By: Tala Ezedien and Caroline Nunn

The THIMUN Qatar press team visited with Ms. Dubock and Mr. Janzen and grilled the driving forces of THIMUN Qatar. But wait, who are they?

Ms. Dubock is a cherished member of the THIMUN board. Without her persistence and innovative thinking, we would not be partaking in this conference here today. THIMUN Qatar is her “baby.” She formulated, nurtured, and allowed the idea to grow to what it is today, despite the opposition faced initially.

Mr. Janzen is the head of THIMUN Qatar and is considered the brains behind this immense conference. Without his organizational efforts and intense dedication, participants would not have gained the experiences and opportunities that this conference brings.

When asked what made her decide to bring THIMUN to Qatar, Ms. Dubock inspiringly explained that she wanted to bring equality to every student: boys, girls, those from different nations and different ages. As some customs keep many from traveling, Ms. Dubock told us that her motto was simply, “If you can’t come to us, we’ll come to you.”

In answer to the same question, Mr. Janzen recalled memories of a past leadership conference where a Saudi Arabian female stood and thanked the THIMUN Foundation for bringing about this opportunity. Without THIMUN, she would not have been allowed to travel to Europe. This experience doesn’t only apply to one person, it applies to many.
Contents Page

INTERVIEW WITH SECRETARY GENERAL 7

FOOD GLORIOUS FOOD 8

WHERE IS AL-MUQAANA 8

A DAY IN THE LIFE.... 3

A NATION ENGROSSED IN DIFFICULTIES 4

WOMEN OF THE WORLD 4

THE EXECUTIVE TEAM REFLECTS 5

WHAT IS YOUR BEST MUN EXPERIENCE SO FAR? 10

THIMUN GURU 10

INTERVIEW WITH SECRETARY GENERAL 9

Photo By: Aya Nassif

Waleed Hashisho QA ACTION

A DAY IN THE LIFE.... 3

A NATION ENGROSSED IN DIFFICULTIES 4

WOMEN OF THE WORLD 4

THE EXECUTIVE TEAM REFLECTS 5
A Day in the Life of an International Delegate

By: Amin Ahmed

THIMUN 2013 has welcomed many International delegates from around the world. These delegates have come from China and London, to Jeddah and Lagos. This leaves a question that has long been lingering over the tired local minds of THIMUN: What is the hustle and bustle life of an international delegate like?

Munther Al Farsi, a student from Sultan School in Muscat, Oman, walks us through his daily activities in THIMUN Qatar 2013.

5:00 a.m. Wake up and prepare for a hard day of intense debating, then have what he claims to be “the best breakfast buffet I ever had.”

7:00 a.m. Arrive at QNCC and energetically debate with fellow delegates until 5:00 p.m.

5:30 p.m. Leave QNCC after their tiring hours of resolutions, amendments, points of information, and delicious buffet cheese cake and retire to their hotel.

6:30-8:30 p.m. Free time within the hotel - Munther usually hangs out in the lobby with his friends to grab a bite to eat in the fancy shmancy hotel restaurants. They occasionally pry themselves away from the comforts of their hotel lobby to explore Qatar and enjoy the cosmopolitan sights.

11:00 p.m. Bedtime!

Munther also confessed his awe over the luxury offered, claiming “the buildings here are over-fancy and look much more expensive than the ones in Oman”. He also voiced his admiration of the restrooms being “more comfortable” and praised the “music being played in the lavatories.”

During his stay here in Qatar, Munther has been to City Center, Villagio, Sealine, Souq Waqif and the Gharafa Market.

The life of an international delegate can be a hectic mess, is also an opportunity of adventure in a new and unfamiliar country. Overall, Munther said he loved his stay here, and looks forward to returning for THIMUN 2014.

Photo By: Raneem Hallawa
Women of the World:
Injustice, Unheard Of

By: Caroline Nunn and Tala Ezedien

Shouldn't a woman or girl walking home, at any time of day, deserve to arrive home safely?

The Wall Street Journal reported that in India, over 15,000 brutal attacks and assaults on women were reported in 2011 alone. What is even more shocking is the conviction rate stands at under 30%. These statistics are simply the tip of the iceberg; a woman is raped every twenty minutes in India, as cited by the Indian National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB).

The year 2012 has seen widespread chaos and protests as a result of the notorious assault in New Delhi. A 23 year-old woman was brutally attacked by six men on a bus upon returning from a movie, left to die of indescribable injuries. This single case triggered media attention and sparked unrest within the nation of India. Men, women and children gathered in protests and sit-ins to demonstrate against the atrocity of the mistreatment of women that seems to be plaguing their country.

