

2nd Performance of “Qatar National Dance Team” Popular Operetta “Al-Qaffaal”

Following the immense success of “Qatar National Dance Team” production “Al Qaffaal” on September 2, 2005 on the occasion of Qatar’s National Day, Qatar Pavilion has decided to stage a second performance of its popular Operetta on September 7, 2005 at 20:00 at the EXPO Dome.

“**Al-Qaffaal**” Operetta depicts the memories of Al-Nahham, or the “director” who used to set the rhythm for the sailors’ activities at sea. He narrates to the audience about life in Qatar long before the discovery of its wealth of natural resources, mainly oil and natural gas, when pearl diving was the main source of livelihood for the majority of the people. It tells about village mothers and wives bidding their loved ones farewell before they set sail to sea on a five-month pearl diving mission and later about their return to their rejoicing families.

The term “Al-Qaffaal” was usually used to refer to those coming home from their pearl diving journey. The Operetta is performed by the Qatar National Dance Team, a 45-strong national troupe whose members have traveled all over the world presenting similar shows.

The message derived from the show is that, despite the wealth pearl diving and later oil and natural gas brought upon Qatar, the people still preserved their traditional spirit of unity, harmony and simplicity, passing down the same values from one generation to the next.

Tickets will be made available at the Expo Dome from 9:00am.