


imes
OF OMAN

11th
January
HIS MAJESTY SULTAN
HAITHAM BIN TARIK'S
ACCESSION DAY

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The Sultanate of Oman marks the third anniversary of His Majesty's Accession Day on Wednesday

LONG LIVE HIS MAJESTY!

Omani citizens are all praise for His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik's policies and achievements

ROYAL ORDER

HM pardons 121 prisoners

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, the Supreme Commander, has issued a Royal pardon to a number of prisoners convicted of different cases. They included 121 prisoners, 57 of them are foreigners, according to an official source at the Royal Oman Police (ROP). The Royal pardon coincides with the anniversary of His Majesty the Sultan's Accession Day, in consideration of families of the prisoners. — **ONA**

OFFENCES ON AIRCRAFT

HM issues Royal Decree

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik on Tuesday issued Royal Decree No. 4/2023 endorsing the Sultanate of Oman's joining the Protocol to Amend the Convention on Offences and Certain Other Acts Committed on Board Aircraft, reading as follows:

Article (1) endorses the Sultanate of Oman's joining the Protocol to Amend the Convention on Offences and Certain Other Acts Committed on Board Aircraft, in accordance with the version attached to this decree.

Article (2) instructs the departments concerned to deposit the official document for joining the aforementioned Protocol in accordance with its provisions.

Article (3) says that this decree shall be published in the Official Gazette and enforced from its date of issue. — **ONA**

HOLIDAY NOTICE:

There will be no edition of Times of Oman on Thursday due to HM's Accession Day

His Majesty the Sultan has exerted sincere efforts to fulfil the aspirations of people in Oman

Times News Service

MUSCAT: As the Sultanate of Oman celebrates the third year of its Renewed Renaissance under the leadership of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, with the Accession Day on January 11, 2020, the government and people of Oman affirmed their allegiance and loyalty to His Majesty.

His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik has been leading the nation into prosperity with his wise and prudent policies on all fronts with citizens and expatriates in the Sultanate of Oman praising his initiatives and achieve-

ments over the past three years and expressing confidence in his leadership.

His Majesty the Sultan has set his sight on reinforcing the Sultanate of Oman's status among the top nations while maintaining

its national interests with clear planning goals as identified by the Oman Vision 2040 that seeks to achieve qualitative changes in all spheres of life.

Since the very first day of his rule, His Majesty the Sultan has

exerted sincere efforts to fulfil the aspirations of the Omani people as well as preserve the achievements that have taken place in the last five decades.

"This is what we have resolved to execute, God willing. We will

march forward on this road so that Oman can attain and maintain the prominent place which late His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said bin Taimour wished and for which he worked to realise that goal." >**A9**



We extend our warmest and heartfelt congratulations to **His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik**, may Allah protect him, on the occasion of the Accession Anniversary of **His Majesty**. We are inspired by the leadership to continue the growth and development of our beautiful country.

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Greetings

Warm felicitations to His Majesty
SULTAN HAITHAM BIN TARIK
and the people of Oman on the
occasion of the 3rd Anniversary
of His Majesty's accession
to power on 11th January





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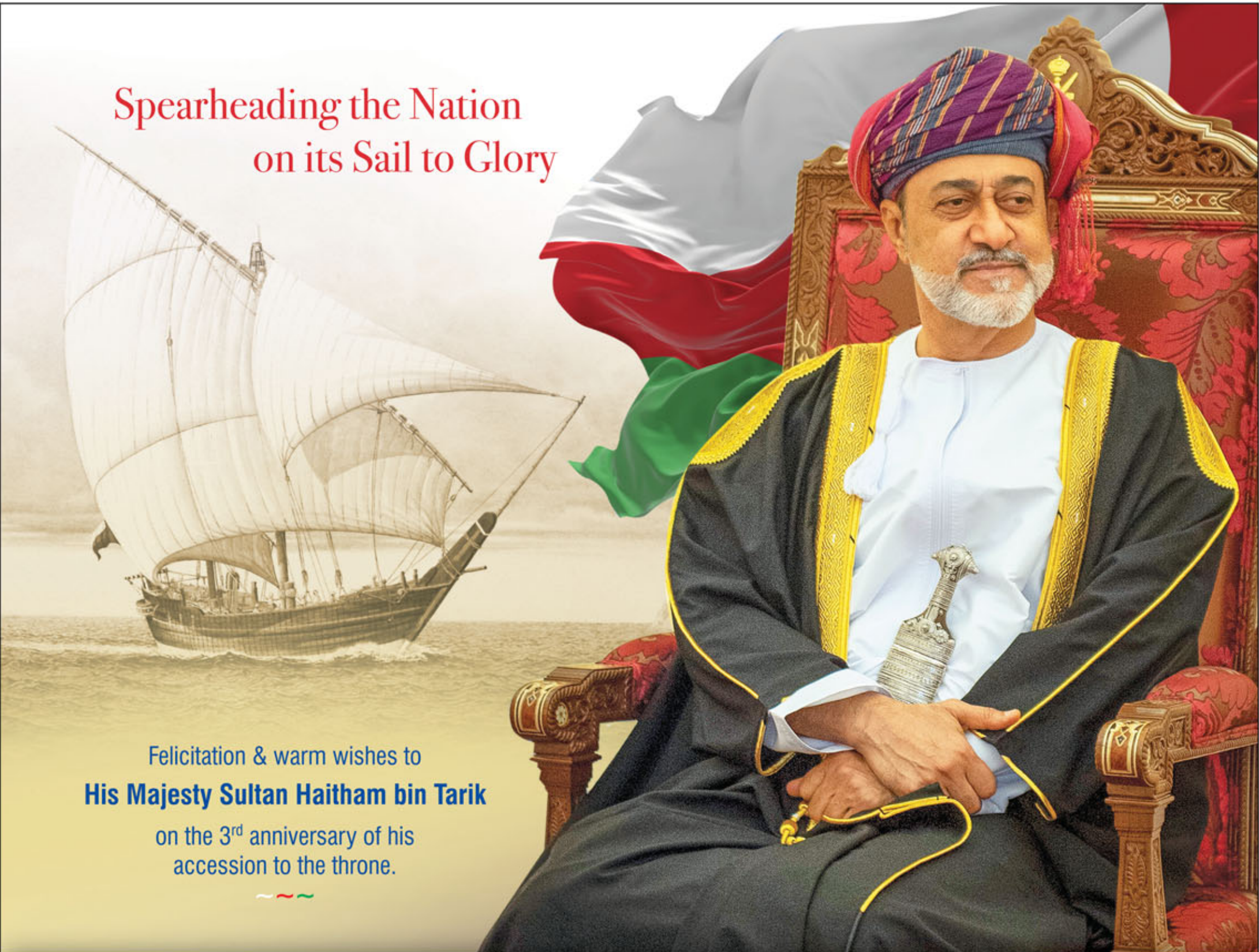


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We pray to the Almighty God to bless His Majesty with abundant health and to preserve the glory of Oman. We also reaffirm our commitment to follow in the footsteps of His Majesty to contribute to the sustainable development of Oman and achieving the goals of Oman Vision 2040.



CONGRATULATIONS TO HIS MAJESTY SULTAN HAITHAM BIN TARIK
and the people of the Sultanate of Oman
on the occasion of the Third anniversary of His Majesty's Accession to power.

