



## HARVARD UNIVERSITY HOSTS DR. JUMA AL GHAILANI

MUSCAT: Dr. Juma Saleh Al Ghailani, Founder and Managing Director of Mazoon University College and Bayan College had recently visited the two premier American institutions which have earned their names due to their excellence in education – Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (popularly known as M.I.T.).

The nature of this official visit was to closely study the academic machinery of the top two universities in the world. He was immensely pleased with the warm welcome he had received at Harvard, and was thoroughly impressed with the interactive atmosphere present at both establishments. The staff and students alike had engaged

in casual yet intellectual discussions, which allowed Dr. Juma to be more than a keen observer of the proceedings there.

Dr. Juma offered his two cents about the visitation to Harvard and M.I.T: "Mazoon University College and Bayan College, while paving its way towards academic excellence has internalized and yet modified the American education system to suit the dedicated students of Oman. The reason the two institutions have looked towards the likes of the Missouri University of Science and Technology, and Purdue University for their affiliations was due to the standards set by the top universities in their pursuit towards brilliance." He expressed his observations regarding the stark cultural difference in

the operations of the Universities in the West, particularly the acclimated quality education to the Sultanate", stated



those in America and the ones in Oman. "We need to plan to bridge these differences and bring internation-

ally acclaimed quality education to the Sultanate", stated

Dr. Juma.

The Harvard Admission Centre, part of the 375 year old Harvard University, and

M.I.T. engaged Dr. Juma towards envisioning both Mazoon and Bayan College at a similar height of pride in their educational services.

Mazoon University College is already well known in the region, with Bayan College following in its footsteps. The essence of the visit to Harvard and M.I.T. was to encourage both Mazoon and Bayan to be the best in the Sultanate and beyond.

Mazoon College is one of the leading colleges in the Sultanate which is affiliated to the Missouri University for Science and Technology (USA). It is renowned as one of the oldest universities in America. Bayan College is the first private institution in the Sultanate to offer degrees in Media Studies in English, for it perceives the language to be

the lingua franca of the job-market.

Bayan College which will shift to its brand new state-of-the-art Halbaan campus soon, works under the supervision of the Ministry of Higher Education and is affiliated to the prestigious Purdue University, Calumet, located in the state of Indiana, the U.S.A.

### Visit to Oxford

Dr. Juma is about to visit Oxford university by the end of this month with the official invitation he has received from the university.

"The management is considering this as the appreciation for the commitment and the success of Dr. Juma in promoting education and his contribution to education sector.

## GERMAN STUDENT'S ENROL AT BAYAN COLLEGE MUSCAT

MUSCAT: In line with the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between the department of Media Studies, Bayan College Muscat and the Department of Political and Social Sciences, (Institute for Communication Studies) Freie University Berlin, two students Salome Bader and Anne Catrin Stiller have joined Bayan College for the Fall Semester 2015.

The two students, said that they were very happy and excited to join the Bayan College. They expressed their interest in knowing about the practice of Public Relation with in the Middle East and Journalism in Oman. Salome enrolled for

Journalism for major, while Anne Public Relation.

"We love it here and really like the city. We love the culture and proud to be here", said the students. Being a media college we are happy to get into the system, they added.

The exchange program was administered through the

institutional coordinators for Foreign Academic Programs at the Bayan College Muscat and the Institute for Communication Studies at the Freie University Berlin.

According to the MoU each department/institute will send graduate or undergraduate students equivalent to a

value of up to two semesters each year. This number may vary according to demand.

The exchange is based on reciprocity that is an equal number of students from each department institute participate during the term stipulated by the agreement.



**PROUD MOMENT:** German students Salome Bader and Anne Catrin Stiller (center) with Deputy HoD for Media Doreen Omony (Left).

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## LIFE'S NOTHING WITHOUT EXPERIENCES!



# BAYAN COLLEGE PARTICIPATES IN MEDIA AND DIGITAL LITERACY ACADEMY

**B**EIRUT: Bayan College was among the universities in the Arab region that participated in this year's annual Media and Digital Literacy Academy at the American University of Beirut (AUB) in Lebanon.

The academy that ran from August 10th To August

23rd is an initiative of the Media Studies program at the American University of Beirut.

Bayan College was represented by Mr. Mundua Samuel, a Lecturer in the department of Media studies and Amaar Al Farsi a student of Media Studies.

According to the Director Media and Digital Literacy

Academy (MDLAB) Dr. Jad-Melki, MDLAB aims to develop, advance, and promote digital and media literacy education in the Arab region through the training of young Arab university instructors, school teachers, and graduate students. Dr. JadMelki further says that the academy is motivated by the fact that media literacy education barely

exists in the Arab world, although the region stands much to gain from what media literacy has to offer, adding that through the academy, participants will have a long lasting impact on the Arab media education and on the region.

Mr. Samuel Mundua who represented Bayan College in the academy says that he acquired more knowledge in teaching media studies through employing Digital and Media Literacy skills. This, he says will go a long way in creating awareness of media literacy among students to for instance understand the processes of accessing, analyzing and evaluating news in terms of ideology, representation and culture.

