

999

SECURITY AND SAFETY FOR ALL

ISSUE 131 DECEMBER 2022

**WELCOME TO
THE WORLD'S
COOLEST WINTER**

**MOST COMMON
DRIVING MISTAKES
DURING FOG**

**SPOTLIGHT:
THE YEAR 2022
IN REVIEW**

UAE

**STEPS UP
CLIMATE ACTION
FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE**



IN THIS ISSUE: STEP INTO THE UAE'S PAST THAT STILL LIVES IN ITS HERITAGE FORTS AND MUSEUMS

البيان
اليوم

We take immense pride and great pleasure in extending
our sincerest congratulations and best wishes to

His Highness Sheikh

Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan

President of the UAE

His Highness Sheikh

Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum

Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai

and Their Highnesses Members of the Supreme Council and Rulers of the Emirates

and to the people of the UAE

On the occasion of the 51st National Day

DAMAC

*Hyper-modern
though it is,
the UAE also
takes great care
to preserve its
heritage — this
perfect blend is
what gives the
nation its unique
character*

Protecting the planet

Can the world be saved? And how soon? Some countries are better placed than others to find the answers to those questions, because they've got a realistic mindset and a determined approach to getting things done. This year's United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP27), held in Sharm El Sheikh, saw the UAE proving — yet again — that words have real power when they're matched by actions. Even as the developed and the developing nations tussled over emission cuts, the UAE announced the signing of an agreement with Egypt to build a 10 Gigawatt onshore wind power project, one of the largest in the world. (This is only the newest feather in the UAE's cap, as it already has some of the world's largest solar power sites.)

Therefore, when this country talks about being "a responsible energy supplier", its credibility is never in doubt. Also, when this country presents a clearly mapped-out path to "Net Zero 2050", its ability is never in doubt. The 1,000-strong UAE delegation to Sharm El Sheikh had one main purpose: to highlight the UAE's commitment to an orderly transition to renewable energy and its resolve to promote global collaboration as the host of COP28 (in November 2023), a vision and mission that our cover story presents in detail. As President His Highness Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nayhan said at the conference: "We have only one planet, ladies and gentlemen...."

Global warming presents many nations in the Middle East with a particularly urgent problem, threatening to make the summers unbearable. For now, however, there's still time to enjoy the winter. With all the pandemic travel norms eased in November 2022, with the FIFA World Cup just an hour away, with countless breathtaking attractions strewn across the country, and with the Dubai Shopping Festival starting this month, the UAE is more than prepared to deliver on its promise of the 'World's Coolest Winter'. The country's first federal tourism campaign was launched in December 2020; two years on, powered by a new five-year multi-entry tourist visa, the tourism sector is set to take a much larger share of the economy. Read all about it in this issue.

Hyper-modern though it is, the UAE also takes great care to preserve its heritage — this perfect blend is what gives the nation its unique character. Our companion feature on tourism outlines the beautiful places across the country where its traditional heart still beats.

While winter is the season for enjoying the cities to the fullest, being out and about as much as possible, we also do have a traffic safety feature to remind you that at this time of the year, fog is a real risk. Fast-moving vehicles on highways shrouded by mist can, with a moment's carelessness, result in a pile-up and end lives. Accidents that occur in foggy days and nights can be prevented by some precautions, including paying attention to the fog alerts issued by the authorities. Turn the pages to know what the penalties for driving rule violations are, and how to stay safe in your vehicle when the blanket of fog descends.

Just as it's important to glance at the rear-view mirror when driving, this month we look back at the biggest headlines of the UAE in 2022, starting with the election of a new head of state after bidding a tearful farewell to the departed one. Our 'year in review' is not merely a recapitulation of top events; it is a contemplation of how well the UAE has utilised life's greatest resource: time.

With that, we leave you to enjoy December. We hope to have all the time in the world with you, dear reader, and look forward to greeting you in January 2023.



**Ministry of Interior
United Arab Emirates**

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THE YEAR 2022 HAS OFFERED ALL OF US IN THE UAE THE MOST PRECIOUS RESOURCE OF ALL: TIME. AS IMPORTANT EVENTS UNFOLDED AROUND US, WE SAW HOW THE COUNTRY USED THE GIFT OF TIME TO STRENGTHEN ITSELF AND REWARD THE PEOPLE

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These serial killers have a particular tic of appearing as unassuming ladies — but their smiles hide all the skeletons



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UAE WALKS THE CLIMATE TALK

COP27
SHARM EL-SHEIKH
EGYPT 2022



AS THE HOST OF NEXT YEAR'S UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE, THE COUNTRY HAS MADE ITS PRESENCE FELT AT THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED GLOBAL MEET IN EGYPT. THE UAE HAS THE SCIENCE-DRIVEN DATA AND ON-GROUND GREEN INITIATIVES TO REINFORCE ITS LEADERSHIP ROLE IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA, AND ALSO TO PROVE THAT SUSTAINABILITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GO TOGETHER



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Head of the News Centre at Dubai Media Incorporated



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Dr Maysa Rashed
Former Member of the Federal National Council (FNC), and UAE writer



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Dr Samar Al-Shamsi
Internationally respected artist

Mohamed bin Zayed issues new law to bolster industrial sector

PRESIDENT His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan issued Federal Decree-Law No. 25 of 2022, which aims to be a key policy enabler of growth in the UAE's industrial sector.

The new legislation, which is set to come into force in January 2023 across land-based entities as well as free, economic, and specialised zones, was enacted to boost the UAE's investment attractiveness, stimulate local and international investments, and offer incentives for companies and employees in the industrial sector.



It also strengthens the Ministry of Industry and New Technology's (MoIAT) role in

fostering the use of advanced technologies and Fourth Industrial Revolution solutions to benefit the industry.

By standardising the procedures for obtaining industrial licenses, it will improve the interaction between the MoIAT, municipal economic departments, and licensing authorities in free, economic, and specialised zones.

It will also pave the way for the creation of a National Industrial Register, which will comprise an integrated database of industrial projects and their contribution to the national economy.

President calls for global unity vs climate change at COP27

PRESIDENT His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan called for global solidarity and greater cooperation to combat climate change "at a critical juncture for our planet and future generations" at the 27th edition of the Conference of the Parties (COP27), held at Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt.

His Highness said during a keynote address in front of world leaders and international delegates at the COP27 Summit: "We have only one planet, ladies and gentlemen, and with that in mind, it is imperative that we partner and work together in a spirit of determination and optimism to address this common challenge through climate action. We look at this as an

opportunity for innovation, and a chance to find new solutions and diversify our economy."

The President emphasised the UAE's pioneering initiatives in renewable energy investments in the region, in accordance with the objectives of the 'Paris Agreement' to motivate countries to prepare and adopt long-term strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and limit the rise in global temperatures. His Highness also spoke of the UAE's keen support for measures to expedite the global energy transition and promote sustainable economic growth.

The UAE will host the COP28 Summit in 2023 at Expo City Dubai.



HH Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed delivers a keynote address at COP27

President takes part in G20 Summit in Indonesia



HH Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed shakes hand with Indonesian President Joko Widodo at the G20 Summit

PRESIDENT His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan participated in the main plenary of the G20 Summit in Indonesia, a global forum for international leaders and officials to interact and resolve key concerns worldwide.

HH Sheikh Mohamed congratulated Indonesia on its G20 chairmanship and its efforts in leading and organising the group's operations, and wished India well as it prepares to take over the chairmanship next year.

In a keynote address, His Highness focused on food and energy security, stating, "As a global economic hub, the UAE will continue its concerted efforts to ensure more resilient and sustainable food and medical supply chains. We are also committed to harnessing the UAE's global trade network, aviation capabilities, and advanced logistics facilities, to support food security initiatives and goals."

To date, the UAE has invested at least \$50 billion (Dhs183.5 billion) in clean energy across over 40 countries.

VP inaugurates Federal National Council session



ON behalf of President His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, inaugurated the fourth ordinary session of the 17th legislative chapter of the Federal National Council (FNC).

The ceremony was attended by Their Highnesses the Crown Princes, Deputy

Rulers, senior civilian and military officials, and members of the diplomatic corps.

The Vice President said: "We wish the Members of the Council success in performing their duties and promoting consensus, consultation and cooperation amongst all state authorities."

During the ceremony, the decree issued by His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed to convene the Council was read.

His Excellency Saqr Ghobash, FNC Speaker, welcomed the attendees and thanked the wise leadership's utmost support.

Ghobash highlighted that the country's economic development remains a top priority in addition to its sovereignty and security. He also stressed that citizens remain the government's primary focus in line with the leadership's directives.

Vice President launches UAE Tourism Strategy 2031

HIS Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, has launched the UAE Tourism Strategy 2031, which targets to strengthen the country's position as a premier global tourist destination.

The strategy aims to elevate the tourism sector's contribution to the country's GDP, and attract new tourism investments

amounting to Dhs100 billion and 40 million hotel guests in the next 10 years.

His Highness stressed that, "Tourism is key to diversifying our economy and boosting UAE's global competitiveness."

"UAE ranks amongst the top 10 global tourist destinations. Our goal is to boost our competitiveness by attracting Dhs100 billion of additional tourism investments and welcome 40 million hotel guests by

2031," the Vice President added.

In line with the 'Projects of the 50', the strategy includes a total of 25 initiatives and policies to support the development of the UAE's tourism sector. Besides the target to spur economic growth, the strategy aspires to strengthen the national tourism identity, develop and diversify specialised products, and encourage Emiratis to become involved in the tourism sector.

VP crowns 7-yr-old war survivor as Arab Reading champion



HIS Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, crowned a 7-year-old Syrian girl as the grand winner of the sixth edition of the Arab Reading Challenge.

Sham Al Bakour was selected from amongst 22.27 million students, the highest number of participants ever registered in a single edition of the Arab Reading Challenge since its inception.

She used her family's past ordeal from a civilian conflict to refine her reading skills and explore the world through reading.

His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid underscored that reading enlightens the mind and the path towards a better future for Arab generations.

"Our precious Arabic language is in the safe hands of the millions of Arab students and the thousands of volunteers that spare no effort to make this Arab literacy initiative a success," His Highness said.

Al Bakour took home the grand prize of Dhs1,000,000. Meanwhile, Adam Al Qassimi from Tunisia ranked second place, and Rashid Al Khatib from Jordan ranked third, receiving a prize of Dhs100,000 and Dhs70,000, respectively.

Saif bin Zayed attends GCC Ministers of Interior summit



HIS Highness Lt General Sheikh Saif bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior, led the UAE delegation to the 39th meeting of the GCC Ministers of Interior, held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

The summit tackled ways to enhance cooperation, coordination and joint projects, aiming to foster safety and security in the region.

HH Sheikh Saif bin Zayed was received by HRH Prince Abdulaziz bin Saud bin Nayef bin Abdulaziz, Saudi Minister of Interior; Dr Nayef Falah Mubarak Al Hajraf, Secretary-General of the Gulf Cooperation Council; as well as several officials.

The UAE delegation included Major General Staff Khalifa Hareb Al Khaili, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Interior (Mol); Major General Sheikh Mohamed bin Tahnoun Al Nahyan, Director of Security and Ports Sector at Abu Dhabi Police; Brigadier Dr Rashed Sultan al Khodr, Director-General for Legal Affairs at Mol; in addition to other police official.

Interior Minister meets with Chinese, Singaporean counterparts

HIS Highness Lt General Sheikh Saif bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior, met with his Chinese and Singaporean counterparts to discuss topics of mutual interest.

In a meeting, HH Sheikh Saif bin Zayed and Du Hang Wei, Deputy Minister of Public Security of the People's Republic of China, discussed ways to bolster the UAE-China relations in the fields of safety and security.

The meeting of the two officials was attended by Major General Staff Khalifa Hareb Al Khaili, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Interior, Major General Dr Ahmed Nasser Al Raisi, Inspector General of the



HH Sheikh Saif bin Zayed with Du Hang Wei, Deputy Minister of Public Security of the People's Republic of China (left photo); and K Shanmugam, Minister for Home Affairs and Minister for Law of Singapore (right photo)

Ministry of Interior, and a delegation accompanying the Chinese minister.

Meanwhile, HH Sheikh Saif bin Zayed also met with K Shanmugam, Minister for Home Affairs and Minister for Law of Singapore, to tackle steps to ramp up their countries' friendly relations.



Major General Staff Khalifa Hareb Al Khaili, Major General Dr Ahmed Nasser Al Raisi, Brigadier General Hussain Ahmed Al Harthy, Director-General of Electronic Services and Communications, and a number of senior officers from the Singapore Ministry of Home Affairs were present during the meeting.

Interior Minister presents diplomas to 1,191 Khalifa University graduates



UNDER the patronage of President His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, His Highness Lt General Sheikh Saif bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior, conferred 1,191 degree certificates during this year's graduation ceremony at Khalifa University of Science and Technology.

HH Sheikh Saif bin Zayed commended the leadership of Khalifa University for its relentless effort to cement its position as one of the best universities in the world. In the prestigious 2023 QS (Quacquarelli Symonds) World University Rankings, Khalifa University is ranked amongst the top 200 universities (181) globally and first in the UAE.

The event marked the graduation of 27 PhD students, 270 Master's students, and 894 Bachelor of Science and Engineering students.

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UAE takes part in anti-terror conference in New Delhi

THE UAE, represented by the Ministry of Interior, participated in the 'No Money for Terror' Ministerial Conference on Counter-Terrorism Financing, held in the Indian capital, New Delhi. The event was held with the aim of cutting off the lifeline of terrorist operations.

The UAE delegation was led by Major General Staff Khalifa Hareb Al Khaili, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Interior, and included Brigadier Abdul Aziz Al Ahmad, Deputy Director General of the Federal Criminal Police, and several representatives of security agencies.

The opening of the conference was



Major General Al Khaili (centre) during the 'No Money for Terror' Conference, held in New Delhi.

attended by Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of the Republic of India; Amit Shah, Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Cooperation; representatives of law enforcement organisations and specialised bodies, such as

related to global extremism trends; the link between organised crime and terrorist financing; and the role of public-private partnerships in countries working to combat terrorist financing.

the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT), and the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol).

The conference discussed ways to enhance international collaboration on the technical, legal, and regulatory aspects of countering terrorist financing. It included sessions on topics

MBRCH Foundation donates Dhs1 million to Mol's Faraj Fund

MOHAMMED bin Rashid Al Maktoum Charitable and Humanitarian (MBRCH) Foundation, under a Memorandum of Understanding with the Faraj Fund of the Ministry of Interior, donated Dhs1 million for the fund throughout 2022. The donation supports the fund's charitable and humanitarian activities, helping prisoners serving time in financial cases.

His Excellency Khalil Daoud Badran, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Faraj Fund, stressed that the organisation was keen to forge strategic partnerships with all national entities. These partnerships, he said, would help the organisation achieve its goals in line with the directives of the UAE government and its endeavour to enhance community well-being.

His Excellency Dr Khaled Ali bin



HE Khalil Daoud Badran

Zayed Al Falasi, Member of the Board of Trustees of the MBRCH Foundation, explained that this contribution was a humanitarian initiative to solve the problems of financially distressed inmates, in line with the Foundation's commitment to society.

He added that the Foundation always sought to unify community efforts, and its support of the Faraj Fund stemmed from the aim to integrate its mission with the work of official departments to exert more effort.



HE Dr Khaled Ali bin Zayed Al Falasi (right) receives a plaque of appreciation on behalf of the MBRCH Foundation

In the presence of Saleh Zaher, Director of the Foundation, a delegation from the Al Faraj Fund Management visited the MBRCH Foundation headquarters in Dubai. The delegation included Burqan Ahmed Abdullah Al Hammad, Deputy Director General of the Al Faraj Fund, and Saleh Muslim Al Ketbi, Director of Public Relations and Government Communications of the Fund.

Abu Dhabi Police hold regional forum on disaster victims



Major General Al Mazrouei observes a presentation, alongside Dr Mugheer Khamis Al Khaili (at his left) and Major General Staff Khalifa Hareb Al Khaili (right) and other MoI and police officials, during the conference on disaster victims

MAJOR General Staff Pilot Faris Khalaf Al Mazrouei, Abu Dhabi Police Commander-in-Chief, inaugurated the regional conference for the identification of disaster victims. The conference was organised by Abu Dhabi Police in cooperation with the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) under the banner 'Qualified Teams and Integrated Capabilities'.

The opening was attended by Dr Mugheer Khamis Al Khaili, Chairman of the Department of Community Development in Abu Dhabi; Major General Staff Khalifa Hareb Al Khaili, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Interior; Major General Dr Ahmed Nasser Al

Raisi, Inspector General of the Ministry of Interior and Chairman of INTERPOL; and Ali Rashid Al Neyadi, Director of Operations Management at the National Emergency Crisis and Disasters Management Authority (NCEMA), and several officers.

Al Mazrouei said that this conference was important as a pioneering platform for international experts and emergency response authorities to exchange experience and transfer knowledge. "It is an opportunity for all of us to develop mechanisms for dealing with disaster victims, and to renew the pledge to continue our joint efforts in this field," he said.

Meanwhile, Al Raisi stressed the

interest and care of the UAE's wise leadership in applying the best international practices and harnessing resources to enhance development efforts. He expressed thanks and appreciation to the Commander-in-Chief of Abu Dhabi Police for supporting the strategic partnership with INTERPOL and to the Abu Dhabi Police team for its holding such specialised conferences.

Colonel Ahmed Nasser Al Kindi, Director of Crisis and Disaster Management at Abu Dhabi Police, pointed out the importance of the conference in building a knowledge system that would increase the effectiveness of managing disaster victims' affairs.

Security media analysed at Global Media Congress

ABU Dhabi Police reviewed the "security media" system and its development and modernisation during its participation in the first session of the Global Media Congress. The event was held in the Capital and was organised by the Abu Dhabi National Exhibitions Company (ADNEC) in partnership with Emirates News Agency (WAM).

Brigadier Mohammed Ali Al Muhairi, Director of the Security Media Department at Abu Dhabi Police, stressed the great importance of the conference, which was a global platform to explore the future of the media industry, exchange ideas, discuss

challenges, and accelerate the pace of media development.

Al Muhairi also spoke of the keen interest shown by Abu Dhabi Police in this global event, as the media is one of the most important pillars of the police force's system of communication with the local community, the region, and the world.

During this conference, Abu Dhabi Police reviewed their practices and technologies in the field of specialised security media work, by participating in digital awareness platforms, the 'Child and Happiness Patrol' platform, and the 'Safe City' system.



Brigadier Mohammed Ali Al Muhairi

Dhahi Khalfan leads Police Chiefs Council meeting on crime stats

LT General Dhahi Khalfan Tamim, Deputy Chairman of Police and Public Security in Dubai and Chairman of the State Police Chiefs Council, led the 8th Council meeting of 2022.

The meeting was held remotely in the presence of police chiefs, senior officers and officials of the Ministry of Interior. During the meeting, the results of the executive team's follow-up on the National Agenda were reviewed.

The aspects reviewed included the rate of response time to emergencies recorded in all emirates of the country; the number of deaths resulting from road accidents; and the number of crimes per 100,000 population.

The Council also reviewed the type of crimes committed; the nationalities of the perpetrators; and their percentage per 100,000 population.

There was a briefing on year-on-year comparable numbers of traffic indicators from the first nine months of 2022 and the same period of 2021.



Lt General Dhahi Khalfan

Al Shamsi attends launch of training on future projects

MAJOR General Saif Al Zari Al Shamsi, Commander-in-Chief of Sharjah Police, attended a ceremony held at Al Qasimia University in Sharjah. The occasion was the launch of the second phase of the training programme on the implementation of future projects, organised by the Strategy and Performance Development Department in Sharjah Police, in cooperation with the Future Lab Foundation.

Al Shamsi stressed upon making the best use of future opportunities and being prepared for future challenges, in line with the UAE's strategy for shaping the future.



Major General Al Shamsi listens to a briefing on the training programme

UAQ Police bust oil equipment thieves

THE Criminal Investigation Department of Umm Al Quwain Police managed to arrest a gang of Arabs who specialised in the theft of oil equipment and electrical materials from the modern industrial area in Umm Al Thaoub. Their loot was estimated at Dhs3 million.

Following the gang bust, Colonel Saeed Obaid bin Aran, Director of the Department of Criminal Investigation, reached out to the owners of companies in Umm Al Quwain to ensure that they would store their valuable materials and equipment in secure locations.

RAK Police personnel finish mixed martial arts course

COLONEL Dr Nasser Muhammad Al Bakr, Head of the Police Training Centre in Ras Al Khaimah, in the presence of Captain Saif Rashid Yahmour, Acting Head of the Sports and Social Activities Section, attended the third edition of Mixed Martial Arts course organised by the Ministry of Interior.

Al Bakr said that the course emphasised police duties and the nature of work covered in field exercises and self-defence methods through mixed martial arts.

Al Marri visits AccessAbilities Expo 2022

LT General Abdullah Khalifa Al Marri, Commander-in-Chief of Dubai Police, accompanied by Major General Dr Mohammed Abdullah Al Murr, Director of the General Department of Human Rights in Dubai Police, visited the International Expo for People of Determination, at the Dubai World Trade Center.

Al Marri was briefed on the latest innovations, services and smart

technologies that contribute to the integration and empowerment of this important group in society.

He inspected the Dubai Police platform at the exhibition, where he was received by Saif Al Falasi, Chairman of the Council of People of Determination in Dubai Police, and his deputy, Captain Abdullah Al Shamsi.



Lt General Al Marri greets a person of determination

The 'Labbeh' initiative of Dubai Police brings police services directly to people of determination, eliminating the necessity of them leaving their vehicles to enter a police station. Before the rollout of this positive spirit initiative, Dubai Police officers participated in training courses conducted by the International Centre for

Security and Safety on how to deal with people of determination, especially in cases of crises and disasters.

The Expo stall displayed the Dubai Police publication Stars of Determination, which documents the success stories of people of determination, and the book Social Safety Stories.

Al Marri said that the keenness of Dubai Police to take part in

AccessAbilities Expo was in line with the national policy of empowering people of determination. He said that Dubai Police had established the Empowerment Council for People of Determination, which undertook the implementation of relevant initiatives with all public administrations and police stations.

Sultan Al Nuaimi inspects Ajman Police departments

MAJOR General Sheikh Sultan bin Abdullah Al Nuaimi, Commander-in-Chief of Ajman Police, inspected the Social Support Centre, the Community Police Department, and the Police Follow-up Department, accompanied by Brigadier Abdullah Saif Al Matroushi, Director General of Police Operations.

At the Social Support Centre, the Commander-in-Chief was briefed on the mechanism for receiving cases. He praised the efforts of the police staff in professionally resolving community issues, enhancing both satisfaction and security. The Centre's outstanding performance led to 419 friendly resolutions, including those of family and student problems.

In the Police Follow-up Department, Al Nuaimi reviewed the work mechanism and follow-up on the implementation of judicial rulings. He praised the smart transformation in the implementation of procedures, which resulted in speed and simplification.



Major General Sultan Al Nuaimi speaks to personnel at Sharjah Police departments

Fujairah Police conduct anti-narcotics campaign

THE Fujairah Police General Headquarters, represented by the Information and Public Relations Section, and in cooperation with the Drug Enforcement Administration and local institutions, launched the awareness campaign 'We All Together to Combat Drugs'.

The campaign educated members of the community on the risks of drug use and the damage done to an addict's health.

Lt Colonel Khalid Rashid Al Saadi, Deputy Director of the Drug Enforcement Administration, stressed the importance of continuous solidarity between the families and the authorities to protect youngsters

from addiction.

Captain Tariq Saeed Al Dhanhani, Acting Head of the Media and Public Relations Department, said that in cooperation with community institutions, awareness programmes would be intensified through social media platforms, reminding everyone of anti-narcotics laws.

5.9%

Projected real GDP growth of the UAE for 2022, as per the latest forecast of the World Bank. According to the new Gulf Economic Update (GEU) from the Washington-based bank, the UAE's "favourable business environment and world-class infrastructure" are key drivers of this expected impressive economic growth rate.

1st

UAE's top ranking in the Middle East and North Africa region, and 11th globally, on Quality Infrastructure for Sustainable Development Index, published by the UN Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO). The index was based on 36 indicators focusing on five main dimensions: metrology, accreditation, conformity assessment, policy and standards.

1st

UAE's leading position in the Middle East and North Africa region on the value of mergers and acquisitions in the first three quarters of 2022, based on the latest report by EY Mena M&A Insights. The UAE remained the top market for M&A activity, with 155 deals worth \$17.2bn (Dhs 63.12bn) during the period.

2nd

UAE's ranking in the Middle East and North Africa region, and 25th globally, on the 2022 Global Talent Competitiveness Index report, published by graduate business school Insead. The annual benchmarking report measures how 133 countries and 175 cities attract, grow, and retain talent.

1st

Abu Dhabi's top global ranking on the list of the world's best cities for family getaways, released by Family Vacation Index. Dubai came second on the list. The two emirates took the first two spots in the index with scores of 8.05 and 7.76 out of 10, respectively.

BE IN THE LOOP

INTERIOR MINISTER MARKS FLAG DAY 2022 AT MOI'S HQ



HH Lt General Sheikh Saif bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior, raised the national flag at the MOI headquarters to mark UAE Flag Day, which is celebrated every November 3. The ceremony was attended by Major General Staff Khalifa Hareb Al Khailli, Undersecretary of the MOI; Major General Dr Ahmed Nasser Al Raisi, Inspector General of the MOI; other officials from MOI, Civil Defence, and Abu Dhabi Police; as well as directors general and heads of departments.

INTERIOR MINISTER TOURS ADNOC'S DIGITAL COMMAND CENTRE



HH Lt General Sheikh Saif bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior, visited Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC), where he was welcomed by HE Dr Sultan bin Ahmed Al Jaber, Minister of Industry and Advanced Technology, Managing Director and Group CEO of ADNOC. The Interior Minister toured ADNOC's Panorama Digital Command Centre, which leverages on AI apps and big data to ensure a precise and efficient data-gathering system. He also commended ADNOC for its crucial role in UAE's leadership in the regional and global energy industry.

