



## Total 368 players from 16 teams expected to take part in FIFA Arab Cup Qatar 2021



The FIFA Arab Cup trophy.

FIFA/TNN  
DOHA

LESS than one week remains until the first FIFA pan-Arab football tournament, as 16 teams come together to compete in the FIFA Arab Cup 2021. Excitement is building for the start of the competition on November 30 as the full squads of the participating teams have been released.

A total of 368 players are expected to take part in the competition with some big names called-up to compete in Qatar to lift the coveted trophy at the highly-anticipated final at Al Bayt Stadium on 18 December.

Hosts Qatar will be looking to continue their success in recent years. The current Asian champions will be relying on several players who lifted the



Qatar players gesture during a training session at their preparatory camp in Spain. (Right) Qatar coach Felix Sanchez and Almoez Ali during training at the conditioning camp.

AFC Asian Cup title two years ago, the first major international trophy in their history. Top scorer Almoez Ali, captain Hassan Al Haydos and the 2019 AFC Player of the Year Akram Afif will all feature.

Meanwhile, speaking on Qatar's preparations in an interview to beIN SPORTS, coach Felix Sanchez said, "Normally, we want to have a good role in the tournament,

for everyone to get to know Qatar's National Team and feel proud of it. We strive to compete for the title, but we must be ready to achieve that."

"The tournament will be difficult, as all participating teams are keen to win the title," he added.

The Spaniard, a previous F.C. Barcelona Youth Coach, expertly managed Qatar's National Team to two major

victories during the AFC U-19 Championship, held in Myanmar (2014) and the AFC Asian Cup, held in the UAE (2019).

African champions Algeria are also not short of well-known names as their squad includes Yacine Brahimi and El Arabi Soudani, who both played at the 2014 FIFA World Cup, along with Qatar-based Baghdad Bounedjah, scorer of the winning goal in the 2019



African Cup of Nations.

Tunisia will arrive in Doha with an experienced squad that includes players who featured at the last FIFA World Cup in Russia; Farouk Ben Mustapha, Yassine Meriah, Fakhreddine Ben Youssef, Ali Maaloul, Ferjani Sassi and Naim Sliiti. Carlos Queiroz's Egypt will meanwhile rely on the vast experience of top goalkeeper Mohamed El Shenawy.

There will be plenty of other stars that fans will be able to watch playing across the six FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022™ stadiums including UAE's Ali Mabhkhouh and Ismail Matar, former FIFA U-20 World Cup adidas Golden Ball winner, in addition to Syria's top striker Omar Al Soma and Feras Al Brikan of Saudi Arabia.

Fans will have a chance to watch all these prominent

players and many other rising stars as tickets for every FIFA Arab Cup™ match are still available from [fifa.com/tickets](http://fifa.com/tickets).

A number of Category 4 tickets priced QR 25 (for Qatar residents only) remain available for all matches except the semi-finals and final. All ticket holders must apply for a mandatory Hay'ya Card (Fan ID) from [fac21.qa](http://fac21.qa).

## Younousse & Ahmed outclass Japanese pair at Asian Beach Volleyball

TRIBUNE NEWS NETWORK  
DOHA

QATAR'S Cherif Younousse and Tijan Ahmed outclassed Japan's Yoshiumi Hasegawa and Takashi Tsuchiya 21-9, 21-15 to enter the quarter-finals of the Asian Beach Volleyball Championships in Phuket, Thailand, on Thursday.

The second seeds and World No 1 pair will take on Australians Izac Carracher and James Takken, who stunned seventh seed Iranians Abolhamed Mirzaali and Alireza Aghajanighasab 23-21, 21-15.

Younousse and Tijan Ahmed, the bronze medallists at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games, remain on track to winning their third crown. The duo have won the Asian title two times on the trot in 2018 and 2019 as well as gold medal at the 2018 Asian Games in Indonesia.

Meanwhile, another Qatari pair Ahmed Mahmoud and Saifeddin Elmajid were knocked out of the tournament after the eighth seeds lost to Jude Garcia and Arbas to Anthony Lemuel Jr of Philippines 22-20, 18-21, 15-12.

The 11th seeds Bahman Salemi and Abolhassan Khaki-



Qatar's Cherif Younousse and Tijan Ahmed during their match against Japan's Yoshiumi Hasegawa and Takashi Tsuchiya 21-9, 21-15 at the Asian Beach Volleyball Championships in Phuket, Thailand, on Thursday.

zadeh caused a major upset when the Iranians pulled off a stunning 2-1 (21-18, 19-21, 15-11) win against Thai top seeds Banlue Nakprakhong/Surin Jongklang, who earlier did not drop a set en route to topping Pool A.

The Iranian duo were no stranger to the beach volley-

ball scene as Salemi was the 2017 Asian champions with his partner Rahman Raoufi, while young Khakizadeh proved his brilliance beyond his age. The 19-year-old Khakizadeh swept both Asian U19 and U21 titles early this year in Nakhon Pathom, Thailand and teamed up with veteran Salemi for the

first time in the Asian Championships here in Phuket.

The quarterfinals will be held on Friday morning, followed by the semi-finals in the afternoon. The third-place playoffs and two final matches will take place on Saturday, the final day of the championships.



## Chang eyes winning show at QNB Asia Triathlon Cup Doha 2021

TRIBUNE NEWS NETWORK  
DOHA

Tuan Chun Chang of Chinese Taipei is aiming for a winning performance at the QNB Asia Triathlon Cup Doha 2021 kicks off at the Lusail Marina on Friday.

Excerpts from a Q&A session with the 27-year-old.

**Your first impressions about Qatar?**

For me, I feel really good being out here. This is my first overseas visit this year. The weather is really great here. I like warm weather. I love it. I hope I can have a good result here. Hot weather for me is better than cold weather. In my country, it is cold right now. So everything feels great here. Everybody in my team is really focused and we want to do well here.

**When was your last event before coming to Qatar?**

Last weekend we had a local race in Taiwan. Before that we had a national camp also. In the last event, I was at the top of the field there. I just think I can



Tuan Chun Chang of Chinese Taipei.

do well here too.