This raises the question: How many more cases, as brutal as this, have gone unheard of?

Such attacks are not limited to countries such as India. Interpol released that in South Africa, a woman is assaulted every seventeen seconds. Last November in South Africa, six village boys, under the age of ten, assaulted and killed three other children. This news did not reach global concern nor did it ignite the same local fire as the rape case in Delhi, India.

Guest speaker Dr. Joe Khalil, an associate professor of communication at Northwestern University in Qatar and a man of great experience in media, noted that, “The media does not always inform the people of everything, though it has the responsibility to.”

As global citizens, do we have a right to be aware of the atrocities that occur in this world?

China’s New Government Inherits A Nation Engrossed With Difficulties

By Toby Gould

Xi Jinping, China’s new president, has inherited a powerful and influential nation. As well as having the world’s second largest economy, China is home to nearly 1.4 billion people, almost 20 percent of the world’s population. In 1978, the government initiated economic reforms which have lifted 500 million out of poverty and improved the lives of most citizens, according to the BBC.

However, the country still has many unresolved issues. The BBC also states that the disparity between urban and rural incomes has increased by 68 percent since 1985 with urban dwellers having nearly four times the disposable income than rural residents. Social tension is growing in China and could soon become a troublesome issue. The delegate of China in the Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee acknowledges the problem and says that a solution would be to “improve health care and other services in rural areas. This would slow rural to urban migration and stop the population distribution problem.”

Overpopulation is the main problem currently facing China. The huge rise in population means China was forced to take drastic action, resulting in its infamous One-Child Policy. The policy, still in place today, has meant that China has one of the lowest fertility rates in the world. As a result, the population is largely an aging one.

A quick-fix solution to the decline in the birth rate would be to abolish the One-Child Policy. However, this could lead to another population explosion. When asked about his views on the One-Child Policy, the delegate of China stated “The population is too high in the big cities and if we can sort this problem out then there is no need for the One-Child Policy.”

These are just some of the problems that China’s new president will encounter. From population to environmental concerns, the future of China is still unclear and, at the moment, is all in the governments’ hands.
The Executive Team Reflects

By: Lolwa Al Theyab

From fashion designing to medicine, members of the THIMUN Qatar Executive Team have diverse and impressive aspirations.

“...But it’s not only their career plans that are diverse; the Executive Team consists of individuals from a wide variety of backgrounds and nationalities.”

One of the Deputy Secretary Generals, Asmita Ahluwalia, is a great example of this. Originally from India, the Deputy Secretary General has lived in Qatar, England, Switzerland, and Nigeria!

Throughout the conference, Delegates, Press Team, and Admin have watched in wonder as the busy future world leaders whiz through committee rooms, taking very little time to sit back and relax.

“It is all work and no play for the Executive members!”

However, Lara McCartney, one of the Deputy Secretary-General’s, admits there have been some interesting and amusing moments: “We are in charge of the Chairs, and it was quite funny to see some of them trying to swap committees!”

And that’s not all. Nismah Siddique, the Deputy Executive Administration Officer, recounted the time she stepped into a committee room and witnessed a delegate sleeping against the wall: “The Admin tried to wake him up, but he wouldn’t budge! He was really enjoying his nap!”

It must now be obvious that the Executive Committee thoroughly enjoyed themselves: “THIMUN has been great for me! The delegates have been really cooperative, and I am so proud of my Admin team”, says Dahlia Shatila, the Executive Administration Officer.

So, how do the delegates feel THIMUN Qatar can benefit society?

According to Rehab Abdel-Wahab, the Deputy President of the General Assembly, “I’ve been in MUN for three years now, and I have known delegates that walk out of conferences, realizing that they really do need to be more open-minded. THIMUN Qatar is effective because it allows delegates to be in other people’s shoes.”

Overall, the Executive Team have let their leadership skills shine by making this conference a success, but have they truly enjoyed themselves along the way?

Speaking for all those who took part in this conference, we commend the Executive Team for their achievements at the THIMUN Qatar 2013 Conference.
A Success Story in Itself

THIMUN Qatar

When we asked Mr. Janzen to describe past success stories, he questioned the typical meaning of success and really allowed us to ponder its definition. He quoted “a success story is the delegate that goes home fifteen years from now and raises their children to be good citizens and to treat people with compassion and understanding. I think a success story is a person who can look at another person and know where they’re coming from and treat them with compassion. Those are success stories as much as a person who has ascended into a high office.”

