



SHARJAH FORT (AL HISN)

Pre and Post Visit Materials

The fort narrates Sharjah's life in the rule of Sheikh Sultan Bin Saqr the second. Moreover, Sharjah Fort displays a group of images, collections, replicas and stories of Sharjah and its people. This diversity provides the opportunity for students to experience the lifestyle in that time and learn about the history of this precious place and people.

Sharjah Fort includes 12 main galleries which are Muhalwasa Prison, Armoury, Al Hisn Gallery, AL Medbasa, Al Qawasim Gallery, Weapons Gallery, The Sheikh's Room, Al Kabs Tower, Sultan the Second Gallery, Muhalwasa Tower, Majlis and Al Ghurfa.



هيئة الشارقة للمتاحف
Sharjah Museums Authority

Al Hisn	A fortified construction where the ruling family used to live in.
Jus (Mortar)	Grinded and burned rocks, such as coral stone and limestone mixed with water.
Marduf	A currency created by Al Qawasim to be their own in the period.
Al Zeweya	A small room connected to the sleeping room used for making coffee and having snacks. It includes also an area for the shower and ablution,
Al Khamrah	A large <i>dallah</i> (coffee pot), used to mix hot water and grinded coffee beans inside.
Al Taljeemah	A medium sized traditional pot where the liquid from <i>Al Khamarah</i> is poured to add flavors such as cardamom, saffron and rosewater to the coffee.
Al Mzalah	The serving <i>dallah</i> where the coffee is refined and filtered.
Mehmas	A long stick used to stir coffee beans while roasting.
Al Samawer	Used for boiling water.
Al Khars	Used to preserve food and drinks.
Israi	A glass bottle used for lighting.
Al Habb	Used for cooling water.
Al Mandoos	A box used as a closet to preserve clothes and valuables.
Diglah	A long wool coat, worn under <i>Al Bisht</i> and opened from the front and sides.

<i>Al Kattarah</i>	A curved sword normally with a heavy-back blade. (curved swords)
<i>Al Mazaghel</i> (Loopholes)	Small holes on the fort walls used as a defensive method by throwing arrows through them.
<i>Al Yiraab</i>	A bag, made of palm leaves, used to put dates inside.
<i>Al Khareejah</i>	A well, used to extract salt-water for domestic uses.
<i>Girhaf</i>	Wooden sandals.

These key questions are designed to help families, school groups and individuals to get more out of their visit to the Museum. Please ask any of museum staff to help with answering these questions if you need further support.

Al Hisn and Al Medbasa Gallery

This gallery is located in the first floor of the museum.

1. Who built the fort and in which year?
2. What are the main defense methods in the fort?
3. How many rulers had a prominent role in the fort?
4. Why was the entrance corridor of the main courtyard curved at the angle of 90 degrees?
5. What did they use to build the fort's walls?
6. In which year was the fort demolished? Who restored it?
7. How many months it took to restore the fort?
8. Who are the three rulers who had an important role in the fort history?
9. What are the steps of Al Medbasa?

Al Qawasim Gallery

This gallery located in the first floor of the museum.

1. To whom does the root of Al Qawasim belong?
2. Why did Al Qawasim leave Al Basra in 1500 AC?
3. How many warships were owned by Al Qawasim in 1807 AC?
4. What was the name of the biggest trading vessel of Al Qawasim?
5. What are the defensive ways that Al Qawasim relied on to destroy their enemies' ships?
6. What is Al Mardhoof?
7. Why were the great powers interested in seizing the trade routes in the Arabian Gulf?
8. What are the most important five treaties that have been signed during the nineteenth century?

Sultan bin Saqer II Gallery

This gallery is located in the first floor of the museum.

1. In which period was Sheikh Sultan bin Saqer II the ruler?
2. How did Sheikh Sultan bin Saqer II become a ruler?
3. Who are the brothers of Sheikh Sultan bin Saqer II and who supported him while ruling Sharjah?
4. What are the main challenges and achievements in Sharjah during that period?
5. What was the name of Sheikh Sultan bin Saqer's sword?
6. When was Al Mahatta, the first airport in UAE, built?

Al Majlis Gallery

This gallery is located in the first floor of the museum.

1. When was the official flag of UAE raised on the governmental buildings in Sharjah?
2. In which year was the Queen Elizabeth in an official visit to the UAE?
3. In which year was the oil exploration agreement signed?
4. What is the Treaty of Perpetual Maritime Peace? In which year was it?
5. What are the features of Woman's traditional clothing in UAE?
6. When were the first images of Sharjah published?

Weapon Gallery

This gallery located in the first floor of the museum.

1. From what were *Al Kattara* blades made?
2. Who brought cannons to the area in the fifteenth century?
3. What is the most famous cannon in the fort?
4. What is the *Abu Fateelah* gun?

Al Hisn and Al Medbasa Gallery

- Activity 1: Find the lost word!

