

**The award is dedicated this year  
to distinguished medical colleges  
graduates in the United Arab Emirates**

جائزة سالم بن حمير التميز العلمي

SALEM BIN HAM AWARD FOR SCIENTIFIC EXCELLENCE

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جائزة سالم بن حمير للتميز العلمي

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**Message of the Chairman of the  
Board of Trustees  
of the Salem bin Ham Award for  
Scientific Excellence**

It is no wonder that the UAE has steadily grown to become a symbol of prosperity and achievement across all sectors.

Its unbending drive towards progress was born out of a tenacious will coupled with eager ambition to build a civilisation; a most daunting feat that was achieved in merely four decades thanks to the firm resolve of our wise leadership.

It was that unyielding spirit that helped

the founders of the nation to dwarf whatever challenges they met along the way, on the road to success, relying on creative thought and unremitting efforts.

With the grace of Allah, those efforts yielded success and abundance.

When the development strategy for the UAE was laid down, it had at its very heart human development and welfare, which continue

to drive the nation's plans.

The education sector has benefited immensely from the UAE's development strategies. It has indeed witnessed an awakening that, today, has it embracing the most advanced scientific advancements from around the world.

Emirati educational institutions have become beacons of enlightenment and a source of pride to

the nation and, indeed, to the whole region.

The Salem bin Ham Award for Scientific Excellence, which is dedicated this year to distinguished graduates from medical colleges in the UAE is a modest contribution to the relentless march towards educational and scientific excellence.

It is a token of our pride in the brilliant young minds and of our appreciation for their

persistence in the pursuit of scientific excellence.

This award is our way of giving back to our beloved homeland and to our wise leadership to thank them for the bounties they have bestowed upon our people and for their efforts to provide all the requirements for scientific progress.

Today's young generations are the shapers of a brighter future to which we all aspire.

**The Salem bin Ham Award** stems from that belief. It seeks to encourage and promote scientific competition amongst university students and to celebrate excellence and pioneering.

We congratulate graduates for this educational merit and we wish them a successful and prosperous future.

**Musallem bin Salem bin Ham**

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## The Award

**Salem Bin Ham Award for Scientific Excellence** The award is a modest contribution to the march of scientific progress in the United Arab Emirates.

It is an expression of respect for our national universities and scientific institutes as they continue to gain prominence among prestigious global educational institutions.

Such auspicious educational progress

wouldn't have been possible without the keenness of our wise leadership to achieve a scientific evolution under the leadership of His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, the President, and his brother His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces alongside their brothers the rulers of the Emirates.

Our wise leadership takes great interest

in education and acknowledges its vital role in the development of citizens and in ensuring future prosperity.

The concept for this scientific distinction award stems from our eagerness to take part in supporting our pioneering students, for they are the custodians of our nation's bright future. It aspires to further promote scientific competition and excellence, in line with the UAE

government's plans.

The Salem bin Ham Award for Scientific Excellence is the fruit of continuous cooperation with Emirati universities in the spirit of community engagement and social responsibility.

We believe that together, institutions and individuals can support the UAE's development plans and programmes, and help materialise the vision of our wise leadership, which

aims to equip the young generation with scientific capabilities and specialised competencies.

It is only through such programmes that we can ensure that our children will one day be able to shoulder the responsibility to preserve and expand the achievements of the present.

We intend for this award to become an annual event that celebrates excellence and merit.

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**Sheikh Salem bin Ham**

**Sheikh Salem bin Ham** is one of this country's faithful citizens, esteemed for his abilities, expertise, craftiness, vast knowledge and the distinct ability to address issues and problems with wisdom and astuteness.

These qualities have earned him the esteem and the friendship of His Highness late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan – may he rest in peace, since early on. Theirs

was a long-lasting friendship that included many a major event and transformation in the United Arab Emirates and in the region. As a close confidant of Sheikh Zayed, bin Ham is a living witness of all the details of that era.

Bin Ham witnessed first-hand the tremendous achievements that took shape on the soil of this bountiful land. His important

services to the country warranted him the unquestionable merit and appreciation of the UAE and a special standing and respect amongst tribesmen, his peers and loved ones.

