

## **Qatar Museums to Take Key Part in ICAHM 2025 in Chile, Deepening Cultural Exchange During Qatar-Chile 2025 Year of Culture**

**4 May 2025 – Doha, Qatar** – As part of the Qatar-Chile 2025 Year of Culture, Qatar Museums (QM) has been invited by the International Scientific Committee on Archaeological Heritage Management (ICOMOS-ICAHM) to play a prominent role in the ICAHM 2025 Conference, taking place from May 8 to 16 in Santiago and San Pedro de Atacama.

A key moment in the conference will be the keynote address by Abdullatif Al Jasmi, Director of Cultural Heritage Protection, who will represent Qatar Museums during both the opening and closing ceremonies. His remarks will highlight Qatar's approach to sustainable heritage preservation and the importance of cross-cultural collaboration. He will also spotlight the Year of Culture as a dynamic platform for strengthening ties between Qatar, Chile, and international partners such as UNESCO.

"It is a great honour to contribute to ICAHM 2025 and share Qatar's commitment to safeguarding heritage through international partnerships and inclusive cultural exchange," said Al Jasmi. "We look forward to building long-term collaborations with Chilean institutions and communities that will last well beyond this special Year of Culture."

Later this year, Qatar Museums will co-host a five-day capacity-building workshop at a World Heritage Site in Chile aimed at empowering Chilean heritage professionals and enhancing management capacity. The workshop will explore innovative, community-driven approaches to managing cultural and natural heritage, while also addressing future development, climate change, and emergency response. Participants from across Chile will engage in hands-on learning, field visits, and practical exercises based on the internationally recognised People-Nature-Culture (PNC) framework.

The Qatar Museums delegation will participate in the Santiago conference sessions on May 8–9, attend technical site visits and meetings from May 10–11, and join the main conference in San Pedro de Atacama from May 12–16. Throughout, the delegates will engage with heritage leaders, archaeologists, and creative professionals to explore new opportunities for cooperation and cultural exchange.

"Together, Qatar Museums' participation in ICAHM 2025 in the context of the wider Years of Culture initiative and its support of the capacity-building workshop reflect a shared commitment to preserving global heritage while building inclusive, community-led cultural development," added Al Jasmi.

**END**

### **Archaeological and Heritage Sites of Qatar**

Qatar Museums is committed to discovering, researching, protecting, conserving, and promoting Qatar's diverse archaeological and heritage sites. The country is home to hundreds of documented locations, including prehistoric sites, pre-Islamic cemeteries, Abbasid settlements, stone fishtraps, and heritage architecture. To enhance visitor experiences, Qatar Museums introduced educational self-guiding signage at six exceptional sites: Barzan Towers, Al Rekayat Fort, Al Ruwaida Archaeological Site, Al Jassasiya Rock Art Site, Zekreet Fort, and the country's first UNESCO World Heritage Site, Al Zubarah Archaeological Site. The preservation of these sites and their artifacts ensures that they are protected for future generations to enjoy and to study. They provide a tangible link to the local communities' past and Qatar's cultural legacy, and are an important part of global patrimony.

## About Years of Culture

The Years of Culture initiative, chaired by Her Excellency Sheikha Al Mayassa bint Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, spearheads long-lasting cultural partnerships between Qatar and other nations. It exists to promote respect and understanding among diverse cultures and serves as a catalyst for bringing people together, nurturing connections, encouraging dialogue, and deepening understanding. At its heart, Years of Culture celebrates the power of cultural exchange, which enriches Qatar's ties with partner countries beyond the dedicated year.

Each year is organised with support from Qatar and partner countries' cultural institutions, ministries, foundations, and private and public sector partners, with assistance from Embassies in Qatar and abroad. Programmes are tailored to explore the unique nature of each partner country with a focus on cultural heritage, creative industries, social and economic development, and innovation.

Previous Years of Culture have included: Qatar-Japan 2012, Qatar-UK 2013, Qatar-Brazil 2014, Qatar-Türkiye 2015, Qatar-China 2016, Qatar-Germany 2017, Qatar-Russia 2018, Qatar-India 2019, Qatar-France 2020, Qatar-USA 2021, Qatar-MENASA 2022, Qatar-Indonesia 2023, and Qatar-Morocco 2024.

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