

Who's Who in Qatar 2008

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Part 1.

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Profile of His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani

The Emir of the State of Qatar



Place and Year of Birth:

- Doha, 1952.

Academic Schooling:

- Received his Primary, Preparatory and Secondary education at Qatari schools.
- Joined the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, and graduated in July 1971.

Career and Achievements:

- Joined the Qatari Armed Forces in the rank of Lieutenant Colonel and was appointed Commander of the first Mobile Regiment. He was then promoted to the rank of Major General and was appointed Commander-in-Chief.
- Modernizing existing units, equipping them with the most up-to-date weaponry, increasing their personnel and providing the best training on the most advanced military techniques.
- On May 31st 1977, Appointed Heir Apparent and Minister of Defence.
- Appointed Chairman of the Higher Council for Planning, which is considered as the cornerstone in the building of a modern state.
- Chaired the Higher Council for Youth Welfare (HCYW) since it was set up in 1979 until September 1991, and pledged a lot of patronage to sports and youths activities through the HCYW, clubs and various sports establishments.
- H.H. the Emir is the sponsor of civilian sports in Qatar. He also established the first Military Sporting Association. H.H. the Emir gave much support and attention to youth and sports sector out of his belief in the significance of the role played by this vital sector in the process of building and developing the society.

- On 27/6/1995, H.H. the Emir acceded to power.
- H.H. has sponsored many conferences on a variety of topics, taken part in numerous Gulf and Arab conferences and paid visits to many countries.

Decorations and Orders:

- H.H. the Emir has been awarded decorations and orders by a number of Arab and foreign countries in appreciation of his efforts to boost bilateral relations and promote cooperation with these countries. These include:

Medal of Oman 1975; The Nile Sash, Egypt 1976; King Abdul-Aziz Medal, Saudi Arabia 1976; Knight Grand Cross of the Order of St. Michael and St. George, UK 1979; Grand Officer de la Legion d'Honneur, France 1980; Al Muhamadi Medal, Morocco 1981; Sash of Merit, Lebanon 1986; Al Hussain Bin Ali Necklace, Jordan 1995; Medal of Merit, 1st class, Sultanate of Oman 1995; Medal of 7th November, the highest decoration in the Republic of Tunis 1997; Grand Croix De La Legion D'Honneur, France 1998; Des Grosskreuzes, Germany 1999; National CEDAR Medal of the Order of the Greatest Sash, Lebanon 2000; Cavaliere di Gran Croce, Italy 2000.

Profile of His Highness
Sheikh Jamim Bin Hamad Al-Thani

Crown Prince & Heir Apparent



Place and Date of Birth:

- July 3, 1980.

Academic Schooling:

- Received the High School Certificate from Shireburn High School in the UK in 1997.
- Graduated from Sandhurst Military Academy in the UK in 1998.

Career and Achievements:

- Head of the Qatari National Olympic Committee.
- Member of the International Olympic Committee.
- Member of the Sports for All Committee, sub-committee of the International Olympic Committee.
- Head of the Organizing Committee of the ASIAD 2006 Games.
- Head of the Upper Council of the Environment and Natural Sanctuaries.
- Participated in a number of regional and international conferences and accompanied HH the Emir to a number of official visits to countries.
- He has been Heir Apparent of State of Qatar since 5th August 2003.

Profile of His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Tassim Bin Jabr Al-Thani

Prime Minister



Curriculum Vitae

Date of Birth:
1959

Political History:

- 1982-1989, Director of the Office of the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Agriculture.
- 18-7-1989, appointed Minister of Municipal Affairs and Agriculture.
- 14-5-1990, appointed Deputy Minister of Electricity and Water for two years alongside with his post as Minister of Municipal Affairs and Agriculture.
- Supervised several successful projects and developed the agricultural sector.
- Held the following posts in addition to his position as Minister of Municipal Affairs and Agriculture and Deputy Minister of Electricity and Water:
 - Chairman of Qatar Electricity and Water Company.
 - President of the Central Municipal Council.
 - Director of the Special Emiri Projects Office.
 - Member of QP Board of Directors.
 - Member of the Supreme Council for Planning.

- 1-9-1992, appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs.
- Kept his position as Minister of Foreign Affairs in the subsequent ministerial reshuffles in July 1995, October 1996 and January 1999.
- On Sept 16, 2003, he was appointed as First Deputy Prime Minister while retaining his position as Minister of Foreign Affairs.
- On April 3, 2007, he was appointed as Prime Minister while retaining his position as Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Other key positions:

- Member of the Supreme Defence Council, which was established in 1996.
- Head of Qatar's Permanent Committee for the Support of Al Quds, which was formed in 1998.
- Member of the Permanent Constitution Committee formed in 1999.
- Member of the Ruling Family Council established in 2000.
- Member of the Supreme Council for the Investment of the Reserves of the State, which was established in 2000.

Flag of Qatar



Emblem of Qatar



Map of Qatar



Part 2.

- 1. Geography**
- 2. People and Culture**
- 3. History of Qatar**
- 4. Rulers of Qatar**

Geography

Qatar is a small peninsula some 11,437 square kilometers in size located halfway down the West Coast of the Arabian Gulf and the territory of the State is comprised of a number of Islands. Varying in width between fifty-five and ninety kilometers, the land is mainly flat (the highest point is 103 meters) and rocky.

Notable features include coastal salt pans, elevated limestone formations (the Dukhan anticline) along the west coast under which lies the Dukhan oil field, and massive sand dunes surrounding Khawr al Udayd, an inlet of the gulf in the southeast known to local English speakers as the Inland Sea. Of the islands belonging to Qatar, Halul is the most important. Lying about ninety kilometers east of Doha, it serves as a storage area and loading terminal for oil from the surrounding offshore fields. Hawar and the adjacent islands immediately off the west coast is the subject of a territorial dispute between Qatar and Bahrain.

Qatar shares its land border with the United Arab Emirates (UAE), with which it continues to have a dispute in the Khawr al Udayd area. The boundary with Saudi Arabia was settled in 1965 but never demarcated. Qatar's northwest coast is fewer than thirty kilometers from Bahrain.

The long summer (June through September) is characterized by intense heat and alternating dryness and humidity, with temperatures exceeding 55° C. Temperatures are moderate from November through May, although winter temperatures may fall to 17° C, which is relatively cool for the latitude. Rainfall is negligible, averaging 100 mm per year, confined to the winter months, and falling in brief, sometimes heavy storms that often flood the small ravines and the usually dry wadis. Sudden, violent dust storms occasionally descend on the peninsula, blotting out the sun, causing wind damage, and momentarily disrupting transport and other services.

The scarcity of rainfall and the limited underground water, most of which has such a high mineral content, makes the water unsuitable for drinking or irrigation restricting the population, agricultural and industrial development to use desalinated water instead. Although water continues to be provided from underground sources, most is obtained by desalination of seawater.

Key Facts:

Geographic coordinates: 25 30 N, 51 15 E

Area:

Water: 0 sq km

Land: 11,437 sq km

Land boundaries:

Borders: Saudi Arabia 60 km

Coastline: 563 km

Maritime claims:

Contiguous zone: 24 NM

Exclusive Economic Zone: as determined by bilateral agreements *Territorial sea:* 12 NM

Climate: Arid; mild, pleasant winters; very hot, humid summers

Terrain: Mostly flat and barren desert covered with loose sand and gravel

Elevation:

Lowest point: Persian Gulf 0 m

Highest point: Qurayn Abu al Bawl 103 m

Natural resources: petroleum, natural gas, fish

Land use:

arable land: 1.80%

permanent crops: 0.27%

other: 97.93% (2007 est.)

Natural hazards: haze, dust storms, sandstorms common.

People & Culture

Nationality: *Noun and Adjective:* Qatari

Population: (2007 est): 907,230 of which 75% are foreigners

Capital & Largest City: Doha, 495,000 (metro area).

Other Cities: Wakrah, Dukham, Umm Said, Al-Khor and Madinat Shamal.

Annual growth rate: 2.4% (2007 est.)

Ethnic groups: Qataris 25%, Iranians 10%, South Asians 36%, Arabs 15%, Others 14%.

Religions: 83% Muslim (Sunnis 93%, Shi'a 7%); 10% Christian, 7 % Hindus.

Languages: Arabic (official) but English and Urdu is widely spoken.

Qatari's are descended from a number of migratory tribes that came to Qatar in the 18th century to escape the harsh conditions of the neighboring areas of Nejd and Al-Hasa.

Qatar has a Muslim dominance, with 93% Sunni Muslims. Christians are the second largest group. Hindus represent 7% of the population, while there is a small Baha'i community. The clear majority of Qataris belong to the Wahhabi tradition of today's Saudi Arabia, but their branch is not as strict in some fields as what is seen in Saudi Arabia.

Only 25% of the population is Qatari. But the Qataris are mostly of Najdi (region in northwestern Saudi Arabia) ancestry.

The other large group of inhabitants is of Persian descent. Of the recent foreigners, most come from India and Pakistan, and other Arab countries, like Egypt, Palestine, Syria, Jordan and Lebanon. Westerners are principally British citizens.

History of Qatar

1. Pre-Islamic history

There is evidence of human habitation in Qatar as early as the 5th or 6th centuries B.C. The Greek historian, Herodotus, refers to the seafaring Canaanites as the original inhabitants of Qatar. And the ancient geographer, Ptolemy, showed in his map of the Arab world a town believed to be the Qatari town of Zubarah. Danish, French and British expeditions have discovered inscriptions, rock carvings and fine pottery in the peninsula.

First signs of human habitation in the Qatar peninsula date from 4000BC. Archaeological expeditions in the sixties and seventies found rock carvings and sets of pottery that indicate human presence at that time. Qatar also appears on ancient maps, a clear sign that travelers and explorers alike knew of the presence of civilized settlements in this location. Some historical texts indicate that the first inhabitants of Qatar are the ancient Canaanites, who are known for their trade and navigation skills.

The strategic location of Qatar on the Arabian Gulf was the main reason for the seasonal migration of Arab tribes from the Arabian Peninsula and particularly from the *Nejd* desert. When the ancient Mediterranean flourished with many civilizations, the Arabian Gulf area, with its strategic location, found commercial prosperity. The several fishing centers and pearl trading such as *Al Zubara*, *Al Bida Al Khor* and *Al Wakra*. Due to the concentration of trade in the red sea area during the Roman era, the Gulf suffered from a commercial decline, but from the third century AD the area regained its important trading position.

2. The Ottoman Period

Qatar played an important role in the Islamic civilization when its inhabitants participated in the formation and provision of the first naval fleet, which was assembled to transport the invading armies during the Islamic conquests. Under the Abbasid State during the 14th century AD, Qatar experienced great economic prosperity as can be gleaned from the inscriptions of (Murwab) Fort on the western coast of the peninsula, which bears the marks of the Abbasid architectural style.

Qatar fell under the influence of the Portuguese at the beginning of the sixteenth century. The Portuguese succeeded in establishing control over many areas in the Arabian Gulf and managed later to control trade and navigation. However, the Ottomans managed to expel the Portuguese in 1538 AD and Qatar, like other areas in the Gulf, came under the Ottoman sovereignty for about four centuries, but the real power remained in the hands of the local *shaikhs* due to the Ottoman sovereignty being mostly a formal one.

In the early 18th century, Qatar was ruled by the Al-Thani family, who take their name from their ancestor, Thani, father of Shaikh Mohammad Bin Thani, who was the first Shaikh to rule over the Qatari peninsula during the mid 19th century. The Al-Thani family was among a tribal group who settled for a long time at the "Gibrin" oasis in the southern Najd, before their arrival at Qatar during the early 18th century. It is

a branch of the Bani Tamim tribe, whose descent can be traced back to Mudar Bin Nizar. Initially they settled in Zubara in the north of the peninsula, moving to Doha in the mid 19th century under the leadership of Sheikh Mohammad Bin Thani.

In 1878 Sheikh Tassim Bin Mohammad succeeded his father Shaikh Mohammad bin Thani. In 1913 Sheikh Abdullah bin Tassim, came to power. It was in his time when oil was first discovered in Qatar.

In the aftermath of the 1914 First World War, the Turkish rule in Qatar came to an end and Qatar signed a protection treaty with Britain in 1916. However, the British influence in the country was limited to supervision of some administrative matters.

3. Discovery of Oil

Petroleum was discovered in commercial quantities in Qatar in 1939 and was first exported in 1949. Oil revenues have given Qatar a substantial income and a high standard of living. Exploratory drilling in Qatar began in 1938 and Oil was discovered in *Dukhan* on the west coast in 1939. By 1940 Qatar was producing about 4,000 barrels per day. The Second World War halted the development of oil production, which resumed between 1942 and 1947, but exports began in 1949. The *Dukhan* field extends south from *Dukhan* along the west coast and has three oil reservoirs layered progressively deeper between limestone formations and a natural gas field underlying them all

In 1952 Shell Company of Qatar (SCQ), obtained a concession for offshore exploration on the continental shelf. Most offshore discoveries centered on the island of Halul, which is located at about ninety kilometers east of Doha. The major offshore fields and the dates they were discovered are *Idd ash-sharqi* (1960) and *Maydan Mahzam* (1963). Offshore production began in 1964. Elf Aquitaine Qatar discovered another offshore field in the summer of 1991. Combined offshore and onshore reserves as of 2004 were 4.5 billion barrels.

4. Independence

Qatar remained a British protectorate until 1971 when Britain decided to withdraw from the Arabian Gulf area. Qatar then adopted a provisional constitution declaring it an independent Arab country with an official religion of Islam, using Shari'a as the prime source of legislation and Arabic as an official language. The Al-Thani family formally became the ruling dynasty. This period witnessed the arrival of a large number of workers particularly from Arab countries.

Qatar became an independent country on 3 September 1971. In 1974, the Qatar General Petroleum Corporation took control of all oil operations in the country. Qatar rapidly became a rich country with a modern and well-developed infrastructure.

On 27 June 1995, His Highness Shaikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani assumed power with the support of the ruling family and the Qatari people. With his accession Qatar entered a new era of modernization and embarked on the development of a strong base for democracy.

A great social and political transformation is now under way.

Modern Qatar Historical Timeline

Around 1750: The arrival of the Al-Thani family, coming from Najd in today's Saudi Arabia. They settled in the region as fishers and pearl divers.

1766: The Al-Khalifa families move from Kuwait to Qatar.

1783: Persian invasion, driving the Al-Khalifas to Bahrain, but they still hold a great influence over Qatar.

Around 1850: Qatar is becoming a centre for pearl extraction, with Zubara in the northwest as the main centre. This activity was controlled by the Al-Khalifa family of Bahrain (now the ruling family). There were serious tensions between the Al-Thani and the Al-Khalifa families.

1867: Shaikh Mohammad Bin Al-Thani signs a treaty with the British, in order to protect him from the Khalifas of Bahrain. Later the same year, the emir dies. He is succeeded by Qasim.

1872: Emir Qasim signs a treaty with the Turks, which allowed them to establish a garrison in Doha. Qasim conducted a successful politics of independence between the British and the Turks, but nominally he acted as a representative of the Ottoman sultan. Qasim rose to a high regional position, and was one of the strongest leaders of eastern Arabia.

1893: Fights between Qasim and the Turks stationed in Doha. No change in the status occurs, however.

1913: Qasim dies. Shaikh Abdullah succeeds Qasim.

1915: Turks withdraw from Doha. The Qataris demanded this because of British regional dominance, Turkish weakness, and the threat from the advancing Abdul Aziz al-Saud in eastern Arabia.

1917: Treaty between Shaikh Abdullah and the British. This involved British monopoly on dealing with Qatar. Qatar becomes a British protectorate.

Around 1930: Collapse in the pearl market. This has dramatic effects on the Qatari economy. Parallel to this, oil was predicted to be found in Qatar.

1935: Concessions granted to the PDQ, Petroleum Development Qatar, to search for oil.

1939: Oil is discovered.

1949: Due to delays because of the World War 2, oil production starts this year. Emir Abdullah chooses to receive economical advice both from the British and from Egyptian advisors.

– Abdullah resigns, to the benefit of his son, Ali.

1952: The first school of the country opens.

1960: Ali abdicates, in favor of his son, Ahmed. Ahmed becomes the country's first weak ruler, but he has a strong helper in Khalifa Bin Hamad Al-Thani, who acts as Deputy Ruler and Prime Minister.

1971: Britain leaves the region. Qatar has talks with Bahrain and the Trucial States on establishing a federation. Qatar withdraws from the talks right after Bahrain pulls out.

– **September 1:** Independence is declared.

1972 February 22: Khalifa takes power in a palace coup, and Ahmed is exiled to Dubai. Khalifa had been the strong man of Qatar for the last 12 years, controlling all institutions of importance. A period of stability and economical progress starts.

1974: Qatar General Petroleum Corporation is established, and with this petroleum extraction comes under full national control.

1991: Agreement with Iran on delivery of fresh water, through a tunnel that is to be constructed under the Persian Gulf.

1992: Conflict with Saudi Arabia over the border issue, where clashes occur.

1993: Agreement with Saudi Arabia over the border issue.

1995: After meetings, the issue of the Hawar Islands with Bahrain, remains unresolved.

June 27: Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani assumed power with the support and blessings of the ruling family and the Qatari people.

1996: Al-Jazeera satellite TV launches, as an independent channel funded by the Emir. Based in Qatar but broadcasting to the Arab world, it establishes a reputation for its news coverage and willingness to tackle controversial issues.

1999: Municipal elections, the first democratic polls since 1971, mark the start of a democratization programme.

2001: March - Qatar settles long running border disputes with Saudi Arabia and Bahrain.

2002: Qatar looms large in US plans for a possible war against Iraq. Its al-Udeid air base is developed and expanded. Washington says it will deploy US Central Command staff to Qatar.

2003: March-April - Qatar-based US Central Command forward base serves as the nerve centre in the US, British and Australian-led military campaign in Iraq.

2003: April - Voters approve a new constitution, which provides for a 45-member parliament with 30 elected members and the rest selected by the Emir.

2005: June - Qatar's first written constitution comes into effect, providing for some democratic reforms.

Rulers of Qatar

The name of the ruling family of Qatar is Al-Thani. It was part of a tribal group which was long settled around the *Jibrin* oasis in what is now Saudi Arabia. The oasis, a well-known one, is south of the Saudi capital, Riyadh.

The Al-Thani are a branch of the Arab tribe *Tamim*, which lived in the eastern part of the Arabian peninsula. The name Al-Thani comes from the family's ancestor, Thani bin Mohammed, who was the father of the first Al-Thani Sheikh to rule over the entire Qatar peninsula in the mid-19th century.

The Al-Thani arrived in Qatar in the early years of the 18th century and initially settled in the northern part of the peninsula. In the mid-19th century, however, under the leadership of Mohammed Bin Thani, they moved to present-day Doha.

The following is a list of Qatar's rulers:

Shaikh Mohammed bin Thani (1850 - 1878)

Shaikh Mohammed was the first Al-Thani to settle in Doha and by his courage and piety he drew other tribes and people to the area which he controlled.

