



The National Field
Research Centre for
Environmental Conservation
About innovative Environmental Research

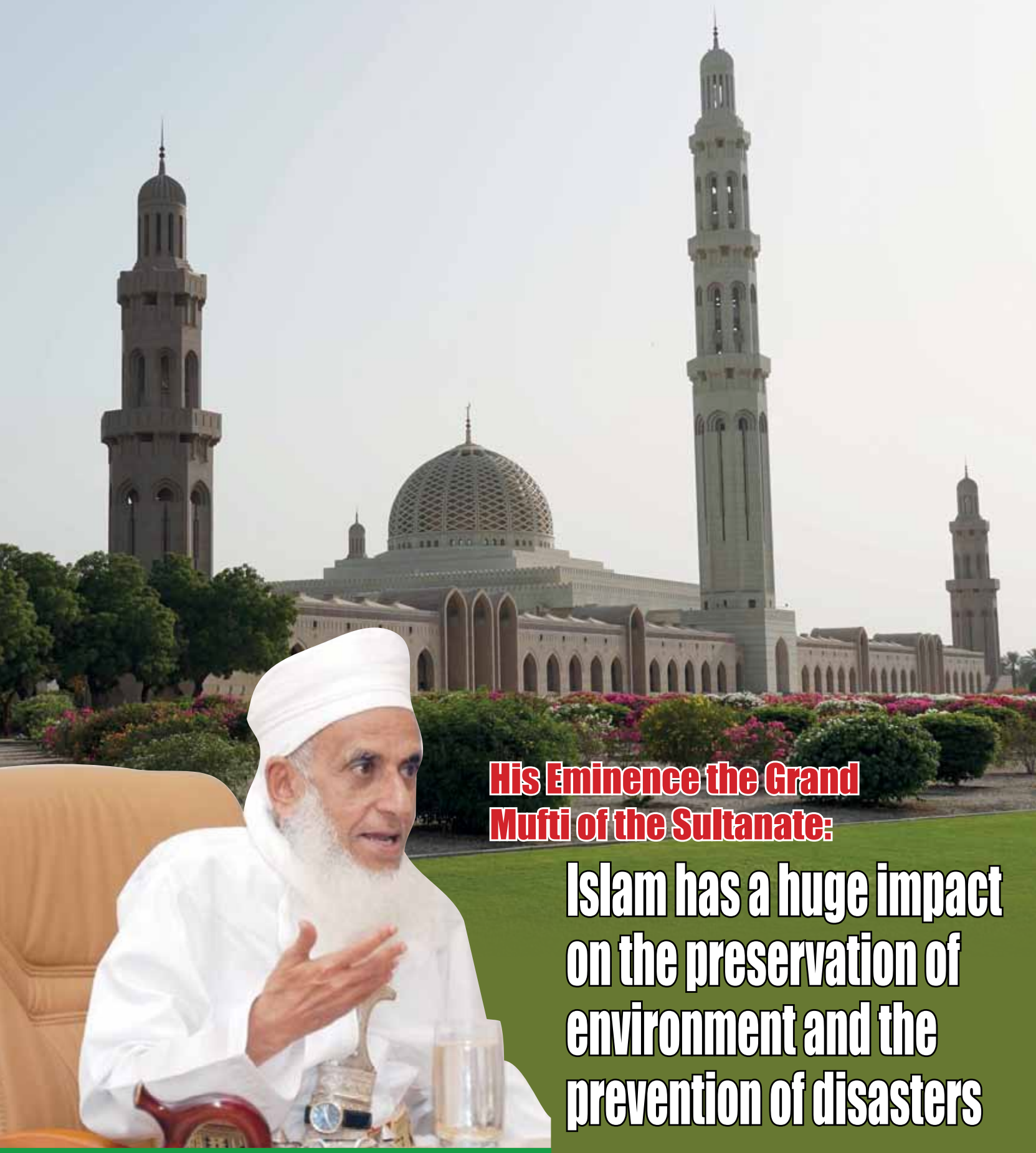


Sultanate of Oman
Diwan of Royal Court

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**His Eminence the Grand
Mufti of the Sultanate:**