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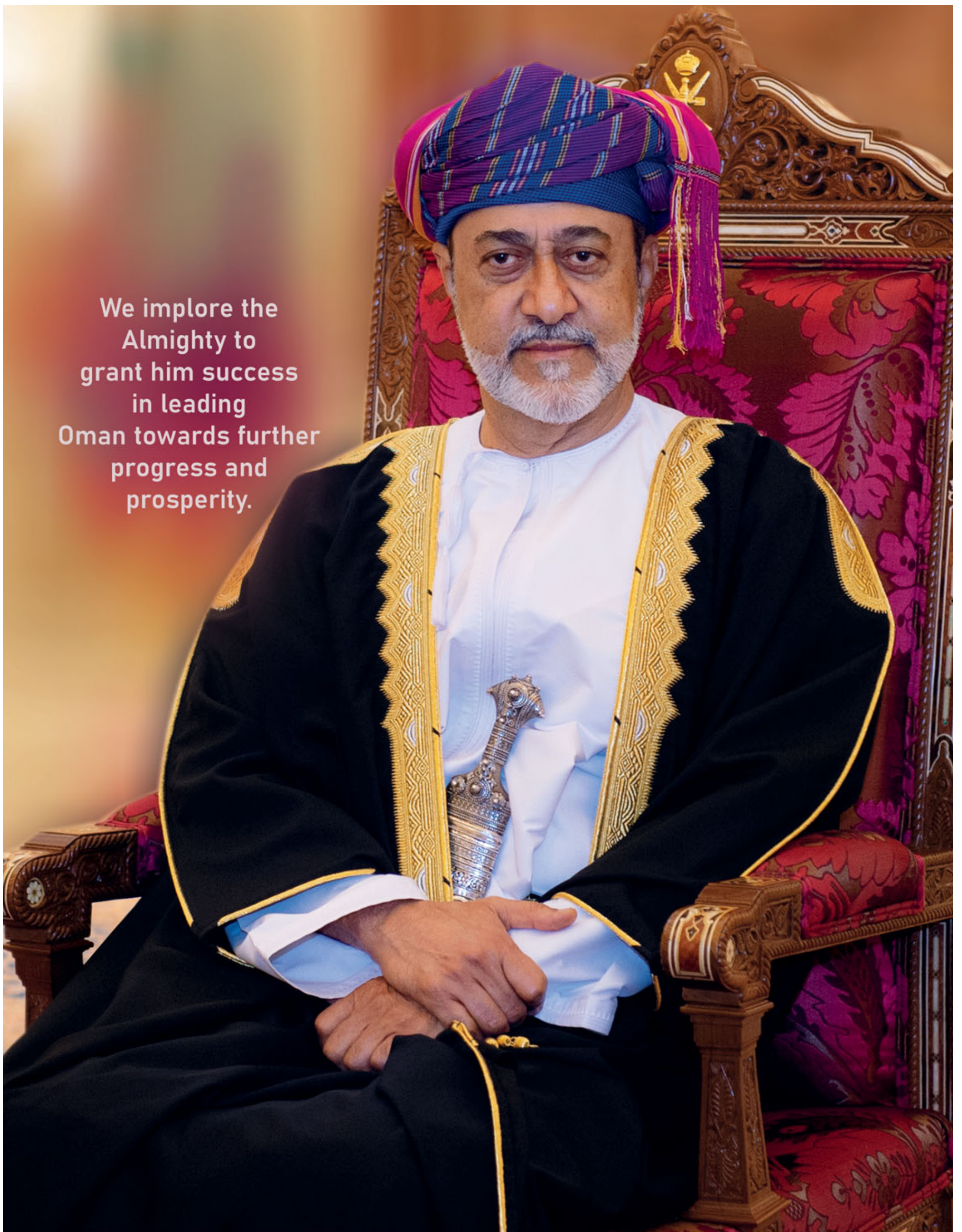
Oman has a bright and prosperous future under Him.
May Allah protect and take care of Him.



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Almighty to
grant him success
in leading
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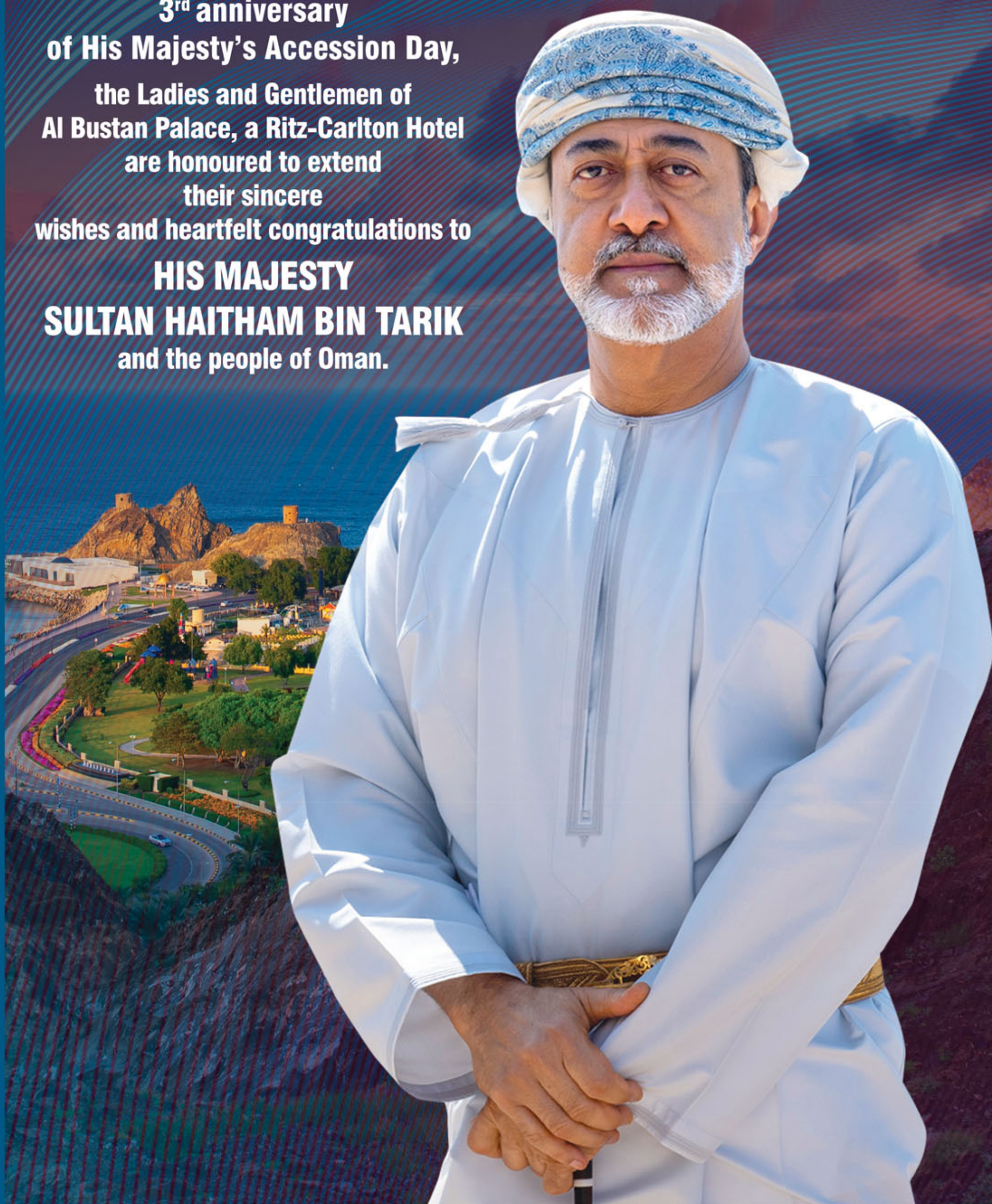
Our Heartfelt Felicitations to
His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik
On the 3rd anniversary of the blessed Accession Day.
We wish him and the people of Oman progress,
prosperity and success



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JANUARY 11

Oman has seen big growth in 3 years in all fields

< FROM A1 “He was granted success in his endeavours,” His Majesty the Sultan said in his first speech on January 11, 2020.

Over the past three years, His Majesty the Sultan has taken numerous steps for the implementation of the Oman Vision 2040 which was launched in the beginning of January 2021 and will be executed in four consecutive plans initiated by the Tenth Five-Year Development Plan (2021-2025).

This plan has drawn up ambitious and clear-cut national goals linked to executive programmes that seek to restore momentum for economic growth and achieve balanced socio-economic development through the implementation of the proposed programmes and initiatives as per an integrated regulatory framework that will be implemented under the Royal guidance and directives of His Majesty the Sultan.