Every year, the American University of Beirut (AUB) Lebanon hosts the Media and Digital Literacy Academy (MDLAB) that attracts a number of universities from the Arab world.



Amaar Al Farsi receives participation certificate.

MDLAB aims to advance digital and media literacy education in the Arab region by training a generation of teachers and scholars and developing locally rooted curricula. The 2013 was the start of this initiative.

MDLAB offers graduate students and academics a unique opportunity to study media and digital literacy with leading Arab and international experts during two summer weeks. The academy works year-round to further

develop curricula and publish them online in an open source environment. Additionally, MDLAB acts as an incubator of innovative ideas and a hub for a network of regional universities and media educators

Bayan College is the first college in Oman to offer degrees in media studies with programs that include; diplomas and Bachelors degrees in Journalism, Broadcasting, Public Relations and English Literature.



Participants attentively following one of the media lectures during the 2015 Media and Digital Literacy Academy at the American University of Beirut (AUB) in Lebanon.

## LOOKING FORWARD TO THE NEW BAYAN CAMPUS

Anne Catrin & Salome Bader

**HALBAN:** On Monday, 5th October, we were guided to see the new building of Bayan College which they are building at the moment. There we got a tour through the new building to see what Bayan College will look like when it is finally finished.

The new College will be three parts, the middle one with an entrance hall and an open sky ceiling, as well as a lot of offices. On each side wing there will be classrooms, computer labs, etc. There will also be a cafeteria, an activity room, a really big TV studio and a library. They told us about two other buildings which they plan to build, one building for university and one building as accommodation for students. Of course this needs some time but we can imagine that the area around the college will be a nice place to be for young people.



German students Anne Catrin and Salome Bader during their visit to Bayan College new campus at Halban.

It was very interesting to see what the College will look like and we think it will be great to study there, especially with the technical equipment which will be provided. We are curious about what it will be like when it is finished since we only saw the rooms but not how they will look like in the end although they explained to us but it is always something different to actually see it once it is finished. We hope we can see the finished building before we have to leave Bayan College, if not we have to come back and visit it another time.

## BAYAN STUDENTS ATTEND WORKSHOP ON 'INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM'

**CAIRO:** Representing Bayan College Al Gahliya Al Harasi, Mariyam and Bader took part in four days' workshop on "The New Entries for Teaching the Investigative Journalism Course in Arabic Universities". It was conducted by Modern University of Technology and Information in Media College in Egypt in collaboration with Areej Institution from 4 to 8 September, 2015.

The workshop focused on several aspects of Investigative Journalism and mainly focused on the methods of teaching Investigative Journalism which is been already followed by Arabic universities. Areej Institution curriculum is already having it and each Arabic University have made a policy to strictly follow them in their curriculum.

The first day workshop was started with a welcome speech by Dr. Sami As' Shareef, Dean of Media College in the University, Dr. Enas, the course coordinator, Dr. Mark Hanter, the author of "Investigative Journalism" book and Ms Rana Sabbagh, Chief Executive Officer from Areej Institution.

Dr. Mark Hanter spoke on the beginning of Investigative Journalism in the West and its importance which can result in the reformation of society with the help of elite investigative journalists. He also explained in detail, how to form the investigative inquiry in an accurate way filled with all details and the right clues from different sources. Moreover, he talked about the danger situation that may be faced by the students when seeking for truth in his/her society.



Al Gahliya Al Harasi, Mariyam and Bader representing Bayan College with their participation certificates at valedictory function in Cairo.

The sessions were interactive, participants and the speakers exchanged their ideas between each other. The points like, difficulties faced by students while undergoing investigation with the security restrictions and regulations in some countries were also discussed.

Following to it Dr. Mark mentioned the importance of Investigative Journalism for the student as it helps them to form theories in search and investigation on a topic using the right method as it is been followed in Areej's Arabic curriculum.

He pointed out that there are number of primary topics that can cultivate interest among students which can help society in fixing the corruption and to apply the system in the society. He also talked about the filtration of the information which were gathered from different sources and teaching the student on the importance of choosing the right template while writing the inquiry.

Then there was a social contact with Mr. Homood Al Mahmood, an investigative journalist from Jordan, who spoke on how to establish an accurate data based on different sources quoting examples from his own experience.

Mr. Ehab Zelaqi, Managing Editor from the Egyptian newspaper "Egypt Today," talked about collecting information using the internet mentioning some examples to do so.

At the end of the course, Dr. Jasmin Dabos spoke about preparing curriculum for participants and the fundamental requirements for teaching according to Areej's program which is been followed in some Arabic Universities. She also mentioned on the difficulties that a student can face in the phase of performing investigation.

Moreover, she insisted on the importance of continuous follow up of student's progress in the investigation and the explanation of mark distribution structure.