**These are important months leading up to the Asian Games 2022. What are you looking at from this week's competition?**

We have the qualifiers for the 2022 Asian Games in China. So this is our Chinese Taipei team for those qualifiers. We signed for the event here in Qatar so all of us come here and compete against some of the best athletes.

**What are the long-term goals in your career?**

After this race, I will look at the Asian Games 2022 in China. That's the main goal. I want to

win there. The next few months are important for me. I also want to be there at the 2024 Olympic Games (in Paris) but first I need to check my calendar and hopefully I arrive at the Asian Games fully prepared.

**How does it feel to be at an international event during COVID-19 times?**

The travelling part is difficult for every athlete. You have to develop a plan and do the races. We arrived here on Sunday and everything has been good since then.

**Have you been around the city since your arrival?**

We have just been training at the venue because we are very focused on what we want to do here. The venue is nice. Everybody likes the water temperature.

**How many hours do you train on a daily basis?**

On an average we train four hours a day. That's what I do. For one week, it is about 28-30 hours. Some athletes do it for more than 30 hours. Some think 28 hours a week are enough.

### Quick read

#### Bayern Munich president Hainer urges vaccination and defends Kimmich

Bayern Munich president Herbert Hainer on Thursday lobbied in favour of coronavirus vaccination again but also defended the club's infected midfielder Joshua Kimmich and others from criticism. Bayern and Germany key player Kimmich had recently acknowledged he was not vaccinated because of personal concerns. That sparked a nationwide debate on vaccination among footballers which became more heated when Kimmich had to quarantine twice for being in contact with infected people - before it was announced on Wednesday that he was the latest Bayern player to contract the virus. Hainer told the Bayern assembly the club was "permanently" in talks with their unvaccinated players to convince them of the job. "We as FC Bayern see vaccination as the best way to lead a life like before corona again," Hainer said. But he also said it was "not OK" to "publicly shame" Kimmich and the others, vowing he would stand by his players. Several other clubs have also reported players and staff have been infected among record nationwide infection rates. Mainz sports director Christian Heidel reiterated his criticism on politicians demanding a 2G solution of only vaccinated and recovered players being allowed to play. "Some politicians obviously have nothing else in mind during one of the worst situations in the country since World War II to vent on footballers having to be vaccinated," Heidel told Friday's Stuttgarter Nachrichten and Stuttgarter Zeitung dailies. (DPA)



Mansoor Al Ansari, Secretary-General of the Qatar Football Association (QFA), received the delegation of the Argentine Football Association (AFA) on Thursday.



## QFA meets delegation from Argentine Football Association

TRIBUNE NEWS NETWORK  
DOHA

MANSOOR Al Ansari, Secretary-General of the Qatar Football Association (QFA), received on Thursday the delegation of the Argentine Football Association (AFA), represented by Mr Fernando Martinez, member of the Board of Directors, and in the presence of the Argentine Ambassador to the State, HE Dr Marcelo Gilardoni.

The meeting took place in the presence of the Argentine Football Association delegation, consisting of Pablo Diaz, Head of International Relations, Leandro Petersen, Head of Marketing Department, and Alejandro Patino, Director of Operations.

Hani Talib Ballan, a member of the Executive Office of the QFA and CEO of the Qatar Stars League Management, also held a lengthy meeting that dealt with consultations on future projects and the exchange of experiences between the two sides.

During the visit, they discussed ways to enhance cooperation between the two sides. They talked about issues of common interest between the two federations, especially since they are linked to a cooperation agreement from 2018.

Three years ago, the QFA and AFA discussed the importance of activating ways

to develop football to serve the game in both Qatar and Argentina and to enhance the frameworks of cooperation between them.

The two parties discussed many matters related to football that link the two sides as well as ways to support it for the benefit of all parties and in a way that enhances the opportunities for exchanging experiences between the two federations.

The Argentine side suggested exchange and interaction programs between the two parties for the year 2022 onwards through the possibility of sending a number of carefully selected young players and some referees to Argentina in a complete coexistence experience that represents total immersion in Argentine football culture.

The meeting also dealt with the importance of holding more talks in the coming periods and setting more than one conception of using Argentine experiences best and ensuring great value for the next generation of Qatari football players, national teams, and referees.

The visit represented a new start for relations between QFA and its Argentine counterpart and other friendly federations, within the framework of what the QFA seeks to strengthen its ties with all federations and continents.

## UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

# Sporting eliminate Dortmund as Real, Man City and PSG progress

DPA  
BERLIN

A first half double from Pedro Goncalves inspired Sporting Lisbon to a 3-1 win over Borussia Dortmund on Wednesday which secured a place in the knock-out stage of the Champions League and eliminated the Bundesliga side.

An injury-hit Dortmund fell behind when Nico Schulz - playing as Raphael Guerreiro strained a muscle warming-up - misjudged a long ball and Goncalves capitalized to open the scoring in the 30th minute. Just nine minutes later Goncalves struck again through his own brilliance, finding the net with a thumping long drive.

Dortmund tried to fight back after the break but a harsh red card for Emre Can following a skirmish and Pedro Porro's penalty rebound, after Goncalves missed the chance for his hat-trick, ended their hopes.

Donyell Malen struck an injury-time consolation but they will finish third in Group C and have a future in the Europa League as they are three points behind Sporting with the poorer head-to-head.

"That is bitter," said Dortmund captain Marco Reus. "It



Paris Saint-Germain's French striker Kylian Mbappe (2nd R) celebrates with teammates after scoring the opening goal of the UEFA Champions League Group A match against Manchester City at the Etihad Stadium in Manchester, England, on Wednesday. (AFP)

was a terrible night.

"We're out. That's the bitter truth. We're going home empty-handed, it hurts." Sporting will be second behind Ajax, who maintained their perfect record thanks to Sebastian Haller's second half brace securing a 2-1 win at bottom side Besiktas.

