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# 'SULTAN IS A MOTIVATION FOR YOUTH'

## Mohammad says Emirati astronaut has fulfilled the dream of his fellow Arabs

**DUBAI**  
BY SAJILA SASEENDRAN,  
Senior Reporter and KHITAM  
AL AMIR, Chief News Editor

**H**is Highness Shaikh Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, held a live video call with Emirati astronaut Sultan Al Neyadi, who is currently undertaking the longest Arab space mission on the International Space Station (ISS).

During his live call from the Mohammad Bin Rashid Space Centre (MBRSC), Shaikh Mohammad congratulated Al Neyadi on his safe arrival at the ISS. His Highness emphasised that the UAE has earned its place among the stars thanks to the

tireless efforts of its sons and daughters, and the hard work of several task forces, and that the best is yet to come.

His Highness stated that the UAE's achievements have provided a model not only for the region but also for the world, adding that Al Neyadi's accomplishment has fulfilled the dream of his fellow Arabs. "Your safe arrival at the ISS is a source of pride for all of us, and a motivation for all Emiratis, Arabs and the global youth who follow you. I always say that everything is possible for the people of the UAE, and our strong will makes the impossible possible," His Highness said to Al Neyadi.

Shaikh Mohammad emphasised that the UAE is sending a new message of development to the world, demonstrating how to create a new reality and a



### SKY IS THE LIMIT

Shaikh Mohammad speaks to Sultan Al Neyadi during a live video call from the Mohammad Bin Rashid Space Centre.

Space has opened its doors to us, and Emiratis are effectively contributing to the global scientific and knowledge renaissance."

Shaikh Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum

### SULTAN OF SPACE TALKS TO UAE STUDENTS

The trip to space was like a very quick rollercoaster ride and the joy of weightlessness is something that he wishes everyone could try, UAE astronaut Sultan Al Neyadi told students of a Dubai school in a live audio call yesterday.

More than 1,000 wide-eyed students at GEMS Jumeirah College in Dubai were treated to the ultimate space lessons when the Emirati astronaut connected with the school via live radio transmission from the International Space Station (ISS).

brighter future for the region by prioritising education, knowledge-sharing, and leveraging technology to unlock new opportunities. "The Emirati dream

does not allow for setbacks or complacency. Every dream we have is followed by a greater dream that surpasses expectations and breaks new ground.

Space has opened its doors to us, and Emiratis are effectively contributing to the global scientific and knowledge renaissance," His Highness said.

Astronaut Sultan Al Neyadi expressed his gratitude and deep appreciation for the unwavering support and follow-up of the wise leadership at all stages of the mission, and the UAE leaders' keenness to prepare a promising generation of Emirati youth equipped with knowledge and sciences to participate in the march of global development and progress.

SEE ALSO NATION P3

# MOHAMMAD, AL NEYADI DO THE SPACE TALK

The best is yet to come, says Vice-President in live call to International Space Station

**DUBAI**  
BY SAJILA SASEENDRAN  
Senior Reporter

**H**is Highness Shaikh Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, held a live video call with Emirati astronaut Sultan Al Neyadi, who is currently undertaking the longest Arab space mission on the International Space Station (ISS).

Al Neyadi and his Crew-6 teammates docked with the ISS after a 24-hour flight on-board the SpaceX Dragon Endeavor spacecraft to begin the longest Arab space mission, which will last six months.

During his live call from the Mohammad Bin Rashid Space Centre (MBRSC), Shaikh Mohammad congratulated Al Neyadi on his safe arrival at the ISS. His Highness also commended the international accomplishments of the UAE and its citizens' exceptional achievements, according to the Dubai Media Office press release,

### The ultimate aspiration

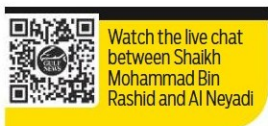
His Highness emphasised that the UAE has earned its place among the stars thanks to the tireless efforts of its sons and daughters, and the hard work of several task forces, and that the best is yet to come. These efforts began with the establishment of the MBRSC, followed by the creation of the UAE Space Agency, the launch of the Na-



Shaikh Mohammad Bin Rashid at Mohammad Bin Rashid Space Centre, Dubai, during a video chat with Emirati astronaut Sultan Al Neyadi, who is on the International Space Station.

tional Space Strategy, and several programmes to train Emiratis in science and space-related fields. However, His Highness noted that the ultimate aspiration began in the 1970s with Zayed's dream and determination to explore space and etch the name of the UAE not only on earth but also in the sky.