Dr. Muna Majdi, an academic in Cairo University, formed groups to set a suggested curriculum for teaching Investigative Journalism and the method of teaching which is been already in use with Areej program of Investigative Journalism. The opinions from participant varied and some additional insights were told so that student can benefit while doing the journalism investigation.

Investigation Journalist Mr. Mohammed Howari and Ms. Samah Abd Al-Atifi were accommodated to talk about their own experiences in their field. At the last day of the course, there was a brief ending ceremony where all participants were thanked for their efforts and gifted with appreciation certificates.



# BAYAN COLLEGE HONORS EMPLOYEE

## Ms. Alzadjali bags first Appreciative Star on Reward Board for Creativity

**M**USCAT: Ms. Thuraya Al Zadjalihas bagged the first appreciative star for her brilliant endeavor of working towards the excellent reputation of this institution. In order to recognise the valued creative and initiative input from the employees of Bayan College, the Deanship launched a Reward Board for Creativity and Initiative. In which Ms. Alzadjali is the first recipient of a star recognising.

MsAlzadjalihas made Bayan College stand out in terms of its hospitality to the Freie University Berlin.

"In spite of being stressed with work, she always stood for the betterment of the college and was very kind to all people. She is a hard worker putting her full strength in building up a professional environment and putting a trade mark which can motivate other family members of Bayan College", said Deputy Dean Ms. Modi Juma Al Ghailani.

According to the management, the work ethics with regard to Bayan College has always been punctuality and regularity, but the Management feels that these values should not



Ms.ThurayaAlzadjali stands proudly after receiving the first star at Reward Board for Creativity and Initiative from Deputy Dean of the College Ms.ModiJuma Al Ghaila.

be the only areas of employee recognition. Staff members should do a lot more than their share of the regular tasks; they should provide inputs which will propel the name and fame of the college to greater heights.

Hence the Reward Board for Creativity and Initiative contains the names of the entire staff, in order to evaluate them according to their dedication to implementing new ideas towards the daily running of the institution. The board is located at the entrance of the Deanship's Office; this specific area was chosen due to the pride taken by Management in showing off their most creative and initiative employees.

"A star will be awarded to the staff member who gets their idea implemented in a perfect manner. But such stars will not be given for simple and regular work; these will be awarded only for extraordinary and outstanding achievements. This is an extremely prestigious reward devised by the Deanship, and the employee who receives such a star should be truly grateful for the appreciation given to them", added Ms. Modi.

## SOCIAL MEDIA WORKSHOP AT WINTER SCHOOL – FREIE UNIVERSITY BERLIN



Media student Maryam Al Zadjali and Faisal Al Zadjali share their experiences on a Social Media Workshop at Multi-Purpose Hall.

BAYAN: Media students Maryam Al Zadjali and Faisal Al Zadjali shared their experiences on a Social Media Workshop at Winter School – Freie University Berlin, Germany in Multi-Purpose Hall.

They shared their experience following a four day workshop titled: Social Media in Teaching organised by Arab European Association for Media and Communication Research (AREACORE)

"The workshop brought together students and teachers from various Arab countries and Germany to discuss and evaluate approaches to include social media in teach-

ing communication studies", said Faizal.

"Besides presentations from scholars participants were divided into separate groups to work and practice the use of Facepacer, Twitonomy and Issue Crawler (Social Media Measurement and analyses tools). We also visited DW Academy (DeutscheWelle) and RBB television centre (German Public Service Broadcaster)", added Maryam.

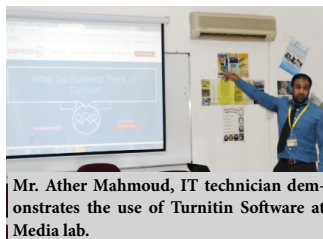
DrJassim M Jaber – Dean Bayan College and MsModi Al Ghailani – Deputy Dean, Bayan College also attended the four day workshop representing Bayan College.

## TURNITIN SOFTWARE COMES TO EFFECT FROM FALL 2015-16

BAYAN: As part of the ongoing staff development programs of the college, MrAther Mahmoud, IT technician demonstrated a workshop on the use of Turnitin Software was held for the staff members on 21st of September, Monday at the Media lab.

Mr. Ather demonstrated the procedure of checking student's assignments online. He also highlighted how teachers can give their due feedback to students in the form of comments. He explained the software step by step and had an interactive session with the teachers to clear their doubts.

He demonstrated with the sample assignments which made teachers understand the process better. The assignments which he took as an example was included internet information or other sources through which he explained how to assess and how to get



Mr. Ather Mahmoud, IT technician demonstrates the use of Turnitin Software at Media lab.

detail report on the submitted assignment.

Bayan College introduced the software from this Fall Semester 2015-2016 in order to prevent plagiarism in assignments submitted by the students. According to the college authority the introduction of the software aims at increasing standard of assignments submitted by the students.

All students should submit the assignments through turnitin from this semester and teachers will not receive any assignment through any other sources without prior permission according to the course plan.

