Islamic Design Workshop**
WHERE: Artist Cafe
WHEN: Tomorrow
TIME: 6pm – 9pm

Ramadan is around the corner. Let’s create a festive mood in our homes and our hearts. At the Islamic Design workshop, you will learn interesting facts about this design, draw and paint it. You will be using professional art materials that guarantee long life of your artwork. The groups are small, hurry up to reserve a place.

**Syria Matters Exhibition**
WHERE: Museum of Islamic Art
WHEN: Ongoing till tomorrow
TIME: 9am – 7pm

Museum of Islamic Art (MIA) in Doha presents a major exhibition, co-curated by MIA Director Dr Julia Gonnella and Rania Abdellatif, as part of the MIA ten-year anniversary celebrations.

**Artistic Gymnastic Classes**
WHERE: Qatar Academy Msheireb
WHEN: Ongoing
TIME: 3:15pm – 4:15pm

The olympic sport using horizontal bar, rings and floor exercises on mats for the children from age 4 till 16.

**Cycling: Losail Circuit Sports Club**
WHERE: Losail Circuit
WHEN: Ongoing
TIME: 5pm

Losail Circuit Sports Club, in association with Qatar Sports For All Federation, invites all cyclists, runners and walkers to train under the floodlights of Losail International Circuit every Wednesdays.

**Syria Matters Exhibition**
WHERE: Museum of Islamic Art
WHEN: Ongoing
TIME: 9am – 7pm

Museum of Islamic Art (MIA) in Doha presents a major exhibition, co-curated by MIA Director Dr Julia Gonnella and Rania Abdellatif, as part of the MIA ten-year anniversary celebrations.

**Artistic Gymnastic Classes**
WHERE: Qatar Academy Msheireb
WHEN: Ongoing
TIME: 3:15pm – 4:15pm

The olympic sport using horizontal bar, rings and floor exercises on mats for the children from age 4 till 16.

**Cycling: Losail Circuit Sports Club**
WHERE: Losail Circuit
WHEN: Ongoing
TIME: 5pm

Losail Circuit Sports Club, in association with Qatar Sports For All Federation, invites all cyclists, runners and walkers to train under the floodlights of Losail International Circuit every Wednesdays.

**Syria Matters Exhibition**
WHERE: Museum of Islamic Art
WHEN: Ongoing
TIME: 9am – 7pm

Museum of Islamic Art (MIA) in Doha presents a major exhibition, co-curated by MIA Director Dr Julia Gonnella and Rania Abdellatif, as part of the MIA ten-year anniversary celebrations.

**Artistic Gymnastic Classes**
WHERE: Qatar Academy Msheireb
WHEN: Ongoing
TIME: 3:15pm – 4:15pm

The olympic sport using horizontal bar, rings and floor exercises on mats for the children from age 4 till 16.
Within a day

Advances in genetic sequencing alongside much-faster analysis through artificial intelligence, can deliver results in under 24 hours, writes Paul Sisson

Having already set a Guinness world record for delivering a gene-based diagnosis in 19.5 hours, the Rady Children’s Institute for Genomic Medicine now must show that such speedy results are possible for the estimated 80,000 American children in need of such workups each year.

Toward that end, a coalition of researchers led by Dr. Stephen Kingsmore, the institute’s president and chief executive, published a study in the respected medical journal Science Translational Medicine that shows similar speed for 10 patients, illustrating that recent advances in genetic sequencing alongside much-faster analysis through artificial intelligence, can deliver results in under 24 hours.

That’s fast enough, authors note, for a doctor to order a genetic workup during their morning rounds and get the results the following morning.

Such speed, even at Rady, has previously been available only in one-off situations that couldn’t be replicated on a grand enough scale to serve thousands of patients per year. But, Kingsmore says, pulling together products from a handful of cutting-edge companies, including Illumina Inc., San Diego’s home-grown sequencing juggernaut, have delivered speed that scales.

“It was very much that we had built a Ferrari, but you couldn’t use it as a daily driver,” Kingsmore said. “This is the daily driver we’ve been striving for.”

From mid-2016 through September 2018, the institute ran four different trials around genetic sequencing of children and infants, enrolling a total of 401 with unexplained symptoms. Most of those, Kingsmore noted, have had their genomes sequenced and analysed at speeds that far exceed what’s available anywhere else, but which are still slower than necessary to deliver a one-day turnaround time.

In order to go faster and to serve more patients simultaneously, Kingsmore said, it is necessary to automate the laborious process of connecting the genetic mutations that sequencing detects with the observed symptoms and signs in each patient’s electronic medical record.

The team has turned to natural language processing and machine learning — two disciplines in the broad world of artificial intelligence — to accomplish that goal.

A trial with 95 children enrolled compared the results of artificial intelligence diagnosis to traditional “manual” analysis by a trained professional and found that the AI solution was as good or better than human competition at this tedious task.

— Dr. Stephen Kingsmore, president of Rady Children’s Institute for Genomic Medicine

It was very much that we had built a Ferrari, but you couldn’t use it as a daily driver. This is the daily driver we’ve been striving for

Dr. Stephen Kingsmore at the Rady Children’s Institute for Genomic Medicine Guinness, which set the world record for delivering a gene-based diagnosis in 19.5 hours.
After the trial verified that the AI method was accurate, 10 patients subsequently got the full-bore high-speed workup which, according to study results, was capable of making a diagnosis in a mean time of 20 hours and 10 minutes, less than half the time needed when analysis was performed manually.

It’s important to note that even without the automation steps, Rady’s workflow is faster than can be found pretty much anywhere else. Kingsmore said typical turnaround times for a whole genome sequence and diagnosis is six weeks, with some labs that have adopted rapid sequencing techniques now able to handle the work in two to four weeks.

