



Darb Al-Saai Newsletter



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تمير بن حمد

A daily newsletter by the organising committee for the National Day

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The Minister of Culture inaugurates Darb Al-Saai

His Excellency Sheikh Abdulrahman bin Hamad Al Thani, Minister of Culture and Chairman of the Organizing Committee for Qatar National Day Celebrations, inaugurated yesterday the events of Darb Al-Saai at its permanent headquarters in Umm Salal. Dr. Ali bin Samikh Al Marri, Minister of Labor, and a number of high level personnel attended the opening ceremony.

The inauguration began with the hoisting of the Qatari flag, and then His Excellency and the guests took a tour of the Darb Al-Saai events, during which they were briefed on the most notable participations and events that would take place over the next 24 days.

His Excellency Sheikh Abdulrahman bin Hamad Al Thani, Minister of Culture and Chairman of the Organizing Committee for Qatar National Day Celebrations 2022, said that the National Day is a special occasion for all of

us because of the lofty ideals it represents, which reflect the notions of patriotism, belonging, and allegiance to this benevolent country. Darb Al-Saai, according to His Excellency, is a cultural place that brings together different activities originating from the historic Qatari environment and culture and is inspired by real Arab principles.

His Excellency referred to the diversity of cultural and heritage events in Darb Al-Saai, which represents the depth of our history and heritage. He confirms the interest of the Ministry of Culture and the Organizing Committee for the National Day of the State in presenting distinguished and rich events, noting that he is proud of the preparation work put into the events and the permanent and new headquarters of Darb Al-Saai, which is considered a sustainable legacy for the people of Qatar and future generations as well as a distinctive meeting place for culture, art, and heritage.



The Minister of Labour.... National Day events highlights the cultural aspect of the Qatari people

His Excellency Dr. Ali bin Samikh Al Marri, Minister of Labor, lauded the Organizing Committee's efforts as well as the events planned for this year, which reflect Qatari identity and emphasize the cultural and heritage aspects of the Qatari people. In press statements, he stated, «the atmosphere of Darb Al-Saai epitomizes the slogan of the National Day, «Our Unity is Our Strength.» He went on to say that the start of the Darb Al-Saai events coincided with the country's hosting of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022, which gives the entire world a chance to learn about our culture and history.

Dr. Ghanim Al-Ali....we expect a turnout from World Cup fans

Dr. Ghanem Al-Ali, General Supervisor of the Organizing Committee for the National Day Celebrations, expected a large public presence, especially from World Cup fans. He said that the matches will be transmitted on large displays in Darb Al-Saai. The traditional performances will portray the legacy of fathers and grandfathers with the aim of introducing visitors to Darb Al-Saai with a side of our land and sea heritage. He pointed to the commencement of operational buses conveying the public from Al-Rayyan station to the Darb Al-Saai headquarters. The committee allotted six buses to transport World Cup supporters for free during the event days of Darb Al-Saai.



The inauguration of Darb Al-Saai was distinguished by simplicity and depth

The activities kicked off with the country's national anthem, «An oath to One who raised the sky, an oath to the Spreader of light, Qatar shall remain free. It will rise in the loyal spirit», which was heard for the first time throughout the new headquarters of Darb Al-Saai. The Qatari flag fluttered on a 50-meter-long pole on a roundabout in the center of the headquarters.

After the national anthem, the traditional performance began, with the sounds of the Al-Tar (a traditional music instrument) accompanying the voices of the Al-Maha band led by Naif Malallah, with verses that start with, «We raise and protect the flag of honor.....and we always do the same». When the performance ended, a wooden ship on wheels with sailors (Yazwa) moved in front of the crowd. There was the Niham in bathing suits from the popular Al-Jubailat band. The Niham, Omar Bousaqer, sang in his melodious voice, «Al-Yamal,» while the Yaziwa chanted sounds that brought to mind something of the fragrant past in which the ancestors suffered on their pearl fishing trip. The opening ceremony emphasized the cultural unity of the people of Qatar, which is characterized by simplicity, depth, and a return to the past to be inspired by meanings and move forward towards the future.



A new and permanent headquarters for Darb Al-Saai

The permanent headquarters of Darb Al-Saai is located in Umm Salal Mohammed. It was built on an area of 150,000 square meters. The new site is characterized by a high level of equipment, services, and public amenities that provide comfort and safety elements for visitors and participating entities, enhancing their experience during the events. This is evident through the distribution of the participating entities' pavilions in Darb Al-Saai and their offices, as well as the design, which combines authentic Qatari architectural heritage with a modern and creative flair.