Real Madrid and Inter

Milan have progressed from Group D after wins, 3-0 at Sheriff and 2-0 at home to Shakhtar Donetsk respectively. They will contest the group victory in Spain in the final round.

Sheriff, the first Moldovan side in the Champions League, are certain to finish third in a superb debut in the elite com-

petition.

Last season's runners-up Manchester City came from behind with second half goals from Raheem Sterling and Gabriel Jesus overturning Kylian Mbappe's opener for Paris Saint-Germain.

"After conceding, the team showed a great reaction," City midfielder Bernardo Silva told

BT Sport. "You are never safe. If you give space to Lionel Messi, Neymar or Mbappe, they can create chances."

Both will progress from Group A with City as winners and PSG in second. RB Leipzig crushed Club Brugge 5-0 away to move level with the Belgian side on four points and take control of the race for the Europa League.

"The most important thing is to qualify," PSG captain Marquinhos, told Canal+. "Sometimes you finish top and you play a really strong club. Sometimes you finish second and you end up with a better draw."

Liverpool could have been joined by Porto in the last 16 but a sweet long-range shot from Thiago and typical Mohamed Salah finish downed the visitors from Portugal at Anfield.

Juergen Klopp's side have won Group B with a perfect five wins while behind them there is a frantic scramble. Porto are second on five points but AC Milan struck late through Junior Messias to win 1-0 at Atletico Madrid and join the Spaniards on four.

Milan host Liverpool on December 7 while Porto welcome Atletico in what looks certain to be a dramatic finale.

# Unbeaten Iyer, Jadeja fifties as India take charge

## Hosts 258/4 vs Kiwis at Green Park

ANI  
KANPUR

SHREYAS Iyer and Ravindra Jadeja registered half-centuries as India dominated Day 1 of the ongoing first Test against New Zealand here at Green Park, Kanpur on Thursday.

At stumps on Day 1, India's score read 258/4 with Iyer (75\*) and Jadeja (50\*) currently unbeaten at the crease.

Resuming the third and final session at 154/4, Iyer and Jadeja began from where they left off and the right-handed Iyer brought up his half-century in the 68th over of the innings.

Iyer and Jadeja ensured that India do not lose any more wickets before the close of play on Day 1.

Earlier, New Zealand made slow yet steady progress in the second session of the first Test as India lost the crucial wickets of Ajinkya Rahane, Cheteshwar Pujara and Shubman Gill at the Green



India's Shreyas Iyer (L) is congratulated by his batting partner Ravindra Jadeja on reaching half-century on the opening day of the first Test against New Zealand at the Green Park Stadium in Kanpur on Thursday. (AFP)

Park Stadium on Thursday.

At Tea, India's score read 154/4 with Shreyas Iyer (17\*) and Ravindra Jadeja (6\*) currently unbeaten at the crease.

Resuming the second session on 82/1, India was given a body blow as Kyle Jamieson got through the defence of Shubman Gill (52) and the

hosts lost their second wicket. Stand-in skipper Ajinkya Rahane then joined Pujara in the middle and the duo added 24 runs for the third wicket.

However, the partnership was cut short by Tim Southee as he had Pujara (26) knicked off, reducing the hosts to 106/3. Rahane and Iyer were

going good guns, but the introduction of Jamieson paid off as he cleaned up Rahane (35), reducing India to 145/4 in the 50th over.

In the end, Iyer and Jadeja ensured that the hosts did not lose more wickets before the tea interval. It was a good comeback from the Kiwis after

failing to make much of an impact in the first session.

Earlier, Gill scored a gutsy fifty while Cheteshwar Pujara stood tall as India held the fort after Mayank Agarwal's early dismissal in the opening session.

**Scores: India 258/4** (Shreyas Iyer 75\*, Ravindra Jadeja 50\*; Kyle Jamieson 3-47) **vs New Zealand.**

**Rohit lauds Shreyas**

India T20I skipper Rohit Sharma lauded Shreyas Iyer for having a fantastic start to his Test career.

"Good start to the test career @ShreyasIyer15," Rohit tweeted.

Iyer on Thursday received his Test cap from former skipper and legendary cricketer Sunil Gavaskar.

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) shared the video in which Gavaskar can be seen handing the Test cap to Iyer.

"A moment to cherish for @ShreyasIyer15 as he receives his #TeamIndia Test cap from Sunil Gavaskar - one of the best to have ever graced the game," BCCI tweeted.



Sri Lanka's Ramesh Mendis during the fifth day of the first Test cricket match between Sri Lanka and West Indies at the Galle International Cricket Stadium in Galle on Thursday. (AFP)

# Mendis scalps five as Sri Lanka score big Test win

ANI

GALLE (SRI LANKA)

pinness after his side defeated West Indies.

"It's a great Test for me. I'm playing after a long time and I didn't even play any club cricket recently. I think youngsters are gaining experience from the experienced guys and we have guys like Mathews and Chandimal and spinners did a good job. The fast bowlers didn't get many overs but they did the job with the ball," said Karunaratne in a post-match presentation.

"The last couple of months there were heavy rains and we weren't sure how the wicket was gonna behave and that's why we picked two pacers.

"We will see how the conditions are for the next one before thinking about team selections. We need to carry on the good work and I have some targets to achieve and I'm glad that we are playing well as a unit," he added.

**Brief Scores: Sri Lanka 367 and 191/4; West Indies 230 and 160 all out** (Joshua Da Silva 54, Nkrumah Bonner 68; Ramesh Mendis 5-67).

RAMESH Mendis scalped five wickets as Sri Lanka defeated West Indies by 187 runs in the first Test of the two-match series here at the Galle International Stadium on Thursday.

Resuming Day 5 on 52/6, overnight batters Joshua Da Silva and Nkrumah Bonner grinded it out and the duo added 66 more runs to the total, leading the visitors' fight-back. However, right on the cusp of lunch break, Lasith Embuldeniya got the better of Joshua Da Silva (54) and Windies was reduced to 118/7, still needing 230 to win.

