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HIS MAJESTY SENDS CABLE

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik has sent a cable of condolences and sympathy to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on the death of Princess Turfah bint Hathloul bin Abdulaziz Al Saud. In his cable, His Majesty the Sultan expressed his sincere condolences and sympathy, praying to the Almighty Allah to rest her soul in peace and grant her family patience to bear the loss. — **ONA**



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OMAN TO BE AMONG TOP GROWING COUNTRIES

MUSCAT: The Sultanate will start on Monday, January 11, a new year of its Renewed Renaissance march under the leadership of His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik, who assumed power on January 11, 2020.

The Sultanate renews the sincerity and loyalty of the government and people of Oman to His Majesty the Sultan who is keen for Oman to be among the top growing countries of the world.

Besides, His Majesty the Sultan is keen to protect the national interests of the Sultanate in pursuant to an unambiguous planning set forth in Oman Vision 2040, aimed at achieving qualita-

tive changes in all spheres of life.

Sustainable development

Since the first day of assuming power, His Majesty the Sultan has reaffirmed that he would seek to establish a new stage of sustainable development to meet further aspirations of the people of Oman and to preserve the achievements made during the past decades and to enrich the efforts extended for the country's development.

During the past months, His Majesty the Sultan has taken a number of steps and procedures which have paved the way for the implementation of the Oman Vision 2040.

>A4



A YEAR AFTER THE DEMISE OF SULTAN QABOOS

HIS LEGACY LIVES ON



During the reign of the late His Majesty Sultan Qaboos, Oman experienced a renaissance across all economic sectors

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The late His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said bin Taimour and his achievements for Oman will continue to live long in our hearts, say Omanis in the country.

10 January, 2021 will mark one year of the passing of the late His Majesty, who placed Oman firmly on the path of progress when he ascended to the throne in 1970.

Younis bin Ali Al Mandhari, the head of the Youth and Human Resources Committee of the Majlis Al Shura, said the late His Majesty did plenty to build a modern nation and set Oman on the path of Blessed Renaissance.

"Our late Sultan built a country based on laws and institutions," he said.

Unique leadership

"His unique leadership, which is rarely found elsewhere, helped develop the various sectors in our country, in such a manner that they expanded gradually to help us reach where we are today. During his reign, Oman experienced a renaissance across all the sectors of the state.

"If you were to travel across the country, and look at the difference

in development that took place over the 50 years of his reign, from the time he came to power in 1970, you will see a stark difference across all parts of the Sultanate," he added.

Cared deeply

"This is because the late His Majesty cared deeply about providing services to all the citizens in our country, whether living in cities, villages, up in the mountains, by the coastline, or even in the desert."

Al Mandhari went on to say, "He was very keen to hear of the opinions of people from various parts of his country. He would travel across the governorates, and listen to the sheikhs, the elders, the youth, and the government officials there to help meet their needs. This is why our services and infrastructure has kept pace with the changes in industrial and economic development around the world."

Hilal Al Badi is the deputy director of communications and media at Sultan Qaboos University, a place of learning founded by and named after the late His Majesty to provide quality learning to people in the country to help develop and drive Oman forward.

"The late His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said bin Taimour made sure the efforts he took for the country would continue to benefit all even after his death," he explained.

"He made the right recommendation in selecting his successor, the person who would continue building our renaissance. The late Sultan was not just the leader of Oman, but the ruler of our hearts as well. He was a man who solved disagreements through wisdom and skill, one who dedicated his entire life to our country," added Al Badi. "This earned him the respect of countries and organisations around the world."

Saleem Al Badi, a native of the Wilayat of Saham in North Al Batinah, was inspired by how Omanis who had settled elsewhere returned to the country to contribute to its development on hearing of the intentions of the late His Majesty to build a modern state.

"We considered him our father, so when we called for us to unify and work for the homeland as one, all Omanis heard him," he admitted. "We must credit him with taking action towards the construction and development that took place under his wise vision that was with him from the time he became our leader."

Al Badi joined the Royal Army of Oman in 1974, serving as a soldier in the Dhofar Governorate for five years, taking part in military operations, before joining the Ministry of Health in 1979, where he continues to work to this date.

>A2

TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES

OMAN 'It's Time' campaign

1 ESO's 'It's Time', to promote environmentally conscious community behaviour. >A3

WORLD Plane goes missing

2 Flight SJ182 lost contact shortly after take-off from Jakarta on Saturday. >A6

MARKET 86% dip in demand

3 Middle Eastern airlines' demand plummeted 86 per cent in November. >B1

AVIATION

Now, fly more often to India, Bangladesh and Qatar

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Passengers flying out of Oman can now make use of additional flights to India, Bangladesh, and Qatar.

The development comes after the country's Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) reached agreements to increase the number of flights between Oman and the three countries.

"Airlines from Oman and India operating between both countries will now have a total of 6,000 seats per week in each direction," said an official from the CAA.

"This is part of the temporary air bubble agreement reached by the authorities of both countries, which in Oman will affect Oman



Air and SalamAir."

He added, "From the Indian side, their operators have the right to reserve these seats for both Air

India and Air India Express."

Similar cooperation has been reached with air traffic authorities in Bangladesh, said the

CAA official.

From 1 January, 2021 onwards, carriers of both countries have been able to operate 12 flights a week.

"We will continue to coordinate our efforts with aviation authorities from multiple countries around the world, based on the needs of the travel market," he said.

"This is particularly to help the case of expatriate workers whose residency papers allowing them to stay in the Sultanate have expired, and in line with the health and safety conditions adopted in destination countries.

"All airlines and passengers coming to Oman must follow the precautions taken to prevent the spread of COVID-19," he reiterated. Passengers flying to and from

Doha can now benefit from daily flights to Muscat and weekly ones to Salalah.

"It has been agreed to raise the number of flights between our countries to eight flights a week," the CAA official explained.

"This affects carriers operated by both countries. Accordingly, both SalamAir and Oman Air have each increased their frequency of flights to and from Doha to four per week."

Adding to this, Bennet Stephens, Vice President (Sales) for Gulf, Middle East, Levant and Caucasus region, Qatar Airways, said, "We are pleased to continue rebuilding our network and offering our passengers the opportunity to travel safely from Muscat and Salalah."



Dhuhr.....	12.19pm
Asr.....	3:22pm
Maghrib.....	5:43pm
Isha.....	6:58pm
Fajr (Tomorrow).....	5.31am

Ten of the most inspirational quotes of late Sultan Qaboos

In his speeches, Late Sultan Qaboos thanked citizens and praised various public and private offices to ensure growth and prosperity of the Sultanate

Times News Service

MUSCAT: During his reign, the late His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said bin Taimour honoured important occasions in the Sultanate and overseas with Royal Speeches that shed light on the development of the country.

Late Sultan Qaboos speeches involved him thanking citizens and praising various public and private offices to ensure continued growth and prosperity for the Sultanate. Here are some of the most important excerpts from his speeches.

23 July, 1970: To his people on the day of his accession

I promise you to proceed forthwith in the process of creating a modern government. My first act will be the immediate abolition of all the unnecessary restrictions on your lives and activities.

My people, I will proceed as quickly as possible to transform your life into a prosperous one with a bright future. Every one of you must play his part towards this goal. Our country in the past was famous and strong.

If we work in unity and co-operation, we will regenerate that glorious past and we will take a respectable place in the world.

Yesterday it was complete darkness and with the help of God, tomorrow will be a new dawn on Muscat, Oman and its people.

23 July, 1971: On the occasion of the 1st National Day

Today, we are happy to join you in celebrating the completion of the first year of the new era, which the entire Omani people received with delight and to which they gave their unconditional support.

Wherever we have been in our dear country our people have welcomed us with expressions of al-



Late His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said bin Taimour.

legiance and loyalty. It therefore behooves us to thank them and press steadfastly on with our efforts to raise their living standards and improve all the utilities and services they require.

The community must be aware of the achievements and gains that have been made on behalf of this people and this ancient land during the first year of our new era.

These took place as a result of sincere, combined efforts inspired by good intentions, chief among which was the desire to bring progress to this country and enable it to occupy the exalted position that is its due.

26 May, 1981: The closing session of the first GCC summit

At this brotherly gathering we all have the right to feel proud that we have decided upon a basis for joint action that will not only help us to achieve our agreed objectives, but will also embody the strong ties that exist between our states.

We have emerged from our meetings with a number of documents.

These will form the framework within which we shall work for constructive, fruitful co-operation that will benefit our people, our region, our Arab and Islamic nation, and mankind as a whole.

We have thus taken our first step along the path. There are still many more steps and much hard work ahead of us before we can translate these documents into hard reality - that is, before they are able to bring happiness to our people and satisfy our clear desire for greater co-ordination, integration and association in all fields.

9 November, 1986: The opening ceremony of Sultan Qaboos University

The university has the particular responsibility to preserve Omani values and traditions and to preserve the valiant and exemplary Omani heritage as an incentive to our young people to serve their country by carrying forward what has been achieved in the past.

We look forward to seeing the theoretical and applied research of the university in the service of Oman and in developing solutions to our social and economic concerns.

We live in an age of science and education. Education and work are our only means of progress and development within the context of our Islamic civilisation. It is your duty to bear this in mind and to work wholeheartedly for your graduation so that you may serve Oman well, your motherland.

