Revitalisation of culture, language and ecosystems

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Outline

• Tradition versus modernity in Qatar
• Measures taken in Qatar to revitalise culture and ecosystems
  • Qur’anic Botanic Garden
  • Markaz Nomas
  • Other measures taken
  • The role of Twitter
• Development of children’s (e-)books in Qatar and Dhofar
  • Children’s e-books in Dhofar
  • Children’s published books in Qatar
Challenges

• Globalization leads to the disappearance of cultural diversity, local industries and local skills.

• In a global world, local arts, culture, and heritage are often replaced by global culture and arts. As a result, diversity is lost and local talent and artisans struggle to get income-generating opportunities.
Local knowledge

• Fishing techniques
• Nomadic stock-breeders knowledge
• Improved breeds
• Architecture
• The stars
• Wind directions, speed and duration
• Grazing, hunting and bird migration
Traditional Methods

- People lived in harmony with their environment.
- They developed ways and means that gave them maximum benefits.
- Traditional methods and ways disappeared slowly, then rapidly

Organic substances

Metal nets
Quranic Botanic Garden

• Aims: Conservation, research, education
• Facilities: Herbarium, Arboretum, Seed Bank, Published Plant Catalogue, Laboratories, Digital Plant Record System, Sponsorship Programmes. Shop, Cafeteria
• Area: 22,000 M2 including facilities
• Director: Fatima Saleh Al Khulaifi, Manager, QBG
• Contests
Markaz Nomas, Doha

- Founded 2014 for boys, 2016 for girls
- Fosters knowledge of traditional culture and traditional ecosystems among younger Qataris
- Provides forum for older Qatari women to practise traditional culture and hold discussions
Other Volunteer Associations

Qatar Nature
Education E-Association
directed by volunteers
Other measures taken

• Qatar National Environment Day 2018
• Community clean ups
• Private gardens
• Teaching and dissemination through Twitter
The role of Twitter

• **Sharing knowledge of flora**
• Sharing seeds and distribution of seedlings
• Exchange of information about community activities
• **Climate**
Children’s literature

Traditional stories to link children to nature
The brave turtle

Ghassun the sister of the deer

Hamda & Fsikra
Children’s e-books in Dhofar

• Voice over, orthography, pictures
Conclusion

- Challenges
- Education beyond the classroom