

## Guyana Celebrates 59th Independence Anniversary with a Grand Cultural Showcase in Doha



Published on May 29, 2025

Document Date: Wed, Apr 01 2026 10:57:19 pm

Category: ,Embassy Enclave,English,Snippets

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Doha, Qatar – The Embassy of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana in Qatar hosted a grand reception on Monday night at the Sheraton Grand Doha to celebrate the country's 59th Independence Anniversary. The event was a vibrant reflection of Guyana's rich culture, unity, and diplomatic ties with Qatar.

Both the Torch Hotel and Sheraton Grand Doha were illuminated in the brilliant colors of Guyana's Golden Arrowhead, creating a stunning ambiance for a night filled with cultural splendor, national pride, and international friendship.

The event was graced by several distinguished guests, including H.E. Dr. Ali bin Saeed bin Samikh Al Marri, Qatar's Minister of Labour; H.E. Ibrahim Yousif Fakhroo, Director of Protocol at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; H.E. Jassim Al Asmakh, Director of the Americas Department at MOFA; as well as other Qatari dignitaries, diplomats, business leaders, and members of the Guyanese community.

H.E. Ambassador Safraaz Ahmad Shadood opened the evening with warm remarks and introduced the keynote speech delivered by H.E. Dr. Mohamed Irfaan Ali, President of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, who addressed the significance of the day and the strengthening of bilateral ties.

A cultural highlight of the evening featured an impressive acrobatic display by Ivan Rockdrigo, dressed as a jaguar, symbolizing the dynamic spirit of the Guyanese people. The traditional cake-cutting ceremony followed, led by the dignitaries.

Dr. Julia Theresa Kanhai, the event coordinator, delivered the vote of thanks, acknowledging the hospitality of the Qatari Government, the efforts of the Embassy staff, Newton Group CEO Hessa Al-Noaimi, educators, performers, artists, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Guyana.

Guests enjoyed a culinary experience with traditional drinks like mauby and sorrel, and the beloved national dish 'Pepper Pot.' The evening also featured live painting, with artworks presented as gifts to honor the enduring friendship between Qatar and Guyana.

The Embassy expressed heartfelt gratitude to all contributors and extended warm Independence Day wishes to Guyanese citizens worldwide.