## SENIOR STUDENTS MOTIVATE FRESHERS



Students from English department Saada Al Mamari, Alaa Al Sabari and Hajer Al Tobi motivate new students at Bayan.

BAYAN: Students from English department Saada Al Mamari, Alaa Al Sabari and Hajer Al Tobi took an delivered presentation for the new students during Students Activity Hour at Multi-Purpose Hall.

The student's discussed on the importance of studying English, the study plan, types of courses, how it can help to get a job and how to study and prepare for exams.

The students presented a detail presentation on each topic and had conversation session to make the new students understand better. They shared their learning at Bayan and their experience while

doing courses with different teachers.

Other topics included stress management and jobopportunities were the other topics were discussed.

"The topics like job opportunities and stress management helped me to take a decision on selecting the major", said Aisha a student from foundation.

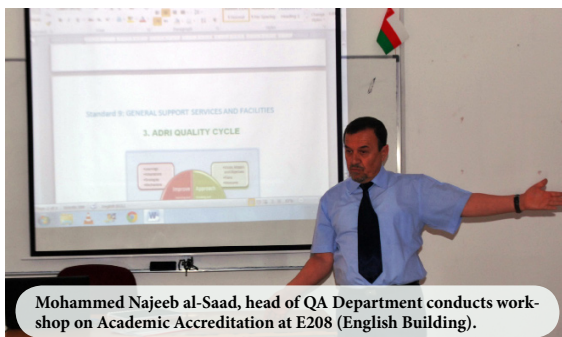
While another junior student from foundation said that the presentation was very helpful to us and it helped to increase our confidence when senior students are confidently speaking about each topic they covered".

## QA Department Holds Workshop on Academic Accreditation

BAYAN: In preparation for writing Bayan College's self-study report, Quality Assurance Department held the first of a series of orientation sessions on sensitizing the stakeholders on quality assurance in the college. The session brought together all faculty and staff

The session highlighted three main topics related to academic accreditation system in Oman, preparations for writing the college's self-studyreport and the method used in the analysis of the college performance.

Mohammed Najeeb al-Saad, head of QA Department briefed the participants on the academic accreditation, saying that the college has recently taken the necessary steps to write the self-study report to be



Mohammed Najeeb al-Saad, head of QA Department conducts workshop on Academic Accreditation at E208 (English Building).

submitted in August 2017 to the Omani Authority for Academic Accreditation (OAAA),

which will send a panel to the college in December of the same year to discuss the report with the college. He added that the college passed the first stage of the accreditation in February 2013 after an OAAA team visited the college over three days to discuss the overall performance of the college with its various stakeholders, including board of directors, trustees board, teachers, students, and staff. He added that QA Department seeks, through such sessions, engaging different parties in its own activities

and listening to their feedback to get better results in this regard.

"As shown in the session, the college's faculty and staff will be engaged in writing a self-study report that covers eight various fields, covering all aspects in the college, including governance and management, student and staff affairs, and the services provided by the college to its students, faculty, staff and the society," added Najeeb.

The subcommittees will be responsible for writing the report and should use ADRI quality cycle in assessing the various activities done in the college which was explained in the orientation session by Najeeb.

He concluded the seminar stating that similar sessions will be organized in the coming weeks, targeting the students.





# AMMAR BRIEFS ON THE OUTCOME OF DIGITAL MEDIA LITERACY CONFERENCE

**B**AYAN: Mr. Mundua Samuel a lecturer in the Media department and Ammar Al Farsi a media student represented Bayan college at the annual Media and Digital Literacy Academy at the American University of Beirut, Lebanon in August 2015.

Upon return Ammar presented highlights of the two weeks conference to Bayan college family on Monday 12 October 2015 at the Multi- Purpose Hall.

In his presentation Ammar gave his perspectives on how social media is having both positive and negative consequences in people's daily lives. Making reference to Facebook, Am-



**Ammar Al Farsi presents a presentation on Digital Media literacy Conference at Multi-Purpose Hall.**

mar said Facebook should be used with caution because personal details of users are not kept confidential.

Amar explained that the conference gave him a lot experience and exposure to issues about current media literacy. Ammar added that the conference did not only expand his knowledge but it also gave him a rare opportunity to connect and network with me-

dia professionals from other parts of the world.

Ammar reported that the conference covered many topics on media literacy including human rights, role of the media in the Arab world, marginalized communities, propaganda, free speech, privacy, film and ownership.

A joyful Ammar also extended his appreciation to Bayan College for giving him the opportunity to represent the college at an international conference.

Dean Dr. Jassim M Jaber, deputy dean MS. ModijumaAl Ghalilani, teaching staff and students of Bayan College attended the presentation.