**Islam has a huge impact
on the preservation of
environment and the
prevention of disasters**

Road accidents a cause of extinction of Arabian Ghazale in Ras Al Shajar reserve

Muscat - Lynx

Ras Al Shajar Reserve was established in 1985. It is situated on the coastal road connecting wilayats of Qurayyat and Sur. The reserve is known for the highest density of the Arabian Ghazale in the entire Arabian peninsula. It shows the massive efforts made by the Office for Conservation of the Environmental (OCE) the Diwan of Royal Court to preserve this type of wildlife. In recent years, it was found that Arabian Ghazale was facing extinction and vehicles running over them on the road was causing a further threat to their existence. Salah bin Saeed Al Mahathouri, Director of the Department of Environmental Affairs at the Office for Conservation of the Environmental (OCE) of the Diwan of Royal Court of Oman, said that natural reserves of the Sultanate of Oman were facing many challenges, even though they are being taken care of by the concerned authorities. Hunting and other types of attacks were also some of these challenges being faced by them. He said that the Arabian Ghazale in the Sultanate faces many challenges, particularly illegal horrific hunting as well as deterioration or loss of natural habitats. This is leading to a decrease in their numbers. This is why the Office for Conservation of the Environmental (OCE) gave priority to start the project of their survey in the reserves which come under it. This was to understand the direct or indirect factors of their depletion. Through this survey, the office came to the conclusion that many of the Ghazale of the Ras Al Shajar reserve died because of the run over. There were many such cases registered during 2018. It is more than in previous years. Last year, 92 cases of the running over the Arabian Ghazale on the public road and branch roads were recorded. In the first



quarter of this year, unfortunately, more than 50 Arabian Ghazale faced road accidents or running over. Many of them died when they were pregnant. One of the reasons for such accidents was that many express roads and branch roads pass through it. Therefore, naturally, it is difficult for the Ghazale to cross these roads due to high speeds of vehicles passing on it. Also, there are increasing accidents as the reserve is located near the beach between the Fins and Bamma areas. The number of visitors of these beaches is rising leading to an increased possibility of accidents, particularly during weekends. Al-Mahzouri believes that there were some cases of running overs which may have been intentional, particularly by the owners of vehicles who do not comply with legal and permitted speed on the roads close to the reserve. This is despite the fact that there were many signboards on the roadsides telling that some of the animals might be crossing the roads therefore, the drivers should abide by a certain limit of speed. Those who do not follow the rules actually offend natural life. On the efforts of the Office for Conservation

of the Environmental (OCE) to protect the Arabian Ghazale from being run over, he said: The office has made huge efforts, particularly to educate the citizens and visitors of the reserve and the beach as well as those who use roads close to the reserve about adhering to the specified speed limits and take into account that the Ghazale might be passing through these roads, they are using. Despite all this, unfortunately still the number of deaths of Ghazale dying because running over by the vehicles was very high. He also pointed out that the office, in coordination with the relevant authorities, including Muscat Municipality, has established a speed vault in all of these roads. The Office for Conservation of the Environmental (OCE) also urged the concerned authorities to reduce the legal speed on roads passing through the natural reserves, particularly highways, as in many countries to protect the animals, as well as to work for putting speed barriers on the branch roads. The fencing of the area and prohibition of Ghazale from crossing the highway which passes through the reserve or the sea road between the villages of Bamma and Fanis may help solve the problem. However, for the Office to put a fence and make gates to manage vehicular traffic on the sea road, it is necessary to merge the sea strip with the main borders of the reserve. The office is in touch with the Ministry of Housing on the subject. Al-Mahtouri sent a message to the citizens who use the road inside the reserve urging them to not to drive at high speeds to avoid running over the Ghazale. He has also appealed to the concerned organisations to cooperate with the reserve to preserve this natural heritage of wildlife which is given utmost importance by the government.

■ More than 50 Arabian Ghazale were killed in the first quarter of this year



point of view

Two new reserves

Dr. Dawood Sulaiman Al Balushi
Editor-in-Chief

It was nothing but a noble gesture of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said which came as a Royal Decree to set up two new reserves in the Sultanate of Oman. One is Al Hajar Al Gharbi to see the lights of the stars in Al Dakhiliyah governorate and the other is Al Rustaq Wildlife Sanctuary in South Al Batinah governorate. This is sufficient proof that the wildlife in Oman enjoys interest of the supreme leader of the country. He has extraordinary vision and farsightedness. The importance he attaches to the preservation of the Omani ecosystem and protection of its natural resources for sustainability is enough indicator of it.

