

IN THE NAME OF GOD

Qatar

❑ History of the State of Qatar

The history of Qatar began with the first signs of human habitation on the Qatar peninsula 50,000 years ago and continues until the formation of the present-day state of Qatar. In archaeological excavations in the Qatar peninsula, human settlements and tools belonging to the Stone Age have been found.

The fragments of pottery found near the ancient remains of the banks of Qatar from the Ubid period show that the Middle River civilization was the first civilization of the Neolithic era that was present in this region.

In the early years of its settlement, the Qatar Peninsula was included in the territory of the Seleucid Empire, then the Parthian Empire, and then the Sassanid Empire. In 628 AD, Muhammad, the Prophet of Islam, sent a delegation to the governor of the Sassanid Empire in a part of the region south of the Persian Gulf, which included Qatar, and the residents of Qatar also got to know Islam in this way. The name of this governor was Munzar bin Sawi.

In the 8th century, the Qatar region became one of the pearl trading centers. During the Abbasid period, several villages were established in the Qatar peninsula. After the Bani Utbah clan and several other Arab clans conquered Bahrain in 1783, the Al Khalifa family managed to establish its sovereignty over Bahrain and the main land of Qatar. During the following centuries, Qatar was a place of conflict between the Wahhabis of Najd and the Al-Khalifa dynasty. In 1871, the Ottomans expanded their territory to the east of the Arabian Peninsula, and this situation continued until 1915, when the Ottomans withdrew from the region at the beginning of World War I.

In 1916, Qatar became a British protectorate and Abdullah Bin Qasim al-Thani signed a treaty with the British, based on which the British pledged to support Qatar against sea and land attacks. The next treaty was signed in 1934, in which Britain promised more extensive support.

In 1935, Qatar Petroleum Company obtained the privilege of 75 years of exploitation of Qatar oil, and then in 1940, high quality oil was discovered in Dukhan.

During the 1950s and 1960s, the increase in oil revenues led to prosperity, rapid immigration and social progress, and this process marked the contemporary history of Qatar. After in 1968, Britain announced its policy of ending the period of previously signed agreements with the sheikhdoms of the Persian Gulf, Qatar joined the plan of eight other former British protectorate sheikhdoms to form a federation of Arab emirates. In the middle of 1971, that is, when the deadline for the treaty with Britain ended, the nine sheikhdoms had not yet reached an agreement on the terms of forming the union, and therefore Qatar declared its independence on September 3, 1971 (12 Shahrivar 1350). In June 1995, the Crown Prince Qatar Hamad bin Khalifa deposed his father Khalifa bin Hamad al-Thani from power in a bloodless coup and replaced him. The new Emir gave more freedom to the press and municipal elections. Qatar's new constitution was approved in April 2003 through a popular referendum and became law in June 2005.

Qatar was a famous horse and camel breeding center during the Umayyad period. In the 8th century, this country benefited from its strategic commercial position in the Persian Gulf and became the center of pearl trade. During the Second Fitna, one of the famous Kharijite commanders named Qatri bin Fajah, who was the most popular, admired and powerful leader of the Kharijites, led Azraqah, which was one of the sub-sects of the Kharijites. He had the title of Amir al-Mu'minin and ruled over the radical movement of Azarqa for more than 10 years. He was born in Al Khuwar, Qatar, and also struck the first known Kharijite coins, the oldest of which date back to 688 or 689. The Umayyad Caliphate from the end of the 7th century brought about many political and religious changes in West Asia. As a result, at the end of the 7th century, there were many uprisings against the Umayyads, especially in Qatar and Bahrain. Ibn Fajah led the uprising against the Umayyad caliphs for more than twenty years. By 750, discontent within the caliphate had reached a critical point over the treatment of non-Arab citizens in the Umayyad Empire. The Abbasid revolution led to the overthrow of the Umayyad caliphate and the beginning of the Abbasid period.



official badge



Flag

❑ Etymology of the name Qatar

The Roman writer Pliny documented the first account of the inhabitants of the peninsula around the middle of the 1st century AD, referring to them as "Catharrei", a name that may have been derived from the name of a prominent local settlement. A century later, Ptolemy prepared the first known map to show the peninsula and referred to it as Catara. The map also referred to a city called "Cadara" in the east of the peninsula. The term 'Catara' (inhabitants, Cataraei) was used exclusively until the 18th century, after which 'Katara' emerged as the most common known spelling.[32] Finally, after several variations - 'Katr', 'Kattar' and 'Guttur' - the modern derivative of Qatar was adopted as the name of the country.

In Modern Standard Arabic, the name is pronounced ['qatʕar], while in Gulf Arabic it is ['gitʕar].



ancient period

Kasian archaeological site in Al Khor Island

Human habitation in Qatar dates back to 50,000 years ago. Settlements and tools dating back to the Stone Age have been discovered on the peninsula. Mesopotamian artifacts from the Ubaid period (ca. 6500 to 3800 BC) have been discovered in abandoned coastal settlements. Dassa, a settlement on the west coast of Qatar, is the most important Ubaid site in the country and is believed to have housed a small seasonal camp. had given place

Kasian Babylonian artefacts dating back to the 2nd millennium BC have been discovered on the island of Al-Khor, and are evidence of trade relations between the people of Qatar and the Kasi people in present-day Bahrain. Among the finds are 3,000,000 crushed conch shells and Kasi pottery. had

In 224 AD, the Sassanid Empire gained control over the areas around the Persian Gulf. Qatar played an important role in Sassanid trade and offered at least two goods: pearls and purple silk. During the Sassanid dynasty, many residents of Eastern Arabia became acquainted with Christianity following the promotion of the Christian religion to the east by the Mesopotamian Christians. During this period, monasteries were built and more settlements were established during this period. At the end of the Christian era, Qatar formed a region known as "Bath Qatariyya" (Syriac meaning "house of the Qataris"). Of course, this area was not limited to current Qatar and included Bahrain, Tarot Island, Al Khat and Al Ahsa.

In the year 628, Muhammad sent a Muslim envoy to a ruler in eastern Arabia named Munzar bin Sawi and asked him and his subjects to accept Islam. Munzer accepted his request and accordingly, most of the Arab tribes of the region converted to Islam. In the middle of this century, the Arab attack on Iran led to the fall of the Sassanid Empire

DATE



Kasian archaeological site in Al Khor Island

❑ Islamic era(۱۷۸۳-۶۶۱)

During the Umayyad period, Qatar was a famous center for breeding horses and camels. In the 8th century, it took advantage of its strategic commercial position in the Persian Gulf and became the center of pearl trade.

A significant development in the pearling industry took place around the Qatar peninsula during the Abbasid era. Ships traveling from Basra to India and China stopped at Qatar ports during this time. Porcelain, West African coins, and Thai antiquities have been discovered in Qatar. Archaeological remains dating back to the 9th century show that residents of Qatar used quality materials to build houses and public buildings. During this period, more than 100 stone houses, two mosques and an Abbasid castle were built in Marwab. When the power of the caliphate in Iraq declined, the caliphate also declined in Qatar. Qatar is mentioned in the book of the 13th century Muslim researcher Yaqut Hamwi called Majam al-Beldan, which refers to the striped and delicate woven robes of the Qataris and their skills in improving and perfecting the spear.