The data in the paper got the attention of Dr Micheil Innes, a clinical geneticist at Alberta Children’s Hospital in Canada and a professor of medical genetics at the University of Calgary. Though he said that the medical community will definitely need to see such high-speed diagnoses in a large number of patients for the standard of care to change, it appears that Rady’s results, if they stand up to the hard light of scientific scrutiny, could push medicine closer to the widely held dream of quick gene-driven diagnosis.

The idea of automating away the tedium of sifting through medical records and sequencing results to find the right diagnosis among many possibilities, he said, does have its appeal.

“I don’t think we’re ready to hand all of this work off to automation yet, but if you eliminate some of the time that we currently spend validating results, then that would be significant,” Innes said. “I think that, as a clinician, my time is better spent at the bedside than staring at a computer monitor.”

Kingsmore said that the current workflow his team uses does not eliminate physician oversight. After a diagnosis is selected from many possibilities, a doctor with significant genetic training still needs to spend about an hour reviewing the results to make sure that what the AI has come up with is reasonable according to their medical knowledge. But, he said, doing the same work manually takes a trained and experienced professional 10 hours or more.

The paper’s authors liken the automation involved in Rady’s high-speed analysis method to the autopilot computers commonly used on airplanes. They’re there to eliminate monotony but only under the supervision of experts.

“One hundred six years after the invention of the autopilot, however, two pilots are still employed in cockpits of commercial aircraft. Likewise, a skilled team will still be required to curate the literature and make tough decisions/classifications for the foreseeable future,” the paper states.

The time gains that Rady has realised are not just about artificial intelligence. They also incorporate the latest Illumina sequencers which, Kingsmore said, can reliably analyse five human genomes in less than 16 hours compared to previous equipment that took about 26 hours to process the DNA of just a single patient.

Rady is also using dried blood samples routinely collected from the heels of every newborn to do its analysis, an aspect of the study that fascinated genetic counsellor Erica Ramos. A former Illumina employee now working with an East Coast healthcare system but still living in San Diego, Ramos said the ability to consistently do whole-genome analysis on samples from dried blood spots is new and intriguing.

“The idea of collecting a little drop of blood and being able to run a genome off of that is pretty amazing and could have big implications for the availability of genetic testing,” Ramos said.

Though Rady has obtained its high-speed results in infants and children who often need quick diagnoses due to life-threatening inherited illnesses, especially seizures, there’s no reason why speed couldn’t benefit adults.

Genetics can help determine how a patient’s individual metabolism will handle one drug over another, and that information can sometimes be needed quickly when symptoms present themselves. A heart condition called Fanconi Anemia, for example, can make patients who develop certain blood cancers extremely sensitive to chemotherapy. A quick genetic diagnosis for these patients, she said, could make a big difference in which treatment a doctor chooses.

“The typical turnaround time for testing such as this in many labs is seven to 14 days or more, so having the ability to get results quickly would certainly avoid pain and suffering and severe complications,” Ramos said, noting that the test for Fanconi Anemia is less robust than a whole-genome sequence and thus quicker.

Kingsmore said that the idea of rapid sequencing for adults is not theoretical. An East Coast hospital, he said, has already sent over blood samples from 50 heart patients who could benefit from a quick turnaround. — The San Diego Union-Tribune/TNS

“I don’t think we’re ready to hand all of this work off to automation yet, but if you eliminate some of the time that we currently spend validating results, then that would be significant”

– Dr Micheil Innes, clinical geneticist

“The idea of collecting a little drop of blood and being able to run a genome off of that is pretty amazing and could have big implications for the availability of genetic testing”

– Erica Ramos, genetic counsellor
Embassy of India organises cultural event

The Embassy of India recently organised a cultural event featuring a performance by Amrapali Repertory, a 14-member Indian cultural troupe, as part of Qatar-India Year of Culture at DPS-Modern Indian School Auditorium. The troupe showcased the richness and variety of dance forms of North-Eastern India. The performances were composed and choreographed by Pranaame Bhagawati and Jayanta Bhagawati, and were presented in 8 parts.

Shankh Naad:
This is a musical welcome to the performance rendition with the Khol (drum) and Taal (cymbals) traditionally known as Gayan Bayan of Assam, followed by the Bhortaal Nritya (dance performed with the cymbals) of Assam.

Nritya Darpan:
Nritya Darpan is an effort to put together some of the Indian classical dances onto a common platform. The varied classical forms presented, include Kathak, Bharatnatyam, Satnrya and Manjuri dances.

Geet Bahaar:
Songs bring peace and happiness and with different phases of time, a varied flavour generated with the mood of songs. Geet Bahaar is a blend of traditional songs (Tokari Geet) of Assam.

Jhumur Folk Dance:
Jhumur is the folk dance tradition of the tea garden community in Assam. The performers hold hands and tap their feet together in a melodious performance.

Albeela Sajan:
This is an abhinaya (expression) based composition, exhibiting welcoming gestures together with expressions of joy and ecstasy through dance.

Purvayu:
Purvayu is a presentation consisting of folk songs and colourful folk dances of Assam. The music flows like a river whilst changing its course from one folk tradition to another, like Goalporia dance and Bodo dance.

Musical Rendition:
This musical rendition is clubbed with the most prominent folk musical instruments of Assam and Hindustani classical musical instruments. The presentation neatly weaves the different musical patterns and brings forth an amalgamated rhythmic melody.

Bihu Folk Dance:
Assam is known for its famous folk dance – Bihu. The body movements synchronise with the traditional drum’s rhythm and melodious Pepa (wind instrument). The dance also represents the costliest Muga silk of Assam, which the dancers wear beautifully while dancing.