The Oman Vision 2040 is based on four main pillars that encompass a society with creative people that comprises: education, scientific research and skills, health and citizenship, identity, heritage, national culture, wellbeing and social security, youth empowerment.

The second pillar ‘an economy with competitive climate’ comprises leadership, economic management, economic diversification, financial sustainability, labour market and employment, investment and the private sector, international cooperation, development of governorates and sustainable cities and IT technology.

The third pillar ‘an environment with sustainable resources’ comprises environmental aspects and natural resources.

The fourth pillar ‘a state with responsible authorities’ comprises topics that are related to the legislation, judiciary, and oversight, governance of the administrative apparatus and resources and projects.

All these pillars are in line with the strategic orientation towards a society proud of its identity and culture and committed to citizenship.

Praising the policies and various programmes under His Majesty the Sultan, Mohammed Al Hassani from the Wilayat of Barka said: “Since His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq assumed power, he has been able to lead the country qualitatively in all fields. Be it managing the spread of the coronavirus pandemic in Oman with the setting

up of the Supreme Committee in charge of dealing with Covid-19, or handling the economic consequences of the pandemic, he has steered the country to safety with his amazing leadership.”

Moath Al Saeedi from the Wilayat of Al Khabourah said: “When Sultan Haitham bin Tariq took over the reins of power, he faced three challenges – steep public debt, Covid-19 pandemic and large unemployment. His Majesty the Sultan managed to overcome all of them with his wisdom and effective management policies. His ability to manage all the challenges has surprised us and we pray for his long life and prosperity of Oman.”

Al Saeedi added: “Oman has managed to reduce the public debt from OMR 21 billion to OMR 17 billion, resulting in the Sultanate of Oman achieving a financial surplus of more than OMR 1.2 billion last year. We hope to continue achieving financial surpluses for the coming years due to the existence of a flexible financial sustainability plan and follow-up to the implementation of Vision 2040, as well as the implementation of the tenth five-year plan 2021-2025.”

Al Saeedi said: “His Majesty the Sultan was able to generate employment for more than 40,000 young men and women in civil and military sectors until the end of the year. With temporary contracts, one million hours of part-time work in government institutions in various governorates, there has been a big relief for young job seekers. Above that monthly subsidies from the Job Security Fund for those affected by layoffs were also introduced.”

Huda Al Maamari from Wilayat of Ibri said: “The last three years of the reign of His Majesty the Sultan has made us believe that the choice made by Late His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said bin Taimour was appropriate and correct.”

She said: “The last three years we have seen a quantum leap in the field of economy and political relations, as well as the development of the country. His Majesty the Sultan’s personal follow-up to the government’s work and his attention to youth, science and innovation, is a reason for pride. I hope the wheel of progress will continue in all fields under his wise leadership.”

The citizens and residents of Oman will celebrate His Majesty’s Accession Day on January 11 as a national holiday with a decree declaring January 12 as a holiday to give the people of Oman a long weekend.

MEETING

Al Nu’amani holds talks with Saudi military officer

MUSCAT: Gen. Sultan Mohammed Al Nu’amani, Minister of the Royal Office, received on Tuesday Lt.Gen Fahd Abdullah Al Mutair, Commander of Royal Land Forces in Saudi Arabia and his accompanying delegation.

During the meeting, the two sides reviewed areas of cooperation between Oman and Saudi Arabia. They discussed several matters of mutual interest. The meeting was attended by the Royal Army of Oman commander. -ONA



ACADEMY PROGRAMME

Omani students get advanced global positions

MUSCAT: The Centre of Excellence for Advanced Telecommunications Technology and IoT of the Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation at Innovation Park Muscat announced the winning teams of “The Green Redesign: Improving Energy Efficiency in Cities Using 5G and IoT” challenge of the second cohort of the Junior Academy programme. -ONA

REVIEW TIES

Foreign Minister meets UN official



MUSCAT: Sayyid Badr Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister, received yesterday Michael Lodge, Secretary General of the International Seabed Authority of the UN.

The two sides reviewed opportunities of cooperation between the Sultanate of Oman and the International Seabed Author-

ity. They also touched on programmes of capacity building and skill honing in areas related to the law of the sea and blue economy.

The two sides also underscored the importance of international cooperation to protect and sustain biological diversity for future generations.

-ONA



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SPACEPORT CORNWALL

Oman's satellite dream on hold

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The historic journey of the first Omani satellite, Aman, was put on hold as its carrier Launcher-One rocket failed to reach the designated orbit after its launch from the Spaceport Cornwall in the UK.

Aman, the first Omani satellite, was loaded onto a modified Boeing 747-400 jet, and the LauncherOne

system, alongside other satellites from the UK and Poland.

Named 'Cosmic Girl,' the aircraft carrier released the rocket carrying commercial satellites over the Atlantic Ocean. However, a technical glitch prevented the Launcher-One rocket from reaching its orbit.

If successful, the "Start Me Up" space mission would have been a launch of firsts: Oman's first

orbital mission, the first space mission commencing from the United Kingdom; the first international launch for Virgin Orbit and the first ever commercial launch from Western Europe.

This project has been ongoing since October 2021, when the document on strategic cooperation, implementing the Middle East space programme, was initially signed.

Several agreements, MoU signed in LNG and green hydrogen

The Ministry of Energy and Minerals signed a Letter of Intent with Oman Shell company to explore opportunities for the production of Liquefied Synthetic Gas (LSG) in Oman



playing capabilities and modern technologies in the fields of energy with our partners in the sector.”

Additionally, Oman LNG LLC and Shell International Trading Middle East FZE announced the signing of a term sheet for the offtake of 0.8 million tonne per annum (mtpa) of Liquefied Natural Gas from Oman LNG, for ten years starting from 2025.

Such step marks another milestone in the history of Oman LNG, where it complements the company's strive to extend its contracts. Beyond 2024, with a strong interest to leverage partnership with various firms around the world.

This commitment ensures Oman LNG will maintain its strong position in the global LNG market and contribute to global energy security, delivering clean and reliable energy.

Hamed Al Nu'amani, CEO of Oman LNG, said: "We are delighted to sign this term-sheet agreement with Shell, who has been our partner in the industry for many years. This agreement leverages the opportunities to place Oman LNG in a very competitive market, with strong partners allowing us to grow our market access."

Further, OQ and Shell International signed a Partnership Agreement for Developing Green Hydrogen in Oman after acquiring a 35% shareholding interest in Green Energy Oman (GEO) project.

The project is expected to be developed in multiple phases to produce at full capacity, around 1.8 million tonnes of green hydrogen.

This agreement was signed by Najla Zuhair Al Jamali, CEO of Alternative Energy at OQ and Walid Hadi, Senior Vice President and Country Chair of Shell Oman.

Najla Zuhair Al Jamali, CEO of Alternative Energy at OQ, said: "The entry of Shell to this vital project constitutes a qualitative step that will enable the consortium to benefit from their advanced global expertise in this field. This will surely contribute to achieving the desired objectives of the project. Shell is a pioneering company in the alternative energy sector and entertains great technical and practical experience that would directly help in developing all phases of the project."

Al Jamali explained that the GEO Project is one of the best specialized projects that seek to provide the necessary green energy sources to meet the increasing global demand on carbon-free fuel.

Walid Hadi said, "We are pleased to sign these important agreements that will strengthen our partnership with the Sultanate of Oman. This will be Shell's first long-term LNG offtake from Oman and the agreement supports continued production from Oman LNG into the 2030s. We're proud of the contribution we have made to the success of the venture to date and pleased to be deepening our relationship."

He added: "With our entry to the Green Energy Oman (GEO) consortium, we are taking a further step to advance lower and zero emissions energy projects in Oman. The project remains in its early phase, but this is a sign of the potential we see for Oman through the energy transition. We also look forward to working together with the Ministry of Energy and Minerals to explore the sustainable development of the first integrated Liquefied Synthetic Gas (LSG) value chain." — **UNA**



**CONGRATULATIONS TO
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Anniversary of His Majesty's
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and the people of Oman, on the occasion of Accession Day.