Shaikh Qassim bin Mohammed Al-Thani (1878 - 1913)

The son of Shaikh Mohammed, Shaikh Qassim is considered the founder of the Emirate of Qatar and is referred to as such in the Ottoman archives in Istanbul.

Shaikh Abdullah bin Qassim Al-Thani (1913 - 1949)

The son of Shaikh Qassim, Shaikh Abdullah assumed leadership during the last years of his father's life. During his reign, the Turks left Qatar, a treaty of protection was signed with Britain, and oil was first discovered and exported.

Shaikh Hamad bin Abdullah Al-Thani (1940 - 1948)

The son of Shaikh Abdullah, Shaikh Hamad was designated Heir Apparent during his father's reign and often represented his father as ruler of Qatar. He died during his father's lifetime and, one year after his death, his father abdicated in favor of another son who ruled from 1949 to 1960.

Shaikh Hamad was the father of Shaikh Khalifa (1972-1995) and the grandfather of the present ruler, Shaikh Hamad bin Khalifa.

Shaikh Ali bin Abdullah Al-Thani (1949 - 1960)

Another son of Shaikh Abdullah, Shaikh Ali became Emir after the deaths of his father and brother, Shaikh Hamad. During his reign, oil production increased greatly and the country moved inexorably into the modern world. Shaikh Ali abdicated in 1960 and handed over to his son, Shaikh Ahmed.

Shaikh Ahmed bin Ali bin Abdullah Al-Thani (1960 - 1972)

The son of Shaikh Ali, Shaikh Ahmed took over when his father abdicated in 1960. He ruled until 1972 when his cousin, Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad, assumed the position of Emir with the full support of the ruling family, the people of Qatar and the armed forces.

Shaikh Khalifa bin Hamad Al-Thani (1972 - 1995)

The son of Shaikh Hamad (1940-1948) and the grandson of Shaikh Abdullah (1913-1949), Shaikh Khalifa became the first Qatari Minister of Education in 1957. In 1971 Shaikh Khalifa declared Qatar an independent state and on 22 February 1972, supported by the ruling family, the people and the armed forces, he became Emir of Qatar. It was during his reign that the modern state of Qatar took its place in the world.

Shaikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani (1995 -)

The son of Shaikh Khalifa, Shaikh Hamad quietly took power from his father in early 1995. He is a relatively young man in terms of Gulf rulers. The transfer of power took place with the support and approval of the ruling family, the Qatari people and the armed forces.

Part 3.

- 1. Constitution of the State of Qatar**
- 2. Judicial System**
- 3. Elections in Qatar**
- 4. Legislature**
- 5. Structure of Government**

Constitution of the State of Qatar

Qatar's constitution has passed through transitional stages starting in 1970 when the first provisional system of governance was enacted. This system was revised in 1972 after the national independence and amended to address the requirements and responsibilities of the new stage. Thereafter, the features and objectives of the State's policies and affiliations were defined at the regional, Arabic and Islamic levels. The government and its organs drew much benefit from the actual performance of authority at the domestic and international levels.

The legislative amendments tackled some articles of the basic modified provisional system pertaining to the executive authority and the articles pertaining to the inheritance of the Emir's post as an integral part of the constitutional situation in the country. In the same manner, the issuance of the judicial authority law and other basic laws that regulate civil and commercial transactions were complementary steps towards the establishment of the State's organs and laying down the foundations of the State of law and institutional governance.

The Drafting Committee of the Permanent Constitution

On the 13th of July, 1999, Qatar transferred into a new era of its modern history when HH the Emir Shaikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani issued decree no (11) in 1999 stipulating the formation of a drafting committee of the permanent constitution in a historic speech he delivered on this occasion. In his speech, HH the Emir maintained that the Constitution is the basic document that contains the substantial principles relative to the country's sovereignty in different domains, regulates its authorities and its ruling system and defines public rights and duties.

HH stressed the importance of expanding the base of communal participation in governance vis-à-vis the election of a parliament. He also defined the basic features of Qatar's prospective permanent constitution as being based on affiliation to the Gulf region and the Arabic and Islamic worlds and observing the Arabic profound traditions and sublime teachings of Islam.

A constitutional committee was formed, namely, The Drafting Committee of the Permanent Constitution, headed by a chairman and a deputy chairman with the membership of thirty other members. The Emiri decree stipulated the committee should draft a permanent constitution for the country in a time span of no more than three years effective from the date of the issuance of the decree. The Committee was instructed to prepare a report every six months to brief HH the Emir of the output of its work. At the end of its mission, the committee should submit the manuscript accompanied by its recommendations to HH the Emir.

On the second of July, 2002, HH the Emir received the manuscript of the permanent constitution enterprise which lays the basic foundations of the society, regulates the State's authorities, embodies the public participation in governance and ensures the

rights and freedom of Qatari citizens. The Constitution consists of five chapters and 150 articles. It stipulates the establishment of a parliament to be called "The Advisory Council" of which two-thirds of its members are elected vis-à-vis free direct elections whereas the remaining members shall be appointed by the Emir. The Advisory Council shall be entrusted with the legislative authority, the endorsement of the public budget and accountability of the ministers and the executive authority.

Referendum on the Constitution

On the 29th of April 2003, the Qataris were set to transfer into a new era where they soar high in the horizons of freedom, after thirty years of living under the umbrella of the Amended Provisional Constitution which had fallen short of being convenient to the requirements of contemporary life. This new era is marked with setting up a permanent constitution that upholds personal liberty, safeguards the principle of equal opportunities for all citizens, protects private proprietorship, deems all people equal in rights and duties and prohibits the expulsion of any citizen from the country or preventing him from returning to it. Furthermore, the Constitution creates a free atmosphere whereby all types of expression are allowed and enhances the freedom of press and publication. It likewise enshrines the freedom of religion, worship and conviction for all people and makes the Qatari population the source of powers and legislations to be exercised through an elected legislative council.

The 29th of April, 2003 was the date set for a public referendum whereby citizens have their say on this Constitution freely; thus, transferring Qatar from the zone of totalitarian states to the world of democratic countries and from the cycle of closed countries to the world of liberties and cultural openness to the world.

The result of the referendum in which the percentage of popular turnout was high showed a general consent to the Constitution amounting to 96.6%, equal to 68987 voters as opposed to 2145 who cast a negative vote. The invalid votes counted as 274.

The heavy turnout to the ballot boxes evidently reflects the extent of the Qatari people's response to the call dispatched by HH the Emir Shaikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani in a speech he delivered to his nation and urged them to cast their votes in the referendum and have their say on the Constitution.

The Ministry of Interior and the Public Committee of the referendum formed one hundred committees to oversee the referendum on the permanent Constitution and define the centers where the referendum would take place. These committees were distributed among work places at the ministries, establishments and residential areas among which are the 29 electoral districts where municipal elections to elect the first and second central municipal council took place. In addition, a number of mobile committees were set up to cover certain schools, work places in the State, commercial malls, clubs, Doha International Airport, Abu Samra Center, hospitals and other health centers of the Ministry of Public Health.

The requisite terms and conditions that qualify citizens to cast their votes on the draft constitution were defined as being a citizen holding a natural Qatari nationality and at least eighteen years old by the 29th of April.

On 8th June 2004 H.H. Shaikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani, the Emir of the State of Qatar, issued a statement on the occasion of the ratification of the Permanent Constitution of the State of Qatar. The statement stated the following:

” We, Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani, the Emir of the State of Qatar, have decreed the following:

In implementation of our objectives to complete the premises of democratic rule in our beloved homeland through ratification of a permanent constitution for the country that consolidates the basic foundations of society, reflects people's participation in decision-making and guarantees the rights and freedoms of citizens, and recognizing our Arab and Islamic affiliation of which we are proud, and having been familiarized with the results of the Referendum on the Permanent Constitution of the State of Qatar on 9th April 2003 and the approval by the overwhelming majority of citizens of this constitution, and having read Article 141 of the Permanent Constitution, we have issued this Constitution, which shall be published in the Official Gazette a year after it is issued, during which constitutional institutions shall be completed and necessary measures thereto shall be undertaken. “

Structure of the Constitution of the State of Qatar

PART ONE (17 Articles)

The State and the Bases of the Rule

PART TWO (15 Articles)

The Guiding Principles of the Society

PART THREE (24 Articles)

Public Rights and Duties

PART FOUR

Organization of Powers

- Chapter One: General Provisions
- Chapter Two: The Emir
- Chapter Three: The Legislative Authority
- Chapter Four: The Executive Authority
- Chapter Five: The Judicial Authority

PART FIVE: (10 Articles)

Final Provisions

Judicial System

The judicial authority is vested in courts of law in accordance with the provisions of the constitution; and courts judgments are pronounced in the name of the Emir. Article 129 of the constitution stipulates that the supremacy of law is the base of rule in the state; and the honor of the judiciary; its integrity and the impartiality of judges are a safeguard of rights and liberties. The judicial authority is independent and is vested in courts of different types and grades. The courts make their judgments according to the law. Judges are independent. They are not subject to any power in the exercise of their judicial functions as provided by the law; and no interference whatsoever is permitted with court proceedings and the course of justice.

Court sessions are open to the public save when a court decides, for the interest of public order or morality, to hold them in camera. In all cases, the pronouncement of judgments is made in an open session.

Judges are not subject to removal from office save in cases specified by the law. The said law also specifies the rules and disciplinary matters applicable to judges. The right of litigation is inviolable and is guaranteed to all people. The law specifies the procedures and manners of exercising this right.

The judiciary shall have a supreme council to supervise the proper functioning of courts of law and their auxiliary organs. The law determines the composition, powers and functions of the said council. The law determines the competent body entrusted with the settlement of administrative disputes and defines its structure and manner of discharging its functions. The law specifies the competent judicial body for settling the disputes pertaining to the constitutionality of laws and regulations, defines its powers and methods of challenging and procedures to be followed before the said body. It also specifies the consequences of judgment regarding unconstitutionality.

Public Prosecution

Public Prosecution conducts public actions in the name of the people, supervises the law enforcement and ensures the enforcement of criminal laws. The law specifies the conditions and guarantees pertaining to the staff discharging the functions of the same.

The Judiciary

The judicial authority law, issued in 2003, defines the manner in which courts of law shall play their role in the society. It stipulates that Judges are independent and shall not be subject to removal from office save in cases specified by the law; and the independence of the judiciary is inviolable and is protected by law against interference from other authorities.

Courts of law are divided into the following categories:

1-Court of Cassation has chambers to decide on cases of objection for cassation on rulings and proceedings of the law.

2-Court of Appeal is responsible for deciding on the appeals filed against the sentences issued on doctrinal provisions (hudood), punishments (qisas), criminal, civil and commercial cases; personal affairs, inheritance, administrative disputes and other cases.

3-Preliminary Court has chambers to decide on doctrinal provisions (hudood), punishments (qisas), criminal, civil and commercial, personal affairs, inheritance, administrative disputes and other cases.

Each court decides on the cases referred to it in accordance with the law. Other preliminary courts can be formed in other towns as per a decision from the judiciary supreme council.

The Judiciary Supreme Council

The judiciary Supreme Council was set up in 1999 to ensure the independence of the judiciary. It discharges the following functions:

- Giving opinion on issues related to the judiciary, and studying and proposing the special legislation to develop the judicial system.
- Giving opinion on the appointment, promotion, transference, secondment and retirement of judges in accordance with the law.
- Deciding on the grievances related to judges affairs, where the council's decision shall be final.
- Discharging other functions vested in it by any other law, besides the matters that the president of the Judiciary Supreme Council decides to bring to the council's attention.

Presidency of Courts of Justice

A president is appointed for the courts of justice to discharge the following functions:

- 1- Organize judiciary work at courts of law and distribute work duties between the judges.
- 2- Assign any of the judges of the courts of justice to undertake the duties of any other judge of these courts on a temporary basis.
- 3- Take the decision on disciplinary actions to be taken against the employees of the courts of justice in accordance with the general civil service law.

The president of courts of justice is the only official to report to the Minister of Justice on administrative and financial organizational aspects, supervision and inspection affairs at the courts of law, in addition to supervising the behavior of judges and managing and inspecting their financial and administrative affairs.

Presidency of Shari'a Courts

The Presidency is composed of the following main administrative units:

- 1- Shari'a appeal court which comprises:
 - 1st chamber
 - 2nd chamber.
- 2- Preliminary Shari'a court which comprises the following chambers:
 - Marital affairs and rights.
 - Major crimes and doctrinal provisions (hudood)
 - Legacies
 - Shari'a archives
 - Sentence execution
- 3- Administrative and Financial Affairs
- 4- The Technical Office
- 5- The Judicial Inspection Office

The most outstanding recent achievements in the field of the Qatari judiciary:

- Organizing two judicial forums: the first in 2002 under the headline (Justice for All) and the second in 2002 under the headline (The Role of Experts in Settling Disputes - the limits and controls of this role).
- Appointing and training a number of Qatari judges.
- Organizing training courses for judges on the use of computer and courses for assistants and aides of judges at the legal studies institute to upgrade their efficiency.
- Opening a branch of The Center for Marriage Counseling at the Shari'a courts premises to refer some divorce cases thereto to be studied by the experts of the branch.
- Commencing the implementation of the judiciary act provisions stipulating the merger of Shari'a courts and the courts of justice in one unified body.
- Developing an electronic judicial documentation program.

Presidency of Sharia'a Courts and Islamic Affairs

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Shaikh Abd Al-Rahmann Abdullah Zayid Al-Mahmoud

Elections in Qatar

Qatar's first civic polls - the elections for a Central Municipal Council (CMC) - were held in March 1999, an event which marked the country's first step on the road to democracy. The second elections for the CMC were held in April 2003 with the first female member being elected to the council. The council will act as an advisory body for the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Agriculture.

The political reform programme of H.H. the Emir, Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani, had taken a major step forward with the creation of the National Constitution Committee. This committee presented a draft of the permanent constitution in July 2002, which received an overwhelming positive response from the public in the referendum held in April 2003.

In May 2006 it was announced that the Qatar legislative election will take place in the near future, with 2008 the likely year. Qatar's constitution, approved in an April 2003 by popular referendum, has created a legislative body with thirty members elected by universal suffrage excluding fifteen appointed by the emir. According to the constitution, the legislature will have three powers: to approve (but not prepare) the national budget; to monitor the performance of ministers through no-confidence votes; and to draft, discuss, and vote on proposed legislation, which becomes law only with the vote of a two-thirds majority and the Emir's endorsement.

Legislature

The Consultative Assembly will assume the legislative authority, approves the general policy of the government and the budget, and exercises control over the executive authority as specified in the constitution.

Formation and Membership

The Consultative Assembly will consist of forty-five members, thirty of whom are elected by direct, general secret ballot; and the Emir appoints the remaining fifteen members from amongst the ministers or any other persons. The term of service of the appointed members expires when these members resign their seats or are relieved from their posts.

Sessions

The annual term of session of the Consultative Assembly is at least eight months and the Consultative Assembly not be allowed to adjourn the session until the budget of the state is approved. The Consultative Assembly commences its annual ordinary session upon convocation by the Emir within the month of October every year. The Emir or his nominated representative opens the annual term of the session of the Consultative Assembly and gives a comprehensive speech in which he addresses the affairs of the state.

In the case of necessity, the Emir, by Decree or upon a request by majority of the members of the Consultative Assembly, calls the Assembly to an extraordinary meeting, where the Assembly may not look into matters other than those for which the Assembly is convoked. Summoning and adjourning the ordinary and extraordinary sessions shall be made by Decree.

The Council's Bureau

The Consultative Assembly has a bureau consisting of the Speaker, his Deputy and chairs of committees, and has a general secretariat to assist the Council in the discharge of its functions. The Consultative Assembly makes its internal regulations comprising its internal order and the conduct of its business, the work of committees, organization of sessions, rules of proceedings, voting and all functions stipulated in the constitution. The regulations determine the disciplinary penalties for the members' violation of order or failure to attend sessions of the Assembly or committees without acceptable reason; and the aforementioned regulations are issued by law.

Sittings of the Assembly are public. They may also be held in camera upon a request of one third of the members of the Assembly or upon a request from the Council of Ministers. The resolutions of the Council are passed by an absolute majority of the attending members save in cases that require special majority. In case the votes are equal, the speaker shall have casting vote.

The Emir may dissolve the Council by a Decree in which the reasons for the dissolution shall be stated; however, the Council shall not be dissolved twice for the same reason. Where the Council is dissolved, the elections of the new Council take place within a period not exceeding six months as of the date of dissolution. Until a new Council is elected, the Emir with the assistance of the Council of Ministers assumes the power of legislation.

The Functions of the Council

Every member of the Council has the right to propose bills, and every proposal is referred to the relevant committee in the Council for study, making recommendations and submission to the Council. If the Council accepts the proposal, the same shall be referred in draft form to the government for study and opinion. Such a draft shall be returned to the Council during the same or the following term of session. Every member of the Consultative Assembly may address an interpellation to ministers on matters within their jurisdiction. An interpellation may not be made unless it is agreed on by one third of the members of the Council. Such interpellation may not be discussed before a period of at least ten days from the date of submission save in urgent circumstances and provided the minister agrees to reduce such period.

Every minister is responsible before the Consultative Assembly for the performance of his ministry; and the minister may not be subjected to a vote of confidence save after an interpellation addressed to him. The vote of confidence shall be discussed if the minister so desires or upon a request signed by fifteen members. The Council may not take a resolution in this respect before at least ten days from the date of the submission of the request or expression of desire; and the vote of no confidence on the minister shall be decided by a majority of two thirds of the members of the Council. The minister is considered to have relinquished his office as of the date of the no confidence resolution. The member of the Council is in no circumstances accountable for opinions or statements he makes in respect of matters within the jurisdiction of the Council. Combination of membership of the Council and the assumption of public posts is not permissible save in cases where combination is permissible in accordance with the constitution.

Consultative Council

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Mr. Mohammed Bin Mubarak Al-Kholaifi
Chairman

Structure of Government

Country name:

conventional long form: State of Qatar

conventional short form: Qatar

local short form: Qatar

local long form: Dawlat Qatar

Government type:

Constitutional monarchy

Capital: Doha

Administrative divisions:

10 municipalities (baladiyah, singular - baladiyah); Ad Dawhah, Al Ghuwayriyah, Al Jumayliyah, Al Khawr, Al Wakrah, Ar Rayyan, Jarayan al Batinah, Madinat ash Shamal, UmmSaid, Umm Salal.

Legal system:

Discretionary system of law controlled by the Emir, although civil codes are being implemented; Islamic law dominates family and personal matters.

Suffrage: Universal

Executive Branch:

Chief of State: Amir HAMAD bin Khalifa Al-Thani; Crown Prince TASSIM bin Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani, third son of the monarch. Note - Amir HAMAD also holds the positions of minister of defense and commander-in-chief of the armed forces.

Head of Government: Prime Minister HAMAD bin Jasim bin Jabir Al-Thani, Deputy Prime Minister Abdallah bin Mamad Al-Atiyah

Cabinet: Council of Ministers appointed by the monarch.