We asked both Ms. Dubock and Mr. Janzen how they believed THIMUN Qatar would progress in 10 years. As THIMUN Qatar is only two years old, those involved have been interested to not only admire its growth but also envision the endless possibilities of further development. Ms. Dubock hoped that it would reach and stay at the perfect size of 1500, allowing a proper scope for individuals to be heard. Mr. Janzen also expressed the same ideals: he did not believe that the aim was to get more people participating in this one conference, his hope was to see the growth of MUN programs in different schools and institutions, all over the region. Mr. Janzen said “We don’t want to grow too quickly to the point that we lose quality.”

Many ask “What do we gain from participating in MUN?” As reporters, we can answer that we gain real life experience working in a newsroom; catching up with deadlines, chasing interviewees and collaborating with editors, layout, and photographers. When we asked Ms. Dubock and Mr. Janzen what everyone else would gain, they responded:

Ms. Dubock: “The fact that you’re with students from other cultures and countries makes for tolerance and understanding. In the end if there is more tolerance and understanding in the world, we have hope for future peace, don’t we?”

Mr. Janzen: “It creates empathy in you and the ability to understand why someone is thinking the way they are and why they react the way they do.”

Echoing this year’s theme of Governance, we asked Ms. Dubock to describe her definition of “good governance.” She referred to the charter of human rights and stated that every citizen has a right to justice, striving the importance of a judicial system free from corruption, and ensuring that “human beings have the right to live in peace.”

Overall, Mr. Janzen and Ms. Dubock have both contributed immensely to educating the youth and are an inspiration to all. We’d like to thank both for making each and every participant in this conference a success story.
By: Lolwa Al-/T_heyab

When our computers refused to work, when the printer ran out of toner, and when our sheer lack of technological knowledge threatened to sully the name of the Press Team, our Tech Knights, the members of the ICT Team, flew in gallantly to save the day from the perils of our technological ignorance.

Continued on www.thimunqatarpress.org/

We help Press with any technological issues, we stream the opening and closing ceremonies; we also distribute iPads to different committees. This is the first program of its kind, and it has been a success in ECOSOC. Lastly, we created and maintain the Press Team’s website.

Abdulla Al-Shackarchi, Head of IT

---

By: Hannah Akhtar and Marika Mascarenhas

We’ve all seen Sultan Al-Kaabi, Secretary General (SG) of THIMUN Qatar 2013. We’ve seen him on stage, confidently dashing in and out of the committee rooms. But do we really know him? It’s hard to think of Sultan as a novice here, but that’s exactly what he was 5 years ago.

“I was one of the youngest people. My teachers recommended MUN club and at first I didn’t know anything about the process. By the end of the conference I knew the rules, procedures, and that my goal was to someday become the Secretary General.”

Over the years, Sultan has grown and developed. “Before MUN, I wasn’t as open minded. I wasn’t aware of the global issues. I wasn’t even interested in reading newspapers. Everything’s different now.”

Among some of the aspects of his MUN experience, Sultan cherishes his past opportunities to interact with individuals from different cultural backgrounds. “I have a very close relationship with my co-chairs from THIMUN and even visited them in the summer. Whenever I encounter people from various countries, I go home and Google the places. I even have a friend that lives on an island! Imagine that!”

Sultan is sad to see his MUN career come to an end but his current goal is to have a very successful THIMUN conference. “I want to ensure that everyone enjoys their stay, not just in the conference, but in Qatar. I hope that that every delegate continues to contribute as much as they can in their committees and try to find new solutions to problems we face today.”

Despite the hardships an SG faces, Sultan believes it’s worth it, completely worth it.

---

Want More MUN Year-Round?
Check out the new edition of MUN Middle East, a regional, year-round newsletter available at bestdelegate.com. We also urge you to send any articles and photos to info@bestdelegate.com to be published.
Delegates, the conference is over. Some of us are left with memories of heated arguments, successful speeches and high-heel blisters. But some of us are reminiscing on the more important things, of the necessities of life, of the one thing that will one day unite us all: Food!