Most of Eastern Arabia was under the control of the Asfurians in 1253, but the kings of Hormuz took control of this region in 1320. Qatar pearls were one of the main sources of income for the kingdom. In 1515, Manuel I, the king of Portugal conquered the kingdom of Hormuz. Portugal captured a significant part of Eastern Arabia in 1521. In 1550, the inhabitants of Al-Ahsa voluntarily surrendered to Ottoman rule and preferred them over the Portuguese. Maintaining a small military presence in this region, the Ottomans were driven out by the Bani Khaled tribe in 1670.



Abbasid caliphate in its most extensive state, around the year 850.

❑ Bahraini and Saudi government (1868-1783)

In 1766, members of the Al-Khalifa family from the Bani Utbah tribal confederation migrated from Kuwait to Al-Zabarah in Qatar.

Bani Khalid had little power over the peninsula at the time of their arrival, despite the fact that the largest village was ruled by their distant relatives. In 1783, Bani Utbah tribes based in Qatar and allied Arab tribes attacked them and took Bahrain from the Iranians. Al-Khalifa imposed its authority on Bahrain and retained its jurisdiction over Zubra.

After Saud bin Abdulaziz was sworn in as the crown prince of Saudi Arabia in 1788, he moved eastward to the Persian Gulf and Qatar to expand his territory. After the defeat of Bani Khalid in 1795, the Saudis were attacked on two fronts. The Ottomans and Egyptians attacked the western front, while the Caliphate in Bahrain and Oman attacked the eastern front. After learning of Egypt's advance on the western borders in 1811, the Saudi emir reduced his forces in Bahrain and al-Zubarah to redeploy his forces. Saeed bin Sultan, the ruler of Muscat, took advantage of this opportunity and attacked the Wahhabi garrisons on the east coast and set fire to the Zubra Fort. Al-Khalifa were then effectively restored to power.

As punishment for piracy, a British East India Company ship bombarded Doha in 1821, destroying the city and forcing hundreds of residents to flee. In 1825, the Al Thani government was formed under the leadership of Sheikh Muhammad bin Thani Al Thani as the first leader of Qatar.

Although Qatar was considered one of Bahrain's dependent territories, Al Khalifa faced opposition from local tribes. In 1867, Al-Khalifa along with the ruler of Abu Dhabi sent a huge naval force to suppress the Qatari rebels in Al Wakrah. This led to the Qatar-Bahrain Naval War of 1867–1868, in which Bahraini and Abu Dhabi forces sacked Doha and Al Wakrah. The hostilities in Bahrain were a violation of the permanent truce of peace and friendship in 1861. The joint offensive, in addition to the Qatari counteroffensive, prompted British Resident Colonel Lewis Pole to conclude an agreement in 1868. His mission to Bahrain and Qatar and the resulting peace treaty were a turning point, as they implicitly recognized the distinction of Qatar from Bahrain and explicitly acknowledged the position of Muhammad bin Thani. In addition to condemning Bahrain for violating the agreement, Puli negotiated with the Qatari sheikhs represented by Mohammed bin Thani. These negotiations were the first stage in the development of Qatar as a sheikhdom. However, Qatar was not officially recognized as a British protectorate until 1916.

❑ Ottoman period (1871-1915)

Under the military and political pressure of the Ottoman governor of Baghdad province, Medhat Pasha, the Al Thani ruling clan surrendered to the Ottoman government in 1871. The Ottoman government implemented reform measures (regulations) regarding taxation and land registration for the complete integration of these areas into the empire. Despite the opposition of the local tribes, al-Thani continued to support the Ottoman rule. However, Qatari-Ottoman relations soon deteriorated and suffered further setbacks in 1882 when the Ottomans refused to assist al-Thani in his expedition to Khor al-Adeed. In addition, the Ottomans supported Muhammad ibn Abd al-Wahhab, an Ottoman citizen, who in 1888 tried to replace al-Thani as viceroy of Qatar. This eventually led al-Thani to rebel against the Ottomans, who they believed were seeking to usurp control. They were a peninsula. He resigned as viceroy and did not pay taxes in August 1892.

In February 1893, Muhammad Hafez Pasha arrived in Qatar in order to collect unpaid taxes and counter Jassim bin Muhammad's opposition to the administrative reforms proposed by the Ottomans. Fearing that he would face death or imprisonment, Jassim retreated with several members of his tribe to Al-Aujba (16 km or 10 miles west of Doha). Muhammad's request to disband the forces and pledge allegiance to the Ottomans was met with Jassim's refusal. In March, Muhammad Pasha imprisoned Jassim's brother and 13 prominent Qatari tribal leaders in an Ottoman-style frigate, the Mars. After Muhammad rejected the offer to free the captives for 10,000 liras, he ordered a column of 200 soldiers to advance towards Al-Aujba Castle under the command of Yusuf Effendi.

Effendi's soldiers, shortly after reaching Al-Aujba, were heavily shot by significant forces of the Qatari infantry and cavalry. They returned to Shebka Castle where they were again forced to retreat due to the Qatari invasion. After their retreat to Al-Bida Castle, Jassim's advancing column besieged the castle, which resulted in the defeat of the Ottomans and an agreement to release the prisoners in exchange for the safe passage of Muhammad Pasha's cavalry by land to Hafuf. Although Qatar gained complete independence from the Ottoman Empire. It did not, but the result of the battle led to the conclusion of a treaty that later became the basis for the emergence of Qatar as an autonomous country within the empire.

❑ British period (1916-1971)

In the 1913 Anglo-Ottoman Convention, the Ottomans agreed to renounce their claim to Qatar and withdraw their garrison from Doha. However, with the outbreak of World War I, nothing was done about this and military forces remained in Doha Fort, although their numbers were reduced. In 1915, with British gunboats in the harbor, Abdullah bin Jassim al-Thani (who was pro-British) convinced the others to leave the fort, and when British forces approached the next morning, they found it deserted. Qatar on 3 It became a British protectorate in November 1916, when Britain signed a treaty with Sheikh Abdullah bin Jassim al-Thani to place Qatar under a de facto system of administration. While Abdullah agreed not to enter into relations with any other power without the prior consent of the British government, Britain guaranteed Qatar protection from maritime aggression. On May 5, 1935, Abdullah signed another treaty with the British government, which protected Qatar against internal and external threats, while agreeing on an oil concession with the British Oil Company, the British Iran Oil Company. Oil reserves were first discovered in 1939. The focus of British interests in Qatar changed after World War II with the independence of India, the creation of Pakistan in 1947, and the development of oil in Qatar. In 1949, the appointment of John Wilton, the first British political officer in Doha, indicated the strengthening of British-Qatar relations. Oil exports started in 1949 and while the pearl trade was declining, oil revenues became the main source of the country's income. These revenues were used to finance the development and renovation of Qatar's infrastructure. When Britain officially announced in 1968 that it would withdraw from the Persian Gulf within three years, Qatar joined negotiations with Bahrain and seven other Sahel countries to create a federation. However, regional disputes convinced Qatar and Bahrain to withdraw from the negotiations and establish independent governments.