ICAI-Doha Chapter organises 23rd Annual Cricket Tournament 2019

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) – Doha Chapter recently organised its three-week-long 23rd Cricket Tournament. Nine teams, including two ladies team participated in the tournament. On the final day of the tournament, the evening kicked off with a ladies match between Team Gulf Incon, captained by Neethu Jith, and Team Parex Global, captained by Usha Ravishankar.Batting first, Team Parex won the match by 41 runs from Gulf Incon. Apexa was awarded the player of the Match for her all-round contribution.

The second match of the evening was the final between Team Aster Hospital and Medical Centre, captained by Arun Somnath, and Team Kreston SVP Chartered Accountants, captained by Shej Valiyakath. The men’s final cricket match was a culmination of 3 weeks of cricket matches played between 7 teams to decide the 2 finalists. Team Kreston SVP Chartered Accountants won the tournament with 6 runs. Arun Somnath was awarded as the man of the match and the man of the series for his all-round performance.

Khalid Fakhroo, Head of Facilities of Messaieed Industrial City, was the chief guest at the final matches of the tournament. Fakhroo presented the trophies to the winners and runners up team in both the categories. He also handed over the medals to the players of both the teams and acknowledged the volunteers. Gopal Balasubramaniam was felicitated for being the only member featuring in and playing for all 23 Cricket tournaments organised by ICAI-Doha Chapter.

Rukkaiya Pachisa, Chairperson of ICAI-Doha Chapter, congratulated the winners. Speaking on the occasion she said that apart from being good at numbers, the members of the ICAI Doha Chapter are equally good in the field of sports which is a strong indication of keeping themselves fit and healthy. Prize distribution ceremony was followed by a raffle draw show managed by Sandeep Chowdhary, Vice Chairperson of ICAI-Doha Chapter, and Nirlep Bhatt, Secretary at ICAI-Doha Chapter.
ISL Qatar marks 10th Anniversary

The International School of London (ISL) Qatar recently celebrated a Gala Dinner to mark its 10 years of excellence. The event was attended by notable personalities, including ambassadors, officials from the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, and faculty and staff members. Ivonne Abdel Baki, Ambassador of the Republic of Ecuador, also attended the dinner. ISL Qatar was founded in 2008 as part of the ‘Outstanding Schools Initiative’ started by Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser. The evening gala highlighted achievements and students’ work. Highlights included musical performances, visual art pieces, documentaries and alumni interviews. Dr Ibrahim bin Saleh al-Nuaimi, Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, expressed his pride in ISL Qatar, and its accomplishments in the past 10 years. Amin Makarem, Managing Director of the ISL Group, said, “It is clear that our school today has a proven track record of delivering excellence in international education and is fulfilling our mission of promoting international mindedness and multicultural understanding within our school communities and beyond.”

MES organises Youth Festival ‘Regalia’

MES Indian School recently organised Youth Festival ‘Regalia’. Manikantan A P, President of Indian Cultural Centre (ICC) was the chief guest on the occasion. Speaking on the occasion, he appreciated the participation of the students and recommended the need for the aspiring students to excel in their artistic pursuits and follow passion in order to be successful. Dr Sreekumar Padmanaban, a doctor cum artist, felicitated the participants for their effort and remarkable achievements in pursuit of artistic success. Speaking on the occasion, Hameeda Kadar, Principal of MES, admired the contestants for their participation in representing the traditional forms of art and congratulated the parents for their significant role and efforts in promoting the talents among children. Various competitions divided into different categories, including Sub-Junior I, Sub-Junior II, Junior, Intermediate, Senior and Super Senior were also organised. Around 3500 students from all the sections of MES participated in various competitions, including painting, pencil drawing, collage, calligraphy, origami, light music, classical dances, folk dance, cinematic dance, fancy dress, mono act, storytelling, debate, skills, elocution, essay writing, recitation and instrumental music. Rajendran S, Convener of the Cultural Activities, presented a report on Youth Festival 2019. Various students were adjudged as the best individual artists, including Mohammed Shafiq, and Aaliya Rateek, in Sub-Junior Category; Johan Joby, Fathima Imran Yoonus, Faridah Jahan, and Fathima and Parvathi Krishna, Sub-Junior Category I, Sourav Sandeep, Junior Category; Jeneesh Sathish, Mathew, Intermediate Category; Adivya Viju, Senior Category; Alwyn George, Super Senior Category; Evelyn Johnly, Junior Category; Arundhati Gopikrishnan, Intermediate Category; Elena John, Senior Category; and Gaadha Vinu Kumar, Super Senior Category.

SCWFQ organises Annual General Meeting

Sri Lankan Community Welfare Federation Qatar (SCWFQ) affiliated to the embassy of Sri Lanka, recently organised its Annual General Meeting and elected the new executive committee members. The new office bearers include Mohamed Akram, President; Abdul Wahid Anwar, Secretary; Fahim Moulana, Vice President; Arshad Jameel, Public Relations; Dr Amanullah Ismail, Vice President Projects; A H M Rizvi, Assistant Secretary; Ashsheikh Buhari Ismail, Treasurer; Musadik Mugeeb, Assistant Treasurer. Other members include Mohamed Farshon, Shmy Riza, Ashsheikh Abdullah Shukoor, Aushad Jameel, Mohammed Rihan, Hibiathullah, Murad Hussain, Hisham Shaheeb, Ashsheikh Buhari Majeedy, Exco members; Rizvi Mohammed, Abdurahman, Ashsheikh A B M Nawas, Ashsheikh Arver Adam, Hassan Iqbal, Adviser Committee; A C Munawwar, Zayd Mohamed, M.R.M Nisim, Mushathik Mugeeb, Shameel Ahmed, Minhad Ahmed, Media Unit; Noor Zain, Ashsheikh Azhar, Abdul Hafeel, Ashsheikh Nusky, Ashsheikh Abdullah Shukoor, Dr Amanullah, Mohamed Akram, Janaza Welfare Unit.
QVA and ISC to organise Second Inter Community Beach Volleyball Festival

