

DIFI TO HOLD SYMPOSIUM ON MARRIAGE IN THE ARAB WORLD

Experts, policy-makers, and thought leaders will discuss the state of marriage in the Arab region

Doha, Qatar, December 1, 2019: The Doha International Family Institute is hosting a forum on a culturally significant conversation in the Arab world – marriage.

The symposium, titled The Arab Family Forum on Marriage, is taking place at Qatar National Convention Centre from December 2-3, and will focus on reports by the Doha International Family Institute (DIFI) that discuss marital education, the state of marriage, types of marriages, current and future trends in marriage, and relationship education programs in the Arab world.

Experts from across the MENA region are set to attend the forum, which will also see the participation of youth and couples, who will discuss best practices for marital education programs in Qatar.

“DIFI has produced a comprehensive report on the state of marriage in the Arab world, focusing on 22 countries,” said Dr. Sharifa Noaman Al Emadi, Executive Director of DIFI. “The report addresses various deficits in our knowledge on marriage trends, the factors that shape marriage, and the obstacles and challenges to marriage across the Arab world.”

DIFI is also undertaking a systematic review of marital education programs across the Arab region that aims to map and analyze the content, topics, and approaches used to provide policy recommendations.

A highlight of the forum will be a keynote speech by Her Excellency Dr. Haifa Abu Ghazaleh, Assistant Secretary-General and Head of the Social Affairs Sector, the Arab League. Representatives from universities in Kuwait, Lebanon, Morocco, and the UK will also speak at the forum.

DIFI is a global policy and advocacy institute that has special consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council. It works to advance knowledge on Arab families through research and promote evidence-based policies at a national, regional, and international level and hopes to make great strides in the often overlooked topic of marriage through this forum.

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About Doha International Family Institute (DIFI)

The Doha International Family Institute (DIFI), a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF), was established in 2006. The Institute works to strengthen the family through the development and dissemination of high-quality research on Arab families, encouraging knowledge exchange on issues relevant to the family and making the family a priority to policy-makers through advocacy and outreach at the national, regional and international levels. Among the Institute's most important initiatives is the Annual Conference on the Family; and the OSRA Research Grant in collaboration with the Qatar National Research Fund, an annual research grant which encourages research related to the Arab family and family policy. The Institute has special consultative status with United Nations Economic and Social Council.

Qatar Foundation – Unlocking Human Potential

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF) is a non-profit organization that supports Qatar on its journey to becoming a diversified and sustainable economy. QF strives to serve the people of Qatar and beyond by providing specialized programs across its innovation-focused ecosystem of education, research and development, and community development.

QF was founded in 1995 by His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Father Amir, and Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, who shared the vision to provide Qatar with quality education. Today, QF's world-class education system offers lifelong learning opportunities to community members as young as six months through to doctoral level, enabling graduates to thrive in a global environment and contribute to the nation's development.

QF is also creating a multidisciplinary innovation hub in Qatar, where homegrown researchers are working to address local and global challenges. By promoting a culture of lifelong learning and fostering social engagement through programs that embody Qatari culture, QF is committed to empowering the local community and contributing to a better world for all.

For a complete list of QF's initiatives and projects, please visit: www.qf.org.qa

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