Legislative Branch: Majlis al-Shura (45 seats;15 members appointed)

Judicial branch: Court of Appeal

International organization participation

ABEDA, AFESD, AL, AMF, CCC, ESCWA, FAO, G-77, GCC, IAEA, IBRD, ICAO, ICC, ICRM, IDB, IFAD, IFRCs, IHO, ILO, IMF, IMO, Interpol, IOC, ISO,ITU, NAM, OAPEC, OIC, OPCW, OPEC, UN, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNIDO, UPU, WHO, WIPO, WMO, WTO, WTRO.

Part 4.

- 1. Chief of State and
Cabinet Ministers of Qatar**
- 2. Qatar Government Directory**
- 3. Embassies of Qatar**
- 4. Embassies in Qatar**

Chief of State & Cabinet Ministers of Qatar

Emir	H.H. HAMAD bin Khalifa al-Thani
Prime Minister	HAMAD bin Jasim bin Jabir al-Thani
Dep. Prime Min.	Abdullah bin Hamad al-ATIYAH
Min. of Communications & Transport	AHMAD bin Nasir al-Thani
Min. of Defense	HAMAD bin Khalifa al-Thani
Min. of Economy & Commerce	Yusif Husayn al-KAMAL
Min. of Education	Shaykha bint Ahmad al-MAHMOOD
Min. of Electricity & Water	Abdullah bin Hamad al-ATIYAH
Min. of Endowments & Islamic Affairs	Faysal bin Abdallah al-MAHMOOD
Min. of Energy & Industry	Abdullah bin Hamad al-ATIYAH
Min. of Finance	Yusif Husayn al-KAMAL
Min. of Foreign Affairs	HAMAD bin Jasim bin Jabir al-Thani
Min. of Interior	ABDALLAH bin Nasir bin Khalifa al-Thani
Min. of Justice	Hasan bin Abdullah al-GHANIM
Min. of Municipal Affairs & Agriculture	Sultan Hasan al-Dhabit al-DUSARI
Min. of Municipal Affairs & Agriculture	Abdallah al-Rahman bin Khalifa bin Abdallah al-Aziz al-Thani
Min. of Public Health	Hajar bin Ahmad al-Hajar al-BINALI, <i>Dr.</i>
Min. of State	HAMAD bin Abdullah bin Muhammad al-Thani
Min. of State	HAMAD bin Suhaym al-Thani
Min. of State for Cabinet Affairs	Sultan Hasan al-Dhabit al-Dusari
Min. of State for Foreign Affairs	Ahmad bin Abdullah al-MAHMOOD
Min. of State for Interior Affairs	ABDALLAH bin Nasir bin Khalifa al-Thani

Qatar Government Directory

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His Highness the Emir

Shaikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani

Heir to the Throne

Shaikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al-Thani

Chief of the Amiri Diwan

Shaikh Abdallah Bin Mohammed Bin
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Deputy Prime Minister

Shaikh Abdallah Bin Hamad Al-Thani

Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs

Sultan Hasan Al-Dhabit Al-Dusari

Minister of State

Shaikh Hamad Bin Abdullah Al-Thani

Minister of State

Shaikh Hamad Bin Suhayem Al-Thani

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Minister Shaikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani

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Embassy of Iran

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Fax: 974 832042

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Part 5.

- 1. Qatar Media**
- 2. Communications**
- 3. Transportation**
- 4. Education**
- 5. Health**
- 6. Status of Women**

Qatar Media

Censorship was lifted from local press in accordance with the eminent directive of His Highness the Emir since October 1995. Law No 5 of 1998, which abolished the Ministry of Information and Culture, distributed some of its departments and transformed others into independent bodies complemented the move. In October in the same year the National Council for Culture, Arts and Heritage was established. In the beginning of 2001 Qatar TV Satellite Channel went on the air and in May 1997 Qatar General Broadcasting and Television Corporation was set up.

In November 1996, Al Jazeera Satellite TV Channel started transmitting from Qatar. Local press has flourished in recent years, benefiting from the prevailing democratic atmosphere and available incentives to grow and spread to cover all social and economic areas of interest. These publications are self-contained and independent entities issuing from private publishing houses, which have their own modern presses and successful investments.

Qatar General Broadcasting and Television Corporation

The law issued on 3rd May 1997 established Qatar General Broadcasting and Television Corporation as an autonomous body with an independent budget, directly reporting to the Council of Ministers. The Corporation aims to uphold the mission of audio and audio-visual information of safeguarding the freedom of the society and helping attain the common goals within the parameter of the general policy of the State and in line with the latest scientific developments of the time.

The Corporation is responsible of the following:

- 1- Establish and own audio and audio-visual broadcasting stations in the country.
- 2- Plan, develop, produce, record, prepare, providing and present local and international programs, and market thereof through selling or leasing inside the country and abroad.
- 3- To conserve and give prominence to the national heritage.
- 4- Provide audio and audio-visual coverage of the State's activities inside and outside the country.

5- Secure required banking facilities to finance the Corporation's investments.

The Corporation has a board of directors comprising a chairman, deputy chairman and a representative member from the concerned ministries and government bodies.

Qatar Broadcasting Service (QBC):

The Arabic language program is the backbone of the services extended by QBS to its listeners all over the world. It started with the official beginning of broadcasting transmission in the State of Qatar on the 25th of June 1968. The Arabic language program took most of the burden to realize the general objectives of the State and

highlight, in the Arabic and international domains, the Qatari identity in terms of culture, history, civilization and economic, social and urban development.

Muhammad A Al-Kuwari
Director
Qatar Broadcasting Service
PO Box 3939
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Qatar Television (QTV):

QTV started its first phase of transmission in 1970 in black and white. Colored transmission started in 1974 and the second channel, which transmits in English, was opened in 1982. QTV has 24 hours of daily transmission.

Muhammad Jasim Al-Ali
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Qatar Television Service
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Qatar News Agency (QNA)

QNA was established by a Decree issued on the 25th of May 1975; and it started ever since to cover the whole Gulf and Arab regions. Starting with a transmission of half an hour a day in 1975, now it transmits its various services for a continuous daily period of about 18 hours in Arabic, English, Spanish and Portuguese from 7am till after midnight through its worldwide network; and transmission is extended to go round the clock if so developments require.

QNA extends its information services through its main daily news bulletin of about 150 news items issued from the central editing office. The bulletin covers official and unofficial local news as well as the news and events on the Gulf, Arab and international arenas, observing complete objectivity and accuracy in its news handling and news coverage. QNA while embarking on the third millennium does not stop at this level of news service. It continues incessantly to develop to cope with the remarkable development witnessed by the country in the political and economic fields under the leadership of H.H. Shaikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani, the Emir of the State of Qatar, specially that the role of the State has been one of growing in the regional, Arabic and international forums in recent years.

Ahmad Tassim Al-Humar
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Qatar News Agency
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Tel: 974 4450319
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Foreign Information Agency (FIA)

The FIA enjoys an autonomous status that allows it to discharge the information policies, duties and objectives assigned to it with high level of efficiency.

It was set up by the decision of The Chairman of Qatar General Broadcasting and TV Corporation issued on the 7th of May 2001 to undertake the responsibility of introducing the State of Qatar, highlighting its achievements and establishing strong relations with various media establishments abroad through advanced and multi-purpose means of communications. It will also manage the affairs of foreign media representatives who are either based in the country or visiting.

AL-JAZEERA Satellite Channel

Al Jazeera is the first independent Arabic language TV channel specializing exclusively in news and information programs. The channel started transmitting on the 1st on November 1996 directly through the satellites to viewers in the Middle East, North Africa and Europe; and its transmission hours have gone from 6 hours a day initially, to 24 hours a day two years later.

The first electronic Arabic news service of the channel, al Jazeera net, was officially launched in January 2001. It is the printed version of al Jazeera news coverage on the Internet. The channel also inaugurated its English language website to allow English language speakers to watch its programs, in addition to a specialized sports channel and al Jazeera information training and development center. The channel is making ready to launch a new information service, al Jazeera Documentary Channel, in the first half of 2004.

Hamad Bin Thamer Al-Thani
President
Al-Jazeera Satellite Channel
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Doha, Qatar
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Fax: 974 4885333

1. Daily Newspapers

Al-Arab

PO Box 6334, Doha, Qatar

Tel: 974 4325874

Fax: 974 4440016

Gulf Times

PO Box 2888, Doha, Qatar

Tel: 974 4350478

Fax: 974 4350474

Email: editor@gulf-times.com

The Peninsula

PO Box 3488, Doha, Qatar

Tel: 974 4663945

Fax: 974 4663965

Email: penqatar@qatar.net.qa

Ar-Rayad

PO Box 3464, Doha, Qatar

Tel: 974 4466555

Fax: 974 4350476

Email: edit@raya.com

Ash-Sharq

PO Box 3488, Doha, Qatar

Tel: 974 4662444

Fax: 974 4662450

Email: webmaster@al-sharq.com

Al-Watan

PO Box 22345, Doha, Qatar

Tel: 974 4652244

Fax: 974 4660440

Email: feedback@al-watan.com

2. Weeklies

Ad-Dawri

PO Box 310, Doha, Qatar

Tel: 974 4328782

Fax: 974 4447039

Nada

PO Box 4896, Doha, Qatar

Tel: 974 4445564

Fax: 974 4433778

Al-Ouroba

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Communications

Since its inception in 1987, Qatar Telecom (Q-Tel) has kept pace with the development achieved in all aspects of life in the country. It also continues to adopt distinguished strategic plans for the operation, maintenance and development of telecommunications in Qatar.

In 1998 Qatar Public Telecommunications Corporation was transformed into a stock company called Qatar Telecom (Q-Tel). The general public now holds 45% of its shares. Q-Tel has the exclusive rights to provide telecommunications services in Qatar including national and international wire line and mobile teleTel and cable television services. Qatar was the first GCC country to launch the GSM commercial mobile service. Q-Tel also launched the automatic nationwide paging service in 1992, pre-paid cable television services in 1993, radio communications in 1994 and Internet services in 1996.

Q-Tel has invested \$50m in a 10% of the Thuraya telecommunications project. Q-Tel has also expanded the general network to cater for more than 2.75m lines transformed from the analog system to the digital system.

The main services provided by Q-Tel include the following:

- The new cable vision system for 60 TV channels and 30 radio channels.
- Expansion of the mobile network from 90,000 to 190,000 subscribers.
- Establishment of e-commerce to serve more than 25 major Qatari companies.
- Launch of pre-paid cards, short messages and voice messages in mobile teleTels.
- Operation of the Thuraya mobile communication project.
- Inauguration of the fiber optics cable between Qatar and Saudi Arabia to diversify means of connection with world fiber optics cables.
- Q-Tel introduced Halatalk service, a prepaid card for use in mobile teleTels, Barq service to provide fast communication via internet for users at home as well as Barq Golden Service for access to internet using the broad wave technology.

In 2006 the number of mobile subscribers was 945,000. The total number of main line subscribers was 235,000,

International Telecommunications

Qatar is directly linked to more than 170 countries and destinations. It is also party to commercial agreements to serve international mobile telephony with 125 companies in 68 countries all over the world.

Satellite Communications

The two land satellite communications stations Doha 1 and Doha 2 continue to operate within the communications network linked to the satellites over the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans, while the third land station operating through the satellite

Arabsat provides teleTel and radio communications as well exchange of data and TV programs between Qatar and the Arab world. A new land station is being installed to keep pace with new developments in this field.

The new alternate station costing QR15m started to operate in 1999. The antenna of the land station operating with Intelsat over the Atlantic has been updated. The land wireless microwave system connecting Qatar and Saudi Arabia has been replaced by the fiber optic system using the analog system.

Supreme Council for Information and Communication Technology

The Supreme Council for Information and Communication Technology was set up on the 3rd of August, 2004 under the chairmanship of His Highness Shaikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani, the Heir Apparent, pursuant to a Decree Law No (36) of the year 2004, which stipulates that it shall have a corporate status and a budget affiliated to the general budget. The (SCICT) aims at creating an advanced knowledge-based society and developing the national strategic vision relating to both sectors of communications and information technology. The Chairman of the Supreme Council for Information and Communication Technology, His Highness Shaikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani, the Heir Apparent, inaugurated the launching of the (SCICT) activities and programmes on 26 May, 2005.

The objectives of the (SCICT) include, the promotion of a knowledge-based economy, provision of services and education to all members of society, reactivation of all the other sectors through using technology, accommodation of all citizens in the political reforms through the provision of telecommunications accessibility to all members of society as well as allowing the various sectors of community to take part in the process of economic life.

The (SCICT) further aims to provide broadband access to the community at large and the use of information technology to create an advanced knowledge-based society that will improve the quality of life of citizens and will enhance the social and economic development of the country.

Principal Telecom Operator:

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Chairman
Qatar Telecommunications Corporation
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Doha
Qatar
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Email: webmaster@qtel.com.qa

Transportation

Qatar is an important connecting link in the world transportation network. It has made remarkable progress in the fields of telecommunications, postal services, roads as well as sea ports and airports. To strengthen this sector and make it more independent and effective three Emiri decrees were issued to set up the Civil Aviation Authority, Customs and Ports Authority and Postal Services Authority.

Civil Aviation Authority

The Civil Aviation Authority has a legal status and a budget within the national budget of the State. It is affiliated to the Council of Ministers. The Civil Aviation Department and the Meteorological Department were merged to form the Civil Aviation and Meteorological Department as part of the Civil Aviation Authority, which aims at promoting civil aviation and meteorological services to the highest possible levels. The Civil Aviation Authority undertakes the drawing up of the civil aviation policy and the plans needed to implement its objectives, implementation of international agreements and treaties in the field of civil aviation, strengthening of links with international organizations and foreign countries, supervision of the management and operation of Doha International Airport, undertaking air control tasks, supervision of foreign air transportation companies as well as management, maintenance and development of air monitoring networks, seismological stations, provision of weather forecast services to those departments in charge of aviation and sea ports in Qatar. It also proposes draft laws pertaining to civil aviation and meteorological services.

Qatar Airways

Qatar Airways, which was established in 1994, is the national carrier of the State of Qatar. Qatar Airways' major achievements are reflected in its acquisition of giant aircraft and signing contracts with more than 52 international airways companies on passenger and freight exchange. Qatar Airways serves more than 42 destinations in Asia, Africa, Europe and the Far East and the number is to increase to 50 by 2005. Qatar Airways also intends to expand its fleet to 52 aircraft by 2008 after signing a contract with Airbus Company to buy 32 aircraft.

A joint Qatar company named Kasco Albateel has been established to provide supply services for oil and gas companies, major plants and company camps.

Doha International Airport

Doha International Airport covers about 17094 sq. meters. The present runway is about 4575 meter long. The recent expansion of Doha International Airport has added 6600 sq. meters. The first phase of the new airport is due to start at a cost of US\$5.2b and will be completed in 2015. It will accommodate 50m passengers when the three phases are completed.

Customs and Ports Authority

The Customs and Ports Authority aims to manage and upgrade the standard of services extended at customs offices, ports and land transport facilities and their operation. The Ports and Customs Authority is composed of the Ports and Customs Department, Customs Affairs Department, Department of Air and Land Customs Centers, Maritime Affairs and Transport Department and Administrative and Financial Affairs Department. The Customs and Ports Authority implements the laws and regulations relating to customs systems, ports and land transport affairs, supervision of all imported and exported goods through customs points in the country as well as regulation of movement of ships of all types, monitoring shipbuilding and platforms, sea facilities, shipping and sea transport companies, transport and sea services agencies, free zones, duty free markets, warehouses and prevention of customs evasion practices.

Seaports

The State of Qatar has spared no effort to develop and expand its seaports and provide all necessary facilities there. The Ports and Sea Customs Department actively participates in international maritime activities as a member of the International Maritime Organization, Arab Academy for Maritime Transport and the International Association of Ports and Harbors.

The major seaports in Qatar equipped to receive giant ships are Doha Commercial Seaport, Mesaieed Commercial and Industrial Seaport and Ras Laffan Industrial Seaport.

Qatar General Postal Corporation

The public sector took responsibility for the management of postal services in 1963. Since then the authorities have continued to upgrade this sector to keep pace with the development of vital services in the country.

QGPC collects and delivers various kinds of postal messages to all destinations by various means, levies and modifies postal fees, undertakes all postal services, sets up and maintains facilities needed for them. It also owns, manages and holds shares in and invests in existing companies. QGPC has 32 branch post offices in Doha and other cities.

Quick Transport Facts:

Railway:

0 km

Highways:

Total: 1,230 km

Paved: 1,107 km

Unpaved: 123 km

A road network links Doha to Saudi Arabia at Abu Samra and to the United Arab Emirates at Sauda Nathil.

Pipelines:

Crude oil 322 km; Natural gas 2200 km

Ports:

Doha; Halul Island; Umm Sa'id

Merchant Marine:

Total: 20 ships (1,000 GRT or over)

Airports with paved runways:

Total: 3

Heliports:

1

Education

In recent years Qatar has placed great emphasis on education. Along with the country's free healthcare to every citizen, every child has free education from kindergarten through to university. Educational development has accelerated to involve both males and females in every community in the country at all educational levels.

The government has released an initiative to develop general education in the State of Qatar under the slogan "Education for A New Era" aimed to provide the best education for Qataris to prepare them to meet the needs of economic and social development.

Public Education:

The total number of male and female pupils in public schools in all educational stages in the school year 2006-2007 was 89,000 of which 65 % of whom are Qataris.

Specialized Education

1- Religious Institute

The preparatory stage at the Religious Institute lasts three years. Pupils who successfully complete the elementary education are admitted to it. Those who successfully complete it are admitted to the secondary stage at the institute.

2- Industrial Secondary School

Pupils who successfully complete the third preparatory year are admitted to it for three years. Graduates are awarded the Industrial Secondary Education Certificate.

3- Commercial Secondary School

Pupils who successfully complete the third preparatory year are admitted to it for three years. Graduates are awarded the Diploma of Commercial Secondary Education.

4- Technical Industrial School

The programme and curricula provide the pupils with English language skills in theoretical and applied programmes, especially in technical subjects. Pupils acquire the necessary skills in various computer applications suitable to their technical capabilities and field of specialization.

Secondary Scientific Schools

Within a new educational strategy aimed at the development of general secondary education two scientific schools, one for boys and the second for girls, were opened in the school year 1999-2000 to apply modern methods of teaching and assessment.

The implementation of developed elementary schools was initiated in the school year 2001-20002. More such schools are being opened each year.

Independent Schools

These are public schools covering all educational stages (elementary, preparatory and secondary) set up by the Higher Council for Education and designed to provide a creative educational environment that focuses on pupils and allows parents to choose the schools that suit the needs of their children. These schools recruit the teaching and administrative staff, while the assessment and educational administrations of the Higher Council for Education undertake the continuous assessment of the performance of such schools through multiple objective assessments means.