2 June, 1992: At the UN Conference on Environment and Development

As human beings co-existing on this planet we have gravely neglected the vital necessity of conserving the environment and natural resources due to the lack of collective co-ordination.

Indeed, we have taken a potentially fatal opposing course of luxury and industrial progress, regardless of the resulting imbalance between development and the environment, and without taking into account the dire consequences of the effects upon the atmosphere and the ozone layer, river and sea water, the extermination of certain species, the destruction of forests, and the contamination of once fertile soil.

Should this continue, humanity will court collective suicide. The conservation of the environment is the responsibility of all of us, a responsibility that knows no political boundaries.

Therefore, man, wherever he lives, must contribute to this conservation and must order his life accordingly. This must be done in a planned, rational way and taking into consideration the numerous causes of pollution, whether natural, biological, industrial, chemical or physical.

30 January, 1995: To the dignitaries of Dhofar during his meet the people tour

The citizen should not refuse to accept work, when there are job opportunities in various sectors - particularly in the private sector which is full of job opportunities - and which still depend upon the expatriate workforce.

The citizen serves himself first and by doing so, he serves his country. If he is an active, productive member of his society, he benefits himself and his society. And if he is unproductive and unemployed, he harms himself and his society. Moreover, he will become a burden on the community and will depend on others.

In the Sultanate of Oman, we must purify ourselves. We must not fall sick and then seek treatment; we must apply the doctrine of prevention is better than cure. All that we have already said and say and stress now is solely a part of our keenness on prevention against a situation in which we already find ourselves. We therefore say if only we had done so, or if only we hadn't done so.

4 May, 2001: During the occasion of Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque

We decided to make this blessed mosque a centre of culture and thought that, with God's good grace and assistance, would contribute to the revival of the Islamic heritage - God willing - and highlight the civilized values of the Muslim nation while modernising its approach to dealing with Islamic affairs and issues.

In doing so, the aim was to safeguard the nation's identity, principles and values while at the same time keeping abreast of the advances taking place in the different spheres of human life. As a first step along this long path that we need to take in order to achieve our goal, several essential items have been provided for this new religious and cultural institution.

We believe we have thus put in place a strong building block that will enable it to play its part in the community and - God willing - develop its role over the years in an intellectually aware manner, enhanced by a new understanding.

4 October, 2005: During the 33rd session of the UNESCO General Conference

In calling for the dissemination of knowledge, regeneration of human heritage, encouragement of innovation and cultural diversification, addressing challenges facing the environment and improving water resources, UNESCO raises issues which are of the greatest concern to humankind.

Human beings are always the target of nations' development programmes and, as such, they enjoy the gains it offers them.

Human beings are also, however, the tools of development. It is human beings who make development plans and programmes a tangible reality.

In this respect, we are committed to providing women with opportunities to play a productive role in Oman's society. We have, therefore, endorsed the Sultanate of Oman's membership of the Convention for the Elimination of All Types of Discrimination Against Women.

18 December, 2010: On the opening of Sultan Qaboos University's Cultural Centre

We have always stressed the importance of science and knowledge and keeping pace with their developments with all possible means, with an active brain, on the bases of thinking and experience to take what is useful and leave what is useless.

We seek to invigorate your efforts to make valuable additions to this field. Whatever progress made by hard workers, still it is nothing compared to the vast sea of science.

Our stress on the useful science emanates from our belief that it is the right springboard for acquiring knowledge, expertise and skills that enable the current and future generations to contribute positively to the service of their homeland and society and meet the needs of development in a guided manner. We have accorded education our full care.

13 November, 2012: Before the Council of Oman

You definitely know that Oman was once in great need of development in all fields and you understand that, in order to achieve the goal of human and social development in all areas of the Sultanate, it has been necessary to establish solid infrastructure on which the development plans and programmes will be based.

This is particularly true in the fields of education, health, training and employment. Without infrastructure, human and social development would not have reached the population in cities, towns, villages, plains and mountains, and in the deep valleys and the vast deserts.

The past plans of development, despite the widespread area of Oman and its harsh geographical terrain, have gone a long way, and this has led to the transformation of life in this country and facilitated the implementation of development programmes - both social and human.

Source: The Royal Speeches of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said bin Taimour, Ministry of Information, 2015

REMEMBERING THE LATE SULTAN

<FROM A1 'Sultan Qaboos has not faded from our memory'

"At a regional and international level, he developed his unique policy of friendliness towards all, which was designed towards achieving peace and security," he said. "At home, he made sure the Omani people were both the centre of, and the pillar on which the renaissance took place."

This was an agreement shared by Nawaf Darwish, a student at SQU, who praised the late His Majesty for developing the country's industry, education, commercial, service, and leisure opportunities to ensure everyone can achieve good standards of living.

"The late His Majesty has not faded from our memory: in fact, he is present on every street, in every building, and in the hundreds of



Hilal Al Badi.

projects to which he gave his blessing to build our country," he said. "He was always keen to provide us a modern state with well-developed education facilities so that all



Saleem Al Badi

of us could serve the country according to our specialisation.

"I want to thank our late Sultan for building so many schools and universities, because these gave

us the opportunity to study," added Darwish.

Explaining how the actions of the late His Majesty continued to guide her, Maimunah Al Shebani, the founder of The Retail Agency, said, "he will always be in our hearts, as I am comforted by memories of his wisdom, achievements and everything he has done for Oman.

"I have so much respect for the legacy he left behind for our beautiful country and all future generations, she added. "Even after his passing, there is still so much we can learn from him, and it is wonderful to see His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik carrying on the task of enabling our country to progress."

HORSE RACE ORGANISED

The Royal Horse Racing Club organised yesterday the 9th race for the current season at Al Rahba Racecourse in the Wilayat of Barka. 120 horses from the various governorates of the Sultanate participated in the event. The competition comprised eight rounds, six rounds for purebred Arabian horses and two rounds for hybrid horses. -ONA





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ENVIRONMENT

ESO campaign seeks to boost responsible communtiy behaviour

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Environment Society of Oman (ESO) is kicking off the new year with the launch of the 'It's Time' campaign, a year-long initiative designed to promote the adoption of environmentally conscious community behaviours across Oman.

Three key issues

Coinciding with Oman Environment Day on the 8th January, the campaign is focused on three key issues affecting the Sultanate's environment and its communities; litter, single-use plastics and recycling. As well as a prolonged social media campaign, the organisation will be holding a number of workshops, panel discussions, clean-up events, competitions and awards, aiming to engage communities in environmental causes, raise funds, and educate and inspire people on the benefits of adopting sustainable behaviour.

Among the activities is a quarterly Environmental Heroes award to celebrate individuals and companies who are making a noteworthy contribution to Oman's environmental preservation. Furthermore, the Wa'ai Award will challenge 15 to 25-year-olds to create their own content in the form of short films, short stories or infographics, with an aim to motivate the community to adopt habits that promote sustainable lifestyles. Meanwhile, the Young Environmentalists programme will offer free interactive workshops for children under the same theme.

"As nations move towards reducing the use of single-use plastics and with Oman's Ministerial Resolution 23/2020 to ban single-use shopping bags from January 2021, we believe that "It's Time" for a more aware and environmentally conscious society. This timely campaign will demonstrate the size and scale of the three key issues we are targeting; litter, single-use plastics and recycling, provide a platform to share encouraging messaging, and serve as a call to action for communities to join us in cleaning up Oman", said HH Sayyida Tania bint Shabib Al Said, President of the Environment Society of Oman.

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The Central Bank of Oman announces an issue of Sultanate of Oman Government Development Bonds to be sold by auction. The 66th Issue of Government Development Bonds will be issued on Wednesday, 20/01/2021, carrying a coupon rate of 4.75% per annum for a maturity period of 3 years (maturing on Saturday, 20/01/2024). These Bonds will be auctioned on Monday, 18/01/2021. Investors may apply for these Bonds through competitive bidding only.

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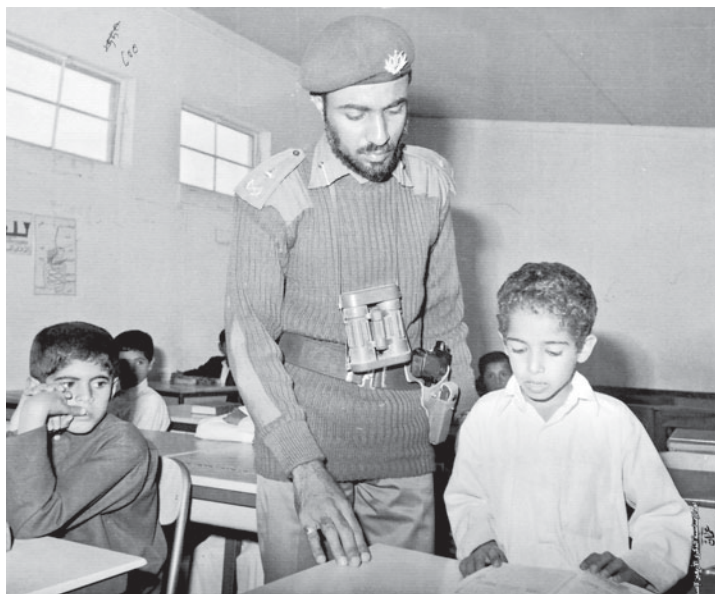
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THE LATE HIS MAJESTY SULTAN QABOOS: HIS LIFE IN PICTURES



RENEWED RENAISSANCE

< FROM A1 His Majesty the Sultan ratified the medium term fiscal balance plan

Kicked off in January 2021, it would continue for four consecutive development plans, starting from the Tenth Five Year Plan (2021-2025) aimed at achieving national objectives through execution of the proposed programmes, initiatives and projects within an integrated time schedule and regulatory framework.