At this time when there are political, economic and ideological conflicts raging everywhere in the world, the decision to set up two natural reserves tells that the Omani environment is in right condition and in the safe hands. His Majesty, the Sultan has always urged that the efforts for development should be accompanied by the resolve to protect all elements of environment. He is always for equal alignment between developmental boom and environmental components.

In the Sultanate of Oman, the wildlife is constantly affected by a number of persistent human and natural threats. Some of them are illegal hunting, running over animals, burning of old trees, tampering with green vegetation, drought, desertification, erosion and loss of soil some of its natural elements. All of this has affected the elements of the Omani environment and its wildlife. They also have endangered some of the wildlife. This is why the natural reserves were established as strong deterrence against the elements which puts the environment and wildlife into danger. These reserves have reduced the human and natural threats and supported the development of wildlife significantly.

These two natural reserves are another contribution of the Blessed Renaissance to the ecosystem of the country. This noble gesture calls us to join hands with the public, private and civil society organizations as well as individuals to make efforts for preservation of all environmental achievements made on this land of virtues.

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Muscat - Lynx:

“ **The third Oman Environmental Forum 2019 came out with a comprehensive document and guiding principles with all its 18 recommendations as preparation for the next stage of transition towards the green economy. The forum introduced new guidelines and approaches which will support economic diversification for a safe and clean sustainable development.** ”


Environmental discussions focus on sustainability projects

Oman Environmental Forum concludes with 18 recommendations

■ The forum stressed catching up with developed countries in a transition towards a green economy



During this session, the organizing committee of the forum looked into the draft of a guidance document which will help the concerned organisations of the environment sector to take faster steps on the road to a green economy and to take responsibility for the conservation of biological and environmental diversity. This is also meant for creating unconventional visions to support the development and to safeguard the rights of future generations to live and balance between the economic and social dimensions as part of the efforts for the conservation of the natural resource, as well as to achieve balance in meeting the immediate and future needs according to the requirements of environmental conservation. This is also to support the national efforts for reducing the causes of global warming and climate change and for the adoption of preventive measures to mitigate the negative effects of economic activities. This will enable the Sultanate of Oman to play a proactive regional role in assessing and mitigating the negative impacts on the environment. The forum held on “Green Economy: The Future of Safe Development”, was under the patronage of HE Mohammad bin Salim Al-Tobi, Minister of Environment and Climate Affairs. In the forum, there were many discussions participated by a number of experts and those who are concerned with the environment from within the Sultanate and abroad. All these discussions which held in two sessions the first was on “economy and wealth building.” It was aimed at developing green economy model to stimulate economic growth which has promising opportunities, necessary solutions to pave the way for the implementation of the green economy in the Sultanate. These discussions were also to dispel many misconceptions about combining environmental sustainability with economic progress. There are many green sectors which have new investment opportunities leading to growth in job opportunities. The second session was discussed in the forum was «green investments and future opportunities». It looked into the requirements to ensure the transition to the green economy from legislative and executive perspectives. This makes the proposal comprehensive and integrated.

During the discussion on «Greening the economy and building wealth,» Dr. Yousuf bin Abdullah Al Balushi, Head of Sciences, Knowledge Tecnology Transfer Office «Ministry

of Foreign Affairs», emphasized on the importance of innovation in the future of safe development. He stressed on the importance of open international innovation. The Sultanate has achieved only one ranking of nine ranks of this global innovation. Dr. Yousef Bin Mohammad Al Balushi, an economist at Oman’s Vision 2040 office, said: «The transition to a green economy is not an option but a necessity. The Sultanate must work faster to ensure a smooth transition to this green economy, particularly when we want to be a developed country. We must go with it.