After the lunch break, Praveen Jayawickrama got the better of Rakheem Cornwall (13) and Sri Lanka was just two wickets away from victory.

The last two batters were dismissed cheaply and in the end, Sri Lanka registered a 187-run win to gain a 1-0 lead in the two-match series.

Sri Lanka skipper Dimuth Karunaratne expressed hap-

## ABDULLAH AL ATTIAH'S HM JALFANE CLAIMS LEKHRAIB CUP



Advisor of QREC Chairman Sami Jassim Al Boenain presented the trophies to the winners of the Lekhraib Cup after Abdullah bin Fahad Al Attiah's Hm Jalfane won the feature of the 2200m eight-race card for Purebred Arabians Conditions in Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club's (QREC) 14th Race Meeting at the Al Rayyan Racecourse on Thursday.



Jockey Soufiane Saadi rides Hm Jalfane to an impressive victory. The four-year-old, trained by Alban de Mieuille, recorded a 1¼ length win to claim the title.



## Doha to host season-opening Diamond League 2022 on May 13

14-event season planned in 2022 with two Chinese meets

AGENCIES

DOHA will host the season-opening meet of the Wanda Diamond League 2022 on May 13, the World Athletics announced on Thursday.

The season will open May 13 in Doha, host of the last world championships in 2019, and contain a trip to the United States and Eugene - hosts of the worlds delayed by the pandemic to 2022 - on May 28.

### DL Calendar

MEETING	COUNTRY	DATE
Doha	Qatar	May 13
Birmingham/London	UK	May 21
Eugene	US	May 28
Rabat	Morocco	June 5
Rome	Italy	June 9
Oslo	Norway	June 16
Paris	France	June 18
Stockholm	Sweden	June 30
Shanghai	China	July 30
China2	China	Aug 6
Monaco	Monaco	Aug 10
Lausanne	Switzerland	Aug 26
Brussels	Belgium	Sept 2
Zurich	Switzerland	Sept 7-8

International sport in China has all but halted throughout the coronavirus pandemic but the Diamond League hopes to return for the first time since 2019 with an event in Shanghai on July 30 and at another city, to be decided, a week later.

There are 13 meetings in the regular season, split around the July 15-24 worlds, with the best athletes qualifying for the September 7-8 finals in Zurich.

"Further information on the allocation of disciplines will be released before the festive season in December," said organizers, who added "the calendar remains subject to changes depending on the global health situation in 2022."

The Wanda Diamond League will touch down in 14 cities across four different

continents in 2022, with the series set to host two meetings in China in July and August.

Track and field's premier one-day meeting series returns for its 13th annual cycle next summer, with the world's best athletes battling it out throughout the season for a place in the Wanda Diamond League Final.

Athletes will compete for points in 13 series meetings from May to September, with the most successful qualifying for the two-day season finale in Zurich and a shot at the prestigious Diamond Trophy.

After the season opener in Doha on 13 May and a trip to Birmingham (tbc) eight days later, athletes will have the chance to test out the host venue for the 2022 World Athletics Championships when the series arrives in Eugene on 28 May.

The world's best will then head to Rabat on 5 June, before returning to Europe for the rest of the month with meetings in Rome, Oslo, Paris and Stockholm.

After the World Athletics Championships, the Wanda Diamond League will return to China for the first time since 2019, with the Shanghai Diamond League set for 30 July and a second Chinese meeting scheduled for 6 August.

August will then see the series head to Monaco and Lausanne before the last series meeting in Brussels on 2 September.

Those athletes who have picked up enough points on the road to the final will then head to Zurich, where the 32 Wanda Diamond League champions will be crowned at a two-day season finale on 7-8 September.

Further information on the allocation of disciplines will be released before the festive season in December.

The calendar remains subject to changes depending on the global health situation in 2022, as organisers continue to prioritise the safety of athletes and fans while delivering high-quality competitions.

## Qatar Exxonmobil Open and Qatar Total Open tennis to be played in February

2022 tennis season to begin in Sydney

AGENCIES

DOHA

THE Qatar Exxonmobil Open will begin from February 14, the ATP announced on Thursday as it released the calendar for the first half of the 2022 season.

The ATP 250 level tournament in Sydney, traditionally held in first week of the year, will be played immediately after the Dubai Tennis Championships.

Meanwhile, the WTA Qatar Total Open will be held from February 20 to 26 at the Khalifa International Tennis and Squash Complex.

The 2022 tennis season will begin on New Year's Day in Sydney with the January 1-9 ATP Cup nations team event, the Australian federation said.

In the build-up to the Australian Open, from January 17 in Melbourne, there will be three tune-up tournaments for women with WTA events in Adelaide and Melbourne.

For men there will be two additional ATP events alongside the ATP Cup before the first Grand Slam of the season.



Jiri Vesely of Czech Republic returns the ball to France's Adrian Mannarino (not pictured) during the men's singles group stage match between France and Czech Republic of the Davis Cup tennis tournament in Innsbruck, Austria, on Thursday. (AFP)

All players travelling to Australia for the start of the season must be vaccinated against the coronavirus. This requirement places the participation of men's world number one Novak Djokovic in doubt given the open nature of his vaccine status.

Serbia's Djokovic has already won the Australian Open nine times and a 10th victory in Melbourne Park would take him to

a record 21 Grand Slam titles.

A bumper series of ATP and WTA tournaments will be played in the lead-up to the Australian Open Grand Slam in January, with the lucrative ATP Cup to take place in Sydney.

The season-opening schedule has been repeatedly delayed as organisers work out what can be played where as Australia gradually relaxes state and international borders after long

Covid lockdowns.

All lead-up events took place at Melbourne Park this year in bio-secure conditions after players were forced to quarantine in hotels for 14 days, but Sydney and Adelaide return to the calendar in 2022.

Brisbane, Perth and Hobart, which traditionally hold events, miss out for a second year, as does Auckland in New Zealand.

"It is not news to anyone that the pandemic, closed borders and varying rates of vaccination created a massive challenge for us and led to the changes specifically for the summer," said Tennis Australia chief Craig Tiley.