We salute the visionary leadership of His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tariq for the progressive policies His Majesty has implemented for the beloved country. May the nation and its people prosper under him.





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MIDDLE EAST CHAMPIONSHIP

Abdullah Al Zubair to be back for Oman International Rally

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Once again rally driver Abdullah Al Zubair will be back behind Subaru Impriza wheel this year during the Oman International Rally in the opening round of Middle East championship.

He will be participating with other Middle East drivers in this rally aiming to get fantastic result.

The rally will be conducted from 26 to 28 January in Muscat Governorate and will be organised by Oman Automobile Association. Al

Zubair who has not participated in any motorsport activity since he won the second place in Jordan National rally in March 2020 with his Navigator Emad Juma, said that he will join his Omani colleagues in this international event to make the event successful with increasing no of participants.

Al Zubair said: "I am delighted and very happy to be behind the steering wheel of car once again in my favorite sport. It has been more than 3 years since I attended the last rally in Jordan. I would like

to thank and appreciate the great support and the sponsorship of ARA Petroleum for my participation in Oman International rally and hope that I can perform better in this three days of race and wish everyone safe driving and successful results."

He added that Oman International Rally is one of the most difficult rally in the Middle East and it is not easy to compete with people who are in this field every season, but I will try my best and hope to reach the final stage.

MEN'S JUNIOR HOCKEY

Oman storm into semis of AHF Cup

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Oman have displayed a roaring form in the ongoing Men's Junior AHF Cup Muscat 2023 being played at the Sultan Qaboos Sports Complex.

On Monday night, the hosts produced another dominating performance as they steamrolled Indonesia 8-0 to emerge as Pool A topper and advance to the semi-finals. The place in the semifinals also confirmed their ticket for the Men's Junior Asia Cup 2023.

Oman was joined by Thailand from Pool A while Bangladesh and Uzbekistan advanced from Pool B to the semi-finals and secured a place in the Men's Junior Asia Cup.

Having already booked a place in the semis ahead of the Indonesia match, Oman didn't show any complacency and Hassan al Balushi opened the floodgates with a strike in the 10th minute of the match. Hassan scored two more while AlKhoder Al Noufali also slammed two goals.

PILGRIMAGE

Saudi Arabia lifts curbs on Hajj pilgrim numbers

RIYADH: Saudi Arabia on Monday announced that there will be no limit on the number of pilgrims for this year's Hajj, Arab News reported citing the country's Minister of Hajj and Umrah Tawfiq Al-Rabiah.

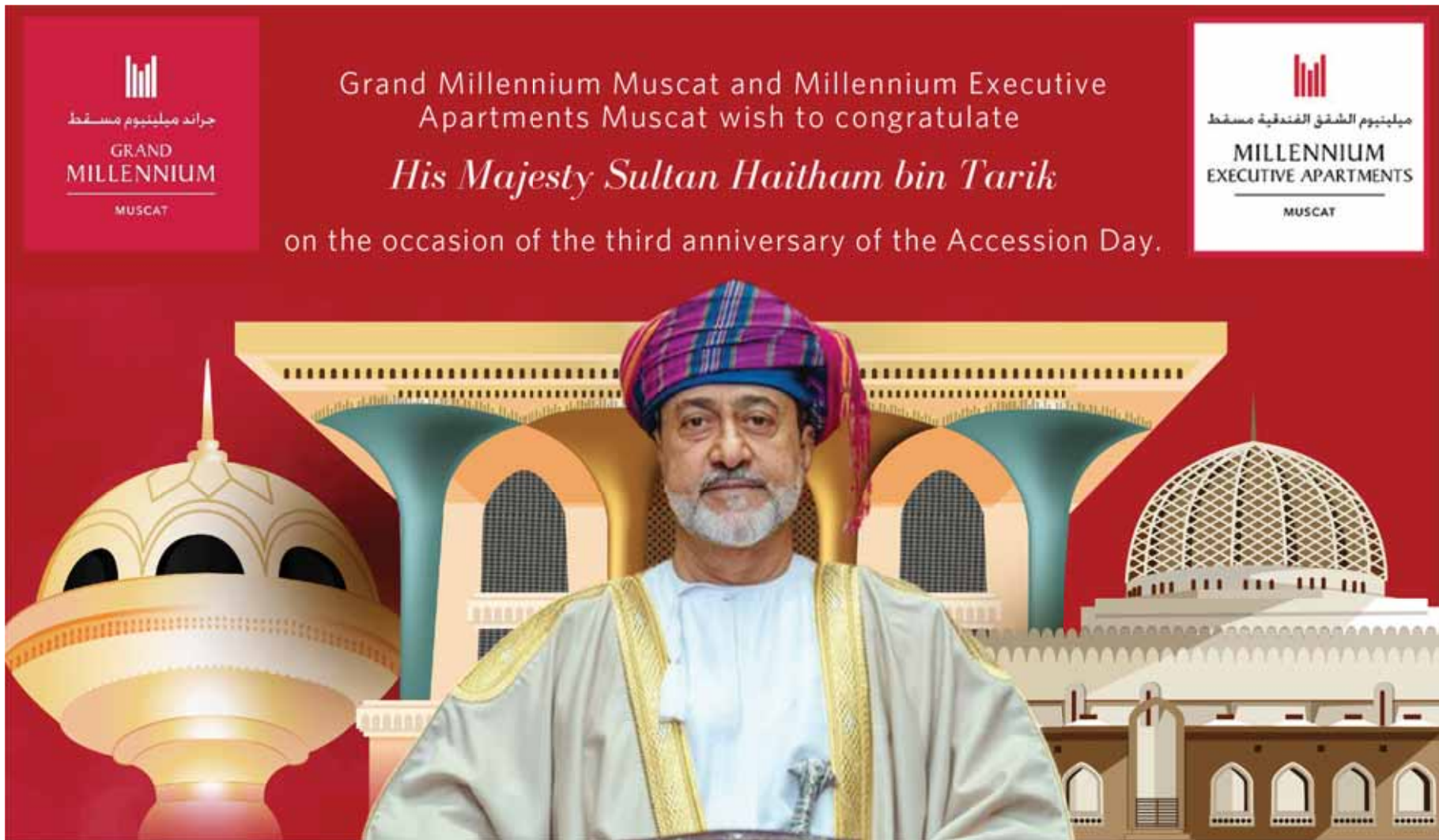
Speaking at the Hajj Expo 2023, Tawfiq Al-Rabiah stated that the number of people participating in this year's Hajj will return to pre-pandemic levels and there will be no age limit for Hajj pilgrims this year. Meanwhile, Saudi Arabia's Ministry of Hajj and Umrah tweeted, "During the opening of #Hajj-Expo 2023, H.E. Minister of Hajj and Umrah Dr. Tawfiq Al-Rabiah announces: 'Number of Hajj pilgrims in 1444H will return to how it was before the Coronavirus pandemic without age restrictions.'"

About 2.5 million people took part in the pilgrimage in 2019, Arab News reported. However, the number of pilgrims was reduced for the next two years due to the spread of the pandemic.

Earlier on January 5, Saudi Arabia's Ministry of Hajj and Umrah announced that people living in the country wanting to perform Hajj this year can apply for pilgrimage, as per the Arab News report. The ministry said that there would be four categories of Hajj packages available for local residents.

The people applying for pilgrimage must have national or resident identity valid until the middle of July, as per the Arab News report. Pilgrims need to have proof of COVID-19 and seasonal influenza vaccination.

