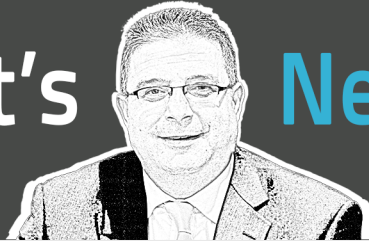


President's News Digest



Message From the Editor

Welcome to the 6th issue of the 6th volume of the President's News Digest.

In this issue Prof. Ghassan Aouad , President of the University will address the subject of " Bahraini Women Day"

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Mrs. Hessa Al Meraisi
Manager of President's Office

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من روائع الشعر العربي

Message from the President

Bahraini Women Day

On the 1st of December, the Kingdom of Bahrain celebrated the happy occasion of Bahraini Women Day. Such a happy occasion is to celebrate Bahraini Women' achievements in various fields and this year the celebration is dedicated to the diplomatic sector. This culture of recognizing women and celebrating their achievements is attributed to the work of HRH Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa, Wife of His Majesty the King and President of the Supreme Council for Women (SCW). The work of HRH has been transformational in supporting and enabling women from Bahrain and the region to excel in their jobs resulting in more benefits for society as a whole. It is 19 years since His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa issued the Royal Order to establish the Supreme Council for Women (SCW), under the presidency of Her Royal Highness Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa, Wife of HM the King. In nearly the last 20 years, Bahraini women have made many achievements and significant contributions at local, regional and global levels. Everyone in Bahrain and beyond recognizes HRH's vision, clear leadership and great achievements. I would like to take this opportunity on the happy occasion of Bahraini Women Day to wish all Bahraini women and our female staff, students, alumni, and other stakeholders in particular every success, happiness and prosperity. It is a fact that our female students are outperforming our male students in their academic achievements and it is delightful to see strong female representation in the top management of the University. This is the culture we are creating at ASU in generating opportunities for all irrespective of gender, race and religion, which is in line with HM the King's vision to create a tolerant society where we can all co-exist in peace, respect and loyalty to our Kingdom.



Written By
Professor Ghassan Aouad
The President of Applied
Science University



ASU Celebrates the Global Entrepreneurship Week with a Seminar on Funding Opportunities for Young Entrepreneurs

Under the patronage of Professor Waheeb Ahmed Alkhaja, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Applied Science University, and upon invitation from Professor Ghassan Fouad Aouad, President of the University, ASU organized a virtual seminar in partnership with the Labor Fund "Tamkeen" on Tuesday, December 1st, 2020, under the title "Funding Opportunities for Young Entrepreneurs in the Covid-19 Era", as part of the Kingdom's celebration of the Global Entrepreneurship Week.

Six distinguished guests from inside and outside the Kingdom of Bahrain contributed as panelists to the discussions of the seminar representing various funding institutions and organizations involved in promoting entrepreneurship and empowering young entrepreneurs in Bahrain and the region. The seminar was conducted virtually through "Zoom" and was attended by a large number of ASU students in addition to other viewers from around the globe who were interested in the topic of the symposium.

Professor Waheeb Ahmed Alkhaja inaugurated the event with a speech in which he expressed how proud he is that the university is hosting such an important event, which he hopes will be beneficial to the Bahraini youth looking for funding to establish their businesses, and praised the great role that "Tamkeen" plays in organizing and coordinating all activities of the Kingdom's celebration of the Global Entrepreneurship Week. He also underlined the fact that one of the University's most important goals is to graduate students who are job creators, not only job seekers.

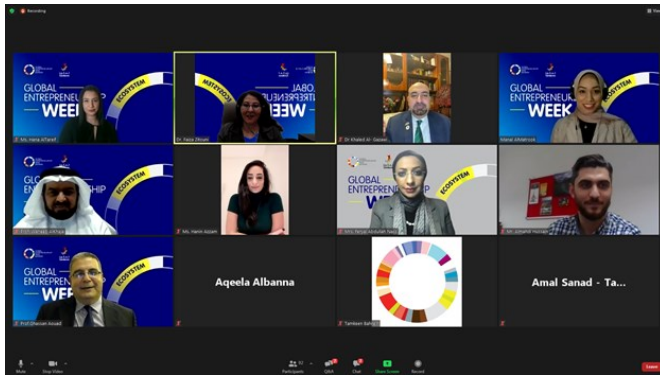
Professor Ghassan Fouad Aouad, President of the University, affirmed that entrepreneurship has become an integral part of the university's work and one of its main priorities in its strategic plan, especially after the opening of the university's business incubation center, which provides all the support and services that the students need to develop their ideas and turn them into successful projects. He also took the opportunity to thank all the guests and attendees for accepting the invitation, wishing everyone a useful and fruitful seminar.