Qatar Volleyball Association (QVA) and Indian Sports Centre (ISC) are all set to organise Second Inter Community Beach Volleyball Festival on May 2-4 at Al Gharafa Beach Volleyball Facility (Qatar Olympic Academy). Speaking at the press conference, Nilangshu Dey, President of ISC, highlighted that teams from various communities, including Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Senegal, Nepal, Ghana, Philippines, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sudan, India, Sri Lanka, Lebanon, Russia and Qatar are participating in the festival. "Thirty teams from 15 countries are participating in this beach volleyball festival where 10 Pools consisting of 3 members in each pools are made. Initial matches will be on league basis followed by knock outs," he said.

"This year the tournament is restricted for amateur players only. Any player registered under Qatar Volleyball association during the last three years would not be able to participate in this festival tournament," said Captain Hussain Imam Ali, Technical Director of Qatar Volleyball Association. Hussain highlighted QVA’s initiative of promoting Beach Volleyball among the various expatriates community. He thanked ISC for jointly organising the festival. Ashik Ahmed, Secretary Volleyball and Basketball at ISC, elaborated on the tournament details. An inaugural ceremony of the Beach Volleyball festival will take place on 2 May at 7:30pm at Al Gharafa Beach Volleyball facility. The press conference was attended by Nilangshu Dey, Mohd Habibun Nabi, General Secretary of ISC, Ashik Ahmed, and Captain Hussain Imam Ali.

BPS organises Parent Orientation Programme and Career Talk

Birla Public School (BPS) recently organised Parent Orientation Programme and Career Talk for the students of Grade IX-XII. The parents of the students also attended the event. The guest speaker, included Professor C Raj Kumar, Vice-Chancellor of O P Jindal University India; Dr Sanjeev P Sahani, Principal Director; and Dr Ashish Bhardwaj. Speaking on the occasion, Professor C Raj Kumar said that parents should choose the higher education courses befitting the requirements of modern era. He appealed the parents to find out more and more about the unconventional courses and to be prudent for the career choices as the world is going to be different for the children.

Dr Sanjeev P Sahani, Behaviour Scientist, interacted with the parents and students about managing child behaviour, quick tips to improve child performance, parent child relationship and how parents can set up their children’s success in life. Dr Ashish Bhardwaj talked on how social science programmes are relevant for the coming generations and will have many jobs in future. Speaking on the occasion, A P Sharma, Principal of BPS, said that parents should take more advantage of the programmes organised in the school as eminent expert speakers and master trainers are invited as the path finders for the students.

MES student wins first prize in Qur’an memorising competition

Abdul Rahman Abdul Sami, a student of Grade VI of MES Indian School, recently won the first prize in the 16th Sheikh Faleh Bin Nasser Al Thani’s Holy Qur’an Memorisation Competition organised by Doha Academy. Over 230 students from schools across Doha participated in the competition. The members of the jury, included Maulana Kurch, from Macedonia, Head of jury panel; Sheikh Abdul Salam Hassan Qandil, Imam of the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs; and Sheikh Yusri al-Sayyid al-Saqqa, Co-ordinator of Shariah Science at Doha Academy. Abdul Rahman Abdul Sami, in recognition of his achievement, was honoured with a certificate and a cash prize of QR4,000. Hameeda Kadar, Principal of MES, congratulated the winner.
MONA Qatar organises musical event

Miyagdi Overseas Nepali Association (MONA) Qatar recently organised a musical event to raise funds for the underprivileged people of Miyagdi, a district in Nepal, at Al Dana Driving School. The event was attended by over 500 people. Tilu Sharma Poudel, President of MONA Qatar, presided over the event. Prabin Bhatterai, Second Secretary at the Embassy of Nepal, was the chief guest at the event.

The event featured various Nepali singers, including Amrita Sripal and Kumar Pun. Artists from Nepali Cultural Centre also performed on the occasion. The artists, including Deepika BK and Susman Biswokarma. Na-rayan Pun, local Nepali singer, along with Gokul BK and Ranjita Adhikari, Nepali dancers, also performed at the event. Kumar Pun performed five songs on the public demand. Amrita Sripal performed six songs. Speaking on the occasion, Amrita talked about responsibilities towards the social activities in the home town district of the country.

Artists of Non-resident Nepalese Dalit Association (NRNDA) and National Naumati Preservation Committee (NNPC) played ethnic folk instrumental music at the event. Min Bahadur Karki, Chairman of MONA Qatar, welcomed the gathering. The event was attended by notable community leaders, including Nabin Pokhrel, Bikash Bhujel, Mohammed Aziz Ali, Chanak Pokhrel and Prem Rashali.

Speaking on the occasion, Tilu Sharma Podel thanked the participated for making the programme successful.

– Text and photos by Usha Wagle

Oryx Rotana, Doha unveils Ramadan offers

Following the tradition of celebrating holy month of Ramadan with fellow Qatari citizens and all the expatriates in the country, Oryx Rotana, Doha’s leading five-star luxury business hotels, has recently announced its delectable and exclusive range of cuisines, stated a press release. With this special offering, Oryx Rotana intends to share the pleasant time with its guests and visitors in addition to introducing them to the authentic charm of the Qatari hospitality in an upscale dining experience.