Higher Education:

Qatar attaches great importance to higher education in particular. It continuously accords to it financial and moral support with the aim of raising the academic qualifications and efficiency to enable it to cope with the requirements of modern time as well as to meet the needs of specializations and programs. Qatar University is currently working very hard to realize this objective.

The university also comprises four research centers: Scientific & Applied Research; Educational Research; Documentation & Islamic Research; Biography & Sunna (practice) of Prophet Mohammed Research Center. There is in addition a computer center, Education Technology Center, Development Studies Project for the GCC member States, and the Technical Office for technical promotion.

The university has concluded several agreements on cooperation with Arab and Islamic universities. Qatar University has been chosen a member in the Board of Directors of the Arab Council for Students' Training, which is affiliate to the Arab League. The number of male and female students at the University has reached over 9000.

The University can be contacted at:

University of Qatar

PO Box 2713

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Tel: 4852222

Fax: 4835111

Email: prd@qu.edu.qa

Internet: www.qu.edu.qa

Private higher education institutions include the:

The North Atlantic College

The Dutch CHN University

The Texas A & M University-Qatar

The Weill Cornell Medical College
The Carnegie-Mellon University

The Georgetown University

The Qatar Academy

The Virginia Commonwealth University

The Rand Policy Institute - Qatar

Health

Health sector has come a long way to provide the most advanced medical equipment and qualified cadres as well as expand the cover of health services allover the country through a wide network of hospitals and health centers. Health services in Qatar are discharged through a compact link chain from primary to intensive care and from health centers and major hospitals.

The National Health Authority (NHA) was established in 2005. It aims at providing the medical preventive and treatment services and supervising over the provision of public health services at home and the medical treatment of Qatari nationals abroad. Besides, it regulates the marketing and manufacturing of drug in accordance with international quality standards, within the frame work of the public policy of the State and in accordance with a national -laid strategy aimed at realizing the above mentioned objectives.

The National Health Authority also supervises over Hamad Medical Corporation, Hamad Specialist and Educational Hospital, private medical facilities, laboratories, pharmacies, councils of auxiliary medical professions, hospitals, primary health care centers and other public medical treatment utilities. The National Health Authority undertakes the organization of the medical private sector and it acts in coordination with the Health Insurance System to upgrade the level of health service and disseminate health education and awareness.

Preventive Health Care Services

The Preventive Health Department is responsible for fighting contagious diseases; carrying out vaccination, immunization and food and quarantine watch control; providing health education in the field of mother and child care and insuring environmental health and safety. A section for incommunicable diseases was set up comprising three units: tobacco control unit, chronic diseases and accidents control and statistics unit and nutrition unit.

Primary Health Care

The Primary Health Services Department of Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC) supervises 23 primary health care centers, which are conveniently distributed across the country. It provides various programs including health awareness; child and mother care; immunization against child diseases; diagnostic and treatment services of common and chronic diseases; medicines; nutritious food; clean water and ambulance and emergency services.

Health Commission Services

Health Commission Department carries out medical checks on everybody entering the country for work or visit, and issues certificates of health fitness for such categories as those who are about to get married and who are applying for jobs, universities or public housing.

The Higher Institute of Nursing

Inaugurated in October 1999, the Higher Institute of Nursing is a national educational body affiliated to the National Health Authority (NHA). It offers a two and a half-year program to obtain the Associated Diploma of Nursing (ADN) in English instruction, and in the future it will introduce a bridge program to qualify for a bachelor's degree course in collaboration with the Faculty of Science at Qatar University. The institute aims to prepare qualified nursing national cadres, with a special emphasis on encouraging females to take up this profession.

Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC)

Established in 1982, HMC is one of the region's most distinguished specialized medical establishments. 60 of its Qatari staff formed the first batch of students to be sponsored at the North Atlantic College - Qatar branch. HMC was preparing those staff to join the staff of its hospitals in various technical specialties including x-ray, respiratory system, ambulance services, computer and medical engineering. Presently, the corporation supervises the following hospitals: Hamad General Hospital, Rumaila Hospital, Women Hospital, Al-Khoor Hospital and Al-Amal Hospital.

Hamad Medical City Complex (HMCC)

Scheduled for delivery to Hamad Medical Corporation at the end of the Asian games tournament hosted by Qatar in December 2006, (HMCC) will be the largest comprehensive medical facility in the Middle East. It incorporates three specialized hospitals including a 320-bed hospital for children, a 220-bed hospital for bone diseases and a 350-bed hospital for medical rehabilitation; in addition to a dialysis unit, minor surgery unit, and a 300-bed nursing home for the aged. These will double the number the inpatient capacity of the government hospitals from 1346 to 2596 beds.

The Private Health Sector

With private hospitals playing a vital role, the private health sector in the state of Qatar has developed considerably. In 2006, the private health sector included 23 health complexes, 131 dental clinics, 128 medical clinics and 2 general hospitals, in which 1480 doctors were employed.

Status of Women

The higher political leadership represented by HH the Emir and the Crown Prince plays a major role in supporting women to attain their rights and improve their status and role in the society. To this end, Qatar has created the appropriate working atmosphere that conforms with the familial responsibilities of the Qatari woman in addition to enhancing parity between men and women by providing equal chances for quality education, training women and developing their administrative and leadership skills and boosting the role of the social institutes concerned with women's affairs, particularly, the Supreme Council of Family Affairs which is currently presided by HH Shaikha Mouza Bint Naser Al-Misnad, wife of the Emir.

HH Shaikha Mouza has contributed notably to the Council's activities and committees in addition to elevating the level of awareness among women and educating them about their role in the march of economic and social development.

Qatar has long endeavored to make harmony, compassion and love the cornerstones of the Qatari Family. The State of Qatar firmly believes in the high status Qatari woman occupies and her aptitude to assume the highest positions and carrying out duties assigned to her in a manner marked by vigor, effectiveness and responsibility. Perhaps, this is best illustrated by woman's issues and concerns topping the list of priorities mandated by the Emiri Decree on the establishment of the Supreme Council for Family Affairs.

Active women in the workforce have risen to 16 % of the total number of adult women. As much as 70% of these women are holders of college degrees.

The Role of H.H. the Wife of H.H. the Emir

Her Highness has given prominence to the role of Qatari women and created an environment that encourages them to meet their social obligations and participate in public life. H.H. Shaikha Mouza endorses women's conferences, which discuss women's issues and recommend solutions for the problems and challenges that confront women who work outside the home.

Her Highness has spared no effort to bring about a qualitative change in the standard of education and produce a generation capable of keeping pace with the developments and technologies of the times. She was one of the supporters of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development, established in 1996 as a private and independent entity. One of the first achievements of the Foundation was the establishment of Qatar Academy, whose council of trustees is chaired by a leading Qatari woman Shaikha Al-Misnad. Among other pioneering projects that emerged from the Foundation are the social Development Center and Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU)-Qatar College of Design Arts.

The Women Affairs Committee

This Committee is affiliated to the Supreme Council for Family Affairs, which was established in 1998. It is charged with caring for women's affairs in many ways, foremost, proposing policies, plans and programs required to upgrade the potential of women culturally, economically and politically. The Committee is also concerned with encouraging women to participate in public life and take available work opportunities especially in the field of education. It sponsors the general rights of women, their rights of assuming leading roles and key positions in society and their role in development process. Enhancing the role of private societies to enable them carry out women-oriented functions and encouraging voluntary work and participation in local and international activities dealing with women affairs are also important parts of the Committee's goals.

Qatari Women in the Field of Education

The field of education is the doorway through which women have entered into the workforce. Statistics show that the number of Qatari female students in the State-run schools for the current academic year has risen at greater rates than the number of male students. Working women also represent more than 50% of the total workforce at the Ministry of Education.

Working women at Qatar University either as staff members or administrative personnel account for more than 50% of the total workforce of the University. The appointment of H.E. Mrs. Shaikha Al Mahmoud as Minister of Education on May 6, 2003, to be the first lady ever from Qatar and the gulf region to occupy this important ministerial post, having served since 12 November, 1996 as the under-secretary of the Ministry of Education, comes as a reaffirmation of the will of H.H. Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani to activate the Qatari woman's role in the country's educational renaissance. Similarly, Dr. Shaikha Al-Misnad has been appointed to the post of Manager of Qatar University; thus being the first Qatari woman to assume this post.

Qatari Women in the field of Health

The Qatari women started to participate in the field of health since the late 1960s when she joined the corps of nursing. They first join nursing school, which aimed to prepare national cadres to work in this field. Qatari nurses represent more than 21% of the total number of nurses working at The National Health Authority.

Qatari women in the Legal Field

Qatari women work at the Ministry of Justice, where they preside several sections in this ministry. These are Legislation, Translation and Official Newsletter sections. There are also several women legal advisors. February 24, 2003, Mrs. Mariam Abdullah Al Jaber was appointed as the first District Attorney in the Gulf region.

Qatari women in the Field of Arts

The Qatari women participated in the field of fine arts, photography, theater decor and artistic direction of TV works.

Qatari Women in the Field of Literature and Journalism

Qatari women have plunged into the fields of essay and fiction writing as early as the 1970s through the works of scores of female authors with varied approaches and creative aptitudes. The development of the Qatari press and the multiplicity of publications have provided a favorable atmosphere and an enticing incentive for many outstanding women writers to excel in this field.

Qatari women in the Field of Banking

Qatari women have started to make a stronger presence in this field especially after graduating from the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration. The number of Qatari women working in national and foreign banks now numbers several hundred.

Qatari women in the Field of Politics

The rights of the Qatari women to vote and stand as a candidate in elections has been secured by the opening speech of H.H. the Emir given at the ordinary session of the Advisory Council in 1997. The percentage of women who participated in the municipal elections in 1998 reached 47%. It is noteworthy to mention that the march towards democracy and freedom and equal rights was further enhanced last year by the election of Mrs. Shaikha Al Jufeiry to the Doha Municipal Council.

Qatari women in the Field of Finance and Investment

Qatar Ladies Investment Company, the first of its kind in the whole region, was established in 1998. It is equally shared by a group of Qatari ladies and the Qatar National Bank. Shaikha Hanadi Bint Nasser Al-Thani, is the CEO of the Company. In November 2000, the Businesswomen Forum, one of the most outstanding of its kind, was set up after securing the approval of Qatar Chamber of Commerce and Industry, which has decided that the forum would serve as one of the Chamber's committees. By doing so the Chamber is trying to provide an encouraging social atmosphere for women to play their role in the development process, increase their contribution to small business and to enhance their potential to take independent economic decisions.

Part 6.

- 1. Economy of Qatar**
- 2. Qatar Banking System**
- 3. Directory of Major Commercial Banks
& Insurance Companies**
- 4. Investment Opportunities in Qatar**
- 5. Trade & Industry**
- 6. Directory of Major Companies in Qatar**
- 7. Tourism in Qatar**

Economy of Qatar

The Qatari economy is one of the most rapidly growing economies in the world. In the last seven years (2000 - 2007), it achieved high annual growth rate of up to 18 %; and it is grew by a further 7.8% in 2007. In spite of a 13.7% inflation rate in 2007, inflation remained within the economically acceptable boundaries in the light of the hikes made in the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

Record increases in oil prices and continued expansion of production and exportation of liquefied natural gas have directly contributed in raising the level of GDP to almost US\$58 billion in 2007, i.e. double the level of 2002.

Quick Economic Facts

GDP - US\$58.00 billion (2007 est.)

GDP - real growth rate
7.8% (2007 est.)

GDP - per capita
US\$75,000 (2007 est.)

GDP - composition by sector
agriculture: 0.1%
industry: 73.5%
services: 26.4% (2007 est.)

Inflation rate (consumer prices)
13.7% (2007 est.)

Labor force
640,000 (2007 est.)

Unemployment rate
0.8 (2007 est.)

Industries
crude oil production and refining, fertilizers, petrochemicals, steel reinforcing bars, cement

Electricity - production
13.4 billion kWh (2007 est)

Electricity - production by source
fossil fuel: 100%

Exports
US\$33.28 billion f.o.b. (2007 est.)

Exports - commodities
petroleum & gas products 80%, fertilizers, steel

Exports - partners
Japan 40%, South Korea 16 %, Singapore 7%, India 6%, Thailand 5%, US 4%

Imports

US\$14.9 billion f.o.b. (2007 est.)

Imports - commodities

machinery and transport equipment, food, chemicals

Imports - partners

France 13%, Japan 10%, US 9%, Germany 8%, Saudi Arabia 6%, UK 6%, Italy 6%,
South Korea 5%, UAE 5%

Debt - external

US\$31.7 billion (2007 est.)

Currency

Qatari rial (QAR)

Qatar Banking System

There are 14 commercial banks operating in Qatar, of which 7 are national including 2 Islamic banks' all operating from 114 branches.

The combined balance sheet of commercial banks indicates that these banks continued to realize high growth rates. The total value of their combined balance sheet amounted to US\$38 billion in 2006.

Banks are able to attract more deposits including government deposits in spite of receding interest rates either on the Qatari Riyal or foreign currencies. The deposits balance increased at the end of 2006 to US\$26 billion.

Commercial Banks Operating in Qatar

National Banks

- 1- Qatar National Bank.
- 2- The Commercial Bank of Qatar.
- 3- Doha Bank.
- 4- Qatar Islamic Bank.
- 5- Al Ahli Bank of Qatar.
- 6- Qatar International Islamic Bank.
- 7- Qatar International Bank.

Arab Banks

- 1- Arab Bank.
- 2- Mashreq Bank.

Foreign Banks

- 1- Standard Chartered bank.
- 2- HSBC.
- 3- United Bank Ltd.
- 4- Bank Saderat Iran.
- 5- BNP Paribas.

Role of the Qatar Central Bank

The Qatar Central Bank was established in 1993 with a mandate to work in the field of issuing currency and act as the bank of the government and the bank of banks in addition to its main task of managing the monetary policy of the State. The major role of QCB has emerged since late 1995 both in supervising and monitoring the banks and exchange businesses and in managing the monetary policy of the country. In the field of banking supervision, the Bank has issued hundreds of circulars instructing banks to observe certain operational standards in order for them to ensure the soundness of their private financial conditions. It has been following since 1995 a staged policy, which had led in a few years to the total liberalization of interest rates on deposits and loans in Qatari Riyals.

In 2000, QCB managed the process of issuing the first QR medium-term (3 years) government securities in the banking system in Qatar. Following this in the next years, other two government securities were issued. The bank continued the policy of supporting the stability and exchange rate of the Qatari Riyal against the US Dollar at a fixed rate of QR3.640 per Dollar.

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Qatar Central Bank
PO Box 1234
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Qatar
Tel: 974 4456456
Fax: 974 4413650
Email: webmaster@qcb.gov.qa
Internet: www.qcb.gov.qa

Qatar Stock Exchange

The Doha Securities Market commenced operations on 26 May 1997. At the beginning, work was manual at the Circulation Hall and administration of Settlements and Currency Clearance. The Central Registration System was introduced in August 1998 and the Electronic Circulation System was inaugurated in March 2002.

The goals of DSM can be summed up as follows:

- 1- To provide opportunities for the investment of citizens' savings in financial securities with a view to serving national economy.
- 2- To develop the financial market so as to serve the efforts of economic development and help implement the targets of the State's economic policy.
- 3- To encourage setting up new companies as well as organization of the issue of stocks in the primary market and define the requirements in the issue bulletin.
- 4- To issue bulletins and reports containing all the information on the daily, weekly, monthly and yearly values of shares as well as all other data setting out the companies' financial status for investors.

Ghanim Al-Hammadi
Director
Doha Securities Market
Al-Khaleej Insurance Company Building
Doha
Qatar

Insurance Companies

The insurance sector is one of the important components of the financial and banking system. The need for the insurance service has been increasing over the years with

the increasing complications of modern daily life, especially at the economic and corporate levels where risks and losses have reached unprecedented heights. Insurance services have become diverse. They offer various classes of insurance coverage such as insurance against accidents and fire, marine and land insurance, health insurance and others. There are 9 insurance companies operating in Qatar, 5 of which are national and 4 are agencies or branches of Arab or foreign companies.

Economic Organizations

Qatar General Organization for Standards and Metrology

Qatar General Organization for Standards and Metrology aims to upgrade the quality of commodities and materials. It is the only body authorized to discharge the following duties:

- 1- Prepare, endorse and publish the standard specifications of commodities and products; operation, test and examination procedures of raw materials and equipments; the basis for assessment, the standard measurement systems, terms, definitions and hallmarks, in addition to other functions in coordination with concerned departments.
- 2- Issue and endorse conformity certificates for standard and quality specifications, designate the basis of offering such certificates and approve laboratories and non-government service utilities.
- 3- Follow up local and imported commodities and products to ensure their conformity with the declared standard specifications.
- 4- Spread awareness of standardization and metrology activities among all concerned parties and highlight the regional and international developments in this field.
- 5- Conduct studies and researches on conformity with the standard specifications and quality systems to reach the solutions for involved impediments.
- 6- Represent the State in the Arab and foreign organizations for standards and metrology.
- 7- Follow up the implementation of regional and international agreements in the field of standards and specifications and coordinate with concerned parties in this field.
- 8- Propose the legislations pertaining to standards and metrology.

The Supreme Council for Economic Affairs and Investment

Presided over by His Highness the Emir, with His Highness the Heir Apparent as vice president, the Council is generally concerned with economic and energy affairs and the investment of the country's surplus financial resources.

It is namely responsible for the following functions:

- 1- Drawing out the State's general policies in the economic, financial, commercial, and energy fields, as well as endorsing and following up the implementation plans thereof.

- 2- Coordinating between the ministries and government departments, public authorities and companies working in the fields referred to on paragraph (1) in order to achieve the required integration in service of public interest.
- 3- Outlining the general principles to be observed in preparing and implementing the development plans of the State.
- 4- Endorsing the financial and monetary policies of the State including the priorities of public spending.
- 5- Designating the criteria to be observed in preparing the general budget and the budgets of public authorities, establishments and companies in service of the declared objectives.
- 6- Approving the projects to utilize the natural resources of the country as well as the major industrial and economic projects in which the State or public authorities, establishments and companies are involved.
- 7- Designating the general principles of commercial policies on the local and international levels in such a way as to develop the internal trade, stimulate commercial exchange and increase the financial returns thereof.
- 8- Outlining the policies required to diversify the economic base and increase the sources of public income.
- 9- Preparing the policies, controls and criteria for designating the priorities of the privatization of public sector projects.
- 10- Endorsing the policies aiming to activate the private sector and increase the contribution thereof in the national economic activity and development.
- 11- Designating the policies and procedures to be taken to encourage national and foreign investments, and deciding the suitable incentives to be offered in this respect.
- 12- Following up the international economic developments and their potential impact on the national economy, and taking the required steps and precautions to benefit from their advantages and curtail their disadvantages.
- 13- Deciding the suitable frameworks through which to support economic and commercial cooperation at the regional and international levels.

Qatar Finance Center

Qatar Finance Center seeks to stimulate the national economic activity in line with the international economic developments and create the suitable environment to enhance development and open new horizons for investment.