❑ Zabareh Castle, which was built in 1938

A British stamp from the Wilding series issued on 1 April ❑ 1957 for use in Qatar.



INDEPENDENCE AND AFTER (1971-PRESENT)

On November 3, 1916, the Sheikh of Qatar signed a treaty with Britain. This treaty left foreign affairs and defense to Britain, but allowed Qatar internal independence. On September 3, 1971, that "special treaty agreement" that was incompatible with "full international responsibility as an independent and separate state" was terminated. This was done under an agreement reached between the ruler of Qatar and the British government. In 1991, Qatar played an important role in the Persian Gulf War. Especially during the Battle of Khafji, where Qatari tanks appeared in the streets of the city and provided fire support to the Saudi Arabian National Guard, units engaged with Iraqi ground forces. Qatar has allowed Canadian coalition forces to use the country as a base to launch aircraft in aerial patrols, and has also allowed US and French air forces to operate on its territory. In 1995, Emir Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani took control of the country from his father Khalifa bin Hamad al-Thani with the support of the armed forces and the cabinet, as well as neighboring countries and France. Under Emir Hamad, Qatar experienced a moderate degree of liberalization, including the launch of the Al Jazeera television channel (1996), the approval of women's right to vote in municipal elections (1999), the drafting of the first draft constitution (2005), and the opening of the Roman Catholic Church (2008). In 2010, Qatar won the right to host the 2022 FIFA World Cup, making Qatar the first country in the Middle East to be chosen to host the tournament. The Emir of Qatar announced Qatar's plans to hold its first national legislative elections in 2013.

This election was supposed to be held in the second half of 2013, but it was postponed until October 2021. The Legislative Council hosted the 140th session of the Inter-Parliamentary Union for the first time in April 2019. In 2003, Qatar was the headquarters of the United States Central Command and one of the main bases for directing the invasion of Iraq. In March 2005, in a suicide attack, a British teacher named Jonathan Adams was killed in a theater in Doha. The assassination was shocking for a country that had never experienced terrorist acts before. The bombing was carried out by Omar Ahmad Abdullah Ali, an Egyptian living in Qatar who was suspected of having links with Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula. In 2011, Qatar joined the NATO operation in Libya and, according to reports, supplied weapons to Libyan opposition groups. Also, during the Syrian civil war, Qatar was one of the financiers of opposition groups. In June 2013, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani became the Emir of Qatar. Sheikh Tamim has prioritized improving the domestic welfare of citizens, which includes the creation of advanced health and education systems and the development of the country's infrastructure in preparation for hosting the 2022 World Cup. It participated in Yemen led by Saudi Arabia against the Houthi movement and forces loyal to former President Ali Abdullah Saleh, who was overthrown in 2011 during the Arab Spring. Qatar's increasing influence and role during the Arab Spring, especially during the Bahraini uprising. In 2011, it escalated long-standing tensions with Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and Bahrain. In June 2017, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and Bahrain cut diplomatic ties with Qatar. This has led to an increase in Qatar's economic and military ties with Turkey and Iran. Qatar will host the 2022 FIFA World Cup from November 21 to December 18, making it the first Arab country to host the event.



❑ **Traditional devices in front of the West Bay skyline seen from the Corniche of Doha.**

POLITICS

Qatar is officially a constitutional monarchy, but extensive powers are still in the hands of the emir, and it borders on an absolute monarchy and is ruled by the Al Thani family. The Al Thani dynasty has ruled Qatar since the founding of the tribe in 1825. In 2003, Qatar adopted its constitution, under which 30 of the 45 members of the Legislative Assembly are directly elected by the people. The constitution was approved in a referendum with an overwhelming majority and almost 98 percent were in favor of it. The eighth emir of Qatar is Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani, whose father Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani handed over power to him on June 25, 2013. He has the sole authority to appoint It has a prime minister and cabinet ministers who together form the Council of Ministers, which is the highest executive authority in the country. The Council of Qatar consists of 30 members elected by the people and 15 appointed by the Emir, and it can block the law with a relative majority or ministers including the Prime Minister. dismiss with two thirds of votes. Qatar's first parliamentary elections were held in October 2021 after several postponements.

Qatari law does not allow the establishment of political institutions or trade unions.

Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani Amir since 2013 ☐



Khaled bin Khalifa bin Abdulaziz al-Thani Prime Minister since 2020 ☐



LAW

According to the constitution, Islamic rulings are the main source of Qatari laws. Although in practice, Qatar's legal system is a combination of civil law and Islamic Sharia law, Sharia law applies to family law, inheritance, and several criminal acts (including adultery, theft, and murder). In some cases, Sharia-based family courts consider the value of a woman's testimony to be half that of a man's. A codified family law was introduced in 2006 under which polygamy is allowed. Judicial corporal punishment is common in Qatar. Flogging is used as a punishment for drinking alcohol or having illicit sex. Article 88 of the Qatari Penal Code punishes adultery with 100 lashes, and in 2006 a Filipino woman was sentenced to this punishment. In 2010, at least 18 people (mainly Foreign nationals) were sentenced to 40 to 100 lashes for crimes related to "illegal sexual relations" or alcohol consumption. In 2011, at least 21 people (mostly foreigners) were sentenced to 30 to 100 lashes for these reasons. And in 2012, six foreign nationals were sentenced to 40 or 100 lashes. Stoning is a legal punishment in Qatar, and apostasy and homosexuality are crimes punishable by death. However, no punishment has been implemented for these crimes. Blasphemy can lead to up to seven years in prison. While advertising can lead to 10 years in prison. Alcohol consumption is partially legal in Qatar. Some five-star luxury hotels are allowed to sell alcohol to their non-Muslim customers. Muslims are not allowed to drink alcohol, and those caught drinking it are subject to flogging or exile. Non-Muslim immigrants can obtain a license to purchase alcohol for personal consumption. Qatar Distribution Company (a subsidiary of Qatar Airways) is allowed to import alcohol and pork. This store is the only liquor store in the country that also sells pork to liquor license holders. Qatari authorities have also announced their desire to allow alcohol in "fan zones" at the 2022 FIFA World Cup. Until 2011, restaurants on the Pearl of Qatar (a man-made island near Doha) were allowed to serve alcoholic beverages. But in December 2011, Pearl restaurants were told to stop selling alcohol. No explanation was given for the ban, although there was speculation and rumors of a financial dispute between the government and the resort developers. The alcohol ban was later lifted. In 2014, a modesty campaign was launched to remind tourists of the country's hijab laws. Female tourists were advised not to wear shorts, short skirts, sleeveless dresses, or short or tight dresses in public. Men were warned to wear only shorts and suits.