SAIF BIN ZAYED ATTENDS EXHIBITION, MOU SIGNING AT MINISTRY OF POSSIBILITIES



HH Lt General Sheikh Saif bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior, along with HE Hessa bint Essa Buhmaid, Minister of Community Development, visited an exhibition at the Ministry of Possibilities which aims to foster community development efforts and involve associations in achieving the objectives of the UAE Centennial 2071. The Interior Minister also witnessed the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Community Development and Faza'a on enhancing the services of the National Behavioural Reward Programme, to encourage public and private partnership.



نرفع أسمى آيات التهاني والتبريكات
إلى أصحاب السمو
أعضاء المجلس الأعلى للاتحاد حكام الإمارات
وإلى شعب دولة الإمارات الكريم
بمناسبة اليوم الوطني الواحد والخمسين

UAE NEWS BULLETIN

POLICE NEWS, PEOPLE, NUMBERS AND EVENTS

ABU DHABI

DHS70,000

A court in Abu Dhabi dismissed a complaint filed by a man against his estranged spouse. He alleged that she had stolen Dhs70,000 from his private safe box at home without his knowledge and consent. He asserted that she knew the passcode. The case was dismissed for lack of evidence to back up his claim.

AJMAN

DHS17,000 AND 46 BLACK POINTS

A man was apprehended after dangerously driving at high speed in the opposite direction on a major roadway in Ajman. The police learned that the 26-year-old man had 39 prior traffic offences, penalties amounting to more than Dhs17,000, and 46 black points on his licence. His driver's licence had been suspended for six months and his vehicle was impounded.

DUBAI

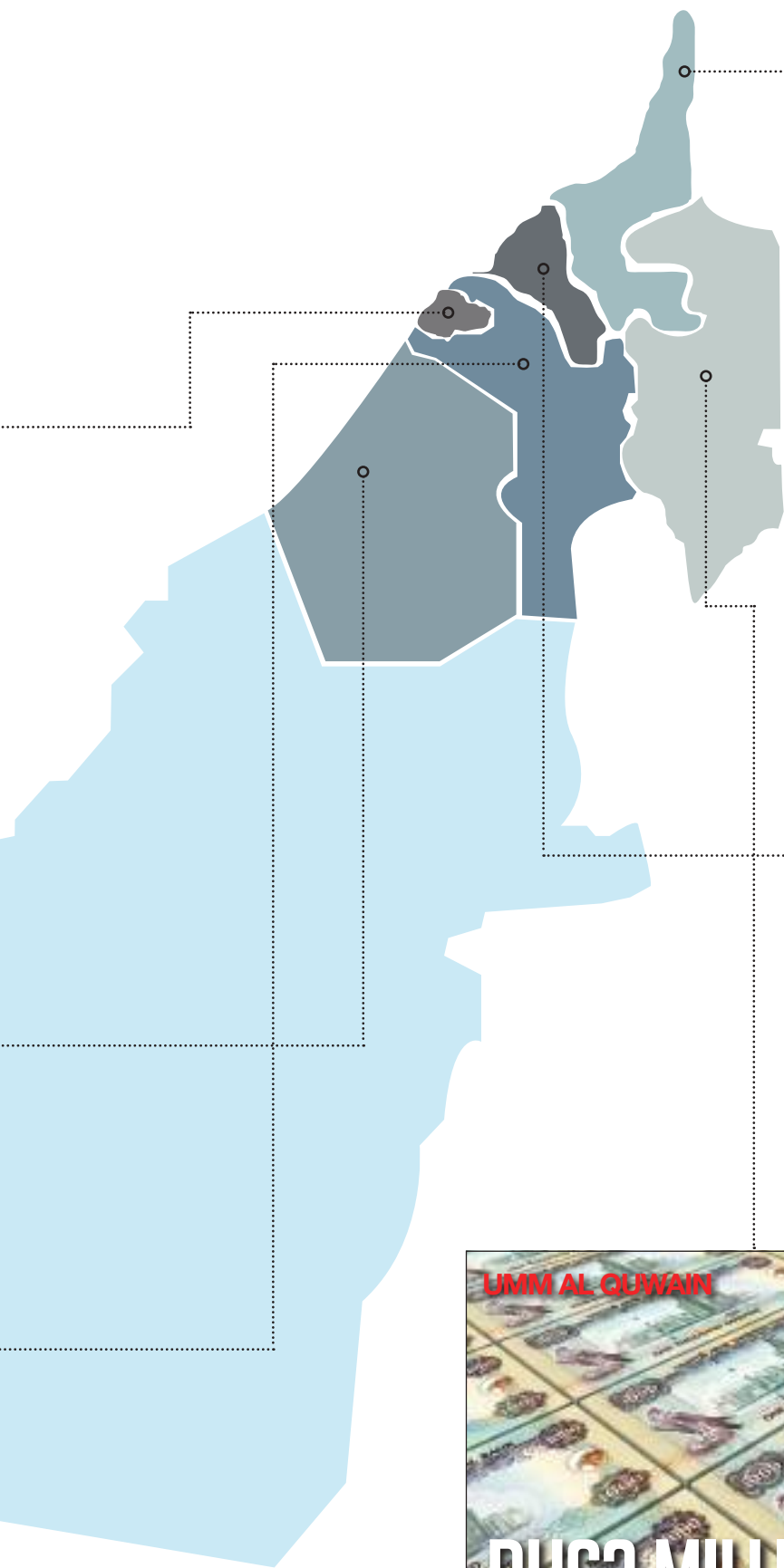
DHS1.5 MILLION

A driver was arrested for seizing a truck containing Dhs1.5 million worth of copper wires from his employer. The Dubai Misdemeanours Court convicted both the driver and his buyer. They were sentenced to one year and one-month imprisonment, respectively. They will also be deported after serving their sentences.


RAS AL KHAIMAH

DHS20,000

An Arab driver was sentenced to three months in prison and was ordered to pay a fine of Dhs20,000 after hitting a motorcyclist during a road rage incident. The victim said he was shocked when the defendant started chasing him, and then deliberately knocked his motorbike over before speeding away. The Arab man was convicted of several offences, including reckless driving and assault.



FUJAIRAH



8 AM

A motorist driving at high speed fatally hit a car belonging to a father and son. The duo was killed instantly as a result of the collision. Police received a call regarding the incident around 8 am on Industrial Area Road. The driver was arrested after receiving treatment. The police vowed an in-depth investigation into the case.

SHARJAH



48 HOURS

An Asian man was killed in a hit-and-run accident in Sharjah. Within 48 hours, Sharjah Police arrested the driver, who was identified through CCTV footage from a camera installed near the accident site. A manhunt was conducted to catch the driver, who is in his 20s. The case was turned over to the Public Prosecutors.

UMM AL QUWAIN



DHS3 MILLION

Umm Al Quwain Police busted a gang within 24 hours after they stole oil and electrical equipment worth over Dhs3 million from Umm Al Thaoub Industrial Area. They confessed that they sold some of their loot to a scrap store and kept the rest in a warehouse. The police recovered the remaining items and returned them to the owner.

UAE WALKS THE CLIMATE TALK

AS THE HOST OF NEXT YEAR'S UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE, THE COUNTRY HAS MADE ITS PRESENCE FELT AT THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED GLOBAL MEET IN EGYPT. THE UAE HAS THE SCIENCE-DRIVEN DATA AND ON-GROUND GREEN INITIATIVES TO REINFORCE ITS LEADERSHIP ROLE IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA, AND ALSO TO PROVE THAT SUSTAINABILITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GO TOGETHER

BY SANCHITA GUHA

COP27

SHARM EL-SHEIKH EGYPT 2022





We have only one planet, ladies and gentlemen, and with that in mind, it is imperative that we partner and work together in a spirit of determination and optimism to address this common challenge through climate action. We look at this as an opportunity for innovation, and a chance to find new solutions and diversify our economy

HH SHEIKH MOHAMED BIN ZAYED AL NAHYAN

UAE President



Countless promises fly through the air and plenty of papers are shuffled at the UN Climate Change Conference (Conference of Parties aka COP), held every year to address the literally burning issue of global warming. However, action on the ground is what the planet needs right now, and the countries that lead in green technology are the ones that are better placed to weather the firestorm of climate change.

In headlines made around COP27, the two-week conference (November 6-18, 2022) held in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, it became fairly obvious that the UAE was one of the countries at the forefront of climate change mitigation. It sent the largest country team to the conference — a whopping 1,000 delegates — and used this year's conference to highlight its position as the host of COP28, to start in Dubai on November 30, 2023.

The next edition of the climate conference is also a crucial one, as it will mark the conclusion of the first Global Stocktake, a two-year process that began with COP26 in Glasgow, Scotland, late last year. Each Global Stocktake, to be held at five-year intervals, will assess the actual implementation of the landmark Paris Agreement of December 2015 on action against climate change.

As the host, the UAE will have a lot to show next year, being one of the green pioneers of the Middle East and North Africa. In keeping with its international engagement strategy, this country's achievements are not only about what it

can do on its own, but also about what it can inspire others to do in order to amplify the results.

In Sharm El Sheikh, an initiative named Agriculture Innovation Mission for Climate (AIM for Climate), led by the UAE and the United States and launched last year, announced the doubling of its investment commitments to \$8 billion (Dhs29.36bn). The initiative wants to help agricultural practices and farm yield adapt to climate change, and also to cut emissions from farming activities. The financial commitments have reportedly come from 42 governments.

At the opening session of the Leaders' Summit, the UAE premier emphasised on the need for international teamwork. President His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan said in his keynote COP27 address, "We have only one planet, ladies and gentlemen, and with that in mind, it is imperative that we partner and work together in a spirit of determination and optimism to address this common challenge through climate action. We look at this as an opportunity for innovation, and a chance to find new solutions and diversify our economy."

The President spoke of the UAE being "a responsible energy supplier", a role that it will keep playing alongside bringing about "a transition to alternate resources and technologies". Recalling the country's early commitment to sustainable practices, he said, "This is not a new role for us; our Founding Father, the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, directed us to stop all gas flaring decades ago, laying the foundations of sustainability in the UAE and guaranteeing the protection of



United Nations
Climate Change



President HH Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed delivers the keynote address at COP27 in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt

both the environment and our natural resources.” Gas flaring refers to the practice of burning unusable natural gas that comes to the surface as part of oil extraction and is disposed of by “flaring”, with fumes released into the air.

Guided by Sheikh Zayed’s principle of caring for the planet alongside enabling the progress of people and making business profits, the UAE began investing in clean energy solutions long before the urgency of global warming gripped the world. At COP27, HH Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed pointed out, “As a result, we have spent decades working towards diversifying our economy, and building our capabilities in the renewable and clean energy sector, in an effort to drive sustainable economic and social growth for the benefit of the UAE and the wider world, and for current and future generations.”

POWERED BY RENEWABLES

On the sidelines of the climate conference, HH Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed and President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi of Egypt witnessed the signing of an agreement to develop a 10 Gigawatt (GW) onshore wind project in Egypt, slated to become one of the largest wind farm projects in the world. The agreement was signed between Abu Dhabi’s Masdar and Egypt’s renewable energy developers Infinity and Hassan Allam Utilities.

The Memorandum of Understanding was signed by HE Dr Sultan Ahmed Al Jaber, UAE Minister of Industry and Advanced Technology, UAE Special Envoy for Climate, and Chairman of Masdar, and Sabah Meshaly, Chairwoman of the Egyptian Electricity Transmission Company.

Guided by Sheikh Zayed’s principle of caring for the planet alongside enabling the progress of people and making business profits, the UAE began investing in clean energy solutions long before the urgency of global warming gripped the world



The scale of this mega 10GW onshore wind project is a testament to the renewable energy ambitions of the UAE and Egypt, and demonstrates Masdar's status as a global leader in clean energy. The UAE and Masdar will continue to support Egypt's net-zero goals

HE DR SULTAN AHMED AL JABER

UAE Minister of Industry and Advanced Technology, and the UAE's Special Envoy for Climate Change

The signing was attended by UAE leaders such as HH Sheikh Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Presidential Court; HH Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation; HH Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan; and HE Sheikh Mohammed bin Hamad bin Tahnoun Al Nahyan, Advisor for Special Affairs at the Ministry of Presidential Court.

Al Jaber said, "The scale of this mega 10GW onshore wind project is a testament to the renewable energy ambitions of the UAE and Egypt, and demonstrates Masdar's status as a global

leader in clean energy. The UAE and Masdar will continue to support Egypt's net-zero goals, and we will endeavour to take forward the gains made here at COP27, as the UAE prepares to host COP28 next year."

At another point of the climate conference, Al Jaber spoke of the UAE's desire for an inclusive transition to a renewable energy regime "that leaves nobody behind". With a specific reference to "the Global South and developing countries", he said, "We aim to highlight the UAE's decades-long track record of climate diplomacy and creating practical climate solutions that meet the aspirations of developing and vulnerable nations."



President HH Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan and Egypt President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi witness the MoU signing between Masdar (represented by HE Dr Sultan Ahmed Al Jaber, UAE Minister of Industry and Advanced Technology, UAE Special Envoy for Climate, and Chairman of Masdar) and Hassan Allam Utilities (represented by Sabah Meshaly, Chairperson of the Egyptian Electricity Transmission Company) to develop a 10-GW onshore wind project in Egypt, on the sidelines of COP27

A balanced phasing out of fossil fuel and adoption of renewable energy sources is one of the most contentious issues of these climate conferences. Time and again, developed nations have demanded that developing nations make deep cuts in emission, which would mean cutting back on oil and coal. But then, developing nations have argued that developed nations should do more, as they are the ones historically responsible for most of the emissions that caused global warming in the first place. Which part of the world ought to make more emission cuts? That's the big question of action against climate change.

The UAE, which has traditionally acted as a consensus-builder through dialogues, has its work cut out in a world where different regions are at different stages of development, but none can escape the perils of climate change.

IT CERTAINLY AIN'T A HOAX

There are political views in some rich nations that global warming is a 'hoax', even though disaster after climate disaster shows that it's very real. Over the past couple of years, devastating wildfires have raged in North America, Europe, Asia, and Australia — by every indication, these were the worst such forest fires in two or three decades, and they were

WIND POWER IN EGYPT



An agreement signed by the UAE's Masdar and two of Egypt's renewable energy developers will give the North African Arab nation one of the world's largest wind farm projects.

9 per cent

Share of Egypt's current CO2 emission to be cut by this wind farm

10GW

Planned capacity of the UAE-Egypt wind farm project

47,790 GWh

Clean energy to be produced annually by this wind farm

23.8 million tonnes

Carbon dioxide emissions to be offset by the wind power

\$5 billion (Dhs18.35 billion)

Money to be saved from Egypt's annual natural gas costs by the wind farm

100,000

Jobs to be generated by the wind farm project during and after construction

2035

Year when Egypt plans to have 42 per cent clean energy in its energy mix



caused by unprecedented heat waves.

Hurricanes that hit America are growing in frequency and ferocity because of ocean warming, say scientific studies, such as the one published by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, US, in May 2020.

Heat waves are a particular concern in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), where global warming could push summer temperatures to unbearable levels. That brings with it another massive problem: water scarcity.

In September 2020, the website Earthday.org reported: "The Middle East and North Africa has been experiencing almost continuous drought since 1998 — the most severe dry spell in 900 years, according to NASA. According to the World Bank, the region is home to 6 per cent of the world's population, but only 1 per cent of the world's freshwater resources, with 17 countries in the region falling below the water poverty line set by the United Nations. With rainfall projected to decline 20 to 40 per cent in a 2°C hotter world, and up to 60 per cent in a 4°C hotter world, the region's ability to provide water to its people and economies will be severely tested."

The MENA region would need to find its own solutions for climate change without delay, as the UAE stated during

WHAT IS THE GLOBAL STOCKTAKE?



Commitments and investment pledges on climate change mitigation have to be followed up by action. That's what the Global Stocktake is all about — to see what has really been done. This feature of the 2015 Paris Agreement is a two-year process, undertaken at five-year intervals.

The first Global Stocktake got underway at COP26 in Glasgow, Scotland, last year, and it will be concluded at COP28 in Dubai, UAE, next year. Being the first such assessment process so far, the Global Stocktake will be an extremely important feature of COP28, and the UAE is ready to have a good showing as the host country.

On March 30 this year, updates on the first Global Stocktake were discussed at the MENA Climate Week, the first event of its kind, with the UAE as the host.

Joanna Post, Programme Officer with UN Climate Change's Intergovernmental Support and Collective Progress Division, said, "The Global Stocktake will provide critical information for countries and stakeholders to see what progress has been made on meeting the Paris Agreement goals, as well as identify any remaining gaps and opportunities for increased action.

"To put it simply, the Global Stocktake will help spur countries to step up climate action to avoid the worst impacts of climate change."

The Global Stocktake is based on how much each Paris Agreement signatory nation has done to implement its own Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) on climate change mitigation. Each country's situation being different, the NDCs are also different; but whatever the plan, the end result has to be net zero and the limiting of global warming to less than 2°C from the pre-industrial baseline, and preferably 1.5°C. This is a process of accountability that's meant to prevent the countries from slacking on their NDCs.

The three phases of the first Global Stocktake are:

- Phase 1: Collecting and preparing information, being done by UN Climate Change. Submitted information comes from a variety of sources, such as national climate plans, scientific studies, country reports, etc.
- Phase 2: Conducting technical assessment, which includes in-person dialogues at UN Climate Change Conferences to analyse collective progress on the Paris Agreement's long-term goals.
- Phase 3: Presenting the key findings from the first Global Stocktake at COP28 at the end of 2023.



Officials from the UAE, Jordan and Israel sign an MoU to advance Project Prosperity, which aims to promote clean energy and sustainable water desalination initiatives in the Middle East

 **The UAE is committed to achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement. Last year, we took a decisive step in this direction with the launch of the UAE Net Zero by 2050 Strategic Initiative**



HE MARIAM BINT MOHAMMED ALMHEIRI

UAE Minister of Climate Change and Environment

the World Economic Forum on the Middle East and North Africa, hosted by Jordan in April 2019. “We need leaders who lead by example. We should not wait until someone else tells us whether he believes in climate change or not. We have to roll up our sleeves and start the work we need to do,” said HE Thani Ahmed Al Zeyoudi, who was then Minister of Climate Change and Environment (and is now Minister of State for Foreign Trade, within the Ministry of Economy).

In Sharm El Sheikh this year, HE Mariam bint Mohammed Almhairi, the current Minister of Climate Change and Environment, said, “Climate change is the single most critical threat to humanity, as it affects not only us but also the food we eat, the water we drink, the air we breathe, the places we live in, and even plants, animals, and soil. Recognising the importance of fighting climate change on all fronts, the UAE is committed to achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement.

“Last year, we took a decisive step in this direction with the launch of the UAE Net Zero by 2050 Strategic Initiative. And [at COP27], we are proud to present the National Net Zero by 2050 Pathway that will drive the implementation of the Initiative.”

NET ZERO AND 1.5°C

The term “net zero” refers to a state where the amount of greenhouse gases (GHGs) going into the atmosphere through various industrial activities is cancelled out by the amount of GHGs being removed from the atmosphere through climate change mitigation measures. This would ensure that no additional GHGs burden the Earth’s

climate, thereby halting global warming.

The vision of the 2015 Paris Agreement was to limit global warming to less than 2°C above the baseline temperature of pre-industrial levels, preferably no more than 1.5°C above the baseline. This was meant to be achieved by a series of emission-cutting steps taken by each of the 193 ‘parties’ (192 nations

plus the European Union) that joined the pact.

Seven years later, that 1.5°C target doesn’t look too promising, and there’s talk of moving the goalpost to 2°C. What a difference that half-a-degree extra centigrade would make in the world may be hard to grasp, sitting

UAE’S FLAGSHIP GREEN INVESTMENTS

\$50 billion + \$50 billion

The UAE has already invested more than \$50 billion (Dhs183.5bn) in clean energy projects across 70 countries, and has pledged \$50 billion more by 2032.

\$100 billion

The UAE-US Partnership for Accelerating Clean Energy (PACE) is a plan that’s designed to gradually decarbonise the energy currently used by the world, and to increase investment in zero-carbon energy projects. PACE, signed in November 2022, will source and utilise \$100 billion (Dhs367bn) of funds to produce 100GW of clean energy in the UAE, the US, and emerging economies by 2035.

\$8 billion

The UAE co-leads (with the United States) the Agriculture Innovation Mission for Climate (AIM for Climate), which has got \$8 billion (Dhs29.36bn) worth of investment commitments from 42 governments. Launched last year, the initiative has already managed to double its investment commitments.



comfortably in our urban dwellings, fiddling with the TV remote. But here's a sampler: that half-a-degree temperature difference would wipe out plant and animal species at a much faster rate; make fish populations decline at a far higher rate; make sea levels rise more; and expose three times as many people to extreme heat in the 2°C scenario compared to the 1.5°C scenario.

These are all projections based on the scientific analysis of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), a United Nations body created in 1988. IPCC was established "to provide policymakers with regular scientific assessments on the current state of knowledge about climate change".

Quoting the IPCC special report, a Forbes.com article of January 2022 explained: "To keep within 2°C, we need to lower [carbon dioxide] emissions from 2010 levels by a minimum of 25 per cent by 2030, and reach net zero by 2070. To achieve the more ambitious goal of 1.5°C, a 45 per cent reduction on 2010 levels will be needed by 2030, followed by net zero around 2050."

If the world drags its heels on reaching net zero, the word "catastrophic" might not come close to describing what could happen. The accelerated adoption of clean energy and rethinking industrial processes could avert this catastrophe. The UAE's National Net Zero by 2050 Pathway eyes the 1.5°C scenario, instead of the 2°C scenario.

As the first Middle Eastern nation to ratify the Paris Agreement and commit to lowering its carbon emissions, the UAE is a role model for the region. At the same time, its action against climate change is tied to sustainable economic development, so that the poorer nations can take part in the transition from a polluting economy to a green economy.

Minister Al Jaber said, "[The UAE] aims to accelerate progress on all fronts: mitigation, adaptation, finance and loss and damage, with a particular focus on the most vulnerable countries. We will co-operate with the international community to push for a realistic energy transition that leaves nobody behind, as well as for immediate support for those already suffering the worst impacts of climate change."

Al Jaber said that the UAE believed in the vast economic growth potential associated with climate action. Signalling that the country intended to unlock all the benefits of mitigation, he added, "COP28 will be a milestone COP — set to deliver the first ever comprehensive assessment of the world's efforts to tackle climate change through the Global Stocktake. This is a key opportunity to raise global ambition."

DHS62.4BN GREEN BOND, SUKUK MARKET



HE Essa Al Hashmi, Assistant Undersecretary, Sustainable Communities Sector at MoCCA (left), talks about the UAE Green Bond and Sukuk Programme at a COP27 forum

Economic growth and climate action aren't mutually exclusive; indeed, a stable planet is the best factor for growth. This was highlighted at a session on the sidelines of COP27, co-hosted by the UAE Ministry of Climate Change and Environment (MoCCA) with the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI).

At the session, the ministry presented data from a report on sustainable finance, stating that over the past years, the total value of the UAE's domestic market for green sukuk, bonds, and loans had reached nearly \$17 billion (Dhs62.4bn). In 2020, the size of the global market for green sukuk was estimated at \$1 trillion, as per the data.

Green bonds (aka climate bonds) are investment instruments that finance projects beneficial to the climate and also generate an income for investors. Sukuk is the Shariah-compliant, Islamic finance version of the Western concept of bonds.

The session was led by Essa Al Hashmi, Assistant Undersecretary, Sustainable Communities Sector, MoCCA, and was moderated by Mercedes Vela Monserrate, Head of Sustainable Finance at Abu Dhabi Global Market.

Al Hashmi said, "MoCCA works with its strategic partners to raise awareness amongst key finance and investment players about the importance of green bonds and sukuk as effective financial instruments to boost sustainability."

YOUTH RALLY TO THE CAUSE OF CLIMATE ACTION

In the context of the climate conference in Sharm El Sheikh, HE Shamma bint Suhail Faris Al Mazrui, UAE Minister of State for Youth, said, "The UAE has established a model for empowering young people as sustainability leaders and champions, and encourages them to actively take a role in shaping pathways towards Net Zero."

"At Sharm El Sheikh, we are joined by a delegation of youth taking part in both the Conference of Youth (COY) as well as COP27, where we will highlight the UAE's model of youth empowerment by asking the youth to lead our participation. The youth play a critical role in carrying out the UAE's climate agenda. We reaffirm our commitment to the youth regionally and globally, and will work hand in hand with them to find realistic solutions to climate change."



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THE YEAR IN REVIEW

ISSUE 131

DECEMBER 2022

NEWSMAKERS



THE YEAR 2022 HAS OFFERED ALL OF US IN THE UAE THE MOST PRECIOUS RESOURCE OF ALL: TIME. AS IMPORTANT EVENTS UNFOLDED AROUND US, WE SAW HOW THE COUNTRY USED THE GIFT OF TIME TO STRENGTHEN ITSELF AND REWARD THE PEOPLE

BY JACOB MORRISON

The year 2022 was quite an extraordinary one for the UAE, because of three things: first, we lost our highly esteemed head of state, Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, and gained his worthy successor, His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan; second, we threw off the last remaining shreds of the pandemic and marched forward with renewed faith in the UAE's resilience; third, the UAE looked at how it used that most precious resource — time — and found new ways to benefit the country's people and the economy.

The UAE paid its last respects to Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed, who died at the age of 73 on May 13. This tearful goodbye allowed people to reflect on the principles and achievements of the late president, who continued to modernise the country after taking over from his father Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan, the UAE's Founding Father.

But every end leads to a new beginning, and for the UAE, it saw the rise of the new architect of national progress, HH Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed, who was elected President by Their Highnesses the Federal Supreme Council Members and Rulers of the Emirates. As the country's pilot to a knowledge-based economy, HH Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed pushes the UAE's transition beyond hydrocarbon to a more sustainable economic model.