He added: «One of the indicators of the National Strategy 2020 is that the Sultanate will be among the top 20 countries in the area of the environment, where the right atmosphere was created to achieve this vision. As you know, the environment of the regions contribute to the geographic development. Dr. Saif Al Hajri, President of Friends of Nature and the International Ambassador of Social Responsibility in Qatar, said that human beings were the most important factor in the success of the transition to a green economy. He pointed out that Arab countries were trying to transition to a green economy. Therefore, they need to invest in scientific research and innovation. The countries which do not invest in the minds of their children will face many challenges. Dr. Heba Abdul Aziz, Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration at the German University of Technology, said: «The university is the most prominent institution of the Sultanate in terms of sustainability. It’s building was built taking into account many environmental aspects. It also started many initiatives to serve the environment and to turn towards the green economy in the Sultanate. A company of its students is currently studying the management of Muttrah in a sustainable manner. Hamad Bin Khalfan Al Ghaithi, Acting Senior Director of Quality, Health and Environment Safety in Haya Water, said: «Haya Water is a green company which transforms wastewater into environmentally friendly products. The treated water produced by the company is of very high quality. It prevents fresh water depletion and reduces its wasting. Dr. Mohammed Kafafi, Chairman of the World Council for Green Economy said that the green economy was the best in the world among other economies. He pointed out that the Sultanate of Oman currently lacked a reference point in establishing some important centres. For example, there should have been an Omani Centre for Green

Recommendations of Oman Environment Forum 2019

- 1- Adopting a green economic model for sustainability and growth.
- 2- Establishment of a national economic program according to the concept of green supply chain management to promote intellectual, scientific and creative production.
- 3- Establishing up of a national centre for the green economy to unify and integrate efforts of different actors in the area.
- 4- Using revenues of the green economy to achieve economic growth in Oman.
- 5- Urging the private sector to adopt development initiatives as corporate social responsibility.
- 6- Encourage individuals to contribute to environmental protection by limiting the use of plastic bags.
- 7- Support recycling efforts and purchase of recycling-based products.
- 8- Expand awareness campaigns to reduce environmental pollution.
- 9- Introduce ideas and solutions for plastic substitutes and encourage the establishment of factories which specialize in recycling.
- 10- Utilize elements of the Omani environment to provide sustainable green products.
- 11- Apply best environmental standards for sustainability of resources and continuation of comprehensive development.
- 12- Develop country-level governing policies to help transition towards a green economy.
- 13- Prepare and issue a law for environmental accountability «green accountability», and carbon footprint tax.
- 14- Introduce new accountability systems in the national income and GDP to measure and evaluate economic activity.
- 15- Include green standards and specifications in all purchases, tenders, contracts, and government and private sector projects
- 16- Incorporate concepts and applications of the green economy into the curriculum and research.
- 17- Establish a green economy bank at the Arab world level to address investment and services needs.
- 18- Issue indicators to measure the growth of the national green economy according to internationally agreed standards.

Economy mentioning that the Green Economy means the participation of all bodies and institutions to achieve comprehensive development. Dr. Yousuf bin Abdullah Al Balushi, «Ministry of Foreign Affairs» Head of Sciences, Knowledge Tecnology Transfer Office, reiterated the importance of following international classifications, particularly as they affect the Sultanate’s position on the world map. During his talk, Al Balushi asked if there was complete understanding in the Sultanate about environmental sustainability as well as the green economy. To achieve this realization and understanding and to reach the goal of green economy and environmental conservation, it is important that we should be part of the international and regional agreements as we live on the same planet. Dr. Saif Al Hajri, president of Friends of Nature, and the international ambassador of Social Responsibility in Qatar, said: «It is very important to spread the knowledge and culture of conservation in our countries. This culture must be sustainable in our societies. As individuals in society, we have to share the responsibility of the environmental conservation,» Dr Heba Abdul Aziz said: «If we would not preserve the environment as the capital of the tourism sector, the entire sector will collapse. This is a very important sector now, particularly in the Sultanate. This is the sector on which we depend more on employment and sustainable projects.