During the blessed month, Choices, Oryx Rotana’s renowned all day dining restaurant will offer an Iftar buffet inspired by the ancient Arab traveler Ibn Battuta. Guests can enjoy a unique variety of dishes from the Silk Road and voyages from South Asia, Middle East, Persia, Turkey all the way to Andalucia and North Africa. Embracing the most known adventures of Ibn Battuta, Choices will tour everyone’s palate through a diverse range of traditional Ramadan delicacies, live cooking stations, selections of freshly baked bread and rich Arabic desserts. Diners can relish on a special early bird rate for reservations done before 4th May 2019.

To experience further the holy month, Al Nafourah Garden will present a generous set menu with a combination of Eastern and International dishes prepared by talented chefs, which guests can avail during Iftars or Suhoors.

On this occasion, Ghassan Dalal said, “Year on year, we strive to make Oryx Rotana the preferred destination, during the blessed month, to revel on the festivities with family and friends as well as live the spirit of Ramadan. This year, we will introduce a new Iftar concept inspired by the travels of the famous Arabian explorer Ibn Battuta, allowing the guests to choose from a wide variety of culinary options rich in flavours from multiple regions of the world in addition to varied selections of Ramadan sweets and beverages. Visitors will also have the opportunity to enjoy an alfresco dining experience at Al Nafourah Garden and indulge in the exceptional tasty dishes in a set menu for Iftars and Suhoors.”

Boys’ relay team of MES win silver at Asian Athletic Championship 2019

The boys’ relay team of MES Indian School recently won a silver medal in 4x100mts relay in Asian Athletic Championship 2019 for Schools, held at Khalifa International Stadium. Various schools from Qatar participated in the championship. The team members of boy’s relay team of MES, include Dhishas, Omar, Abdullah and Aaron. Hameeda Kadar, Principal of MES, congratulated the winners and the coaches. The winners also had an opportunity to interact with international athletes including Anju Bobby George, Indian ace athlete.
Here’s your chance to let the world know of your skills and create a buzz. The published images will appear on both our Instagram page (@communitygt) as well as this coveted space. Community invites photographers to let their pictures speak the proverbial thousand words! E-mail your contributions with your full name, contact details and complete description of the images to qatarcommunity@gmail.com

The Desert Rose series: Part III

We look forward to many years of service in this country of exquisite gastronomy, generous hospitality, stunning landscapes, world-class education and health services, with the highest standard of living, open to the world without betraying its roots, meritocratic while respectful of its traditions and providing equality of opportunity for all.

Qatar demonstrates to the world that life is well worthwhile celebrating and that to prepare for the future, our roots provide the firmest of basis.

We thank Qatar wholeheartedly for sharing with us all this Desert Rose of enduring memories, particularly to His Highness the Emir of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani, the Chairperson of the Qatar Foundation, Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser and HE Sheikha Al Mayassa bint Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, Chairperson of Qatar Museums.

— Photos and text by the Ambassador of the Dominican Republic, Dr Federico Alberto Cuello Camilo and Mrs Natalia Federighi de Cuello
Summer fashion ideas for office wear

From relaxed casuals to strictly corporate, dress codes for office vary widely in today’s time with changing work cultures. Ensure you have some right essentials, suggest experts.

Niharika Dubey, Stylist, PostFold, suggests:
- Frolic Formal: If you are someone who regularly meet executives, you might be asked to come dressed in business formals. A tailored suit in a solid, neutral colour like black, gray or navy can be paired with a white collared button-up shirt – a classic pairing for men. Women can pair-up their well-cut pant suit or skirt suit in a conservative neutral colour such as black, navy or brown with a collared white button-up.
- Smart semi-formal: Wearing casual to work is an art of adding personality to the workwear without looking unprofessional. Separates like skirt or trouser with a cardigan can be one choice for women. Pair it with solid coloured or muted patterns like checks or striped shirt. Men can pick a collared button-up in any colour to pair it with black dress pant or pressed khakis in the summer.
- Classic casual: For the ones allowed to wear casuals to work, remember not to go over the top with your dress-up. Casual dressing also leaves room for individuality and slight experiments. Men can pair up collared polos with casual slacks or dark denims. Choose muted patterned polos over novelty designs to be able to mix in while making a subtle statement. Nicely fitted tops and blouses with cotton slacks or denims can be the option for women to wear to work, remember not to go over the top with your dress-up. Casual dressing also leaves room for individuality and slight experiments. Men can pair up collared polos with casual slacks or dark denims. Choose muted patterned polos over novelty designs to be able to mix in while making a subtle statement. Nicely fitted tops and blouses with cotton slacks or denims can be the option for women to wear to work.

LESSON LEARNED
- The key to success at work is to keep the personal and professional boundaries intact.
- It is important to balance comfort and style at work.
- It is wise to choose clothes that can be customized to suit your body type.

TAURUS
April 20 — May 20

An unexpected but welcome financial windfall could lead to some long-desired changes in your living situation, Taurus. You may decide to move, or you could opt for a less drastic course of action, such as redecorating or remodelling. A household member could move out or someone new could move in. These are all very positive changes that will make a big difference in your life.

GEMINI
May 21 — June 20

You’re looking great today, Gemini! A current or potential partner who lives nearby is likely to be all too aware of this. A long walk with your friend could involve conversation that brings you closer together. You might spend most of the evening together.

CANCER
June 21 — July 22

Your aesthetic sense may increase, Cancer, leading to the discovery of an artistic talent you may not have known you had. You could decide to develop this talent, possibly by enrolling in a class. A current or potential friend might decide to come with you, creating a new venue for bringing you closer together. This should prove very exciting.