This year, the UAE's economy came full circle, scoring a near-total recovery after the blow landed on the world by the COVID-19 pandemic. Business data in 2022 from various key sectors showed that this country was on a remarkable growth trajectory. Its outstanding containment of the pandemic and its humanitarian work across the globe during the most trying periods of 2020-2021 brought their rewards,

as the UAE was ranked 12th in the world in 'business competitiveness' (and 1st in the Middle East and North Africa) in the IMD World Competitiveness 2022 Report released in June. The UAE was ahead of the United Kingdom, Canada, Germany, France, Austria, China, Japan, South Korea, Australia, New Zealand and others in this report.

Time is an important aspect of life for people to function in society. As such, it's equally important that we keep track of the recent history created with the passage of time that will lead us in the right direction

The country has increased this post-pandemic competitiveness by synchronising its workweek with the international markets. Indeed, it has become the first in the world to give all employees a better work-life balance by creating a workweek shorter than five days. That's the gift of time the UAE has given to itself and its citizens and residents.

On the first day of 2022, the country officially

dropped its Sunday-to-Thursday workweek, and switched to a Monday-to-Friday week. Also, the workweek for the government sector ended by Friday noon, giving employees precious extra hours at the start of their weekend. (The emirate of Sharjah went further by giving full three days off in the public sector.) Entities in the private sector were to take their own call on shortening or changing the weekend, as per business needs.

All of this was part of the bigger goal of the government to facilitate stronger global business links and opportunities, making the UAE the best destination for talent and investors.

One of the salient aspects of time is its irreversibility. We cannot go back and change what happened during our lifetime; however, there are ways in which we can shape our life experiences — be it our professional or business goals or relationships. This was the anchor of the UAE's groundbreaking visa schemes and work-related reforms this year. New legislations have been formulated based on the valuable resource of time to give global talents and investors more opportunities, to let them extend their stay in the country, and to enable expats to bring their families to the UAE.

Time is an important aspect of life for people to function in society. As such, it's equally important that we keep track of the recent history created with the passage of time that will lead us in the right direction. Here are the top 10 developments of 2022 that immensely impacted people's lives in the UAE.

SHEIKH MOHAMED BIN ZAYED'S ASCENT AS UAE PRESIDENT

1

In the wake of the UAE's sad farewell to Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, who was the head of state from November 2004 to May 2022, Their Highnesses the Federal Supreme Council Members and Rulers of the Emirates gathered on the red-letter day of May 14, 2022. The gathering of the Rulers created a scene similar to the famous riveting old photographs of how the Union was founded 50 years ago. This year's meeting unanimously elected HH Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan as the UAE's new President.

This marked the third era in the UAE's history — the first phase was of Arab Renaissance and development under the Founding Father, Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan; the second phase was the extraordinary achievements under Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed; and the third phase came with the new leadership of HH Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed.



News about HH Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed's election was welcomed with roaring support inside and outside the country. During its 10th session of the ordinary third term of its 17th legislative chapter, the Federal National Council pledged allegiance to the new President. Elsewhere, there was an outpour of

congratulatory greetings and visits from global leaders, describing the President as a leader of high calibre, a global humanitarian champion, and a global peacemaker, who made a difference in achieving remarkable milestones in terms of promoting safety and security regionally and internationally.

PERIOD OF MOURNING FOR SHEIKH KHALIFA'S DEATH

2

The death of Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, the second president of the UAE, at the age of 73 sent the entire country and the world into a period of great mourning on May 13, 2022. An atmosphere of great bereavement was felt across the country, remembering his time-treasured teachings and wisdom.

Sheikh Khalifa succeeded Sheikh Zayed to the UAE's highest office. His leadership positioned the country as one of the most advanced states in the Middle East. He knew that translating his words into action would inspire the nation with tangible results. Under his reign, the UAE became the first Arab nation and the fifth worldwide to reach the planet Mars in February 2021, against the backdrop of the first wave of the pandemic. The UAE's Hope Probe was not meant to land on Mars; it entered the Mars orbit exactly on schedule, marking a historic moment for the Arab World.



HH Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed highlighted Sheikh Khalifa's ideals and vision that paved the way for a massive transformation of the UAE in merely two decades. "The UAE has lost a loyal son, and the leader of its blessed empowerment journey,

whose achievements, wisdom, giving, and efforts are embodied in every corner of our country. Khalifa bin Zayed, my brother, supporter, and mentor, may Allah Almighty grant you eternal peace," said HH Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed.

CURTAINS CAME DOWN ON EXPO 2020 DUBAI

3

A new chapter in the UAE's modern history closed when the curtains came down on Expo 2020 Dubai on March 31, 2022, but its legacy lives on. This humongous global event, experienced by tens of millions of people of all nationalities, was mounted and managed by the UAE despite the emergence of the Omicron variant of the novel coronavirus. Indeed, the Expo showed the UAE's national resilience, as the event itself — deferred and fortified because of the pandemic — is a story of extreme resilience.

The blend of culture and technology, heritage and futurism that Expo 2020 Dubai unveiled to the world will power its international relations — and, consequently, competitiveness and growth — through generations.

The spectacular success of Expo 2020 Dubai has led to the next phase of the UAE's connection



with the world — it came to life in October 2022, in the form of Expo City Dubai. Reinvented as Dubai's newest free zone, Expo City Dubai will be home to some of the top local and global companies, a new museum, a world-class exhibition

centre, and the headquarters of cutting-edge and fast-growing companies. It will be a human-centric city, too, because it will adopt a car-free policy and single-use plastics ban, carrying the Expo's sustainability goal forward.

NEW WORKWEEK CAME INTO FORCE

4

At the start of 2022, the UAE government had given citizens and residents the gift of time, when it adopted a four-and-a-half day workweek, besides starting the workweek on Monday, instead of Sunday, aligning itself with international markets. The three-day (Friday-Saturday-Sunday) weekend given by Sharjah has offered the emirate's residents a quality of life that people outside the UAE can only dream of. The “game-changer” measures came at a time when work stress became accentuated by the stretched hours on the job during the work-from-home (WFH) trend of the pandemic. The measures were aimed at enhancing the happiness of the UAE people, who've always been at the heart of governance decisions.

Under this new work model, employees are entitled to overtime payments if they have to work



more than 48 hours in a week. With the new timetable, Monday-Thursday work hours are 7.30am-3.30pm (8 hours), and Friday work

hours are 7.30am-12 noon (4.5 hours). Friday prayers are to be held at 1.15pm. And then, the long weekend begins.

DAWN OF POST-PANDEMIC NORMALCY

5

The UAE government ended all COVID-19 restrictions in November 2022. The mandate of wearing masks, which was made optional for outdoor activities in March 2022, has been further eased. Most activities have now returned to pre-pandemic levels of normalcy. The latest announcement from the UAE health authorities made face masks optional in all open and closed facilities, including places of worship and mosques. Praying on personal mats also became optional at mosques and praying facilities. In Abu Dhabi, the requirement of having to show the Al Hosn Green Pass to enter attractions, hotels and indoor public venues was also removed. The only time the Al Hosn app is required now is for travel, if your final destination requires proof of vaccination.

The UAE's success in the battle against the pandemic



was due, for the most part, to its strong healthcare system and its commitment to pandemic preparedness and response.

It consistently ranked number one in the world for individuals vaccinated against COVID-19, and it has seen a steady drop in new COVID-19 cases.

'ONE BILLION MEALS' FOR THE WORLD

6

Charitable acts are of particular significance in the UAE, which has always followed a culture of benevolence; its residents have the perfect example of their able leaders to follow. In the holy month of Ramadan in April 2022, the UAE scaled up its target to provide meals for vulnerable communities across the globe with the announcement of the 'One Billion Meals' initiative. Under the Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives, the campaign's slogan, 'He is not a believer who sleeps full, while his neighbour is hungry', proved to be an inspiration for UAE residents to help fulfil the needs of others in as many ways as possible during Ramadan.

In the words of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, "The best of all charity is



to feed a hungry person and the best of all nations is the one that keeps thinking of others. We aim to

distribute one billion meals, to send one billion messages of humanity to the world."

NEW PHASE OF **EMIRATISATION** MOVES FORWARD

7

The UAE Cabinet approved in May 2022 a new mandate aimed at boosting Emiratis' participation and employment opportunities in the private sector. Ratified by the Cabinet, the Emiratisation rate for high-skilled jobs in companies that employ 50 workers or more was increased to 2 per cent annually, with the target of reaching 10 per cent by 2026. Non-compliant companies will have to pay an amount of Dh\$6,000 monthly, starting January 2023, for every Emirati not hired by a private company. Meanwhile, companies that record significant achievements in recruiting and training UAE nationals would be given incentives, including an 80 per cent reduction in the service fees of the Ministry of Human Resources and Emiratisation. The Ministry will also provide companies with training grants worth up to Dh\$10 million for each year they participate in the Nafis programme.



The new mandate came within Nafis, the federal programme to increase the competitiveness of the Emirati workforce and to facilitate private sector employment of UAE citizens. The programme aims to create more than 12,000 job opportunities annually for citizens

in all economic sectors. Nafis offers various benefits, including the Emirati Salary Support Scheme, wherein citizens will be offered one-year salary support of up to Dh\$8,000 per month during training, and monthly support of up to Dh\$5,000 will be paid for up to five years for university graduates.

LABOUR CODE UNDERGOES MAJOR REVAMP

8

On February 2 this year, a modernised labour code spurred by the new world order came into force. It was given birth by Federal Decree Law No. 33 of 2021 on the Regulation of Labour Relations (the new law), replacing Federal Law No. 8 of 1980 on November 15, 2021. It was considered to be one of the most significant steps taken in the journey towards UAE Centennial 2071, following the Golden Jubilee celebrations of December 2021.

Amongst its new measures were new work models and the abolition of unlimited contracts with work contracts of a fixed term of three years, which may be renewed on the same conditions with the consent of both parties for a similar period or less. The law also set a minimum wage, which shall be determined and announced by the UAE Cabinet following a proposal by the Minister of Human Resources



and Emiratisation, in collaboration with the relevant authorities. Employees now have the right to request additional types of leave under the new law, including bereavement leave of three days

following the death of close family members, and parental leave of five days. Mothers will also receive longer maternity leave, with 45 days of full pay and the next 15 days with half pay.

GROUNDBREAKING VISA SCHEME AND WORK MODELS

9

The occasion of Ramadan came as a wonderful gift for all UAE residents with the introduction of 10 types of new entry and residence visas. It was announced on April 18, 2022, and came into force on October 3. This, along with the expanded 10-year residency scheme called Golden Visa, aims to attract and retain entrepreneurs and top talent, especially those in the tourism, economic, and educational sectors. The new visa regime, which introduced the Green Residence visa, freelancer visa, job exploration visa, temporary work mission visa, student visa and more, requires no host or sponsor; offers multi-entry validity, and has one unified application platform. Visitors can now stay in the country for 60 days as standard, as compared to the previous 30-day visit visa on arrival for most nationalities. The Golden Residence visa scheme has been made more



extensive because visa-holders can now sponsor family members and domestic workers without any limit on their number.

The visa reforms followed the announcement of 6 work models and 12 work permits on February 1, 2022. The new rules allow employees to have more control over their work

schedules. This includes the option to have remote work, shared jobs, part-time, temporary and flexible job contracts when applying in the private sector. The new work permits were part of the UAE's efforts to establish an efficient and transparent labour market that can adapt to the ever-changing world.

NEW GROWTH WITH FEDERAL CORPORATE TAXATION

10

The 9 per cent federal tax on corporate income, which was announced in January 2022 and came into effect in June, is part of the UAE's growth strategy for its wheels to turn smoothly. To support small businesses and start-ups, the UAE implements zero per cent tax on businesses with annual income up to Dh375,000. Annual business income exceeding this amount will be taxable at the rate of 9 per cent. The country's first federal corporate tax was a milestone on the growth path towards Centennial 2071. It was welcomed by business analysts as being representative of the UAE's mature view on economic progress, and continued growth as a global business hub.

The corporate tax, which was first introduced with a 5 per cent value-added tax in 2018, only applies to the adjusted accounting net profit of the business. No corporate tax



will apply on personal income, from employment, real estate and other investments, or any other income earned by individuals that do not arise from a business or another form of commercial activity,

licensed or otherwise, permitted to be undertaken in the UAE. The tax is not also being applied to foreign investors who do not conduct business in the UAE, as well as on domestic and cross-border payments.

NEWSMAKERS



UAE'S FIRST LONG-TERM MISSION ASTRONAUT

Emirati astronaut Sultan Al Neyadi will participate in the first long-term voyage to the International Space Station (ISS), which will be launched in spring 2023 as part of a NASA, Space-X, and Crew-6 mission. President His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan congratulated the Emirati people on the selection of Al Neyadi for the mission, stressing that the UAE is the 11th country in history to participate in a long-term space expedition. The President stated that Al Neyadi is a role model for Emirati youth, of whom he is proud, and that he will be an ambassador for all Arabs in the space race, emphasising that the country is laying the groundwork for this vital sector.



UAE'S ANALOGUE ASTRONAUT

In July 2022, the UAE's analogue astronaut Saleh Al Ameri finished his maiden UAE Analog Mission after 8 months of isolation as part of the 'SIRIUS-21' mission, which began in November 2021. Analogue astronauts undergo training in environments that simulate the conditions of space, preparing them for long-duration space travel. On a momentous occasion, the team stepped out of the isolation facility in Moscow, waving at the media and experts. Al Ameri said, "I am proud of the mission's success, and I am proud to present this achievement to our wise leadership." He added, "I consider myself to have served my nation for 240 days."



EMIRATI WOMEN ON TOP OF THE WORLD

In August 2022, a group of 10 Emirati women reached the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro, the highest peak in Africa. Upon reaching the top, they hoisted the UAE flag on the peak. The climb was organised by Majalis Abu Dhabi to celebrate Emirati Women's Day (August 28). It served as a testament to the UAE's strong will and ability to overcome challenges, and also as a way for women to share various positive values about teamwork and determination with one another, such as how to carry out goals fearlessly. Mount Kilimanjaro is located in northeastern Tanzania and rises 5,895 metres above sea level.



UAE'S SEVEN SUMMIT MOUNTAINEER

Abdullah Al Muhairbi, an Emirati engineer, is creating history with his mission to conquer the Seven Summits, the highest mountains of each of the seven continents. In September 2022, he succeeded in his climb to Mount Elbrus in Russia, and Mount Aconcagua in Argentina in South America. He has also climbed Mount Kilimanjaro in Africa. Al Muhairbi expressed his gratitude to the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development for its support to his mission. He said: "My success is the success of all Emiratis who have determination, strength and courage to defy all odds to achieve their lofty dreams and ambitions."

SURVIVORS



WAR VICTIM TO READING CHAMPION

His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, crowned a little Syrian girl as the Arab Reading Champion for 2022. Sham Al Bakoor, aged 7 years, bested 22.27 million participants from 44 countries. As an infant, she had survived a deadly missile attack during her country's civil war. Sham was just six months old when her family's car was missile-struck in Aleppo in December 2015. Her father was killed, but she and her mother survived.



FRONTLINE HERO

Arunkumar M. Nair, a frontliner, was infected with COVID-19 in July 2021 and endured lung damage, cardiac arrests, and incapacity to breathe. He remained in a semi-conscious state for six months. Nair was discharged in January 2022 after a miraculous recovery in a hospital in Abu Dhabi. However, it took him nine more months to recuperate and return to service. With his family's assistance in his recovery, Nair has started going for daily walks and engaging in light strength training at home.

GOOD SAMARITANS



FLOOD HERO

In July 2022, during a flood that swept across the UAE, the goodness of a delivery driver shone brightly. In a viral video, he was seen removing two construction blocks at an intersection submerged in knee-level waters. The delivery rider, named Abdul Ghafoor Abdul Hakim, said that he was only doing his duty to protect other road users when he got off his motorbike to clear the blocks. His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai, personally expressed his gratitude to Abdul Hakim for his "act of goodness".



BRAVE WATCHMAN

A brave watchman assisted in the rescue of a small child dangling from a high-rise window in Sharjah in September 2022. Nepalese national Mohammed Rahmatullah noticed five-year-old Farouq Mohammad hanging from a window sill on the 13th floor. Mohammed, together with a tenant and a maintenance worker, broke into the flat with the approval of the father, who was at work at the time. While one of them held the boy's arm, the other two lifted him to safety. The watchman told *The National*, "I imagined one of my two sons in that scenario and I nearly broke into tears. I knew we had to act quickly because a minute can make a difference between life and death."

HONEST PASSERBY

In September 2022, Dubai Police recognised a resident for turning over Dhs45,000 in cash that he discovered in Al Qusais. Soon after discovering the money, Mohammad Azad Mohammad Razaq rushed to the local police station to hand over the huge amount. Colonel Saeed Salem Al Madhani, Acting Director of the Bur Dubai Police Station, presented Razaq with a certificate of appreciation, praising his honesty. He reaffirmed the force's keenness to strengthen the concept of community partnership and foster a sense of responsibility amongst residents. Mohammad Razaq thanked Dubai Police for honouring him and said that it gave him great pride and joy.





FUTURE WITH CONFIDENCE

Ali Obaid is a veteran Emirati commentator and writer on local issues; he currently heads the News Centre at Dubai Media Incorporated

Our 51st National Day is a celebration of the UAE's resilience and its influence on the global stage

This year, we celebrate the 51st National Day of the establishment of our country under the leadership of President His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

The UAE has embarked on a new era in which oil is not a primary and only resource for the state, as His Highness announced before the Government Summit in Dubai in 2015. He had said, "In 50 years, when we might have the last barrel of oil, the question is: when it is shipped abroad, will we be sad? If we are investing today in the right sectors, I can tell you we will celebrate at that moment."

His Highness reiterated this in the speech he delivered at the conclusion of the Mohamed bin Zayed Council for Future Generations in March 2017, when he called upon the students of the country to arm themselves with science and knowledge, saying, "The knowledge you have in this generation and the technology you are learning have to be the best in the world. We have to ensure the new generation is equipped with knowledge and science, so they can represent our competitive advantage in front of the whole world. Our only choice is quality."

This year, we celebrate the National Day on December 2 after we successfully passed the ordeal of the coronavirus pandemic, gaining experience in dealing with health emergencies and strengthening our medical system to make it ready to face any similar outbreaks that the world may be exposed to in the coming days.

This year, we also celebrate the National Day amidst one of the most complex and dangerous wars — the war in Ukraine, which is about to put the whole world

on the edge of the abyss, as the conflict is raging between two powers that are the greatest in our contemporary world. This brings us back to a situation more complex than the conditions of the Cold War, which we thought had ended with the disintegration of the Soviet Union. We believed that there was no longer a danger threatening the world.

But then, the Ukraine war comes and blows up those expectations, and brings us back to square one of the dangerous possibilities.

After we achieved more competitiveness than many countries that preceded us in independence, education, renaissance and progress, the UAE has become a balancing element amongst the nations of the world

Also, security has become an urgent concern because of a number of regional conflicts and instability in the Middle East. The UAE has played an essential role in achieving security and stability, which are the central aspects of preserving the nation's achievements during the half-century that has passed. They also form the fundamental guarantee for moving towards the future with more confidence in realising the aspirations of our leadership and people.

After we achieved more competitiveness than many countries that preceded us in independence,

education, renaissance and progress, the UAE has become a balancing element amongst the nations of the world. It has become a robust and influential regional player, overcoming the geography factor, which is no longer the only criterion in measuring the power of countries.

Under the leadership of His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, we are confident and determined to achieve more, creating a new history.



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WELCOME TO THE WORLD'S COOLEST WINTER

THE EASING OF PANDEMIC TRAVEL NORMS HAS ENABLED UAE RESIDENTS AND VISITORS TO GO MASK-FREE THIS WINTER. THAT'S A BIG BOOST FOR THE COUNTRY'S TOURISM SECTOR, WHICH IS BENEFITING FROM THE BONANZA OF FIFA WORLD CUP, DUBAI SHOPPING FESTIVAL, AND MORE

BY SANCHITA GUHA



“The UAE ranks amongst the top 10 global tourist destinations. Our goal is to boost our competitiveness by attracting \$27.2 billion (Dhs99.82bn) as additional tourism investments and welcome 40 million hotel guests in 2031

HH SHEIKH MOHAMMED BIN RASHID AL MAKTOUM

Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai

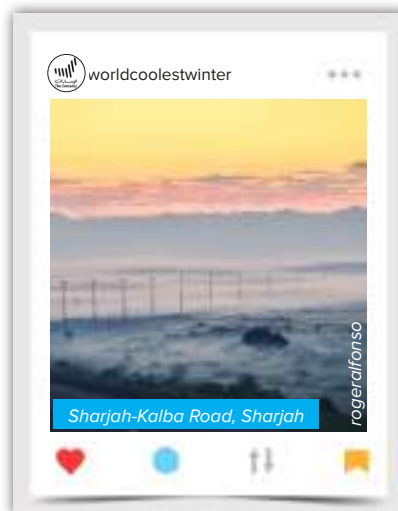
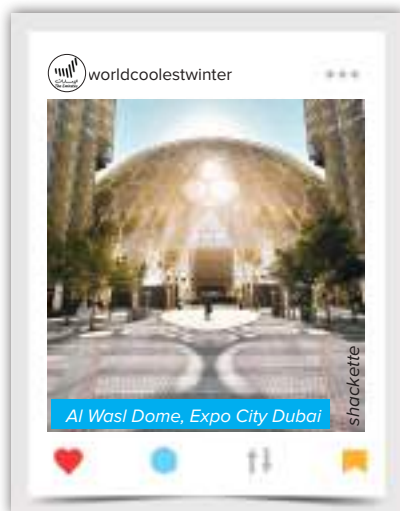
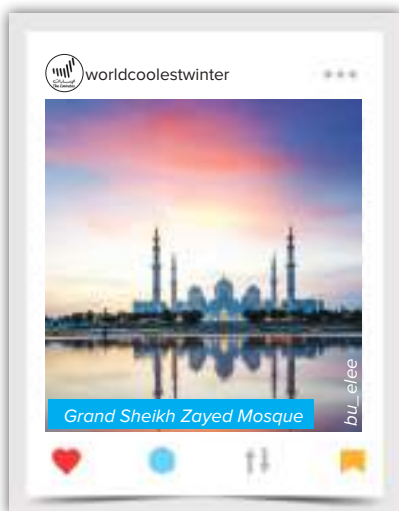
Blue skies, balmy breeze, the sea water lapping against the shore, with a skyline of shiny tall towers on the far horizon, and a sense of order, peace, and exciting things just around the corner — that’s the kind of winter the UAE offers to the world, the kind of winter that brings people flocking here. In 2022, we’re seeing a blockbuster version of the “world’s coolest winter”, as the country’s federal tourism campaign is called.

The UAE has for long focused on its non-oil economy, using its unique location on the world map — a halfway point between the East and the West — to grow this part of the GDP. Tourism is one of the biggest contributors to the non-oil economy, and it’s set to get bigger. In November 2022, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, launched the UAE Tourism Strategy 2031.

This strategy comes under ‘Projects of the 50’, as the country calls its series of projects for the next 50 years, designed to make the UAE the most preferred destination for investors and high-skill workers. Launching the strategy, HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid said, “The UAE ranks amongst the top 10 global tourist destinations. Our goal is to boost our competitiveness by attracting \$27.2 billion (Dhs99.82bn) as additional tourism investments and welcome 40 million hotel guests in 2031”.

His Highness added, “Tourism is key to diversifying our economy and boosting the UAE’s global competitiveness. In the first quarter of 2022, our airports received 22 million passengers. Our goal is for the tourism sector’s contribution to be \$122.6 billion (almost Dhs450bn) of GDP in 2031.”

The UAE’s tourism sector has been helped by the precisely measured decisions taken by the leadership on COVID-19 and its highly effective handling of the pandemic.



On November 6, after nearly three years of pandemic-related limitations, the UAE government signalled that the scourge was now fully under control. “We announce the lifting of all restrictions and precautionary measures related to COVID-19,” said a government spokesperson. “Wearing masks will be optional in all open and closed facilities, including places of worship and mosques, except for health facilities and centres for people of determination, where it will be mandatory.” The new relaxations were activated at 6am on November 7.

The Green Pass on the ‘Al Hosn’ app, specific to Abu Dhabi, is no longer required to enter public places in the emirate. Prior to this, the Green Pass validity had been extended from 14 days to 30 days for fully vaccinated individuals. The app’s current utility is showing a proof of vaccination and showing RT-PCR test results inside and outside the UAE, if one is asked to do so.

According to the November 6 announcement, attendees at sporting events or other mass events at the national and local levels may be asked by organisers to show a negative test result or a vaccination certificate.

The National Emergency Crisis and Disaster Management Authority said that the UAE “assumed a high position and became an exceptional global model, as it was one of the first countries to successfully contain challenges

with flexibility, transparency and professionalism”.

When the country’s mask mandate was eased on September 28, it was clear to the world that the UAE was readying for a spectacular winter tourism season. The previous phase of rule relaxation also saw the dropping of the requirement for a negative RT-PCR test for fully vaccinated passengers flying into Dubai (though unvaccinated or partially vaccinated flyers would still need to show a negative test result at their point of departure).

MASK-FREE CHEERING

This year’s mask-free winter brings back the feel of how it used to be in the UAE. Indeed, it promises to go well beyond those old happy days, since the recent introduction of a multi-entry five-year tourist visa could well mean repeat short visits from people of Europe, Asia, and North Africa. ‘Wintering’ here now requires only a long-term tourist visa and some free time.

December 2022, in particular, is seeing a huge number of sports fans arriving mask-free to cheer for their favourite football teams at the FIFA World Cup in neighbouring Qatar. It’s a fair assumption that many of these fans would become repeat visitors, once they discover the UAE’s many-splendoured attractions.