FOREIGN POLICY

Qatar's international image and active role in international affairs have led some analysts to introduce it as a middle power. Qatar is one of the early members of OPEC, one of the founding members of the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council, and a member of the Arab League. Qatar's diplomatic missions are located in the country's capital, Doha. Qatar's regional relations and foreign policy are characterized by the strategy of creating balance and alliance between regional and major powers. This country maintains its independent foreign policy and engages in regional balance to maintain its strategic priorities and regional and international recognition. As a small country in the Persian Gulf, Qatar has adopted an "open door" foreign policy that in it, Qatar is linked with all parties and regional actors in the region, including with organizations such as the Taliban and Hamas.

Qatar has strong ties with China, Iran, Turkey, and the United States, as well as a number of Islamist movements in the Middle East, such as the Muslim Brotherhood.



- ❑ Emir Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani with the President of the United States of America Joe Biden in January 2022

On September 3, 1971, Qatar became fully independent and separated from Britain. The Arab countries were the first countries to recognize Qatar and this country was granted membership in the United Nations and the Arab League in the same year. Qatar established diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union and the Chinese Communist government in 1988. This country is one of the early members of OPEC and one of the founding members of the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC). Qatar is also a strategic ally of China and the relationship between the two countries is growing.

During the last two decades, Qatar has increased its role and international relations and has a high weight in international affairs. This country is very confident and believes that it has the ability and capacity to adopt an independent foreign policy. This country is a member of many international organizations and has maintained bilateral relations with the whole world. The Islamic Research Center at Georgetown University's Center for International and Regional Studies reports that the Qatari government believes that it is possible to continue its process by being recognized at the regional and global level and expanding international cooperation. According to the report of the American sociologist Emmanuel Wallerstein, social historian, Qatar tries to play an important and main role in the Middle East region. Wallerstein has argued that Qatar intends to do the same thing in the Syrian civil war and that is why it has supported extremist elements in Syria. According to Wallerstein, Qatar and Saudi Arabia are competing for influence in regional politics.

In April 2017, the hacking of state media led to the publication of stories from the Emir of Qatar about the problems of America and Iran and references to Hamas, which many world and regional news organizations presented as facts from the Emir of Qatar. The controversy led Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Egypt and Bahrain to suspend diplomatic relations with Qatar.



❑ **Open door policy**

Historically, Qatar has followed an open door policy, which has given it power and influence. By providing "subtle power", this policy allows this country to gather groups and countries with conflicting interests in one place and take advantage of factors and phenomena that appear to be in front of each other to produce and expand its influence in the international community. .

On the one hand, Qatar hosts the representative office of the Taliban and at the same time has the largest US military base in the Persian Gulf region. While supporting the Islamist groups opposed to Bashar al-Assad, it has relatively close relations with Iran and Lebanon's Hezbollah, and at the same time has extensive relations with Saudi Arabia and Egypt, and at the same time provides shelter to the political opponents of these governments. It supports Hamas and at the same time has secret political-security relations with Israel. This open door policy and the resulting power and influence have caused the envy and anger of Qatar's more traditional neighbors such as Saudi Arabia and the UAE.

❑ **The diplomatic crisis of 2017**

On June 5, 2017, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, and Egypt cut diplomatic ties with Qatar. This incident occurred under the pretext of Qatar's support for extremism and terrorism. This crisis intensified the conflict over Qatar's support for the Muslim Brotherhood, which is considered a terrorist organization by some Arab countries.

Following the severing of diplomatic relations, Libya, the government in exile of Yemen and the Maldives joined the group of countries that cut diplomatic relations with Qatar. Following this incident, Qatari military forces were expelled from the Saudi military coalition against Yemen. All Saudi ports They were closed to Qatari ships, ships that carry the Qatari flag and even ships that belong to Qatari companies or individuals. The United Arab Emirates also banned Qatari ships from entering the port of Fujairah. Also, Saudi Arabia closed the local office of Al Jazeera network, which belongs to the government of Qatar, and revoked its license. The UAE also shut down the Bin Sports network, owned by Al-Jazeera. The restrictions went beyond cutting ties with Qatar and citizens of Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Bahrain, the UAE, Libya and Yemen were banned from traveling, living or crossing the borders of Qatar. This diplomatic crisis ended in January 2021 with the signing of a memorandum of understanding.

ARMY

The armed forces of Qatar constitute the military forces of this country. Qatar has a military force of 11,800, which includes the ground force (8,500), navy (1,800) and air force (1,500). Qatar's defense spending was approximately 4.2% of GDP in 1993 and 1.5% of GDP in 2010, the latest year available in SIPRI's statistical database. As recently as 1994, Qatar signed defense treaties with the United States and the United Kingdom, as well as with France. The other five members are Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, UAE and Oman. The presence of Al-Adeed Air Base, which is operated by the United States and several other UN countries, provides a guaranteed source of national defense and security. In 2008, Qatar spent 2.3 billion US dollars on military expenditures, which was 2.3 percent of the country's gross domestic product. Qatar's special forces are trained by France and other Western countries and are believed to be highly skilled. They also aided Libyan rebels during the 2011 Battle of Tripoli. SIPRI found that in 2014-2010, Qatar was the 46th largest arms importer in the world. SIPRI writes that Qatar's plans to transform and dramatically expand its armed forces have accelerated. Orders in 2013 for 62 tanks and 24 self-propelled guns from Germany were followed in 2014 by a number of other contracts, including 24 combat helicopters and 3 AWACS aircraft from the United States. 2 tankers were also purchased from Spain. According to the SIPRI report, in 2015, Qatar was the 16th largest importer of weapons in the world, and in 2016, it was the 11th largest importer of weapons in the world. Saudi participated against Houthi Shiites. In 2015, the American Al Jazeera reported: "Multiple reports indicate that the Saudi-led coalition against opposition groups in Yemen has attacked civilians and used cluster bombs in heavily populated civilian areas, in violation of international law." Many civilians were killed and a large part of the infrastructure in the area is now destroyed. Hospitals have also been bombed by the Saudis and those working with them. Qatar was excluded from the coalition in Yemen due to the diplomatic crisis of 2017.

Two Qatari Dassault Mirage-2000 aircraft flying during a military exercise



Qatar's armed forces were established in 1971 after Qatar's independence from Britain. Qatar participated in the Persian Gulf War in 1991 with a battalion in the Battle of Khafji. It also hosted the 614th Tactical Fighter Squadron in Doha. In July 2008, the US Defense Security Cooperation Agency announced Qatar's formal request for support, training, and related equipment and services. The total value of the support contracts can be up to 400 million dollars. In March 2011, Qatar announced its air force participation in the Libyan no-fly zone operation.

- The main units of the ground force

- Royal Guard Brigade

- ✓ Infantry battalion
- ✓ Infantry battalion
- ✓ Infantry battalion

- Qatar Ground Force

- ✓ Special Forces Company
- ✓ Mechanized infantry battalion
- ✓ artillery battalion

- Artillery fire
- Artillery fire
- Artillery fire
- Anti-aircraft fire

- Armored Brigade

- ✓ mortar company
- ✓ tank battalion
- ✓ Mechanized infantry battalion
- ✓ Anti-tank battalion

Intervention in Yemen under the leadership of Saudi Arabia

According to Al Jazeera, in December 2016, Qatar sent 1,000 ground troops to that country to fight in support of Abd Rabbo Mansour Hadi, the deposed president of Yemen. Qatari soldiers with the support of 200 armored vehicles and 30 Apache helicopters were sent to Yemen's Marib province. Qatari armed forces had 4 dead and 2 wounded during their operations in Yemen.