His Eminence the Grand Mufti of the Sultanate:

Islam has a huge impact on the preservation of environment and the prevention

Islam strongly prohibits harming nature and does not allow anybody to be deprived

Prayer has an impact on the environment and society because of its huge effect in

**What threaten the environment threatens the human.
Smoking as far as i know causes huge damage to the human**



Muscat - Lynx:

His Eminence Shaikh Ahmed Hbin Hamad Al Khalili, the Grand Mufti of the Sultanate of Oman, said: «Islam is known for what is prescribed in it in the form of worships, morality as well as individual and social relations. All this has huge impact on environmental conservation and prevention of tragedies and avoiding whatever adversely effects it.» Islam encourages humans to make the earth its vast ground for its movements and activities to extract whatever Allah has kept in it for them to enjoy, use and harness. It is also a bounty for all living things which walk and move on it or fly in its skies. It is not hidden from this amount of good things that preserved in the environment. When a human beautifies the earth by sowing or planting, it gets the return in the form of fruits and everything that is beneficial and good. This intensifies the human presence and increases the livestock, prevents the danger of famine and poverty and gives health, Allah willing.



His Eminence the Grand Mufti said that the ethics of the Prophet Mohammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and his deeds were the best characters, righteousness, charity, justice, fairness, and kindness for all human beings and animals. All this was a reflection of his positive effects on environmental life in all its forms and shapes. The one who links himself with the prophet, peace be upon him, does good only to his personal behaviors and his social ethics.

Prayer and environment

His Eminence the Grand Mufti of Oman said that prayer has an impact on the environment and the soul. This impact is noble because it finetunes all human being so that they become the source of only of welfare for all and makes them think about whatever is the concern of the entire society and the community and encourages them to work for the general interest in the service of all.

Water, its purification has an impact on the environment

His Eminence the Grand Mufti said: «Water is the element of cleansing and purification». It is the origin of life. Keeping it clean from any impurities and keeping it safe from any external effect is important for the safety of life, a continuation of health and prevention from diseases or epidemics. Messenger of Allah, peace be upon him, has urged all to save it from any pollutants which take away its cleanliness. He has prohibited urinating in stagnant water and ablution in it as well as he has prohibited defecation in it. The pollution of water could cause lots of diseases and sometimes become an epidemic. The polluted water produces germs and parasites enough to make a human being sick, as it affects his stool or urine, especially it causes typhoid, schistosomiasis, hookworms, and other worms. The human feces and urine if contaminate the water, it affects human health. It is the same as dumping of factory wastes, dead animals and garbage in rivers,

of disasters

of its benefits

self discipline



canals, and ponds. If clothes are washed in the polluted or contaminated water, it causes a threat to the environment and its life. There is a general guidance of Allah in this regard. In Sorah Al Araf verse 56, Allah says: "And do not spoil the earth after it is repaired." In Sorah Al Baqrah verse 205, he says: "When he turns his back, His aim every where is to spread mischief through the earth and destroy crops and cattle, But Allah loveth not mischief".

Protection for the trees

He said: The Prophet, peace, and blessings of Allah be upon him, he forbiddin from defecation and urination under fruit trees and in rivers. All this is to teach people to protect them from anything which pollutes them or harms them so that their fruits do not fall on earth and the cleanliness of the water is not affected. Similarly, there are teaching regarding roads and shades of trees. Islam is very strong in terms of its teachings about nature and whatever harms it. There are a strong warning against curring wild trees unnecessarily.

His Eminence the Grand Mufti said: «This a mercy undoubtedly. A Muslim cannot manipulate with nature or attack the environment, this is because it is his or her nature to pity everything and prefer good for all. He or she sees in everything a sign of manifestation of God the Almighty who did everything well. He does not offend against anything which Allah has created.»

Effects of smoking on humans and the environment

He said: «It is a known fact that the most important components of the environment are human being and whatever threatens it puts human life and its safety in danger. It is known that smoking is harmful to the human element. The earth, air, and the plants have a bad effect of smoking. Smoking leads to disruption of part of the land. Cultivation of tobacco creates obstacles in the way of its function. It is not useful at all. It has all

sorts harms stored in it for humans and animals. It wastes some of the greatest wealth of earth which is water used for irrigation of this malignant plant. Water is important for the environment, and wasting it in irrigation of malignant plant is actually aggression on the environment.