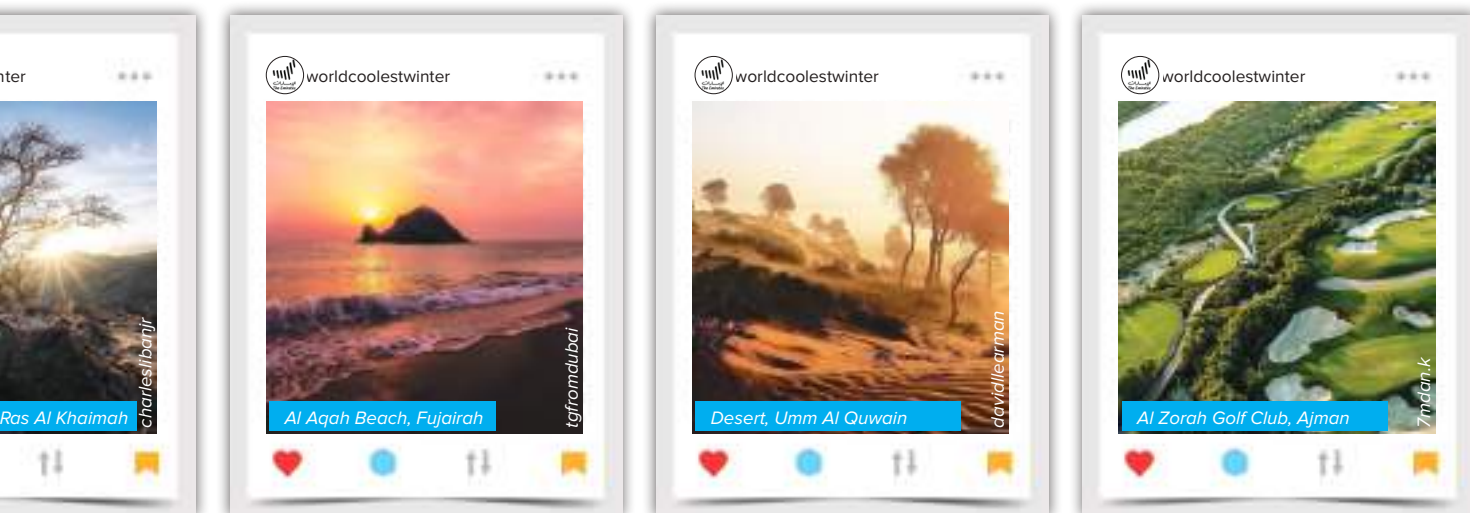
Gazing into the crystal ball of this year’s winter tourism (spilling over into the first quarter of the next year), the UAE

leadership has seen a near-total recovery of this vital sector. It’s a prediction based on the remarkable numbers from this year’s summer tourism. Chairing a Cabinet meeting in September 2022, HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid said, “Our tourism sector’s revenues surpassed Dhs19 billion in the first half of 2022. The total number of hotel guests reached 12 million, achieving 42 per cent growth, and we expect a strong tourism performance in this winter season.”

The UAE tourism sector’s strategy of capitalising on big-ticket sports events in the region was turbo-charged last month, with the Abu Dhabi Formula One Grand Prix (November 17- 20) at the Yas Marina Circuit. Always a crowdpuller for domestic and international tourism in the emirate, this year’s F1 experience promised to “go unreal” to celebrate the passing of the pandemic scare.

On November 20 came the mother lode of sporting events — FIFA World Cup, the world’s biggest sporting extravaganza next to the Olympic Games. The beneficial impact on UAE tourism would be a recreation of the “Expo effect”, believe the sector’s stakeholders. This refers to the flood of visitors drawn to the UAE by Expo 2020 Dubai, held from October 2021 (deferred because of the pandemic) to March 2022.

The recent introduction of a multi-entry five-year tourist visa could well mean repeat short visits from people of Europe, Asia, and North Africa. ‘Wintering’ here now requires only the long-term tourist visa and some free time



10 YEARS OF DUBAI MIRACLE GARDEN



The indoor attractions of the UAE are able to fascinate visitors all year round, but outdoor attractions really come to life in winter. This is the best time to visit Dubai Miracle Garden, which opened its gates to visitors on October 10, 2022, marking the 10th year of this absolutely unique destination.

Declared “the world’s largest vertical flower garden” by the Guinness Book of World Records, this garden was opened to the public on Valentine’s Day in 2013. Since then, thousands of tourists have photographed themselves on the Miracle Garden’s signature pathway decorated with heart-shaped flower arches. There’s even an Airbus 380 model recreated with flowers, and this is certified as the “world’s biggest flower structure”.

The garden’s flower beds, flower walls, flower clock, flower figures, and flower-covered mini castles all come to life in a dazzling burst of colours — there’s nothing comparable to this even in the world’s most elegant gardens, even in much more forgiving climates. It’s truly a miracle.

BEHOLD THE MIRACLE!



150 million flowers
in full bloom

72,000 sq m
in area

1 million+ visitors
every year

“ We are expecting our occupancy in the mid to high 90s (percentage) across Dubai, and we are expecting performance in Dubai in the fourth quarter to be the same as the performance in the fourth quarter in 2021, when we had the Expo



GUY HUTCHINSON

President and CEO at Rotana Hotel Management Corp

A UAE media report published in October quoted Guy Hutchinson, President and Chief Executive of the UAE-based hotel group Rotana, as saying, “We are expecting our occupancy in the mid to high 90s (percentage) across Dubai, and we are expecting performance in Dubai in the fourth quarter to be the same as the performance [in the] fourth quarter in 2021, when we had the Expo.”

The same report quoted Jan Hanak, Managing Director for UAE, Oman, Bahrain and Qatar, Radisson Hotel Group, as saying, “We have already started seeing incredibly positive performance across our hotels and we are certain there will be a multi-destination travel trend that will be seen across the region this winter.”

Qatar is the host of the World Cup, but hotels in the UAE, especially those in Dubai, have seen a sharp rise in reservations as shuttle flights are available for easy air commute to Doha, the capital of the neighbouring nation. Analysing the advantage, *Trends MENA* reported in September 2022 that “Dubai is well prepared to capitalise on this event, as it has built a new hotel in the ‘Palm Jumeirah’ and allocated it to World Cup visitors who intend to stay in Dubai, depart to Doha to watch the games, and then return to the hotel for an overnight stay.”

Looking at the air connection between the UAE and Qatar, the report said: “Shuttle flights will also run from Dubai

“ We have already started seeing incredibly positive performance across our hotels and we are certain there will be a multi-destination travel trend that will be seen across the region this winter



JAN HANAK

Managing Director for UAE, Oman, Bahrain and Qatar, Radisson Hotel Group

to relieve pressure on accommodation in Doha. Budget airline flydubai will run at least 30 return flights a day to Doha, just an hour away, part of a daily airlift of 160 shuttle services from cities in the resource-rich Gulf.”



SHOPPING FRENZY

In the post-pandemic world, consumers have been expressing themselves with “revenge shopping” to sort of banish the memories of the first and second COVID-19 waves. The sense of isolation and the fear of grave illness have given way to a spate of discretionary spending spanning retail, food and beverage, travelling, and pop culture activities.

Shopping is part of the UAE’s well-crafted tourism strategy. The country’s small geographical size hasn’t stopped it from becoming one of the world’s most preferred retail destinations. That purse-strings have been loosened all around was evident as early as in the first three months of this year. A report published at the end of April 2022 by Majid Al Futtain, a leading business group with shopping malls, retail and leisure facilities across the Middle East, Africa and Asia, said that there was a 14 per cent increase in the UAE’s retail consumer spending in Q1 2022, compared to the corresponding figure in Q1 2019, indicating the pace of recovery.



‘COOLEST WINTER’ CAMPAIGN YIELDS RICH RETURNS

COOL NUMBERS

Number of domestic tourists during the “World’s Coolest Winter” campaign

1.3 million	950,000
2021-2022, second year of the campaign	2020-2021, first year of the campaign

71,000+

Photos and videos on social networks used the hashtag #WorldsCoolestWinter

260

Promotional videos produced by the UAE Government Media Office

129 million

Views achieved by 175 campaign-related videos made by 106 content makers

“ The ‘World’s Coolest Winter’ campaign, and its success in achieving record numbers, reflects the wise vision of HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum. It also represents the country’s impressive success in highlighting its unique tourism capabilities, and the confidence of the world in the UAE tourism product **”**



SAEED AL ETER
Chair of the UAE Government Media Office

How cool is the UAE’s “World’s Coolest Winter” campaign? Very cool, judging by the data published in February 2022 after the second edition of the campaign, which “promoted tourism, natural sites, and entertainment destinations and experiences across the seven emirates of the UAE,” as the Emirates News Agency (WAM) said.

The UAE Government Media Office announced that the second edition of the campaign led to “a marked increase in domestic tourism”, increasing hotel revenues to Dh\$1.5 billion, compared to Dh\$1 billion in the campaign’s first year, an increase of 50 per cent.

Moreover, the second year of the campaign saw the number of domestic tourists increasing to 1.3 million, compared to 950,000 in the campaign’s first year, an increase of 36 per cent.

The campaign’s social media reach was remarkable, as the hashtag #WorldsCoolestWinter was used in more than 71,000 photos and videos on social networks.

WAM reported: “More than 260 promotional videos for the campaign were produced by the UAE Government Media Office, while 106 content makers submitted 175 videos about the campaign, which

collectively achieved 129 million views.”

Saeed Al Eter, Chair of the UAE Government Media Office, said, “The ‘World’s Coolest Winter’ campaign, and its success in achieving record numbers, reflects the wise vision of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai. It also represents the country’s impressive success in highlighting its unique tourism capabilities, and the confidence of the world in the UAE tourism product.”

One of the interactive elements of the campaign was the ‘World’s Coolest Winter photography competition’, organised by The Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum International Photography Awards (HIPA), in co-operation with the UAE Government Media Office. The competition encouraged amateur and professional photographers to capture the most beautiful recreational, cultural, and natural landmarks of the UAE and introduce its diverse tourist activities. The contest received more than 2,800 entries from 89 nationalities.

The tourism campaign also highlighted the social pillars of the UAE, such as tolerance, respect for human diversity, and warm hospitality.

CRUISING IT IN DUBAI



When people think of the UAE's geographical features, they think of the sand dunes, but it also has the sea, and has traditionally been a very important stop on the global maritime map. In 2022-2023, as the winter cruise season begins, the emirate of Dubai will receive an estimated 900,000 cruise tourists.

The season began with the arrival of the cruise liner *Mein Schiff 6*, a ship owned by TUI Cruises, at the Hamdan bin Mohammed Cruise Terminal, Mina Rashid, on October 23. This season is expected to see 166 ship calls between Mina Rashid and Dubai Harbour.

His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, said, "The cruise industry is an integral part of Dubai's tourism sector and plays an important role in reinforcing the emirate's status as a global tourism hub. Dubai's robust port infrastructure and state-of-the-art terminal facilities can handle some of the world's largest cruise ships, underpinning the city's reputation as one of the world's most advanced cruise destinations and a key gateway for regional and international cruise itineraries."

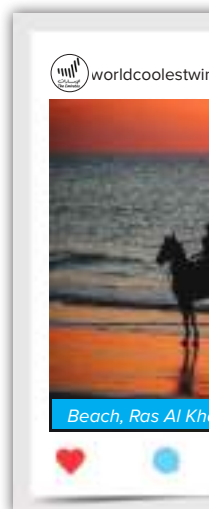
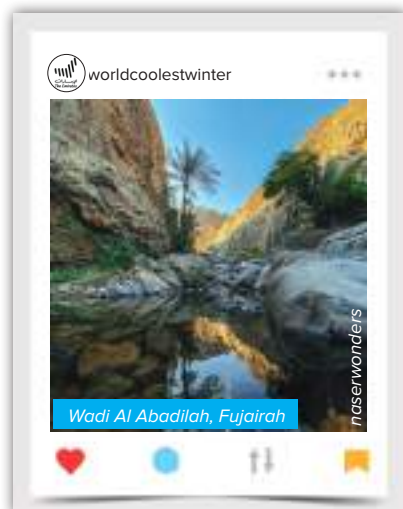
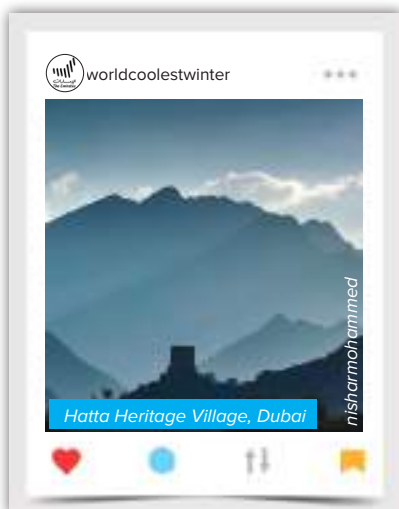
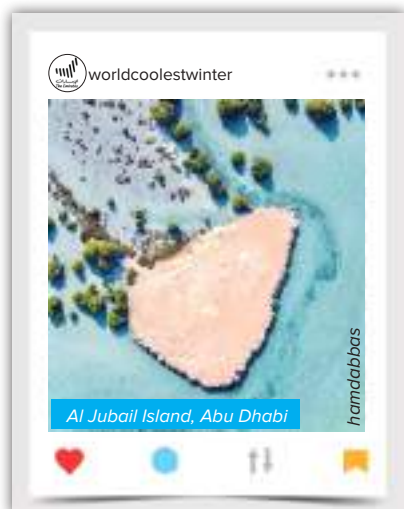


In May 2022, speaking of the first quarter growth milestone achieved by the UAE's tourism sector, HE Dr Ahmad Belhoul Al Falasi, who was then the Minister of State for Entrepreneurship and Small and Medium Enterprises and Chairman of the UAE Tourism Council, attributed this to the unlimited support and directives of the wise leadership.

Al Falasi (who is now the Minister of Education) said that 2022 was one of the best years in terms of the UAE's economic growth and of tourism growth in particular.

Of course, the first quarter of this

year was helped by Expo 2020 Dubai. The UAE's achievement of having executed a perfect World Expo despite the huge challenges of the pandemic has been translated into new business opportunities in this winter season. There's overlapping entertainment on the table for football fans, since the World Cup final match is on December 18, and the Dubai Shopping Festival (DSF) starts on December 15 (to continue till January 29). Aside from the obvious — the shopping — the 46-day event has live shows, competitions, celebrity presence,





and a variety of indoor and outdoor experiences.

This is one of the key economic events in the country, as DSF puts billions of dirhams into the Dubai economy, with a spillover effect on other emirates if the DSF tourists sample what they have to offer. For a dash of culture between retail sessions, a visitor could get to Abu Dhabi for its famed winter calendar of literary, artistic, and musical performances; or they may want to visit Sharjah and the Northern Emirates for diverse activities for all age groups.

As the federal tourism strategy launched in 2020 says, the UAE has the “world’s coolest winter”, so the experiences aren’t divided in silos any more, though Dubai does remain the cynosure of attention.

Retail is intertwined with hospitality, and hotels are likely to see their 2022 World Cup winter bonanza stretching well into early 2023. This is again foretold by the summer numbers, published by the Department of Economy and Tourism in Dubai, which showed that the emirate’s hotel occupancy was amongst the highest in the world in the first six months of this year. The average rate of Dubai hotel occupancy in H1 2022 was 74 per cent, compared to 62 per cent in H1 2021.

WINNING VISITORS’ TRUST

This winter will take the UAE’s summer tourism numbers forward, because going without a face mask in this country isn’t a random act but an achievement made possible by extremely efficient pandemic management.

Face masks have saved countless lives all over the world; however, they aren’t always comfortable for breathing or talking. Also, seeing a sea of masked faces all around is a reminder of a public health crisis; being able to go mask-free gives a visitor confidence that all is well.

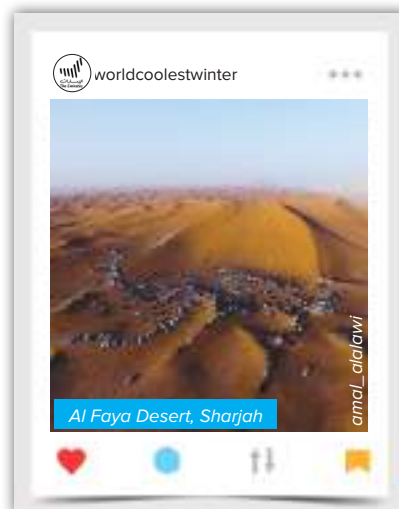
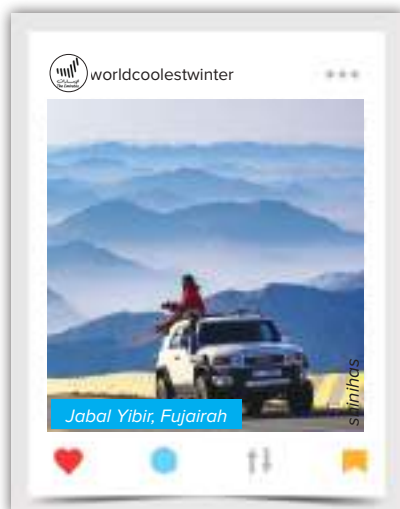
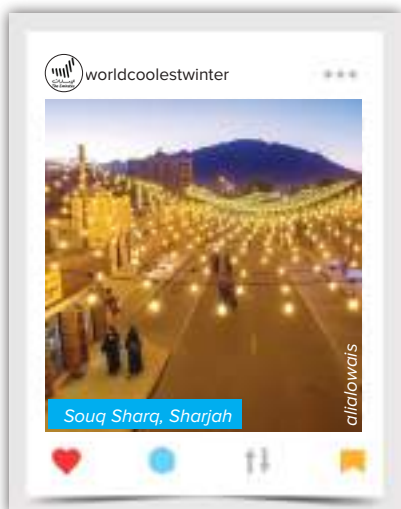
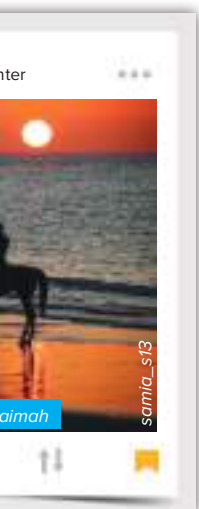
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LUXURY BOATING WITH FOOTBALL WATCHING



It’s not only Dubai hotels that are all dressed up for FIFA World Cup 2022, which started on November 20 in neighbouring Qatar. The emirate has a fleet of luxury yachts that have also made themselves available to football fans, albeit those with quite deep pockets. Large screens set up on the upper decks of luxury yachts will live-telecast the matches, giving fans the feel of being in the middle of all the action. The yacht rental cost is steep, though — starting at about \$20,000 (Dhs73,400) per night for a full boat charter.

One such luxury yacht, a three-storey boat, can take up to 125 people, and it’s equipped with a plush lounge, a Jacuzzi, and a well-stocked bar. When the favourite team scores a goal, it’s a party!



In the UAE, infection cases were brought under control by a world-leading vaccination drive and graded opening of economic activities, spaced out so that the government could assess the result of each stage of reopening. Visitors here can, therefore, go mask-free without fear, knowing full well that the government has dropped the mask mandate because it's safe to do so.

Such was the government's confidence in its ability to weather the pandemic storm, that it had launched its first federal tourism campaign, "World's Coolest Winter", in December 2020, at a time when other countries' tourism sectors faced an indefinite period of struggle. The 45-day inaugural campaign was overseen by the Ministry of Economy in collaboration with local tourism entities and it was supported by the UAE Government Media Office.

The campaign targeted not only international visitors but also domestic tourists, encouraging them to travel across the emirates and explore. Launching the federal tourism strategy, HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid had said then that it marked "the beginning of unifying our efforts and co-ordinating our capabilities towards harnessing all of our tourism resources in the best possible way".

He added, "Each of the seven emirates features rich tourist experiences, massive resources and cultural, archaeological and architectural treasures. We invite the private sector to take this campaign as an opportunity to strengthen partnerships with the government to bring greater value and accelerate the country's economic recovery."

HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum said, "Like everything else in the UAE, we aim to make every winter the best in the world."

WANT TO GO TO THE MOON?

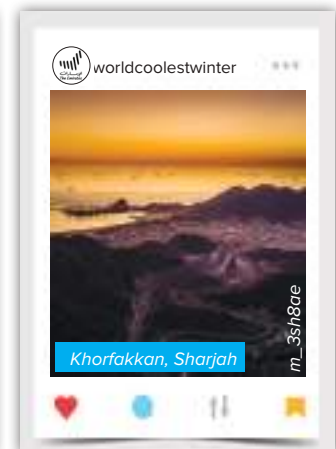
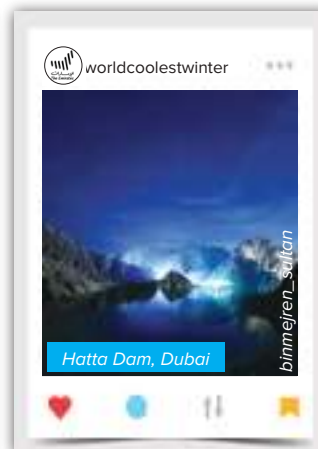
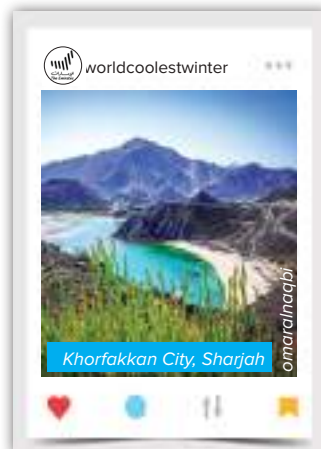
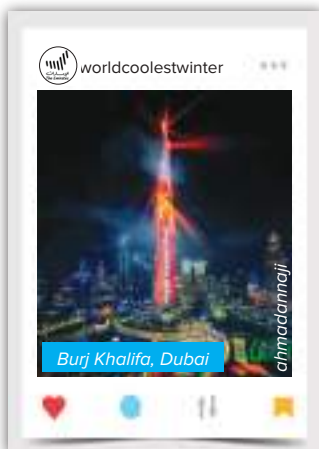


There's a saying "wishing for the moon", to indicate that one is wishing for something close to impossible. But nothing is impossible in the UAE, so if it's the moon you want, it's the moon you get — well, you can't land on the moon right away, because it has not yet been built.

If — or when — it gets made, Moon Dubai will be one of those manmade marvels for which words may not be enough. The \$5 billion (Dhs18.35 billion) project has been proposed by the Canadian architectural company Moon World Resorts Inc. (MWR). The media buzz indicates that the project might become a reality soon.

Some of the details revealed are as follows:

- Moon Dubai, whose idea was conceived by MWR's Sandra Matthews and Michael Henderson, will have a 'lunar surface' and a 'lunar colony'. It is effectively a resort, and it will be able to accommodate 10 million visitors annually.
- The lunar colony is meant to give guests an "affordable space tourism" experience without leaving this planet.
- The expected time period for building Moon Dubai is 48 months, and this manmade 'Moon' will have a height of 735 feet (225 metres).
- The science part of Moon Dubai will include a training platform for space agencies and astronauts.
- There will be luxurious private residences called 'Sky Villas', and about 300 such villas are expected to be constructed.





UAE

NATIONAL DAY

We take immense pride and great pleasure in extending
our sincere congratulation and best wishes to

Their Highnesses

Members of the Supreme Council and Rulers of the Emirates
and to the people of the UAE

On the occasion of the 51st National Day





WE NEED TO KEEP OUR HISTORY ALIVE

Dr Maysa Rashed Ghadeer is a prominent UAE writer interested in local affairs and a former member of the Federal National Council (FNC)

The memories of unification and the tremendous achievements thereafter should not fade in the background for the UAE's youth

On the 2nd of December, the UAE celebrates its 51st National Day and begins a new journey towards the grand vision of growth and progress for its centenary and the fulfilment of a plethora of previously announced projects.

Looking at what has been achieved and what is expected to be achieved in this country, it is impossible to comprehend the accomplishments of the UAE in only 50 years. I do not say this as flattery and exaggeration, but as an expression of my fascination with what has been achieved and my pride in what is being planned in our country, at a time when far bigger and older nations have not reached the mark of excellence that the UAE has achieved within a short period.

I find that I am on land, planning to reach the moon; this journey that was in our dreams since we were young, such as climbing the tallest tower, or wandering in the largest garden graced with wonderful flowers and butterflies. We are fortunate to live to a day when all our dreams are likely to be realised by the futuristic vision of our country.

This year, the UAE has chosen to celebrate our inspiring pioneers in our progress towards Centennial 2071. The pattern of National Day celebrations may see a change from the usual. The celebration is no longer condensed into poems, chants, and songs; rather, it is an occasion to remember history with all its momentous events and to be inspired to build a prosperous future.

The National Day dates back to a stage that was the beginning of the unification of the Emirates. In between, the UAE overcame hardships and crises with the will of the leadership and the people. Through its progressive and humanitarian approach, it was able to instil love in the hearts of its citizens and residents.

Today, as we celebrate the 51st National Day under the leadership of President His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, we share the joy of that unquenchable thirst for greatness in every sphere of development.

The question we must ask is: how can we, as parents, enhance our children's understanding of national values and increase their awareness of the most fundamental rights and duties that fall under patriotism?

We do not want our children to limit the National Day to celebrations; we want them to preserve the history of their homeland, absorbing the heroism of the founders, the inspirers and those who came after them, to become aware of the challenges facing the country and its national identity.

We all have the responsibility of a generation that is oblivious to history, and we do not want this to cause the degeneration of the national values that were propagated by our predecessors. Since technology has infiltrated every aspect of our lives, the new generation may distance itself from reading about our history and learning about our roots.

What the curricula offer is not enough — it has become necessary

What the curricula offer is not enough — it has become necessary to find educational projects that deepen this patriotism in children

to find educational projects that deepen this patriotism in children and make them ready to protect and preserve the homeland and defend its values. There is no way to do that except through the family, which has more responsibility in this context than anyone else; indeed, love for the homeland and pride in it is a story that begins at home.