LEO
July 23 — August 22

A social event, possibly involving a group you’re affiliated with, could put you in touch with a lot of friendly, intriguing people who share your interests, Leo. Among them could be a potential friend, or a current partner could accompany you to this event. Whichever it is, both of you are likely to feel good about the event and will probably want to see your new friends again.

SCORPIO
October 23 — November 21

Some intense communication could take place today between you and a friend, possibly about your future together. Scorpio, it’s likely to lead to some positive developments in your life, possibly including a move to the next level of commitment. If you aren’t involved now, a friend could introduce you to someone new, perhaps at a social gathering. Look your best throughout the day!

SAGITTARIUS
November 22 — December 21

Today you may feel especially passionate, Sagittarius. This is the perfect evening to schedule quality time with a current or potential partner. You’re probably looking and feeling attractive, and this fact isn’t likely to be lost on your friend. Scatter some pillows, add some flowers, put out some cheese, fruit, and be prepared for anything!
Wordsearch

Every letter of the alphabet is used at least once. Squares with the same number in have the same letter in. Work out which number represents which letter.

Codeword

Sudoku

Sudoku is a puzzle based on a 9x9 grid. The grid is also divided into nine 3x3 boxes. You are given a selection of numbers and to complete the puzzle, you must fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contain each of the digits 1 to 9 exactly once.

Puzzles courtesy: Puzzlechoice.com

ACTION  SCUFFLE  FRAY
DUEL  BOUT  TUSSLE
ROW  FIGHT  CONTEST
ARGUMENT  SKIRMISH  JOUST
ENCOUNTER  CLASH  WAR
SCRAP  FRACAS  DISPUTE
BATTLE  STRUGGLE  MELIER
FEUD  CONFLICT

Adam

It’s not under the cushions. Son, I need that phone!

It’s almost time for my client call! I wrack your brains!

I’m wracking as hard as I can!... I don’t...

Oh! I can’t take a treat! Milkbone or Rawhide? Think, man...

Pooch Cafe

You’re the most noble and selfless individual ever and I’m knolling you out of commission!

“I was only a sprain” he says. You’re a testament to all living creatures!

Just call the guy behind the wheel.

It’s only a sprain.

Bound And Gagged

WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU’RE GOING?

Butterfly House

And that’s why hats make lousy cereal bowls.

I’m starting all my conversations at the end now.

It’s a real time-saver and a blessing.
Super Cryptic Clues

Across
1 Phone teacher who may send in the clowns? (10)
7 Clergymen dance so awkwardly (7)
8 Tunes accompanied by graces? (4)
10 Hurry to see a marsh plant (4)
11 Grit held loosely - it brings traffic to a standstill (3,5)
13 He sits around producing a dissertation (6)
15 Heavy, uninteresting food - for example, little Dorothy's turnover (6)
17 Start to care about lack of prejudice (4,4)
18 Music from one of the Stones? (4)
21 School of note, in a way (4)
22 Girl seen on the moors (7)
23 Wash ferret, possibly, in this? (3,5)

Down
1 Raises backs (5)
2 Midday? No, almost one (4)
3 Light fog, by the sound of it, is left out (6)
4 Drunkards find room inside for vegetables (8)
5 Terribly angered! (7)
6 Reverence for commercial speech (9)
9 They run out of clothes (9)
12 Maid dons new suit (8)
14 One who votes for German prince? (7)
16 An Arab craft? Yes, certainly! (3,3)
19 Article on operating room? This is different (5)
20 Move quickly in river (4)

Colouring

Yesterday’s Solution

Wordsearch

Codeword
Fontaines DC’s debut album Dogrel finds place in UK top 10

A nyone attending a Fontaines DC gig can be certain of seeing a full concert. Singer and front man Grian Chatten sometimes walks off the stage if he believes the feeling is not right. “There is a truth in our live shows,” Grian stated. “It’s an invisible truth between us and the crowd. If I don’t feel it’s there, I see no reason to continue the performance.”

The Dublin-based quintet have completed more than enough shows to build a solid following for their mix of post-punk and indie-rock tracks. Critical acclaim has now been matched by chart success with the band’s debut album, Dogrel, finding a place in the UK top ten.

“The fans can discover truth in our songs,” Grian continued. “The world is in disarray in a way that it hasn’t been before. It’s more confusing than it has ever been. There’s a huge lack of trust in any form of media or narrative voice. No one really believes anything. What we’re having to do form some kind of truth for ourselves.”

Grian’s band mates are guitarists Carlos O’Connell and Conor Curley, drummer Tom Coll and bassist Conor Deegan III. Hailing from Mayo, Monaghan, Madrid and Dublin, the boys met while at college in the Irish capital.

“We originally played in different bands on the Dublin music circuit,” Grian explained. “But we connected on so many levels. We shared the same sense of humour, we loved the same poets and artists. When we formed the band, it immediately became everything to us.”

It is their collective love of poetry which forms the creative core of Fontaines DC songs. “We’re usually in a restaurant rather than the studio. We share our poetry with each other and bounce the words around between us until we’ve come up with a song. This has opened us up to some strange depths in each other’s minds but once we’ve finished, that’s it, we don’t try to edit anything.”

They adopt a similar approach in the process of setting the words to music. “Everybody has their own idea about how the song should sound. We play our instruments seeing what works and what doesn’t until we end up with a cohesive tune to accompany the lyrics.”

The band cite influences such as The Rolling Stones, The La’s and, perhaps surprisingly, Buddy Holly. But it is certainly no surprise to hear other influences are The Dubliners and The Pogues.

“We think The Stones had the best sounds but The Pogues had the best spirit. Our lyrics are often inspired by inn talk. That’s why many of our songs are about people and places in Dublin.”