In addition, they need to obtain a vaccination certificate for the ACYW quadruple meningitis vaccine at least 10 days prior to arriving at the holy sites. Saudi Arabia's Ministry of Hajj and Umrah called on all applicants to register directly through its website. -ANI



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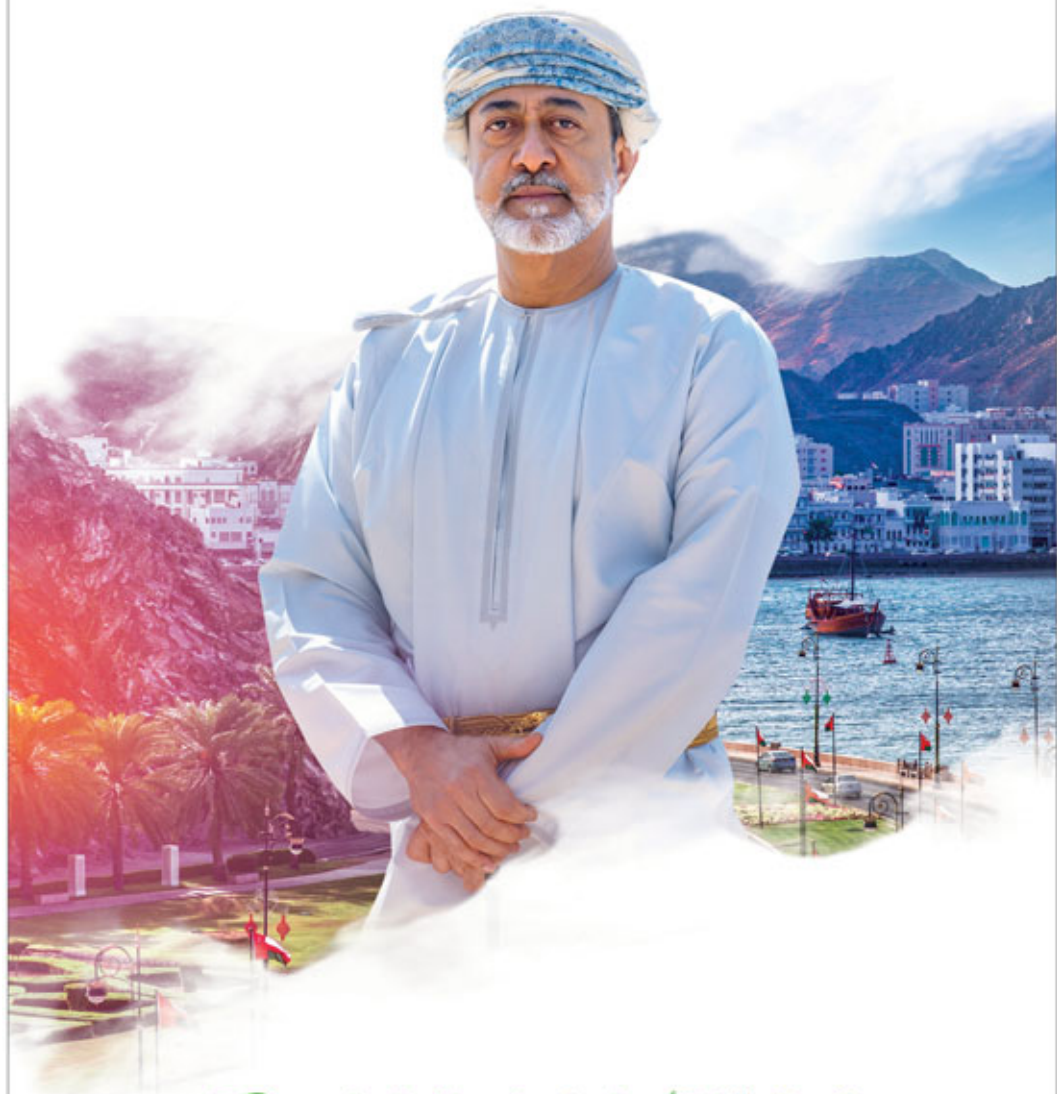
This is to inform the general public that Mr. Ajay Kumar Kishorchandra Chauhan, holding Indian Passport No. N8872600 and Omani civil ID 82064668, who was working with Al Maya International LLC, has been terminated from his services with Al Maya International LLC with effect from the 25th of December 2022. Henceforth, Al Maya International LLC doesn't bear any responsibility for anyone dealing with him.

Announcement

This is to inform the general public that Mr. Navubha Dansangji Mokha holding Indian Passport No. M6624558 and Omani civil ID 71940683, who was working with Al Maya International LLC, has been terminated from his services with Al Maya International LLC with effect from the 25th of December 2022. Henceforth, Al Maya International LLC doesn't bear any responsibility for anyone dealing with him.

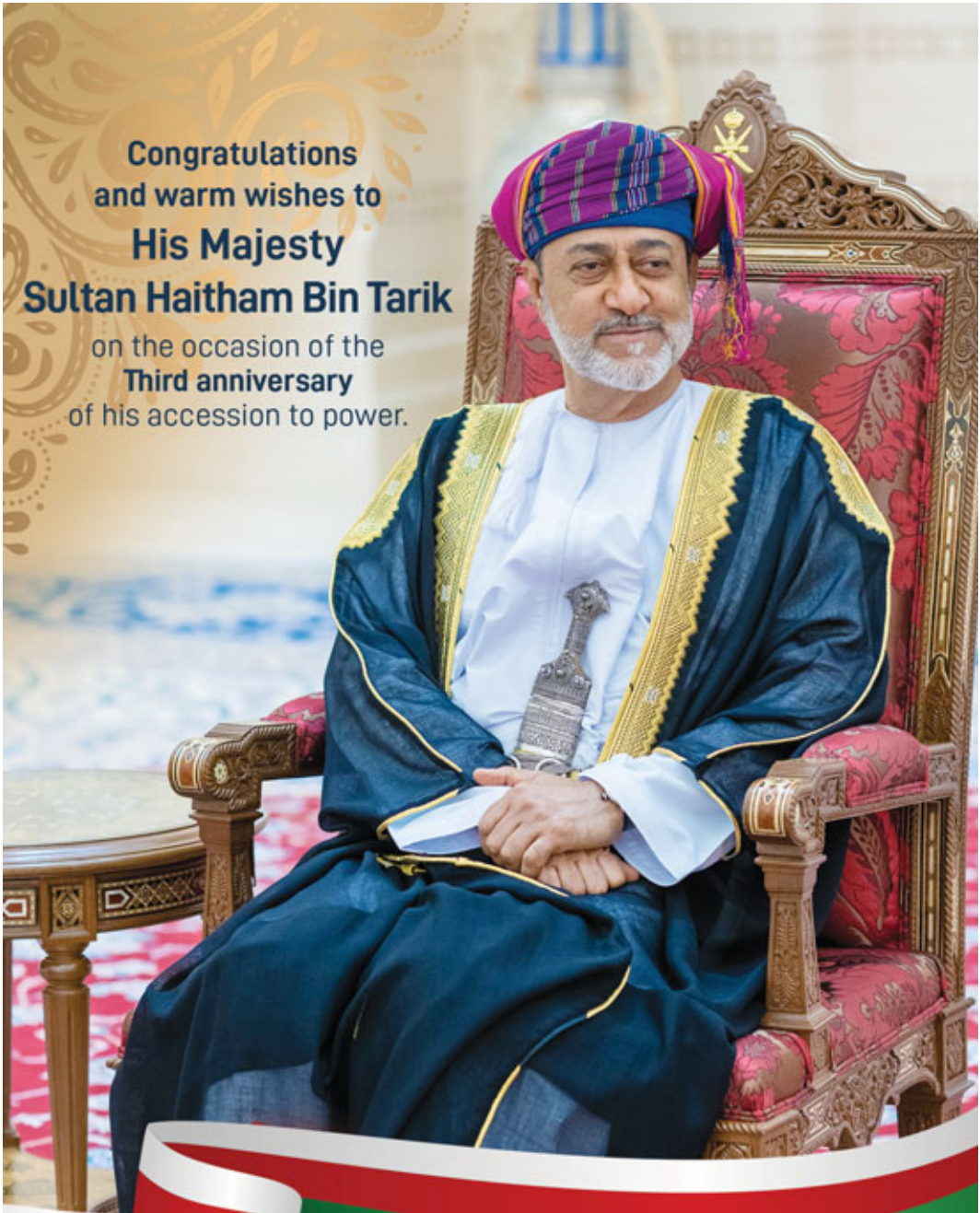
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Wishing His Majesty
continuous success and prosperity



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Greetings

Warm felicitations to His Majesty
SULTAN HAITHAM BIN TARIK
and the people of Oman on the
occasion of the 3rd Anniversary
of His Majesty's accession
to power on 11th January





11th January
HIS MAJESTY SULTAN
HAITHAM BIN TARIQ'S ACCESSION DAY

OMAN

Heartiest Congratulations to
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And the People of Oman
On the **3rd Anniversary of the Accession Day**



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Saud Bahwan Group is wholly committed to His Majesty's vision. Saud Bahwan Group is continuously playing a responsible role towards fulfilling national objectives.