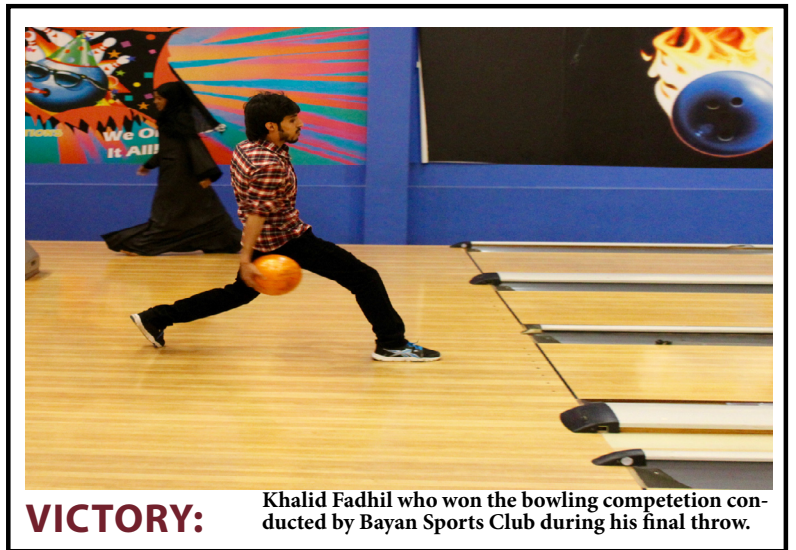
## PRESENTATION ON FORENSIC / DATA JOURNALISM CONFERENCE –CAIRO



**Al Ghaliya Al Harrasi (Right) briefs staff and students.**

**BAYAN:** Ms. Al Ghaliya Al Harrasi, the head of the Student Affairs and Journalism major student Maryam Al Farsi who attended a conference at Cairo, Egypt conducted a presentation on Data Journalism in Multi-purpose Hall on Monday, 12th October.

They presented and discussed on the meaning of Forensic Journalism, and how it would be a welcoming idea to implement such course for the journalism students at Bayan College. In addition, they screened pictures on their interesting journey and shared their experience in meeting new people from different countries as Qatar, Egypt, Iraq and other Arab countries. They as well described on the opportunity given by Bayan College to enhance their knowledge, they emphasized on their appreciation on the effort given by the college to improve their skills.



**VICTORY:** Khalid Fadhil who won the bowling competition conducted by Bayan Sports Club during his final throw.

## BAYAN COLLEGE CONDUCTS WORKSHOP ON ACADEMIC ADVISING

**BAYAN:** Bayan College organized a workshop on academic advising for faculty on Monday 21, September 2015. The workshop is part of the college's staff development program.

Speaking at the workshop Dr. George Kolanchery, the chairperson of the Advising Committee emphasized the importance of advising.

Dr. George urged academic advisers to seek clarifications related to advising from the advising team and student handbook to minimize mistakes during the registration of students.

"Referring to the student handbook and checking a student's transcript before registration is mandatory for all academic advisors because it gives you an idea about the student's academic progress," Dr. George added.

Dr. George also affirmed that Bayan College pays importance to academic advising including student record maintenances as well as regularity in student records.

Dr. George thanked members of the advising committee Ms. Manju George, Ms. Kavitha Sumesh Kumar and Ms. Mariam for providing a dedicated service that ensured the smooth management of advising activities.

The college operates under the supervision of the Ministry of Higher Education, Oman and it is affiliated with Purdue University-Calumet, Indiana, USA. The college offers special-



ized programmes in Journalism, Broadcasting, Public Relations, English Writing and English Literature.

**Dr. George Kolanchery, the chairperson of the Advising Committee conducts workshop on advising at Media Lab.**



# Editor's Note:



**Ali Al Zadjali**  
Student Editor

It's a new semester and it's been a good one so far, with lots of events planned and exciting re-

lations that stand out in comparison to last semester. In this issue we wanted to keep every happening of the College and even entertainment news's are included so that you read this with a light heart. Most importantly you can read up about the new lecturers at Bayan College in the Q&A session we did with them, I wanted to thank everyone who helped in contributing articles for this issue, without you guys we wouldn't have one! See you when I am a year older in the next issue.

# TO TEACHERS...

By **DrLina Ibrahim**

We, teachers, at a certain point in our career believe that our knowledge is almost perfect. Yet we all know that perfection is unattainable. Still the perfect thing to do is to hark to the needs of our students and try to comply with them, hoping one day we might come in a way near to perfection. You may think: "Well, I advise, teach, test and mark exams. What else can I do?" Believe me there is more you can. Here are some tips.

- Be always equipped with the latest in your field of knowledge and try your best to pass that knowledge to your students. After all, learning is a never ending process.

- Always praise and encourage your students, not only with words but with smiles as well. Smiles are contagious and make you beautiful too.

- Don't sit or keep to your position in front of the class. Try to move around while speaking. This will bring you closer to your students and help breaking the ice.

- Remember, teaching is not only about what is in the book. Support your ideas by telling anecdotes, bits of personal experience and real life stories. This will enable students to connect life and learning.

- Telling a joke in class is NOT a taboo. Allow your students

a glimpse of your teeth from time to time.

- Don't be hard on students when they commit mistakes. Show them where they went wrong. Make them figure out the right answer. This way they will learn from their mistakes.