As the nation grows and its ambitions rise further, our vision becomes wider. The more we achieve, the greater our history becomes, and the greater the responsibility of preserving that history for individuals and institutions.



UAE NATIONAL DAY

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UP CLOSE: UAE's HERITAGE SPOTS

WINTER IS THE PERFECT TIME TO STEP INTO THE COUNTRY'S
PAST THAT STILL LIVES IN ITS FORTS AND MUSEUMS. THE
HERITAGE ASPECT OF UAE TOURISM IS AS IMPORTANT
AS ITS MODERN ATTRACTIONS

BY TESSY KOSHY

“A nation without a past is a nation without a present or a future. Thanks to God, our nation has a flourishing civilisation, deep-rooted in this land for many centuries. These roots will always flourish and bloom in the glorious present of our nation in its anticipated future

SHEIKH ZAYED BIN SULTAN AL NAHYAN

UAE's Founding Father



T

hink of the UAE, and most people would inevitably conjure up images of sprawling malls, futuristic architecture, and record-breaking skyscrapers. Yet, in reality, along with these new-age wonders, the country has a wealth of heritage, as seen at its numerous historical sites and museums. Alongside promoting the plush landmarks that attract millions of international tourists every year, the UAE government consistently highlights and invests in its cultural destinations.

Embracing culture was one of the greatest legacies of Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, the UAE's Founding Father. He believed that a balanced understanding of one's culture was the key to preserving national identity and necessary not only for the well-being of a nation, but also for its success in the global marketplace.

One of Sheikh Zayed's famous quotes says: "A nation without a past is a nation without a present or a future. Thanks to God, our nation has a flourishing civilisation, deep-rooted in this land for many centuries. These roots will always flourish and bloom in the glorious present of our nation in its anticipated future."

In a session at Expo 2020 Dubai in November 2021, HE Zaki Nusseibeh, Cultural Adviser to the President of the UAE and Chancellor of UAE University, highlighted that this principle upheld by Sheikh Zayed was passed down to the UAE's present leadership. "In one of the first interviews I had with him in 1968, Sheikh Zayed basically said 'We need to open our country to the world and bring in modernisation'. But, at the same time, he

also said we need to keep an equilibrium between that rate of modernisation and development, opening ourselves to other cultures while retaining our heritage and national identity."

Prominent state entities at the centre of the upkeep of national heritage include the Abu Dhabi Tourism and Culture Authority and the Dubai Culture and Arts Authority. The other emirates also have their own culture departments that work to give tourists a fascinating glimpse of not just the new UAE, but of the old one, too.

At the Arabian Travel Market (ATM) 2022, a leading global event for the tourism and travel industry, held in May this year, Dubai Culture showcased its latest cultural and artistic landmarks. It participated in the pavilion of Dubai's Department of Economy and Tourism.

From Middle Eastern souqs and museums displaying local artefacts to preserved settlements that date back thousands of years, there are several sights for the historically inclined discerning tourist in the UAE. With the winter tourist season nearing its

“Sheikh Zayed said we need to keep an equilibrium between that rate of modernisation and development, opening ourselves to other cultures while retaining our heritage and national identity



HE ZAKI NUSSEIBEH

Cultural Adviser to the President of the UAE and Chancellor of UAE University

peak, travellers flocking to the UAE have the choice of combining modern leisure activities with unique heritage experiences.

Here are some of the notable historical and cultural tourist spots in the UAE that visitors must not miss:

Abu Dhabi



Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque

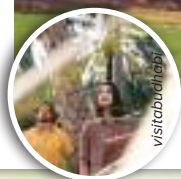
This prominent religious icon of the UAE is one of the world's largest mosques with extremely impressive architecture. The mosque has 82 white marble domes, over a thousand amethyst and jasper embedded columns, gold-plated Swarovski chandeliers, and the world's largest hand-knotted carpet.

It can welcome over 55,000 worshippers and visitors every day. Built by the Father of the Nation, the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, the mosque represents modern Islamic architecture combining Mamluk, Ottoman, and Fatimid styles and conveys the message of peace and tolerance.



Qasr Al Hosn

Abu Dhabi's first permanent stone structure and the historical home of the ruling Al Nahyan family gives visitors insights into a significant era of the UAE's history. Built in 1790, the building was transformed into a museum in 2018. The inner fort of the structure was built in 1795 and the outer palace between 1939 and 1945. The Qasr Al Hosn Museum takes visitors back to the transformation and development of Abu Dhabi from a small settlement dependent on fishing to a bustling modern metropolis.



Al Ain Oasis

This UNESCO World Heritage Site in the garden city of Al Ain is well-known for its unique falaj irrigation system that nurtured oases in ancient times. Covered with lush green trees, the 1,200-hectare area is a perfect example of how the region's inhabitants turned the desert vegetation over the years. The water that comes from the nearby wells, mountains, and underground aquifers is diverted through a system of intricate aqueducts spread all across the oasis. The place is perfect for a stroll, a tour, or cycling.



Louvre, Abu Dhabi

In the heart of the Saadiyat Cultural District on Saadiyat Island, the Louvre displays stunning art exhibits from notable global museums, including Musee du Louvre, Musee d'Orsay, and Centre Pompidou. Designed by the award-winning architect Jean Nouvel, the Louvre in Abu Dhabi offers 9,200 square metres of gallery space. At the centre of this museum is a vast silvery dome with 7,850 stars, appearing in various sizes and angles. Inside the Louvre is a diverse range of cultural attractions. Day and night kayak tours at the Louvre are highly sought after.

Dubai



Al Fahidi Historical Neighbourhood

On the banks of Dubai Creek, the Al Fahidi area, formerly known as Al Bastakiya, showcases slices of the UAE's past. Built in the mid-19th century, it was one of the city's earliest settlements characterised by narrow alleys called sikkas and homes with wind towers. There are several renovated homes originally made from sea stone and coral that were taken from the creek. Each of these houses has now been converted into souvenir stores, art galleries, and cafes. While in this area, don't miss the Dubai Museum, the Coffee Museum, and the Sheikh Mohammed Centre for Cultural Understanding.



The Sheikh Saeed Al Maktoum House

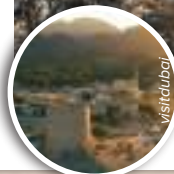
Al Shindhaga Museum

One of the most important cultural and historical spots in the UAE is the Al Shindhaga Museum on the banks of Dubai Creek. The museum transports visitors back in time to tell the story of Dubai's evolution through a series of exhibits, photographs, artefacts, and interactive videos. Travellers also get a view of the Sheikh Saeed Al Maktoum House built in 1896. From pearl diving to fishing to the discovery of oil, the museum lists all the milestones from the UAE's past.



Etihad Museum

While in the UAE, a visit to the Etihad Museum will take you through the country's origin, as it depicts stories from the unification of the seven emirates. This is also the location of the Union House, where the first flag was hoisted and the constitution was signed in 1971. Designed by Canadian architects Moriyama and Teshima, the curved white roof of the museum was inspired by the shape of the constitution. There is also a library, an education centre and an exhibition hall.



Hatta Fort and Heritage Village

A part of Dubai's territory, nestled amidst the vibrant Hajar mountains, the Hatta Fort and Heritage Village symbolises a way of life that former residents of the UAE followed. The Heritage Village has reconstructed huts, with sculptures, traditional ethnic crafts showcasing wedding rituals and folklore of the country. The Hatta Fort, built in 1896 and restored in 1995, has a large courtyard and an 11-metre-high watchtower.

Sharjah



Sharjah Museums

Al Hesn Museum

Located in the centre of the emirate of Sharjah, this fort and museum, built in 1823, is a historical landmark. Made for defence purposes, the fort was the residence of the Al Qasimi family and the headquarters of the Sharjah government.

The fort has a spacious yard, two main floors, three towers, and several galleries displaying photographs and artefacts that give visitors a glimpse of this cultural emirate. Highlights include a view of the prison cell, information about making date syrup, and the display of weapons used to defend the fort.



Al Raaya

Resistance Monument, Khorfakkan

In the picturesque city of Khorfakkan, the Resistance Monument is hard to miss. It's a curved geometric structure that honours the local heroes who resisted the Portuguese invasion in 1507. Visitors get to watch the film *Khorfakkan 1507* which shows dramatised scenes from the epic battle. With the spectacular Hajar mountains in the backdrop, this landmark also has a walkway around the memorial and an exhibition space.



Mleiha

Mleiha Archaeological Centre

Deep in the deserts of Sharjah, the Mleiha Archaeological Centre retells the region's ancient Bedouin culture, incorporating some of the valuable historical finds in the area. The site is built around an Umm Al Nar-era tomb detailing the excavations made over the past 40 years that provide evidence of human existence in the area between 130,000 and 120,000 years ago. The centre is also being promoted as an eco-tourism spot.



Sharjah Museums

Al Mahatta Museum

The UAE's journey as a global aviation hub started with a small strip of a runway in Sharjah, where the first plane landed in October 1932. The story of early aviation in the emirate is told through the Al Mahatta Museum. Sharjah Air Station had been established in order to serve as a link between Asia and Britain. The first flight was operated by Imperial Airways, and it flew from Gwadar (in what is now Pakistan) to Britain, after refuelling in Sharjah and picking up passengers and mail. The Al Mahatta Museum, located in the Al Qasimi area of Sharjah, was inaugurated in 2000. It displays many photographs that show the construction of that first air base and subsequent developments.

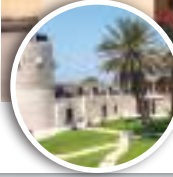
Ajman



Ajman Heritage District

As its name suggests, the entire area of the Heritage District of Ajman pays tribute to the rich history and culture of this emirate. The district is located next to the Ajman Fort and Museum, surrounded by street art and murals, created by local artists depicting aspects of Emirati life and culture. At the centre of the district is Al Mizan, a sculpture with Arabic calligraphy made by the renowned French-Tunisian artist El Seed. Near the museum is Souq Saleh, one of Ajman's oldest marketplaces.

Umm Al Quwain



Umm Al Quwain National Museum

Built inside the Al Ali Fort, the Umm Al Quwain Museum was once the residence of the ruling family of this emirate. The well-maintained museum is located in the old souq and town area, surrounded by hundred-year-old settlements. It is home to some of the precious artefacts unearthed at Ed-Dur, one of the largest archaeological sites in the UAE.

Ras Al Khaimah



Al Jazirah Al Hamra

One of the oldest remaining historical pearling villages in the entire Gulf region, Al Jazirah Al Hamra has a mix of several traditional elements. It was once home to the Zaab tribe, which maintained a fleet of pearling boats and was mainly employed in the pearl diving and fishing industry. The entire complex today includes the fort, a watchtower, a mosque, a souq, and several courtyard houses.



Dhahyah Fort

This fort dates back to 1600 to 1300 BC. Adjoining the fort is a lush green oasis. Perched atop a hill, the fort played an important role in the 1819 battle between the British troops and the local Qawasim tribe. The 200-plus steep steps to the fort guarantee breathtaking views of the adjoining area, including that of the famous Jebel Jas Mountain range.

Fujairah



Al Bidya Mosque

A UNESCO World Heritage Site, the Al Bidya Mosque is the oldest surviving mosque in the country, estimated to have been constructed in the 15th century. The mosque is still used for prayers. It represents a unique shape and design, consisting of four layered domes that are not equal in size, supported by one central pillar. The mud-and-stone mosque has a prayer hall with a small mihrab, a niche in the wall that indicates the direction of Mecca.

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FOGGY DRIVE

AS WINTER DESCENDS ON THE UAE, SO DOES THE BLANKET OF MIST THAT MAKES THE ROADS VERY RISKY. MOTORISTS NEED TO REMAIN EXTREMELY CAREFUL AND LAW-ABIDING IN ORDER TO AVOID FATAL ACCIDENTS

BY ANURIMA RUHEL



Winter brings respite from the summer heat in the UAE, but with that comes foggy mornings and nights across the country. The view looks breathtakingly beautiful when skyscrapers poke through a floating carpet of fog, and the idea of driving through mist may sound refreshing, but it's not so wonderful when one is sitting behind the wheel, heart palpitating with anxiety about the very low visibility.

The UAE sees around 50 foggy nights and days each year. To understand what can happen during such weather conditions, one only needs to think back to January 2021, when one person died and eight were injured in a 19-vehicle pile-up in Al Mafraq, Abu Dhabi. Police said, following an analysis of the accident, that the reason was vehicles being too close to each other amidst thick fog. Also in the Abu Dhabi emirate, foggy weather in 2018 had caused dozens of vehicles to crash against each other, leaving 22 injured.

In yet another huge traffic accident in 2021, there was a 28-vehicle crash on Emirates Road, in Dubai, as dense fog engulfed various parts of the UAE. The collision, which left nine people injured, first happened between two vehicles as they failed to keep a safe distance despite poor visibility. When they stopped on the road after the accident, more than two dozen vehicles crashed behind them, leading to a massive traffic jam.

All motorists know, in theory, what the roads would be like in the UAE when it's winter — there are enough warnings from the authorities and headlines about past accidents to remind them. So it's of utmost importance to understand each aspect of driving in foggy conditions and remain alert every inch of the

way. Indeed, the best precaution is to leave the car in the garage when it's foggy.

Thousands of new drivers hit the UAE roads annually. It's unlikely that they'd know all the defensive tactics of driving in the fog; the best bet for them is to avoid that situation altogether until they can handle vehicles expertly. Even seasoned drivers must remain extremely careful while navigating the roads in dense fog, as they'd be forced to use mainly their gut feeling in very low visibility.

To avoid any potential problems, the UAE authorities have issued red and yellow fog alerts daily since October 2022. Police forces have also increased their monitoring to ensure the safety of the public. The alerts are issued by the National Centre of Meteorology (NCM), which forecasts weather conditions. This information is examined by the UAE police forces to issue local warnings on speed limits for the safety of people.

PREPARE YOUR DEFENCE

Car accidents during the winter season are often linked to poor visibility and slippery roads brought about by fog conditions, rain, and sandstorms. Since the weather change should definitely not come as a surprise to motorists, the onus is on them to be careful about their own safety and that of others. This means staying below the speed limit, increasing the distance between your car and the one in front of you, and avoiding sudden braking or steering manoeuvres. It is also important to be extra vigilant at night and in the early hours of the morning, when visibility is often at its worst. By taking these precautions, you can help to keep yourself and others safe on the roads.

In extremely dense fog, where visibility is near-zero, park your vehicle in a safe place and then turn on your hazard lights

— Abu Dhabi Police





“ We caution motorists to drive slowly and take the necessary precautions, such as using fog lights and stopping the vehicle on the side of the road if visibility is not optimum



**LT COLONEL MOHAMMED
ALAI AL NAQBI**

Director of the Traffic and Patrols Department
at Sharjah Police

Lt Colonel Mohammed Alai Al Naqbi, Director of the Traffic and Patrols Department at Sharjah Police, said motorists must abide by road rules related to fog formation, saying, “We caution motorists to drive slowly, and take the necessary precautions, such as using fog lights and stopping the vehicle on the side of the road if visibility is not optimum.”

SCIENCE OF AN ACCIDENT

According to Thomas Edelmann, Founder and Managing Director of the portal Road Safety UAE, many fog accidents “are typically chain reactions” that might start with a small reason.

Edelmann also stressed that not all road accidents were caused by inescapable situations and that motorists’ behaviour also played a crucial role in these incidents. “We know from our various behaviour studies that motorists lack a caring attitude for other traffic participants and often act in an irrational and egoistic manner. Many motorists have poor time management and start their trips late. They try to make up for lost time on the road, as they feel they’re in a hurry. As a consequence, they do not apply the proper caring road etiquette and defensive driving basics like slowing down and increasing the distance [between vehicles] during bad weather and poor visibility conditions,” he told **999**.



“Remember, when the visibility is down, you slow down, you increase your attention, and you up your distance



THOMAS EDELMANN

Founder and Managing Director of Road Safety UAE

“Increase the distance from the 3 seconds in good weather to a minimum of 5 seconds [in foggy weather] – you must be able to stop within the distance of visibility,” added Edelmann. “Remember, when the visibility is down, you slow down, you increase your attention, and you up your distance.”

Stressing the importance of the mind, he said, “Concentrate and do not get distracted by your passengers, your mobile phone or other things. Listen to the radio for traffic updates, and care for others, especially for weaker traffic participants like motorcycle drivers, bicycle riders, and pedestrians. Ask your passengers as well to keep an eye out for oncoming cars and obstacles on the road.”

REAL-TIME EARLY WARNING SYSTEM

Abu Dhabi Police, which started the National Early Warning System project in 2017, regularly send mobile phone alerts on heavy fog and poor visibility. The system plays a vital role in informing UAE residents, particularly the motorists, about the bad weather conditions.

The system is used by the police in cooperation with the National Emergency Crisis and Disaster Management Authority (NCEMA) to send alerts to road users and residents, urging them to be careful while driving in certain specified areas during bad conditions such as heavy fog.

The system is being deployed over



a wide geographical area as a part of partnerships between the police, NCEMA, and phone service operators, who help to send messages directly to the public via their mobile phones. This helps drivers decide whether to take alternative routes and understand that they need to be careful while driving, the police said.

The forward-looking solutions are focused on three key areas: identifying places affected by bad weather, such as heavy fog, through traffic patrols and smart towers; analysing cases of bad weather, such as lack of visibility; and employing smart police systems and traffic patrols to identify areas that regularly witness serious traffic accidents.

Abu Dhabi Police, which started the National Early Warning System project in 2017, regularly send mobile phone alerts on heavy fog and poor visibility. The system plays a vital role in informing UAE residents, particularly the motorists, about the bad weather conditions



6 DRIVING TIPS FOR FOGGY CONDITIONS

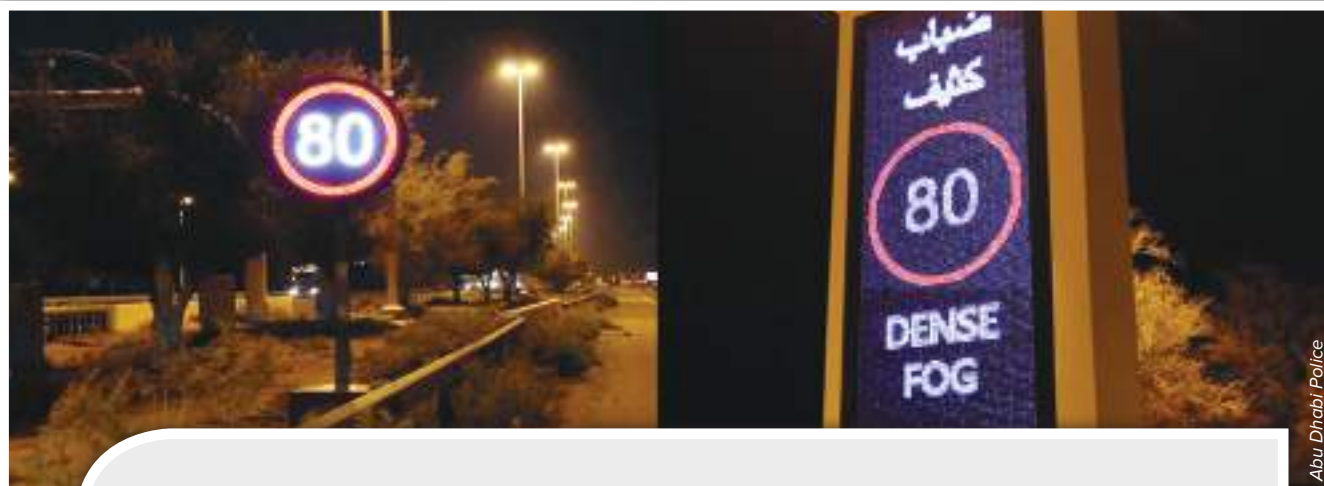
- 1 Keep adequate distance between two vehicles.** Use the “5-second rule” under foggy weather conditions. When the vehicle ahead of you passes a certain point such as a sign, count “one-thousand-one, one-thousand-two, one-thousand-three, one-thousand-four, one-thousand-five”. Counting these numbers takes approximately five seconds. If you pass the same point before you finish counting, you are following too closely.
- 2 Adjust your speed so you can always stop within the line of visibility.** During poor visibility, the speed limit is often cut from 120kmph to 80kmph by the police. Anyone crossing these temporary speed limits is fined. Road users should be alert to variable speed signs on the side of the road and variable message signs on smart traffic gates, which clearly display the current speed limit on the highway.
- 3 Concentrate and don't get distracted by your passengers, mobile phone etc.** Fog reduces visibility to less than 1,000 metres and requires more concentration on the road. Therefore, indulgence in distraction may end up as a fatal mistake.
- 4 Turn on the lights.** The rear fog lights are placed on the back of the vehicle to light the road behind the vehicle. These lights are important when driving on unlit roads at night or in foggy weather. When driving on a road at night or when it's foggy, keep the rear fog lights on so you can see the road behind you and any other cars, pedestrians, or animals on the road.
- 5 Stay in your lane and avoid overtaking other vehicles.** Fog reduces the view distance of oncoming traffic by half, so be extra cautious. When you are on the road, stay aware of your surroundings and don't let your guard down.
- 6 Ensure your glass wipers are in good working condition.** Replace worn-out wipers before winter sets in, and also check to see if your wipers are aligned properly. This will make a difference in how much water they can catch and prevent streaks from appearing on your windshield. Also, make sure your windshield is clean when you set out for the drive.

Source: Road Safety UAE

7 DON'TS WHILE DRIVING THROUGH FOG

FOR PUBLIC SAFETY, ABU DHABI POLICE REVEALED THE MOST COMMON MISTAKES THAT PEOPLE MAKE WHILE DRIVING THROUGH FOG

NOT FOLLOWING SPEED LIMITS



Abu Dhabi Police

1

Studies show that there are significant differences in the recognition times of drivers under different visibility and speed conditions. In recent months, there have been multiple instances when an alert was sent out by Abu Dhabi Police, setting a speed limit of 80kmph as visibility was reduced to less than 1,000 metres.

On November 9, 2022, Abu Dhabi Police had cut the speed limit on Abu Dhabi-Al Ain Road from 160kmph to 140kmph. The police force called upon motorists to abide by the new maximum speed limit. "Traffic studies have shown that reducing speed leads to improvements in road safety levels," the force said.

PENALTY



There are eight separate fines for speeding offences that range from Dhs300 to Dhs3,000, 23 black points, and 60-day confiscation when the speed limit exceeded 80kmph. The penalty increases, based on the increase in a motorist's speed above the prescribed limit.

NOT LEAVING ENOUGH DISTANCE



“Driving too close to the car in front of you can make the other driver tense, or the traffic could stop suddenly — in both situations, it becomes difficult to avoid collisions



BRIGADIER JUMAA BIN SUWAIDAN

Deputy Director of Dubai Police Traffic Department

2

In Dubai alone, nine people were killed and 248 were injured in 350 rear-end collisions in the first six months of 2022, according to Dubai Police data. The force said that the accidents were caused by motorists who failed to keep a safe distance from the car in front of them. “Driving too close to the car in front of you can make the other

driver tense, or the traffic could stop suddenly — in both situations, it becomes difficult to avoid collisions,” said Brigadier Jumaa bin Suwaidan, Deputy Director of Dubai Police Traffic Department. “Allow extra time for your journey and check your planned route. It is also advisable to wait for the fog to clear so that visibility improves,” he added.

Based on data from the Ministry of Interior (MoI), tailgating is one of the top three killers on UAE roads, and this has been consistent for many years.

PENALTY



A Dhs400 fine is applicable if a vehicle fails to give way to cars approaching from behind or from the overtaking lane on the left.

INAPPROPRIATE USE OF HAZARD LIGHTS



3

Most people don't know the proper use of hazard lights. These lights are designed to warn other motorists when one has to pull up suddenly due to an emergency or warn other motorists of an accident ahead. Using hazard lights in dense fog will confuse the other road users; if they can't figure out a motorist's intention, they're likely to cause an accident. Edelman warned against using hazard lights in low visibility and rear fog lights during normal visibility. “Hazard lights are meant for standing cars in case of an emergency, while rear fog lights during normal visibility can blind following drivers and over-power your brake lights,” he said.

To cut the risk of getting stranded somewhere, “motorists should stay away from areas normally affected by bad weather, and in case of rain, avoid low-lying parts of the roads network like underpasses”, he added.

PENALTY



Driving with hazard lights on in foggy weather is not only dangerous, but it can also cost you a fine of Dhs500 and 4 black points.

NOT FOLLOWING THE CORRECT LANE



4

During low visibility, it's very difficult to figure out when someone else is switching lanes, which means someone not sticking to their correct lane, or not giving enough indication when changing lanes, could startle others and cause a collision. According to MoI data, lane switching/lane swerving accounted for the greatest number of fatalities in the UAE in 2018, resulting in the deaths of 59 people and serious injuries of 495.

Staying in one's lane is always a life-saver, including on foggy days. Edelman suggested that motorists use lane marks or the right edge of the road as a guide to avoid running into oncoming traffic or being blinded by oncoming headlights. If there's literally no visibility, then a motorist should pull over to the side of the road and turn on the hazard lights, he added.

PENALTY



Not adhering to mandatory traffic lanes will land you a Dhs400 fine.

STOPPING ON THE SHOULDER OF THE ROAD



“During foggy weather, motorists need to park their cars safely outside the hard shoulder, using lights to alert other vehicles coming from behind



BRIGADIER SAIF MUHAIR AL MAZROUI

Director of the Traffic Department at Dubai Police

5

As the UAE's temperature shifts, letting fog envelope arterial roads that see heavy traffic, the focus and cautious behaviour of motorists must increase to a corresponding degree. A case in point is the hard shoulder of the road, which is meant to give a clear way to emergency response vehicles or roadside

maintenance vehicles. Unfortunately, some motorists misuse this part of the road leading to collisions when vehicles going at high speed collide with vehicles that have stopped on road shoulders. Brigadier Saif Muhair Al Mazroui, Director of the Traffic Department at Dubai Police, said “During foggy weather, motorists

need to park their cars safely outside the hard shoulder, using lights to alert other vehicles coming from behind.”

