

DSF's 'most extraordinary season ever' begins today

DUBAI
BY FAISAL MASUDI
Assistant Editor

Today will usher in "the most extraordinary season ever" of Dubai Shopping Festival (DSF), with several all-new experiences in the line-up as well as the return of popular favourites. The 38-day festival of bargains, shows, dining and more is launching the first-ever edition of DSF Nights at Dubai Festival City with an assortment of free-to-attend family entertainment every day of DSF, which ends on January 12, 2025.

Mohammad Faras, Vice President, Dubai Festivals and Retail Establishment (DFRE), told *Gulf News* that another highlight of this DSF are two nature experiences — 'DSF x Hatta' and 'Al Marmoom Collective: The Uncommon x DSF'. He pointed out that while daily fireworks will be held as usual, they will take place two times every day of this DSF. Also, the drone shows will take place twice-daily, in addition to skydive stunts and pyrotechnic displays later this month.

The 30th anniversary edition of DSF also brings an enhanced version of the Dubai Lights installations. The festival is a chance to experience "the very best of what our city has to offer", Faras said.

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IT ACCOUNTED FOR 42% OF TOTAL RELIEF PROVIDED TO PALESTINIANS

DUBAI
BY STEPHEN N.R.
Senior Associate Editor

The UAE has topped the list of countries providing the most support to Gazans between October 2023 and November 2024, according to the Financial Tracking Service of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. The UAE's contributions, valued at \$828 million, accounted for 42 per cent of the total aid provided to the war-ravaged Palestinians.

Among the first nations to respond to the humanitarian crisis, the UAE has focused on supporting vital sectors through air, land, and sea operations.

As part of its ongoing initiatives, the UAE's Operation Chivalrous Knight 3 has provided a new fleet of state-of-the-art ambulances to Gaza hospitals, according to WAM.

International recognition

The UAE's contributions have garnered widespread praise with Muhammad Hadi, UN Deputy Special Coordina-

QATAR MEDIATION

Qatar has resumed its role as a mediator in efforts to secure a truce in the war following a brief suspension, a source with knowledge of the talks told AFP. In November, Doha announced it had put its mediation on hold, saying it would resume when Hamas and Israel showed "willingness and seriousness". —S.N.R.

tor for the Middle East Peace Process, highlighting how its generous support has been instrumental in alleviating Gaza's humanitarian crisis.

Dr. Richard Peeperkorn, WHO Representative in the Palestinian Territory, expressed gratitude for the UAE's continuous efforts to strengthen Gaza's health care system in collaboration with WHO.

The UAE's dedication to supporting the health sector and vital infrastructure underscores its commitment to alleviating the suffering of Gazans during these challenging times.

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