The Center is authorized to license the establishment and economic activities of companies, individuals, banks, investment projects, finance companies, insurance companies, all sorts of stock and securities markets, asset management and all kinds of brokerage services. It offers its services in the field of investment categorization and evaluation, financial representation, counseling, financial facilities, holdings and operations and management of offshore companies.

The entities authorized to operate at or through the Center enjoy the freedom to repatriate their profits and investment assets in addition to being secured against nationalization, expropriation or the imposition of restrictions on private ownership. All entities licensed to operate at or through the Center can be 100% owned by foreigners or non-resident individuals or companies.

It has a three-tier authority structure comprising the Qatar Financial Center Authority, Qatar Financial Regulatory Authority and an Arbitration Body, each of which is financially and administratively autonomous. The Center Authority aims to enhance the position of the Center as a pioneering international financial and business hub and boost the operational efficiency of the Qatari economy in line with the best international standards. The Regulatory Authority undertakes licensing tasks and organizes and supervises banking, insurance and business activities discharged at the Center. The Arbitration Body is concerned with hearing the appeals presented by the companies and legal entities against the decisions of the Regulatory Authority; and its decisions are final, unchallengeable and are binding to all parties.

Directory of Major Commercial Banks & Insurance Companies

Al-Ahli Bank of Qatar QSC
PO Box 2309, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4326611
Fax: 974 4444652
Email: ahlipveb@qatar.net.qa

Commercial Bank of Qatar
PO Box 3232, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4900000
Fax: 974 4438182
Email: info@cbq.com.qa

Doha Bank
PO Box 3818, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4456600
Fax: 974 4416631
Email: dohabank@qatar.net.qa

Grindlays Qatar Bank QSC
PO Box 2001, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4473700
Fax: 974 4473710
Email: gatarenq@qa.standardchartered.com

Qatar Industrial Development Bank
PO Box 22789, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4421600
Fax: 974 4350433
Email: qidb@qatar.net.qa

Qatar International Islamic Bank QSC
PO Box 664, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4332600
Fax: 974 4444101
Email: qiibit@qatar.net.qa

Qatar Islamic Bank SAQ
PO Box 559, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4409409
Fax: 974 4412700
Email: qibt@qatar.net.qa

Qatar National Bank SAQ
PO Box 1000, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4407407
Fax: 974 4413753
Email: webmaster@qatarbank.com

Foreign Banks

Arab Bank PLC
PO Box 172, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4437979
Fax: 974 4410774
Email: arabbank@qatar.net.qa

Bank Saderat Iran
PO Box 2256, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4414646
Fax: 974 4430121
Email: bsiiran@qatar.net.qa

BNP Paribas
PO Box 2636, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4433844
Fax: 974 4410861
Email: Qatar.paribas@paribas.com

HSBC Bank Middle East

PO Box 57, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4382222
Fax: 974 4416353
Email: hsbcqa@qatar.net.qa

Mashreq Bank PSC
PO Box 173, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4413113
Fax: 974 4413880

Standard Chartered PLC
PO Box 29, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4414252
Fax: 974 4413739

United Bank Ltd
PO Box 242, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4424400
Fax: 974 4424600

Insurance Companies

Doha Insurance Company

PO Box 7171, Doha, Qatar

Tel: 974 43350000

Fax: 974 4657777

Email: dohainsco@qatar.net.qa

Al-Khaleej Insurance Company

PO Box 4555, Doha, Qatar

Tel: 974 4414151

Fax: 974 4430530

Email: alkhalej@qatarnet.qa

Qatar General Insurance & Reinsurance Company

PO Box 4500, Doha, Qatar

Tel: 974 4417800

Fax: 974 4437302

Email: management@qgirc.com

Qatar Insurance Company

PO Box 666, Doha, Qatar

Tel: 974 4490490

Fax: 974 4831569

Email: qatarins@qatar.net.qa

Qatar Islamic Insurance Company

PO Box 12402, Doha, Qatar

Tel: 974 4413413

Fax: 974 4447277

Investment Opportunities in Qatar

1. Investment Incentives

Qatar is blessed with a solid base of attractive investment package. It is a politically and socially stable country and production conditions favors the engagement in the vast power consuming industries in light of the fact that the country has the largest single concentration of non associated gas in the world, which has gained it a remarkable edge on economic advancement. The country is located in the hub on the gulf region, and being a peninsula gives it longer shorelines and so more maritime access routes to the world, which makes it more competitive as a center for international investment. In addition, the Qatari economy is market oriented; and the State continually enacts and updates legislation to bolster the trend of economic openness towards all countries of the world.

Customs charges and bureaucratic or procedural restrictions are minimal or non-existent in regard to all transactions including repatriation of foreign capitals; and legislation is in place to provide incentives and facilities that could help raise the profit margins of investments.

The State places the infrastructure including roads, utilities, ports and communications high in its list of priorities to bring about economic diversification, attract foreign investments and help increase the sources of national income. Qatar facilitates the recruitment of the foreign workforce required for the development projects of the country.

Foreign investors are allowed according to the Qatari investment laws to invest in all national economy sectors provided that they have a Qatari partner who has a share of at least 51% of the capital of the joint venture and that the company is duly established in accordance with the provisions of the law of commercial companies.

According to an approval from the Minister, the shareholding of foreign investors in joint ventures can surpass the limit of 49% and reach up to 100% of the capital in selected sectors such as agriculture, industry, health, education, tourism, development of natural resources or energy and mining, on condition that the projects in question are in line with the country's development objectives; give priority to optimizing the utilization of and add value to local raw materials and local products; are export oriented; introduce new products; use new technologies; seek to introduce industries with international fame or develop the national human resources.

Based on an Emir decree, The Qatari law allows full shareholding of foreign investments in sectors such as industry, agriculture, mining, energy, tourism or contracting provided that the investment is geared to develop the industry in question or provide a public utility or service that serves the best interests of the community. The law also allows non-Qatari investors to import the required materials that are not available locally for their projects.

Qatar is committed not to impose any additional restrictions on foreign investments in Qatar in order to avoid undermining the requirements of fair competition between foreign and Qatari capitals. However, foreign invertors are not allowed to invest in

the fields of banking, insurance, commercial representation and real estate purchase. Investments in oil and gas fields reached in recent years about QR26 billion, of which US \$1 billion are of foreign origin.

It is worth mentioning that Qatar is a member of the World Trade Organization; and in 2001 it hosted in Doha the organization's fourth ministerial conference.

General Privileges For Foreign Investors:

- Freedom to import and repatriate funds.
- Freedom to transfer profits and assets.
- Freedom to exchange money at stable rates.
- The benefits of a free market economy.

Some of The General Incentives for Investments:

- 1- The right to import the materials and equipment required for the establishment, operation or expansion of projects.
- 2- 10-year exemption from income tax effective from the date of commercial commissioning of projects.
- 3- Duty-free imports of equipment and machinery required for projects.
- 4- Duty-free imports of raw and half-manufactured materials needed for industrial projects and not available locally.

Some of the Proposed Incentives:

- 1- Preparing investment opportunities and initial studies for industrial projects.
- 2- Preparing feasibility studies on the technical and economic aspects for projects and providing technical advice for the prospective private investor.
- 3- Providing suitable land sites in industrial estates for industrial projects at reasonable lease rates and long lease terms.
- 4- Assisting the licensed industrial projects to get loans from Qatar Industrial development Bank and other finance establishments.
- 5- Providing advice and assistance for investors regarding the available information, data and studies on their chosen investment projects.
- 6- Providing the project with power, fuel, water and natural gas at competitive prices.

Trade & Industry

1. Economic Sectors

The main economic sectors are: oil and gas, agriculture and fisheries, industry and manufacturing.

Oil & Gas

Oil has played a significant role in Qatar's economy accounting for a huge percentage of export earnings and over three-quarters of government revenue.

One of the smallest OPEC members, Qatar produces over 1,200,000 barrels per day. Monitored by the state owned Qatar General Petroleum Corporation (QGPC), oil has been pumped from the onshore Dukhan field and three offshore fields.

Qatar jointly owns the Bundaq oil field with the United Arab Emirates. QGPC has brought two refineries into operation with a majority of production being exported.

Qatar boasts the third largest reserves of liquefied natural gas (LNG) in the world behind Russia and Iran. Qatar is expected to increase annual gas exports to 60 billion cubic meters by the year 2010.

Agriculture and Fisheries

The agricultural sector is modest. Currently the country is self-sufficient for 70% of its summer vegetables and 40% of its winter needs.

There is some production of grains, eggs and poultry; however, the country is still dependent on food imports.

Qatar has 28,000 hectares of arable land. Most of the workers in the agricultural sector are foreign. The government has made an effort to strengthen the agricultural and fishing sectors offering incentives to investors.

Industry and Manufacturing

The Qatari Government has actively promoted the development of both heavy and light industry concentrating on in-country resources. Inexpensive energy has led to the development of a Steel and Iron industry and healthy gas reserves have led to the establishment of chemical, fertilizer, and petrochemical industries. Cement is also produced.

Qatar is the only Middle Eastern producer that has successfully exported a major proportion of its Steel production. During the past decade, Qatar has supplied a large percentage of reinforcing bar products to the Gulf States.

Stan-run companies have collaborated with foreign investors in developing petrochemical and fertilizer plants. Much of this production has been exported to the Gulf States and to Asia.

2. Industry Goals

The most important strategic goals of Qatar in the industrial field are to expand and optimize the utilization of the added value of the country's natural resources, besides diversifying the sources of income, especially from the industry in its capacity as the second mainstay of the Qatari economy; increasing the ratio of contribution of manufacturing industries in the gross domestic product (GDP); creating and spreading an industrial culture; accelerating the driving force behind sustainable development; upholding self-reliance and grasping the modern scientific and technological advances to increase the potential for competition and adaptation to the requirements of the export market.

Qatar encourages the investment of savings and surplus financial resources of the private sector in the stocks of the new industrial projects and privatizes part of its national basic industries to open more avenues for private investments in the industrial field.

Qatar's firm policy in the economic sphere is to diversify income sources and stabilize economic growth through optimizing the utilization of its natural resources and enhancing the development of the north gas field and petrochemical, iron and steel and refining industries. The state has succeeded in a record time in establishing and operating a massive industrial base; and has thus become a major world producer and supplier of liquefied natural gas and other petroleum products. This status has considerably increased the country's income and helped further its social and economic structure development.

Qatar has achieved the highest quality standards in performance and cost reduction on a par with similar industries in the industrially developed countries.

3. Trade

The Ministry of Economy and Commerce pays a lot of attention to stimulate all sectors of economic activity; lay down the bases of economic freedom, fair competition and transparency; achieve commercial openness and enhance international cooperation. The Ministry works to prepare a favorable investment atmosphere to attract local and foreign capitals and increase the confidence of investors in the worth of the Qatari economy. It seeks to encourage the private sector and remove obstacles that oppose its march; simplify company establishment procedures; develop financing and insurance services and markets; protect the intellectual property, trade marks and patents and participate in international exhibitions and markets.

The Ministry also prepares the internal legislation for trade systems, supervises the conduct of economic and commercial activity and undertakes the conclusion of bilateral, regional and international commercial as well as economic cooperation agreements.

The Ministry is composed of the following departments: Economic Affairs Department; Commercial Affairs Department; Specification, Measures And Consumer Protection Department; Administrative and Financial Affairs Department; Cooperation Department and Planning and Follow-Up Unit.

Qatar became the 121st member in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), presently known as the World Trade Organization (WTO).

4. Foreign Trade

Asian countries except Arab countries come first in the scale of commercial partners of Qatar. Exports from Qatar to this group of countries were followed in commercial value by exports to the GCC countries, these being the UAE, followed by Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and Kuwait. Exports to the other Arab countries came in third. Oil and mineral fuel top the export commodity structure, followed by chemicals with and manufactured goods.

Exports

In 2007, the value of Qatari exports reached US\$33 billion. Asia is the main market for the Qatari exports, where Japan besides China and India buy most of Qatar's exports of crude oil, which continues alongside with liquefied natural gas (LNG) to dominate the Qatari structure of exports at present.

Oil and gas-related industries export their products to various countries. For instance, Qatar Petrochemical Company (QAPCO) sells petrochemicals to the GCC countries besides India, Pakistan and Australia; the products of Qatar Fertilizer Company (QAFCO) go to India and China and the products of Qatar Steel Company (QASCO) are sold mainly to the other GCC member states.

Imports

The value of the Qatari imports reached US\$15 billion in 2007, against US\$6 billion in 2001.

The European community comes on top of the list with 42% of the value of Qatar's imports. The GCC imports advanced to further rank in its imports. Non-Arab Asian countries come second.

Goods associated with the capitals of major LNG-related projects are dominating the imports structure. Other key imports include vehicles, foodstuff, luxury items, electronics and a host of manufactured goods that are required to meet the increasing size of the population and industrial base.

Necessary commodities required for the development of the infrastructure, as well as foodstuff and personal effects are exempt from custom duties. A minimal tariff of only 4% is levied on most other goods, and a protection tax duty of up to 20% is charged for the products that compete against similar, locally produced goods such as imported steel and cement. Other charges include 30% for urea, 50% for tobacco and 15% for discs and musical instruments, while the goods manufactured in the GCC country are except from customs duty.

Major Trade Partners

Japan came on top of Qatar's trade partners in 2005 followed by South Korea. Thereafter Singapore and India follow in rank size.

Bilateral Agreements

Qatar is committed to sister and friendly countries by a number of economic, trade and technical cooperation agreements as follows:

- a- Economic, trade and technical cooperation agreements.
- b- Bilateral investment protection agreements.
- c- Tax duplication prevention agreements.
- d- Aviation and air transport agreements.

If you have any questions regarding doing business with Qatar, address your correspondence to the appropriate agency listed below:

**Economic Affairs Department
Ministry of Finance, Economy & Commerce
PO Box 3322,
Doha
Qatar
Tel: 974 4461444
Fax: 974 4431177**

**The Director General
Department of Industrial Development
PO Box 2599,
Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4832121
Fax: 974 4832024**

**Trade Information Section
Qatar Chamber of Commerce & Industry
PO Box 402,
Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4621131
Fax: 974 4622538
Email: gcci@qatar.net.qa**

Directory of Major Companies in Qatar

Abdulghani, Abdullah & Bros Co. WLL
PO Box 1321, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4629222
Fax: 974 4419660
Email: al-ghani@qatar.net.qa
CEO: Abdullah Abdulghani Nasser
Business activity: Import and sale of vehicles and car parts

Al Ahed Contracting Co.
PO Box 3266, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4414022
Fax: 974 4414021
Email: alahed@qatar.net.qa
CEO: Mohammed Abdul Ghani Al Mansouri
Business activity: Supply of oilfield equipment

Al Ahli Bank of Qatar QSC
PO Box 2309, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4326611
Fax: 974 4444652
Email: ahlipvtb@qatar.net.qa
CEO: Shaikh Saleh Mubarek Al-Khalifi
Business activity: Banking services

AKC Contracting
PO Box 2760, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4440474
Fax: 974 4665579
CEO: Issa Al Mannai
Business activity: Building construction

Ali Bin Ali & Partners
PO Box 4792, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4469888
Fax: 974 4369911
Email: gqp@alibinali.com
CEO: Nadil Morad
Business activity: Import and distribution of food

Ali Bin Ali Establishment
PO Box 75, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4426201
Fax: 974 4369911
Email: agencies@alibinali.com
CEO: Adel Ali Bin Ali

Business activity: Printing, publishing, and technology services

Almana Group of Companies
PO Box 491, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4621222
Fax: 974 4622420
Email: info@almanagroup.com
CEO: Omar H Almana
Business activity: Mechanical, civil, and engineering services

Almisnad Contracting & Trading Co.
PO Box 139, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4874898
Fax: 974 4874919
CEO: Khaled Nasir Almisnad
Business activity: Building, civil, and engineering services

Aluminum Technology Auxiliary Industries WLL
PO Box 40625, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4602841
Fax: 974 4602842
Email: alutec@qatar.net.qa
CEO: Shaikh Ahmed Bin Hamad Al-Thani
Business activity: Aluminum housing products

Arabian Construction Engineering Co.
PO Box 1277, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4414862
Fax: 974 4430112
CEO: Shaikh Hamad Tassim Mohamed Al-Thani
Business activity: Construction of drilling equipment

Arabian Establishment for Commerce
PO Box 52, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4423278
Fax: 974 4312896
Email: aranaama@qatar.net.qa
CEO: Yousuf Abdullah H Naama
Business activity: Office furniture wholesale

Askar Industries Co. WLL
PO Box 15910, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4414242
Fax: 974 4327127
Email: askar@qatar.net.qa
CEO: Nabil Askar
Business activity: Supply of catering equipment

Al Attiya Notors & Trading Co. WLL
PO Box 2754, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4682043
Fax: 974 4423998
Email: info@crystalchene.com
CEO: F M Kalla
Business activity: Trade in commercial vehicles

Al Attiyah Contracting & Trading Co.
PO Box 681, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4434241
Fax: 974 4412872
Email: alcat@qatar.net.qa
CEO: Ali K Al-Attiyah
Business activity: Building and civil engineering

Al Baker Establishment
PO Box 9, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4551764
Fax: 974 4550621
CEO: Ahmed Khalil Albajker
Business activity: Distribution of pharmaceutical products

Bank Saderat Iran
PO Box 2256, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4414646
Fax: 974 4430121
Email: bsiiran@qatar.net.qa
CEO: Mohammed Zamani
Business activity: Banking services

Black Cat Construction WLL
PO Box 12714, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4322124
Fax: 974 4429899
Email: blackcat@qatar.net.qa
CEO: George Salman
Business activity: Industrial construction and structural engineering

Brotherhood Group Ltd
PO Box 2525, Doha, Qatar

Tel: 974 4322996
Fax: 974 4323541
CEO: Abdullah Ahmed Almeer
Business activity: Import of construction equipment

Bukshisha Trading & Contracting Establishment
PO Box 3100, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4322455
Fax: 974 4327225
CEO: Ismail Daud Mohammed Bukshisha
Business activity: Building construction

Construction Development Company
PO Box 8288, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4326767
Fax: 974 4355219
Email: cdc@qatar.net.qa
CEO: Salmin Bin Khalid Al Sowaidi
Business activity: Civil engineering

Commercial Bank of Qatar
PO Box 3232, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4490000
Fax: 974 4438182
Email: call.centre@cbq.com.qa
CEO: Abdullah Bin Khalifa Al Attiyah & Shaikh Abdullah Bin Ali Bin Jabor Al-Thani
Business activity: Banking services

Construction Enterprises Co.
PO Box 2277, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4323379
Fax: 974 4426105
CEO: Shaikh Ali Bin Saoud Bin Abdul Aziz Al-Thani
Business activity: Construction contracting

Darwish Engineering
PO Box 183, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4433230
Fax: 974 4655442
CEO: Nassir Al Noosa
Business activity: Building and civil engineering

Darwish Trading

PO Box 92, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4422781
Fax: 974 4417599
CEO: Kassem Darwish Fakhroo
Business activity: Commercial products and equipment

Doha Bank

PO Box 3818, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4456600
Fax: 974 4416631
Email: dohabank@qatar.net.qa
CEO: Shaikh Fahad Bin Mohammed Jabor Al-Thani
Business activity: Banking services

Doha Insurance Company

PO Box 7171, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4335000
Fax: 974 4654777
Email: info@dicqatar.com
CEO: Shaikh Hawaf Bin Nasser Bin Khalid Al-Thani
Business activity: Insurance services

Doha International Airport

PO Box 73, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4351550
Fax: 974 4622044
CEO: Shaikh Abdullah Bin HMed Al-Thani
Business activity: Airport management

Doha Motors & Trading Co. WLL

PO Box 145, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4600896
Fax: 974 4600649
CEO: Jassim H Abuabbass
Business activity: Import and sale of vehicles and car parts

Doha Petroleum Construction Co. Ltd.