Sheikh Salem has always relied on his peculiar acumen and intelligence coupled with his vast know-how to read between the lines and to conjure the necessary abilities to resolve the disputes of those who seek his

wisdom and trust his judgement in various matters. His Highness Sheikh Zayed would often discuss issues with him and ask for his point of view, and Sheikh bin Ham never disappointed.

Sheikh Salem bin Ham was a prominent member of the first National Consultative Council in Abu Dhabi Emirate where, during his long tenure, he actively participated

along with fellow members in reviewing and resolving issues of interest to the homeland and to citizens, a commitment that reflected his love and loyalty to his family and countrymen and his firm allegiance to the country and its leadership.

In recognition of his exceptional dedication to national duty and his significant contributions to community service, Sheikh

Salem was nominated for the second edition of Abu Dhabi Awards for Humanitarian Action in 2006, an accolade he deservedly earned. He was personally awarded by His Highness General Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces.

These are the words of HH Sheikh Tahnoun bin Mohammed Al Nahyan, Ruler's

Representative in the Eastern Region in his prologue to Salem bin Ham, Memories of History, A Life's Journey By Dr. Alaa Nawras.

Ahmed Khalifa Al Suwaidi—who has held several senior government positions before and after the establishment of the UAE, from member of the Planning Council, which was decreed by Sheikh Zayed in March 1968, to Chief of Staff of the Emiri Court, to Minister of Foreign Affairs,

to Representative of the UAE President – said the following of Sheikh Salem bin Ham:

“Your Highness, allow me to speak of one of the honourees at this ceremony: Sheikh Salem bin Ham. I have known Sheikh Salem for his long friendship with Sheikh Zayed. Salem bin Ham comes from

a well-known family, one of the oldest tribes in the United Arab Emirates.

He accompanied Sheikh Zayed since the two were very young, and he witnessed all of Sheikh Zayed's great achievements. He participated in the establishment of the

Union and in some of its major accomplishments. Sheikh Salem served the country and the people during the time he accompanied the late Sheikh Zayed.

Salem bin Ham is one of the loyal men who served this country and its people,

and he continues to do so. He possesses broad knowledge, tremendous experience, sound judgment, and honourable lineage. There is no doubt that his long friendship with Sheikh Zayed has given him great insight into public matters. Sheikh Zayed usually consulted Sheikh Salem on

various issues regarding the state and the people.”

On the same occasion, Abu Dhabi TV commented about the honouring of Sheikh Salem by saying:

“He is a man of will; he was never discouraged by adversity, and he kept his feet on the ground, just like the great

palm trees of our generous land. Salem bin Ham Al Amri, the true Bedouin who accompanied the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan during his youth, and witnessed all phases of change that our country went through.

He was the brother and the

friend who was always present at Sheikh Zayed's majlises, and he is the keeper and chronicler of many episodes in the life of the late Sheikh Zayed, may he rest in peace. Sheikh Salem was one of the earliest people who endeavoured to instil safety and security at a time when, just before the establishment

of the Union, Abu Dhabi was facing many challenges.

This man's efforts did not stop with the establishment of the United Arab Emirates; under the guidance of Sheikh Zayed, Sheikh Salem helped solve disputes between tribes, uniting them under the

same flag. He later became a member of the National Consultative Council of Abu Dhabi, where he spent his tenure serving the people and helping them with their issues and concerns.

Salem is one of Abu Dhabi's loyal sons who have offered

many ideas and initiatives for the good of the nation, and who have understood well that the journey is long and requires constantly rolled-up sleeves.”

The memory of Sheikh Salem bin Ham is a gold repository of past and present events; he is a witness to an era – an era that figures prominently in the annals of this region’s history, a history that is forever marked by Sheikh Zayed.

The late Sheikh Zayed made an immortal history, a motivating history. Some countries have a history that holds their people back; the history of the United Arab Emirates propels its people forward. It is a history that embodies Sheikh Zayed's wisdom, resolve, and willpower, which were enough to turn lofty aspirations, hopes, and dreams into tangible realities.

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