HUMAN RIGHTS

Some provisions of Qatar's criminal law allow punishments such as flogging and stoning as criminal punishments. The United Nations Convention against Torture found that these acts constitute a violation of the obligations imposed by this convention. Qatar maintains the death penalty especially for threats to national security such as terrorism. The use of the death penalty is rare and no executions have been carried out in Qatar since 2003. In Qatar, same-sex acts are illegal and can carry the death penalty. A 2011 report by the US State Department concluded that some foreign workers from Asian countries and parts of Africa who immigrated to Qatar voluntarily as unskilled or domestic workers. They face involuntary servitude. Some of the most common violations of labor rights are: beatings, non-payment of wages, claims from workers for benefits for which the employer is responsible, restrictions on freedom of movement (such as confiscation of passports, travel documents, or exit permits), arbitrary detention Threats of legal action and sexual assault. Many migrant workers who come to Qatar to work have paid exorbitant fees to recruiters in their home countries.

This country granted women the right to vote at the same time as men during the Central Municipal Council elections in 1999. These elections - the first in Qatar - were deliberately held on March 8, 1999, International Women's Day

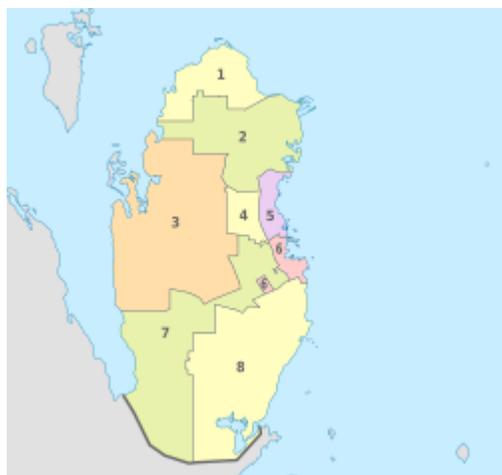


❑ Migrant workers in Doha

COUNTRY DIVISIONS



- ❑ Doha is the most populous municipality in Qatar



- ❑ Municipalities of Qatar in 2014

Since 2014, Qatar has been divided into eight municipalities (Arabic: بلديات).

Municipality	In Arabic	Population 167 (2015)	Area in square kilometers	Area in square miles
الشمال	الشمال	٨,٧٩٤	٨٥٩,٨	٣٣١,٩
الخور	الخور	٢٠٢,٠٣١	١,٦١٣,٣	٦٢٢,٨
الشحانية	الشحانية	١٨٧,٥٧١	٣,٣٠٩,٠	١,٢٧٧,٦
ام صلال	أم صلال	٩٠,٨٣٥	٣١٨,٤	١٢٢,٩
الضعاين	الضعاين	٥٤,٣٣٩	٢٩٠,٢	١١٢,٠
دوحة	الدوحة	٩٥٦,٤٥٧	٢٠٢,٧	٧٨,٣
الريان	الريان	٦٠٥,٧١٢	٢,٤٥٠	٩٤٦,٠
الوكرة	الوكرة	٢٩٩,٠٣٧	٢,٥٧٧,٧	٩٩٥,٢

For statistical purposes, municipalities are divided into 98 districts. Each of them is divided into blocks. ❑

❑ The human rights situation in Qatar is a matter of concern for several NGOs. According to the Constitution of Qatar, Islamic Sharia is the main source of legislation in the country. Punishment by flogging and stoning is legal in Qatar by Islamic law. Although these items have never been used.

According to a June 2012 Human Rights Watch report, hundreds of thousands of migrant construction workers, mostly from South Asia, are subject to exploitation and abuse, sometimes leading to forced labor.

❑ Kingdom

Al-Thani (Arabic: Al-Thani) is a royal family that has been ruling the country of Qatar since 1850 when Muhammad bin Thani Al-Thani came to power. So far, 9 people from this family have been appointed as Emirs of Qatar. On June 25, 2013, at the age of 61, Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani voluntarily resigned from all his positions and handed over power to his son, after which Tamim bin Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani was appointed as the ninth Emir of Qatar. .

❑ Cabinet

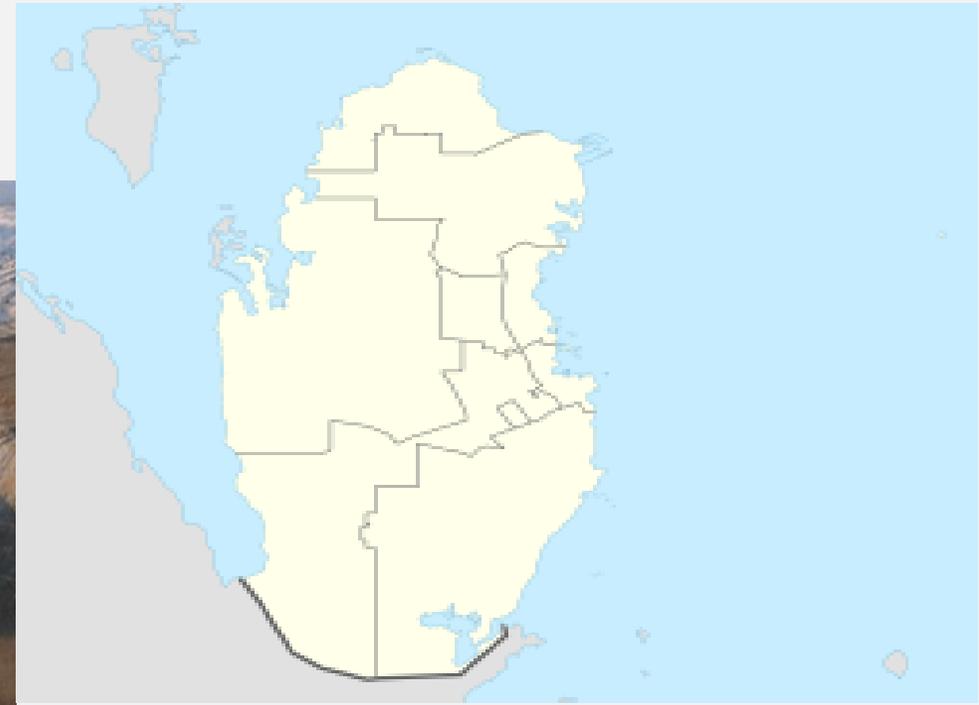
Qatar is the executive branch of Qatar. The head of the executive branch, the emir of Qatar, appoints the prime minister and ministers, and they assist the emir in implementing domestic and foreign policies. The number of cabinet ministers in 2007 was thirteen. The current cabinet has 15 members

❑ Qatari parliament

The legislative body is the Kingdom of Qatar, which has 45 members. After holding the first elections of the Qatari parliament, it will have 30 elected members and 15 appointed members. In the last changes of the members of the Qatari parliament in 2017, the membership of 13 members was extended by the Emir and 28 others, including 4 women, were appointed as members of the parliament. became