On this special occasion, Saud Bahwan Group salutes the vision of **His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik** and congratulates the people of Oman.

OMAN CRUDE PRICE FALLS

The price of Oman oil has decreased, with prices for delivery by March 2023 reaching \$76.21, said Dubai Mercantile Exchange (DME). The DME statement said that the price of Oman oil fell by \$1.02 from the price of Monday, which was at \$77.23. -ONA

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11th January
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TARIQ'S ACCESSION DAY



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Haitham bin Tariq** on the
occasion of the anniversary
of His Majesty's accession.
We renew our pledge of
loyalty to work for growth
and prosperity under his
visionary leadership.



CENTRAL BANK OF OMAN

STOCKS

MUSCAT: The Central Bank of Oman (CBO) raised OMR16 million by way of allotting treasury bills on Tuesday.

The treasury bills are for a maturity period of 28 days, from January 11 until February 8.

The average accepted price reached 99.672 for every OMR100, and the minimum accepted price arrived at 99.665 per OMR100. The average discount rate and the average yield reached 4.28142 per cent and 4.29553 per cent, respectively.

Treasury bills are short-term highly secured financial instruments issued by the Ministry of Finance, and they provide licensed commercial banks the opportunity to invest their surplus funds. CBO



acts as the Issue Manager and provides the added advantage of ready liquidity through discounting and repurchase facilities (Repo).

It may be noted that the interest rate on the Repo operations with CBO is 5.00 per cent while the discount rate on the Treasury Bills Discounting Facility with CBO is

5.50 per cent.

Furthermore, treasury bills promote the local money market by creating a benchmark yield curve for short-term interest rates. Additionally, the government may also resort to this instrument whenever felt necessary for financing its recurrent expenditures. -**UNA**

MUSCAT: The MSX index closed at 4,871.86 points, up by 0.5 per cent from the previous close. The Sharia Index ended down by 0.82 per cent at 499.54 points. Ahli Bank, up 6.25 per cent, was the top gainer while Oman Packaging, down 9.72 per cent, was the top loser. Shares of MB Sukuk USD were the most active in terms of the number of shares traded as well as in terms of turnover.

A total number of 378 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating a turnover of OMR3.98 million, with more than 16.4 million shares changing hands. Out of 45 traded securities, 14 advanced, 19 declined, and 12 remained unchanged.



Financial Index closed at 7,926.33 points, up 1.27 per cent. Prices of Ahli Bank, Bank Dhofar, Ominvest, Muscat Finance, and Dhofar Insurance were up by 6.25 per cent, 4.07 per cent, 3.33

per cent, 3.08 per cent and 2.50 per cent respectively. Prices of HSBC Bank Oman and Al Madinat Takaful were down by 0.97 per cent, 1.10 per cent and 0.92 per cent respectively. -United Securities

Ras Markaz receives first shipment of crude oil

The successful delivery of the first shipment of crude oil at Ras Markaz Crude Oil Storage and Export Terminal opens up wider horizons in the Middle East region



provides alternatives to storing oil outside the Strait of Hormuz and then exporting it to regional and global markets.

This provides oil exporters with an opportunity to find alternative clients, besides meeting the demands of other projects that are being implemented in the Special Economic Zone at Duqm (Sezad).

Hilal Ali Al Kharusi, CEO of Commercial and Downstream Sector at OQ, Chairman of OTTCO Board of Directors, said, "The successful delivery of the first shipment of crude oil at Ras Markaz Crude Oil Storage and Export Terminal opens up wider horizons to proceed with other phases of this strategic project, which is considered the



Meanwhile, Salem Marhoon Al Hashemi, General Manager of Ras Markaz Terminal, expressed his delight at the successful commissioning of commercial operations at the project and the reception of the first shipment of crude oil.

"The capacity of Ras Markaz Crude Oil Storage and Export Terminal is subject to technical considerations and the preferences of investors. The basic construction works of the first phase included all the work requirements of crude oil storage terminals in the world according to the approved international standards. The terminal will be ready to receive 26.7 million barrels of crude oil. More storage tanks could also be added to meet any further investment demands," he added. — **ONA**

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CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER



Sohar Aluminium appoints new CFO

MUSCAT: Sohar Aluminium announced the appointment of Ricardo Fontes Santana as Chief Financial Officer (CFO).

In his capacity, Ricardo will champion the financial strength business strategic objective and will be leading the finance, information technology, and supply chain management departments.

Ricardo holds a Bachelor's Degree in Economics from the State University of Rio de Janeiro, and an MBA in Finance and Controlling from the Universidade Federal Fluminense, Brazil.

In service of the nation



Congratulations to
His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik
on the anniversary of his accession.

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Members of the academic and administrative staff and all employees and students of Oman Tourism College extend their warmest congratulations to

**His Majesty
Sultan Haitham bin Tarik**
- May Allah protect him -

on the occasion of the third anniversary of his accession, which falls on 11th of January every year. We ask the Almighty to bless his steps and to grant him good health and long life.

Happy anniversary to our dear Oman!



كلية عُمان للسياحة
Oman Tourism College

NBO provides growth opportunities for staff

Recently, 11 members of NBO's Direct Sales Agents team received a certificate from the bank's Academy of Excellence upon completion of the 2-week Sales Star training programme

MUSCAT: Future-ready National Bank of Oman (NBO) recognises the benefits of upskilling for both its employees and the organisation. Recently, 11 members of NBO's Direct Sales Agents (DSA) team received a certificate from the bank's Academy of Excellence upon completion of the 2-week Sales Star



training programme. The capacity-building course had been designed for the DSA team, which is a main point of contact for potential clients, and covered specific topics while enabling participants to advance in their current careers. Direct sales agents are specialists in banking products and services and efficient solution advisors with strong employee-customer relationship-building skills who create

a seamless customer experience around the clock. Tariq Atiq, General Manager and Chief Retail and Digital Banking Officer at National Bank of Oman, said, "Any Direct Sales Agent is in a customer-facing role which requires them to frequently update their knowledge and skills, while demonstrating a willingness to continuously learn what produces results for our customers.

National Bank of Oman believes in the many advantages of skill building. It makes our employees feel valued and further improves confidence in their abilities which benefits not only their career, but also their customer services and sales skills." He added, "Our teams continue to learn about digital transformations and how the latest developments in technology impact our services as well, while we always aim to keep up with the ever-evolving needs of our clients in an environment that is becoming increasingly digital." The Sales Star training programme has been developed to help team members from across different divisions of the bank to further refine their skills to promote the bank's products and services. The institution has been consistently delivering a variety of quality technical and soft skills courses designed for professionals, allowing employees the opportunity to benefit from an excellence in teaching and develop knowledge and skills across a range of bank-related subjects.

PROMOTION



Own Kia Sportage with 'Season of Winning' benefits

MUSCAT: Get your hands on the stylish and feature-packed Kia Sportage and get a chance to be a winner with Kia. Buy a Kia Sportage and get a chance to win a brand new Kia Niro Hybrid Electric Vehicle. Apart from that customers will also get comprehensive service up to 50,000km, 1 year insurance and cash gift. The Kia Sportage is high-lighting a brand new era with a comprehensive redesign that is attractive and stunning. The fifth-generation model challenges design norms and moves the Sportage identity to the next level, while paying homage to its rich heritage. The Sportage's exterior is bold and its impactful lines have an assertive presence, balanced with innovation and instinctive characteristics. The elongated grille links Kia's modern signature Tiger Nose grille - that acts as the visual focal point of the car - LED DRLs (daytime running lamps), which in turn create solid boundary lines for the striking LED head lamps.