The Tenth Five- Year Plan has been established on the mechanisms and programmes of economic diversification and the

increase of contributions of the non-oil activities and targets an annual growth of 3.2 % in the GDP of non-oil activities.

The plan also focuses on promising economic sectors represented by the advanced-technology -based industries, agriculture, fisheries , agricultural manufacturing , food industries , transport and logistics among others.

The plan also targets an increase of the private sector's contribution in the in-country value

economic sectors along with the rising contributions of the SMEs.

To further cement "Oman Vision 2040", His Majesty the Sultan has started measures and actions aimed at developing the Administrative Apparatus of the State Units and re-formation of the Council of Ministers to enhance the government performance.

Last October, His Majesty the Sultan ratified the medium -term fiscal balance plan (2020-2024)

set by the Government. The plan aimed to achieve financial sustainability and fiscal balance by the end of 2024 and to pave way for Oman Vision 2040.

His Majesty the Sultan has also issued Royal Orders on execution of a number of development projects worth OMR371 million in the various governorates of the Sultanate.

The General Budget of the State 2021 has focused on sustainability of the basic social services and

maintaining a level of spending in such services of not less than 40%.

To accelerate the pace of transformation to e-governance, His Majesty the Sultan has followed with the efforts accorded to this effect. His Majesty the Sultan has also issued directives on acceleration of execution of the national unified portal for government e-services.

On the other hand, the Ministry of Finance announced, on His Majesty's directives, at the

beginning of 2021, a number of facilities and incentives offered to the citizens and the private sector including the increase in the number of annual housing loans offered by Oman Housing Bank during 2021.

His Majesty the Sultan has also ordered the establishment of a Job Security Fund (JSF) with a personal finance from His Majesty of OMR10 million and has issued a Royal Decree No. 82/2020 endorsing the JSF System. —ONA

COMMENTARY

Mohammed bin Al Zubair – a true intellectual of Oman



AHMED BIN RASHID AL MATAANI

There are few, in the midst of all of their concerns and many responsibilities, who spare a thought for our heritage, nature and community service.

Even fewer businessmen are interested in culture and the documentation of the various landmarks that showcase their evidence, leaving a legacy and sharing the cultural experiences of this country, which are predominantly authentic and ancient.

There are few companies and institutions are interested in building museums to preserve the memory of this homeland and its ancient history. To add a cultural milestone that shows the world the brightness with which this dear homeland shone in past eras, and opens the horizons for researchers and scholars to learn about the

secrets of their country.

Museums instil in the souls of the coming generations the legacy of their ancient past, pride in their homeland, and the legacy of their forefathers as they balance out past achievements and look to the future with confidence. Human civilisation is vast, and must be brought forth and discussed through scientific study.

The small number of businessmen who have established centres for entrepreneurship will contribute to incubating entrepreneurs to follow the path of Omani businessmen who worked hard to build their institutions and companies from nothing.

There are, however, few companies that record Oman's landmarks and beautiful nature, to convey to the world the aesthetics of his country, to document the legacy of the past, and the civilisation of this country before it is eroded due to the passage of time.

However, His Excellency Mohammed bin Al Zubair, the former advisor for economic planning to His Majesty the Sultan, was an exception: he broke the stereotype of the businessman, when he devoted his life to establishing many of the landmarks of this country through his books that shed light on many pertinent topics.

With their minute details and rare images, these books chronicle the bright side of Oman's history, civilization and ancient heritage, which is a source of pride for him, as he has devoted itself to reviving the very important aspects of what this country holds within. Many of these elements have been beautifully

presented to the world, so much so that you rarely find it in other publications.

His successes are a towering beacon that can be seen from far and wide, for although not all of his choices were successful or the right ones, he nevertheless, through his efforts, lit up many dark corners where few had previously approached. His efforts remain a landmark through time, and one that has written its name into the annals of history.

Cultural heritage

His efforts are, in fact, intellectual, cultural and documentary in nature. It aims to inform successive generations that the Sultanate has an invaluable cultural heritage on which they must continue to build, so that their successes shine from the peaks of our country's high mountains.

Arab and Omani libraries have been enriched by the many valuable books of His Excellency, both in terms of quantity and quality.

They contain an intelligence and subject matter that few authors consider, as His Excellency oversaw the publication of many encyclopaedias that showcase the depth and originality of Oman's long history.

Last week, we witnessed the launch of two encyclopaedias that will remain among the most important eternal cultural and historical assets of this nation with its towering legacy. They will remain scientific references for everyone, as well as researchers in the fields of Oman's nature and history.

Perhaps the most important of these books is the Mountains of Oman, which features 1,700 pag-

es across three volumes, one of the most recent books featured in libraries in the country, to join dozens of similar books. It duly unveils the Sultanate's natural and civilizational foundations, and is one of the most important books that chronicle and document the mountain ranges in the Sultanate, their types, geography and geology. The book covers 409 mountain peaks, and shines a dazzling spotlight on these natural treasures so that they can be exploited for tourism and mining.

This encyclopaedia came under the directives of the late His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said bin Taimour, may God rest his soul, who foresaw, through his wise insight, the importance of having accurate scientific references on the mountains of Oman and their formations, to remain a source of information and scientific anchor for all those interested in learning, academic researchers, and others.

Oman since Antiquity

This is also true of the other book – Oman since Antiquity – an illustrated scientific encyclopaedia consisting of four volumes. It once again documents and classifies Omani history across a span of more than 7,000 years. This publication is a most prominent step taken towards documenting and rooting the ancient history of this country. It too came under the directions of the late His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said bin Taimour, may God bless him.

It aims to clean Omani history of misconceptions and confirm the fact that Oman is the source of civilisation in the

Arabian Peninsula. Let generations of Omanis know these facts and build upon these glorious monuments that extend towards infinity.

A proud nation

These books will remain immortal through the ages, and will speak a clear Arabic language. The meaning of the word 'Oman' is, after all, synonymous with a proud nation that was and will remain so, God willing.

His Excellency Al Zubair was always very interested in Oman's nature: its mountains, wadis, valleys, and caves, so he intended to document their magnificence through carefully selected words and images. At the end, we are presented by him a cultural legacy that is one of the largest references for children and grandchildren.

I became acquainted with His Excellency Al Zubair a long time ago, and every time I met him, just like the other exceptional people of this homeland, I found that he had new cultural, literary and intellectual discussions to share with us.

He had in him a wisdom that enabled him to slow down and calmly choose intellectual projects that encouraged through and creativity, so that they may add significance and meaning to the legacy of this great nation.

The achievements of His Excellency Mohammed Al Zubair cannot be reduced in haste, nor can we fully examine his intellectual and cultural interest in our country, and give it all the attention it deserves. But his contributions will forever be seen as a lifetime donation to our God.

SULTAN'S ARMED FORCES



Carriage that carried body of late Sultan Qaboos on display

MUSCAT: The Sultan's Armed Forces (SAF) Museum has the honour of displaying at Sultan Qaboos Hall at SAF Museum at Bait Al Falaj, the car (Land Rover) and the Cannon's cart which carried the body of late His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said bin Taimour besides a copy of the letter of late the Sultan to members of the Royal Family Council through the Defence Council on his successor, the Saidiya Amamah (Turban) and Khanjar (Dagger).

It is worth mentioning that SAF Museum was opened on December 11, 1988 under the Royal patronage of the late Sultan Qaboos bin Said bin Taimour.

The museum presents Oman's military history across the various stages represented in Bait Al Falaj Castle which was built during the reign of Sayyid Said bin Sultan in 1845.

— ONA

10th Year Remembrance



Theresa Johar

28th July, 1951 – 9th January, 2011



In Loving Memory;
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Sonia, Paul and Emily Waters

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our heartache
When someone speaks
your name
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that love you
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and true And when
we needed someone
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will not return
When we are all together
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our hearts
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Indonesian plane with 62 people crashes after take-off from Jakarta

Flight tracking showed the flight path of flight SJ182 ending off the coast just north of Jakarta after losing altitude



JAKARTA: A passenger plane of Indonesia's Sriwijaya Air carrying over 62 people crashed into waters off Jakarta on Saturday.

Human body parts and debris of the plane were found, Captain Eko Surya Hadi, commander of Trisula coast guard ship, told a local TV.

The Boeing 737-500 plane was carrying 62 people, including 56 passengers and six crew members. "We found body parts, life jack-

ets, avtur (aviation turbine fuel) and debris of the plane," he told the local TV.

The SJ-182 flight, which was flying to Pontianak city in West Kalimantan province, crashed at around 2:40 p.m. local time (0740 GMT) after taking off from the Soekarno-Hatta international airport in Jakarta, Surya said.

The ill-fated plane of the Indonesian budget airline lost contact

with air traffic controllers after taking off from Jakarta on Saturday afternoon, spokesman of the National Search and Rescue Office Yusuf Latief told Xinhua.