Darb Al-Saai a privileged location

The new Darb Al-Saai headquarters is easily accessible from three major highways, as well as the Doha Metro through the green line "Old Al Rayyan Station", which improves the traffic flow. Moreover, there is a parking area that accommodates approximately 3,500 automobiles and is connected to seven main gates and five service gates. A variety of events are also streamed to the Darb Al-Saai audience through display screens.

There are also separate prayer areas for males and females. There are also some service facilities. The Organizing Committee for the National Day Celebrations aspires to enrich the experience of visitors and guests of the State of Qatar in Darb Al-Saai by providing a rich package of events and activities that emphasize Qatari culture and authentic heritage.



Giant screens to follow the World Cup matches

Hundreds of fans gathered in front of the theater screen and other screens to watch the national team's match against Senegal in its second match during its first participation in the World Cup. The audience was pleased with the national team's performance in the match, hoping that the Qatari team could make up for its loss in the opening match against Ecuador, especially since Qatar is the championship's host country, but the result was disappointing, with the national team losing to Senegal by three goals to one.





A distinguished presence of the Al-Rayyan channel in Darb Al-Saai

Al-Rayyan TV Studio broadcasts live coverage of the atmosphere of the «Darb Al-Saai» events from the heart of Darb Al-Saai and in a location overlooking the flagpole, under the slogan «Our Unity is Our Strength» from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. daily on Al-Rayyan TV screens. There are two live broadcast vehicles to provide technical support. In the «Darb Al-Saai Studio,» Al-Rayyan TV Studio offers a variety of programs, including hosting event authorities, running competitions, and interacting with guests at the event. Sabah Al-Watan «Morning to My Country» program is also broadcast daily from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. It discusses with the guests Qatar's continuous successes on the way to realizing Qatar Vision 2030.



Media Center... distinguished presence

Through the distinguished cadres of dozens of journalists, photographers, and a team specialized in social media, the National Day Media Center in its new headquarters in Darb Al-Saai keeps pace with the many and varied events announced for this year. The Center is equipped with the latest technologies that will facilitate journalists and technicians in their daily and continuous work for 24 days. The Media Center also offers young Qatari media professionals the opportunity to gain field experience through work and training that refines their skills and qualifies them to enter the labor market, especially because the Center attracts Qatar University graduates. This year, the Center will coordinate with the upcoming Arab and international media to cover the Qatar World Cup 2022, where a large number of journalists and photographers from Arab and foreign countries gathered to cover the event, which coincides with the World Cup. The Center is also eager to promote Qatar's heritage through different types of event coverage, highlighting such events in a way that consolidates Qatar's image and its eagerness to preserve and build on the heritage of fathers and grandparents for the sake of a renaissance witnessed by Qatar in various sectors.



«Media and Social Media» Symposium

The symposium, moderated by journalist Ahmed Al-Saadi, hosted three of the most prominent Qatari personalities interested in culture and media, namely Maryam Yassin Al-Hammadi (author), Dr. Abdullah Faraj (author and journalist), and journalist Hassan Al-Muhammadi. The meeting emphasized the importance of media and new media in a world of conflicting ideas and values. The participants touched on the complementary relationship between media and culture. Media is meaningless without culture, and culture without media cannot reach its intended audience. The symposium emphasized that the Qatari people's knowledge and awareness were visible from the start of the World Cup. The cultural anxieties were overcome and resolved. Qataris were able to deal with the criticism campaigns by raising awareness and successfully managing a media effort to clarify the facts. On the influence of the media on the Arabic language, the participants stressed that the Arabic language, which His Highness the Amir has enacted a law to protect, will be preserved while acknowledging the challenges it confronts.



Classical Poetry Night Session

In the presence of HE. Sheikh Abdulrahman bin Hamad Al-Thani, Minister of Culture, a classical poetry night session was organized by Qatar Poetry Center "Diwan AlArab" at Darb Al Saai's main theatre. The poetry session was conducted by the famous poets: Abdulrahman Aldulaimi, Muhammad Yassin and Radi Al Hajiri, and moderated by Attah Mohamed.

Darb Al-Saai... an intense family presence

The first day of the opening of Darb Al-Saai witnessed an inflow of families, both Qataris and residents, to enjoy the heritage events, especially with the improvement of the weather. It includes history, cultural, and artistic activities, as well as spaces for games, horseback riding, camel riding, a mobile shooting arena, and other activities for youth and children.





Pictures from Darb Al-Saai