"It's why we waited as long as possible to secure optimal conditions for the players and fans in as many locations as we could."

The men's ATP Cup team event, won this year by a ruthless Russian team spearheaded by Daniil Medvedev and Andrey Rublev, will kick off the season on January 1 in Sydney.

It will be followed the week after by the Sydney Tennis Classic, a combined men's and women's ATP-WTA event.

Top-level tennis returns to Adelaide with a fortnight of combined men's and women's competition from January 2.

There will also be action in Melbourne with three tournaments -- two WTA and one ATP -- from January 3-9 ahead of the Australian Open starting on January 17.

"It's incredibly important to have the world's best players competing across the country, inspiring the next generation of players and growing interest and excitement in our sport," added Tiley.

## Female athletes targeted most on online abuse: World Athletics study reveals

DPA

FRANKFURT

FEMALE athletes suffered the most with 87 per cent of online abuse directed against them around the Tokyo Olympics, according to a study by the ruling body World Athletics.

The study published on Thursday, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, said that the period from July 15 to August 9 saw 132 targeted discriminatory posts against 23 of the 161 athletes tracked overall.

It said 115 of the 132 posts were directed against women, and 63 per cent of the abuse was directed at two athletes who were black and female.

World Athletics said the most common abuse categories were sexist (29 per cent) and racist (26 per cent), followed by unfounded doping accusation (25 per cent).

It said that 89 per cent of the athletes targeted were American, with US athletes making up 23 per cent of the 161 athletes overall.



"This research is disturbing in so many ways but what strikes me the most is that the abuse is targeted at individuals who are celebrating and sharing their performances and talent as a way to inspire and motivate people," World Athletics president Sebastian Coe said.

"To face the kinds of abuse they have is unfathomable and we all need to do more to stop this. Shining a light on the issue is just the first step." The statement said that the study

looked into 240,707 tweets, including 23,521 pictures, videos and GIFs.

World Athletics has recently launched its own safeguarding policy and said that existing safeguarding measures on social media platforms must be tightened to fight abuse more effectively.

There were also initiatives announced in other sports to mark the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women which is also known as Orange Day.

### The study revealed:

- 132 targeted discriminatory posts from 119 authors, with 23 of the 161 tracked athletes receiving targeted abuse.
- Out of the 23 athletes who received abuse, 16 were women with 115 of the 132 identified abusive posts directed at female athletes.
- Female athletes received 87% of all abuse.
- 63% of identified abuse was directed at just two athletes -- both black and female -- while the two most common categories of abuse were of a sexist (29%) and/or racist (26%) nature, accounting for 55% of all identified abuse.

The German Football Federation (DFB) said that the women's national team will wear special Orange Day warm-up shirts ahead of Friday's World Cup qualifier against Turkey.

"This is an important action. We are 100 per cent behind it," said women's coach Martina Voss-Tecklenburg. "Violence against women is an absolute no-go." Voss-Tecklenburg, men's coach Hansi Flick and others appear in a short video clip under the

global motto "Orange Your City."

Football's ruling body FIFA said it was supporting a 16-day initiative from the World Health Organization against gender-based domestic violence.

"Violence is never the answer, especially at home, which should be a safe environment for everyone, and particularly for women and children," FIFA president Gianni Infantino said.

CHIEF OF STAFF MEETS IRAN'S MILITARY ATTACHE



Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces Lieutenant General (Pilot) HE Salem bin Hamad Al Nabit met with Iranian Military Attache to the State of Qatar HE Colonel Mohammed Reda Alihashi on Thursday. The meeting focused on reviewing bilateral relations and the ways to strengthen them. Ranking officers from the Qatari Armed Forces were present at the meeting. (QNA)

Dr Attiyah reviews progress of work on Typhoon, Hawk aircraft production line

QNA  
WHARTON

DEPUTY Prime Minister and Minister of State for Defense Affairs HE Dr Khalid bin Muhammad Al Attiyah visited the facility of BAE Systems in the British city of Wharton on Thursday. During the visit, Attiyah was briefed on the progress of work in the Typhoon and Hawk aircraft production line, in addition to attending the first flight of the Qatari Typhoon aircraft.

The visit was attended by Major General (Pilot) Jassim bin Mohammed Al Mannai, Commander of the Amiri Air Force, and a number of senior officers of the Qatari Armed Forces, in addition to Chris Boardman, Director General of BAE Systems Aerospace Group.



Ehsan hones elderly people's effective communication skills

TRIBUNE NEWS NETWORK  
DOHA

THE Center for Empowerment and Elderly Care (Ehsan) has concluded the 'Effective Communication' programme to hone the skills of the elderly in using Teams as a way of remote communication so that they can attend workshops and lectures provided by the centre to them remotely.

The training also enabled the elderly to keep pace with developments in the era of information technology as the centre seeks to bridge the gaps between generations by training the elderly and enabling them to use these technologies that bring people together.

Sheikha Al Hareeb, head of the Implementation and Follow-up Department, said that the centre organised eight workshops, including a special one for men. Six trainees attended each workshop.

Hareeb said that the centre seeks to hold more workshops in the future, especially for employees in charge of caring for the elderly who are members of the



Participants at the Ehsan communication programme held recently.



clubs, such as domestic workers, children and other members of

the house, as these people have direct contact with the elderly and should treat them in a way that achieves empowerment and care. For her part, Kaltham Al Sulaiti, one of the club's members, hailed the great benefits of Ehsan's programme. She said, "I joined Ehsan Club, the 'Izghawa' branch, since 2017 and attended the opening ceremony and delivered the opening speech in the presence of the mothers affiliated with the club."

Sulaiti expressed her happiness to join the club and stressed the importance of organising

such workshops.

She said that she attended many meetings with a number of schools using remote communication, which was very useful for her. She praised the way the lecturer Zainab Massad Qadar presented the workshop.