It is known that tobacco smoke contains about 6,800 toxic substances in the forms of harmful gases. All of these toxins spread in the air. It is already proved that one cigarette produces approximately 500 mg of smoke from these 92% poisonous gases. They are nitrogen, oxygen and carbon dioxide which are 85% of the weight of the smoke.

A cigarette with a gram of tobacco produces 20 to 80 cm³ of carbon monoxide, and smoking pipe produces 19 - 53 cm³.

Carbon monoxide is also produced, in addition to smoking, through household heating and car exhaust. Therefore, it is abundant in congested cities. It is very dangerous because it cannot be smelled or seen. The concentration of this gas in heavy traffic areas is between 50 and 100 ppm while its concentration as a result of smoking is 400 ppm.

As far as nicotine is concerned, if we assume that the cigarette has 20 mg of this substance, then only one part of it is burning and another part is rising with smoke and the rest is estimated at 20%, which is approximately 5 mg. The smoker inhales into his lungs nearly 23- mg and the rest gets exhaled outside. This and the calculations show that the remaining nicotine in the atmosphere is two-thirds of this dangerous toxic substance considering each cigarette is estimated to have more than 11 mg.

A smoker on an average smokes 20 cigarettes per day. In 30 years he consumed 11,000 packs or 200,000 cigarettes. If they are stuck together they would form a 20 kilometers long stick. That means that he smokes equals to 600 meters in a year. In 30 years, he smokes 160 kg of tobacco which has total of 800 grams of nicotine which is sufficient to poison a city with a population of 10,000 people.



Bahrain joins Global Environment Fund

The Shura Council of Bahrain approved the accession of the Kingdom to the document of establishing the restructured Global Environment Facility (GEF), according to Decree No. 11 of 2019, in line with the recommendation of the Foreign Affairs, Defense and National Security Committee of the council. Dr. Mansour Sarhan, a member of Bahrain's Shura Council, said that the approval of the treaty was in the interest of the Bahraini society which can be benefitted from the foreign space in sustainable development as a treaty is in line with the teachings of Islamic law. Ahmed Al Haddad, the member of the Bahraini Shura Council, said that the Kingdom's accession to such important agreements would enhance its credibility and help it in getting benefit from modern technologies to face desertification, pollution and water scarcity, as well as from modern agricultural and other processes.

Plastic among 20 most dangerous products and one of the most dangerous materials during the manufacturing process

Ministry of Environment and Climate affairs launches best environmental initiative to reduce plastic pollution



The Ministry of Environment and Climate Affairs launched the competition of the best environmental initiative to reduce plastic pollution, under the auspices of HE Najib bin Ali Al Rowas, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Environment and Climate Affairs. The competition was launched in the presence of all concerned in the ministry and those who are related to environmental affairs. This is part of the efforts of the ministry to reduce plastic pollution and create awareness against the silent disaster of plastic wastes and get ideas and solutions for an alternative

of plastics. The competition is aimed at encouraging the establishment of factories, companies, and communities interested in plastic recycling and sustainability of plastic recycling projects. It will have a major media marketing campaign for the activity and to increase awareness of the society. The targeted segment of the competition is students, volunteer teams, higher education, and researches. Plastic bags cause a large part of environmental risks as they are unable to be decomposed for hundreds of years and lead to environmental and health hazards. Plastic is

classified as one of the 20 most dangerous products, which is also considered one of the most dangerous substances during the manufacturing process. Its lightweight with excessive consumption and its survival without decomposition for years leads to the pollution of large areas across the cities and beaches. As they easily fly, it makes the task of its collection and disposing of difficult. It defaces public landscape. Its presence on the beaches is dangerous for the marine environment and a serious threat to the lives of turtles, dolphins and other living organisms.

UAE

UAE's environmental achievements in 2018

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has made many environmental achievements, particularly during last year. This was when the sustainability became an area of primary focus in in UAE Vision 2021 and UAE Centennial 2071. The organisations concerned with the environment in the UAE, particularly its Ministry of Climate Change and Environment, are working on continuous projects aimed at reducing carbon emissions, recycling waste, supporting green economy and renewable energy. In the year 2018, the UAE Ministry of Climate Change and Environment made important strides, perhaps the most important of which is the publication of the world's first ever guide to measuring the transition to a green economy, which has adopted 41 indicators. The guide is considered as one of the major achievements made in the pursuit of transition to the green economy. In July 2018, the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment launched national ecotourism project called «Treasures of Nature in the UAE.» to deciding the country's position on the global eco-tourism map, which is 20% of global tourism.

