

## 16th Al Jazeera Forum kicks Off, addressing shifting dynamics in the Middle East



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Doha, February 15 (QNA)– The 16th edition of the Al Jazeera Forum, organized by Al Jazeera Media Network, commenced on Saturday under the theme “From the War on Gaza to Change in Syria: Shifting Dynamics in the Middle East.” The two-day event brings together distinguished experts, researchers, and media professionals to discuss critical regional transformations.

In his opening address, HE Sheikh Hamad bin Thamer Al-Thani, Chairman of Al Jazeera Media

Network's Board of Directors, emphasized the Forum's role in addressing pressing Arab world issues, analyzing their causes and implications. He noted that this year's discussions take place against the backdrop of a ceasefire following 15 months of the war on Gaza and significant changes in Syria.

HE Sheikh Hamad praised Al Jazeera's dedication to accurate reporting and honored journalists who lost their lives covering events in Gaza and Syria. He condemned the Israeli occupation's closure of Al Jazeera offices in the West Bank and Jerusalem and the discriminatory treatment of its press teams. Acknowledging journalists' sacrifices, he stressed their crucial role in shaping today's evolving realities.

This year's Forum focuses on the geopolitical consequences of the Israeli war on Gaza, assessing its impact on regional power dynamics, humanitarian conditions, and post-war negotiations.

Discussions also delve into Syria's evolving landscape following the fall of the Al Assad regime, exploring internal shifts and regional consequences.

Additionally, the Forum highlights the growing global solidarity movement for Palestine, featuring voices from Western university-led protests against Israeli aggression in Gaza.

The event concludes with an analysis of recent developments in Palestine, Lebanon, and Syria, offering insights into the challenges and opportunities that shape the region's future.

Al Jazeera Forum serves as a platform for researchers, experts, and decision-makers to engage in meaningful dialogue on critical Middle Eastern issues, fostering deeper understanding and strategic discourse.