PO Box 1744, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 44600350
Fax: 974 44601066
Email: dopet@qatar.net.qa
CEO: Jaber A Al-Sulaiti
Business activity: Offshore oil construction and maintenance

Gemco Engineering

PO Box 157, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4433286

Fax: 974 4434583

Email: info@alobaidy-qatar.com
CEO: Ahmed Saleh Obaidally
Business activity: General trading

General Contracting & Trading Co.

PO Box 4243, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4424801
Fax: 974 4432031
CEO: Shaikh Ali Bin Saud Al-Thani
Business activity: Civil construction

Ghanem Al-Thani Holdings WLL

PO Box 5319, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4428201
Fax: 974 4445248
CEO: Shaikh Bin Ali Al-Thani
Business activity: Hotels and department stores management

Gulf Agency Qatar

PO Box 6534, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4315222
Fax: 974 4314222
Email: Qatar@gacworld.com
CEO: Chris Sjudoff
Business activity: Transport services

Gulf Group Holding Co. WLL

PO Box 22017, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4446363
Fax: 974 4441102
CEO: Abdullah Salem Al Sulaiteen
Business activity: General trading

Gulf Housing & Construction Co. WLL

PO Box 3886, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4477000
Fax: 974 4477555
Email: gulhouse@qatar.net.qa
CEO: Yousuf K Darwish
Business activity: Civil construction

Hamad Bin Khalid Contracting Co. WLL

PO Box 1362, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4433644
Fax: 974 4438729
Email: info@hbkgroup.com
CEO: Shaikh Ahmed Hamad K Al-Thani
Business activity: Civil engineering

Hassan Ali Bin Ali Establishment
PO Box 3331, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4449565
Fax: 974 4416233
CEO: Hassan Ali Bin Ali
Business activity: Civil and electrical contracting

HBK Power Cleaning Co. WLL
PO Box 2903, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4687174
Fax: 974 4687460
Email: hbkpc@qatar.net.qa
CEO: Shaikh Ahmed Bin Hamad K Al-Thani
Business activity: Grit blasting and protective coating

HSBC Bank Middle East
PO Box 57, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4382222
Fax: 974 4416353
Email: hsbcqa@qatar.net.qa
CEO: Matthew Smith
Business activity: Banking services

Ishaq Hussain Al-Ishaq & Sons Co.
PO Box 654, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4430440
Fax: 974 4447446
CEO: Ishaq Bin Hussain Mahmoud
Business activity: Manufacturing of building products

Jaidah Motor & Trading Co
PO Box 150, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4416362
Fax: 974 4414100
CEO: Jassem M Jaidah
Business activity: Import and sale of vehicles and car parts

Kassem & Abdullah Fakhroo
PO Box 71, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4426666
Fax: 974 4419675
CEO: Kassem Abdullah Darwish Fakhroo
Business activity: General trading

Kassem Darwish Fakhroo & Sons
PO Box 92, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4422666
Fax: 974 4417599
CEO: Kassem Darwish Fakhroo

Business activity: General trading

Al Kawari, Mohammad Yousuf, & Sons Establishment
PO Box 2668, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4687300
Fax: 974 4687727
CEO: Mohammed Y Al-Kawari
Business activity: Trade in building materials

Kemco Group
PO Box 2642, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4321910
Fax: 974 4432506
CEO: Mohamed Bin Hammam
Business activity: Electrical and plumbing services

Lotus Contracting & Trading Co.
PO Box 3256, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4434915
Fax: 974 4420310
Email: lotus@qatar.net.qa
CEO: Shaikh Fahad Bin Abdullah bin Thani Al-Thani
Business activity: Civil, electrical and mechanical engineering

Al Mana Engineering & Contracting Co.
PO Box 1909, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4328390
Fax: 974 4427294
Email: almanae@qatar.net.qa
CEO: Saad Al Mana
Business activity: Building contracting

Manco International
PO Box 5102, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4621374
Fax: 974 4621415
Email: info@almanagroup.com
CEO: Omar H Almana
Business activity: General contracting

Mannai Corporation
PO Box 76, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4412555
Fax: 974 4411982
Email: mancorp@qatar.net.qa
CEO: Ahmed Mannai
Business activity: Khalid Mannai

Mansal Offshore WLL
PO Box 1310, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4425755
Fax: 974 4433626
Email: info@mannaicorp.com
CEO: Ahmed Mannai
Business activity: Ship maintenance services

Marco Trading & Contracting Co
PO Box 2139, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4686047
Fax: 974 4686631
CEO: Mohamed Rashid Al Kaabi
Business activity: Civil engineering

Medgulf Construction Co. WLL
PO Box 3603, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4431516
Fax: 974 4433586
Email: medgulf@qatar.net.qa
CEO: Jassam M Jaidah
Business activity: Civil engineering

Mideast Constructors Ltd.
PO Box 3325, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4415025
Fax: 974 4415174
Email: info@mannaicorp.com
CEO: Ahmed Al-Mannai
Business activity: Civil engineering and contracting services

Midmac Contracting
PO Box 1758, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4425125
Fax: 974 4440864
CEO: Shaikh Ahmed Khalifa Al-Thani
Business activity: Civil, electrical and mechanical engineering

Modern Construction Co.
PO Box 15589, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4436647
Fax: 974 4320035
CEO: Ibrahim Abdul Aziz Al-Qatari
Business activity: Trade in building materials

Al Muftah Group
PO Box 875, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4446161
Fax: 974 4441415
Email: almuftah@qatar.net.qa

CEO: Ibrahim Al Muftah
Business activity: Trade in home appliances, furniture, and hardware

Al Mukhtar Contracting & Trading Co. WLL
PO Box 5536, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4477424
Fax: 974 4478226
Email: almukhtar@qatar.net.qa
CEO: Abdulrahman Abdullah Aldulghani
Business activity: Civil engineering and oilfield services

Al Hahda Roofing Co.
PO Box 565, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4424737
Fax: 974 4446574
CEO: Shaikh Jabor Bib Mohammed Al-Thani
Business activity: Roofing work

Nasir Bin Abdullah & Sons Co.
PO Box 329, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4417575
Fax: 974 4440203
Email: nams@qatar.net.qa
CEO: Shaikh BDULLAH Bin Nassir Al-Thani
Business activity: General trading

Al Nasr Trading Organization
PO Box 28, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4417333
Fax: 974 4423971
CEO: Sultan Saif Al Easa
Business activity: General trading

National Industrial Contracting Co. WLL
PO Box 3713, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4683985
Fax: 974 4687511
CEO: Shaikh Nasir Khalid Al-Thani
Business activity: Civil engineering

Al Obaidly Group of Companies
PO Box 157, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4433268
Fax: 974 4434583
Email: info@alobaidly-qatar.com
CEO: Ahmed Saleh Al Obaidly
Business activity: Civil and electrical engineering

Peninsular Petrotech Engineering WLL

PO Box 4533, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4663416
Fax: 974 4663419

Email: pen1@qatar.net.qa

CEO: Abdul Rahman Al-Mannai
Business activity: Manufacture of steel products and piping

Qaprefab Contracting

PO Box 349, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4664131
Fax: 974 4664130
CEO: Fares Tabet

Business activity: Civil engineering

Qatar Airway

PO Box 22550, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4496000
Fax: 974 4621533

Email: infodesk@qatarairways.com.qa

CEO: Shaikh Hamad Ali Jaber Al-Thani
Business activity: Passenger and freight transport

Qatar Building Company

PO Box 1985, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4426428
Fax: 974 4448370

Email: qbc@qatar.net.qa

CEO: M T Mustafawi
Business activity: Building and civil engineering

Qatar Central Bank

PO Box 1234, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4456456
Fax: 974 4416771

Email: info@qcb.gov.qa

CEO: Abdullah Khalid Al-Attiya
Business activity: Banking services

Qatar Cleaning Co. WLL

PO Box 5772, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4870083
Fax: 974 4872610

CEO: Rocky Fernandes
Business activity: Cleaning and pest contractors

Qatar Electricity & Water Company

PO Box 22046, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4858585
Fax: 974 4831426

Email: info@qewc.com

CEO: Abdullah Bin Hamad Al-Attiya
Business activity: Electricity and water supply services

Qatar Fertilizer Company

PO Box 50001, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4779779
Fax: 974 4770347

Email: admin@qafco.com

CEO: Abdullah Hussain Salatt
Business activity: Manufacture of fertilizer products

Qatar Flour Mills Company

PO Box 1444, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4415000
Fax: 974 4438137

CEO: Shaikh Nasser Bin Mohammed Bin Jabor Al-Thani
Business activity: Milling and baking services

Qatar Islamic Bank

PO Box 559, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4417663
Fax: 974 4413919

Email: info@qib.com.qa

CEO: Khalid Bin Ahmed Al-Sowaidi
Business activity: Banking services

Qatar Islamic Insurance Company

PO Box 12402, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4413413
Fax: 974 4447277

Email: info@qiic.net

CEO: Shaikh Thani Bin Abdullah Al-Thani
Business activity: Insurance services

Qatar Liquefied Gas Company

PO Box 22666, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4736000
Fax: 974 4736666

Email: webmaster@qatargas.com.qa

CEO: Faisal M Al-Suwaidi
Business activity: Operation, management and export of LPG

Qatar National Bank
PO Box 1000, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4407407
Fax: 974 4415020
Email: webmaster@qatarbank.com
CEO: Yousuf Hussain Kamal
Business activity: Banking services

Qatar National Cement Company
PO Box 1333, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4693800
Fax: 974 4693900
Email: gatarcement@qatar.net.qa
CEO: Salem Butti Al-Naimi
Business activity: Manufacture of cement

Qatar National Hotels Company
PO Box 2977, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4857777
Fax: 974 3833328
Email: tm@qnhc.com
CEO: Shaikh Abdullah Bin Ahmed Al-Thani
Business activity: Hotel management and catering

Qatar National Import & Export Company
PO Box 490, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4651154
Fax: 974 4653493
Email: qnie@qatar.net.qa
CEO: Walid Al Khiyami
Business activity: Import and distribution of food

Qatar National Navigation & Transport Co. Ltd.
PO Box 153, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4468666
Fax: 974 4468777
Email: navigation@qnntc.com
CEO: Saleh Bin Mubarak Al-Kholeifi
Business activity: Marine transport and ship services

Qatar Petrochemicals Co. Ltd.
PO Box 756, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4321105
Fax: 974 4324700
Email: information@qapco.com.qa
CEO: Shaikh Abdullah Bin Hamad Al-Attiyah

Business activity: Production and marketing of petrochemicals

Qatar Petroleum Corporation
PO Box 3212, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4491491
Fax: 974 4831125
Email: webmaster@qp.com.qa
CEO: Shaikh Abdullah Bin Hamad Al-Attiyah
Business activity: Exploration, production, and export of oil

Qatar Quarry Co. LLC
PO Box 5007, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4653070
Fax: 974 4651534
Email: gquarry@qatar.net.qa
CEO: Loren Zanin
Business activity: Supply of sand and minerals

Qatar Steel Co. Ltd.
PO Box 50090, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4778778
Fax: 974 4771424
CEO: Yousuf Kamal
Business activity: Manufacture of steel products

Qatar Telecom
PO Box 217, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4406400
Fax: 974 4830993
Email: webmaster@qtel.com.qa
CEO: Shaikh Abdullah Bin Mohamed Bin Saud Al-Thani
Business activity: Telecommunication services

QP Refinery
PO Box 50033, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4776555
Fax: 974 4771232
Email: info@qp.com.qa
CEO: Shaikh Abdullah Bin Hamad Al-Attiyah
Business activity: Refining and distribution of petroleum products

Rabban Contracting & Trading Co.
PO Box 885, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4448333
Fax: 974 4448111
Email: rabban@qatar.net.qa
CEO: Khalid Mohammed Al Rabban
Business activity: Civil engineering

Rako Engineering Contracting & General Trading Co.
PO Box 1139, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4422015
Fax: 974 4440234
CEO: Issa Lahdan Al Mohanadi
Business activity: General engineering contracting

Ramada Hotel Doha
PO Box 1768, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4417417
Fax: 974 4410941
Email: ramada@qatar.net.qa
CEO: Gordon G MacKenzie
Business activity: Hotel management and catering

Ras Laffan LNG Co.
PO Box 24200, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4738435
Fax: 974 4738165
Email: info@rasgas.net
CEO: Shaikh Abdullah Bin Hamad Al-Attayah
Business activity: Exploitation, production and export of LPG

Redco Group WLL
PO Box 2195, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4328645
Fax: 974 4436339
Email: info@redcogroup.org
CEO: Shaikh Abdulrahman Bin Jasim Al-Thani
Business activity: Manufacturing, transportation, and insulation

Al Rehab Contracting & Trading Co.
PO Box 7192, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4441731
Fax: 974 4447578
CEO: Mohamed Rashid Al-Khater
Business activity: General roads contracting

Al Saree Trading & Contracting Co. WLL
PO Box 3082, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4411808
Fax: 974 4442264
CEO: Nasser Rashid S Al-Kaabi
Business activity: Building construction

Al Sarh Trading & Contracting Establishment
PO Box 1350, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4678642
Fax: 974 4678538
CEO: Shaikh Abdul Aziz Al-Thani
Business activity: Civil contracting

Al Shaab Group
PO Box 2666, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4424550
Fax: 974 4437041
CEO: Shaikh Faisal Bin Qassim Al-Thani
Business activity: Operation of supermarkets and petrol stations

Al Shahwani, Bin Nayfa, International WLL
PO Box 5653, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4325257
Fax: 974 4410941
CEO: Abdul Hadi Trahib Bin Nayfa A Shahwani
Business activity: Engineering and industrial services

Shannon Trading & Contracting WLL
PO Box 9917, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4688110
Fax: 974 4680810
Email: Shannon@qatar.net.qa
CEO: Ahmed M Al-Aikhouri
Business activity: General building services

Sheraton Doha Hotel & Resort
PO Box 6000, Doha, Qatar
Tel: 974 4854444
Fax: 974 4832323
Email: sheratondoha@qnhc.com
CEO: Shaikh Abdullah Bin Ahmed Al-Thani
Business activity: Hotel management and catering

Tadmur Contracting & Trading Establishment

PO Box 6984, Doha, Qatar

Tel: 974 4665501

Fax: 974 4665502

Email: industry@tadmur.com

CEO: Nasser Al-Kaabi

Business activity: Supply of building materials and consumables

Teyseer Trading & Contracting Company

PO Box 1556, Doha, Qatar

Tel: 974 4622226

Fax: 974 4622225

Email: teyseer@qatar.net.qa

CEO: Abdul Rahman Mannai

Business activity: Civil, electrical, and mechanical engineering

Trading & Agency Services WLL

PO Box 1884, Doha, Qatar

Tel: 974 4432212

Fax: 974 4422255

Email: tragsdoh@qatar.net.qa

CEO: Jassim M Al-Jaidah

Business activity: Civil, electrical, and mechanical engineering

Trags Electrical Engineering & Air-conditioning Co WLL

PO Box 470, Doha, Qatar

Tel: 974 4414211

Fax: 974 4413306

Email: tragseng@qatar.net.qa

CEO: Jassim Jaidah

Business activity: Air conditioning and lifts insulation services

Transorient Establishment

PO Box 363, Doha, Qatar

Tel: 974 4458458

Fax: 974 4432698

CEO: Shaikh Muhammad Bin Hamad Al-Thani

Business activity: Freight forwarding and civil engineering

Tourism in Qatar

Qatar is a safe and welcoming destination in the heart of the Arabian Gulf. In addition to promoting the leisure, business, education, and sports sectors, the country promotes itself as a family travel destination and an ideal place for wellness vacations with a focus on culture, natural environment, and outdoor pursuits.

Doha:

The capital city is situated on a calm bay halfway along the East Coast of the Qatar peninsula. The majority of the population in both Doha and Rayan suburb inhabits it. Doha is the commercial and cultural center.

Al Wakrah:

This small town situated halfway between Doha and Mesaieed. It is the center for booming commercial and fishing activities and has an old fishing port, which is still in use to date. The town is famous for its fine mosques and many houses reflecting the old Islamic architecture style. There is also a museum displaying among other things traditional Arabic style doors.

Alkhor:

Lying 57km north of Doha, until the early 1940s the town used to be a thriving port and pearl fishing center. Despite that other trades have started to replace those trades, the town teems with relics that testify to the town's venerable history. Its fine mosques, its museum that houses valuable archeological pieces and acquisitions and its historical towers are some examples of those relics.

Mesaieed:

This town is situated south east of the country. It is the center for heavy industry with a major seaport for oil exploration and a commercial seaport.

Madinat Al-Shamal:

As a modern town, Madinat Al-Shamal functions as an administrative center for a number of coastal villages north of the country.

Shahaniya:

Situated 60km west of Doha it has a purpose-built camel racetrack. It is famous for camel races.

Museums

Qatar National Museum: The museum lies on the eastern part of the Corniche. It displays the geological history of Qatar as well as a collection of Islamic artifacts and relics. There is also a maritime museum in which the fish wealth of Qatar is displayed, and a small lagoon where wooden traditional boats built in Qatar are moored.

Al Khor Museum: The museum lies in Al Khor town about 57 km north of Doha. It is a two-storey building. The ground floor is assigned for anthropological life, while the upper floor hall is set for the display of excavation discoveries in Al Khor area.

Al Wakrah Museum: Lying in Al Wakrah town about 17 km from the capital and displays marine life and natural history materials.

Ethnographic Museum: Situated on Grand Hamad Street, this building is the last remaining construction of its kind in Doha. It opens from Sunday through Tuesday from 9 am to 12 noon and from 3 to 6 pm and closes on Saturdays. On Fridays it is open from 3 to 6 only.

Al Zubara Fort: Al Zubara Fort lies 105km northwest of Doha. It is open for the public and the Entrance is free of charge.

Doha Fort (Al Koot): It is one of the remaining military forts in Doha. It lies on Jassim Bin Mohammed Street and opens daily and the

Umm Salal Muhammad Fort: This fort lies in Umm Salal Mohammad area, 21 km from Doha. It is one of the residential forts that date back to the late 19th century. Burzan Tower: Situated in Umm Salal Mohammed, the tower dates back to the late 19th century AD.