For the past three days, we have all gathered in the lunch room at 11:30 a.m. At the front of the room stood the salad table. You probably walked past it - until your eyes caught the sight of the hummus. And the scrumptious delegate in your committee no longer mattered after you tasted the wonder that is chickpeas blended with tahini!

\[ \text{Pudding - improving foreign relations since the 17th century!} \]

Further down the line, you have the main courses. On the first day, we enjoyed delectable lasagna and the best curry and rice. Mohamed El-Mistikawy of Park House English School said, “On the second day, I loved the pasta, it's what kept me going in my committee.” At the end of the hall, a light shines amidst a mound of wonders - the dessert table. If you tasted the cheesecake on the first day, you'd know it was out of this world. I myself had about four. Fresh fruits, chocolate pudding with berries, little cups of coffee creamers and tarts with custards are just some of the goodies that will make our mouths water for weeks. One unknown delegate passed by the press team and praised the glorious treats, “They have pudding! I love this country!” Pudding - improving foreign relations since the 17th century!

All in all, it's been a deliciously successful conference. If you haven't gained a few pounds, you definitely did something wrong!
We interviewed Mrs. Kay Mitchell, the program supervisor, to find out more.

**What is QA Action?**

QA Action looks towards developing nations in need of social change. One of their main projects is the ‘Community Development Project.’ They recently introduced ‘Sponsor a Child’ program which successfully allowed for 125 children to attend locally built schools.

**What would you consider to be QA Action’s greatest success?**

QA Action has raised funds for widowed mothers to establish businesses of various trades. The women produce handcrafted articles, such as woven baskets and rice bags that the group sells in order to raise money for the women. Over a span of just two years, 40 women were provided with funds.

**What specifically motivates you to support the Eravur School in Sri Lanka?**

The students of Qatar Academy show a lot of enthusiasm in educating the children within these schools. The school is located in Sri Lanka where QA Action arranges multiple trips for members of the QA Action Program. The dedication of students and fulfillment of good deeds pushes us to help more people.

*Marika Mascarenhas, who has previously traveled to the Eravur school with QA Action, described her experience.*

When we visited the school in Eravur, one of our main aims was to bond with the children. We were offered the experience to visit a refugee camp set up after the Sri Lankan civil war. I learnt a lot from this experience, especially a greater value for life. After seeing the immense happiness of the people with the little they had, it inspired me to be more involved. Although we are worlds away, we tend to appreciate the experiences we gain from volunteering.

This small group has managed to create a big difference. With people such as Ms. Mitchell, Marika, and QA Action president, Walid Hashisho, a brighter future for the underprivileged has become possible.

For more information please refer to the QA Action president, Walid Hashisho and visit www.eravuredi.com

*Remember, a tiny contribution can make a difference worlds away*  
Marika Mascarenhas
THIMUN GURU

THIMUN delegates, our time here has ended. We’ve been through so much together - boredom, spider apocalypses and grueling marathons in heels. Now, you have time to yourself, so before we part I shall share with you the ancient secrets of relaxation we Gurus (a.k.a. the Press Team) use after a hectic, yet eventful conference.

1 Calm your nerves by delighting in the beloved beverage of Qatar, Karak. Although its origins trace back to India, the milk tea, richly infused with cardamom, is a cross-cultural hit.

2 Be any other teenager by hitting the malls in swarms. Landmark and Villaggio shopping malls serve as some of the preferred venues to grab a bite, do a little window shopping and catch a movie.

3 If you prefer finer dining, head to the glamorous Pearl, a mass of reclaimed land, where one can find contentment in the variety of cuisines offered by world-renowned restaurants and the luxuries of upscale designer shops. If time and tide permits, one can even catch a water taxi to cruise around the beautiful bay of Qatar.

Farewell and see you next year!

What is Your Best MUN Experience So Far?

“Reading flirty notes especially one that said ‘I don’t need sugar in my tea when I’m with you’”
(Nismah, Doha College)

“We were playing an ice breaker and the representative of Iceland couldn’t stop talking about unicorns”
(Samara, Doha British School)

“When the delegate of Morocco got his jacket stuck in a girl’s hair”
(Anrag, Birla Public School)

“A delegate sent me a note saying ‘me and you belong together xoxoxo’”
(Kathy, Doha College)

“When a delegate said ‘pardon?’ to a very long question”
(Omar, International School of London Qatar)

“When my heel got stuck in the escalator”
(Yasmine, Qatar Academy)

“When a girl at the podium stated ‘humans are the smartest living things on the planet’ and the chair replied ‘research says dolphins are smarter’”
(Naha, American International School of Lagos)
You can find us on these social networks. Be sure to follow us on twitter, “Like” us on Facebook, check out our Youtube channel and visit our website! You will also be able to watch the opening and closing ceremonies streaming live online!

www.thimunqatarpress.org/

Don’t forget to fill out the survey at:

survey.thimunqatarpress.org