GEOGRAPHY

The Qatar Peninsula extends 160 km (100 miles) into the Persian Gulf from the northeast of Arabia. The diameter is located between the orbit of 24 degrees and 27 degrees north and the longitudes of 50 degrees and 52 degrees east. The soil of this country is flat and consists of a dry sandy desert. In the south-east of Qatar, the Persian Gulf enters the peninsula through a strait and creates an inland sea called Khor Al-Odeid. The estuary is surrounded by rolling sand hills. The highest point in Qatar is "Qurain Abulbol" at 103 meters (338 feet) located in Jabal Dukhan (Smoky Mountain). Jabal Dakhan is a range of low-altitude limestone outcrops in western Qatar. Jabal Dakhan stretches from north to south and continues from Zikrit through Um Bab to the southern border of Qatar. Qatar's main onshore oil fields are located in the Jabal Dakhan region, but the country's natural gas fields are located in the northwestern waters of the peninsula.



BIODIVERSITY OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Qatar signed the Convention on Biological Diversity on June 11, 1992, and became a member of the Convention on August 21, 1996. Subsequently, it prepared a National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, which was accepted by the Convention on May 18, 2005. A total of 142 species of fungi have been recorded in Qatar. According to the database of greenhouse gas emissions, the average production of carbon dioxide per person in Qatar is more than 30 tons, which is one of the highest in the world. Qataris are one of the highest per capita water consumers in the world per day, consuming about 400 liters of water. In 2008, Qatar launched its National Vision 2030, which highlights environmental development as one of Qatar's four main goals over the next two decades. National Vision is committed to creating sustainable alternatives to oil-based energy to preserve the local and global environment.



WEATHER

Due to its geographical location, Qatar has hot and humid weather during the hot seasons. Of course, this heat is not always annoying for everyone. The weather in Qatar is cool and pleasant in the months of April and early May, as well as in autumn. The temperature in Qatar reaches 23 degrees Celsius in winter.

Qatar weather in different seasons:

- ❑ Spring: Spring is one of the best weather conditions in Qatar throughout the year. In this season, the residents of this country experience moderate weather, which is not too hot and exhausting, and does not show any signs of the disorderly condition of winter.
- ❑ Summer: Qatar is a country with a hot and desert climate. Therefore, in the summer season, which in itself is considered the season of sun and heat, this country also reaches its hottest state.
- ❑ Autumn: Like spring, autumn is considered a good and balanced season in this country. In fact, in autumn, the heat of summer slowly ends and as a result, we see the coolness of the air in this country. Most tourists travel to this country in this season.
- ❑ Winter: Although winter is a cool season and expected to be welcomed in warm Qatar, it is not. In fact, in this season, the Sudanese air mass enters the country of Qatar, and because of this, destructive rains and floods intensify in this country.

The peninsula of Qatar is spread from the northeast of Arabia into the Persian Gulf. The soil of this country is flat and consists of a dry desert. The cities of Qatar are Wakra, Khor, Dukhan, Zabareh, Shamal, Masayed, Ras Lafan.

A new city called Lusail and an island town called Pearl of Qatar are also under construction in this country.

The climate of Qatar is a desert climate. In this country, winter is cool. In winter, due to the Sudanese air mass, torrential rains fall in this country, which causes damage; But summer has hot and humid weather.



ECONOMY

Before the discovery of oil, the economy of the Qatar region was focused on fishing and pearl fishing. A report prepared by the local governors of the Ottoman Empire in 1892 states that the total revenue from pearl hunting in 1892 was about 2,450,000 Korans. After the introduction of Japanese cultured pearls to world markets in the 1920s and 1930s, Qatar's pearling industry collapsed. Oil was discovered in Qatar in 1940 in the Dukhan field. This discovery revolutionized the country's economy. The country now has a high standard of living for its citizens and is one of the countries with the lowest tax rate in the world without income tax. The unemployment rate in June 2013 was around 0.1%. The Companies Law stipulates that Qatari nationals must own 51% of the investments in the country. Trade and industry in the country is under the supervision of the Ministry of Commerce and Trade.

According to the report of the International Monetary Fund in 2020, Qatar was the third best country in the world based on GDP per capita. The country relies heavily on foreign labor to grow its economy, to the point where migrant workers make up 86 percent of the population and 94 percent of the country's workforce. However, Qatar has been repeatedly criticized by the International Confederation of Trade Unions. Qatar's economic growth has been based almost exclusively on its oil and natural gas industries, which began in the 1940s. Qatar is the largest exporter of liquefied natural gas. In 2012, Qatar was estimated to invest more than \$120 billion in the energy sector over the next 10 years. The country was a member of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), which it joined in 1961, but left it in January 2019. At the same time, the government of Qatar is trying hard to grow the non-oil sector.



In 2012, Qatar retained the title of the richest country in the world (based on per capita income) for the third time in a row, surpassing Luxembourg for the first time in 2010. According to a study published by the Washington-based Institute of International Finance, Qatar's GDP per capita at purchasing power parity (PPP) was \$106,000 (Qatar 387,000) in 2012, helping the country to rank To maintain as the richest country in the world. Luxembourg came in second with nearly \$80,000 and Singapore with a per capita income of \$61,000. The study put Qatar's gross domestic product at \$182 billion in 2012, saying it reached its highest level due to increased gas exports and high oil prices. Its population reached 1.8 million in 2012. The same study stated that Qatar Investment Authority (QIA) is the 12th richest sovereign wealth fund in the world with assets of \$115 billion. Established in 2005, Qatar Investment Authority is a sovereign wealth fund specializing in foreign investment. Due to the billions of dollars in surplus from the oil and gas industry, the Qatari government has made investments in the United States of America, Europe and Asia-Pacific. As of 2013, Qatar's assets were 100 billion dollars. The Qatar Investment Authority is the country's international investment arm, and since 2009, it has received \$30 to \$40 billion a year from the government. As of 2014, Qatar has investments worldwide in Valentino, Siemens, Printen, Harrods, Shard Tower, Barclays, London Heathrow Airport, Paris Saint-Germain Football Club, Volkswagen Group, Shell PLC, Bank of America, Tiffany, Agricultural Bank of China, Sainsbury's, Blackberry, and Santander Brazil. This country does not accept any person or entity other than companies. Does not charge tax. But officials have announced plans to tax junk food and luxury items. This tax applies to goods such as fast food, tobacco products, and soft drinks that harm the human body. It is believed that the introduction of these early taxes is due to the drop in oil prices and the deficit that the country faced in 2016.



❑ **Energy sector**

Before the rise of the gasoline industry, Qatar was a country based on pearl fishing. Exploration of oil and gas wells started in 1939. In 1973, oil production and income increased dramatically, moving Qatar out of the ranks of the world's poorest countries and providing it with one of the highest per capita incomes in the world.