"We need Ehsan to offer easy workshops that we can understand in a fun and fast way," she said. "Before the pandemic, we used to meet with the club's members and participate in religious lectures and Quran memorisation classes, which we benefited a lot from. We wish life would come back to normal to allow for the organisation of similar in-person workshops."

Sulaiti commended the specialists working at Ehsan Center who follow up daily with the elderly mothers, even during the pandemic, sending messages via WhatsApp and sending links to lectures and seminars that would enrich mothers, despite the interruption of attendance at the club. The events concluded by honouring Zainab Qaddar for her efforts in presenting the workshops to the female members.



MURAIKHI MEETS EU SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR HORN OF AFRICA: Minister of State for Foreign Affairs HE Sultan bin Saad Al Muraikhi met with the European Union Special Representative for the Horn of Africa, Annette Weber, during her current visit, and the accompanying delegation to the country, on Thursday. During the meeting, they discussed cooperation relations between Qatar and the European Union, particularly in the Horn of Africa, as well as issues of mutual interest. (QNA)

New directors appointed for municipalities of Doha, Al Rayyan, Al Wakrah & Al Sheehaniya

QNA  
DOHA

THE Minister of Municipality HE Dr. Abdullah bin Abdulaziz bin Turki Al Subaie issued on Thursday a ministerial decision appoint-

ing new directors for the municipalities of Doha, Al Rayyan, Al Wakrah and Al Sheehaniya.

While Mansour Ajran Al Buainain was appointed director of Doha Municipality, Jaber Hassan Al Jaber was

appointed director of Al Rayyan Municipality, Mohammed Hassan Hamad Al Nuaimi was appointed director of Al Wakrah Municipality, and Saleh Hamad Al Hadwan was appointed director of Al Sheehaniya Municipality.

MES hosts welcome event for FIFA Arab Cup trophy

TRIBUNE NEWS NETWORK  
DOHA

THE MES Indian School on Thursday hosted an impressive welcome ceremony for FIFA Arab Cup Trophy, reflecting the spirit of FIFA Arab Cup football tournament 2021 that commences on November 30. The event was organised at the school football ground on November 25.

The Indian Ambassador to Qatar HE Dr Deepak Mittal unveiled the Arab Cup Trophy.

In his address, he commended the school for holding the ceremony, describing it as an important milestone in the history of MES as it hosted such a prestigious programme befitting its legacy. "Today's event stands as testimony to the support to the initiatives of the Supreme Committee for Delivery and Legacy, Qatar's organising committee of FIFA World Cup," he said.

Dr Mohan Thomas, the Indian community representative



at Supreme Committee for Delivery and Legacy and president of Indian Sports Center, also addressed the gathering.

Dr K.P Najeed, president (Officiating) MES Governing Board, welcomed the dignitaries

and sports enthusiasts on the occasion.

A welcome dance followed by a fusion of Sword Dance (traditional Arabic dance), soccer performance and mass drill by students, enthralled the gather-

ing. Student contingents' parade in traditional attire of the 16 participating countries of the Arab Cup 2021 was a magnificent spectacle.

A giant replica bearing the model of the FIFA World Cup trophy that was displayed at the school ground and the countdown board indicating the number of days remaining for the FIFA World Cup 2022, won the admiration of all.

Those who attended the welcome ceremony included members of the Supreme Committee of Delivery, diplomats from the Indian Embassy, members of MES Governing Board, members of the Indian community and Indian Sports Center, principals of expatriate schools, members of student councils from various schools, school officials, teachers, and students.

MES Vice-President Khaleel A.P proposed the vote of thanks.

Akbar Ali, head of the Department of Physical Education, was the convener of the event.

METITO LAUNCHES ITS FIRST BLOOD DONATION DRIVE



Metito Qatar launched a successful blood donation drive in Doha in collaboration with Hamad Medical Corporation, with more than 112 employees participating in the programme. Walid Oraby, executive director of Metito Qatar, said, "Donating blood can save lives, and it is critical for medical facilities like Hamad to continue operating efficiently. Metito has always championed important community initiatives, and today we are leading by example in the hope of inspiring others to do the same. Donate blood, save lives... anyone who can should do so." (TNN)

AMU alumni members hold clean-up at Al Wakra family beach

TRIBUNE NEWS NETWORK  
DOHA

MEMBERS of the Aligarh Muslim University Alumni Association Qatar (AMUAAQ), an associate organisation of ICBF under the aegis of the Embassy of India, conducted a beach clean-up activity campaign and get-together at Al Wakra family beach recently.

The event was organised as part of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' in association with the Ministry of Municipality, Qatar under the theme 'Protect and preserve the natural environment and keep the marine habitat safe and trash-free'.

Sachin Dinkar Shankpal, first secretary at the Indian Em-

bassy in Qatar and chief guest at the event, urged all members to come together to fulfil the AMUAAQ mission towards community and alma mater, expressing hope that AMUAAQ would continue with its mission towards welfare and other social activities.

He appreciated the president and his team for organising the beach clean-up event. He also appreciated Dr Nadeem Jilani, who recently saved the life of a flyer while travelling from New Delhi to Doha.

Jawed Ahmad, president of AMU Alumni Association Qatar, said, "In an effort to spread awareness of the importance of protecting the marine life, we found that educating the com-



munity is the need of the hour."

He urged all the participants and well-wishers to join hands to support the community and stand with Qatar.

He thanked the Ambassador of India to Qatar HE Deepak Mittal, who sent his well wishes for the activity.

Ahmad also thanked the Ministry of Municipality for its

support to the event. Dr Nadeem Jilani, chief advisor to AMUAAQ, spoke about the importance of beach clean-up and marine protection.

Dr Jilani also advised the people to continue following the prevention guidelines on COVID-19 and get the booster vaccination at the earliest.

Vinod Nair, vice-president



of ICBF, appreciated AMUAAQ team for this marine protection event.

He also appreciated AMUAAQ team for their Toastmaster club and advised guests to join it for their individual development.

