



#### Above:

Mansour bin Zayed honors Hessa Al Muhairi for winning Sheikh Zayed Book Award

Abdullah bin Zayed honors Iman Al-Youssef for her novel "The Guardian of the Sun."

# Remote training in Dubai International Program for Writing is Expanding the Knowledge Base

Remote training has been an important addition to the training sector, relying on the rich and vast world of technologies, as it is possible to take advantage of the processes associated with the transfer and delivery of various types of knowledge and science to trainees around the world. Using internet-enabled smart information technology, lectures, lessons, conferences, etc. can be followed from anywhere in the world by the target audience without any hindrances.

In light of the precautionary measures against the spread of Coronavirus (Covid-19) that restricted the direct physical interaction between people, it was necessary to search for nontraditional means of communication to enable students to continue learning but without going to their schools, employees to work away from their offices and vendors to continue with their trade but away from their stores.

It was necessary to go towards contemporary technologies to circumvent the threat posed by the pandemic which turned people's lives upside down due to the restrictions imposed by governments as precautionary control measures. Hence, the Dubai International Program for Writing sought to search for advanced methods to continue its brilliant presence in the knowledge arena by launching remote training workshops, which quickly turned into a field of competition and a running track to achieve the best results with the least amount of time, effort and money.

### **Tangible Results**

Because virtual training or remote training is a

modern form of training, Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Knowledge Foundation (MBRF) embraced this kind of digital challenge and achieved tangible results in record time. Training workshops such as a workshop for child literature, short story, youth literature and translation, have given the innovation of remote training the scope to expand beyond the borders and increase the number of virtual workshops where trainers can be in one place and trainees in another place.

#### **Contemporary Technologies**

Remote training has broken the barrier of geographical and temporal boundaries that hinder the training operations, and with the use of modern communication mechanisms and multimedia of sound and image, graphics, search mechanisms, electronic libraries, as well as multiple internet portals, the world has become a classroom in which all the requirements for success are available, and whether it is remote training or in the classroom, what is meant is the use of technology of all kinds in communicating information to the learner in the shortest time, with less effort and but great benefit.

Just as modern technology has played a prominent role in developing administrative and service performance and reducing the costs and time of any service, so the human cadre who undertook the task of training is one of the most efficient cadres, armed with science and knowledge and the ability to invest time so that each training session is a self-standing world of easy knowledge that reaches the target in the easiest way.

## **Early Virtual Approach**

Just as the Dubai Government was a pioneer in the concept of smart management, MBRF followed that idea and approach, which necessarily indicates a shift from the concept of working in the paper-based environment, or rather traditional, to working without papers to save money, boost productivity, save space, make documentation and information sharing easier. To turn into an electronic institution that keeps pace with modern life and looks towards a brighter future, the Dubai International Program for Writing which was launched in October 2013, is one of the most important initiatives that have taken a default approach to work. Long before the Covid-19 pandemic, the program had been conducting training remotely at many workshops



which explains why the training workshops continued but in an optimal form based on an action plan suitable for changes in training work. This made the program one of the most creative contributions to enriching the intellectual and literary movement in the United Arab Emirates and around the world to encourage and empower talented young writers from various fields of knowledge, science, research, literature, novel and poetry, and bringing them to the world stage.

#### A Solid Base

The MBRF CEO, His Excellency Jamal bin Huwaireb, confirmed that the Dubai International Program for Writing provided participants with a solid knowledge base and an integrated environment to cultivate and nurture their talents and literary outputs, and present them to the world. As a result, they will support the Arab library and promote the intellectual production of the people of our region.

Jamal bin Huwaireb pointed out that with its training workshops, the program reached talented writers and innovators in fields of knowledge and literary arts from various Arab countries to help them to succeed in their fields.

#### **Future Goals**

His Excellency Jamal bin Huwaireb noted that developing the capabilities and talents of Arab youth is one of the most important goals of the foundation since its inception. He attributed the success of the Dubai International Program for Writing to a group of competent trainers that take participants through integrated and intensive training programs for them to learn writing techniques and skills, as well as printing and publishing their books either through the Dubai Digital Library or exhibitions and other libraries around the world. Above: Maryam Al Zarouni is honored at Al-Owais Creativity Award