❑ **industry**

The government sees the industry as an integral part of its plan to diversify the economy and maximize its vast natural gas reserves, which serve as the raw material for the sector. Qatar Industries (IQ), a producer of petrochemicals, fertilizers and steel, is a regional powerhouse, surpassed only by Saudi Arabia Basic Products Company (SABIC), the largest chemical producer in the Middle East. In 2007, the manufacturing sector accounted for the third share of the GDP among the non-oil and gas sectors, equivalent to about 7.5% of the GDP.



TOURISM

Qatar is one of the fastest growing countries in the field of tourism. According to World Tourism Rankings, more than 2.3 million international tourists visited Qatar in 2017. Qatar has made efforts in the field of visa facilitation, such as the fact that nationals of 88 countries do not need a visa to enter Qatar. With the rapid population growth and significant economic growth in the last decade, a reliable and extensive transportation network in Qatar was necessary. So far, the government, which is the main developer of transportation, has done well in terms of responding to the demand for new transportation options.

Since driving is the main mode of transportation in Qatar, the road network is the main focus of this plan. Project highlights in this sector include the multi-billion-dollar Doha Expressway and the Bahrain-Qatar Corridor, which connects Qatar to Bahrain and Saudi Arabia. Mass transit options, such as the Doha Metro, a light rail system, and more extensive bus networks are also being developed to reduce road congestion. In addition, the railway system is expanding dramatically and eventually could form an integral part of a nationwide network of the GCC countries, connecting all the Arab countries of the Persian Gulf.

Hamad International Airport is an international airport in Doha that replaced Doha International Airport in 2014 and serves as the main airport of Qatar. In 2016, this airport was the 50th busiest airport in the world in terms of passenger traffic, serving 37,283,987 passengers. Qatar is increasingly enabling its logistics and ports to engage in trade between Europe and China or Africa. For this purpose, ports like Hamad Port are rapidly expanding and investing in their technology. Historically and currently, this country has been a part of the Maritime Silk Road. Hamad Port is the main port of Qatar, which is located in the south of Doha in Umm Al Houl area. The construction of the port began in 2010 and was put into operation in December 2016. This port has the ability to move 7.8 million tons of products per year, and the major part of the trade that is carried out through this port is food and construction materials. 200] On the northern coast, there is the port of Ras Lufan, which is the largest export facility for liquefied natural gas in the world.

Qatar Airways is one of the largest airlines in the world, serving six continents and connecting more than 160 destinations every day. In addition, it has won Airline of the Year in 2011, 2012, 2015, 2017 and 2019 for its outstanding performance and employs more than 46,000 professionals.

FOOD SECURITY

Since 2017, with the beginning of Qatar's diplomatic crisis and the subsequent Corona epidemic, Qatar started increasing food production. So that by 2022, the production of agricultural products in Qatar will almost double. In 2022, Qatar has the highest degree of self-sufficiency in food production among all countries in the Middle East and North Africa, so that in the Global Food Security Index (GFSI), Qatar is ranked 24th among 113 countries in the world.

PEOPLE

The population in Qatar fluctuates dramatically depending on the season, as the country relies heavily on migrant labor. As of early 2017, the total population of Qatar was 2.6 million, with foreigners making up the absolute majority of Qatar's population. Only 313,000 people (12 percent) of the population were Qatari citizens, while the remaining 2.3 million (88 percent) were immigrants. They represent 5 million people (60%) of Qatar's population. Meanwhile, Indians are the largest community in Qatar, numbering 650,000 in 2017. After that, there were 350,000 Nepalis, 280,000 Bangladeshis, 145,000 Sri Lankans and 125,000 Pakistanis in Qatar. Immigrants of non-South Asian origin make up about 28% of Qatar's population, the largest group being 260,000 Filipinos and 200,000 Egyptians, plus many other nationalities including nationals from other Arab, European, and other countries. They also live in Qatar.

The first population registration of Qatar dates back to 1892 and was carried out by the Ottoman governors in the region. According to this census, which included only urban residents, the total population in 1892 was 9,830. The 2010 census recorded the total population at 1,699,435. In January 2013, the Qatar Statistics Authority estimated the country's population at 1,903,447, of which 1,405,164 were men and 498,283 were women. At the time of the first census in 1970, the population was 111 It was 133 people. The population has tripled in the decade ending in 2011, increasing from 600,000 people in 2001, and Qatari nationals make up less than 15% of the total population. The influx of male workers has upset the gender balance, and women now make up only a quarter of the population.



RELIGION

Islam is the dominant religion of Qatar and the official religion in this country. Most Qatari citizens follow Wahhabism, and between 5 and 15 percent of Qatari Muslims follow Shia, and other Islamic sects are very small in number. In 2010, the population of Qatar was 67.7% Muslim, 13.8% Christian, 13.8% Hindu and 3.1% Buddhist. Other religions and non-religious people make up the remaining 1.6 percent. The rulings of Islam are the main source of Qatar's constitution.

The vision of the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs is "building a contemporary Islamic society along with the cultivation of Islamic rules and cultural heritage".

The non-Muslim population is almost entirely made up of foreigners. Since 2008, Christians have been allowed to build churches on government-donated land, although foreign missionaries are officially banned. Active churches include Mar Thoma Church, Malankara Syrian Orthodox Church, Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Church and Epiphany Anglican Church.



LANGUAGE

Arabic is the official language of Qatar with a local dialect of Gulf Arabic, and Qatari Sign Language is the language of the deaf community. English is commonly used as a second language, and its use as an intermediary language is increasing, especially in business. The spread of English in this country has caused steps to be taken to preserve the Arabic language against the spread of English. English is especially useful for communicating with the large expatriate community in Qatar. In the medical community and in cases such as the training of nurses to work in Qatar, English acts as a mediating language. Due to the country's pluralistic culture, many other languages are also spoken, including Persian, Balochi, Brahui, Hindi, Malay, Urdu, Pashto, Kannada, Tamil, Telugu, Nepali, Sinhalese, Bengali, Tagalog, Tulu, and Indonesian.

religions

- ✓ Islam 67.7% - Salafi Sunni majority.
- ✓ Hindu 13.8%
- ✓ Christian 13.8%
- ✓ Buddhist 3.1%

Ethnic groups

- ✓ Diameter 12.10%
- ✓ Hindi 25.00%
- ✓ Pakistan 4.80%
- ✓ Iranian 1.50%

Nationality

- ✓ Name: Diameter(s)
- ✓ Adjective: Diagonal

Total fertility rate

- ✓ 2.08 children born per 1 woman (2010-2010) (Qataris: 3.59 children/woman, foreign nationals: 1.75 children/woman)

Average life expectancy (life expectancy at birth)

- ✓ Average: 78.9 years
- ✓ Men: 76.8 years
- ✓ Women: 81 years old (2017)

sexual ratio

- ✓ At birth: 1.02 male / female
- ✓ 0–14 years: 1.03 male/female
- ✓ 24-24 years: 2.64 men/women
- ✓ 25-54 years: 4.91 men / women
- ✓ 55–64 years: 3.38 men/women
- ✓ 65 years and over: 1.71 men / women
- ✓ Total population: 3.41 male/female (2017 assessment)

population

- ✓ 2,123,160 (July 2014 est.) Qatar is the 146th most populous country.
- ✓ 2,314,307 (July 2017 est.) Qatar is 143 min the most populous country.