Subramanya Hebbagelu, vice-president of ICC, Sheji Vallykath, vice-president of

ISC, Sabith Saheer, general secretary of ICBF, Irfan Ansari (ICBF), Sanjay Jain (ISC) and Mohamed Musthafa thanked AMUAAQ for inviting to the event. AMUAAQ General Secretary Mohammed Farman Khan informed that membership to group is open to those who are alumni of AMU, in-

cluding their family members, irrespective of race, religion or ethnicity.

Participants and guest at the event spread across the beach length, equipped with garbage bags to collect trash from the beach and in turn protect marine life. The participants expressed pride in cleaning the beach and contributing to the preservation of the environment through community work.

Dr Ashna Nusrat, chief coordinator, organised games for kids, ladies and gents.

M. Faisal Naseem, VP-AMUAAQ, thanked the participants and guests. The event concluded with a sumptuous lunch.

# Officers Training Institute organises graduation ceremony

QNA  
DOHA

THE Officers Training Institute celebrated the graduation of the Joint Junior Staff Course No. (37), the Infantry Advanced Course for Officers No. 33, the Advanced Management and Supply Course for Officers No. (9), and the Infantry Foundation Course for Officers No (47).

At the ceremony, which was attended by Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces HE Lieutenant General (Pilot) Salem bin Hamad Al Nabit and a number of ranking officers, a clip was played showing parts of the training the participants received.

Brigadier General Faisal Mohammed Al Ouja, the Institute's commander, said that the institute is committed to training officers and providing them with the necessary military knowledge.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, the Chief of Staff honoured the top of their respective courses. The Commander of the Officers Training The Institute also presented the Chief of Staff of the Qatari Armed Forces with a commemorative shield.



## QF's HBKU presents virtual showcase of thematic research

AI, advanced 3D printing and genomics among latest collaborative research projects

TRIBUNE NEWS NETWORK  
DOHA

THE Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR) at Hamad Bin Khalifa University (HBKU) recently hosted a virtual showcase of projects by its colleges and research institutes that highlighted high-impact, thematic research in artificial intelligence (AI), social progress, precision medicine and sustainability.

Nine projects were awarded under the first cycle of HBKU's Thematic Research Grant Programme and were funded by the OVPR to support HBKU researchers in tackling pressing scientific challenges; align with the university's research priority areas; and address topics of vital national importance. Following opening remarks by Dr Richard O'Kennedy, vice president for Research, Development and Innovation at Qatar Foundation and vice president of Research at HBKU, and Dr Rachid Zaffou, senior planning and research director, the virtual event gave Lead Project Investigators (LPIs) of four of the awarded projects the opportunity to present their research work and highlight the progress being achieved.

Dr Hicham Hamoudi, senior scientist at Qatar Environment and Energy Research Institute, is developing 3D printers capable of creating new carbon-based materials and metallic structures. The project leverages the assets and expertise at QEERI and HBKU in computer modelling, nanofabrication, electronics, and systems engineering.

Showing HBKU's genomics research strengths, Dr Borbala Mifsud, assistant professor, College of Health and Life Sciences, discussed her project to define autism-associated neuronal enhancers in collaboration with Qatar Biomedical Research Institute. Outcomes will benefit clinicians, researchers, and families with autistic children by helping to identify the genetic cause of autism cases, novel associated genes and genomic regions. The project could also potentially lead to biomarkers and epigenetics discoveries.

An AI and law project by Dr Roberto Di Pietro, professor in Cybersecurity at the College of Science and Engineering, is developing technological and legal countermeasures to address the spread of unauthorized internet proxy services. Dr Di Pietro is investigating the functioning of the Residential Proxy to develop an AI-based detection mechanism and collaborating with HBKU's College of Law to define policy guidelines to stem the spread of certain proxy services.

With collaborators across HBKU, Dr Barry Solaiman, assistant professor, College of Law, is developing a benchmark regulatory framework for using AI in health-related research in Qatar and the Middle East. A certification process focusing on AI for precision medicine will provide a mark of credibility for local research, supporting its international dissemination.

Dr O'Kennedy said: "We are delighted to see the early results of high-impact scientific research driven by our outstanding faculty and researchers. Their commitment helps HBKU expand its reputation as a distinguished Qatari hub for innovative research that improves lives and supports the country in achieving its national vision."

## Qatari students at GU-Q share traditions with community at National Day event

TRIBUNE NEWS NETWORK  
DOHA

IN the warm and welcoming spirit of the local tradition, Al Liwan Qatari Students Association at Georgetown University in Qatar (GU-Q) organised a Qatar National Day event that treated their university and Education City guests to food, fun and an array of immersive experiences in celebration of national history, pride and identity.

The annual QND event at GU-Q is fully student-organised and co-sponsored by the Office of the Dean.

Commenting on the significance of this year's programme, GU-Q Dean Dr Clyde Wilcox said: "Our annual QND event is a cultural highlight of the year, and we are particularly grateful to the Al Liwan



Student Association for bringing us together for this celebration of Qatar's rich cultural heritage and traditions. It is symbolic that we are celebrating a day of national pride and history in Education City, which has become the training ground for the future leaders of Qatar committed to investing their education gains back into their coun-

try to ensure a better and brighter future for all."

The event kicked off with a warm welcome speech by Al Liwan president and Culture and Politics major Shaikha Al-Obaidan, and Vice President and International Economics major Asmaa Al-Kuwari. This was followed by remarks from the dean, a Qur'anic recitation, and a talk by

keynote speaker and GU-Q graduate Abdulrahman Al-Thani.

With booths set up inside the GU-Q building and just outside in Oxygen Park, the gathering offered samples of traditional Qatari street food, delicious desserts, and fragrant coffee swirling with the spices enjoyed by generations of Qataris, replicating a time when the public market was the centre of social life, a vintage market stall offered bins of old fashioned candies.

Outside, a colourful tent recreated the traditional dwellings of the region's nomadic Arab tribes. A hooded falcon proudly perched on a post outside the tent, its trainer nearby, completed the scene and showcased one of the most respected and celebrated sporting traditions in Qatari society.