WHO'S WHO IN QATAR

**Outstanding Personalities
and Leading Citizens
of Qatar**

ABDELJAWWAD, Taha

Status: Banker

Birth Day: February 8, 1944

Birth Place: Jerusalem, Palestine

Education: George Washington University, USA

Qualifications: MBA

Career: Officer in Charge, Doha Citibank Branch; Branch Manager, Al Ahli Bank of Qatar; General Manager, Ali Ahli Bank Doha

Hobbies: Football

Address: PO Box 2309, Doha, Qatar

ABU-ISSA, Ashrad

Status: Businessman

Birth Day: November 23, 1967

Birth Place: Singapore

Education: American College in Atlanta, USA

Qualifications: B.Bus.Admin

Career: General Manager, Blue Salon Group of Companies

Address: PO Box 6255, Doha, Qatar

ALANSARI, Dr. Mrs. Abdulhameed

Status: Academic

Birth Year: 1945

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married with three children

Education: Religious Institute of Qatar; Al-Azhar University, Egypt

Qualifications: B.A; PhD

Career: Professor of Islamic Policies, University of Qatar; Dean of Shari'a and Law, University of Qatar; Member, Supreme Family Council

Address: PO Box 389, Doha, Qatar

ALI, Ali Mohammed, al

Status: Official

Birth Year: 1958

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Education: Portland State University, USA

Qualifications: BA (1980)

Career: Head of Administration, Postal Corporation; Deputy Director, Postal Corporation 1990-99; Director of Post, 2000-2001; Chairman 2001 -

Hobbies: Sport

Address: PO Box 2222, Doha, Qatar

ALI, Hassan Ali

Status: Businessman

Birth Day: November 29, 1943

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married with three children

Education: Victoria Technical College, United Kingdom

Qualifications: B.Com

Career: General Manager, Reliant Electrical Mechanical & Trading; General Manager, Qatar Pepsi Cola; General Manager, Block Making Machine Co; Director, Binalli Contracting

Address: PO Box 2863, Doha, Qatar

ALI, Mohammed Yousuf, al

Status: Official

Birth Year: 1941

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Education: University of Colorado, USA

Career: Former Chairman, Qatar National Cement Co; Director of Qatar Electricity, 1990-

Address: PO Box 51, Doha, Qatar

ALI, Mohammed, al

Status: Businessman

Birth Year: 1954

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married with seven children

Education: University of Qatar

Qualifications: BA (1975)

Career: Journalist; Head of Programming, Qatar Television 1980-95; Board Member and Managing Director Al-Jazeera Satellite Company, 1996-

Address: PO Box 23123, Doha, Qatar

ATTIYA, Abdullah Khalid, al

Status: Banker

Birth Year: 1953

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married with five children

Education: John Hoskins University, USA; Western Michigan University, USA

Qualifications: B.Sc. (WMU), M.Sc. (John Hoskins)

Career: Chief Executive, Qatar National Bank 1986-1990; Governor, Qatar Central Bank 1990 -

Address: PO Box 1234, Doha, Qatar

ATTIYA, Abdul Rahman bin Hamad, al

Status: Official

Career: Secretary General, Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf Cooperation Council

Address: PO Box 7153 Riyadh 11462, Saudi Arabia

ATTIYA, Major General Hamad Ali Bin Hamad, al

Status: Army General Officer

Birth Year: 1959

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married

Education: General Staff College, U.K.

Career: Commander of Qatari Special Forces; Commander of Army, 1992; Chief of Staff, Qatari Armed Forces 1996 -

Address: PO Box 37, Doha, Qatar

ATTIYAH, Abdullah Bin Hamad, al

Status: Politician and Businessman

Birth Year: 1952

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Education: University of Alexandria, Egypt

Qualifications: BA (1976)

Career: Ministry of Finance 1972; Head of International Department at the Ministry of

Finance 1973-86; Director of Ministry of Finance 1986-89; Director of Ministry of Interior 1989-1992; Deputy Chairman of Q-Tel 1987-92; Minister of Energy & Industry 1992 -; Second Deputy Prime Minister 2003 -

Hobbies: Reading, fishing and radio communications

Address: PO Box 3212, Doha, Qatar

BUZWAIR, Fahad Mohammed

Status: Businessman

Birth Year: 1969

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Education: George Washington University, USA

Qualifications: B.Bus.Admin

Career: Various positions inside family company; CEO, Buzwair Group of Companies, 2000 -

Address: PO Box 319, Doha, Qatar

DAFA, Bader Omar, al

Status: Diplomat

Birth Year: 1952

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married with one son and two daughters

Education: Western Michigan University (USA); John Hopkins University (USA)

Qualifications: B.Sc. (WMU); MA (John Hopkins)

Career: Diplomatic Attaché; First Secretary, Qatar Embassy, Washington; Ambassador to Spain 1982-88, Egypt 1988-

93; France 1993-95; Russia 1995-98; USA 2000 -

Honours: Ordre Nat du Merite

Hobbies: Reading, Music

Address: 2555 M Street, NW Washington, DC 20037

DARWISH, Yousuf Jassim, al

Status: Businessman

Career: Chairman, Al Maha Holdings WLL

Address: PO Box 405, Doha, Qatar

DERHAM, Abdulrahman Bin Saad, al

Status: Politician

Birth Year: 1948

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Parents: Son of Saad Bin Abdulraham al-Derham

Family: Married with eight children

Education: Qatar Secondary Schooling and Higher Education College

Career: Director, Qatar Medical Office in Lebanon; Assistant Director of Labour Department 1979-82; Director of Public Housing 1982-89; Minister of Labour, Housing and Social Affairs 1989-1995

Hobbies: Swimming

Address: PO Box 1220, Doha, Qatar

FAKHROO, Bader Abdullah Al Darwish

Status: Businessman

Birth Year: 1959

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Parents: Son of Abdullah Al Darwish Fakhroo (Dec.)

Family: Married with four children

Education: University of London, United Kingdom

Qualifications: Bus.Admin

Career: Chairman of Bader Darwish Group of Companies

Honours: Citizen of the Year 2000

Address: PO Box 615, Doha, Qatar

GHANIM, Hassen Bin Abdulla

Status: Minister

Birth Year: 1957

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married with children

Education: Portland University of Oregon, USA

Qualifications: B.A;

Career: Officer, Ministry of Foreign Affairs 1981-83; Attaché, Embassy of Qatar in the USA 1983-85; Attaché, Embassy of Qatar in Saudi Arabia 1986-90; Chief of Staff, Embassy of Qatar in Saudi Arabia 1990-95; Officer of the Office of the Crown Prince 1995-96; Assistant Director of the Office of the Amir 1996-99; Undersecretary, Ministry of Electricity & Water 1999-2003. Minister of Justice -

Address: PO Box 917, Doha, Qatar

HIJIR, Hijir Bin Ahmed

Status: Minister

Birth Year: 1942

Family: Married

Education: Colorado University, USA

Qualifications: PhD Medicine

Career: Chairman of Hamad Medical Corporation; Undersecretary of the Ministry of Health 1981-1993; Minister of Health 1995 -

Honours: WHO Award of Merit

Address: PO Box 42, Doha, Qatar

JAMAL, Jassim Yousuf

Status: Diplomat

Birth Year: 1940

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married with three children

Education: Missouri State University, USA

Qualifications: B.A; M.A.

Career: Cultural Attaché USA 1963-68; Director of Cultural Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs 1968-72; Ambassador to the UN, Canada, Brazil and Argentina, Ambassador at Large -

Address: PO Box 250, Doha, Qatar

KAFOUD, Dr. Mohammed Abdul Rahim

Status: Former Minister

Birth Year: 1949

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married with three sons and three daughters

Education: Al-Azhar University

Qualifications: B.A; M.A; PhD

Career: Lecturer, University of Qatar; Dean of Humanities, University of Qatar; Assistant Professor, Faculty of Humanities, University of Qatar; Dean of Student Affairs, University of Qatar; Minister of Education & Culture 1996-98; Former Minister of Education & Higher Education 1998 -2002; Chairman, National Council of Culture, Arts and Heritage

Hobbies: Reading and poetry

Address: PO Box 80, Doha, Qatar

KAMAL, Ali Mohammed

Status: Businessman

Birth Date: May 1, 1964

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married with five children

Qualifications: Degree in Marketing (London)

Career: Sales Manager, Q-Tel; Marketing Manager, Al-Jazeera Satellite Channel; Managing Director of Arabbest;

Address: PO Box 23123, Doha, Qatar

KAMAL, Yousuf Bin Hussein

Status: Minister

Birth Year: 1948

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married

Education: University of Cairo, Egypt

Qualifications: BA

Career: Undersecretary, Deputy Director, General Director, Ministry of Finance; Deputy Minister of Finance, Minister of Finance 1998 -

Address: PO Box 3322, Doha, Qatar

KAWARI, Hamad Abdelaziz, al

Status: Diplomat

Birth Year: 1948

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married with three children

Education: University of Cairo, Egypt; Jesuit University, Beirut, Lebanon

Qualifications: B.A.

Career: Charge d'Affaires, Beirut 1972-74; Ambassador to Syria 1974-79, Ambassador to France 1979-84; United Nations Representative 1984-89, Ambassador to the USA -

Honours: Legion d'Honneur (France)

Address: PO Box 250, Doha, Qatar

KAWARI, Dr. Issa Ghanem, al

Status: Former Minister

Birth Date: February 20, 1942

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married with 4 children

Education: American University of Beirut, Lebanon; University of Exeter, England

Qualifications: B.A.; PhD

Career: Director of Emir's Office & Minister of Information 1972-89; Minister of Diwan Amiri Affairs 1989-1995.

Honours: Medals from Saudi Arabia, Oman, Jordan, Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco and the KGCVO (England)

Hobbies: Horse Riding

Address: Postal Generale, Paris 17117, France

KHALFAN, Maqboob Habib Jaffar

Status: Banker

Birth Year: 1955

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Education: University of Cairo, Egypt

Qualifications: B.Com

Career: Commercial Manager, Doha Bank 1979-84; Assistant General Manager, Doha Bank 1984-86; Deputy General Manager, Doha Bank 1986-87; General Manager, Doha Bank -

Address: PO Box 3818, Doha, Qatar

KHALIFA, Nasser Bin Hamad Bin Mubarak, al

Status: Diplomat

Education: Western Michigan University, USA; John Hopkins University, USA; Lindon School of Economics, United Kingdom

Qualifications: B.A.; M.A.

Career: First Secretary, Qatari Mission to the UN; Deputy Chief of Mission, Qatari Embassy to the USA; Counselor, Embassy of Qatari to France; Ambassador of Qatar to Korea; Ambassador of Qatar to Ital; Ambassador of Qatar to the USA

Address: Embassy of Qatar, 4200 Wisconsin Avenue, Washington DC 20016, USA

KHATTER, Ali Bin Mohammed, al

Status: Former Minister

Birth Year: 1951

Family: Married

Education: University of Wisconsin, USA

Qualifications: B.Sc.

Career: Director of Doha City 1977-1990; Board Member of the Arab Cities Development Forum 1986-1990; Director of Gulf Economic Forum 1992-1993; Secretary-General of the Gulf Organization for Industrial Consultations 1992 - 1998; Minister for the Council of Ministers 1988-89; Minister for Municipal Affairs & Agriculture 1999 - 2002;

Address: PO Box 820, Doha, Qatar

KHOLAIFI, Mohammed Bin Mubarak, al

Status: Politician

Birth Year: 1946

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married with children

Education: University of North Arizona

Qualifications: B.A.

Career: Office Director to the Minister of Health 1970-71; Ambassador to Kuwait 1972-81; Ambassador at Large 1981-99, Speaker of the Advisory Council (Majlis Al-Shura) 1995 -

Address: PO Box 923, Doha, Qatar

KHULAIFI, Mohammed Bin Mubarak, al

Status: Politician

Birth Year: 1946

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Education: University of Arizona, USA

Qualifications: B.A.

Career: Director, Office of the Ministry of Health 1970-71; Ambassador of Qatar to Kuwait 1972-81; Ambassador at Large, Ministry of Foreign Affairs 1981-91; Member of the Shura

Address: PO Box 2034, Doha, Qatar

KUWARI, Ali Bin Said, al

Status: Former Minister

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married with children

Education: University of Colorado, USA

Qualifications: B.Sc. (Civil Engineering)

Career: Assistant Professor, University of Qatar 1982-83; Head of Planning of Police Department, Ministry of the Interior 1983-91; Director of Construction, Ministry of Municipal Affairs 1991; Assistant Undersecretary, Ministry of Municipal Affairs 1993-95; Undersecretary, Ministry of Municipal Affairs 1999-2002; Minister for State Council Affairs 2002-2004

Address: PO Box 820, Doha, Qatar

MAHMOUD, Ahmed Bin Abdullah, al

Status: Minister

Birth Year: 1953

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married with four children

Education: University of Cairo, Egypt; University of Central Michigan, USA

Qualifications: B.A.; M.A.

Career: Third Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs 1976; Charge d'Affaires, Qatar Embassy, Algiers, 1983; Ambassador to Oman 1984-86; Ambassador to the USA 1987-89; Undersecretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs 1989-1995; Minister of State for Foreign Affairs 1995 - 2003

Address: PO Box 250, Doha, Qatar

MAHMOUD, Shaikha Bint Ahmad, al

Status: First Female Qatari Minister

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Education: University of Qatar

Qualifications: B.A.

Career: Arabic language teacher; Principal and supervisor for various schools and teacher training institutes; Assistant Director of the Education Supervisory Directorate; Undersecretary, Ministry of Education; Member of the Supreme Education Council; Member of the Arab Bureau of Education for the Gulf States; Minister for Education 2003 -

Address: PO Box 80, Doha, Qatar

MANA, Abdullah Saleh, al

Status: Former Minister

Birth Year: 1946

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married with three children

Education: Arab University of Beirut, Lebanon

Qualifications: B.A.

Career: Ambassador to the USA, Belgium and Saudi Arabia; Minister for Communications & Transport 1989-1996

Hobbies: Tennis

Address: PO Box 22228, Doha, Qatar

MANA, Hisham Saleh Al Hamad, al

Status: Businessman

Birth Year: 1965

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Education: University of London

Qualifications: Bachelor of Civil Engineering

Career: Chairman, Saleh Al Hamad Al Mana Group of Companies

Address: PO Box 91, Doha, Qatar

MANNAI, Ahmed Abdullah

Status: Businessman

Birth Date: October 25, 1931

Family: Married with seven children

Education: Qatari Primary & High Schools

Career: Founder and Chairman of Mannai Corporation 1950-2000

Honours: Gulf Businessman of the Year 1989

Hobbies: Reading

Address: PO Box 76, Doha, Qatar

MANNAI, Khalid Ahmed

Status: Businessman

Birth Day: January 12, 1962

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married with one daughter

Education: Cornell University, USA; University of St. Thomas, USA

Qualifications: B.Bus.Admin.

Career: Vice-President, Mannai Corporation 1987-2000; Chairman, Mannai Corporation 2000

Address: PO Box 76, Doha, Qatar

MANSOURI, Dr. Ahmed Bin Khalifa Bin Shirbak, al

Status: Minister

Birth Year: 1952

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married with children

Education: University of Qatar; University of Cairo, Egypt

Qualifications: BA, MA, Ph.D.

Career: Assistant Director of Curriculum, Director of Cultural Relations, Head of Immediate & Secondary Schooling, Director of Curriculum, Ministry of Education 1982-1999; Undersecretary, Ministry of Education 1999-2001; Minister for Culture and Education 2001-2003

Hobbies: Reading

Address: PO Box 80, Doha, Qatar

MEHRI, Abdul Qadir, al

Status: Diplomat

Birth Date: November 25, 1943

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married with children

Education: Beirut Arab University, Lebanon; University of Algeria

Qualifications: LL.B.

Career: Secretary, Qatari Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ambassador of Qatar to Algeria, Mauritania, USA

Hobbies: Reading

Address: PO Box 250, Doha, Qatar

MIRRI, Ahmed Bin Abdullah, al

Status: Former Minister

Birth Year: 1960

Family: Married

Education: King Abdul Aziz University, Saudi Arabia

Qualifications: B.A; M.A.

Career: Officer, Qatari Army 1979-1991; Director of the Office of Awqaff & Islamic Affairs 1972; Minister for Awqaff & Islamic Affairs 1996 - 1999

Address: PO Box 422, Doha, Qatar

MISNAD, Misnad Abdullah

Status: Official

Birth Day: May 18, 1958

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married with two children

Education: University of Colorado, USA

Qualifications: B.Sc.

Career: Engineer, Qatar Petroleum; Manager, Ras Laffan Industrial City; Vice Chairman, Qatar Customs & Ports Authority

Address: PO Box 22247, Doha, Qatar

MISNAD, Said Bin Abdullah, al

Status: Banker

Birth Year: 1959

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married with five children

Education: University of Denver (USA);
University of Colorado (USA)

Qualifications: B.Sc.

Career: General Branch Manager, Qatar
National Bank 1990-2000; CEO, Qatar
National Bank 2001 -

Hobbies: Reading

Address: PO Box 1000, Doha, Qatar

**MISSNED, Shaikha Mozah Bint Nasser,
al**

Status: Wife & Consort of His Highness the
Emir

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Seven children

Education: University of Qatar

Qualifications: BA Sociology (1986);
Honorary Doctorates from Virginia
Commonwealth University and Texas A&M
University.

Career: Chairperson, Qatar Foundation for
Education, Science and Community
Development; President, Supreme Council
for Family Affairs; Vice-President, Supreme
Education Council; Special Envoy, UNESCO.

Address: PO Box 923, Doha, Qatar

MOHANNADI, Hamad, al

Status: Businessman

Birth Year: 1958

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Education: Portland State University, USA

Qualifications: B.Eng.

Career: Head of Refinery, National Oil
Distribution Company; Deputy General
Manager, Qatar Petrochemical Company (1991-
92); General Manager, Qatar Petrochemical Co.
Ltd 1992 -

Address: PO Box 756, Doha, Qatar

MUSLEMANI, Dr. Abdullah Abdullatef, al

Status: Official

Birth Year: 1953

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married with four children

Education: University of Cairo, Egypt;
University of Hull, United Kingdom; University
of London, United Kingdom

Qualifications: B.A.; M.A.; PhD

Career: Third Secretary, Ministry of Foreign
Affairs 1976-89; Director of Technical Division,
Ministry of the Council of State 1989-95;
Secretary General, Council of Ministers;
Chairman of the Legislative Committee, Shura
Council

Address: PO Box 636, Doha, Qatar

NUAIMI, Hamad Rashad

Status: Businessman

Birth Year: 1955

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married with five children

Education: University of Missouri, USA

Qualifications: B.Sc.