PENALTY



The penalty for blocking the way of emergency response vehicles is a Dhs3,000 fine, 6 black points, and 30 days of car impoundment.

USING MOBILE PHONES WHILE DRIVING



6

The most important thing while driving through fog is to stay vigilant and keep your eyes peeled on the road. It takes a split second for something to go wrong. Every driver has the responsibility to minimise all types of distractions and focus on the traffic and weather conditions. During the first six months of 2022, a total of 105,300 motorists were fined on Abu Dhabi roads for using mobile phones while behind the wheel. “The use of mobile phones while driving has become an addiction for many motorists, especially the youth, yet it's a very big danger to road safety,” said Abu Dhabi Police.

PENALTY



Distracted driving awaits a traffic fine of Dhs800 fine and 4 black traffic points.

DRIVING HEAVY VEHICLES



7

Abu Dhabi Police regularly announce a ban on trucks and other heavy vehicles during peak hours and unstable weather conditions. The police said that the move would contribute to enhancing traffic safety and making the roads safer. Recently, a 38-year-old Arab man died from a fatal road accident involving two heavy vehicles — an SUV and a truck — on a road in Ras Al Khaimah. The man in the SUV did not adhere to the speed limit and the fog added to the risk. The mass of a heavy vehicle gives it greater momentum, making a collision lethal.

PENALTY



There's a fine of Dhs400 and 4 black points for heavy vehicles like buses and trucks driving through dense fog conditions.

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LOOK FORWARD



20

23

MOST OF US MAKE A LIST FOR STARTING AFRESH EVERY YEAR, BUT ONLY A FEW ACTUALLY FOLLOW THROUGH. THE KEY IS TO MAKE THE RESOLUTIONS REALISTIC, ACTIONABLE, AND SPECIFIC. HERE'S HOW YOU CAN GET THERE

BY JUSTIN AGUILAR

It's easy to make New Year's resolutions with a clear mind and high expectations, but it's much harder to keep them. Sometimes our good intentions are derailed by challenges or a lack of will. Several studies suggest that most people's resolutions don't stick. But it doesn't have to be that way.

The tradition of making New Year's resolutions goes back more than 4,000 years to Babylonian times. The first ever recorded celebration of New Year occurred when Babylonian people made New Year's resolutions and celebrated the occasion. They made promises during Akitu, a ritual to honour debts and return any objects they borrowed. These promises were thought to be resolutions. Because they believed that breaking their promise would bring disaster to their land, the Babylonians strived to keep them.

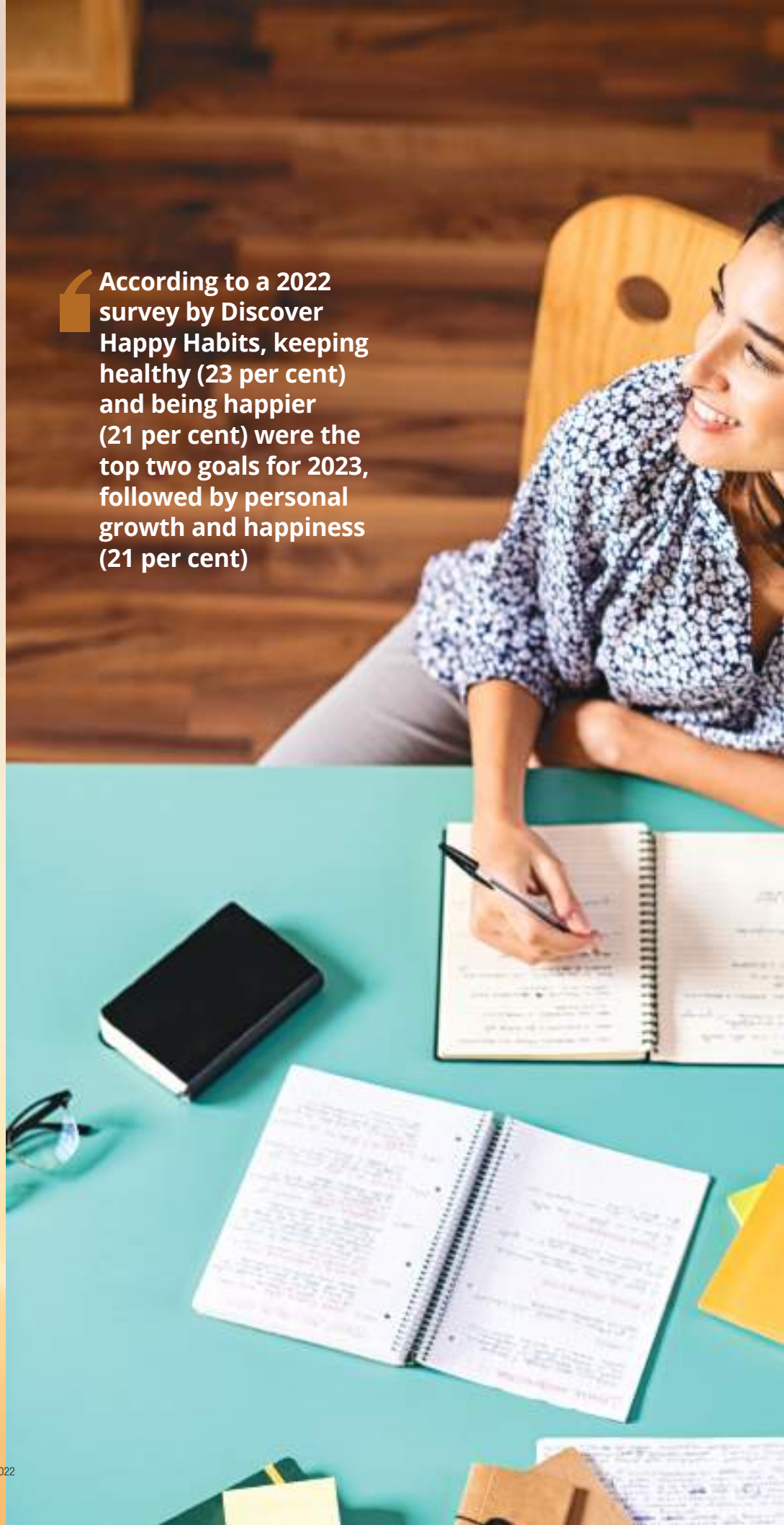
In 2021, OnePoll surveyed 2,000 people in the United States and found that the most popular New Year's resolutions were: exercising more (34 per cent), pursuing a new interest (31 per cent), cooking differently (29 per cent), new wake-up time (13 per cent), meditation (12 per cent), and going to bed earlier (10 per cent).

According to a 2022 survey by Discover Happy Habits, keeping healthy (23 per cent) and being happier (21 per cent) were the top two goals for 2023, followed by personal growth and happiness (21 per cent). However, only 23 per cent of people planned to make New Year's resolutions in 2023.

Now is your chance to sit down and prepare a list of important lifestyle changes for next year. Setting SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, timely) criteria for the resolutions is a good way to begin because it ensures that your goal is specific and clear.

To help you stick to your goals, we've put together a list of 6 simple steps you can take to maximise your chance of success:

According to a 2022 survey by Discover Happy Habits, keeping healthy (23 per cent) and being happier (21 per cent) were the top two goals for 2023, followed by personal growth and happiness (21 per cent)



1. Be realistic and specific

Let's be honest, the majority of your past New Year's resolutions qualify as something "next to impossible". Studies have found that more than half of the resolutions that people make are not attainable.

Setting ambitious goals is important, but it's equally important to make sure that they're realistic. If you set an unrealistic target, it's easy to get discouraged and give up. For instance, you should stop resolving to never eat your favourite foods, as you're only setting up yourself to fail. A more realistic approach can be avoiding it more than you do now.

Another example of a vague goal is: "I want to be healthier." Applying the SMART criteria, you can specifically say that you will jog for 15 minutes every other day at 6 am. This way, you set a specific, measurable, and achievable goal. Give it a timeline as well, so that you can move on to bigger goals after achieving the smaller stuff. For example, adding more exercises week after week.

2. Outline your plan

It may help to list down your resolutions on a piece of paper or a journal to keep your motivation strong. You can update this list and invite your friends or loved ones to contribute to it.

A blog from Harvard on helping people stick to their New Year's resolutions said that it helps to break big dreams into small-enough steps. As they say, small steps move you forward to your goal.

"Look for surefire bets. Just getting to first base can build your confidence to tackle — and succeed at — more difficult tasks. Don't disdain easy

choices. If you start every plan with "Make a list", you're guaranteed to check one box off quickly. That's no joke: a study on loyalty programmes that aim to motivate consumers found [that] giving people two free punches on a frequent-buyer card encouraged repeat business," shared the blog.

So, break down hard goals into smaller tasks and enjoy ticking off the easy tasks first. Outlining your plan also helps you see how much you've progressed.

3. Monitor your progress

Now that you've outlined your plan, it is a lot easier to track your progress. Seeing how far you've come also increases motivation and helps you have a habit of achieving your New Year's resolution.

For instance, instead of focusing on losing 20kg, focus on losing the first 5kg within a time frame that's right for your health. Keep a food journal to help you stay on track and reward yourself for each 5kg lost. As per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, United States, losing up to 2 pounds (nearly 1kg) every week would count as healthy and steady weight loss.

You can only measure progress if you've initially set a target. A study led by Eric Allen at the University of California analysed data from about 10 million marathon runners for whom a popular target time is 4 hours. The study revealed that far more people finish in 3 hours and 59 minutes rather than 4 hours and 1 minute. Having a good chance of beating the target time, runners push harder and run faster.

This step is vital as it will keep you mindful of your New Year's resolution constantly.





4. Automate when possible

We now have technology that can automate everything instantly at our fingertips, so we might as well maximise it to support our goals. Use reminders, a 'to-do' list, and task management apps to help you on your journey.

Several mobile applications can help you monitor your weight, journal your food choices, or log down your exercise progress.

With several options available online, you can try and explore which app works to your advantage. You will be amazed to see that there's a designated app for everything that you might need to automate.

Amongst the popular apps to help you keep track of your progress are Trello, Asana, Monday.com, Timely, Zapier, and Notion. Most of them can be utilised free of cost.

5. Beware of the resolution cliff

Author and social psychologist Ayelet Fishbach at the University of Chicago's Booth School of Business shared in an interview about her book *Get It Done: Surprising Lessons from the Science of Motivation* that people usually find tasks most difficult when they're halfway through it. She calls it "the middle

problem"; OnePoll's survey calls it the "resolution cliff" — the date when people officially start slacking on their New Year's resolutions.

"We're highly motivated at the beginning. Over time, our motivation declines as we lose steam. To the extent that our goal has a clear endpoint, such as graduating with a diploma, our motivation picks up again towards the end. In the middle, it's harder to get things done and to do them right," said Fishbach.

In a study, Fishbach found that people cut corners: "We handed people a pair of scissors and asked them to cut out five identical shapes. At first, they neatly cut their shape, but by the time they got to the third shape, they started cutting through more corners. Then, towards the fifth shape, their shapes became neat again."

Lesson? Think of middles differently. Fishbach suggests being aware of the resolution cliff and using the "fresh start effect" as an intervention that can help you stick to achieving your New Year's resolution. One way to achieve this is by setting your goals shorter. For example, instead of monthly goals, make them weekly.

6. Stick to it

Experts say that it takes about 21 days for a new activity to become a habit and six months for it to become part of your personality. It won't happen overnight, so be persistent and patient. If you fall off the track, get back on quick.

Professor Joanne Dickson of Edith Cowan University, Australia, led a study about New Year's resolutions. Her team found that we're far happier when we allow ourselves some flexibility.

She also believes that resolutions may be easier to accomplish if a person links them to their life goals and values. In other words, don't just set a goal just to do something; believe in what you're doing. "Our study also found that the ability to flexibly adapt one's resolutions in response to changing situations or obstacles was positively associated with increased mental well-being. Whereas the ability to stick to a goal did not increase mental well-being or sustained resolution pursuit," said Dickson.

So, it's okay to leave room for mistakes — nobody is perfect.

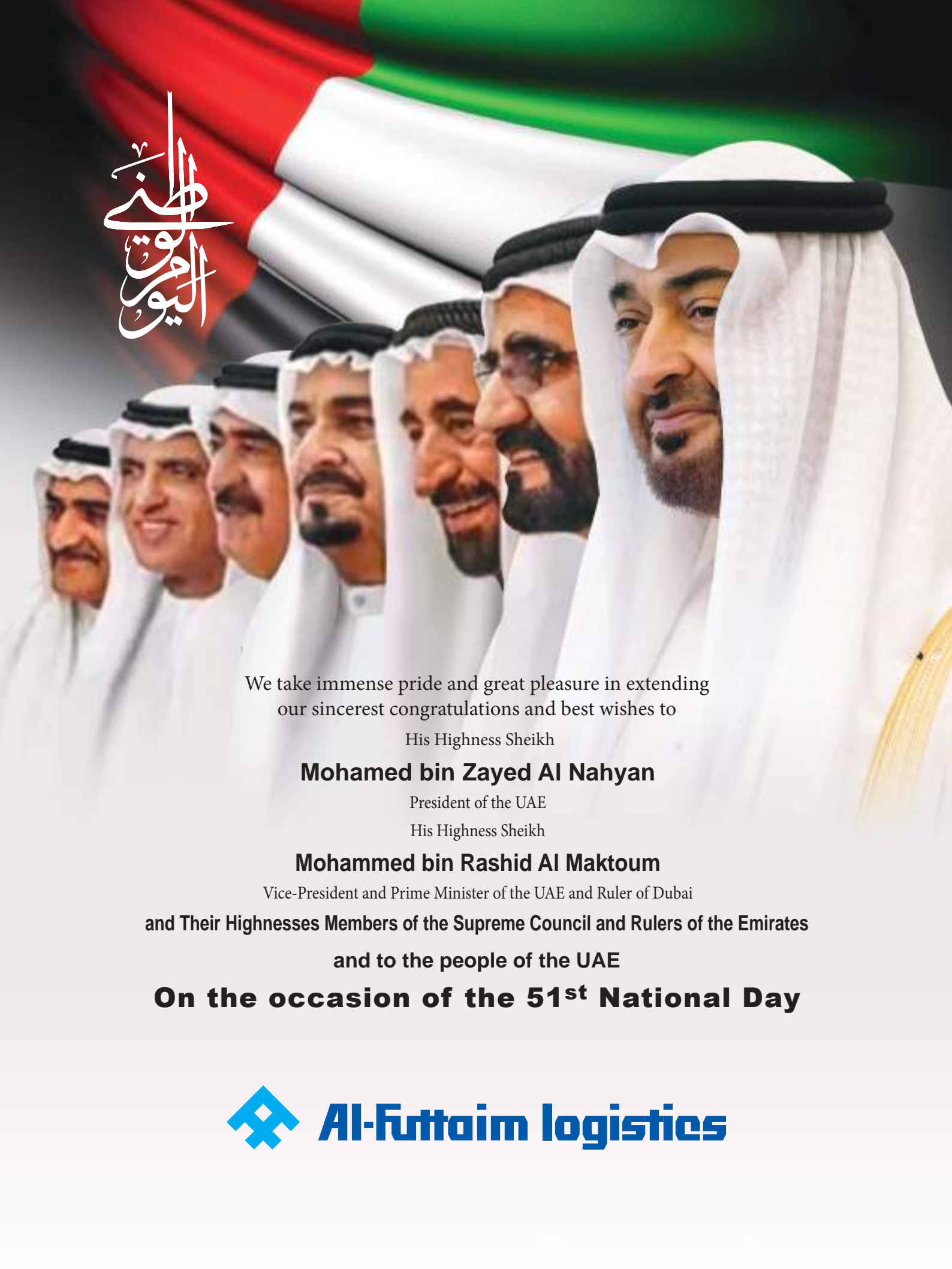
Any setbacks that you may run into are not failures, but it's important to evaluate what happened, and figure out a plan so that mistakes aren't repeated.

Did you know?

New Year's resolutions are a great way to set ambitious goals for yourself and push yourself to make positive changes. But ultimately, only you can determine your success. According to a 2021 research of OnePoll, a group that annually conducts New Year's resolution surveys in the United States, two-thirds of respondents have never successfully completed a New Year's resolution. Guess what? Those who don't expect to hit all their targets say that they start falling behind before the end of the month — specifically, by January 29. These respondents also said that February 4 is when they expect to give up entirely on most of their New Year's goals.

Source: Studyfinds.org





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Al-Futtaim logistics



Dr Samar Al-Shamsi is an internationally respected artist who is renowned for her commissioned portraits of high-profile individuals, including the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, UAE President His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, US President Barack Obama, and others.

THE HILL OF THE HEART

The fruits of love came hanging down the branches and the leaves of harmony embraced them to tell of their longing to climb up the hill of the heart

The text begins: It is that elevated land that, once treaded by feelings, forms closely tied knots of ablaze affection, swallowing all the groans and the moans of pain. Behind it rise the heights of sentiments. Both are nestled in the heart of the valley of pure smiles. Whenever they meet, their eyes do all the talking. Needs find expression in the flames of the painful longing. The hearts pound faster as if they were in a race or engaging in a raid. Their night talks become laughs behind closed doors.

With every tick of life's clock, the moment of the craved reunion is lost. Missteps of immense intentions cause a volcano to erupt, changing some maps. Between the question and the answer, a bridge of dreams and wishes hangs loosely, hovering over a memory that almost flies away whenever it tried to catch it. But it falls into the borders of reality, feeding off bits and pieces. It seeks the well of giving to quench the thirst of bygone days, to rise up to the heights of immortality, drawn with the brushes of love onto the walls of the hanging temples on the sky of hope.

"When does your sun set?" she asked me once. Surprised, I smiled and it made her eyes light up. "You are my sun" I answered, "whenever you go away, my sun sits in my heart. You are the sun of the night-less heart, on which the sun never sets".

The hearts pound faster as if they were in a race or engaging in a raid

She was elated, swaying playfully as she always does. "Am I not your Great Wall that sprouted leaves on your branches and filled eroded faults in the times of whims showered with love, and made my paint brushes paintings that swallowed poems to awaken the senses of blazing bodies, holding the seeds of love, scattered all along the sides of sentiments?" I asked.

As the skies of her love cast its dew showers on the hill of the heart, the droplets clustered into floods that gushed down the valley underneath the

facing heights. The sun of hope came up and the rain waters dried up. The hill bloomed with greens of love and bore fruits. The fruits of love came hanging down the branches and the leaves of harmony embraced them to tell of their longing to climb up the hill of the heart—crowned by the clouds of infatuation that, as soon as they met the top, the thirst droplets came falling down its cheeks.

I have never found great luck in anything except when I set my eyes on her face. I have long suffered before she bluntly touched my senses. I have never in my life tasted any smooth traits like hers that are beyond the flavour of life itself. I have never seen in her crystal face any dull features. She brought me back to life. Her vivacious soul makes me deliriously happy. My soul has never ever wished to meet anyone but her on top of the hill of the heart.



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RINGLEADER FACES JUSTICE

IN A NATIONWIDE OPERATION, POLICE THROW THE DRAGNET ON A GROUP OF CYBER-CRIMINALS LED BY A YOUNG MAN WITH AN EXTRAVAGANT LIFESTYLE

BY WAGIH HASSAN



Youth is the phase of one's life when one strives to build a career based on skill and through honest work. However, youth may also become the time of one's life when one turns to crime and feels entitled to amassing ill-gotten wealth.

One such young man — Ahmed — specialised in fraud, including digital fraud. While only in his thirties, he led a gang that was engaged in money-laundering, e-mail hacking, and stealing the identities of individuals and companies. Ahmed's gang stole large sums of money that a concerted police operation was launched to bust this gang.

Strong planning and close coordination by the police forces of several emirates resulted in the arrest of Ahmed and most of his gang members. Enough evidence was gathered by the security forces to make a water-tight case against Ahmed and put him on trial.

In this focused operation, the police also seized forged documents used by the gang to commit digital fraud outside and within the country. The police also seized a fleet of luxury cars during their raids.

As he was interrogated, Ahmed confessed that his latest target was an Arab businessman who lived in one of the emirates. A large amount of money was defrauded from the victim, and the gang then laundered the money through bank accounts opened in several countries around the world.

Ahmed was known for leading a very extravagant and luxurious lifestyle, so the police investigator asked him why he stole if he owned high-end cars. The criminal smugly answered, "I own the most luxurious cars, and I show every car according to the colour of the shirt I wear. It has been this way since I started my operations, and my actions have brought me to this level."

The officer asked, "Do you know about the kind of punishment coming to you?"

The accused said, "Yes, I know. I admit [to my crimes], I am fully prepared to accept all your judgments and punishments."

The investigating officer said, "Your crimes include fraudulently seizing other people's money; offences of money-laundering outside and within the state; hacking websites and electronic accounts; impersonating others for the purpose of wire fraud; bank fraud; and the theft of victims' identities and their use in cyber-crime."

Indeed, the perfectly executed police operation was a resounding success. Police teams carried out simultaneous raids on gang members' hideouts in several places, so that they wouldn't have the time to warn each other. Most of these hideouts were rented apartments that the police had identified well

in advance, following a thorough surveillance.

Undercover police informants discovered the locations of the criminal hideouts and confirmed the presence of the gang members. The raid teams moved in only after every hideout was in sight; this ensured the arrest of all the gang members

at the same time in different areas.

The gang members were caught in the act of planning more cyber-crimes, targeting both people and corporate houses. The hideouts were full of information on individuals, companies, bank accounts, false credit cards, money-laundering documents, and more. All of this would serve as evidence and would seal the fate of Ahmed and his gang.

Following the raids, the chief investigator's team took the arrested gang members and their ringleader into custody. They were then brought before the competent court, where they received a fair trial and punishment for their crimes.

The names and characters mentioned in the story are fictitious and any resemblance with real people is purely coincidental.

Police teams carried out simultaneous raids on gang members' hideouts in several places, so that they wouldn't have the time to warn each other



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المصرف
AL MASRAF
Bank for Investment & Foreign Trade المصرف العربي للاستثمار والتجارة الخارجية

A close-up photograph of a woman's face, partially hidden behind a white, featureless mask. Only her left eye, which is a striking blue, and a portion of her face are visible. The background is dark, creating a high-contrast, mysterious atmosphere.

TWO-FACED TERRORS

THESE SERIAL KILLERS HAVE A PARTICULAR TIC OF
APPEARING AS UNASSUMING LADIES — BUT THEIR
SMILES HIDE ALL THE SKELETONS

BY NEIL BIE

VENGEFUL WOMAN

WHEN: NOVEMBER 1989

WHERE: FLORIDA, USA

From her childhood days, Aileen Wuornos had it rough — her father was a child molester and a killer who committed suicide while in prison; her immigrant mother just abandoned her, leaving Aileen in the care of her grandparents. Throughout her school days, she used to trade illicit favours for smokes and other items from other kids. She had a sibling as well, but it was subsequently found that they were in an incestuous relationship.

Aileen's grandmother died of liver disease soon after her father's suicide, and her grandfather abused and raped her. She eventually fell pregnant at the age of fourteen by her grandfather's acquaintance, which led to a life of crime and prostitution. She abandoned her son for adoption after dropping out of school and leaving her grandfather's house.

Her very first prey in November 1989 was 51-year-old Richard Charles Mallory, a convicted rapist. She had also been found responsible for the murder of Dick Humphreys, Charles Carskaddon, David Spears, Troy Burrell, and Walter Jeno Antonio. The people she murdered were frequently shot five or more times, and their remains were discarded in various locations. Aileen claimed that the victims were her clients who had either raped or attempted to rape her, and that all of the killings she committed were an act of self-defence.



Aileen Wuornos

Aileen was produced in court in 1992 for her murder sprees and was eventually sentenced to death. She was diagnosed with a borderline personality disorder by prison psychiatrists. However, the jury said that despite her psychological difficulties, Aileen knew the difference between right and wrong. In a vote of 12-0, the jury decided to give Aileen a death sentence in 2002.

BABY FARMER

WHEN: 1869

WHERE: BRISTOL, UNITED KINGDOM

In the 1860s, the United Kingdom's Poor Law Amendment Act of 1834 rendered fathers of illegitimate children legally exempt from financial assistance for their children, leaving many mothers with little to no choices at all. It was during this time when Amelia Dyer found a lucrative opportunity, which was to use her house to raise babies who were born out of wedlock, so that the mother could go back to her life as a single person. To support herself, she began adopting illegitimate newborns in return for money. Amelia told customers that the children in her care would have a secure and caring environment.

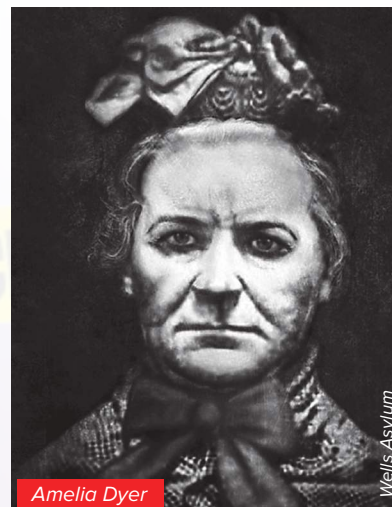
She initially planned to let the kids die of malnutrition and neglect. "Mother's Friend", an opium-laced syrup, was given to these starving babies to keep them quiet. Amelia eventually turned to speedier killings, to free her from feeding and rearing them. She dodged officials for years before being apprehended after a doctor became suspicious of the number of infants dying in her care. The complaint led to a conviction for neglect and six months of hard labour.

She was admitted to various mental asylums during her life due to mental instability, despite allegations of pretending, and survived at least one significant suicide attempt.