- Treat your students equally. We all have our favorites. Don't let that show. It will have a negative effect on the rest.

- Remember, all students are intelligent and sensitive in their own particular way. Respect that.

- Dress well. Create a unique style that students associate with you only.

- Be as simple and modest as possible. You are a role model. Students look up to you and will follow you, so be the best example.

Adhering to the above mentioned points will not necessarily make you the most popular and cherished teacher, but you did your best. This is what teachers are expected to do.

The PRIZE!!! Well someday someone will say: "I owe it to my teacher." I think that is more than enough.



# ALL SET TO GO

Ministry Of Higher Education Delegates Visits Bayan College New Campus



New Campus of Bayan College under construction, which to be function from February 2016.

**HALBAN:** Representatives from the Ministry of Higher Education visited Bayan College new campus at Halban which is under construction. The deanship have confirmed about the functioning of college in new campus from February 2016.

The delegates from ministry are visiting for the second time for the inspection to check the work which is in progress as per the rules and regulation to be followed by private college.

The officials were very much satisfied with the visit and they went for a detail explanation on the college buildings, modern classrooms, office blocks, service buildings and student activities which is about to complete. According to the delegates they assessed about the steady increase in work process and which is about to be complete by the mid of November.

Dr. Juma Bin Saleh Al-Ghailani, founder Bayan College, a member of Board of Directors and Dr. Jassim M Jaber, Dean of the college were present during their visit.

Dr. Jassim explained the delegates in detail about the work carried out and which made them impressed about the new campus and accomplished with the admiration for what has been achieved in the new building.

Drjassim said that the new college building includes several buildings as per the latest international standards which are adopted in university buildings. Classrooms are equipped with the latest devices by which students can acquire the knowledge and expertise to enhance the achievement of academic and satisfy their desires and achieve their dreams. The college has taken care of creating a learning environment in the new campus with the latest standard facilities.

He also said that we paid special attention to the classrooms particularly in the disciplines of media studies, which must be different from those of other academic disciplines, in terms of providing classrooms with projectors and electronic computers which provide the students an opportunity to learn what is going around him and see the latest things happening through media.

"The new campus has newsrooms as such which are adopted in various media with in the industry, which enhances the practical experience during academic the years of study at the college", he added.

Dr. Jassim Al-Sheikh said that new campus gives a media atmosphere with the facilities like radio and television

studios. During the studies when students deal with all the facilities and techniques what is available in media industry can help them to be a media professional once they complete their particular disciplines.

The college is been designed as such that even student can have practical session from the production of news to the printing. There is even printing press facility on which students can take training in print even.

Dr. Jassim also added about the importance college has given in extracurricular activities like provision for sports, social activities, restaurants, open prayer halls, stadiums and conference hall.

The college have tried to build up a good academic environment with in the new campus that too with the use of high quality and advanced technology. The college aims at the quality of students to be produced from the college who can compete confidently with in the industry.

Drjassim dean of the college added that college is ready to move to the new campus in the coming semester, the month of February 2016 for which the college authority has arranged for all necessary supplies, equipment's, furniture and operation structure of the new building.

# The Vampire Diaries is back!

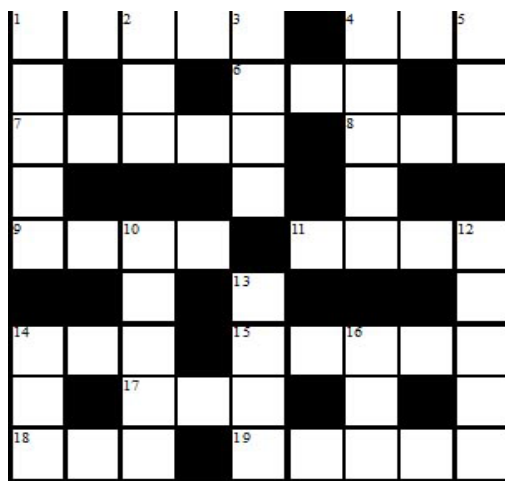


By **Zainab Al Balushi**

One of the major events this month was the release of the 7th season of The Vampire Diaries. Fans have been waiting since May 14th where the 6th season ended with a plot where one of the main characters (Elena Gilbert) gets diagnosed with a death like coma because of a spell. They came up with this ending because Nina Dobrev, the actress of that role no longer wants to be a part of The Vampire Diaries cast.

The 1st episode of the 7th season called Day one of the Twenty-two Thousand was released on the 8th of October, and it was mostly focused on how Damon is forced to face his reality without the love of his life while he keeps an eye on his best friend Alaric who also lost his fiance Jo in that tragic night. Meanwhile Stefan and Caroline are still having a confusing relationship yet they're doing their best to keep Mystic Falls safe from Witch Heretics, but with a turn of events they are now in a dangerous position. It's always the plot twists and the open endings that got us thrilled for the upcoming. New episodes are out each Thursday and the release of the next will be on 15th on The CW.