“We’ve become inextricably attached to the city for all its failings and brilliance. It’s like loving someone. They can be full of faults but you come to realise that without these things you wouldn’t be loving the same person. Dublin is just the most imperfectly perfect place to write about life anywhere else when I’m so invested in Dublin life.”

Fontaines DC released a number of acclaimed but largely unsuccessful singles during the last two years. They could hardly have been prepared for their success with Dogrel.

“It’s actually been building over the past few months. We kept selling out gigs, having to book bigger venues and then finding they’d sold out. I won’t go so far as to say we expected the album to do so well when the reviews were great and we were cautiously optimistic.

“People seem to have connected with our songs. The album title comes from an old form of Irish poetry. It was like im poetry, something used by the working class. This style of verse, not high-brow poetry, really resonated with us. We thought Dogrel was the perfect title for our album.”

The band recently concluded a lengthy concert tour of Britain, Ireland and Europe. They are currently preparing for a month-long tour of America with Bristol quintet IDLES, their Partisan Records label-mates.

“We’ve been privileged to share the stage over the last few months with both DMX and IDLES who we really admire. We get on really well so we know we’ll have a good time touring America together. We’ve played there before but never had the kind of exposure this tour will give us. It would be nice to think we might impress enough people to get Dogrel into the Billboard 200.”

POETIC: Collective love of poetry forms the creative core of Fontaines DC songs.

BTS

K-pop boy band BTS have continued their world domination by becoming the first Korean act to top the UK album chart. Map of the Soul: Persona proved equally successful in America where it followed Love Yourself: Tear and Love Yourself: Answer to become the group’s third number one on the Billboard 200.

However, Map of the Soul: Persona was actually not the top-selling album in Britain. This honour fell to Now That’s What I Call Music! Volume 102. After all but one of the first 12 Now That’s What I Call Music! albums topped the UK chart, it was decided to remove these multi-artiste compilations from the main listings and create a separate Compilation Albums chart. This came into being on January 14, 1989, and it is on here that each new volume of Now That’s What I Call Music! hits the number one spot.

DMX

Some actors quite reasonably complain about being typecast. This cannot be said of rapper and actor DMX. Just weeks after being released from the latest of his numerous spells in prison, the man whose real name is Earl Simmons has been cast as a top police officer in the forthcoming psychological drama, Chronicle of a Serial Killer.

The film director, Steve Stanulis, explained his reason for casting DMX in the role: “Having him play Detective White is the perfect fit from my point of view. I always like going against the grain. I’m familiar with his film work over the years and have no doubt he will bring a special dynamic to the role.”

It will be fun working with him and the rest of the cast on this one!” Other cast members announced so far are Tara Reid, Michael Madsen, Brendan Sexton and Jake Busey.

No date has been given as to when the film will begin shooting. But DMX will be unavailable for the immediate future as he travels America on a tour celebrating what was said to be the 20-year anniversary of his Billboard 200 chart-topping debut album, It’s Dark and Hell Is Hot.

In fact, 2019 marks 21 years since the album was released. But with DMX spending all but a few days of 2018 behind bars, the planned tour had to be rescheduled for this year.

Word is that DMX is also working on a new studio album, his first since 2012’s Undisputed. It remains to be seen how much his acting in Chronicle of a Serial Killer might impact the possible release date for his new LP.

The stage production boasts an original book by Jon Hartmere and will be directed by Kristin Hanggi. Choreography is by Keone and Mari Madrid. Britney was fully involved with the development of the musical and will serve as a co-producer on the film.

Released shortly before Earth Day, the song carries a light-hearted but persuasive message about the need to protect our planet. All proceeds will be donated to the Leonardo Dicaprio Foundation. This is a non-profit organisation established by the actor in 1998 which is devoted to promoting environmental awareness.

I started working on the song idea about two years ago,” said Lil Dicky, real name David Burd. “It was initially a fun idea to have famous people voicing a bunch of animals on a song about the environment.

“But I was only vaguely aware at that time of how important and how urgent it is that we change the way things are done so that our Earth can be protected. When I discovered and understood the facts of this issue, I came to realise the song is actually my life’s most important work.”

The official video for Earth can be seen at www.youtube.com/watch?v=pvuN_WvF1to

The video for a more radio-friendly version is at www.youtube.com/watch?v=52SMvG6t2U
Farah’s Mrs. Serial Killer to have no song, no dance

Farah Khan’s films are known for their elaborate song and dance sequences – something also common to the movies that her husband David O. Russell has directed. Actress Jennifer Lawrence, the lead actress of the choreographer-filmmaker’s next production Mrs. Serial Killer, does. But this new project won’t have any of it. Mrs. Serial Killer is written and directed by Farah’s husband Shirish Kunder. It will go live on streaming platform Netflix later this year.

The film will mark Jacqueline and Farah’s foray into the digital world. Why was Jacqueline cast in the film?

“It is about a girl next door. When Jacqueline and Shirish met and discussed it, she said that she was also hunting for something to do something she had never done before,” Farah said over phone.

The 54-year-old filmmaker, known for movies like Main Hoon Nu and Om Shanti Om, says Mrs. Serial Killer does not have any song, dance and no item number.

“It’s a pretty cool role for her. She is also pretty excited. It’s a big step to make her digital debut, especially when she is on top of her game right now. It is very commendable and brave of her to be a little bit ahead of time,” said Lawrence during an interview with Variety.

The project also marks Farah’s debut into the digital zone. She finds it quite exciting.

“Everything has to be accounted for and everything has to be planned and given to Netflix much in advance. You have to be very well-planned and organised. I am a control freak. For us, it is better because in the long run it saves you a lot of time and money,” she said.