Rescue teams were heading to the scene after receiving information from the AIRNAV Indonesia, which is responsible for providing all air traffic control services across Indonesia, he added.

On October 29, 2018, all 189 peo-

ple aboard were killed after a Boeing 737 Max plane of Indonesia's Lion Air crashed into the Java Sea shortly after taking off from Jakarta. In December 2014, an AirAsia plane crashed into sea en route from Indonesia's second biggest city Surabaya to Singapore, killing all 162 people aboard.

Boeing manufactured the infamous 737 MAX model involved in two major crashes that killed hundreds of people in less than a year.

In October of that year, 189 people were killed when a Lion Air Boeing 737 MAX jet slammed into the Java Sea about 12 minutes after take-off from Jakarta on a routine one-hour flight.

In March 2019, an Ethiopian Airlines Flight 302 crashed after taking off from Addis Ababa. All 157 people on board died.

The model was grounded and the company was Boeing was fined \$2.5 billion (£2.04 billion) over claims it defrauded regulators overseeing the 737 MAX model.

DW/Xinhua

VACCINATION DRIVE

India to start coronavirus vaccination drive from January 16



NEW DELHI: The COVID-19 vaccination drive in the country will start from January 16.

The decision was taken at a meeting on Saturday in which Prime Minister Narendra Modi reviewed the status of COVID-19 in the country and preparedness of states and union territories for vaccination against the disease.

A PMO release said that priority will be given to the healthcare workers and the frontline workers estimated to be around three crores followed by those above 50 years of age and the under-50 population groups with co-morbidities which number around 27 crores.

"After the detailed review, it was decided that in view of the forthcoming festivals including

Lohri, Makar Sankranti, Pongal, Magh Bihu etc., the COVID-19 vaccination will start from January 16, 2021," a PMO release said.

The Prime Minister took a detailed and comprehensive review of the status of COVID management covering various issues.

Emergency Use Authorisation or Accelerated Approval has been granted by the National Regulator for two vaccines - Covishield and Covaxin - which have established safety and immunogenicity, the release said.

The Prime Minister was briefed about the preparedness status of the Centre in close collaboration with the state and UT governments for the rollout of the vaccine. **ANI**

CRIMINAL CHARGES

US charges 15 people over Capitol violence

WASHINGTON: The US Justice Department said on Friday that 15 people involved with Wednesday's Capitol riot are facing criminal charges.

Ken Kohl, a federal prosecutor with the Washington US attorney's office, said authorities did not expect to charge anyone with "incitement" or "insurrection" stemming from Wednesday's violence. Most of these individuals were charged with illegal entry into restricted

buildings of Congress and violent or disorderly conduct.

They were also charged with impeding government functions as the violence delayed the confirmation of the electoral votes from the 2020 presidential election, which was won by Democratic Party candidate and former Vice President Joe Biden.

"The lawless destruction of the US Capitol building was an attack against one of our nation's great-

est institutions," said acting US Attorney Michael Sherwin in a statement.

"Just because you've left the DC region, you can still expect a knock on the door if we find out you were part of the criminal activity at the Capitol," said Steven D'Antuono, FBI Washington Field Office's assistant director in charge.

Who was charged?

Among the 15 charged was West

Virginia state lawmaker Derrick Evans, who livestreamed himself within the Capitol building. West Virginia broadcaster WSAZ showed footage earlier Friday of Evans reportedly being taken "into federal custody."

John Bryan, an attorney for Derrick Evans, said in a statement that his client "engaged in no violence, no rioting, no destruction of property, and no illegal behavior." **DW**



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US TRADE DEFICIT WIDENS

Overall US trade deficit widened in November to \$68.1 billion as imports rose at a faster pace than exports, the US Commerce Department reported. US exports rose by 1.2 per cent to \$184.2 billion in November while imports increased by 2.9 per cent to \$252.3 billion.

MARKET
BUSINESS & FINANCE



GLOBAL ECONOMY

The global economy is expected to expand by 4 per cent in 2021, assuming an initial COVID-19 vaccine rollout becomes widespread throughout the year, the World Bank has said.

Middle Eastern airlines' passenger demand fell 86%

The already tepid recovery in air travel demand came to a full stop in November, said Alexandre de Juniac, IATA's Director General and CEO

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The recovery in passenger demand which had been slowing since the Northern hemisphere's summer travel season, came to a halt in November 2020, the International Air Transport Association (IATA) said.

"Middle Eastern airlines' demand plummeted 86 per cent in November year-on-year, which improved from an 86.9 per cent demand drop in October. Capacity fell 71.0 per cent, and load factor declined 37.9 percentage points to 35.3 per cent," IATA said in its report.

"The already tepid recovery in air travel demand came to a full stop in November. That's because governments responded to new outbreaks with even more severe travel restrictions and quarantine measures. This is inefficient. Such measures increase hardship for millions. Vaccines offer a long-term solution. In the meantime, testing is the best way that we see to stop the spread of the virus and start economic recovery. How much more anguish does people need to go through — job losses, mental stress — before governments will understand that," said Alexandre de Juniac, IATA's Director General and CEO.

Total demand (measured in revenue passenger kilometres or RPKs) was down 70.3 per cent compared to November 2019,



DEMAND: Total demand measured in revenue passenger kilometres was down 70.3 per cent compared to November 2019, virtually unchanged from the 70.6 per cent year-to-year decline recorded in October. - File image

virtually unchanged from the 70.6 per cent year-to-year decline recorded in October. November capacity was 58.6 per cent below previous year levels and load factor fell 23.0 percentage points to 58.0 per cent, which was a record low for the month.

International passenger demand in November was 88.3 per cent below November 2019, slightly worse than the 87.6 per cent year-to-year decline recorded in October. Capacity fell 77.4 per cent below previous year levels, and load factor dropped 38.7 percentage points to 41.5 per cent. Europe was the main driver of the weakness as new lockdowns weighed on travel demand.

Recovery in domestic demand, which had been the relative bright spot, also stalled, with November domestic traffic down 41.0 per cent compared to the prior year (it stood at 41.1 per cent below the previous year's level in October). Capacity was 27.1 per cent down on 2019 levels and the load factor dropped 15.7 percentage points to 66.6 per cent.

International passenger markets

Asia-Pacific airlines' November traffic plunged 95.0 per cent compared to the year-ago period, which was barely changed from the 95.3 per cent decline in October. The region continued to suffer from the steepest traffic declines for a fifth consecutive month. Capacity dropped 87.4 per cent and load factor sank 48.4 percentage points to 31.6 per cent, the lowest among regions.

European carriers saw an 87.0 per cent decline in traffic in November versus a year ago, worsened from an 83 per cent decline in October. Capacity withered 76.5 per cent and load factor fell by 37.4 percentage points to 46.6 per cent.

North American carriers had an 83.0 per cent traffic drop in November, versus an 87.8 per cent decline in October. Capacity dived 66.1 per cent, and load factor dropped 40.5 percentage points to 40.8 per cent.

Latin American airlines experienced a 78.6 per cent demand drop in November, compared to the

same month last year, improved from an 86.1 per cent decline in October year-to-year. This was the strongest improvement of any region. Routes to/from Central America were the most resilient as governments reduced travel restrictions - especially quarantine requirements. November capacity was 72.0 per cent down and load factor dropped 19.5 percentage points to 62.7 per cent, highest by far among the regions, for a second consecutive month.

Domestic passenger markets

Australia's domestic traffic was down 79.8 per cent in November compared to November a year ago, improved from an 84.4 per cent decline in October, as certain states opened up. But it continued to significantly lag other domestic markets.

India's domestic traffic fell 49.6 per cent in November, an improvement over a 55.6 per cent decline in October, with more improvement expected as more businesses reopen.

MONTHLY INSIGHTS

Sentiment in GCC countries remain cautiously optimistic

ABU DHABI: Despite positive news for markets globally from the likely COVID-19 vaccines, sentiment in the GCC remains cautiously optimistic, according to Aberdeen Standard Investments (ASI).

Emirates NBD's latest monthly insights predict recovery in 2021 to be slower and uneven compared with many developed markets. This stems from governments across the region providing liquidity via central banks, rather than directing fiscal stimulus into households and businesses.

The report forecasts only a modest rebound in oil prices over the next 12 months - with Brent oil to average USD 50/b in 2021 - well below the budget break-even price in GCC countries.

ASI believes investors seeking opportunities in the region need to be selective to capture sectors and markets that offer a clearer path for growth.

Edris Alrafi, Head of Middle East & Africa for Aberdeen Standard Investments (ASI), said, "Based on measures to date, such as hikes in tax on goods and services in Saudi Arabia, or efforts in Oman to boost revenue and reduce budget spending, it seems the general priority in the region will be deficit reduction, not growth."

However, the UAE offers greater scope than most of its neighbours for expansionary fiscal policy in the shorter term. Evidence of this includes structural reforms such as extending visa schemes and allowing 100 per cent foreign ownership for onshore companies in some sectors - to lure and retain expats, plus attracting private sector investment.

Edris continued, "Amid various opportunities, there is a bright fintech future, given that the UAE has created a dedicated Minister of State for Digital Economy and AI, and allocated a cybersecurity chief. Innovation and technology have been identified as key enablers of Abu Dhabi's vision for growth, while state-owned Mubadala Investment Company has made a series of strategic in-



Edris Alrafi, Head of Middle East & Africa for Aberdeen Standard Investments

vestments in sectors such as technology and renewable energy.