## Crossword #209



### Across

1. Tall building
4. Unhappy
6. Segment of a circle
7. H2O
8. Upper limb
9. In the near future
11. Grows on a branch
14. Reverence
15. Beneath
17. Faster than walk
18. Small carpet
19. Each one

### Down

1. Villages
2. Not dry
3. Very uncommon
4. Frighten
5. Not bright
10. Openly
12. Carry by boat
13. Melody
14. Target towards a goal
16. Female deer

Answers to 9x9 Crossword #209: **Across:** 1.tower, 4.sad, 6.arc, 7.water, 8.arm, 9.soon, 11.leaf, 14.awe, 15.under, 17.run, 18.mat, 19.every **Down:** 1.towns, 2.wet, 3.rare, 4.scare, 5.dim, 10.overt, 12.ferry, 13.tune, 14.aim, 16.doe



# LIFE'S NOTHING WITHOUT EXPERIENCES!

By Aliaa Al Balushi

**L**ife's nothing without experiences! Our young adult student, Ali Al Zadjali, a 22 year old Omani who is known to be the youngest award winning fashion designer in the country, has accomplished many more achievements in his media career than we could ever count! Recently, he has taken part in being a member of the Opera 'Turandot' at the Royal Opera House! That has captured our attention indeed. He shares his incredible experience with us as following:

**So tell us Ali, what encouraged you to go on and sign up to join and be a part of the play?**

It's an opera, not a play. I am a theater geek at heart, so when I saw that they were looking for people to be in one of the greatest opera productions I just had to for it despite being way below the required height limit.

**What was the play's story about? Did it intrigue you?**

It's about cold hearted princesses that soften up with love, basically imagine if Ur-

sula (The Little Mermaid) was a princess and you'll get the most.

**What roles did you have? How did you cope with the staff there?**

I had one, I worked with the Mandrino's who's one of the lead singers. I loved the staff, I feel like to get into the opera house you have to be of a certain standard and they issued that whether it was with the ROHM staff or the folks that came from the Arena Di Verona (Italy).

**Did you have an interest in this literature's genre? If so, could you tell us what's your favorite or most liked play you have?**

I do but I always choose theater over opera, Shakespeare's 'The Tempest' is one of my favorite productions oh and Blood Brothers. I have been in School play before which was my first experience before get-

ting in to the stage which I feel to be great.

**Being a successful fashion designer, did you like the wardrobe and costume department there?**

I loved the stuff, they made me not mind seeing my feature in the costume section and of course the costumes were nothing short of beautiful.

**What was your favorite part during rehearsals? Did you get along with everyone around there? Did you like the atmosphere around the place and being backstage?**

My favorite part was the first time I stepped on the stage, it was from the back entrance and my jaw was on the floor from the amazement and then I got to the front and saw the set for act 1 and it could make people cry from how beautiful it was.

Lady Gaga might live for the applause but I think I'm going to steal that from her because the feeling or the high

I was in during that period is indescribable. And backstage ESPECIALLY when I kept getting caught trying to sneak in wearing bright clothes (which is a no no) was ... A dream.

**What was your favorite memory out of the whole royal opera house experience?**

'That I was on the stage of Royal Opera House Muscat'. How many of them get such opportunities and can say with proud that I was there. It

was a golden opportunity for me and memorable.

**Should we be expecting more of your appearances around the Royal Opera House?**

I actually got a call 2 days after the show to be in a little skit they're doing for open day. I'm excited! Fin "Photography of the show was strictly prohibited credits for the photographs belong to the Royal Opera House, Muscat". Life's nothing without experiences!



## WEDDING TIPS FROM THE MET GALA RED CARPET!

By Ali Al Zadjali

The most popular wedding season is here so to all the women that want to reference the Hollywood glamour as guests here are a few options straight from fashion's biggest night!

If you're the daring type then take notes from Kim Kardashian who went for a see through gown that was heavily bedazzled all over( making it demure, in comparison to Beyoncé at least.) Perhaps avoid the feathers on your train.

Another big trend that worked beautifully on Gigi Hadid and Reese Witherspoon was the thigh slit, even if you're short pair is with the right heels and you're guaranteed praise!

Also, SEQUINS! Sequins are an instant choice for a wedding but with this year's MET looks, it's the new trend, whether you're drenched in them or simply frosted by them.

If you're not in the mood to over-dress, go like Lady Gaga and wear a fashionable abaya (well, hers was a kimono) with a black jumpsuit (or anything that makes you happy) underneath and keep the focus on your hair and make-up.

The hottest colors: Red, emerald green and white (but perhaps you should keep this color for the bride.)

If you want to do the trend that was more popular than everything above? Have a train on your dress because they look good on every-one.



## IN CASE YOU DIDN'T KNOW, THE OLSEN TWINS ARE TRENDSETTERS.

That's true, they were once the cutest child on one of the most popular shows of all time, Full House. With the reboot around the corner people are upset that they haven't signed on to do it. However, those two ladies don't need it because they managed to successfully transform from the life at the movies and TV shows to dominating fashion!

