



دار زايد للثقافة الإسلامية
Zayed House For Islamic Culture



يوم المرأة الإماراتية
EMIRATI WOMEN'S DAY

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Emirati Women's Day



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Emirati Women's Day

On August the 28th of every year, the United Arab Emirates celebrates Emirati Women's Day. The occasion comes in recognition of women role in community sustainable development process. Besides, honoring their continuous contribution in all fields. Which reflects the care of the UAE leadership with women affairs and the necessity to empower them in the society.

The occasion commemorating the General Women's Union established on 28th August 1975, stemmed out of the directives of HH Sheikha Fatima Bint Mubarak, Chairwoman of the General Women's Union, Supreme Chairwoman of the Family Development Foundation and President of the Supreme Council for Motherhood and Childhood.

2018 Women's Day Slogan

The 2018 slogan reads 'Women on the Footsteps of Zayed' as adopted by HH Sheikha Fatima Bint Mubarak to celebrate the 'Year of Zayed' and establish his way in Emirati women life.

Comprehensive Record

The first edition of the Emirati Women Day was celebrated in 2015 to honor female military personnel, their role, sacrifices and endless contribution to the service of the nation.

In 2016, a digital platform was launched to celebrate the Emirati women , open channels of constructive communication with society and benefit from suggestion thereat to improve communal services that help empowering women and enhance relative services provided.

While in 2017, the slogan 'Women As Partners in Goodness And Giving' was selected as a title to underline the role of the Emirati women and their incessant contribution to charity and help wherever in the world.

Women on the Footsteps of Zayed

As the above title is so dear to every local, it warrants good ponder. Especially as it venerates women while requires them to exert efforts to echo the late Zayed; equally appreciated by the gender in question. For women received much care duing his wise leadership. Notably as he was keen enough to empower women and rid them of any obastacle that would obstruct their way to progress and full rights. The same wise vision is maintained by HH Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE (may God save him) who has not only upheld, but also expanded women contribution to civil service to reach top political, executive and legislative positions as to share in decision-making and future building.

International Appraisal

According to the World Economic Forum of 2017 report, the UAE is GCC first and regionally second nation in terms of gender equality. The report acted as an international recognition of UAE leadership regarding guaranteeing women rights and dignified life therefor.

In this regard, HH Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE (may God save him) has repeatedly emphasized the central role of women in society. He said 'Nothing more pleasat to me than seeing Emirati women well empowered and free of hindrance. As with appropriate qualificatyions, women have as much right as men to reach the highest possible positions'.

Women and Civil Service

Due to their qualification, local women are role models in every sector, especially the vital ones of national priority and global significance. For instance, there are 8 females in ministerial positions in the UAE government. In addition to a good other number contributing with their experience and expertise in fields like energy, space, health, security, judgery, sciences, industry, culture, and excellence.

Supporting women status

The World Economic Forum report of 2016 to bridge the gap between genders has shown the UAE with the following ranking status:

- First (literacy subindex);
- First (secondary education enrollment subindex);
- First (female/male birth gender ratio subindex);
- Eighth (wage equality subindex).

The UAE will never cease endeavoring to support women position locally and internationally. Thus, the May 2015 cabinet decision came to form 'UAE Gender Balance Council' regarding all fields of work.

The council endeavors to reduce gender gap and create balance in decision-making centers in conjunction with the UAE vision to be amongst the top 25 countries with regard to gender equality by 2021.

ZHIC & Emirati Women's Day

As part of its special care for the occasion, ZHIC organizes a number of activities and events every year aimed for its staff, clients and the surrounding society. Notably, exhibitions concerning Emirati Women's Day, awareness raising lectures on women role, focusing on women core contribution to society, heritage shows and related cultural publications highlighting the event.

In conclusion, Emirati women are required to do even more as to serve their country and take part in its building process. Particularly as the UAE has made great strides in care related to women affairs and overcome all difficulties so that women can have a head start on all fields to pave the way for future generation to follow suit.