"More broadly, there is a good reason for optimism about the UAE's overall creditworthiness. In terms of public finances, for instance, Abu Dhabi offers an unconditional guarantee for the timely service of the federal government's debt.

"At the same time, supportive structural features include the focus on eradicating oil dependence, strengthening governance in the business environment and maintaining strong fiscal and external balance sheets."

Reducing the reliance on revenue from oil-based activities across the GCC will also be essential, according to ASI.

The Public Investment Fund (PIF) was awarded another \$40 billion in government reserves in the first half of 2020 to tap into various opportunities. Investments have ranged from Uber to Softbank's Vision Fund to electric carmaker Lucid Motors to Disney. PIF also favours the hydrocarbons industry, taking stakes in oil giants BP, Total and Shell.

In recent months, efforts have been underway across the GCC to diversify supply chains to prevent overreliance on foreign suppliers. This has fostered stronger regional ties - including the adoption of a Kuwaiti proposal to create a joint food supply network across the GCC.

CENTRAL BANK OF OMAN

Oman to float OMR100mn worth of bonds

MUSCAT: Oman's central bank has announced the issue of government development bonds to the tune of OMR100 million. The issue, which will have a maturity of 3 years, will carry a coupon rate of 4.756 per cent per annum.

The issue will open for subscription between January 9 to 10, 2021 while the auction will be held on January 18, 2021. The issue settlement date will be on January 20, 2021. Interest on the new bonds will be paid semi-annually on July 20 and January 20, every year until maturity date on January 20, 2024.

Investors can apply for these bonds through the competitive bidding process. Investors can submit bids through commercial licensed banks operating in the Sultanate. Investors with applica-



BIDDING PROCESS: Investors can apply for these bonds through the competitive bidding process. - File picture

tions of OMR1 million and above can submit their bids directly to CBO after getting them endorsed from their banks. Prospectus and

application forms can be obtained from any commercial licensed bank operating in the Sultanate, or through the CBO's official website.

The bonds are direct and unconditional obligations of the Government of Sultanate. The bonds can be used as collateral to obtain loans from any local commercial licensed bank.

The bonds can also be traded at prevailing market rates through the Muscat Securities Market.

The details of the bonds allotment will be recorded in the register maintained by Muscat Clearing and Depository Company (MCD). Investors need to provide the same bank account details registered with MCD to ensure the smooth processing of their bids and the receipt of the coupon payments and principal amount on their scheduled dates. The bonds are offered to all investors, residents and non-resident (irrespective of their nationality). - OMA

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANISATION

World food prices rise for 7th month in a row: FAO

ROME: World food prices rose for the seventh consecutive month in December, led by dairy products and vegetable oils, according to the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations.

The FAO Food Price Index averaged 107.5 points in December, 2.2 per cent higher than in November. Over the whole of 2020, the benchmark index - which tracks monthly changes in the international prices of commonly-traded food commodities - averaged 97.9 points, a three-year high and a 3.1 per cent increase from 2019 although still more than 25 per cent below its historical 2011 peak.

The FAO Cereal Price Index rose 1.1 per cent from November and for all of 2020 averaged 6.6 per cent above the level of 2019.

Export prices for wheat, maize, sorghum and rice all rose in December, moving higher in part due to concerns over growing conditions and crop prospects in North and South America as well as the Russian Federation.

On an annual basis, rice export prices were 8.6 per cent higher in 2020 than in 2019, while those for maize and wheat were 7.6 per cent and 5.6 per cent higher respectively.

The FAO Vegetable Oil Price Index gained 4.7 per cent in December to reach its highest level since September 2012. In addition to ongoing supply tightness in major palm oil-producing countries, international trade was affected by a sharp hike in export duties in Indonesia.

International prices for soy

oil rose in part due to prolonged strikes in Argentina that impacted both crushing activity and port logistics. This sub-index averaged 19.1 per cent higher in 2020 than the previous year.

The FAO Dairy Price Index increased 3.2 per cent in December, its seventh consecutive monthly rise, with all categories higher due to strong global import demand induced by concerns over drier and warmer conditions on Oceania's milk production as well as high internal demand in Western Europe.

Over the course of 2020, however, the Dairy Price Index averaged 1.0 per cent less than in 2019.

The FAO Meat Price Index increased 1.7 per cent in December while its full-year average was 4.5 per cent below that of 2019.

Poultry meat quotations rebounded in the final month of the year, buoyed by increased import demand, especially from the Middle East, high internal sales in key producing countries and the adverse impact of avian influenza outbreaks in Europe.

The FAO Sugar Price Index declined by 0.6 per cent in December after a marked increase during the previous month.

For 2020 as a whole, the sub-index was 1.1 per cent higher than in 2019, reflecting a large surge in imports by China and increased demand for refined sugar from Indonesia's food and beverage industry even as upward pressure was curbed by improved production prospects in Brazil and India. - ANI

VATing it out



Bipin Kapur, Managing Partner

With the impending VAT in April 2021, BDO will be addressing your concerns through a series of weekly articles.

Does VAT fall under direct or indirect tax? Explain with context to Oman

Unlike most of the neighbouring countries in GCC, Oman is particularly considered as a complex tax jurisdiction following Direct Taxes and Indirect Taxes simultaneously.

Corporate Income Tax (CIT) and Withholding Tax (WHT) fall under Direct Taxes whereas Customs Duty (CD), Excise Tax (ET), Municipality Tax, Tourism Tax and now VAT are under Indirect Taxes.

How does VAT commingle with other taxes? Is VAT applicable on imported goods?

With the addition of VAT to the list of Indirect Taxes, it is important to understand how some of the taxes commingle with VAT. Below is a simple fact pattern

relating to import of goods which could explain this aspect, along with a numerical example.

VAT is applicable on imported goods. It is payable as a part of custom clearance formalities at any land, sea or airport in Oman. While enabling provisions associated with deferral are published as a part of Royal Decree, the Executive Regulations shall provide further clarity on exact situations where deferral shall be applicable along with the procedures.

VAT is applicable on value of goods disclosed to customs plus CD, if applicable. For example, if value of goods is RO 100 and CD is 5 then VAT shall be computed on RO 105 as RO 5.25. In effect, if pre-VAT payment was RO 105; post-VAT payment shall be RO 110.25 which results in RO 5.25 additional payment of VAT at the time of customs clearances.

This is a 4-part series on VAT. Opinions expressed are personal and should not be considered as an opinion or interpretation of law. Further clarity shall be available as VAT Regulations / Guides are issued.

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One of the largest and most reputed ISO certified manufacturing companies in the Sultanate of Oman has vacancy for competent professional in purchase functions.

Candidates should have Degree/Diploma in Engineering and 5-7 years of experience in GCC in purchase functions at a manufacturing organization and ideally should be in the age group of 30-35 years.

Please send resume within 7 days with salary expectations to:
omanrecruitments@gmail.com

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A leading healthcare group in Oman is looking for marketing professionals (male & female) with 3 to 5 years of industry experience and bachelors degree. Good communication skills are must.

Interested candidates may whatsapp on +96892569177 or email omanhealthcarejob@gmail.com

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Contact: 90608097

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Contact: 99884291 / 99741875.
VIPUL70@GMAIL.COM

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Contact 9932 9289.
Mail - sales@oceancentre.co

Disinfection & Sterilization Treat-ments. Ocean Centre LLC.
Contact 9932 9289.
Mail - sales@oceancentre.co

Carpet & Sofa Shampooing, General Cleaning- Offices, Villas, Flats. Ocean Centre LLC.
Contact 9932 9289.
Mail - sales@oceancentre.co

Carpet Shampoo, marble & tile polishing, pest control & anti-termite treatment, general cleaning painting, Plumbing, Electrical, shift-ing. Contact Mundhir I-Rizaiqi trad-ing. LLC # 24810137, 99450130

JOB VACANCIES

ADMINISTRATION

Storekeeper Vacancy – Urgent Requirement. 3 years' experience managing Store inventory must. IT/ Telecom/Security products knowl-edge, physical fitness beneficial. Oman D/L required; Arabic language literacy & residents in Oman preferred. Email CV to careers.mmtc@aol.com or WhatsApp 93206449.

DOMESTIC HELP

Urgently required a fulltime Filipino Housemaid for an Omani family with good salary & ben-efits. Interested person can call: 98256531, 99107632

Looking for experienced Srilankan housekeeper for a English family. Contact 99888143

Housemaid for north Indian family in Al Falaj area. Contact 92187589

JOB VACANCIES

CATERING

Urgently wanted experienced Philippine female cook. Fluency in english, knowledge in Continental & International food is must. Best sal-ary package. Contact 99466062

MECHANIC/TECHNIC

Urgent Requirement for Indian AC Technicians with minimum experi-ence of 5-10 years in maintenance of cassette, Ductable, package, AHU units.Email najeebairtech@gmail.com.Contact : 99899028

GTO 2 colour Machine Operator. Please send CV printoman24x7@gmail.com

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JOB VACANCIES

MEDICAL

Required nurse with MOH license for immediate appointment for a clinic at Ruwi.Contact 78330763 between 9.30 to 12.30 & 5 to 8.30

MISCELLANEOUS

Looking for Electrician, Plumber, Carpenter, Foreman, Office Staff. Contact 24709144
Email atf24704415@gmail.com

PURCHASE/PROCUREMENT

Urgently wanted experienced Purchase manager/supervisor for a super market in Qurum. Contact 91444677

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Kerala based Nair boy 45/175 Star Aswathi, BDS, MDS, MFDS Dental doctor, divorce working in UK, suitable proposals invited. Contact 00968-99344106, 00417-95423663, 0091-9207384572

LOST

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JOB WANTED

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

Accountant (CA Inter) - Indian (male) with 10 years' experience Accounting. Oman DL. Contact 94450401.