Amelia had learned from her first conviction. To minimise any additional risk, she reverted to baby farming without involving physicians and began disposing of the dead infants herself. She also moved frequently to avoid suspicion and began using aliases.

She was captured after the body of a child was retrieved by a fisherman from the Thames River in March 1896. The baby was inside a carpetbag full of layers of linen, newspaper and brown paper. There was white tape bound around the baby's neck with a knot tightly wound around the left ear. An observant policeman noticed a name written on a corner of the paper — 'Mrs. Thomas' — along with an address.

She was tried at the Old Bailey in March 1896, and her defence was "insanity". A jury reached a guilty judgment in less than five minutes. Based on timeframes and years of activity, she most likely killed 200-400 children. Amelia was hanged on June 10, 1896, shortly before 9 am.



Amelia Dyer

SERVANT SLAYER

WHEN: 1831

WHERE: NEW ORLEANS, USA

Marie Delphine Macarty was born on March 19, 1787, in New Orleans to a rich family. At 13, she married Don Ramón de Lopez y Angulo, a high-ranking Spanish officer who died in Havana in 1804. She was remarried years later to Jean Blanque, a wealthy banker, trader, lawyer, and lawmaker who died in 1816. Delphine, 40, was widowed twice and had five children when she married her third husband, 25-year-old Dr Leonard Louis Nicolas LaLaurie. His newly affluent wife had inherited her two ex-husbands' fortunes.

But a life of fame and fortune wasn't enough for Delphine. Beneath her respected socialite figure was a terrifying figure to her servants. Though New Orleans had regulations that "protected" servants from brutal punishments (unlike other southern states), the circumstances at the LaLaurie estate were far from lawful.

In one case, a servant was so afraid of the punishment that he hurled himself out a third-storey window, preferring death over Delphine's torture.

The other story was about a 12-year-old servant girl named Lia. She was combing Delphine's hair when she tugged too hard, leading Delphine to erupt in wrath and lash her. The young girl climbed out onto the roof and jumped to her death.

Witnesses spotted Delphine burying the girl's body, prompting authorities to punish her with a \$300 (Dhs1,101) fine and an order to sell nine of her servants. The officials, however, looked the other way when Delphine bought them all back.

After Lia's death, the townsfolk began to suspect Delphine

even more, so when a fire broke out, no one was shocked that her servants were the last to be found — and yet, nothing could have prepared them for what they saw.

After the servants were freed from the burning structure, a mob of about

4,000 enraged citizens stormed the house, breaking windows and knocking down doors until virtually nothing was left but the exterior walls.

Delphine and her driver were missing after the dust cleared, presumed to have escaped to Paris. However, there was no indication that she ever made it to Paris. Her daughter claimed to have got letters from her mother, even though no one had ever seen them.

In the late 1930s, an ancient, fractured copper plate carrying the name "LaLaurie, Madame Delphine McCarty" was discovered in New Orleans' Saint Louis Cemetery. According to the inscription on the plaque, she died in Paris on December 7, 1842.



Marie Delphine McCarty LaLaurie

OLD MAID

WHEN: APRIL 1982

WHERE: SACRAMENTO, USA

Dorothea Puente made her living in Sacramento by providing aid and care for the elderly and disabled by giving them a temporary home. Her friend and business partner, Ruth Monroe, rented a space in an apartment that Dorothea owned. Just months after Ruth began living in Dorothea's house, the former was found dead from overdosing on codeine and Tylenol. When officials questioned Dorothea about what happened, she told them that Ruth had been experiencing bouts of depression due to her husband's illness. Police officers brushed off the incident and ruled it as a suicide.

But after some weeks, Malcolm McKenzie, 74, accused Dorothea of drugging him and taking his pension. In August of that year, Dorothea was charged with and convicted of larceny, and she was sentenced to five years in prison.

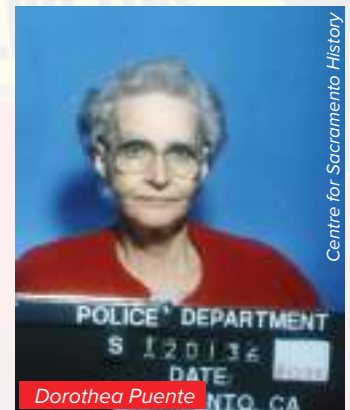
However, she continued to accommodate elderly and disabled residents in her boarding home after she was freed in 1985. She read their mail and stole any money or Social Security payments they received while they were living there. She provided them monthly stipends, but pocketed the rest for what she claimed were boarding house expenses.

Numerous parole officials paid a visit to Dorothea's boarding house, but she was never arrested. When Dorothea reported that

she "adopted" a homeless guy named "Chief" to serve as a handyman, her neighbours became suspicious. Chief was tasked with digging in the basement and removing soil and rubbish from the property. Before leaving, "Chief" installed a new concrete slab in the basement.

Alvaro Montoya, another renter at Dorothea's residence, went missing in November 1988. Montoya had developmental disabilities as well as schizophrenia. His social worker reported him missing when he failed to appear at meetings. Dorothea's boarding house was searched by the police. They uncovered seven bodies, including Alvaro's, in the yard after discovering recently disturbed dirt. She was not considered a suspect when the inquiry began.

Dorothea received two life sentences and served them at the Central California Women's Facility in Madera County, until her death in 2011 at the age of 82. She maintained her innocence up to her last breath, stressing that all of her tenants, whose bones were found under her home, had "died of natural causes".



Centre for Sacramento History

Dorothea Puente



EPILOGUE OF BRITISH CONTROL

THE PERPETUAL MARITIME TRUCE AND THE EXCLUSIVE AGREEMENT
MARKED THE HEIGHTS OF BRITISH INFLUENCE, WHICH THEN WANED AS
SHEIKH ZAYED WORKED TO UNITE THE EMIRATES

BY DR FALEH HANDHAL





The British flag in front of the British Political Agency building in Abu Dhabi and the "Trenchard Fowle" boat in the background (1958)

Edric Worsnop

an armistice treaty. We agree with this obligation under the following conditions:

"Article One: Starting from June 1, 1834, corresponding to 2 of Jumada Al Oula 1259, all attacks at sea between our nations and dependents will cease from the aforementioned date until the end of May 1853; a truce was not disputed."

The treaty was signed by Sheikh Sultan bin Saqr Al Qasimi; Sheikh Khalifa bin Shakhboub from Abu Dhabi; Sheikh Maktoum bin Butti from Dubai; Sheikh Abdullah bin Rashid Al Mualla from Umm Al Quwain; and Sheikh Abdelaziz bin Rashid Al Nuaimi from Ajman.

PERPETUAL MARITIME TRUCE

By 1853, all the rulers of the Trucial States decided to conclude a treaty permanently guaranteeing the safety of the seas. The pact, named "Perpetual Maritime Truce", came in three articles, which were started by the following: "We have lived for many years with benefits and advantages resulting from the maritime truce, which was renewed from time to time, and since we feel completely satisfied with it, we are aware of the acts of aggression at sea. We have decided, on our own behalf and on behalf of our heirs and successors after us, to abide by a permanent peace treaty."

SLAVERY BAN CONVENTION

The British Government of India claimed that its vessels had observed and recorded the transfer of a large number of Africans from the port of Mombasa in Kenya and other places in the African country to Oman and the Trucial States.

Britain raised a great uproar about this issue and acted as a protector of slaves and an anti-slavery regime. In reality, what was called "the slave trade" was incorrect, as these Africans came to the region to work in diving, shipbuilding and navigation, and they were involved in society.

However, the fight against so-called slavery was one of the main reasons why Britain justified its military and political presence in the Gulf region. Under the pretext of banning slavery, Britain interfered in the affairs of the Trucial States and strengthened its influence and authority.

The 19th century saw several treaties and armistice agreements being signed between the British and the Trucial States. Many of these pacts were designed by the Western colonial power to protect its maritime interests and the resulting trade revenues.

Four maritime armistice agreements were signed between 1835 and 1838. Before that, in 1834, a series of truces led to the signing of a one-year treaty. The treaty came in four articles, starting with the following: "We have been affected

by the worst conditions amongst our nations and dependents, who have been prevented from pursuing the pearl-hunting due to exposure against them on the shore. We have appreciated the public interest resulting from the conclusion of

“By 1853, all the rulers of the Trucial States decided to conclude a treaty permanently guaranteeing the safety of the seas. The pact, named “Perpetual Maritime Truce”, came in three articles

Under British pressure, the rulers were forced to sign an agreement in 1839. It consisted of three articles, and the first article stated the following: "If the warships of the British government meet any vessel belonging to me or my nations, sailing in the line that extends from Cape Delgado in Africa, skipping two degrees towards the sea to the island of Socotra and ending at Cape Gwadar, and [if] the British ships suspected that the ship belonging to me or my nations was transporting slaves, they have the right to stop it and confiscate its cargo."

TELEGRAPH LINE PROTECTION AGREEMENT

In 1863, the British government decided to extend a telegraph line from India to Iran and the Gulf region and from there to Baghdad. The line consisted of metal wires extending from the seabed to the coasts. These lines were very important, and they could be cut or vandalised.

To prevent such damage, the British government decided to conclude an agreement with the rulers of the Trucial States, making them responsible for protecting this line. On April 18, 1864, the rulers signed the following agreement: "Whereas the British government lays down telegraph lines in various places on or near the coast of the Persian Gulf, for trade to flourish and to spread peace, we pledge on behalf of ourselves and on behalf of our heirs and allies not to interfere with the telegraphic operations of the British government in or near our territory.

"If any of our nations or dependents commit a hostile act on the telegraph lines, stations and machines, we shall immediately punish the offender and pay the appropriate compensation for this aggression, because the lines are set up in public interest, and our nations or dependents are allowed to send their telegrams at the fixed rates to British nations."

CONVENTION ON PEARL TRADE

In 1879, a problem began to loom on the horizon for British officials in the Gulf. This involved pearl merchants as well as pearl divers who fell into debt because of financial hardships and fled from one emirate to another.

Britain feared that these small problems would lead to bigger problems, so it asked the British Residency agent in Sharjah to prepare



The British Political Agency building in Abu Dhabi (1958)

Edric Warsnop

“In 1879, a problem began to loom on the horizon for British officials in the Gulf. This involved pearl merchants who fell into debt because of financial hardships and fled from one emirate to another

an agreement to be signed by the rulers. The agreement came in five clauses, including the following: "A mutual agreement between the sheikhs of the coast was released on Rajab 3, 1297, corresponding to April 24, 1879. Since it is in the interest of the sheikhs to agree to prevent the escape, especially of sailors and divers, [who] leave their debts behind in one emirate and seek refuge in another emirate, we have agreed to make every effort to prevent the [sailors and divers] from seeking refuge in our emirates and hiding there."

Article One of this agreement said: "If anyone from the nation is seeking refuge in our lands, whether by land or sea, we must return [him] to the sheikh from whose jurisdiction he escaped."

EXCLUSIVE AGREEMENT FOR BRITAIN

An agreement named the "1892 Exclusive Agreement" and signed by the British and the Trucial States is considered to be a purely political agreement imposed by Britain on the region, allowing the colonial power to interfere in the political and internal

affairs of the sheikhdoms. The purpose of the agreement was to counter the strength of other international powers eyeing the Gulf.

Britain had thought that concluding several agreements and treaties with the Trucial States — they have been mentioned in this column previously — would guarantee British influence and control in the region without fear. But other international powers did not recognise the British presence and did not take it for granted. Rather, they went beyond talking about seizing control from Britain.

In 1887, the Persian government began looking to the Gulf emirates to make inroads there. Sheikh Zayed bin Khalifa, the ruler of Abu Dhabi at that time, was the first to be contacted by the Iranian government, which dispatched its "Daria Beki", the "prince of the sea" in charge of all Persian ports. His name was Amin Al-Sultan, and he first went to Abu Dhabi and then to Dubai to meet its ruler, Sheikh Rashid bin Maktoum. Iran's talks with the two sheikhs ended with an agreement to open a political residence in Dubai and appoint a representative of its government.

When this news reached the British, they were appalled by this action. Later on, France started to intervene in the Gulf. In 1890, an alliance was established between Russia and France to reduce British influence in the Gulf and to establish a common policy to extend their influence there.

France took the responsibility of confronting British influence in the Sultanate of Oman and the Trucial States so it began using its flags on a couple of Omani vessels. The European power claimed that any vessel carrying the flag of France would be under French protection. Then, two French diplomats visited Tyre city and they put up French flags there. Then they met with Sheikh Ahmad bin Abdullah Al Mualla, Ruler of Umm Al Quwain, and some French flags were hoisted on rooftops there.

Thus, it is clear that the Gulf region began to develop unstable conditions due to the emergence of powers that rivalled Britain.

During that period, Britain was facing many problems in India, too, as a result of successive revolutions there, accompanied by Russian, French and Persian aspirations to extend their influence. So, it became necessary to take a decisive step that would lead to the consolidation of Britain's power in the region.

In 1892, Lieutenant Colonel Talbot, the British Political Resident in the Gulf, wrote a letter to his government, warning it about these activities and urging it to sign a treaty with the sheikhs of the region, preventing them from dealing with any other country and putting them under British protection, so that Britain would have control permanently.

Talbot then approached the Trucial States with the "prevention treaty". Since the British Political Resident was aware of the influence of Sheikh Zayed bin Khalifa and his position as the eldest sheikh in terms of political stature, Talbot started with him. The treaty articles said: "I am the signatory to this, Zayed bin Khalifa, Sheikh of Abu Dhabi, in the presence of Lieutenant Colonel Talbot, the Political Resident in the Gulf. I pledge and agree in my name and the name of my heirs and successors on the following:

1) I shall not sign any agreements or



Sheikh Zayed along with other rulers signing of the 'Treaty of Friendship' between the UAE and the UK at the Union House in 1971

enter into any relationships with any country except Great Britain.

2) I shall not permit the residence of any representative of any other government in my territory without the prior consent of the British government.

3) I will not rent, sell, mortgage, assign or otherwise allow the

occupation of any part of my territory to any country other than Britain."

This agreement was signed in Abu Dhabi on March 6, 1892, corresponding to Shaban 5, 1309.

The sheikhs who signed this treaty were: Zayed bin Khalifa, Ruler of Abu Dhabi; Rashid bin Maktoum, Ruler of



Dubai; Humaid bin Rashid, Ruler of Ajman; Ahmed bin Abdullah, Ruler of Umm Al Quwain; and Humaid bin Abdullah bin Sultan, Ruler of Ras Al Khaimah. There is no doubt that this treaty was a turning point in the political relations between the British government and the Trucial States, as it became a relationship of dependence based on Britain imposing its control over the Trucial States.

In return for these commitments and pledges, Britain committed itself to protecting the Trucial States from external aggressions, preserving the autonomy of its entities and its political and economic interests, and managing its foreign affairs. This treaty was also the last of the treaties to have a political formula. It was followed by aviation agreements, the opening of airports, and then petroleum agreements.

HERALD OF THE UNION

The picture in the Trucial States changed dramatically when Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan rose to power in August 1966. The Abu Dhabi ruler began preparing for the establishment of the United Arab Emirates under one leadership that would be recognised by the whole world.

Sheikh Zayed met with the British official in charge of the Gulf on December 1, 1971, in order to terminate all existing treaties and agreements between the emirates and Britain. Memoranda in this regard were exchanged, and the following was agreed upon:

1) Termination of special treaty relations between the United Kingdom and the Emirate of Abu Dhabi for their denial of membership in a union that assumes its full international responsibilities as an independent, sovereign state, as of today's date.

2) Termination of the Treaty of March 1892 and all agreements, undertakings, obligations and arrangements between the United Kingdom and the Emirate

of Abu Dhabi arising from the special treaty relations between the two countries as of the date of today.

3) Continuing relations between the United Kingdom, and the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, as a member of the United Arab Emirates, in a spirit of cooperation and close friendship. For this purpose, a treaty of friendship was concluded between the United Kingdom and the United Arab Emirates.

The two parties agreed to this memorandum, and on December 2, 1971, the establishment of the United Arab Emirates was announced. Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan was elected as the first President of the UAE, with Sheikh Rashid bin Saeed Al Maktoum elected as Vice-President.

On the same day, a treaty of friendship was signed between the UAE and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Its introduction said: "[T]he United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United Arab Emirates, given that the United Arab Emirates has assumed its full international responsibility as an independent and sovereign state and given that the two countries, are determined to continue their close relations of co-operation and friendship."

The four articles in the treaty of friendship stipulated details. Under the treaty, the consolidation of common interests, the consolidation of cultural understanding and communications between professional bodies and universities, and the encouragement of the exchange of technical and scientific information would be implemented for ten years.

Thus, the flag of the United Arab Emirates rose alongside the British flag and other international flags and banners. The world saw how the emirates, which had until then been hidden behind forgotten veils of history, tossed by foreign hands, became one sovereign country with strong institutions that would achieve national goals — it was the first step towards becoming a role model for the world in a short time.

This unification could happen by the grace of God Almighty, and also of Sheikh Zayed and his honourable companions, the rulers of all the emirates, who unleashed the latent strength of the nation and liberated its soul.

“The picture in the Trucial States changed dramatically when Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan rose to power in August 1966. He began preparing for the establishment of the UAE under one leadership that would be recognised by the whole world

TAKE A PEEK AT THE NEWEST MUST-HAVE HIGH-TECH ELECTRONIC DEVICES

QUADCAM REIMAGINED

Huawei's latest smartphone, **Huawei Mate 50 Pro**, has redesigned software specifications and a camera system.

The smartphone's Ultra Aperture XIMAGE Camera captures brilliance both day and night. It automatically changes the aperture to match the demands of the moment, and the Professional mode provides you with 10 aperture settings to select from, allowing you to customise the blur and depth of focus in your newest masterpiece.

The 50 MP Ultra Aperture Camera captures 24 per cent more light, owing to the ultra-large F1.4 aperture and RYYB sensor, which work in tandem with the XD Fusion Pro image processor to maintain exquisite brightness and contrast. Super night mode transports you deep into the night, capturing captivating details that bring the night to life. The wider aperture, along with cutting-edge submillimetre segmentation technology, produces professional-level blurring and beautiful bokeh effects.



PRICE: Dhs3,596

WEBSITE: <https://consumer.huawei.com/>

HEALTH OPTICS



PRICE: Dhs1,299

WEBSITE: <https://store.google.com/>

Tech giants Google and Fitbit have joined together to bring a newly-optimised smartwatch, the **Google Pixel Watch**, which is poised to deliver the best of both worlds: Google's extensive help through its search engines and Fitbit's health-focused optics.

Google Maps' role in this smartwatch allows the user to be directed with turn-by-turn directions and an interactive display to assist you to see where you are and getting to where you're going. You can also add your cards to Google Wallet online, and then use Google Pay to speed through checkout with rapid, contactless payments, both in stores and on public transportation. You can also use your wrist to play music, react to SMS, seek directions, and do other things. To get started, simply say "Hey Google". Check and reply to e-mail notifications, as well as access your calendar, directly from your watch.

Fitbit's function embedded within this smartwatch is to keep users motivated by recording workouts across 40 different exercises. With Active Zone Minutes, you may also gain credit for time spent in different heart rate zones.

PORTRAIT MAKER

One look at Vivo's latest smartphone and you'll be impressed with the sleek premium design of this new-gen gadget. **Vivo's V25 Pro** is equipped with a colour-changing fluorite AG glass design, which gives distinct hues of blue to the casing — from clear sky blue to deep sea blue. At the front, the 3D curved screen is packed with optimised visibility and sensitivity to adjust from low light to bright surroundings.

For its camera, the V25 Pro has unique software with its OIS Super Night Portrait mode for its front cam, which features an AI Algorithm — this highlights flawless skin even during evenings. Meanwhile, for places with good lighting, the Bokeh Flare Portrait is ready to give creative portrait expressions.

The battery isn't an issue either as the V25 Pro is powered by a 66W Flash Charge feature, which powers up your mobile phone easily from 0 to 71 per cent within only 30 minutes. Its 4830 mAh battery also ensures that you have enough juice in your smartphone to last throughout the day.



PRICE: Dhs2,199

WEBSITE: <https://www.vivo.com/>

SOUND STABILISER

With **Dell's Alienware Tri-mode Wireless Gaming Headset**, you can hear every step and transmit every instruction thanks to Dolby Atmos, Active Noise Cancellation, and a variety of connection choices.

Dell's newest headset has the all-new Dolby Atmos Virtual Surround Sound, which offers crystal-clear audio with three-dimensional accuracy, allowing you to respond faster and more precisely to off-screen targets — even in the most chaotic gaming battlefields.

Its 40-mm Hi-Res Certified Drivers produce a broad range of frequencies and aid in the detection of even the smallest in-game noises. With four embedded microphones that work in unison, Active Sounds Cancelling helps you shut out extraneous noise.

Furthermore, you may connect the headset to your mobile phone or other devices using Bluetooth 5.2 or a 3.5mm connector. Get up to 55 hours of playtime on a full charge or 6 hours of use with a short 15-minute USB-C fast charging.



PRICE: Dhs660

WEBSITE: <https://www.dell.com/>

PRO-BUSINESS LAPTOP



PRICE: Dhs7,850

WEBSITE: <https://www.hp.com/>

The beautifully built, ultra-light **HP Elite Dragonfly with HP Wolf Security for Business** changes the dynamics of the room wherever you are. HP's latest laptop for business offers a spectacular collaboration experience powered by HP Presence, as well as AI-driven crystal-clear audio and an HD display. There's also a powerful Intel Core™ CPU, Wi-Fi 6E connectivity, and contextual intelligence to boost productivity.

Its 5MP camera with appearance filter provides a more professional, sharper image for Zoom calls, and its crisp, clear audio from Bang & Olufsen lets you interact in any scenario. Images are vibrant and relatively well-lit, with an HP Presence program allowing automated framing and lighting correction, as well as the option of blurring the backdrop. Toggling the camera for privacy is done using a keyboard button rather than a sliding shutter. Two cutting-edge microphones with automated noise reduction and speech levelling make you heard even when you walk within 3 metres of the PC.

SOUNDSTAGE BASS

The **Monoprice Soundstage 3 Portable Speaker** is a powerful Bluetooth speaker that can provide up to 10 hours of great audio playback on a single charge. The Soundstage 3 Portable Speaker packs a sonic punch and offers a magnificent, clear, sharp sound that can fill any size room or garden.

The built-in handle makes it simple to transport the Soundstage 3 Portable Speaker anywhere you go, whether it's a backyard BBQ, camping trip, or picnic. The Soundstage 3 Portable Speaker is loud and clear enough to please most audiophiles. It puts out 10 watts to each of the two 1" silk dome tweeters and 30 watts to the 5.25" concave aluminium cone woofer for dramatic, powerful sound that belies its small size. A subwoofer output on the back panel lets you attach an external, powered subwoofer for an additional low-end boost. The Soundstage 3 Portable Speaker is capable of filling any big room or patio with rich, precise sound.



PRICE: Dhs919

WEBSITE: <https://www.monoprice.com/>



EXPLORE THE POWER OF MUSIC TO HONE YOUR INTELLECT AND EMOTIONAL QUOTIENT. REASSESS HOW TO KEEP YOUR CHILDREN DISCIPLINED ABOUT SCREEN TIME, AND FIND WAYS TO ADDRESS TRAUMA AND OTHER EMOTIONAL BURDENS

LOVELY TUNES

TITLE: *This Is What It Sounds Like: What the Music You Love Says About You*

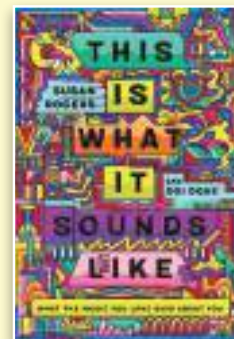
AUTHORS: Susan Rogers, Ogi Ogas

PUBLISHER: WW Norton Company

PRICE: Dhs61

Award-winning professor of cognitive neuroscience, Susan Rogers leads readers to musical self-awareness. She explains that we each possess a unique “listener profile” based on our brain’s natural response to the seven key dimensions of any song. Are you someone who prefers lyrics or melody? Do you like music “above the neck” (intellectually stimulating), or “below the neck” (instinctual and rhythmic)? Whether your taste is esoteric or mainstream, Rogers guides readers to recognise their musical personality and offers language to describe one’s own unique taste. Like most of us, Rogers is not a musician, but she shows that all of us can be music enthusiasts — simply by being an active, passionate listener.

While exploring the science of music and the brain, Rogers also takes us behind the scenes of record-making, using her insider’s ear to illuminate the music of Prince, Frank Sinatra, Kanye West, Lana Del Rey, and many others. She shares records that changed her life, contrasts them with those that appeal to her co-author and students, and encourages you to think about the records that define your own identity.



START THEM YOUNG

TITLE: *Who’s Raising the Kids?: Big Tech, Big Business, and the Lives of Children*

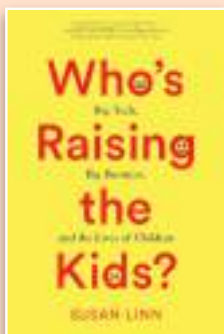
AUTHOR: Susan Linn

PUBLISHER: New Press

PRICE: Dhs98

Linn — one of the world’s leading experts on the impact of Big Tech and big business on children — explores the roots and consequences of this monumental shift towards a digitised, commercialised childhood, focusing on kids’ values, relationships, and learning. From birth, kids have become lucrative fodder for a range of tech, media, and toy companies, from producers of exploitative games and social media platforms to “educational” technology and branded school curricula of dubious efficacy. Linn persuasively argues that our digitised-commercialised culture is damaging for children and families as well as society at large, and maps out what we must do to change course.

Drawing on research and real-life stories that show the dangers of immersing children in the profit-driven worlds of Big Tech and big business, *Who’s Raising the Kids?* is both an exposé and a guide. In addition to calling for societal change, Linn recognises that families need guidance now, and the book includes a chapter on “resistance parenting” that offers concrete suggestions for protecting kids from exploitative targeting by tech, toy, and media conglomerates.



