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NATION | P5
'STAND OF
LOYALTY
PARADE'
ON UAE'S
SPECIAL DAY



Let us celebrate unity,
progress and diversity



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CELEBRATION OF HERITAGE, MODERNITY

UAE leaders watch spectacular show in Al Ain to mark 53rd Eid Al Etihad

ALAIN

BY SAJILA SASEENDRAN
Chief Reporter

The UAE yesterday held a grand official ceremony to celebrate the 53rd Eid Al Etihad, marking the union of the emirates and the nation's remarkable journey toward innovation and leadership in various fields.

Held at the base of Jebel Hafeet in Al Ain, the event showcased a beautiful blend of heritage and modernity, highlighting the country's unity from its early mountain dwellers and pearl divers to its achievements in space exploration and AI.

President His Highness Shaikh Mohammad Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, His Highness Shaikh Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, Shaikh Mansour Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Vice-President, Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of the Presidential Court, Their Highnesses the Supreme Council Members and Rulers of the Emirates and Crown Princes were among the dignitaries attending the event.

Advanced tech

The show featured advanced technologies like drones, light, shadow play, and palm tree props. It symbolised the deep connection between the UAE's ancestral innovations and its modern technological advancements.

The show celebrated the



Courtesy: UAE Presidential Court

■ Shaikh Mohammad Bin Zayed, Shaikh Mohammad Bin Rashid, Shaikh Hamad Bin Mohammad Al Sharqi, Ruler of Fujairah, Shaikh Saud Bin Rashid Al Mu'alla, Ruler of Umm Al Quwain, Shaikh Saud Bin Saqr Al Qasimi, Ruler of Ras Al Khaimah, Shaikh Mansour, Shaikh Sultan Bin Mohammad Bin Sultan Al Qasimi, Crown Prince and Deputy Ruler of Sharjah and Shaikh Ammar Bin Humaid Al Nuaimi, Crown Prince of Ajman, ahead of the 53rd Eid Al Etihad celebrations in Al Ain.

contributions of the Father of the Nation Shaikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan and other founding members of the UAE. It also paid rich tributes to two influential figures: Shaikh Zayed's mother, Shaikha Salama Bint Butti Al Qubaisi, and his cousin, Shaikh Tahnoon Bin Mohammad Al Nahyan, who passed away earlier this year.

The stage, inspired by the mountain range, was the largest

est ever built for an official ceremony. A 66-member orchestra, including 33 Emiratis, accompanied the performance, which involved 10,000 professionals from 81 nationalities.

The narrative by the elements of nature, split into seven chapters, began with the story of the UAE told by the Thuraya constellation, symbolising its guidance across generations. Other chapters followed key

milestones in UAE history, from the creation of the falaj irrigation system to Shaikh Zayed's leadership and the formation of the UAE in 1971. Jebel Hafeet, the palm tree and the Suhail star also appeared as the narrators.

National pride

The show then highlighted the UAE's environmental and technological advancements, showcasing projects like AI-

powered fish robots and coral restoration through 3D-printed tiles. It concluded with a celebration of national pride, featuring a traditional Harbiya sword dance and a symbolic palm tree display, with colourful flares from drones representing unity and sustainability.

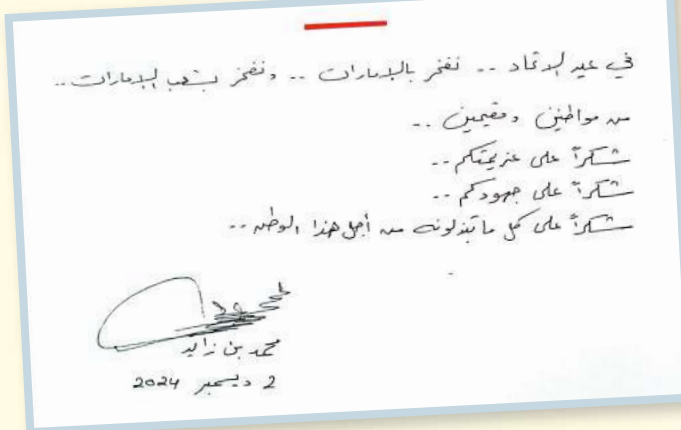
In other events held on the day, Shaikh Mohammad Bin Rashid attended *Waqfat Walaa* (Stand of Loyalty) Parade, along

with Shaikh Mansour and Shaikh Hamdan Bin Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence of the UAE, and Chairman of Dubai Executive Council.

Shaikh Mohammad Bin Rashid also awarded Space Medals to five Emiratis, including Dr Sultan Al Neyadi, Minister of State for Youth Affairs.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE TO CITIZENS, EXPATS



"To the people of the UAE, On the occasion of Eid Al Etihad, we take pride in the UAE and its people, both citizens and residents. Thank you for your determination. Thank you for your efforts. Thank you for all that you do for this nation."

President His Highness Shaikh Mohammad Bin Zayed Al Nahyan

Newborns sharing birthday with UAE add to their parents' delight

Emirati, expat families welcome bundles of joy on special occasion

DUBAI

BY SAJILA SASEENDRAN
Chief Reporter

Newborns, who share their birthday with the UAE, have added extra delight to several parents in the country, on the special occasion of the 53rd Eid Al Etihad celebrating the Union.

At Burjeel Hospital in Abu Dhabi, baby boy Yousef made his arrival exactly at the stroke of midnight, weighing 2.70kg. His proud parents, UAE nationals Talal Al Malagith and Khawla Mohammad Shukralla Abdulla, felt blessed to welcome their third child. "Welcoming our baby on Eid Al Etihad is both a proud and unforgettable moment for us. The UAE holds a special place in our hearts every day, and now, with



Meet the newborns sharing UAE's birthday

our little one sharing this significant day with the nation, it adds a unique joy to our celebrations each year," the parents stated.

Thumbay University Hospital Ajman welcomed the arrival of a baby girl born to Pakistani parents Syed Zakir Ali and Afia Shafique. "By the grace of Allah, we are overjoyed at the safe arrival of our beloved second child born in the early hours of the UAE's 53rd National Day celebrations. We have chosen the name 'Shanzeh,' which means 'Princess'," the father said.

NMC Specialty Hospital, Abu Dhabi, welcomed another girl born to Indian parents Antara and Indranil Bhattacharya at 12.24am. "The national day of UAE has become more special now with my second daughter seeing the first light on the earth on this special day," the father said.

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Meet Emirati chronicling UAE's oral history **P2**



Fireworks add to celebration of national pride in Dubai **P3**



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نهنك بعيد الاتحاد

Wishes you a joyful Eid Al Etihad



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