BCom Graduate with DL & Experi-ence looking for suitable placement. Contact 92695069.
zameelpv@gmail.com

Female looking for a part time job in accounts. Contact 97125362

Senior accountant, 18 yrs experi-ence in accounts & finance along with 14 yrs experience in Oman seeking suitable replacement.Oman DL. Independently can handle ac-counts upto finalization, tax returns etc. Contact 93653482

Indian male, 18 yrs experience upto finalization, tally, SAP, excel ac-counting. NOC & DL available seeks suitable position.Contact 97887472, 71206125

Indian Male Bcom MBA. 19 years experience in Finance, MIS,Audit, Budget, banking, Tax, Payroll, ERP (Orion, Tally, Sage, Epicor). NOC available. GSM 91190552.

Indian Male, Senior Accountant over 16 years Oman experience in Accounts looking for a Job & have NOC. Contact: 95851920, 78258270

Indian male B.Com, tally experience,accounts upto finaliza-tion with DL. Contact 94532610. vargheseekuttikatti@gmail.com

Male accountant M.S finance, 7yrs gulf experience with DL.Contact 95318382. Email salmanriaz1988.thumrait.int@gmail.com

MBA Finance 16+ Exp of Oman in Accounts up to finalization,looking for suitable senior position Contact: 92383882

Indian male 18+ yrs experience in finance,debt collection & credit,audit operation available for immediate joining. # 95500941, 78159940. Email tatabrezaziz@gmail.com

Looking for Senior Accountant Position.Having 10 Years Experience, and DL also. Mob - 79202007

Accountant Indian Male, 34 years old, 9 years of experience in finance, Looking for suitable job. Contact 9874 8634

Looking for Senior Accountant Posi-tion. Having 10 Years Experience, and DL also . Mob - 79202007

Sudanese 32 yrs,6 yrs experience in Oman in Accounting & Administra-tive assistant. Contact 94050251. email danygalaxy184@gmail.com

Accountant, office administration, back office. Contact 93403636. Email munafshaikh22@gmail.com

Part time accountant with more than 12 yrs experinece in differ-ent financial sectors.Good working knowledge of ERP softwares & ad-vanced excel.Can do audit & certifica-tion & consultancy work. Contact 94197499. Email ma.abdul1988@gmail.com

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CONNECT

JOB WANTED

Moroccan Sales Engineer with over 6 years of industrial experience in Oman looking for suitable opportunity.

GSM: 93823132
Email: mehdikassen@yahoo.com

Structural/Civil Engineer with 14 years of experience (8 years in USA and 4 years in Oman) in PEB, RCC, Pipeline, Offshore, and Marine structures and have Master degree from USA. Seeking for placement as Project Engineer or Manager.

Please contact me on +968-93368626
irfan.sanjari.syed@gmail.com

SENIOR CIVIL ENGINEER

11+ Yrs of experience (10 Yrs Oman experience)

- On Engineer Visa (Expiry - Feb 2022), Can get release also.
- Experience in Building and Factory projects with Ministry & Private Clients.

Looking for fulltime/part time job.

Having **Omani DL**

GSM: 94125368 ; premjithpremanathan@gmail.com

Accountant Indian Male

MBA Finance 2 years experience in india with good knowledge in tally seeks placement.

9539 1786

MBA, seeking job, 27 yrs experience in capable managerial candidature with rich experience in Business operations, Vendor development, Procurement and HR generalist.

Can join immediately.

Whatsapp: 7730012111
Mobile: 94268870
Email: mvssmgbr@gmail.com

Senior MEP Manager

Indian Male: Btech, having 23 years GCC experience with valid Oman driving licence seeks suitable placement.

Contact GSM: 79880377
Email: jaksona8081@gmail.com

ELECTRICAL MANAGER

Graduate Electrical Engineer & MBA (Project Management) with 28 years' experience in Industrial Projects & Maintenance looking for senior role. NOC Available and can join immediately.

Contact: 968-94029112
Email: sakthiveljothi@gmail.com

SR. Manager/GM/VP (Plant)

Indian Male,with more than 23 years exp. in repair/ maint/deployment/logistic/procurement of Vehicles/Heavy construction equipment in a large reputed construction industry seeks suitable placement in senior management level. NOC available.

Contact: 79198709

Chief Accountant MBA

Indian Male With 16 Years' Experience in all aspects of Accounting. NOC & Oman DL Available, seeks Suitable placement.

Contact: 97741485
Email: stm.crg@gmail.com

FINANCE MANAGER

Group-Finance Manager, 19 years' experience in Strategic planning, Finance, Accounting, Income tax, VAT etc. Qualified CPA, CMA, CIA. Looking for Senior management position in finance/ internal audit. Available to join shortly.

Contact 92148608 / soji_ansu@yahoo.com

Project Engineer

32 yrs old - Having 10 years of experience (6 yrs in Oman) in oil & gas field - Intense work experience in fabrication of Pressure Vessels, Structural Steel fabrication & erection, Manufacturing of Skid Packages, Piping Spools & supports, Storage Tanks, Stack & Ducts, Pig Traps. EPC & Turnaround projects.

Having DL & Current Visa expires in Feb/2021.

Contact # boopathiraja88@gmail.com / 97412105

Execution Architect/ Finishing Manager

36, Male in design/ execution at consultancy & contracting with 13 Work experience in Hotel/Office/ Airport/ retail in Construction/Interior fit-out Space seeking Suitable placement. Knowledge on CAD/ MS office/ Planning/ Tendering/ Estimation. D/L and NOC available immediately.

Contact: 78371040;
architdesign2020@gmail.com

SENIOR CORPORATE AND RETAIL BANKER

With over 30 years experience in Credit Management, Relationship Management, Credit Administration, Operations Management and Recoveries/ IFRS9 Provisioning Methodologies seeks suitable placement.

Email: DolphinOcean367@gmail.com

QUALITY MANAGER

Indian, Quality Manager, 18 years exp,4.3 years at Abu Dhabi, looking for top/senior management position in quality. Coordinating RFQ to Mass production, Time, Resource & Quality planning, Process design, Project execution, etc. Available to join shortly.

Contact: 91-9952022345,
venkatavaradu@rediffmail.com

HSE Eng/Advisor, Msc Env & NEBOSH IGC with 10 years extensive construction, safety exp. Immediately available with NOC.

Contact 95193937

OMANI HR/PRO

Omani, 15 yrs experience, PRO, Relation development, Labour & Crime law, HR & Time Management. Fluent in English, Arabic & Hindi seeks Part Time job.

Contact 97264447

PURCHASE + STORES + ADMINISTRATION

Indian Male 10+ yrs experience in Oman (Currently available in Oman). Experience in Engineering / Construction, Manufacturing, Trading Concern & Structural Steel Projects. Materials Management with administrative skills. Looking for suitable placement and ready to join immediately with D/L & NOC.

Contact: 78235621/bsda@gmail.com

General Manager/ Sr. Manager Role,

Indian Professional (BE, MBA, PMP, FIDIC) with 25 years experience into Civil and Infrastructure Constructions and Project Management. NOC available.

Contact 94634053

Smart Indian, excellent English, Research & Technical Writing Skills, Double Masters (Finance, Journalism & Mass Communication), Arabic Speaker, 17years Oman experience in Airport Project, Hospital, Media, EPC seeks role in Admin/HR/Projects/Corporate & Marketing Communications/Operations/Customer Relations/Role in Chairman/CEO Office. Immediate joining. NOC.

99283938 / rajansampath@hotmail.com

MicroMasters in Supply Chain Management, B-Tech in Mechanical Engineering 3 years industry experience as a Sales Engineer, Valid Oman DL.

Contact: 99137115
Email: adimurali7@gmail.com

CIVIL ENGINEER

16+ Years Experience In Site Supervision, Structural Engineering, ETABS, STAAD, ROADS, BRIDGES, Project manager, INDUSTRIAL. WORKED WITH SOHAR ALUMINUM AND OCC. WITH ALL SAFETY Training & KNOWLEDGE. Available Noc & Valid Driving License.

Call or Wts app 98333185

Graduate Civil Engineer

From India with over 11 years Project Management Experience with Consultant and Client in Oman with local release & driving license seeks suitable opportunities.

Email: contactsyedshams@gmail.com;
GSM: +968 98500235

Omani DL holder Indian from Kerala looking for a job in F M C G sector.

12 year experience in Oman.

Speak Arabic, English, Hindi and Malayalam.

Work experience in all over Oman.

Interested please Contact 94022634

FINANCE

Indian, Group-Finance Manager, 19 years' world class experience in Strategic planning, Finance, Accounting etc. Multiple Professional qualifications in Accounting and audit. Looking for Top/Senior management position in finance/ internal audit. Available to join shortly.