## Josoor Institute, Generation Amazing to join as delivery partners for 'Leaders Meet: Qatar 2022'

TRIBUNE NEWS NETWORK  
DOHA

'LEADERS Meet: Qatar 2022' will welcome Josoor Institute and Generation Amazing as partners for the upcoming hybrid event experience taking place on November 28 and 29 in Doha.

The two organisations, both major programmes within Qatar's Supreme Committee for Delivery & Legacy (SC) of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022, join fellow delivery partners beIN Media Group, alongside host partners, Aspire Zone Foundation, for the two-day event that marks one year to go until the historic football tournament kicks off.

The Josoor Institute is the education and training arm of the SC. The project was launched in December 2013 to help continue to build the capabilities of the sports and events industries in Qatar and the MENA region in the run-up to the World Cup, and in the longer term a part of the Qatar National Vision 2030.

Generation Amazing uses football as a development tool to teach principles like gender equality and inclusivity, and life skills such as communication, organisation, teamwork and leadership, with success measured against the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDG) and the Qatar National Vision 2030.

Football-themed sessions are led by specially trained coaches and community development facilitators. The organisation has partnered with famous footballers including Xavi Hernández,



Cafu, Samuel Eto'o and Tim Cahill, to name a few.

Both the Josoor Institute and Generation Amazing will be represented amongst the first-class group of sports industry executives who will speak at the event in Doha, which will showcase the transformation of the country as a premium sports destination ahead of the first FIFA World Cup to be hosted in the region.

Additional speakers at the event include Colin Smith, Chief Competitions and Events Officer at FIFA, Chatri Sityodtong, chairman and chief executive officer at ONE Group, Former Al-Shahania, AC Milan & Manchester City Player, Nigel de Jong and many more as part of a packed schedule.

Taking place immediately prior to the FIFA Arab Cup 2021, day one of Leaders Meet: Qatar 2022 will host an invitation-only in-person event at the Qatar National Convention Centre. Day two will take place at the beIN Media Group studios and broadcasted live internationally via the Lead-

ers Meet Portal. "Generation Amazing is honoured to be partnering with Leaders on Leaders Meet: Qatar 2022. As the human and social legacy initiative, we leverage the power of football to better the lives of young people globally, focusing particularly on vulnerable and disadvantaged youths," said Nasser Al Khori, Generation Amazing programmes director.

"Using our privileged position of being the next FIFA World Cup host nation, Generation Amazing has touched upon 750,000+ youths through our community pitches and safe spaces initiative, our football for development coach education programs, and our partnership approach with mainstream development, football industry and sport for development sector organizations. We are looking forward to delivering our annual Youth Festival 2021 taking place in Doha, alongside the FIFA Arab Cup Qatar 2021. The festival will bring together youths from the Arab world for capacity building workshops, empowering them as agents of change within their communities", Al Khori continued.

Commenting on the partnerships, Leaders managing director, Laura McQueen, said: "We are thrilled to formalise our partnerships with Generation Amazing and the Josoor Institute for Leaders Meet: Qatar 2022. We have worked closely with both organisations and the Supreme Committee for Delivery & Legacy for many years and we are delighted that they will all play a key role in our first event in the country."

## Generation Amazing reaches milestones with one year to go until Qatar 2022

TRIBUNE NEWS NETWORK  
DOHA

WITH less than a year until the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022, Generation Amazing has made significant progress toward leaving lasting human and social legacies through a variety of initiatives. These include extensive programming for Afghan refugees in Qatar, the GA-Qatar Foundation (QF) Ability Friendly Programme, and a new partnership with the Ministry of Sports and Youth to improve gender equality.

"We are very proud to have reached these new human and social legacy milestones for Generation Amazing with just one year to go until Qatar hosts the first FIFA World Cup in the Middle East and Arab world," said Hassan Al Thawadi, sec-



retary general of the Supreme Committee for Delivery & Legacy (SC). "By working closely with our partners at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Qatar Foundation and the Ministry of Sports and Youth, we have expanded our programme reach even further over the past months to serve disadvantaged communities, thereby making sure that we leave a tangible legacy for the

world beyond 2022."

The SC's human and social legacy programme is also well on its way to meeting its goal of positively impacting one million lives by 2022, with the current total of 725,000 beneficiaries set to grow even more with new partnerships and programmes.

Since the arrival of Afghan refugees in Qatar, Generation Amazing has worked tirelessly

to provide them with a variety of learning and development opportunities, including a safe space in which to thrive. Generation Amazing has collaborated with Maktaba Children's Library to provide a variety of educational activities for children, such as music, arts and crafts, yoga, and dance classes, and a football pitch inside the compound has been used to provide

regular football for development activities and tournaments.

HE Lolwah Rashid Al Khatir, Assistant Foreign Minister and Spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said: "The joy Generation Amazing brought to the temporary Afghan housing facilities is immeasurable. The process of evacuation can be quite disorienting and draining; there is a

lot of fear and uncertainty. It was thus inspiring to see many individuals – children and adults – blossom into themselves with the activities that Generation Amazing arranged."

Meanwhile, working in close collaboration with QF, Generation Amazing has continued to enhance the inclusive football programme for young people with disabilities in Qatar.

"Qatar Foundation believes in the inclusion of all people with different abilities, which is reflected in our support for the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 and the legacy of the tournament," said Machaille Hassan Al Naimi, QF's President of Community Development. "The power of sport comes from its universality and its capacity to remove barriers and boundaries, and the Ability Friendly

Programme exemplifies how, as well as bringing enjoyment, sport has an intrinsic role in shaping a society where all needs are recognised, respected and provided for."

Next month, Generation Amazing will be hosting youth from all over the Arab world at the Generation Amazing Festival 2021, taking place from 14-18 December at QF's Oxygen Park. The festival will showcase football for development workshops and knowledge to youth from all participating nations of the FIFA Arab Cup™, following a recently announced programme organised in collaboration with Aurora for Training and Development entitled 'One Goal Arabia'.

Follow @GA4Good on social media to find out about our latest updates.