

38th UAE National Day Celebrations
Wed, 25 November 2009

38th National Day Celebrations at Pristine Private School



Wikipedia describes Patriotism as “the love of and/or devotion to one’s country”. When we elaborate the meaning of one’s country, it is the country one was born, the country that the parents were born and the country where all the relatives and the belongings are positioned. But whoever had seen the spirit, love, dedication and devotion that was showcased throughout Pristine Private School on 25th November 2009, would more than agree in redefining the meaning.

Since it was the last day of school before a ten day combined holiday for the Eid al Adha and the National Day, the festive atmosphere throughout the school was infectious. It was all smiles everywhere. To obtain the maximum out of the day, the sessions for the celebrations were split into three, one for the Kindergartners, one for juniors and another for the seniors.

The junior students from 32 different nations were performing the traditional dances like the Youllah, Liwa, singing Arabic songs and walking the ramp showcasing traditional

dresses from the Emirates. This was coupled with a special programme highlighting the historical details of the formation and heritage of the UAE.

The senior students however, brought forward the astonishing progress of the UAE and read out selected quotes of H.H. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, ruler of Dubai and Prime Minister of UAE. These included:

“Our journey of development has been and will remain a race for excellence; a race to consolidate Dubai's position as an evolving, leading and unrivalled contender for the title of the Middle East's financial and commercial capital.”

“Dubai's success is an extension of Abu Dhabi's success and vice-versa. The same dynamic applies to the other emirates; Sharjah, Ajman, Umm Al Quwain, Ras Al Khaimah and Fujairah. The union of these seven emirates represents an unshakable force and an impregnable fortress that cannot be weakened by challenges. This union is the source of all our confidence and our strength.”

“Determination, strategy and vision for the future are our real resources in the quest for excellence and success.”

At this special and emotional occasion, it was not an easy task to distinguish an Emirati from a Non Emirati as most of the students and teachers came dressed in Qandoora, Jalabia, Abaya and Sheila. The smell of Bukhoor enticed the passerby to drop in at the Kindergarten tent where all were warmly welcomed by the little Sheikhs and Sheikhas who catered them with Gahwa, dates and other tasty treats which depicted Emirati hospitality. The special “Henna” corner in the tent was a huge success as one and all waited to go home with beautiful intricate designs on their palms.

The sound of “duff” and the beautiful melodies of the Emirati songs were heard throughout the school premises which made the day more luxurious. The whole area was decorated with banners, posters and hangings all representing the UAE culture, the animals, the heritage etc. A big flag made out of Balloons was an eye catching scene in the Junior Building. The UAE Flags were hoisted everywhere, and to add colour to all this, the timing for the display of the helicopters and parachutes with the Flags of the UAE organized by the UAE Government was so accurate, that any onlooker would automatically get the heat of love towards the country as the celebrations were visible from the school grounds up to the blue sky. It was Red, Green, White and Black everywhere and when the school gates closed that day, children from all over the world took memories home, memories which might last for a very long time and a feeling of dedication and devotion to the adopted land, no matter where they came from.