They were one of the first fashion muses to not be traditional, they didn't rock the pencil skirts and button downs paired with 6 inches! They did it their own way and they're looks are popular street style nowadays!

One of the most important ones has to be the summer dresses, they're loose, they're comfortable and the Olsen twins proved they can be fashionable!

Another thing I want to credit them for is popularizing oversized clothing, wearing something loose or big often makes you look bigger than you are but those twins managed to show the world that it ... doesn't! It's all about how you STYLE!

The best accessory however? Each other! Those two always complement each other on the red carpet, now if Mary Kate would stop doing (bad) plastic surgery, they would still look identical and complement each other even better.



I remember when I was 7 and I had a PJ set from BHS and it used to glow in the dark and that was the coolest thing ever. I wore it an every sleepover I had for the next year. Fast forward to my last month as a 21 year old and I checked out Rami Kadi's new fall haute couture collection and I'm in awe. Not to shy away from his usual designs which bring glamour those gowns serve that but when you turn off the lights they shine bright. I mean, how cool would that be at a wedding? Exactly.

I always admire de-

signers that don't settle for the norm whether it's on an international or local standard so names like McQueen and Hussein Chalayan are always in my head for that. I remember attending a Rami Kadi show in Dubai at Fashion Forward and I was amazed at the beautiful pieces that were even more impressive from the front

row. I am giving my support for glow in the dark fashion, put it on runways and stock up in stores; I want some as long as you don't get tacky with it.





# BAYAN COLLEGE HONOURS EMPLOYEES

Bayan College honoured employees with 'Staff Award 2015' on Thursday, November 05, 2015 in Multi-Purpose Hall. Twelve employees were honoured by the college in different category. Deputy Dean Ms. Modi Al Ghailani handed over the awards in the presence of Dean Dr. Jassin M Jaber, employees and student representatives.

Mr. Honorio Lacerna (Nori) - Instructor, Foundation Department was awarded with 'Employee of the year 2015' and Mr. Aminul Mohammed Islam - Office Assistant for the remarkable performance and hard work.

Mr. Nori, a lecturer who is commended by everyone for his extreme patience and has never been absent to date. Mr. Amin, someone who has been in the college from the time of its establishment and always the first person to enter the college and the last one

to leave.

Dean Dr. Jassin M Jaber - Dean addressed the gathering congratulating the newly elected student council representatives and conveyed his happiness and wishes to the award winners. He appreciated the management for recognizing the hard work of the employees and mentioned that such awards can improve the staff member's morale.

Deputy Dean Ms. Modi Al Ghailani appreciated all award winners and thanked all staff members for coming and making the event a big success. She also motivated everyone to give their best to the college. Ms. Modi also mentioned the importance of recognizing the staff members and said that Bayan College is stepping ahead with the contribution made by each Bayan family member.

The other categories of awards were 'Best Committee Head' bagged by Dr. George Kolanchery - HOD, Foun-

ation Programme, the most dynamic personality who takes care of little details.

Ms. Wafa Al Buraiki - Lecturer, Media Department received the award for 'Best Representative for External Affairs'. She is really passionate about world cultures, and actually practices what she preaches. She is the pride of Bayan College, and one of our most hardworking staff-member.

The next sets of awards were given to those employees who have excelled in their respective fields. In which Dr. Fadhil - Lecturer, Media Department was awarded for his incredible media coverage on the Harvard visit. Mr. Najeeb - HOD, Quality Assurance, a man who has grown with the college. Mr. Amin Shobaki - Administration and Service, a multi-talented personality who is strong enough to carry out any task that is been allotted to him. The last person under this category to receive

the award was Ms. Ghaliyah - HOD, Student Affairs, who faces all kinds of adversities from different types of students. She is quite literally like Bayan College's very own police officer.

The recognition for the Long-Standing employees of Bayan was, Ms. Shahama Juma Al Arimi - Accounts, Ms. Rejini Jeffrey - Instructor, Foundation Department, Ms. Sara Ahmed - Instructor, Foundation Department, and Mr. Jowdat Baluch - Instructor, Foundation Department.

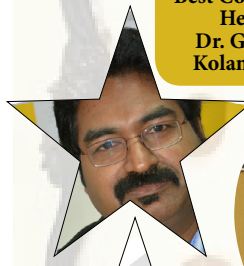
Ms. Thuraya delivered a welcome speech and called up the names of award winners one by one. Mr. Nori, recipient of the 'Employee of the year 2015' award said that the award was unexpected recognition and it's a great privilege to win this award. He took the opportunity to thank the management, colleagues and the students. Mr. Nori entertained his colleagues with a song.

'Employee of the year 2015'  
Mr. Honorio Lacerna (Nori)



## Staff Award 2015

'Best Committee Head'  
Dr. George Kolanchery



'Remarkable performance and Hard work'  
Mr. Aminul Mohammed Islam



'Best Representative for External Affairs'  
Ms. Wafa Al Buraiki

