



41st NATIONAL DAY OF United Arab Emirates



Late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan
Founder Father of the UAE

His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan
President of the United Arab Emirates

H.H. Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum
UAE Vice President, Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai

History of the United Arab Emirates

The United Arab Emirates was formed from the group of tribally organised Arabian Peninsula sheikhdoms along the southern coast of the Persian Gulf and the northwestern coast of the Gulf of Oman.

Advent of Islam
The arrival of envoys from the Prophet Muhammad in 630 heralded the conversion of the region to Islam. After Muhammad's death one of the major battles of the Ridda Wars was fought at Dibba, resulting in the defeat of the non-Muslims and the triumph of Islam in the Arabian Peninsula. In 637, Julfar (today Ra's al-Khaimah) was as a staging post for the conquest of Iran. Over many centuries, Julfar became a wealthy port and pearling center from which dhows traveled throughout the Indian Ocean.

Portuguese control
Portuguese expansion into the Indian Ocean in the early 16th century following Vasco da Gama's route of exploration saw them battle the Ottomans up the coast of the Persian Gulf. The Portuguese controlled the area for 150 years in which they

conquered the inhabitants of the Arabian peninsula. Vasco da Gama was helped by Ahmad Ibn Majid, a navigator and cartog-

rapher from Julfar, to find the route of spices from Asia.

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Burj Khalifa, the tallest tower in the world, at night in Dubai

MESSAGE

Assalamu Alaikum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuhu

It is a great pleasure that we are observing today the 2nd December, 2012 the 41st anniversary of the establishment of the United Arab Emirates. By the grace of Almighty Allah and sagacious leadership of His Highness Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE and His Highness Sheikh Muhammad Bin Rashed Al Maktoum, Vice President, Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai, along with their Highness the Rulers of the Emirates and in particular by the charismatic leadership of His Highness Late Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan, the United Arab Emirates has emerged as one of the most prosperous countries in the comity of nations with higher standard of living of its people and become an imitable model for economic and social development. It is worth mentioning that Sheikh Zayed, who used money for the benefit of the people, laid the foundation of an advanced nation in a record time with His tireless efforts and care of a father, infusing modern ideas into traditional values.

This great nation which was created on 2nd December 1971 by a few with much pride and energy for the prosperity of many, recognized and respected all aspects of the nation's life and heritage. It is now a nation that is made up of faces from different places, bringing with them important skills, culture and personalities from every corner of the globe. Living side by side together, under one

spirit, working to help the nation continue to prosper and grow. The success of the nation today and tomorrow has been and will continue to be through the collective strength of the many.

As we celebrate the 41st UAE National Day, we should reflect that there is a spirit that ties us all together. A spirit that enables millions of people to coexist and build lives together. It is a spirit that can be shared across a cosmopolitan community, and a spirit that everyone can play a role in sustaining. Each person defines, shapes, and shares this spirit in his/her own way. This spirit is well enunciated in the great sayings of late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan as His Highness said: "A nation without a past is a nation without a present or future. A nation's people are a product of their history and culture, and a function of the land on which they live. The UAE has a long history, a history that extends well beyond the last 40 years. Our history is made up of millions of stories that inspire each generation that passes. These stories and the spirit contained within them, need to be captured and shared."

The government and people of the United Arab Emirates are strongly bound by brotherly relations with Bangladesh since the dawn of its independence. The visits recently paid by leaders of both the countries opened the door of friendship and fraternity more widely for the people of the two countries. The

bonds of fraternity between the two countries were strengthened by the remarkable visit of His Highness Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan to Bangladesh in 1984, which resulted in the formation of a joint committee for bilateral cooperation in economic, social and cultural fields. The private sector in the two countries has also played an effective role in cementing bilateral relations between UAE and Bangladesh through investment in various development sectors. We also appreciate the role and contribution of Bangladeshi nationals working in the UAE in development sector and wish them a happy stay with their brothers in the UAE.

We pray to Almighty Allah for continued progress and prosperity of Bangladesh and its people, and do hope that the existing bilateral relations between the two brotherly countries will strengthen further in the days to come.

Wa Assalamu Alaikum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuhu



Khalfan Battal Ali Al Mansoori
Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates to Bangladesh

CELEBRATING THE BOND OF BROTHERHOOD



H.H. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum
UAE Vice President,
Prime Minister & Ruler of Dubai



His Highness
Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan
President of UAE



H.H. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Zayed Al Nahyan
Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi



روح الاتحاد
41 SPIRIT OF THE UNION
اليوم الوطني
الإمارات العربية المتحدة
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Bank Alfalah extends its heartiest felicitations to the leadership and the people of UAE on their 41st National Day.