



Nov 27, 2013

AAU Marks the 42nd UAE National Day

The AAU three-day celebrations marking the 42nd UAE National Day were launched at AAU's both campuses in Al Ain and Abu Dhabi. The celebrations include heritage-based performances, poetry recitals and interactive activities. The AAU Chancellor, Dr. Noor Aldeen Atatreh, accompanied by Professor Ghaleb El Refae, AAU President, and Professor Abdelhafid Belarbi, AAU Vice President, in addition to an audience of special guests and students attended the kick off ceremonial event.

The event began with the UAE National anthem and a recital from the Holy Quran. The event also included activities such as poetry recitals, traditional dances, and heritage exhibits in commemoration of the occasion.

On this occasion, Dr. Noor Aldeen Atatreh, AAU Chancellor, mentioned that celebrating the UAE 42nd National Day carries deep and lasting connotations. It is a revival of a great transformation initiated and made possible by the steadfastness and determination of the late

HH Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, the founder of the UAE, and his brothers the rulers of the emirates whose efforts and accomplishments shine through the present and promise of a prosperous future.

Atatreh reiterated that the 2nd of December will always be remembered as an historic day both regionally and internationally as it marks the launching of a unique federal model whose foundations were laid by the late HH Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan thus setting a glowing example for the rest of the world by building a country based on a spirit of modernity and science, yet that is well-rooted in its national, Arab, and Islamic values.

On his part, Prof. Ghaleb El Refae, AAU President, paid tribute to the auspices of HH Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE, for the progress and prosperity the country has witnessed in all fields. He added that Al Ain University is a pillar in the UAE's educational and cultural process and that they shoulder a huge national responsibility for preparing generations. He also praised the support that the UAE Vice President and Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai, HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, and their Highnesses the Rulers of the Emirates and Members of the Federal Supreme Council, have extended to both the national development and to the education sector whilst serving the best interests of the country and the people.

The AAU President also commended the resolute attention HH General Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi, Deputy Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, has paid to the universities and their developmental strategies, executed under the patronage of HE Sheikh Hamdan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan, the Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research.

Similarly, Prof. Abdelhafid Belarbi, AAU Vice President, applauded the AAU students' contribution in transforming the campus into an arena of festivities in celebration of this esteemed, national occasion. Spectacularly decorated with flags, banners and lights, every corner of the campus reflected the celebratory mood of the nation. Moreover, the students' heartfelt participation in the activities and performances played an important role in making this important day a great success.

[Press Release Link](#)