

## Msheireb Museums Opens Sawaed, a Contemporary Art Exhibition Honouring People as the Drivers of Progress



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**Doha, Qatar, 11 June 2026** – Msheireb Museums, in collaboration with Al Markhiya Gallery, has opened Sawaed, a contemporary art exhibition that explores the role of people in shaping development, progress, and social change in societies.

Presented at Bin Jelmood House, the exhibition draws inspiration from the spirit of the neighbouring Company House, which preserves the stories of the pioneers whose resilience, dedication, and perseverance helped build Qatar's petroleum industry and contributed to the nation's development.

Named after the Arabic word for "arms" or "hands," Sawaed celebrates the human values that have shaped Qatar's progress, including hard work, determination, collaboration, and ambition. Through contemporary artworks, the exhibition reflects on a simple yet powerful idea: people are the driving force behind every stage of national growth and achievement.

Bringing together works by Ahmed Nooh, Ismail Azzam, Amal Al Aathem, Hayyan Monawar, Aisha Al Sulaiti, Fatma Al Shebani, Fatma Al Naimi, Mubarak Al-Malik, Mohammed Alhamadi, Maryam Almulla, Nasser Al-Attiyah, Hala Aljaafari, and Hanadi Al Darwish, supervised by curator Bashir Mohamed, the exhibition invites artists to engage with these values through a contemporary lens.

Rather than revisiting history as a distant memory, the participating artists draw inspiration the narrative of the neighbouring Company House, the exhibition explores collective effort that has shaped communities across generations. Through diverse artistic expressions, the exhibition explores the relationship between work and creativity, memory and aspiration, and the enduring human capacity to build, innovate, and transform.

Abdulla Al Naama, General Manager of Msheireb Museums, said: “Sawaed explores one of the defining narratives presented by Company House: the story of the dedicated men and women whose hard work, resilience, and vision laid the foundations of Qatar’s modern development and helped shape the nation’s economic and social transformation. Honouring the contributions of these early pioneers, it invites artists to engage with their stories and reinterpret them through contemporary artistic perspectives, reflecting on the enduring role of human endeavour in building thriving and progressive societies.

Bridging the past and present, **Sawaed** creates a dynamic space where historical memory meets contemporary artistic expression. Through diverse creative voices and interpretations, the exhibition encourages visitors to reflect on the values of perseverance, innovation, and collective effort that drive societal progress. It offers an opportunity to consider how individual contributions, both past and present, continue to shape communities and nations.

Rooted in its cultural and educational mission, Msheireb Museums is committed to fostering meaningful dialogue around the stories that define our shared heritage. By harnessing the power of art as a medium for reflection, engagement, and discovery, the museum creates platforms that celebrate the human spirit, deepen connections with our collective past, and inspire future generations to contribute to the ongoing story of progress and development.

Sawaed creates a space for reflection on the values that continue to inspire progress today, reaffirming that development is not defined by resources alone, but by the people who transform ideas into action and possibility into achievement.

By bringing together memory, creativity, and reflection, the exhibition invites visitors to consider the role of individuals in shaping communities, nations, and futures.