After that, Dr. Faiza Zitouni, Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs and Development, moderated the discussion between the six panelists of the seminar, and the start was with Dr. Khaled Al-Ghazawi, CEO of Ebdaa Bank in Bahrain, which is part of the institutions of the Arab Gulf Program for Development "AGFUND", and specializes in Microfinance. Dr. Khaled offered a presentation about the various loans offered by the bank with financing amounting to 7 thousand Bahraini dinars, some of which are allocated to female entrepreneurs and project owners at home, some are directed to individuals with long professional experience or academic degrees and would like to capitalize on that to launch their own projects, and some are assigned to those who own established businesses but need funding for expansion and development purposes. Dr. Khaled said that the Covid-19 pandemic did not disrupt their work at all, but it made them more selective in their process, encouraging more creative project ideas that adapt to the reality that the pandemic. He has, indeed, invited the attendees to look at the challenges imposed by the pandemic and try to transform them into opportunities.

Following that, Ms. Feryal Abdullah Nass, Founder and President of the Bahrain Entrepreneurship Organization (BEO), gave in her speech an overview of the most important activities undertaken by BEO in order to spread the culture of entrepreneurship in the Kingdom and the region. Her work involves making access to funding easier to Bahraini youth and she successfully managed to bring representation of the World Business Angels Investment Forum (an affiliated partner of the G20 Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion - GPFI) to Bahrain which surely will help in the economic empowerment of youth and women with startup ideas and entrepreneurial ambitions.



Written By
Mr. Hatem Dammak
Head of Compliance and
Audit Unit



Another area of interest to Mrs. Feryal Nass is to help Bahraini entrepreneurs develop their businesses and direct their products and services towards export targeting foreign and promising markets outside the Kingdom of Bahrain. Mrs. Feryal speech was indeed very rich with valuable advice and tips for entrepreneurs, and the various initiatives she mentioned are all worth following up and pursuing.

The third presentation was given by Mr. Nawaf Al-Kooheji, CEO of “Tenmou”, which is the first commercial “Business Angels” company in Bahrain, as it invests in scalable companies that focus on technology in various sectors, with financing amounting to about BHD 30,000 for a 2 to 10 percent equity in return. Mr. Nawaf was also very generous with his practical advice to startup owners and aspiring entrepreneurs on how to obtain appropriate financing that is compatible with the size and needs of their projects and doesn’t burden them with unnecessary debts. He also explained to the audience the importance of networking and communicating with business angels using the terms and jargon they understand and trying to cater to their needs and address their fears. They are the ones risking their money after all.

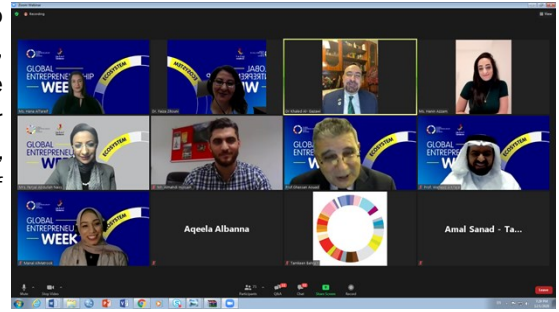
In the same context, the fourth guest, Mr. Saleh Abbas, Senior Program Manager at Flat6Labs Bahrain, gave a presentation about his company’s efforts in providing services to accelerate the growth of emerging startups, as it offers a 4-month program to selected companies that involves close mentoring and monitoring by Subject Matter Experts and seasoned professional in their related fields to help the young entrepreneurs navigate their way and avoid early mistakes that could cost them the success of their projects in a blink of an eye. Funding provided by “Flat6Labs” Bahrain program amounts to about 12,000 Bahraini dinars, against a portion of the equity that ranges from 5 to 10 percent.

The fifth presentation was offered by Ms. Haneen Azzam, Director of the crowdfunding platform “Zoomaal”, which is the first crowdfunding platform in the Arab world, based in Lebanon. Ms. Haneen explained the importance of this type of funding to create a new dynamic of fundraising for creative projects and to support young entrepreneurs with innovative ideas. And despite the many challenges and difficulties that may hinder the adoption of this type of financing in the Arab world in contrast to its massive success in Western countries, it remains one of the viable options to support promising projects, especially those that have a social or humanitarian impact that benefits both societies and individuals. She admitted that the “Zoomaal” platform may not be the most suitable place for tech startup, but it’s definitely the perfect fit for “social entrepreneurship” ideas and projects.

