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**Dh5.5 billion  
approved for  
Dubai housing  
projects**

**DUBAI**

Gulf News Report

Housing projects worth Dh5.5 billion across Dubai were approved yesterday by His Highness Shaikh Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, as part of the Dubai Social Agenda 33.

The projects include the allocation of 3,500 plots of land to be distributed among citizens in Dubai, besides 2,300 ready-to-move-in houses across the emirate.

Shaikh Mohammad also issued directives to name a new area designated for citizens as Latifa City. He reaffirmed Dubai's commitment to launching still more projects to fulfil the aspirations of its citizens. "Our ultimate objective is to enhance the quality of citizens' lives for a brighter future," he said.

The plots earmarked for citizens cover an area spanning 40 million square feet, with eligible citizens from Dubai to be handed over ownership in February.

These include 2,700 plots in Latifa City and 800 plots in Al Yalaisy 5 area. The 2,300 new houses for citizens are located across areas in Al Khawaneej 2, Al Aweer, Wadi Al Amardi, and Hatta.

## Nearly 24,000 killed as war in Gaza hits 100-day mark

AID WORK HALTED BY SHUTDOWN OF COMMUNICATIONS, INTERNET SERVICES

**GAZA**

Israeli tanks and aircraft hit targets in southern and central Gaza yesterday and there were fierce gun battles in some areas as the war reached 100 days since the October 7 attack led by gunmen from the Islamist Hamas movement.

Communications and internet services were down for the third day running, complicating the work of emergency and ambulance crews trying to help people in areas hit by fighting.

Fighting was concentrated in the southern city of Khan Younis, where Hamas said its fighters hit an Israeli tank, as well as in Al Bureij and Al Maghazi in central Gaza, where the military said several militants were killed.

**Rocket pits destroyed**

The military also said its forces destroyed several rocket pits used by Hamas to fire missiles at Israel.

Over the past 24 hours, the Gaza health ministry said 125 people had been killed and 265 wounded, bringing the total number confirmed to have been killed since the start of the war to almost 24,000, with more than 60,000 wounded.

Speaking through video link to a conference in Istanbul, Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh praised the October 7 attack by



Reuters

■ A man sits next to a writing on the wall amid the rubble of a house destroyed by Israeli strikes. The writing reads: "Children remaining under the rubble, Oman, Abdullah and Massa."

the group's fighters who ram-paged through Israeli communities around the Gaza Strip, killing more than 1,200 people and seizing around 240 hostages, according to Israeli tallies.

"We are not seekers of wars. We are seekers of freedom," he

said, saying the attack was, in part, a response to the years-long Israeli blockade of the Gaza Strip, which Hamas has controlled since 2007.

The Israeli military says it has shifted to a new phase of the war, focused on the south-

ern end of the territory, where almost 2 million people are now sheltering in tents and other temporary accommodation, after the initial phase centred on clearing the northern end including Gaza City. —Reuters

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## How UAE children with ADHD beat the odds to chase dreams

Parental support and medication crucial for youngsters to build fulfilling lives

**DUBAI**

**BY ANJANA KUMAR**  
Senior Reporter

UAE resident Namita Nair (name changed) initially responded with denial when her 26-year-old son revealed his ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder) diagnosis.

Rohit (name changed) lived for 23 years without knowing he had ADHD. It was only during his undergraduate studies in the US that a friend noticed his ADHD tendencies, leading to a confirmation from

a neuro specialist. The distraught mother didn't believe it. "I refused to accept he had ADHD," Nair said. However, the diagnosis liberated Rohit. "A bit of research helped me understand my neurodivergent behaviour. Now medication and coping techniques have helped [perform better at work]."

In the UAE, numerous children with ADHD have surmounted their struggles to forge successful careers. Behind them stand parents who provided unwavering support.

**In the UAE, numerous children with ADHD have surmounted their struggles to forge successful careers.**

Mónica Schottenheim, an Argentinian expat in Dubai and mother of three ADHD children, advises parents to be patient and connect with their children rather than correcting or judging them.

She adds: "My eldest son, now 24, was diagnosed with Asperger syndrome and ADHD when he was eight years old. My other two children were diagnosed in their teens. Today, they are successful thanks to behavioural therapy and a good family support system."

According to Dr Derk W. Krieger, a consultant neurologist at NMC Royal Hospital, DIP, identifying the specific subtype of ADHD is crucial for tailoring effective interventions and support.

**SPECIAL REPORT P7**



**SPORT**

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