AERIAL YOGA SESSIONS

Shangri-La Muscat invites guests to defy gravity with aerial yoga

MUSCAT: Pioneering in Oman, Shangri-La Barr Al Jissah, Muscat has launched an all-new aerial yoga class for resident and non-resident guests. This popular exercise practised by leading yoga global instructors uses securely rigged colourful nylon-tricot hammocks that enable participants to glide through various poses from a safe and enjoyable height. Not only do the aerial yoga sessions at Shangri-La Muscat offer an array of health benefits such as improving core muscle strength, but guests are also treated to views over the Gulf Of Oman as they're suspended in mid-air. Shangri-La Muscat offers a wide range of yoga classes which include dynamic flow, gentle flow, restorative yoga, vinyasa yoga, aqua yoga and the resort's signature stand-up paddle board (SUP) yoga. SUP yoga is a peaceful and fun way to take exercise outdoors and onto a floating mat, which is designed to achieve a state of solidity and serenity in this calming, yet empowering, flow. Booking details All yoga sessions are 60 minutes and are offered in groups of up to seven people at the fitness studios, on the beach or by the pool. Yoga classes are available for children aged five and above and are available every Friday and Saturday from 10.30am - 11.30am. The yoga classes teach children how to exercise and hold posture



while practising stretching and breathing techniques to develop their confidence and sharpen their concentration. Aerial yoga is OMR 8 for all guests and is limited to 7 participants per class. Additional activities available at Shangri-La Muscat The resort also offers additional recreational pursuits which include water sports activities, mini golf, and weekly group fitness classes ranging from high-intensity

interval training to hydro classes, circuit classes and functional training on the beach. Professional tennis lessons are also available from the resort's resident coach at the Al Bandar courts. The resort offers a range of programmes for all skill levels, from junior tennis lessons to private one-on-one professional coaching lessons. In-house guests can enquire about the wide array of exercise classes and activities available at reception.

WOMEN AND CHILD CARE SERVICES

Aster Royal Hospital Ghubra welcomes birth of first baby

MUSCAT: Aster Royal Hospital Ghubra opened its door for women and child care services. The first baby, Aaradhya Arun, the baby of couple Arun Vasant and Aiswarya Arun, was born at 12:30pm, Sunday, 08/01/2023. Both the baby girl and her mother are healthy and keeping well after the delivery. "A healthy mom helps to ensure a healthy baby. Aster Royal Hospital offers a unique "Aster Nurture Program" which provides pregnancy health & wellness classes to help you optimize your health and well-being before and during your pregnancy, including vaccines, nutrition, weight management, mindful movement, tobacco cessation and chronic disease management. Moreover, Aster Nurture Program provides Prenatal/Postnatal classes, to make sure you and your family are prepared for your pregnancy and delivery, and to care for your baby. The father, Arun Vasant said, "I can't describe how happy my family and I are to see the newest member of our family. We are grateful to the Aster Royal Hospital team who have supported us during the journey to parenthood. My heartfelt thanks to Dr Bindu for the invaluable support psychologically and medically. This is my second child born in Aster Group - the first one was in Aster Al Raffah, six years back". In celebration of the hospital's



first delivery, the hospital distributed flowers and gifts to the parents of the newborn. Aster Royal Hospital features a "Hospital in Hospital" concept wherein all services related to women and child health are available on the same floor. These include state-of-the-art delivery suites for normal delivery and a dedicated modular OT on the same floor apart from 4 other OTs within the Aster Royal Hospital. The dedicated Women and Child floor have an advanced NICU, Well baby Unit to address any complicated challenges for the Baby. Aster Royal Hospital also has homelike, comfortable and spacious postpartum rooms which are modern with fast internet connectivity and can be used by working women. The Aster DM Healthcare Medical Director of Oman, Dr Ashik Sainu said, "This is a huge milestone for Aster Royal Hospital and we are happy to provide the perfect combination of health-

care professionals, facilities and medical equipment. We wish all the best for this wonderful family and we hope to continue following the growth and good health of the Aster Royal baby". At Aster Royal Hospital, we assure you that you and your baby are in expert hands. Our experienced OB/GYN doctor team consists of Dr Bindu Kumari, Dr Anjali Rani, Dr Leena Denny and Dr Kirthan Krishna. The team is aptly supported by our expert paediatric team consisting of Dr Kuldeep Suri, Consultant, Dr Imlaran Veerappan - Neonatologist, Dr. Majd Sliman - Neonatologist, Dr Fat'hiya Al Harthy - Paediatric Gastroenterologist, Dr Ismail Al Abri - Paediatric Cardiologist, Dr Hussain Murthada Al Lawati Paediatric Pulmonologist, Dr Mohammed Ashraf Consultant Gynaecology and Infertility, Dr Adil Ali Al Sulaimi, Consultant Paediatric Anaesthesiologist among other doctors, midwife and experienced nurses.

AUTO MANUFACTURER

Great Wall Motor launches its first Regional Parts Distribution Centre for Middle East



DUBAI: The Chinese auto manufacturer Great Wall Motor (GWM) officially announced the launch of its first Regional Parts Distribution Centre for the Middle East region, located in the UAE. With this launch, GMW aims to enhance its after-sale services and further fulfil the needs of its customers in 22 markets across the Middle East and North Africa. As part of GWM's broader service excellence plan, the launch seeks to shorten the logistics cycle

while enriching the parts range. The plan, which started six months ago, has raised the satisfaction rate among end-users and dealers and expects to achieve much more. During the launching ceremony, GWM had fruitful discussions with the representatives of its dealers from the Middle East region. The discussions included a wide range of topics, on top of which is how to improve after-sales service and develop a top-notch system for parts management.

The regional parts distribution centre aims to optimise the parts supply, response speed and parts operation process, as well as accelerate the improvement of the network layout in the service system. This launch milestone is a proof of Great Wall Motor's commitment and interest to expand its business further in the Middle East market, which is also reflected in the launch of its first Middle East OEM office in Dubai, UAE which started in March 2022.

"The Middle East Parts Distribution centre is a first milestone towards achieving our strategic expansion objectives of Great Wall Motor's services in this region. Developing our after-sales service system can give Middle East customers an enhanced experience, which is exactly the people-oriented service spirit that Great Wall Motor has always had. We expect that this strategic co-operation with our partners will push GMW forward," said Tony Sun, MD of Great Wall Motor Middle East.