Last but not least, Mrs. Hana Al Tareif, came to the seminar wearing two hats: she is a Senior Executive at Bahrain Economic Development Board - EDB (in charge of startups and digital platforms), and she is also a celebrated entrepreneur, as she is the founder and owner of the “Daresni” platform (literally translates to “Teach Me”), an online network of instructors and coaches who can be booked by students and pupils to provide with the tutoring or coaching they need. But to contribute to the topic of this seminar, Mrs. Hana focused more on EDB and talked about its role as the first place for international companies willing to establish their presence and manage their projects in Bahrain. EDB succeeded in bringing many large and emerging companies to the Kingdom increasing and facilitating the flow of FDIs (Foreign Direct Investments) to Bahrain, perhaps the most prominent of which is Amazon for cloud computing services (AWS). In her presentation, Mrs. Hana also spoke about the entrepreneurship ecosystem in Bahrain which was recently ranked among the top five fastest growing entrepreneurship ecosystems in the world. She highlighted the importance for young entrepreneurs and startup owners to know the various actors and parties in their entrepreneurship ecosystem as this can give them access to funding, mentoring, and a myriad of other useful and services and support schemes.

At the end, Professor Ghassan Fouad Aouad, President of the University, thanked again all the panelists and all the attendees, stating that he personally enjoyed every minute of this very informative seminar. He stressed the importance of making use of the available funding opportunities and support mechanisms at the disposal of young and established entrepreneurs, as this seminar clearly demonstrated the

availability of many support schemes and funding sources, ranging from micro loans of few thousands to a financing reaching approximately 80,000 USD. Thus, finding funding should not be an obstacle. He ended by saying that the future belongs to the bold and fearless, those who take brave initiatives and pursue their ambitious ideas, and that's exactly how ASU perceive its graduates: risk-takers, opportunity-creators, bold and fearless, and as innovative and creative as any of their peers graduating from the world's top universities



Busy weeks for the Academic Staff Development Unit in preparation for the " Online Teaching", "Online Assessment", "Online Moderation", "Online Course portfolio", in addition to supporting Cohort 5

The last couple of weeks were a busy period for ASDU. We have achieved 10 activities on 2 Thursdays, 26th of November and 3rd of December. For the mentioned period, we targeted 2 approaches, online teaching and ASUrise HEA scheme.

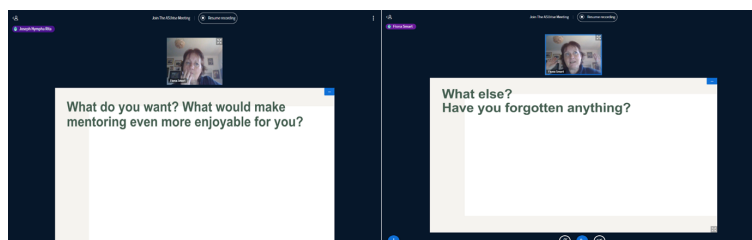
Due to the proximity of the final assessment period around the university, the first approach consisted of 6 face to face training sessions in the university labs, target of which were all academics in the College of Law. Training was conducted on 3 pairs of synchronized sessions delivered by Mr. Muath of ICT and Mr. Ammar Yousef of Computer Science. The objectives of these session concentrated on providing the concerned academics with the knowledge and skill required for the preparation of the online final assessment. They were focused on:

- ⇒ Setting up the final assessment online.
- ⇒ Loading the question bank with the requirements of the final assessment.
- ⇒ Dealing with the different methods of entering assessment questions.
- ⇒ Different types of MOODLE online questions.

The attendance rate was excellent, more than 92%, and the whole process went very smooth for all sessions.

As far as the second approach is concerned, ASUrise HEA scheme, the aim of this approach was get to Cohort 5 mentors acquainted with UKPSF and prepare to lead the mentoring endeavors, after the great success of the previous four cohorts, to apply for the Advance HE through a series of preparation workshops from the our experts, and managing the internal sessions, following up the application writing process throughout its different stages, and planning and organizing the mentoring feedback processes.

For this purpose, ASDU organized a series of related participant - mentor sessions for the 5th cohort of ASUrise Advance HE Scheme on tow Thursdays, November 26th and December 3rd at ASUrise meeting room. The sessions were led by our external consultant, Dr. Fiona Smart, the aim of which was for attendees to talk about the positives of being mentors for ASUrise, and the challenges and opportunities they have encountered. The sessions were divided into three parts, with the first part dedicated to the participants and the other two dedicated to mentors, one for AFHEA and FHEA, and the other one dedicated for SFHEA.