Digla – Prison – Jerab – Cannon – Jandal – Jas – Zewya – Thief - Saj

P	Z	E	W	Y	A	J	C
R	D	I	G	L	A	A	A
I	O	S	A	J	R	N	N
S	T	H	I	E	F	D	N
O	T	F	J	A	S	A	O
N	J	E	R	A	B	L	N

The lost word is

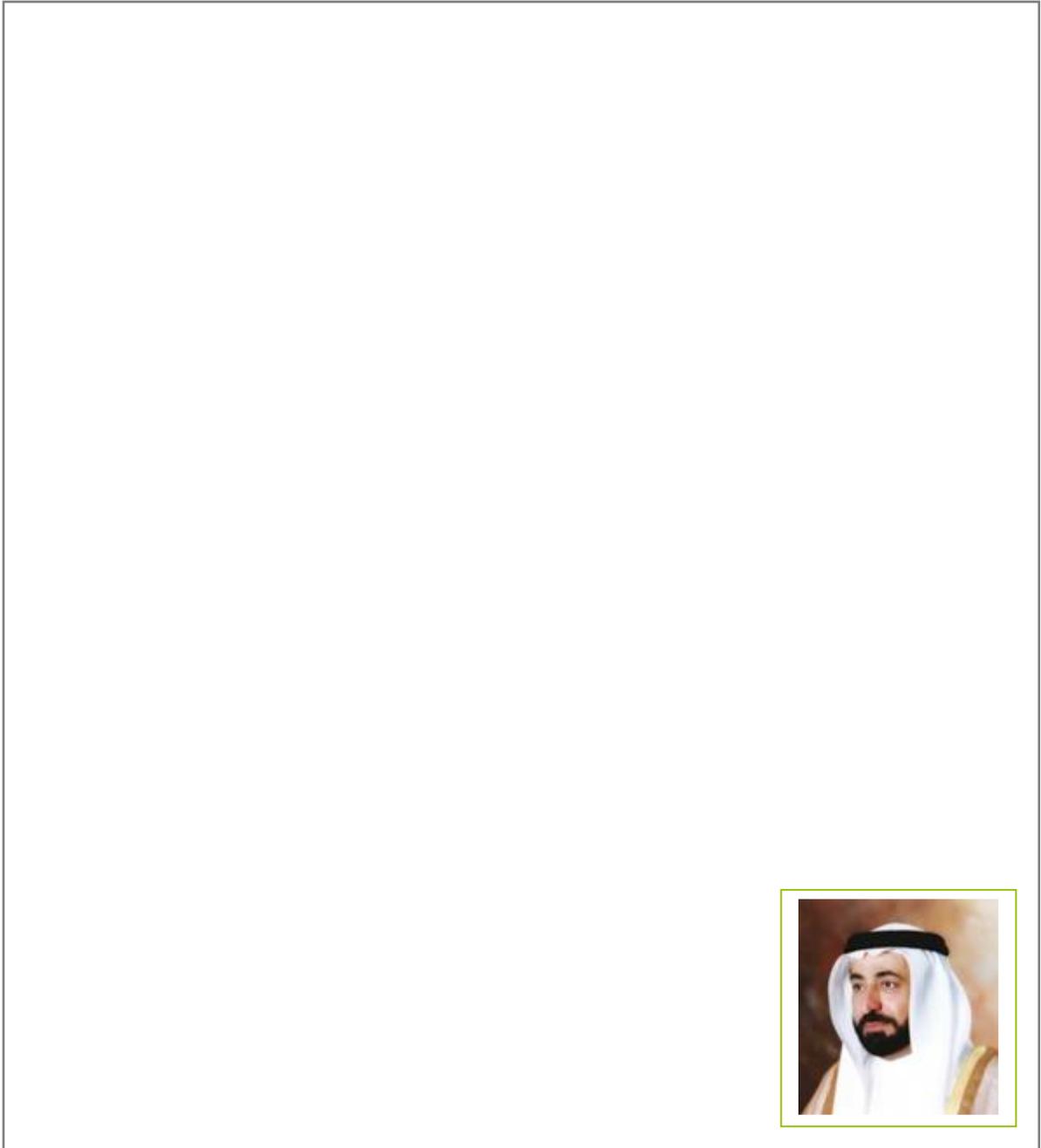
- Activity 2: Arrange the steps of Al Medbasa process

The Wrong Steps		Right Steps (Numbers)
<p>1. Put a second layer of bags on the first one. Compacted bags help to extract molasses from dates.</p>		
<p>2. Molasses gather up in the jar.</p>		
<p>3. Put dates on the fronds and keep them under the sun until they become dry.</p>		
<p>4. Put a layer of bags in the grooves.</p>		

<p>5. The molasses comes out from the bags and runs through the grooves in the ground.</p>			
<p>6. Collect dates.</p>			
<p>7. Put the dates inside <i>Al Jarab</i>, a bag made of palm fronds.</p>			

Al Qawasim Gallery

- Activity 1: Draw the family tree of Baba Sultan (H.H Sheikh Dr. Sultan Bin Mohammed Al Qasimi)



Sultan bin Saqer II Gallery

Activity 1: The five brothers of Sheikh Sultan bin Saqer II had a prominent role in the revival of Sharjah.

Put the right name under the right image:

- Sheikh Mohammed bin Saqer bin Khalid Al Qasimi
- Sheikh Majid bin Saqer bin Khalid Al Qasimi
- Sheikh Humaid bin Saqer bin Khalid Al Qasimi
- Sheikh Rashid bin Saqer bin Khalid Al Qasimi
- Sheikh Khalid bin Khalid bin Saqer Al Qasimi



The Ruler's cousin



The Ruler's father



The Ruler's uncle



The Ruler's cousin



The Ruler's uncle

Weapons Gallery

- Activity 1: Arrange the steps of filling the cannon:

The Wrong steps	The Right Steps (By Numbers)
1. Direct the cannon toward the goal.	
2. Put the gunpowder and some fillings, such as dried plants or a piece of fabric inside the front hole of the cannon. Then, push them using the ramrod to make a space for the missile.	
3. Direct the cannon upward, toward the sky.	
4. Enter a second layer of fillings to keep the missile in its right place.	

- Activity 2: Discover the shot's types!
 - Small shots (*Khartosh*)
 - Old gun bullet
 - Bullet