Farah Khan is also all for no censorship on the digital medium. In a recent interview, superstar Salman Khan had said there should be censorship on content on the digital space and that there should be an appointed body for the purpose. Asked what she thinks about his views, Farah said: “I truly don’t believe in censorship. I believe in ‘aap certificate dedo’ (give a certificate) and write down if it is a 13+, 16+ or 18+ (rating).”

“Give it a rating and people can judge it for themselves... When anything and everything is censored, what is art for me may be censorable for you... You can just give it a rating. That’s what I believe in,” she added.

Gillian wants to direct Marvel film

Avengers star Karen Gillan has a dream of directing a film for Marvel Studios.

“I keep asking Kevin Feige (Marvel Studios President) when that’s going to be. I’m still waiting,” she said during The Big Ticket podcast, reports variety.com.

Gillan “wouldn’t just do any film”, though.

“I think it would need to be one where I had a strong feeling that I was the best person for the job. Obviously that’s not every movie that comes your way,” she said.

The Avengers: Endgame actress also shared her anticipation for the upcoming Black Widow film, which will finally see actress Scarlett Johansson in her first solo outing.

Asked why she thinks she’s so long for the female superhero to get her own Marvel movie, Gillan said that it “does feel like she should already have one”.

“I think we’re only just starting to get together these female-led superhero movies. “It’s kind of a new thing and we’re living in this time of change at the moment.

To see Captain Marvel do so well, I mean, I was crying in the cinema. So happy that she was smashing it and people were loving it. I think it’s time to see the Black Widow movie,” she added.
QBWA celebrates works of successful Qatari women

By Mudassir Raja

A select gathering paid tribute to successful Qatari women in recognition of their contributions in different walks of life.

In a glittering award ceremony held at the Al Wadi MGallery Hotel in Msheireb Downtown on Sunday night, Qatari Businesswomen Association (QBWA) announced the winners of QBWA Takreem Awards 2019. The gala award ceremony was held under the patronage of and in presence of HE Sheikh Faisal bin Qassim al-Thani. QBWA Takreem Awards aim to recognise and celebrate Qatari women who have contributed to Qatar’s economy and society through their significant achievements in different fields. The nominations were made by the esteemed judges and the winners were selected after a long and thorough consideration.

The event was hosted by Khalila al-Hamou, of I Love Qatar, who supported the ceremony as the official media partner.

Speaking at the start of the event, Aisha Hussain Alfardan, QBWA Vice Chairwoman, said: “Tonight, we want to talk about the achievements and to identify potentials, talents and competencies. This is the real purpose of the Takreem Awards, through which we will have the opportunity to recognise these leading women so as to inspire younger generation to thrive and reach their full potential.”

Speaking after the ceremony, Sheikh Faisal bin Qassim al-Thani stressed on the importance of the role of women in building the society as mothers and educators for their families and as working women who contribute through their works in different fields. He also emphasised the availability of opportunities in Qatar and encouraged young women to move forward confidently. He noted that the number of female graduates from the universities exceeds the number of males in Qatar. He also asked the women to participate in different conferences to benefit from the available opportunities.

The association honoured HE Sheikha al-Mahmoud, former Education Minister, for her outstanding lifetime achievements. HE Dr Hessa al-Jaber, former Minister of Communications and Information Technology, was awarded for outstanding career achievements and initiatives that contributed to inspire future generations in Qatar. HE Lovah AlKhater, spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, received award in recognition of her outstanding achievements in the field of international relations. Professor Sheikha Asma Ali al-Thani received award in recognition of her initiatives and achievements in the field of medical work. Sheikha Youssef al-Jufairi and Fatima al-Kuwari were honoured in recognition of their achievements in community work through their position as members of the Central Municipal Council. Hessa al-Abdulla was honoured in recognition of their achievements in community work through their position as members of the Central Municipal Council. Hessa al-Abdulla was honoured in recognition of her achievements in the field of education, and Rima al-Murakhi for her hard work and achievements in the field of humanitarian work.

Aisha al-Tamimi, a well-known chef, was given an award for her distinguished career and achievements in the field of hospitality. Najla al-Shafee was honoured in recognition of her achievements as a female influencer and Dr Ghada Darwish Karbon for her outstanding achievements in legal work, law and arbitration.

Samah al-Sada earned the award for her career and achievements in engineering, and Bouthayna al-Maadeed was awarded in recognition of her distinguished career achievements in the field of arts.

Fatima al-Khuater was awarded in recognition of her outstanding achievements in the field of entrepreneurship and Kummam al-Maadeed was awarded in recognition of her accomplishments in creative work. Yasmin Mansour was awarded in the category of young talent and fashion designer. Rania al-Naji was awarded as a rising star in the field of sports.

Talking to Community, Lovah AlKhater said that she was very happy to receive the award. Such kinds of awards are always encouraging for the women striving in different walks of life, she said.

Kummam al-Maadeed, an English language novelist, talking to Community, said: “I write fantasy novels in English. I have two novels published so far. The Lost Rose is my first novel. The name of the second novel is Culling Magic. Now, I am working on my third book which will be a comic. I conduct workshops on literary writings.”

“Tonight, we want to talk about the achievements and to identify potentials, talents and competencies. This is the real purpose of the Takreem Awards, through which we will have the opportunity to recognise these leading women so as to inspire younger generation to thrive and reach their full potential”

– Aisha Hussain Alfardan, QBWA Vice Chairwoman

support for women in Qatar. Women are actually proving themselves worthy of all the opportunities. They are very strong and dedicated.”

About the awards, she said: “No matter if you’re a woman or a man, recognition of your work is always good. You are happy to see people realise that you have done some good work. I have been following the QBWA awards regularly.”