Open Book Exams

Open book exams have become a major assessment tool in many universities. The philosophy of open book exams is based on focusing the assessment on measuring the critical thinking abilities of students where the exam questions are usually based on scenarios that describe realistic situations. Students are asked to carry out tasks using their knowledge gained in class that leads to the solution of the question while they have access to their study material and learning resources such as books, notes, etc.



Professor Khaled M. Gharaibeh
President's Senior Advisor for
Academic Affairs and
Development

Usually, an open book exam question is based on presenting data and then asking students interpretative and application questions, such as: What does the data show? What relevance does this data or does the scenario have in terms of a given topic? What other factors could potentially affect this data? How would you test for these? In principle, open book exam questions should be based on the use of "Socratic" questions which include: clarification questions, assumption questions, reason and evidence questions, origin and source questions, implications and consequence questions, and viewpoint questions. These Socratic questions are intended for the student to discover the solution rather than find an answer that fits the question from memory. In general, the level of the open book exam questions needs to be commensurate with the learning outcomes of the course and must strike a fair balance between low, medium and high difficulty questions. It is also important to recognize the wide spectrum of subjects taught in a university degree resulting in a variety of approaches to open book exam questions, not limiting it to the above mentioned Socratic questions. For example, Math subjects offer a wide variety of approaches for open book exam questions as critical thinking is inherent to the nature of Math questions.

In most situations, open book exams are more challenging to students than closed book exams as they require students to use knowledge rather than memorize knowledge. Besides, the open book exam relieves students from memorizing large amount of data which in turn reduces the exam tension and stress. ASU has adopted open book exams at this critical period of time for reasons related to the difficulty of conducting closed book proctored exams while students are not on campus. This is an opportunity for all of us to rethink our teaching and learning approach to cope with the fast developments that are happening in the world and focus on critical thinking, reflective learning and effective communication which lead to producing graduates ready for future jobs.

الإمتحانات مفتوحة الكتاب بقلم: الأستاذ الدكتور خالد الغرايبة - قائم بأعمال نائب الرئيس للشؤون الأكاديمية والتطوير

لقد أصبحت الإمتحانات مفتوحة الكتاب أداة تقييم رئيسية في العديد من الجامعات. وتعتمد فلسفة هذه الإمتحانات على تركيز التقييم على قياس قدرات التفكير النقدي للطلاب حيث تعتمد أسئلة الإمتحان عادة على سيناريوهات تصف مواقف واقعية، ويطلب من الطلاب تنفيذ المهام باستخدام معرفتهم المكتسبة في الفصل والتي تؤدي إلى حل السؤال في الوقت الذي يمكن للطلاب الوصول إلى مواد الدراسة وموارد التعلم مثل الكتب والملاحظات وما إلى ذلك.

ويعتمد سؤال الإمتحان مفتوح الكتاب عادة على تقديم البيانات ثم طرح أسئلة تفسيرية وتطبيقية على الطلاب ، مثل: ماذا تظهر البيانات؟ ما مدى صلة هذه البيانات أو السيناريو من حيث موضوع معين؟ ما هي العوامل الأخرى التي يمكن أن تؤثر على هذه البيانات؟ كيف ستختبر هذه البيانات. من حيث المبدأ، يجب أن تستند أسئلة إمتحان الكتاب المفتوح إلى استخدام الأسئلة "السقراطية" التي تشمل: أسئلة التوضيح وأسئلة الافتراض وأسئلة السبب والأدلة وأسئلة الأصل والمصدر وأسئلة الآثار والنتائج وأسئلة وجهة النظر. وتهدف هذه الأسئلة السقراطية إلى أن يكتشف الطالب الحل بدلاً من العثور على إجابة تناسب السؤال من الذاكرة. بشكل عام ، يجب أن يكون مستوى أسئلة إمتحان الكتاب المفتوح متناسباً مع نتائج التعلم للمقرر ويجب أن يحقق توازناً عادلاً بين الأسئلة ذات الصعوبة المنخفضة والمتوسطة والعالية. ومن المهم أيضاً إعطاء خصوصية لمجموعة واسعة من المقررات التي يتم تدريسها والتي يلزمها مجموعة متنوعة من الأساليب لطرح أسئلة اختبار الكتاب المفتوح، وليس قصرها على الأسئلة السقراطية المذكورة أعلاه. على سبيل المثال ، يتوفر في مقررات الرياضيات مجموعة متنوعة من الأساليب لأسئلة إمتحان الكتاب المفتوح لأن التفكير النقدي متأصل في طبيعة أسئلة الرياضيات.