Kuwait

Speedy updating of cleaning contracts in Kuwait

The Environment Committee of the Municipal Council of the State of Kuwait, during its meeting headed by Engineer Maha Al-Baghli, recommended approval of Dr. Hassan Kamal's proposal for the acceleration of upgrading and updating of the municipality's cleaning contracts to improve the service. It also has a recommendation to hold a workshop. Maha al-Baghli said that Hasan Kamal's proposal for the cultivation of cosmetics' trees on both sides and the vicinity of the pedestrian corridors in all the regions was approved. She said that the proposal of Engineer Hamoud Al-Anzi about the formation of a team of the municipality in cooperation with the Environment Police to monitor the places of celebrations and transfer irregularities to the executive body for further study and coordination with the Environment Police have been referred.

Saudi Arabia

Saudi Ministry of Environment: Locust swarms are contaminated

The Ministry of Environment, Water and Agriculture of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia have urged its citizens and residents to not eat locust. Mohammed Al-Shamrani, head of the Center for Combating Locusts and Migratory Pests, told Saudi Arabia's Al-Watan newspaper that eating locusts have several risks, including poisoning as they are contaminated with the poisonous pesticides, used to combat it. He said locusts are spreading in Saudi Arabia.

Al-Shamrani said, «Locusts go through four stages, the first phase is calm, the second is spread, the third stage is an outbreak, and the fourth is the most dangerous phase of the epidemic.

Qatar

Qatar pavilion at Beijing's International Horticultural Exhibition 2019

Qatar continued to participate in the International Horticultural Exhibition 2019 held in the Chinese capital Beijing. The theme of the exhibition this year is «A Green Life A Better Life». It will continue for

about six months until it concludes on October 7. The exhibition has a large number of gardens and cultural activities aimed at educating visitors about the important role of plants in improving the quality of life and saving

the future of coming generations.'The 503-hectare exhibition is located near the Great Wall of China's Yancheng District in the Chinese capital. It is expected to attract 16 million visitors from around the world.

Environmental pollution causes psychosis among adolescents

A recent study conducted at King's College, London has said that children and adolescents in polluted areas are more likely to develop psychosocial episodes of brain failure. The study, the first of its kind found that the incidence of psychosis among children and adolescents in most polluted areas may be 70%. According to researchers, psychosis is a state of mind in which the patient fantasizes to hear strange sounds, and believes that someone is spying on him or trying to harm him, and may reach the degree of insanity sometimes. Nearly 2,000 people under the age of 18 in England and Wales attended the study which found that three out of 10 adolescents had severe psychosis.



In a 1,800 page report

Scientists offer a package of solutions to protect nature

Scientists have put forward several solutions for the conservation of nature, most notably the change of farming systems and the revision of financial regulations. These solutions and proposals are expected to be discussed at the Intergovernmental Forum on Biodiversity in Paris, with the participation of 132 countries. A 1,800-page draft report on the state of the world's ecosystems was presented to the members of the Forum



on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services to adopt a summary to be modified. This non-binding text will serve as a basis for redefining the program's objectives, ahead of the meeting on biodiversity. It is expected that it will be held in China in 2020, according to Yu Jie Shin, co-author of the report. There are five major factors which lead to a sharp decline in biodiversity. They are land use (including agriculture), over-exploitation of resources (fishing), as well as climate change, pollution, and invasive species, with the population which may grow to 11.4 billion in 2100 as per expectations, rising of per capita consumption at a time when the middle class is dependent on consumption patterns of emerging countries dominated by rich countries.

IMF: Carbon tax an effective way to fight pollution

The carbon tax, which is being raised to around \$ 70 per tonne of carbon dioxide, is the best way to combat pollution and mitigate greenhouse gas emissions, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) said. The tax will help reduce energy consumption and private funding. It will also encourage the use of better sources of energy. The recently published IMF report said that the tax also gave «necessary financial returns». It also stressed that these this could be used to redirect public funding to support sustained growth and distribute it to as many people as possible.



