

# Speech of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos Bin Said before The Opening of the Annual Session of The Council of Oman

1/10/2005

*In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful*

*Praise be to God who has bestowed His grace and given His bounty.  
Praise be to God who has predetermined and guided, and may Blessings  
and Peace be upon the chosen Prophet.*

Dear Citizens,

AS we celebrate the march of our blessed Renaissance, with God's will, we recall the achievements made in various spheres in this blessed land which were aimed at realising one noble goal - the building of the modern Omani who has faith in God, preserves his identity, keeps abreast of up-to-date techniques, science, culture and arts, and who takes advantage of the bounty of modern civilisation in order to build his country and to develop his society.

At the same time, we reaffirm our resolve to continue to work for more progress in the field of development and construction, prosperity, security and stability; with God's help.

The previous period has witnessed, through the implementation of various plans and programmes, the accomplishment of the goals of the blessed Renaissance which we have always set our sights on since the first day it dawned.

They are inspired by four fundamental principles, which are:

- The development of human resources
- The development of natural resources
- The building of the infrastructure
- The establishment of the State's institutions

Praise be to God, during the comprehensive development march and with determination, diligence, patience and persistence, many achievements have been possible in each of these areas in which we take

pride, particularly in the field of the development of human resources.

We did – and still do – firmly believe that the development of these resources is the cornerstone of the development process in any society because the human being – as we have always stressed on different occasions – is the ultimate goal and aim of development as well as being its means and its producer.

As long as society succeeds in raising, developing, qualifying, training, enhancing skills and diversifying the experience of its human resources, success is guaranteed in building a modern state with progress in all aspects of life.

We thank God the Almighty for granting us success in spreading education at all levels and in all its many branches, accompanied by training programmes which are provided by the government and private educational institutions to which the government sends our sons and daughters to qualify in different specialisations. This has provided them with greater and more opportunities to acquire knowledge and practical training, which in turn has prepared them to enter the labour market and to contribute to the building of society.

In this respect, we would like to point out that the government has made great efforts over the previous period to provide opportunities for the qualification and training of Omani youths, boys and girls.

However, we have observed through our continuous follow-up and monitoring of the successive stages of social development that some members of society have not been able to utilise their inner abilities and financial capabilities to improve themselves and develop their skills to avail themselves of suitable job opportunities.

Thus, it has become necessary to assist them to obtain the qualifications and training they need.

We therefore instruct our government to set up a suitable mechanism through which assistance can be provided to this sector enabling them to obtain useful occupations. Thereby – God willing – they can benefit from the job opportunities that are available.

We would like to reiterate that in order to realise our hopes and inspirations and for our plans and programmes to succeed, co-operation is imperative between all of our citizens, led by the private

sector and the various organs and departments of the government, in order to carry out these plans and future programmes in a spirit of responsibility and awareness.

Such co-operation would yield more progress, advancement, growth and prosperity. We are very pleased with the sincere desire demonstrated by the private sector to provide job opportunities for citizens and we call on it to intensify its initiative in this regard.

We also urge Omani youths, both male and female, to take advantage of these opportunities and endeavour to settle and stay in an available job in order to gain experience and skills that will be of mutual benefit, and in the public interest.

This will prove that the Omani worker is serious, dedicated, punctual and capable of shouldering responsibilities. Only through this the Omanisation policies and plans will bear fruit, God willing.

Dear Citizens,

The road is long and the goal is far. However, we are confident that this dear country has the necessary cultural and historical elements, and hopes and aspirations for the future, that will enable it – God willing – to implement its domestic and foreign policies, and the principles of which are now clearly defined, praise be to God.

We believe that non-interference in the internal affairs of other states, respect for charters and conventions, and compliance with international law will – without doubt – lead the world to a more harmonious state which safeguards the interests of all nations.

It is something that we have always called for through dissemination of the culture of tolerance, peace, co-operation and understanding between all nations. We also hope that this will lead to the eradication of the many causes behind violence and instability.

Dear Citizens,

To conclude, we would like to salute and extend our greetings and appreciation to our gallant armed forces and alert security services for their efforts and dedication in carrying out their assigned duties, affirming that we will continue to extend our care and attention to them.

We pray for the Almighty's assistance to make our Renaissance a success.

May God bless you and may peace be upon you, and the Mercy of God and His blessings.