Contact 99455353

JOB WANTED

ADMIN/HR

Smart Indian, Excellent English, Arabic speaker, 17years Oman experience in Airport Projects, Hospital, Media, EPC. Contact 99283938

Indian male 14+ yrs experience NOC available looking for secretarial, administration job. Contact 99341481. Email mhd82ajaz@gmail.com

Bangladeshi male, B.SC looking for suitable job. Contact 79978201

ARCHITECT

9 years experienced Female Architect with Urban planning experience seeking for a job - 96146645

DRIVER

Experienced driver with car, looking job in office/company for contract. Contact 79250786

10 yrs experience driver looking job. Contact 91335595

Looking for driving job. Contact 96312087

Looking for driving job with Car. 6 yrs experience. Contact 96176918

HOSPITALITY

Looking for Bartender job. Contact 98917401

IT

CRM, ERP & MIS analyst, experience 5 yrs. Contact 71561266

Indian Post Graduate with 21 years experience in Oracle SQL, PL/SQL, Forms, Reports, DBA, IT Manager, Orion ERP, Sage ERP with Accounts Knowledge and NOC. Contact 95398567 / 78141598 / anasd2k@gmail.com

IT graduate, Pakistani, looking for IT job. Contact 97444530. Email mdmesam@gmail.com

Web developer, 22, Indian, BSc (Hons.) IT, UK. 1yr exp in various software projects (including PHP,NodeJS,ReactJS). Seeking a suitable job. Currently in Oman. Contact: 79371798

Computer service technician with 2 years exp, also with 2 years exp in sales in oman, looking for suitable job. Indian male 28, currently in oman, NOC available. # 94496905

IT Administrator, Indian Male Looking for Job. 12years of Exp.in Oman with D/L. CCNA Certified Work Exp. in POS system, CCTV, IT Network. 95059065 / 95147348 / jaxonnj@gmail.com

JOB WANTED

ENGINEER

Indian 22/male, Computer Science graduate from SRM University is looking for an immediate placement in any available field. Contact 95495877, mikhileshlalam@gmail.com

Arabic/English speaking Civil engineer, 5 yrs experience in Projects coordination, preparing submittals & engineering software, resident & have valid DL. Contact 95432250

B.Tech ECE, experience of 5 yrs(3 yrs in gulf & 2 yrs in India) seeks job. Can join immediately. Contact 96878051185. Whats APP +919809975212.Email shinejcia@gmail.com

Electrical engineer, experience 12 year in Oman seeks job. Contact 98148034

B.E Civil Engineer having 10 yrs experience in Oman building & Oil & Gas having DL. Can join immediately. Contact 96455880

Safety officer (engineer), two years experience in Oil field in Oman, nebosh IGC, valid D.L. Contact 79318246

Planning Engineer: Pakistani National with BE Civil, 13 years of experience including 8 years in Oman in Project Planning, Scheduling and Delay Analysis looking for a suitable position. Local transfer - NOC, Contact: 97018909.

HVAC Technican cum Supervisor, chiller plant coldroom all refrigeration system, VRF system, 30 yrs experience DL holder Contact 79816271. Email mohandaskd@gmail.com

Mechanical Engineer (B.E) with 7+ yrs exp in MEP projects,Oil&Gas piping projects.NOC & Oman DL available. Contact 91293770. email jebilkc212@gmail.com

B.E Mechanical engineer, having overall of 5 yrs experience in steel fabrication industry seeking a suitable job.Ready to join immediately with local NOC arranged. Contact 968-78052560

MEDICAL

Indian Male 43.yo seeking a suitable opportunity in medical centers for Admin/Mktg/Ops.Noc & D/L available. Contact 98274545

Indian 30yrs, MSW [Medical & psychiatry] MSC Psychology,6 yrs experience seeks job.Contact 79308281,919207258008

Quantity Surveying, preparation of documents like BOQ. 23 years in Oman searching a job from contractor or consultant has experience in Civil, MEP, landscaping and interior decorations. Contact 93072517

Indian 26, experience in Telecom Networks (Oman) & master's degree, seeking position as Project/Network Engineer. Contact 92613254. Email mohdsalih22@gmail.com

Mechanical Engineer, Looking for a job in Quality Control, with DL Contact 79744227. Email lokeshshirodkar15@gmail.com

Senior civil engineer with over 10 yrs experience on high end projects(RE) Contact 78270396

Senior Civil Engineer with 8 years' experience in government and private construction projects with NOC/DL looking for a suitable job , GSM : 93352004

Electrical Engineer B.Tech, 15 years exp in Oman seeks job. NOC and Release available. Contact 92254336 Email ameen1687@gmail.com

B.E Civil engr with 14 years of Oman experience mainly in building construction looking for a suitable position. Contact: 72132426

HVAC engineer with 1 year Experience seeks job. Contact 79027224

Mechanical engineer of Car diagnostic and maintenance with experience three years. Contact 93521100

Looking for a job for the post of Electrical Engineer with B.Tech and 15 years exp in Oman. NOC and Release available. Contact 92254336. Email ameen1667@gmail.com

B.E civil engineer having 12 plus years of Oman experience in building construction looking for a suitable position. Contact: 72132426

MANAGER

Electrical Project Manager with 10 Years Experience in (Primary & Distribution) Substations and Over head lines,Oman DL.Contact 99022692

Indian, Finance Manager 20Yrs Experience, Trade finance - MIS - Budget - Planning - Auditing - Finalisation - Banking: 90473368, devan801@gmail.com

PURCHASE/PROCUREMENT

Diploma civil Indian male 26 yrs 5 yrs oman exp, NOC ready, sales/procurement/stores. E.mail vijju.asp7777@gmail.com, GSM/WA 00918712330030

Senior Procurement Engineer, M.tech-Civil, Looking for a job, NOC Available, Immediate Joining, Indian Male, 38yrs, have over 16+ years UAE& Oman experience. E. syed-kamaalsaba@yahoo.com, Wattsup +96871144578, GSM +917766019519

Indian male 12 years experience in purchase store management and Inventory looking for suitable job with NOC, Oman DL Gsm 97099785. Email rajakmani66@gmail.com

Keralite, 31 yrs purchase assistant, 10 yrs working experience in Oman, valid Oman DL. Looking for suitable jobs. Contact 98615731 Email sanalk73@gmail.com

Indian/Male(29)/MBA/6 years' experience in procurement and sales coordination with valid Oman D/L. Available for immediate joining. Contact: 92536194

SALES / MARKETING

20 yrs experience in Sales & Marketing of Central Air Conditioning & Structural steel etc. Contact 968-95950370

Experienced and academically qualified retail professional available in Oman with more than 20 years experience in multinational brands. Looking for a challenging opening in the top management role. Contact +968 92639013

Indian male B.com graduate, PG Diploma in logistic (Air cargo and supply chain management) & Digital Marketing. Valid Oman D/L. Looking for suitable placement. Contact: 79748272 Email: shazil.sadique@gmail.com.

Indian/female (28)/MBA, 6+ years' experience in digital marketing and business development with valid Oman D/L. available for immediate joining. Contact: 97210952

Indian Sales/Marketing manager selling of Constructional,building material products with 14 yrs experience in Oman with DL,looking job. Contact 95952066

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Electrician, plumber & A/C Service, L.Driver (D/L) Contact 95308363

MISCELLANEOUS (FOC)

Finance Manager, 28 years Oman experienced worked with reputed groups, Managing Cashflow, MIS, Budget, Forecast etc. Contact 968-98803439 (Call/Whatsapp)

Civil / MEP Draughtsman (Indian- aged 35) having 13 years of oman experience seeking a better placement. Valid oman driving licence. NOC available. Contact 98079806. Email shirshadbabu@gmail.com

MISCELLANEOUS (FOC)

Purchase engineer, Btech/MBA, NoC Available, Immediate joining, 3 years Oman experience, manufacturing. Contact/Whatsapp +96891740462. Email eliaspallathra@gmail.com

Indian Female with 18years exp. and knowledge upto finalization with D/L seeking suitable placement. Contact 92724555

16 yrs Oman experience in procurement,logistics& customs with valid Oman DL & NOC seeking suitable position. Contact 95174968

18+ years experienced in Pre-press and Graphic Designing with renowned commercial Printing Press and Newspaper Publisher, male expatriet looking for placement, residing in Muscat. # 99663123 E-mail: deyatapash@gmail.com

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ROUND-UP



Bank Muscat inaugurates 3 Green Sports Fields in Al Dhahirah

Bank Muscat continues to hand-over more Green Sports fields to teams across the country as part of its efforts to support Omani youth and local communities



MUSCAT: Bank Muscat, the leading financial services provider in the Sultanate, recently inaugurated 3 football fields as part of its Green Sports programme to teams in AL Dhahirah governorate.

In line with the bank's commitment to youth empowerment and community development, the bank celebrated the handover of a naturally greened field to the Dahir Al Fowars team in the Wilayat of Yanqul in Al Dahirah.

The event was held in the presence of Khalid bin Khalifa Al Farsi, the team manager. The bank also celebrated the opening of the naturally greened field of the Al Suleif Sports Team in the Wilayat of Ibbi. The handover was attended by, Hamdan bin Sulayem Al Mandhari the team



manager and other officials.