Career: Project Manager, Qatar Petroleum; Deputy General Manager, QATAC; Deputy General Manager, Qatar Vinyl Corporation; General Manager, Qatar Vinyl Corporation

Address: PO Box 24440, Doha, Qatar

NAUMI, Najeed, al

Status: Politician

Birth Date: March 21, 1954

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married with four sons and one daughter

Education: University of Alexandria, Egypt; University of Dundee, Scotland

Qualifications: LL.B.

Career: Legal Advisor, Qatar Gas & Petrochemical Corp. 1981-88; Office of the Diwan Amiri 1988-92; Legal Advisor; Office of the Crown Prince 1992-95; Minister for Justice 1995-97; Private Practice

Hobbies: Reading and boating

Address: PO Box 9952, Doha, Qatar

NIMAH, Dr. Hassan Ali Hussain, al

Status: Diplomat

Birth Date: February 12, 1940

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Education: Cambridge University, United Kingdom

Qualifications: PhD

Career: Ministry of Foreign Affairs 1959; Ambassador to India (1976-1989); Representative to the United Nations 1990-97; Ambassador at Large

Hobbies: Art

Address: PO Box 250, Doha, Qatar

QADI, Abdul Kadir, al

Status: Banker

Birth Year: 1934

Birth Place: Jerusalem, Palestine

Education: Schooling in Palestine

Career: Member of Board of OPEC; Director, Qatar National Bank; Director, Jordan International Bank; Chairman, Gulf & Occidental Investment Company; Chairman, Arab Jordan Investment Bank

Address: PO Box 1002, Doha, Qatar

SOWAIDI, Khalid Bin Ahmed Bin Mohammed, al

Status: Banker

Birth Year: 1956

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married with five children

Education: University of Guba, Sudan

Qualifications: BA

Career: Director, Qatar Islamic Bank 1987 - ; Chairman, Qatar Islamic Bank 1996-2002; Chairman and Managing Director, KBAS Corporation

Address: PO Box 559, Doha, Qatar

SUBAIE, Abdulaziz Abdallah Turin, al

Status: Official

Birth Year: 1946

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married with five children

Education: University of Cairo, Egypt

Qualifications: B.A.

Career: Manager, Ministry of Education 1971-72; Member, High Council of Education; Member of the Council of Undersecretaries of the Arab Gulf States

Address: PO Box 3737, Doha, Qatar

SUWAIDI, Faisal, al

Status: Businessman

Birth Year: 1954

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married

Qualifications: B. Bus. Admin

Career: Manager, Qatar Petroleum 1986-92; Managing Director, QAFCO, 1992-97, Managing Director, Qatar Gas Corporation 1997 -

Address: PO Box 22888, Doha, Qatar

THANI, Shaikh Abdul Aziz Khalifa, al

Status: Politician and Businessman

Birth Date: December 12, 1948

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Parents: Son of HH Shaikh Khalifa Bin Hamad al-Thani

Family: Married with one son and three daughters

Education: Northern Indiana University, USA

Qualifications: BA, MA

Career: Deputy Minister of Finance 1972; Minister of Finance 1973; Chairman, Qatar Investment Board 1972 - ; Chairman, Qatar National Bank 1972 - ; Chairman, Qatar General Petroleum Corporation 1973 - ; Chairman of AK Group of Companies.

Address: PO Box 1991, Doha, Qatar

THANI, Abdullah Bin Ahmed Bin Abdullah, al

Status: Official & Businessman

Birth Date: August 9, 1965

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married

Education: University of Cambridge, United Kingdom

Qualifications: B.A.

Career: Various positions Ministry of Industry & Public Works; Ministry of Energy; Ministry of Communications & Transport; Deputy Chairman of Al- Khaleej Insurance Co. 1996-; Chairman of Qatar National Hotels Co., 2000 -

Hobbies: Reading and Sport

Address: PO Box 2977, Doha, Qatar

THANI, Shaikh Abdulla Bin Khalid, al

Status: Minister

Birth Year: 1951

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married with children

Qualifications: Graduate Military Officer

Career: Commander of Qatari Armed Forces; Minister for Awqaff & Islamic Affairs 1992; Minister of Internal Affairs 1996; Minister of the Interior 2001-

Hobbies: Sports

Address: PO Box 115, Doha, Qatar

THANI, Shaikh Abdullah Bin Khalifa, al

Status: Prime Minister

Birth Date: December 25, 1959

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married with children

Education: Sandhurst Military Academy, U.K.

Career: Qatari Armed Forces; Minister of the Interior, 1989 - 2001; Prime Minister 1996 -

Hobbies: Languages

Address: PO Box 923, Doha, Qatar

THANI, Abdullah Bin Mohammed Bin Saud, al

Status: Politician

Birth Date: October 20, 1959

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married

Education: Staff College, Cairo, Egypt; Army War College, Washington, USA

Qualifications: M.A.

Career: Squadron Flight Commander; Defence Attaché, London, 1999; Director of the Office of the Emir 2000 -; Chief of the Amiri Diwan 2000 -.

Hobbies: Flying

Address: PO Box 923, Doha, Qatar

THANI, Shaikh Ahmed Bin Nassir, al

Status: Minister

Birth Year: 1962

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married with children

Qualifications: B.Sc. MA

Career: Undersecretary, Ministry of Electricity and Water 1992-96; Minister for Communications and Transport 1996 -;

Address: PO Box 22228, Doha, Qatar

THANI, Shaikh Ahmed Bin Saif, al

Status: Minister

Birth Year: 1940

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married with children

Career: First Ambassador to the U.K; Minister for Foreign Affairs 1985-92; Minister for Justice 1992-1995; State Minister 1995 -

Hobbies: Traveling, Reading

Address: PO Box 276, Doha, Qatar

THANI, Fahad Bin Mohammed Bin Jaber, al

Status: Banker

Birth Year: 1959

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married with five children

Education: Sandhurst Military Academy, United Kingdom

Qualifications: B.A.

Career: Military Attaché 1988; Director of Training, Qatari Army 1994-99; Chairman of Doha Bank, 1996-

Hobbies: Shooting

Address: PO Box 5161, Doha, Qatar

THANI, Shaikh Faisal Bin Qassim Bin Faisal, al

Status: Businessman

Birth Year: 1948

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married with nine children

Qualifications: MBA

Career: Established several large Qatari importing and exporting corporations trading with Arabia, Europe, Asia and the Americas.

Hobbies: Sports

Address: PO Box 6, Doha, Qatar

THANI, Shaikh Falah Bin Jassim Bin Jaber, al

Status: Minister

Birth Year: 1945

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married with children

Qualifications: B.A; M.A.

Career: Undersecretary, Ministry of Civil Service 1989-1992; Deputy Chairman, Civil Service Bureau 1992-95; Chairman of Civil Service Bureau 1995; Minister for Civil Service & Housing 1996 -

Address: PO Box 36, Doha, Qatar

THANI, Shaikh Hamad Bin Abdullah, al

Status: Minister

Birth Date: June 30, 1954

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married

Qualifications: M.A.

Career: Commander of Qatari Air Force; Minister for Defence 1995-96; Minister of State 1996 -

Address: PO Box 37, Doha, Qatar

THANI, Shaikh Hamad Bin Jassim Bin Jabir, al

Status: Minister

Birth Year: 1959

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married with children

Qualifications: BA, MA

Career: Director of the Office of the Minister for Municipal Affairs 1982-1989; Minister for Municipal Affairs & Agriculture 1989-92; Deputy Minister for Electricity & Water 1990-92; Minister for Foreign Affairs 1992 -; First

Deputy Prime Minister 2003 - ; Member of the Ruling Family Council 2000 -

Hobbies: Reading

Address: PO Box 250, Doha, Qatar

THANI, Shaikh Hamad Bin Khalifa, al

Emir of Qatar

Birth Year: 1952

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Parents: Son of Shaikh Khalifa Bin Hamad al-Thani

Family: Married with children

Education: Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, United Kingdom

Qualifications: B.A.; M.A.

Career: Heir Apparent 1977; Commander, First Mobile Battalion 1977; Commander-in-Chief of Qatari Armed Forces 1977 -; Minister of Defence 1977-; Prime Minister 1995-96; Emir of Qatar 1995 -

Honours: Orders of Merit from Egypt, France, Indonesia, Lebanon, Morocco, Oman, Saudi Arabia and the United Kingdom

Address: PO Box 923, Doha, Qatar

THANI, Shaikh Hamad Bin Nasir Bin Jassim, al

Status: Minister

Birth Date: April 15, 1960

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married

Qualifications: LL.B.

Career: Undersecretary, Amiri Diwan 1998; Minister for Internal Affairs 2001 - 2003; Minister of Communications & Transport 2005 -

Hobbies: Traveling

Address: PO Box 115, Doha, Qatar

THANI, Shaikh Hamad Bin Suhaim, al

Status: Minister

Birth Year: 1952

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married with children

Education: Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, United Kingdom

Qualifications: B.A.

Career: Undersecretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs 1986-89; Minister for Information & Culture 1989-1995; Minister of State for Amiri Diwan Affairs 1995-2000;

Address: PO Box 923, Doha, Qatar

THANI, Shaikh Hamad Bin Tamer, al

Status: Official

Birth Year: 1953

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married

Education: University of Qatar

Qualifications: B.A.

Career: Director of Censorship 1991; Undersecretary, Ministry of Information & Culture 1992; Chairman of Al-Jazeera Broadcasting 1995 -

Address: PO Box 23123, Doha, Qatar

THANI, Shaikh Dr. Hamad Nassar, al

Status: Banker

Birth Date: July 23, 1963

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married

Education: Metropolitan State University, USA; University of Wales, United Kingdom

Qualifications: B.A; MBA; PhD

Career: Deputy Finance Director, Qatar Liquefied Gas Company 1993-94; General Manager, Qatar Industrial Development Bank 1997-

Address: PO Box 22789, Doha, Qatar

THANI, Shaikh Jassim Bin Hamad, al

Crown Prince

Birth Date: July 3, 1980

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Parents: Son of Shaikh Hamad Bin Khalifa al-Thani

Education: Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, U.K.

Qualifications: BA, MA

Career: Head of the Qatari National Olympic Committee; Head of the ASIAD 2006 Games Committee; Head of the Qatari Environment Council; Heir Apparent 2003 -

Address: PO Box 923, Doha, Qatar

THANI, Shaikh Khalifa Bin Hamad, al

Status: Former Emir

Birth Year: 1932

Birth Place: Rayyan, Qatar

Parents: Son of Shaikh Hamad Bin Abdullah Bin Tassim al-Thani (Dec)

Family: Married with five children

Education: Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, U.K.

Career: Heir Apparent 1948; Prime Minister 1970-72; Emir of Qatar 1972-95

Honours: Medals and Decorations from Egypt, Sudan, Saudi Arabia, Mauritania, Jordan, Tunisia, France, Oman, Indonesia, Kuwait, Lebanon, Korea, Japan, the United Kingdom.

Address: Paris, France

THANI, Shaikh Mohammed Bin Khalid, al

Status: Minister

Birth Year: 1952

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married

Education: University of Cairo, Egypt

Qualifications: BA, MA,

Career: Director of Heir Apparent Office; Director of the Defence Minister's Office; State Minister for Ministerial Council Affairs 1994 -

Address: PO Box 923, Doha, Qatar

THANI, Shaikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa, al

Status: Former Minister

Birth Year: 1965

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married

Education: George Washington University (USA)

Qualifications: BA

Career: Undersecretary, Ministry of Finance & Petroleum 1989-1992; Minister for Finance & Commerce 1992-1998; Deputy Prime Minister 1998- 2002

Address: PO Box 923, Doha, Qatar

THANI, Rashid Awaida, al

Status: Official

Birth Year: 1953

Birth Place: Doha, Qatar

Family: Married with children

Education: University of Michigan, USA

Qualifications: B.Sc.

Career: Finance Director, Ministry of Finance & Petroleum 1977-79; Deputy Director, Qatar Petroleum Corporation 1979-80; Managing Director, Qatar General Petroleum Corporation 1985-89; Chairman, Arab Petroleum Transport Company 1984-

Address: PO Box 310, Doha, Qatar

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ALI, Mohammed Yousuf, al Official
ALI, Mohammed, al Businessman
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ATTIYA, Abdul Rahman bin Hamad, al Official
ATTIYA, Major General Hamad Ali Bin Hamad, al Army General Officer
ATTIYAH, Abdullah Bin Hamad, al Politician and Businessman
BUZWAIR, Fahad Mohammed Businessman
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DARWISH, Yousuf Jassim, al Businessman
DERHAM, Abdulrahman Bin Saad, al Politician
FAKHROO, Bader Abdullah Al Darwish Businessman
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HIJIR, Hijir Bin Ahmed Minister
GHANIM, Hassen Bin Abdullah, al Minister
JAMAL, Jassim Yousuf Diplomat
KAFOUD, Dr. Mohammed Abdul Rahim Former Minister
KAMAL, Ali Mohammed Businessman
KAMAL, Yousuf Bin Hussein Minister
KAWARI, Hamad Abdelaziz, al Diplomat
KAWARI, Dr. Issa Ghanem, al Former Minister
KHALFAN, Maqboob Habib Jaffar Banker
KHALIFA, Nasser bin Hamad bin Mubarek, al Diplomat
KHATTER, Ali Bin Mohammed, al Former Minister
KHOLAIFI, Mohammed Bin Mubarak, al Politician
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MANNAI, Khalid Ahmed Businessman
MANSOURI, Dr. Ahmed Bin Khalifa Bin Shirbak, al Minister
MEHRI, Abdul Qadir, al Diplomat
MIRRI, Ahmed Bin Abdullah, al Former Minister
MISNAD, Misnad Abdullah Official
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NUAIMI, Hamad Rashad Businessman

NAUMI, Najeed, al Politician
NIMAH, Dr. Hassan Ali Hussain, al Diplomat
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SOWAIDI, Khalid Bin Ahmed Bin Mohammed, al Banker
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THANI, Shaikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa, al Former Minister
THANI, Rashid Awaida, al Official

Recommended Reading

Qatar: Country Study Guide

By International Business Publications USA

Editions: Paperback (Intl Business Pubns USA, May 1, 2002)

Emergence of Qatar: The Turbulent Years 1627-1916

By Habibur Rahman

Editions: Hardcover (Kegan Paul Intl, November 30, 2005)

Trade Policy Review - Qatar 2005

Editions: Paperback (World Trade Organization, June 2, 2005)

Qatar Diplomatic Handbook

By International Business Publications USA

Editions: Paperback (Intl Business Pubns USA, March 30, 2005)

Doing Business and Investing in Qatar

By International Business Publications USA

Editions: Paperback (Intl Business Pubns USA, March 3, 2005)

Qatar Central Bank & Financial Policy Handbook

By International Business Publications USA

Editions: Paperback (Intl Business Pubns USA, March 3, 2005)

Qatar Oil & Gas Sector Business & Investment Opportunities Yearbook

By International Business Publications USA

Editions: Paperback (Intl Business Pubns USA, March 3, 2005)

Qatar Financial Sector Business Opportunities Handbook

By International Business Publications USA

Editions: Paperback (Intl Business Pubns USA, March 3, 2005)

The Qatar Edge

By Joey D. Ossian

Editions: Paperback (Authorhouse, January 31, 2005)

Qatar Country

By International Business Publications USA (editor)

Editions: Paperback (Intl Business Pubns USA, May 1, 2001), 3rd study Edition

Britain's Revival and Fall in the Gulf: Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, and the Trucial States, 1950-71

By Simon C. Smith

Editions: Hardcover (Routledge, July 8, 2004)

Qatar Business Intelligence Report

By International Business Publications USA (editor)

Editions: Paperback (Intl Business Pubns USA, May 1, 2001)

Qatar: Foreign Policy and Government Guide

By International Business Publications USA (editor)

Editions: Paperback (Intl Business Pubns USA, May 1, 2001)

Qatar: The Business Traveler's Handbook

By David Chaddock

Editions: Paperback (Interlink Pub Group Inc, August 1, 2003)

A Line in the Sea: The Qatar V. Bahrain Border Dispute in the World Court

By Jawad Salim Al-Arayed

Editions: Hardcover (North Atlantic Books, July 1, 2003)

Doing Business with Qatar

By Dew Philip (editor); Philip Dew (editor); Anthony Shoult (editor); Jonathan Wallace (editor)

Editions: Paperback (Kogan Page Ltd, January 1, 2003)

Qatar

By Lisa McCoy

Editions: Library (Mason Crest, October 1, 2002)

Looks at the geography, history, economy, government, religion, people, foreign relations, and communities of Qatar.

Lonely Planet Bahrain, Kuwait & Qatar

By Gordon Robison; Paul Greenway

Editions: Paperback (Lonely Planet, June 1, 2000)

This Way Gulf States: Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Oman, Yemen

By JPM Publications (editor)

Editions: Paperback (JPM Pubns, March 1, 2000)

The Ottoman Gulf: The Creation of Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Qatar

By Frederick F. Anscombe

Editions: Hardcover (Columbia University Press Pr, October 1, 1997)

Bahrain, Oman, Qatar, and the UAE: Challenges of Security

By Anthony H. Cordesman

Editions: Hardcover (Westview Pr, May 1, 1997)

Qatar

By Byron Augustin; Rebecca A. Augustin

Editions: School and Library (Children's Press, April 1, 1997)

Describes the geography, history, culture, economy, and people of the small Middle Eastern country of Qatar

Oil and Politics in the Gulf: Rulers Merchants in Kuwait and Qatar

By Jill Crystal

Editions: Paperback (Cambridge University Press, February 1, 1995), updated edition

Bedouins of Qatar

By Klaus Ferdinand; Ida Nicolaisen (editor); Carlsberg Foundation's Nomad Research Project (corporate author)

Editions: Hardcover (Thames & Hudson, August 1, 1993)

Lonely Planet Arab Gulf States: Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia & the United Arab Emirates

By Gordon Robison

Editions: Paperback (Lonely Planet, March 1, 1993)

The Third World: Saudi Arabia, Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Oman, and Yemen

By E. Willard Miller

Editions: Paperback (Vance Bibliographies, September 1, 1989)

The Making of the Modern Gulf States: Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Oman

By Rosemarie Said Zahlan

Editions: Hardcover (Routledge, June 1, 1989)

With Their Bare Hands: The Story of the Oil Industry in Qatar

By Nasser Othman

Editions: Hardcover (Longman Group United Kingdom, June 1, 1984)

Economic and Social Development in Qatar

By Zuhair Ahmed Nafi

Editions: Hardcover (Pinter Pub Ltd, January 1, 1984)

Development Prospects of Capital Surplus Oil-Exporting Countries: Iraq, Kuwait, Libya, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, UAE

By Rudolf Hablutzel

Editions: Paperback (World Bank, November 1, 1981)

Qatar: Development of an Oil Economy

By Ragaei El Mallakh

Editions: Hardcover (Palgrave Macmillan, June 1, 1979)

Bahrain-Qatar

By Alison R Lanier

Editions: Paperback (Intercultural Pr, June 1, 1978)

The Gulf Emirates: Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, United Arab Emirates

By Nagel Ency

Editions: Hardcover (Hippocrene Books, August 1, 1976)

Provides historical, geographic, and social information on Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates.