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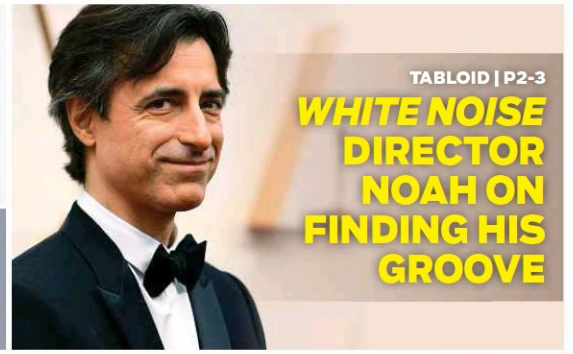
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Sharjah Sat 1 successfully launched

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SHARJAH

Gulf News Report

The 'Sharjah Sat 1' satellite was successfully launched on Tuesday on the SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket at Cape Canaveral in Florida, USA.

Shaikh Sultan Bin Ahmad Bin Sultan Al Qasimi, Deputy Ruler of Sharjah, and President of the University of Sharjah, followed a live broadcast of the launch at the Sharjah Academy for Astronomy, Space Sciences and Technology at the University of Sharjah.

He congratulated His Highness Dr Shaikh Sultan Bin Mohammad Al Qasimi, Supreme Council Member and Ruler of Sharjah, and the UAE leadership on the launch of Sharjah Sat 1, saying that the UAE has taken successful and steady steps towards space exploration through various missions and is now supported by Sharjah Sat 1.

Shaikh Sultan Bin Ahmad said: "We start our year by reaching space, and we commend the efforts of the Sharjah Academy for Astronomy, Space Science and Technology, and we are proud of the Emirati cadres of engineers and researchers, who worked on the completion of Sharjah Sat 1. Today [Tuesday], we see its successful launch into space to perform the expected scientific tasks, after reaching the specified orbit, 550km from sea level."

Special facilities

Dr Hamid M.K. Al Naimiy, Chancellor of the University of Sharjah and Director-General of the Sharjah Academy for Astronomy, Space Science and Technology, thanked Shaikh Sultan Bin Mohammad Shaikh Sultan Bin Ahmad for the support to the academy and scientific studies



Watch: Sharjah enters space sector with launch of new 'Sharjah Sat 1'

in the field of space, through the establishment of special facilities for these studies such as laboratories, ground stations and the latest simulation programmes that contributed to the launch of Sharjah Sat 1.

He indicated that "Sharjah Sat 1" comes within a series of many satellites, and each satellite performs different tasks and goals, adding that designing these space missions and launching them, through preparing various workshops and practical applications, is in line with the UAE's directions to build a generation capable of facing the challenges of technological development in the space industries.

Wishing success

After the successful launch of "Sharjah Sat 1", the Deputy Ruler of Sharjah congratulated the academy's engineers who contributed to this achievement, and wishing them success in the upcoming projects.

The estimated lifetime of the satellite is three years, subject to increase, according to the effect of solar radiation on the layers of the Earth's atmosphere due to its proximity to the low Earth orbit (550km), around which "Sharjah Sat 1" revolves.

The launch was attended by the Deputy Ruler of Sharjah, a number of members of the Board of Trustees of the University of Sharjah, top officials from the university, a number of members of the teaching and administrative staff, and a group of specialists, researchers and students of the academy.



Shaikh Sultan Bin Ahmad Bin Sultan Al Qasimi followed a live broadcast of the launch during an event at the Sharjah Academy for Astronomy, Space Sciences and Technology.