

44th NATIONAL DAY OF THE United Arab Emirates



Late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan
Founder Father of the United Arab Emirates

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

Sustained growth and prosperity

THE United Arab Emirates commemorates its 44th National Day on December 2, one of the most important milestones in its history. This day embodies the Spirit of the Union and celebrates 44 years of great achievements since the federation was established in 1971.

The celebration was first announced by the founder President of the UAE, the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, may God rest his soul in peace, and his fellow founding fathers of the UAE Federation. The path they laid down is now followed by His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE, who continues to lead the nation's march to progress and prosperity.

The incredible achievements of the UAE in recent years have been made possible due to the directives of the wise leadership, of President His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, and His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, as well as His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, and their fellow members of the Supreme Council and

Rulers of the Emirates. The country enjoys a prestigious position in the Arab world and beyond due to its significant achievements in various fields and its strong presence in all political, diplomatic, economic and humanitarian arenas on regional and international levels. The UAE has always been

growth based on the solid foundations laid down by the founding fathers and followed meticulously by the rulers and the people of the country. Exceptional strides have been made in infrastructure, energy, space, information technology, telecommunications and other vital areas in addition to sustainability, these hav-

globally in the same report, and is among top five countries in the world regarding non-payment of taxes, which does not affect business, process of construction permits and electricity connectivity. The nation is also first in MENA and fourth globally in electricity connectivity.

The UAE led the region, and was ranked among the top 10 countries in the world for the number of documented improvements by the World Bank during one year, in the delivery of electricity, construction permits, protecting investors and enforcing contracts.

The report, issued in 2015 by the World Bank, recorded the UAE's progress with regard to enforcing contracts, ranking first in the Arab world and 18th globally in 2016. The report also evaluates the efficiency of the country's judiciary with regards to resolving a commercial dispute between two or more parties fairly and impartially. The Ease of Doing Business report factors in the most important global indicators that reflect the extent of interest of the Government of the UAE towards local and international investors.

The UAE also enhanced protection of small investors by preventing any subsidiary from obtaining shares in the parent company. It also initiated a rule that, in the case of acquisition of 50% or more of the company, the acquired party should receive approval from shareholders, a step considered by the report to be an enabling one that safeguards the interests of investors.

The UAE was ranked the top Arab country for well-being and life satisfaction and fifth globally, according to the Legatum Prosperity Index 2014. The report reveals that the UAE is among the top countries for safety and security with 92 per cent of survey respondents indicating that they feel absolutely safe in the country. Additionally, the UAE has maintained its presence on the 'green list', a classification of some 30 of the more prosperous countries across the world. Notably, the UAE has been included on the list since the creation of the report.

The UAE will continue to diversify its long-term economic strategy to rely less on an oil-centric economy. In 2014, non-oil sectors saw strong growth that contributed to an 8.1% increase in the GDP. The non-oil sector contributes up to 68.6% of the overall national economy. Today, all necessary plans are in place to ensure this figure reaches 80% in 2021, through intensive investment in the industrial and tourism sectors, air and maritime transport, import and re-export. Furthermore, the new national agenda of the UAE Vision 2021 reiterates support for activities based on the knowledge industry and for the development of new sectors such as innovation and content creation. These steps will ensure complete economic diversity by 2021 and will further augment the financial stability of the UAE.



Burj Al Arab Hotel in Dubai

dynamic and proactive in communicating with other countries and building bridges of close cooperation and strategic partnerships to lead the way in political, economic, commercial, industrial, technological, scientific, educational, health and other sectors.

Despite the current situation in the region, the UAE has maintained steady

ing significantly contributed to modernising the UAE and enabling the country to achieve top international rankings across major competitive reports.

The UAE has maintained its ranking as the leading Arab country for the third year in a row in the World Bank report on the Ease of Doing Business in 2016. The UAE ranked 31st

MESSAGE

Assalamu Alaikum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuhu

It is a great pleasure that we are celebrating the 2nd December, 2015 the 44th 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 His Highness Sheikh Mohammad Bin Zayed, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi & Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces 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 country in the comity of nations with higher standard 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 in 2nd December 1971 with much pride and energy for the prosperity of many, recognizing and respecting 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 uphold the nation continues 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 leadership of the UAE.

As we celebrate the 44th 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. 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 42 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 paid recently by leaders of the both countries, Specially the bilateral visit of the Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to UAE during 25-27 October-2014, 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 further the 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 very 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



Dr. Saeed Bin Hajar Al Shehi
Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates to Bangladesh

WE SALUTE THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES



Bank Alfalah congratulates the UAE on the celebration of its 44th National Day.

The glorious achievements of the last four decades have heralded a new dynamic era. We wish success and prosperity to the UAE and its citizens on this auspicious occasion.

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Warmest Greetings & Felicitations
on 44th Anniversary
of the National Day
of the United Arab Emirates
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