

Turkish Ambassador hosts family gathering to deepen media relations



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In a gesture that blended public diplomacy with personal warmth, HE Dr Mustafa Göksu, Ambassador of the Republic of Türkiye to the State of Qatar, hosted a special family dinner for journalists covering diplomatic affairs, along with their spouses and children. The event took place at the distinguished Turkish Sazeli Restaurant in The Pearl Qatar, offering a relaxed and familial atmosphere far removed from traditional diplomatic formality.

By opening his doors to not only the journalists but also their families, Ambassador Dr Göksu introduced a more personal approach to diplomacy, aiming to build connections that go beyond official titles and press briefings. This initiative reflects the Embassy's broader commitment to fostering people-to-people relationships between Türkiye and Qatar and deepening cultural understanding.

The Pearl Qatar, known for its scenic beauty and refined ambiance, provided the perfect setting for the gathering. The venue's elegant surroundings matched the evening's spirit, which focused on genuine engagement, mutual respect, and friendship.

In his welcoming address, Dr Göksu expressed heartfelt appreciation to the attending journalists and their families for accepting the invitation. He underlined the significance of knowing one another on a personal level, not just as professionals. "We are brothers and sisters living in the same country, so we need to know each other and that includes your families," he said. "If there is anything we can do for them, we are ready."

He also acknowledged the busy diplomatic schedule and regional responsibilities that can limit opportunities for such gatherings. "God willing, we will continue to have such gatherings at Turkish restaurants," he said. "The real challenge is work and time, but if there are any shortcomings, please forgive us."

Dr Göksu gave special thanks to journalist Ashraf Siddiqui for helping organize the evening and encouraging strong media participation. He praised Siddiqui for his continued support in building constructive ties between the Embassy and the local press community.

Speaking on behalf of the journalists, Ashraf Siddiqui conveyed his gratitude for the Ambassador's thoughtful invitation. He noted that the evening gave an excellent opportunity for media professionals and their families to

interact, form new friendships, and enjoy the richness of Turkish cuisine in a friendly setting. He thanked fellow journalists and their families for making the gathering warm, enjoyable, and memorable.

The dinner is a strong example of Türkiye's soft diplomacy in Qatar. By inviting families into a diplomatic space, the Turkish Embassy affirmed its belief that strong professional relations are rooted in mutual respect, shared experiences, and sincere hospitality. The inclusive nature of the event offered a refreshing and heartfelt reminder that diplomacy is not only built in boardrooms but also through meaningful personal interactions. Such efforts are central to Türkiye's approach to international engagement where cultural connection and mutual appreciation are seen as key pillars of bilateral cooperation. The Embassy's initiative is likely to inspire further people-centered diplomacy in the region.