Shaikh Mohammad stated that the Arab region is in dire need of an inspirational role



model to develop its scientific capabilities. The UAE's achievements have provided a model not only for the region but also for the world, His Highness said, adding that Al

Neyadi's accomplishment today has fulfilled the dream of his fellow Arabs.

### Source of pride

"Your safe arrival at the ISS is a source of pride for all of us, and a motivation for all Emiratis, Arabs and the global youth who follow you. I always say that everything is possible for the people of the UAE, and our strong will makes the im-



### TEH HANDOVER

The Crew-6 is now gearing up for a handover from the Crew-5 team, who will undock and splash down off the coast of Florida once their work is complete. After the handover, Crew-6 will carry out novel and innovative scientific research aimed at preparing for human exploration beyond low-Earth orbit and advancing life on Earth.

Our journey started more than 50 years ago from the desert without any capabilities, and today our flag has reached space and flies around Mars."

Shaikh Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum

writing new chapters in our exceptional journey."

He emphasised that the UAE is sending a new message of development to the world, demonstrating how to create a new reality and a brighter future for the region by prioritising education, knowledge-sharing, and leveraging technology to unlock new opportunities. "The Emirati dream does not allow for setbacks or complacency. Every dream we have is followed by a greater dream that surpasses expectations and breaks new ground. Space has opened its doors to us, and Emiratis are effectively contributing to the global scientific and knowledge renaissance," His Highness said.

Al Neyadi expressed his gratitude for the unwavering support and follow-up of the wise leadership at all stages of the mission, and the UAE leaders' keenness to prepare a promising generation of Emirati youth equipped with knowledge and sciences to participate in the march of global development and progress.

## Al Neyadi shares joy of floating in space with Dubai students

UAE astronaut talks to GEMS Jumeirah College pupils live from ISS

**DUBAI**  
BY SAJILA SASEENDRAN  
Senior Reporter

**T**he trip to space was like a very quick rollercoaster ride and the joy of weightlessness is something that he wishes everyone could try, UAE astronaut Sultan Al Neyadi told students of a Dubai school in a live audio call yesterday.

More than 1,000 wide-eyed students at GEMS Jumeirah College in Dubai were treated to the ultimate space lessons when the Emirati astronaut currently on the longest Arab space mission connected with the school via live radio transmission from the International Space Station (ISS).

### Rollercoaster experience

Al Neyadi took the time to answer students' questions, speaking on a variety of topics, ranging from what inspired him to pursue a career as an astronaut and how he prepared for his current mission, to what it felt like to enter space and what work he will be carrying out during his time on the Space Station.

Asked about how his preparations compared to the actual experience of entering space, Al Neyadi said: "We train in mock-ups that simulate the inside of the capsule [spacecraft]. And we also get training to experience G-load as well. But being in space is totally different; there's a continuous feel-



Students of Jumeirah College in conversation with astronaut Sultan Al Neyadi, connecting with him live on the International Space Station yesterday.

**1,000** students from GEMS Jumeirah College took part in the live chat session

ing of weightlessness. I wish everyone could try this, but unfortunately as far as I know, the closest you can get to a rocket launch is going on a really fast rollercoaster!"

Answering a question about the launch, he said it was a rollercoaster experience which was wonderful. "The launch was actually wonderful. I really liked it. I enjoyed it. It felt like a roller-coaster ride but it was really quick."

"When we crossed the eight

minutes, it is the time for the engine cut off and that is the time when you feel the weightlessness. It is the best part of the exploration," he said.

Al Neyadi could not stop talking about the wonder of things floating in space. "I think the most surprising thing [about the space station] is ... everything is floating. [Back on Earth], we take things for granted. If you put an object on a table, for example, it stays there. But, in space, everything floats away. So you really need to keep organising yourself, using some Velcro tape so your stuff won't float away."

He told the students that the "thirst for exploration" is what inspired him to be an astronaut and "it is probably one of the most important things that you should be thinking of to be an astronaut."

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