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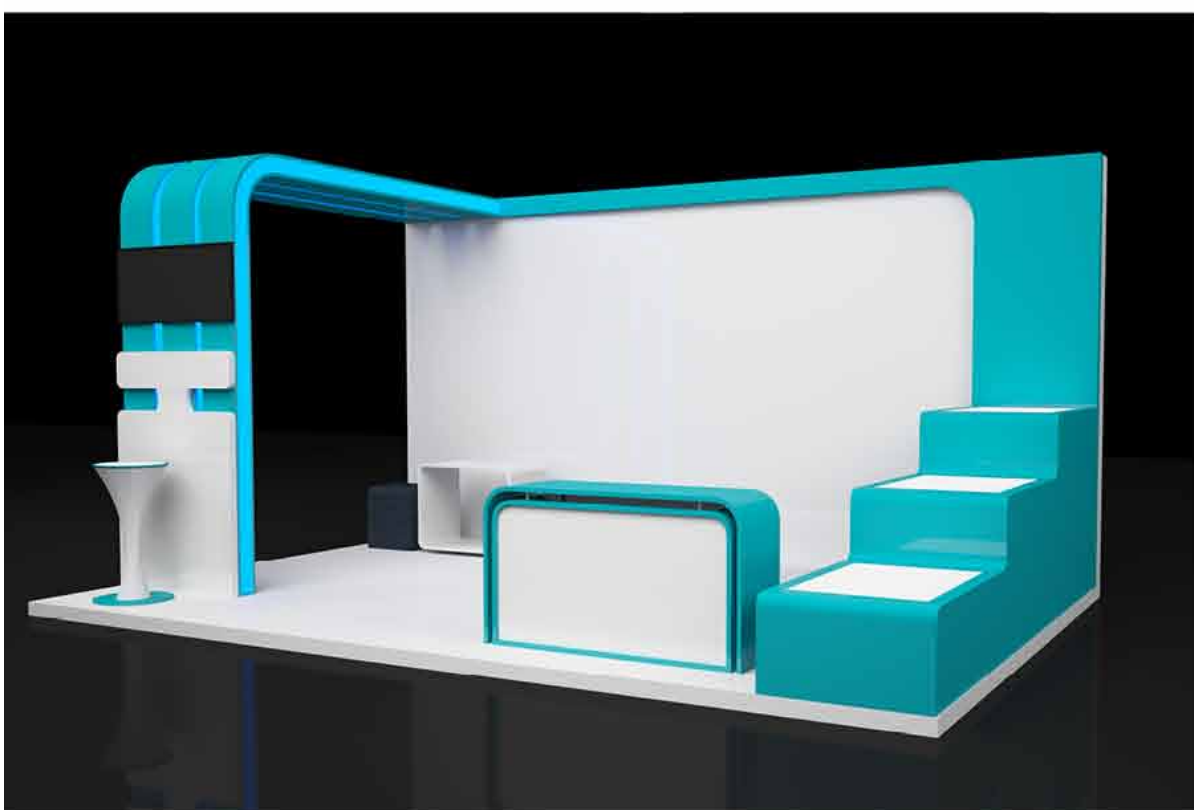
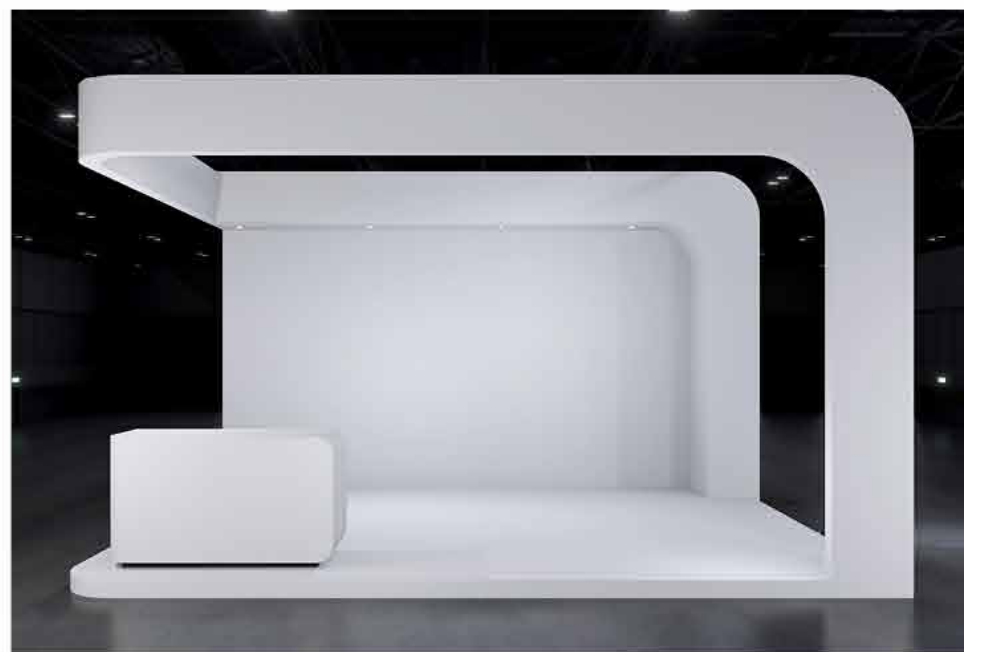
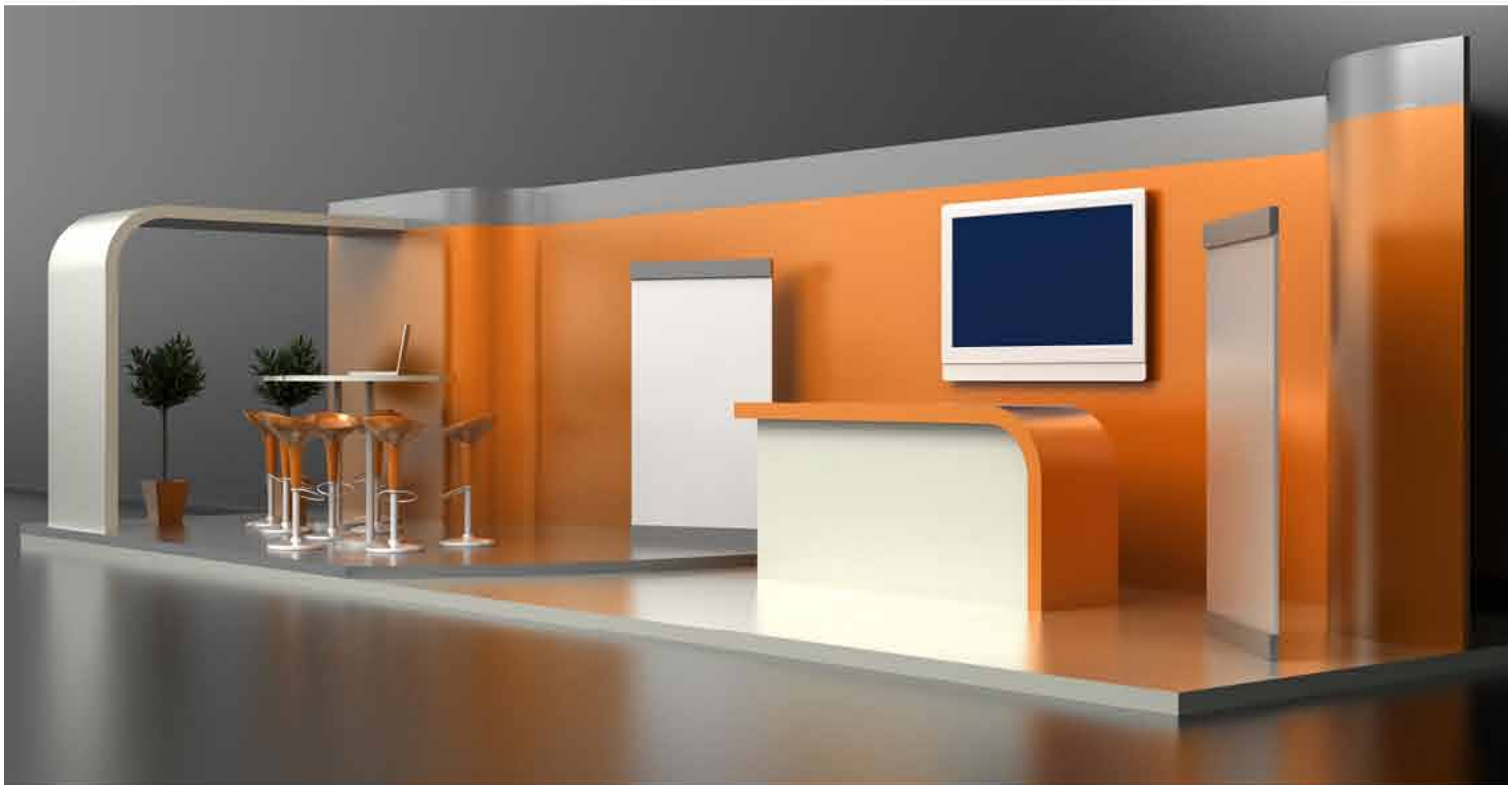
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express their heartfelt congratulations to
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