Environmental Vocabulary

The Musk Carrier

Eng. Khalifa Badawi Al Higgi
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Nature possesses treasures of green landscape, ranging in colours and shapes between small herbsto large plants. They share their environments, while differ in their benefits and products. Each botanical component has its own advantages as if all components competeto serve the human being with their generosity and gifts. Of which is the medicine and food. Some of their secrets are known and some are hidden. When we sail in the sea of nature, we stopped by lots of botanical components, including what attracts us to talk about as talked by whom known and used it, but even the talk about it since the age of prophecy. Its good smell still perfumed the mouths of the worshippers.

On the banks of the wadies, between the rocks, and in the coastal sandy hills particularly, its green luster is spread as aquamarine crown on the headsof sands, while its roots penetrate to the depth of the soil and pass it in between the rocksin different directions for long distances. Above the roots stand a tree of a height of three meters, from which the branches hang down as a lock of hair passed smoothly through the teeth of comb. It is a perennial tree with age up to twenty-five years, evergreen and has aromatic leaves. In the spring, blooming yellow flowers and ripen in summer in form of clusters like red grapes, then ripen as rounded granules like the black (Boot) fruit. The fruit is calledin Arabic the «Kapat», eaten by humans and animals as well and contain a high percentage of oil of up to 39%. It is no wonder that those who taste milk with a distinctive taste and aromatic odor will undoubtedly be its source comes from chewing food based on the branches and leaves of this blessed tree.

Its medical and therapeutic benefits are countless, the most is of its radical benefits, which were urged by the Prophetic Sunnahbecause of its aromatic materials, natural detergents, mouth-brushing, brushing teeth, strengthening the gums, and used as natural toothbrushes either directly or through newly extracted pastes. This tree (Al-Khamt) is reportedly scattered throughout the Sultanate, especially in the governorates of Al-Batinah. It has been crowned as a slogan for Wilayat Al Musanah because of its heavy spread on its coastal sands. It is off course withstand the fluctuations of weather, salinity and water scarcity.

It is the tree that has a divine care and prophetic guidance that applied as long as the heavens and the earth exist. It needs a lot of care, attention and study to preserve it and to discover more of its secrets, because the high demand of it will have serious consequences if not rectified, especially as it is slow growth. Caring of it as blessed, religious, environmental and economic importance tree is urgent and necessary. Not to mention that it is primarily a toothpick tree that extracted from the tree known as Al-Arak.

Turtles in Oman



Hi Friends ..
My name is Salhoofah ..
I will tell you about the Turtles
in Oman .



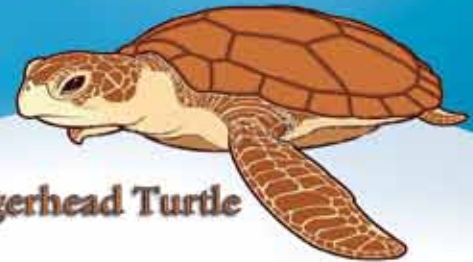
Green Turtle

Large numbers of green turtles are nesting in the most Omani beaches, specially in Ras Al Jinzand and Masirah Island. They are approximately more than 20000 turtles per year. It lays about 132 eggs per clutch.



Hawksbill Turtle

It nests heavily in the Dimaniyat Islands Reserve. It's number is about 500 turtles. It has unique small head and raptor-like beak. It lays around 132 eggs per clutch.



Loggerhead Turtle

It nests in Masirah beaches. They are more than 30000 turtles per year. It has a bigger head compared to other sea turtles. It lives in the coral reefs and feeds on shells. It lays about 125 eggs per clutch.



Leatherback Turtle

It doesn't nest in Oman coasts, but feeds regularly in Oman's sea. It is the largest of all living sea turtles. It doesn't have plates like other turtles but a leathery skin over its shell.



Olive Ridley

It is the smallest sea turtle with the lowest number of sea turtles nesting in Oman, where about 200 turtles nesting in Masirah Island. Its scutes are semi circular, dome-like in front and greyish olive in color. It lays about 190 egg per clutch.