A green field with artificial grass was handed over to the Falaj Al Sidaireen Team from the Wilayat of Yanqul in the third event, which was attended by Fahd bin Muhammad Al Sudairi,



social distancing norms.

Juma Khamis Al Yaqoubi, Regional Manager - Al Dhahirah, Bank Muscat, congratulated the management, players and fans of all the teams and said: "The landmark Green Sports programme

from Bank Muscat has been encouraging Omani youth by providing green sports fields to develop their talents and skills. Through this landmark CSR programme, 107 Green Sports Fields have been handed over till date. These facili-

ties also help in the organising of various sporting events and activities in communities all across the country. Bank Muscat is very happy to celebrate the opening of these new Green Sports Fields and wish the very best to all the teams."

Bank Muscat continues to hand-over more Green Sports fields to teams across the country as part of its efforts to support Omani youth and local communities. The bank has so far provided support to 123 sports teams across different governorates since the launch of the programme in 2012.

The facilities provided under the programme are used not only by the teams but also by the local communities that they are based in. The support from the bank includes provision of natural grass, lighting systems or water desalination equipment.

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Exclusive 3 in 1 offer from Alizz Islamic Bank

The “3-in-1 Combo” provides customers with a reduced profit rate with their home, vehicle and goods financing



MUSCAT: As the government moves forward with the implementation of its strategies to diversify its income and reduce government subsidies to counter the effects of the pandemic and its budget deficit, financial planning has become a key talking point throughout the country.

More and more individuals are looking for efficient financial tools that will help them budget their expenses. To serve its customers and the community in coping with this change, Alizz Islamic Bank recently announced a new finance scheme with discounted profit

rates and longer tenure for its customers, as well as special profit rates for employees of Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health and The Royal Oman Police.

The “3-in-1 Combo” provides customers with a reduced profit rate with their home, vehicle and

goods financing, which can be further reduced if the customer also applies for Alizz Islamic Banks Sharia Complaint Credit Card.

The credit card which is considered the most affordable in the market is packed with features that will help customer plan their finances, make payments and earn cashback on those payments.

In 2021, the users of Alizz Islamic credit cards will get a 2.5 per cent cashback on groceries purchased every Friday, and fuel expenses for the entire 12 months, which will be paid back monthly, further adding to the savings that they can earn every month.

The new finance scheme which has been launched at the beginning of this year will continue until the end of March 2021. For more details on the profit rates and the “3 in 1 Combo” offer, visit the bank’s website or get in touch with the bank’s 24/7 call centre on 800 72265.

ANNIVERSARY



JW Marriott Muscat celebrates one year since bringing JW promise to Oman

MUSCAT: JW Marriott Muscat is celebrating a year of its unique brand of thoughtfully crafted hospitality in the Sultanate.

The five-star hotel has introduced a host of new and exciting experiences since opening in December 2019, including the launch of its sports-themed burger venue, Butter Buns; the chic and sophisticated grill house, Pink Salt; and the highly anticipated Spa by JW.

To mark the occasion of its first birthday, the hotel has created special first anniversary packages. The hotel also celebrated the milestone event with a memorable dinner and cocktail reception for guests, corporate clients and partners on January 6.

With a service approach that focuses on the enrichment of the mind, body and soul, JW Marriott Muscat continues to find unique ways to create meaningful memories with its guests.

“We are delighted to be marking this important milestone in our journey with our partners and guests, and despite a year that no-one anticipated, nevertheless we look back with a great sense of pride and achievement. Since opening our doors, we have dedicated ourselves to encouraging more and more guests to

discover the ‘Mindful & Present’ philosophy. We continue to share with them the JW Treatment that is based on the legacy and philosophy of our founder and namesake, John Willard Marriott, starting with our very special anniversary package with its mindful room amenities that allows our guests to embrace the here and now,” said Giuseppe Ressa, General Manager.

Coming up in 2021, guests can look forward to the opening of Catch, a modern poolside restaurant and lounge, a speciality coffee shop, Bean & Gone, and plenty of tailored experiences that offer them a place to unwind replenish their bodies and minds, and connect with those they care about.

Situated at the heart of the Sultanate’s largest urban development project, Madinat Al-Irfan, the JW Marriott property is directly connected to the Oman Convention & Exhibition Centre, a sustainably driven addition to Oman’s hospitality industry. Boasting a central location, inspiring spaces, imaginative dining concepts, and experiential programming designed to nourish the body, mind and soul, the hotel has quickly garnered a reputation for being the place to gather in Muscat.

OFFER

Affordable EMIs on Mitsubishi models

MUSCAT: General Automotive Company (GAC), the official distributor of Mitsubishi vehicles in Oman, has announced attractive EMI rates for the Pajero, Outlander, and L200 to welcome in the New Year.

Commenting on the promotion, Manoj Ranade, the General Manager of GAC, said, “These three models are some of our most popular on sale today. The Pajero and Outlander, in particular, are fan favourites, especially for those who like to go adventuring with their families. We wanted to provide these customers with an opportunity to get these three models at an affordable price, especially if they missed out on our year-end sale last month.”

The promotion includes the



Pajero, Outlander, and L200, with EMIs starting from OMR 129, OMR 99, and OMR 79 respectively. Of these three, the Pajero is by far one of the most popular models,

offering users a timeless yet modern look together with a great combination of safety, performance, comfort, and several advanced features that ensure a relaxing drive

for all passengers. Powering the legendary SUV is a 3.5 litre or 3.8 litres, depending on the trim, six-cylinder engine. When combined with its robust drivetrain and advanced four-wheel-drive system, the Pajero offers proven off-road and on-road capability, making it the perfect vehicle to take you wherever you want to go, whenever you want to go.

The second of the three, the Mitsubishi Outlander, offers a stylish exterior that sports the brands latest design language. Inside, the spacious cabin includes comfortable and supportive seats, high-quality materials and large size boot. Locally, it is available as either a five or seven-seat variant, making it perfect for family trips.

NEW SCHEME

More winners, more cash with ahlibank’s 2021 Wafra prize scheme

MUSCAT: In its efforts to enrich more lives and amplify its reach, ahlibank has launched its 2021 Wafra prize scheme, promising cash prizes worth more than OMR2 million, to be given through various draws across the bank’s branch network in the Sultanate. The details of the new scheme were unveiled at an internal event held at W Muscat hotel and broadcast live across the bank’s social media channels.

During the event, the bank also announced the lucky winner of the 2020 year-end grand prize ‘Salary for Life’ draw, wherein Ali Bait Saleem walked away with OMR250,000 (OMR1,000 per month over 250 months).

The bank has developed this year’s scheme to target a wider customer base by adding more categories and draws, including the ‘Salary for life’ prize that will be held in March, June, September and December 2021, where the four winners will receive OMR 250,000, and the bank will transfer OMR 1,000 per month to each winner’s account for 250 months. Customers who maintain an average quarterly balance of OMR 1,000 are eligible to enter this grand draw.

Commenting on the launch, Muneer Al Balushi, AGM- Head of Retail Distribution at ahlibank, said, “The launch of Wafra in its



new format this year confirms our keenness to instil a culture of wise savings for all customers and the community at large, and we look forward to offering an innovative prize scheme that helps add value to their lives. The new prize scheme has been curated to provide more opportunities to win to an increased number of people, thereby meeting their financial security needs and instilling confidence in them to achieve and make their dreams a reality. With a variety of weekly, monthly and special event draws, as well as major quarterly draws, the bank strives to provide the best banking services and offers that suit the demands of the customer’s daily lives and keep pace with socioeconomic dynamics.”

In 2021, ahlibank will reward

over 1,600 Wafra customers with more than OMR 2 million worth of prizes through its extensive branch network in the Sultanate. The weekly draws will reward one lucky winner from each branch with OMR 500. Customers who hold a minimum weekly balance of OMR 100 are entitled to participate in the draw. Additionally, there will be one winner of the weekly draw of OMR 500, for premium and private customers, basis he/she maintaining an average balance of at least OMR35,000 or a monthly salary of OMR3,500. The Bank has added a new category in the weekly draws, targeting upper mass customers, wherein there will be one winner, drawing a minimum salary of OMR1,000 or having an average balance in their account

of minimum OMR10,000.

The 2021 Wafra monthly prize will reward one winner from each branch with OMR1,000, where the customer is entitled to win this prize by maintaining an average monthly balance of OMR5,000 only. A total of two winners will also be rewarded each month, with OMR1,000 as part of the ‘Salary Transfer’ draw, and five winners from the youth 18-25 years old category will be awarded a cash prize of OMR300; and a prize of OMR200 will be given to 5 winners under 18 years old, as part of the monthly draws.

In addition to the bank’s quarterly draws to reward one winner with the ‘Salary for life’ prize, it has also allocated special quarterly draws to five lucky winners to be rewarded with a cash prize of OMR5,000 each, a prize of OMR25,000 for an exclusive and premium customer, and one winner of the upper mass category of OMR10,000, in each quarter.

On the occasion of the 51st National Day, 51 bank customers will be able to win OMR1,000 each. This requires maintaining an average monthly balance of OMR100 to be qualified for the draw. In addition to draws made by the bank specifically when opening any new branch, five winners will be awarded a cash prize of OMR500 for each winner.

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