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Fostering Al Ain University's Graduation Ceremony Nahyan bin Mubarak: 'We are following the path of Mohammed bin Zayed that man is the wealth of a great nation.'

His Excellency Sheikh Nahyan Mubarak Al Nahyan, Minister of Culture, Youth and Community Development, attended the graduation ceremony for students of Al Ain University, which was organized by the university in the Emirates Palace Hotel in Abu Dhabi. The ceremony was in the presence of a count of VIP personnel, representatives from public and private institutions, AAU members of the Board of Trustees and parents of the alumnae.

In this annual ceremony, His Excellency Sheikh Nahyan Mubarak asserted, "It is a renewed occasion, in which we express our gratitude and appreciation of the universities and colleges in the UAE, in supporting and endorsing the state's leaders to eagerly advance the sons and daughters of UAE. Therefore, I take this opportunity to extend our great thanks and gratitude and respect, on behalf of us all, to our father, Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, may Allah glorify him and keep him in good health and wellness, whom we are proud of his leadership,

strong support of education and the triumphant of the state as His Highness has cautiously invested in universities, colleges and schools as they carry out their mission, which is to serve the student, community, and nation: all for one and one for all.”

“And I also pass many thanks and deep gratitude to His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, who believes that *man is the wealth of a great nation*, and who must be nurtured and developed by all possible means. His Highness also directs that good education is the solid bedrock that leads to the perpetual success of UAE. It is also the prevailing model in reformation and construction and in the stability and prosperity of the present and future. I, hereby, express on behalf of all, deep thanks to His Highness, Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, for his great and rigid support to all educational institutions in the state, and at all levels.”

His Excellency stated, “Today’s celebration is a definite expression which shows that Al Ain University’s good reputation and achievements are clear, and in its short history, these achievements embodied six colleges and provided quality educational programmes that are reflected in the clear focus on meeting the needs of the student, and the needs of society, as well as the smart response to accreditation requirements, along with what we see in them the high efficiency of faculty members and perhaps more importantly, the growing number of distinguished graduates, year after year, who have the quality and efficiency in doing their part in serving the overall development process, locally and countrywide.”

He added, “I grant you my blessings on your graduation day, and I pray that you always be the one whom everyone will confide in, and, with God’s help, that you constantly take the responsibility, commitment and hard work to reach your dreams. We are here today to express our full conviction, that you, with God’s help, will be the "positive momentum" in this world, and may God be with you as you perform your responsibilities and celebrate your accomplishments, for you will always be the best representatives of your university in your society and in the world. I wish you every success, and I pray to God Almighty that you always be responsible as effective actors in the community life and the fabric of the nation to keep functioning efficiently and to deal intelligently with the demands of today’s needs.”

On his part, Dr. Noor Aldeen Atatreh, AAU Chancellor, said, “On this special day, the celebration of Al Ain University of its eighth batch’s graduation is the culmination of the support in education to raise its level through leadership as represented by His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, the patron of education, and His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, UAE Vice President, Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai, and His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed, Abu Dhabi Crown Prince and Deputy Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces and Chairman of the Abu Dhabi Education Council.”

Dr. Atatreh has taken into consideration that this achievement has only come to face from 3 sides, the student’s hard work who studied for long hours and tried to make every effort to complete the achievement to reach this stage, the understanding parents who worked hard to provide an appropriate environment for the student and gave their unconditional and loving support to help them reach the desired goal, and the third party is the university that has put full

efforts to serve the students and to provide the best academic environment in order to achieve the highest efficiency and quality in higher education and scientific research.

Furthermore, Dr. Ghaleb El-Refae, AAU President, said, “The university is not only leading in education, but also in interaction and cooperation with different sectors of the society, where academic expertise address the difficulties faced by those sectors,” adding that, “The next phase of the university will increase its focus on scientific research and pay more attention to stimulate and promote research quantity and quality, simultaneously, it will give more attention to scientific excellence in order to preserve the reputation of the academic faculty, attract outstanding students, and provide the latest equipment for laboratories and university buildings.”

Dr. El-Refae congratulated the students as he said, “On behalf of the university, I am finally happy to express our warmest congratulations to the graduates and their parents. We also encourage them to pursue their goals in the furthering of knowledge and the development of mind and self, and to obtain higher degrees. I wish them successful career lives and that they always should bear in mind that Al Ain University is their second home and a beacon of science and evolution.”

The ceremony included the graduation of 1800 students from five different colleges: College of Engineering and IT, College of Pharmacy, College of Law, College of Education, College of Business Administration, in addition to Diploma in Vocational Teaching and Master’s in Business Administration.

At the end of the ceremony, Al Ain University, represented by its academic and administrative members, presented its sincere thanks and appreciation to Sheikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan, for his kind words and for his generous involvement with the graduates, as well as passing gratitude to the VIPs and the senior attendees. Finally, the graduates and their parents expressed their utmost happiness on this occasion as they were celebrating in an atmosphere of intimacy and joy.

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