

Incitement by Qatari media continuing: Al Romaihi



Ali bin Mohammed Al-Romaihi

DT News Network Manama

Information Affairs Minister, Ali bin Mohammed Al-Romaihi, has said that the Arab countries are facing negative media campaigns, which casts a shadow over its influence on the Arab public opinion and its focus on national issues.

In an interview with the Egyptian Al-Mehwar channel, Al-Romaihi said that one of the biggest problems that restrict the impact of the media on Arab viewers today is their attempt to compete with social media networks, something that should not be done by the traditional media.

The minister pointed out that the Arab satellite channels have exceeded 1,300 during the past decade, which increases the responsibility of the Arab media to engage in competitiveness and improve programmes.

Responding to a question about the negative role played by the Qatari Al-Jazeera channel, Al-Rumaihi said that the Qatari media, especially Al-Jazeera, continues to incite against Arab countries and cause harm to everything related to them. Al-Jazeera has recently lost a lot of its influence and no longer has an impact on the Arab viewers because of the lack of credibility and

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principles, he added.

“Al-Jazeera has become unable to convince itself, so how will it be able to convince the Arab viewers?” Al Romaihi wondered.

The minister affirmed that the Qatari crisis exposed the role of Qatar’s Al-Jazeera channel as a tool for the Doha regime to implement its agendas, polish its image and abuse the Arab countries, in general, and the countries calling for combating terrorism in particular.

He asserted that Al-Jazeera has been used badly, and history will not forget what Qatar has done in the region through this institution, which has spread the culture of hatred and caused a great rift among Arab countries and peoples, especially during the so-called Arab Spring. Those who experienced the so-called Arab Spring will never forget the negative role played by Al-Jazeera at the time, a period whose negative results still continue today, he said, stressing that anything can be bought, but not history.

The minister said the situation with Qatar is not a conflict, but rather a firm political stance taken by the four countries calling for fighting terrorism against a state that has caused much damage to the region, pointing out that the 13 demands are still on the table.

When Doha responds to them positively the crisis will end, he said.

On Iran, Al-Rumaihi pointed out that those who try to minimise the Iranian threat or try to convince the Arab viewer that Tehran is not a threat to the Arab countries are ignoring reality, stressing that Iran has tried to interfere in all Arab countries, without exception.

UNESCO-King Hamad prize laureates named

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The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) has announced the laureates of this year’s UNESCO King Hamad bin Isa Al-Khalifa Prize for the Use of Information and Communication Technologies

(ICTs) in Education, Dr. Majid bin Ali Al-Nuaimi, Education Minister, has said.

The national Programme on Mainstreaming ICTs for Education (Programme de Généralisation des Technologies de l’Information et de la Communication pour l’Enseignement, Programme GENIE), from Morocco,

and the Connected Learning Initiative (Programme CLIX), from India, have been declared winners of the prize for articulating the values and principles of the theme of this year’s edition, which is “Use of ICT to Increase Access to Quality Education” with a view to promote innovations in leveraging ICTs for achieving

SDG 4.

The award ceremony will be held at UNESCO headquarters in Paris, in cooperation with the Education Ministry, the minister said.

The 2017 edition of the Prize attracted 700 projects, 143 of which were retained by the jury after they met all the requirements.

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