

Speech of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos Bin Said before The Council of Oman

4/11/2002

In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

Praise be to God who made A'Shura (consultation) a way of life. Prayer and peace be upon His Messenger, His Family, Companions and Followers.

Honourable Members of the Council of Oman

Dear Citizens,

ITS gives us pleasure to meet again to thank God the Sublime and the Mighty for his bounties and favours bestowed upon our country as pious worshippers who truly believe that life is hard work, dedication and persistence in order to reach wider horizons of progress and prosperity.

We have always affirmed, on various occasions, that the human being is the ultimate goal of the development process, and its instrument and means at the same time. The more effective this instrument is, the more capable it becomes of achieving targeted development. Thus we always call for the development of human resources, their scientific capabilities, technical skills and technological expertise in order to meet society's urgent requirements and needs, and to provide opportunities for those resources to fully contribute to the Blessed Renaissance witnessed by Oman in all walks of life.

Last year, through this Council, we called on the private sector to open its doors to sons and daughters of Oman and to provide jobs for them in its establishments and companies, whether big or small for each in his relevant field.

We are pleased to say today that the response from the private sector to that national call has been good and has reflected the sector's patriotic spirit and feelings towards society.

This has been evident in the co-ordination seen during the past months between government departments concerned and the private sector in preparing and formulating plans, programmes, policies and

measures aimed at increasing Omanisation and raising the standard of training. This has resulted in the formation of joint committees in various sectors, and these we wish every success.

As we hail this blessed step, we look forward to more work in this regard until we reach the ultimate objective aspired by Omani society. In this respect we urge our youth to take advantage of the opportunities available to acquire knowledge and skills through studying and training, and to work diligently and with devotion to gain more experience in the various labour and production fields.

Honourable Members of the Council of Oman

Dear Citizens,

The principles of our internal policy are clear and well defined – its objectives have been manifested during the past three decades, and we are marching ahead – with God’s will – on the path of comprehensive development to achieve progress and prosperity for our country, society and citizens.

Our foreign policy is also well-known to all; we always take sides with rightness, justice, friendship and peace, and call for peaceful co-existence among nations, understanding between civilizations and for the eradication of the reasons behind hatred and rancor, harboured by those suffering from tyranny and inequality. In such principles lie all the grace and goodness for mankind.

“Our God, give us mercy from thy presence, and show us right conduct. O God, make this land secure and bestow upon its people fruits, thou art the hearer of our prayers.”

We pray to God for success for all of us in matters of life and religion, thou art the hearer and the responder.

Peace be upon you and God’s mercy and blessings.