❖ Qataris can be divided into three ethnic groups: Bedouins, Hadars and Africans. The Bedouins are descendants of the nomads of the Arabian Peninsula.

CULTURE

❑ The culture of Qatar is similar to other countries in the land of Bahrain and has a significant influence of Islam. Qatar National Day, which is hosted every year on December 18, has played an important role in expanding the sense of national identity.

❑ Museums and art

Several senior members of the Al Thani family, the ruler of Qatar, are prominent collectors of Islamic and contemporary art.

The Museum of Islamic Art, which was opened in 2008, is known as one of the best museums in the region. This museum and several other Qatari museums, such as the Museum of Modern Arab Art, are under the supervision of the Qatar Museums Authority, which is managed by Mayase bint Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, the sister of the Emir of Qatar.

Qatar is the largest buyer of the art market in the world in terms of value. Qatar's cultural sector is developing, and its financial resources are mainly provided by the gas industry.

The National Museum of Qatar was opened to the public on March 28, 2019

❑ the literature

The roots of Qatari literature go back to the 19th century.

Originally, poetry was the most common form of literary expression among Qataris. Abdul Jalil al-Tabatabaei and Muhammad bin Abdullah bin Uthaymeen, two poets dating back to the early 19th century, wrote the first collection of written poetry in Qatar. Later, as Qatar reaped the profits from oil exports in the mid-20th century and many Qataris abandoned their Bedouin traditions and pursued urban lifestyles, poetry also declined.

Due to the increase in the number of Qataris who received education during the 1950s and other important social changes, the 1970s saw the introduction of the first collection of short stories, and in 1993, the first locally authored novels were also published. Poetry, especially the dominant Nabataean form, retained its importance to some extent, but was soon overshadowed by other literary genres. Unlike many other forms of art in Qatari society, women have been involved in the modern literature movement to the same extent as men

Qatari culture is heavily influenced by the traditional Bedouin culture, with less influence coming from India, East Africa, and elsewhere in the Persian Gulf. The harsh climatic conditions of the peninsula forced its inhabitants to turn to the sea to preserve food; Therefore, there is a certain emphasis on the sea in the local culture.

Literature and folklore themes are often related to maritime activities.

Oral arts such as poetry and singing have historically been more popular than figurative art due to the restrictions that Islam placed on the representation of emotional existence. However, some disciplines of visual arts such as calligraphy, architecture and textile arts were widely used. Visual arts were gradually absorbed in the country's culture during the oil period.

Salah bin Ghani Al Ali has been the Minister of Culture and Sports of Qatar since 2016



❑ Qatari traditional male dancers



❑ A large boat historically used to catch pearls during a Qatar Dhow Festival



❑ Al Jazeera English news desk, a Qatari news channel

MEDIA

In the 2014 Press Freedom Report by Freedom House, Qatari media were classified as "not free". Television broadcasting in Qatar started in 1970. Al Jazeera is a major television network headquartered in Doha. Al Jazeera was originally launched in 1996 as a news and satellite television channel of the same name, but has since expanded into a global network of several specialty television channels collectively known as Al Jazeera Media Network.

Journalists have been reported to adopt self-censorship, especially in relation to the Qatari government and ruling family. It is illegal to criticize the government, the emir and the ruling family in the media. According to Article 46 of the Press Law, the Emir of Qatar cannot be criticized and statements cannot be attributed to him except with the written permission of his office manager. Journalists are also prosecuted for insulting Islam.

In 2014, the Cybercrime Prevention Law was approved. The law is said to restrict freedom of the press and carries prison sentences and fines for a wide range of reasons, such as endangering local peace or spreading false news. The Persian Gulf Human Rights Center has declared that this law is a threat to freedom of expression and has demanded the cancellation of some articles of this law.

Press media have expanded in recent years. There are currently seven newspapers in Qatar, four in Arabic and three in English. Newspapers from India, Nepal and Sri Lanka are also distributed in Qatar.



- ❑ Al Jazeera English news desk, a Qatari news channel

EDUCATION

Qatar hired Rand Corporation to reform its K-12 education system. Through the Qatar Foundation, the country was able to establish Education City, a campus that hosts local branches of Weill Cornell Medical College, Carnegie Mellon School of Computer Science, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service, Northwestern Model School of Journalism, Texas School of Engineering, Virginia Commonwealth University School of Art and Other western institutions.

The illiteracy rate in Qatar was 3.1% for men and 4.2% for women in 2012, which is the lowest rate in the Arabic-speaking world, but the 86th in the world. Education from kindergarten to high school is compulsory for Qatari citizens. Qatar University, established in 1973, is the oldest and largest institution of higher education in the country.

In November 2002, Emir Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani established the Supreme Council of Education. This council directs and controls education for all ages from preschool to university level. According to Webometrics, the top universities in this country are Qatar University (ranked 1881 in the world), Texas A&M University in Qatar (3905) and Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar (6855).



- ❑ Student Center in Education City. Education City has various educational facilities, including the campuses of eight international universities.

SPORT

Soccer is the most popular sport in Qatar, both in terms of players and spectators. Shortly after the Qatar Football Federation joined FIFA in 1970, one of the country's first international honors was achieved in 1981, when the U20 national football team won the U20 World Cup after losing 4-0 in the final. won the runner-up position. At the adult level, Qatar has hosted two rounds of the Asian Nations Cup in 1988 and 2011. Qatar's national football team won the 2019 Asian Cup hosted by the United Arab Emirates for the first time in its history, winning 3-1 against the national team. Japanese football won the Asian Nations Cup. They won all seven of their matches in the competition and conceded just one goal during the tournament.

On 2 December 2010, Qatar won the bid to host the 2022 FIFA World Cup. Local organizers built 7 new stadiums and renovated 1 existing stadium for the event.

Although soccer is the most popular sport, other team sports have experienced significant success at the senior level. In 2015, the Qatar national handball team became the runner-up in the 2015 handball tournament after losing to the French national handball team.



❑ riding camel

Historically, camel riding was a tradition among the Bedouin tribes of Qatar and was performed on special occasions such as weddings. Until 1972, a year after Qatar's independence, camel riding was practiced at a professional level. Normally, the camel racing season runs from September to March. Approximately 22,000 racing camels are used in the races and they usually walk between 4 and 8 km.



❑ handball

Handball is a very popular team sport in Qatar. This country was introduced in 1968. However, Qatar did not join the International Handball Federation until the 1970s. Qatar's national handball team qualified for the World Men's Handball Championship in four separate rounds and was automatically placed fifth as the host.



❑ Golf

Since 1998, Qatar has hosted the Qatar International Golf Tournament, a European golf event.

❑ Cricket

Although local citizens are not interested in playing cricket, cricket is the second most popular sport in Qatar. Despite this, workers and residents of the Indian subcontinent like to play the game of being treated near a religion in their home lands, and because the subcontinent accounts for almost half of Qatar's citizens, the game is gaining momentum. raises