FINAL BASTION

TITLE: *Survival of the Richest: Escape Fantasies of the Tech Billionaires*

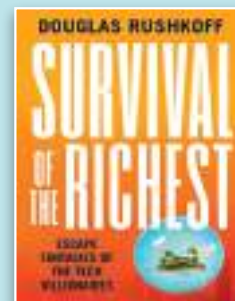
AUTHOR: Douglas Rushkoff

PUBLISHER: W. W. Norton Company

PRICE: Dhs89

In *Survival of the Richest*, Rushkoff traces the origins of The Mindset in science and technology through its current expression in missions to Mars, island bunkers, AI futurism, and the metaverse. In a dozen urgent, electrifying chapters, he confronts tech utopianism, the datafication of all human interaction, and the exploitation of that data by corporations. Through fascinating characters — master programmers who want to remake the world from scratch as if redesigning a video game and bankers who return from Burning Man convinced that incentivised capitalism is the solution to environmental disasters — Rushkoff explains why those with the most power to change our current trajectory have no interest in doing so.

This mind-blowing work of social analysis shows us how to transcend the landscape The Mindset created — a world alive with algorithms and bits of intelligence actively rewarding our most selfish tendencies — and rediscover community, mutual aid, and human interdependency.



NURTURING EMOTIONS

TITLE: *The Path to Healing Is a Spiral: One Woman's Journey to Emotional Healing*

AUTHOR: Anna McKerrrow

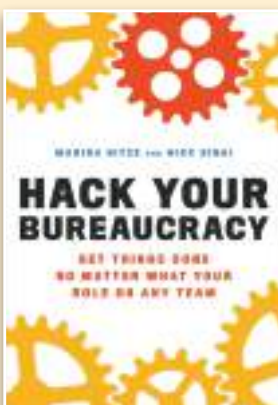
PUBLISHER: Watkins Publishing

PRICE: Dhs39

Anna was screaming at full volume into a pillow in a grey industrial estate when it dawned on her that maybe this was a slightly unusual way of processing grief. It wasn't the first time she had done something a little odd to try and make sense of things.

There was the time she sobbed along to Elton John in a room full of strangers. She has tried Reiki, reflexology, BodyTalk, past life regression, breathwork, guided visualisation, dreamwork, gong baths, and meditation — her journey has been long and twisting, but eventually, it led to real understanding, and real healing.

This book is about acknowledging our trauma, looking at what it actually is, and feeling our feelings. Interviews with practitioners and experts delve deeper into what alternative therapies offer. Ultimately, Anna hopes to trigger much-needed conversations about emotional health and the non-mainstream ways we can communicate with ourselves and others.



PRODUCTIVITY HACKS

TITLE: *Hack Your Bureaucracy: Get Things Done No Matter What Your Role on Any Team*

AUTHORS: Marina Nitze, Nick Sinai

PUBLISHER: Hachette Go

PRICE: Dhs101

Whether you just started your first entry-level job, run the entire company, or just feel trapped by your condo association bylaws, it's time to learn how to get big things done and make a lasting impact with *Hack Your Bureaucracy*.

From local government to the White House, Harvard to the world of venture capital, Marina Nitze and Nick Sinai have taken on some of the world's most challenging bureaucracies — and won. Now, they bring their years of experience to you, teaching you strategies anyone can use to improve your organisation through their own stories.

Change doesn't happen just because the person in charge declares it should, even if that person is the CEO of your company. Regardless of your industry, role, or team, *Hack Your Bureaucracy* shows how to get started, take initiative on your own, and transform your ideas into impact.

FASCINATING MEMOIR

TITLE: *Madly, Deeply: The Diaries of Alan Rickman*

AUTHORS: Alan Rickman, Emma Thompson

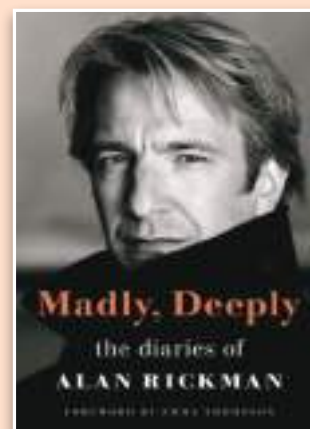
PUBLISHER: Henry Holt and Co.

PRICE: Dhs75

From his breakout role in *Die Hard* to his outstanding, multifaceted performances in the *Harry Potter* films, *Galaxy Quest*, *Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves*, and more, Alan Rickman cemented his legacy as a world-class actor. His air of dignity, his sonorous voice, and the knowing wit he brought to each role continue to captivate audiences today.

But Rickman's ability to breathe life into projects wasn't confined to just his performances. As you'll find, Rickman's diaries detail the extraordinary and the ordinary, flitting between worldly and witty and gossipy, while remaining utterly candid throughout. He takes us inside his home, on trips with friends across the globe, and on the sets of films and plays ranging from *Sense and Sensibility*, to Noël Coward's *Private Lives*, to the final film he directed, *A Little Chaos*.

Running from 1993 to his death in 2016, the diaries provide singular insight into Rickman's public and private life. Reading them is like listening to Rickman chatting with a close companion.



UAE launches Phase II of mosquito control drive

The UAE authorities have ramped up the national drive to ward off mosquitoes that causes dengue, malaria, and other illnesses.

The Ministry of Climate Change and Environment (MoCCA) announced the launch of mosquito control activities and an associated public awareness campaign, as part of the second phase of the 'National Mosquito Control Programme', which is being carried out in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Prevention (MoHAP) and in coordination with the concerned local government entities in each emirate.

"Protecting public health is a strategic priority that the Ministry addresses in



cooperation with relevant public and private sector entities nationwide," said Eng Essa Al Hashmi, Assistant Undersecretary for the Sustainable Communities Sector at MoCCA.

He stated that the Ministry's mandate includes pest control, reducing the

impact of pests on the environment and human health, and creating public awareness about these issues. MoCCA conducts dedicated yearly pest management programmes and collaborates with relevant agencies to educate the community on ways to contribute to the efforts and improve prevention.

The Phase II of the project entails dispatching pest control

teams — that started in October 2022 and is expected to be concluded by February 23, 2023 — to spray safe and MoCCA-approved pesticides at construction and commercial sites, schools, residential areas, horse stables and racetracks, parks, and farms across the UAE.

Climate change may usher 'insect apocalypse'

A study on the future of insects has warned of an "insect apocalypse" as a result of the ill effects of climate change on the global insect population, which will have far-reaching consequences for the environment and humanity.

According to co-author William Laurance of Australia's James Cook University, the biosphere

has already warmed by around 1.1 degrees Celsius since industrialisation. Unless greenhouse gas emissions are drastically decreased, it is expected to warm another 2-5 degrees Celsius by 2100.

"A growing body of evidence shows



many populations of insects are declining rapidly in many places. These declines are of profound concern, with terms like an emerging 'insect apocalypse' being increasingly used by the media and even some scientists to describe this phenomenon. The loss of insects works

its way up the food chain and may already be playing an important role in the widespread decline of their consumers, such as insect-eating birds in temperate environments," said Laurance.

Insects are vital components of biodiversity and provide services to the larger ecosystem, such as pollination, pest management, and nutrient recycling, all of which benefit

other organisms, including people, according to Laurance.

Climate change, according to the study, exacerbated the consequences of other factors harming insect populations, such as pollution, habitat loss, and predation.

Sharjah Ruler inspects local elephant sanctuary



HH Dr Sheikh Sultan bin Muhammad Al Qasimi observes a herd of elephants frolicking in the water at Sharjah Safari



His Highness Dr Sheikh Sultan bin Muhammad Al Qasimi, Supreme Council Member and Ruler of Sharjah, visited the elephant sanctuary in the emirate to see how Sharjah Safari officials take care of the animals within a safe haven.

His Highness was briefed by Sharjah officials on the project's progress, the Safari's expected level of breeding, and intentions to bring in rare and endangered species, preserving their lineage and allowing tourists to learn more about them. A tour of the elephant habitat, which is located inside the Niger Valley and

comprises a family of African savannah elephants, was conducted.

HH Dr Sheikh Sultan bin Muhammad observed the elephants, who had been brought to the herd, and how they were adjusting to their new surroundings. He also learned about the feeding procedure.

Sharjah Safari is the largest outside of Africa, with over 1,000 animals and birds and 120 species, including the uncommon black rhinoceros. The park initially opened to the public in February 2022, and reopened in September after a brief hiatus.

The wildlife park aspires to recreate a true African safari.

The 800-hectare park is located in Al Dhaid's Al Bridi Nature Reserve. It is divided into 12 thematic zones, with topography that corresponds to different parts of Africa.

The park is part of HH Sheikh Dr Sultan's goal to create a tourism and family destination that protects wildlife and preserves great biodiversity. The Sharjah Ruler recently issued a decree prohibiting any activity that harms the habitat or animals in the region.

Abu Dhabi sorts 838,000 tonnes of waste

Abu Dhabi has optimised its efforts in separating waste from biodegradables to non-biodegradables, with over 838,000 tonnes of trash that local agencies collected during the first nine months of 2022.

Of this number, the Abu Dhabi Waste Management Centre (Tadweer) was able to sort more than 110,000 tonnes of plastic, 560,000 tonnes of wood, approximately 28,000 tonnes of paper and cardboard waste, and 950 tonnes of mixed junk, which included textiles and cork, as well as more than



14,000 tonnes of iron and approximately 24,000 tonnes of aluminium.

Plastic, paper, and mixed rubbish, as well as solid debris like metal and wood, were collected from the Centre's landfills

in Al Ain, Al Dhafra, and Abu Dhabi.

"As part of its strategic plan, Tadweer continues its diligent efforts to protect public health through offering best-in-class services and enhancing the operational efficiency of its facilities. This allows the Centre to handle various types of waste generated across Abu Dhabi in line with the highest

standards," said Dr Salem Al Kaabi, Director General of Tadweer.

Tadweer employs cutting-edge technology and solutions in the treatment of wastes.

Vaping has similar health risks as smoking, study finds

A cardiac health impact study at the University of Wisconsin, supported by the American Health Association, found that vaping has the same impact as regular cigarette smoking.

The three-year study revealed that users had an increase in blood pressure and heart rate shortly after vaping. This is similar to the body's reaction to a fight or flight situation that is normally triggered by the brain's sympathetic nervous system.

Researchers have found that the impact on cardiovascular function was the same amongst young vapers as in older smokers who had used traditional cigarettes for two decades longer.



The lead author of the study, Matthew Tattersall, Assistant Professor of Medicine at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, said: "These findings suggest worse cardiovascular disease risk factors right after vaping or smoking, and activation of the sympathetic nervous system may play a role in the adverse responses seen immediately after

using e-cigarettes and after exercise testing 90 minutes later." In total, 395 people were evaluated in the study—164 of whom had vaped for an average of 4.1 years; 117 had smoked for 23 years; and the remaining 114 had never used any nicotine products. According to a research conducted by Maudsley Health and Al Amal Psychiatric Hospital, both in Dubai, and Liverpool John Moores University in the United Kingdom, nearly a quarter of students have tried an e-cigarette. According to the 2022 Middle East Tobacco Atlas, smoking rates in the UAE are 14 per cent amongst men and 2 per cent amongst women.

Study: Low vitamin D can affect your memory, mood

Does it seem like you've suddenly become more forgetful than usual? Or have your moods been swinging drastically lately? These are subtle signs that you might be having vitamin D deficiency.

A study by Dr Joshua W. Miller from Rutgers University, New Jersey, and a team at the University of California, Davis Alzheimer's Disease

Centre looked at the association between blood levels of vitamin D and changes in memory and thinking ability in 318 adults over an average of five years.

They have found that older adults with low vitamin D levels may lose their memories and thinking abilities faster than those with normal vitamin D levels.



"We were not particularly surprised by our findings because there is a recent and growing literature on the associations between vitamin D status and risk of Alzheimer's disease/dementia, cognitive decline, and brain atrophy," said Dr Miller in an interview with *Reuters*.

Dr Miller's team writes in *JAMA Neurology* that previous studies have

also linked low vitamin D levels to higher risk of dementia. Amongst people with cognitive impairment, an estimated 70 per cent to 90 per cent are insufficient in vitamin D.

"Low vitamin D status is very common in older adults and is associated with accelerated rates of cognitive decline," Dr Miller said.

As it stands, there

are no concrete studies to determine whether taking vitamin D could slow or prevent memory loss, but he suggested measuring your vitamin D level to see whether you need more of it.

Dr Miller also cautioned the public about the potential danger of taking more than the required amount of vitamin D as a supplement.

UK research finds that dogs can detect stress from breath, sweat

It is a common belief that dogs can sense when their owners are distressed, and a new study has just explained the science behind this notion.

A recently published study by Clara Wilson of Queen's University Belfast, United Kingdom, and colleagues show that physiological processes associated with an acute psychological stress response produce changes in human breath and sweat that dogs can detect with an accuracy of 93.75 per cent.

The scent that our bodies emit when stressed constitutes chemical signals that have evolved for communication, primarily within species.



Considering dogs' remarkable sense of smell and their long history of being humans' best friend, it comes as no

during stress in 675 out of 720 trials, or 93.75 per cent of the time, much greater than expected by chance.

surprise that they are drawn to react and respond with support to their owners' psychological state.

This explains why dogs have been proven effective in providing support to human psychological conditions such as anxiety, panic attacks and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

The study found out that dogs could detect and perform their alert behaviour on the sample taken

Antibiotic amoxicillin in short supply amidst high global demand

The United States Food and Drug Administration (USFDA) has released a public advisory stating that one of the most used antibiotics worldwide, amoxicillin, is in short supply.

A spokesperson from the USFDA said that the department was aware of "intermittent supply interruptions" and was working with approved makers of the medication. The notice comes after several pharmacy owners in the US reported to have exhausted their supply, especially of the liquid form of the medicine, which is normally given to children.



Amoxicillin, which can also come in chewable tablets or capsules, is used to treat viral infections like COVID-19, RSV or the flu, pneumonia, and bronchitis.

The decline in stocks of this medicine at

hospitals and pharmacies is said to be from an early surge in respiratory illnesses. However, USFDA has stated that the shortage of the antibiotic is triggered by manufacturing and quality problems, delays, and discontinuations.

Many pharma companies have reported shortages of various doses of amoxicillin. A spokesperson from Sandoz, one of the key manufacturers of amoxicillin, said that significant demand in countries like the US, the UK and Canada prompted a "supply situation" as a result of the pandemic and manufacturing constraints.



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Their Highnesses

Members of the Supreme Council and Rulers of the Emirates
and to the people of the UAE

On the occasion of the 51st National Day



بنك دبي الإسلامي
Dubai Islamic Bank

WHAT THE MONTH HAS IN STORE



Aries (March 21 to April 20)

Virginia Woolf wrote a passage that will apply to you in the coming weeks. She said, "There is no denying the wild horse in us. To gallop intemperately; fall on the sand tired out; to feel the earth spin; to have — positively — a rush of friendship for stones and grasses — there is no getting over the fact that this desire seizes us." Here's a question for you, Aries: How will you harness your wild horse energy? The self-possessed human in you ought to take command of the horse and direct it to serve you and yours with constructive actions.



Taurus (April 20 – May 21)

"The failure of love might account for most of the suffering in the world," writes poet Marie Howe. Many have had painful episodes revolving around people who no longer love you and people whose lack of love for you makes you feel hurt. That's the bad news, Taurus. The good news is that you now have more power than usual to heal the failures of love you have endured in the past. You also have an expanded capacity to heal others who have suffered from the failures of love.



Gemini (May 22 – June 20)

Many Geminis are often partly awake as they sleep. In their dreams, they might work overtime trying to solve waking-life problems. Or they may lie in bed in the dark contemplating intricate ideas that fascinate them, or perhaps ruminating on the plot developments unfolding in a book they've been reading or a TV show they've been bingeing. If you are prone to such behavior, you ought to minimise it for a while. You need to relax your mind extra deeply and allow it to play luxuriously with non-utilitarian fantasies and dreams.



Cancer (June 21 – July 22)

Here are two key messages you ought to keep in mind. 1. Remember where you hide important stuff. 2. Remember that you have indeed hidden some important stuff. Got that? Please note isn't to question your urge to lock away a secret or two. This isn't to criticise you for wanting to store a treasure that you are not yet ready to use or reveal either. It's completely understandable if you want to keep a part of your inner world off-limits to certain people for the time being. But as you engage in any or all of these actions, make sure you don't lose touch with your valuables. And don't forget why you are stashing them.



Leo (July 23 – August 22)

As a Leo, you most likely have abundant talent in the epicurean arts. But as you prepare to glide into the lush and lusty heart of the Sensuality Season, it can't hurt to offer you a pep talk from your fellow Leo bon vivant, James Baldwin. He said: "To be sensual is to respect and rejoice in the force of life, of life itself, and to be present in all that one does, from the effort of loving to the breaking of bread."



Virgo (August 23 – September 22)

Many Virgos are on a lifelong quest to cultivate a knack described by Sigmund Freud: "In the small matters, trust the mind. In the large ones, the heart." And you are now at a pivotal point in your efforts to master that wisdom. Important decisions are looming in regards to both small and large matters. You should thinking about doing the right things as long as you empower your mind to do what it does best and your heart to do what it does best.



Libra (September 23 – October 22)

Social media like Facebook and Twitter feed on our outrage. Their algorithms are designed to stir up our disgust and indignation. Sometimes you get seduced by the temptation to feel lots of umbrage and wrath, even though those feelings comprise a small minority of your total emotional range. As an antidote, you should proactively seek experiences that rouse my wonder and sublimity and holiness. In the next two weeks, Libra, you should cultivate a focus like this. It's high time for a phase of minimal anger and loathing—and maximum reverence and awe.



Scorpio (October 23 – November 21)

In one of her short stories, for example, Scorpio author Sylvia Plath has a woman character saying, "His love is the twenty-story leap, the rope at the throat, the knife at the heart." With this in mind, you ought to avoid contact with people who think and feel like that—as glamorous as they might seem. Your relationship in the coming months can and should be uplifting, exciting in healthy ways, and conducive to your well-being. There's no need to link yourself with shadowy renegades when there will be plenty of radiant helpers available.



Sagittarius (November 22 – December 21)

Sagittarian healer and author Caroline Myss is both spiritual and practical, compassionate and fierce. Here's a passage from her work that will be helpful for you in the coming weeks: "Get bored with your past. It's over. Forgive yourself for what you think you did or didn't do, and focus on what you will do, starting now." To ensure you make the most of her counsel, here's a further insight from author Augusten Burroughs: "You cannot be a prisoner of your past against your will—because you can only live in the past inside your mind."



Capricorn (December 22 – January 19)

How would you respond if you learned that the t-shirt you're wearing was made by a Haitian kid who earned 10 cents for her work? Would you stop wearing the shirt? Donate it to a thrift store? Send money to UNICEF, which works to protect Haitian child labourers? The latter could be the most helpful if you use this as a prompt to engage in leisurely meditations on what you might do to reduce the world's suffering. It's an excellent time to stretch your imagination to understand how your personal life is interwoven with the lives of countless others, many of whom you don't even know.



Aquarius (January 20 – February 18)

Aquarian philosopher Alfred North Whitehead wrote, "The silly question is the first intimation of some totally new development." He also said, "Every really new idea looks crazy at first." With these thoughts in mind, Aquarius, you ought to be aware you are now in the Season of the Silly Questions. You should enjoy dreaming up such queries. And as you indulge in that fertile pleasure, include another: Celebrate the Season of Crazy Ideas.



Pisces (February 19 – March 20)

We all love to follow stories. A disproportionately high percentage of the entertainment industry's stories are sad or tormented or horrendously painful. They influence us to think such stories are the norm. While you should never be coaxed to avoid all those stories, Pisces, you should question whether maybe it's wise to limit how many you absorb. The coming weeks will be an excellent time to explore this possibility. Be willing to say, "These sad, tormented, painful stories are not ones I want to invite into my imagination."

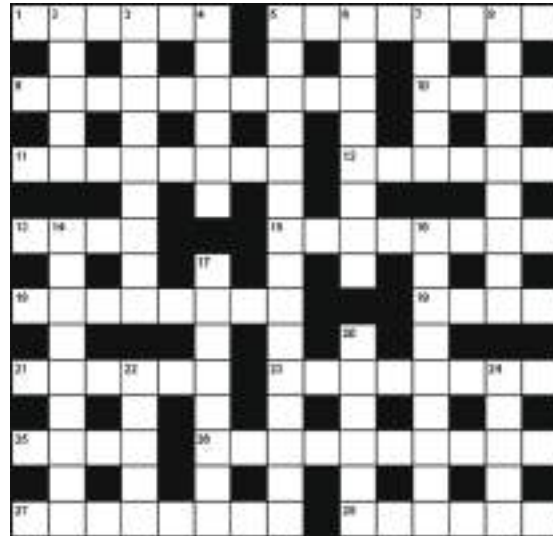
PUZZLES

ACROSS

- 1 Legendary bowler (6)
- 5 Endless rubbish (8)
- 9 Expert conductor (10)
- 10 Passionate siren (4)
- 11 Mental arithmetic (8)
- 12 Country (6)
- 13 British port (4)
- 15 Unknown person (8)
- 18 American article (8)
- 19 Circular letter (4)
- 21 Nurse's profit (6)
- 23 Dome revelation (8)
- 25 Return game (4)
- 26 Escape attempt (4,6)
- 27 Cinema actor (8)
- 28 Begin summary (6)

DOWN

- 2 Something to eat (5)
- 3 Red-blooded character (9)
- 4 Kingly leadership (6)
- 5 Gaining acceptance (3,4,6,2)
- 6 European vessel (8)
- 7 New student (5)
- 8 Investing money (9)
- 14 Foul weather (9)
- 16 Gimmicky goods (9)
- 17 Ridiculous comedown (8)
- 20 Being fitter (6)
- 22 Popular judge (5)
- 24 Expression of pity (5)



Easy

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SOLUTIONS

SOLUTIONS FOR THE NOVEMBER ISSUE



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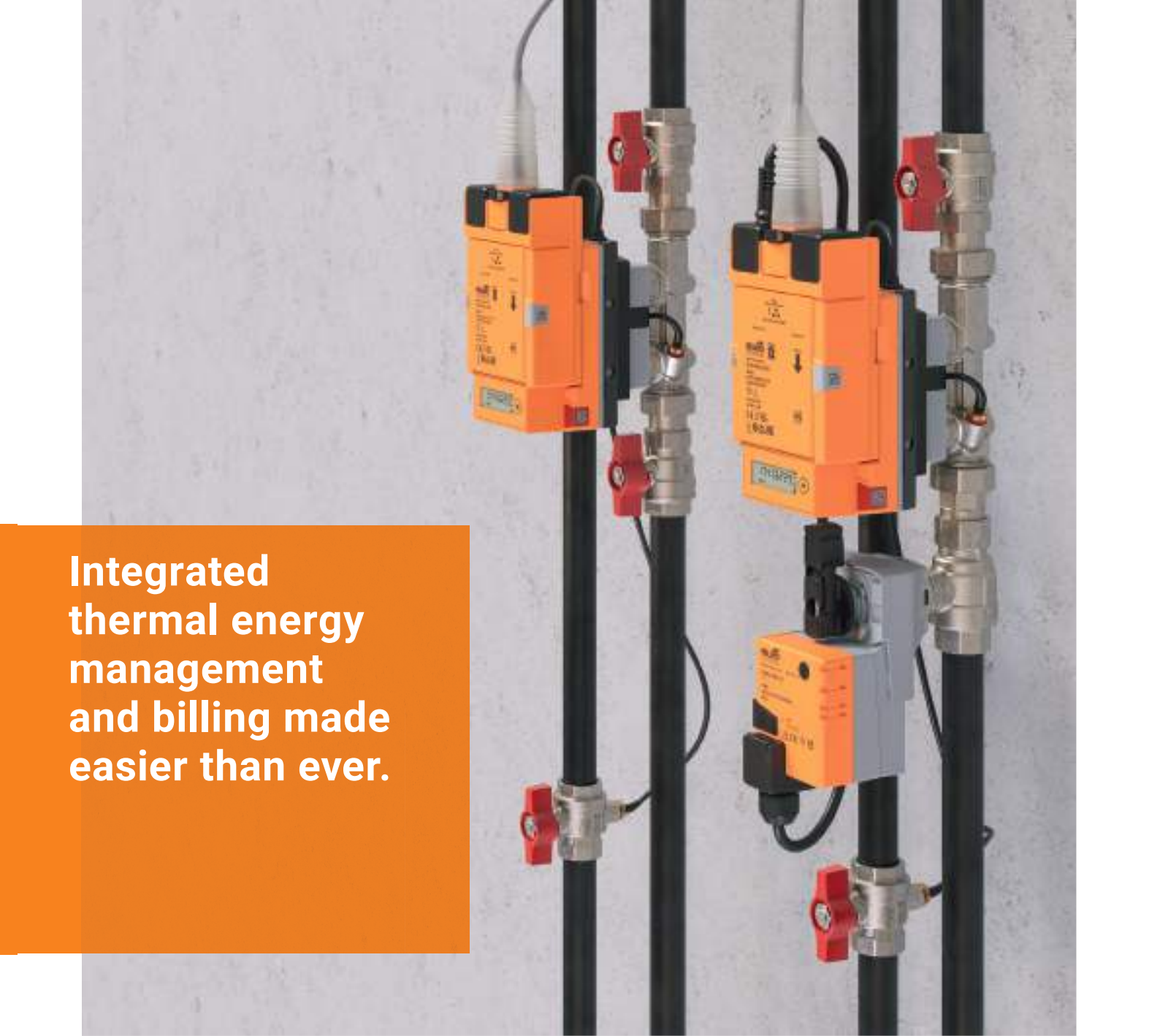
easy

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medium

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22	S	U	P	R	E	M	E	S	O	V	I	E	T		
25	I	L	I	A	D					26	N	A	N	Y	G
27	E	S	S	A	Y	E				28	S	P	L	O	T



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