في معظم المواقف، تكون الإمتحانات مفتوحة الكتاب أكثر صعوبة على الطلبة من اختبارات الكتاب المغلق لأنها تتطلب منهم استخدام المعرفة بدلاً من تذكرها. ومن ناحية أخرى فإن الإمتحان مفتوح الكتاب يمكن أن يريح الطلاب من حفظ كمية كبيرة من المعلومات مما يقلل بدوره من توتر الإمتحان. لقد اعتمدت جامعة العلوم التطبيقية إمتحانات الكتاب المفتوح في هذه الفترة الزمنية الحرجة لأسباب تتعلق بصعوبة إجراء إمتحانات بالطريقة التقليدية أثناء عدم وجود الطلاب في الحرم الجامعي. أن هذه فرصة لنا جميعاً لإعادة التفكير في نهج التدريس والتعلم لدينا للتعامل مع التطورات السريعة التي تحدث في العالم والتركيز على التفكير النقدي والتعلم الانعكاسي والتواصل الفعال الذي يؤدي إلى إنتاج خريجين جاهزين للوظائف المستقبلية.

The Virtual Student Council Elections for the Academic Year 2020/2021

The Deanship of Student Affairs had organized the Student Council Elections virtually for its 14th cycle using an online voting system. 19 students were nominated and each was given a virtual table to present his/her goals and commitments to other ASU students on the 25th, 26th November 2020. 1031 students voted online. The results were announced virtually under the patronage of Professor Ghassan Aouad, President of the University after the student council of its 13th cycle were honored for their big achievements throughout the year of their cycle. 8 seats went to the College of Administrative Sciences, 4 seats to the College of Law, 2 seats to the College of Arts and Science, and 1 seat to the College of Engineering by acclamation.



The voting for constitutional members of Student Council (14th cycle)

On Monday 30 November 2020, the Deanship of Student Affairs conducted a virtual meeting with the newly elected Student Council who selected virtually their constitutional members namely the Student Council President (Suhuib Abdulla Alroomi), the Vice President (Mohamed Alsherawi), the Secretary (Shaikha Ali AlAmer) and the Treasurer (Fatima Reyadh Khalil). Also, the voting was done for chairing the students' six clubs namely Sport Club (Abdulaziz Arad), Woman Club (Marwa Al Doseri), Talent Club (Sara Ebrahim), Cultural Club (Aisha Madani), Volunteering Club (Fahad AlMahza), Media Club (Batool Al Mutawa)




الهيكل التنظيمي
لمجلس الطلبة
جامعة العلوم التطبيقية
لادورته الرابعة عشرة

 رئيس مجلس الطلبة صهيب الرومي					
 الأمين المالي لمجلس الطلبة فاطمة رياض		 نائب رئيس مجلس الطلبة محمد الشراوي		 أمين سر مجلس الطلبة شيخة العامر	
 عضو مجلس الطلبة بتول المطوع	 عضو مجلس الطلبة فهد المهزع	 عضو مجلس الطلبة حبيب جعفر	 عضو مجلس الطلبة مروة الدوسري	 عضو مجلس الطلبة سارة خليل	
 عضو مجلس الطلبة خالد مسعد	 عضو مجلس الطلبة عائشة مدني	 عضو مجلس الطلبة سارة عبدالقادر	 عضو مجلس الطلبة زهرة محسن	 عضو مجلس الطلبة سارة ابراهيم	 عضو مجلس الطلبة عبدالقادر ابراهيم

The Virtual Walking Marathon

On November 29th 2020, Ms. Fareeda Al-Balooshi joined the Virtual Walking Marathon associated with the Celebration of World Diabetes Day. Ms Fareeda used her treadmill at home to demonstrate her walking activity via Zoom.

Click on the link below to read the full article from the Newspaper:-

<https://www.bna.bh/.aspx?cms=q8FmFJgiscL2fwlzON1%2BDuQKGp4IpRVI4%2Bgus2X9vhI%3D>



Written By
Fareeda AL-Balooshi
Nurse



مكتب الإرشاد بعمادة شؤون الطلبة ينظم ورشة عمل افتراضية بعنوان (تقنيات فاعلة للنجاح في الامتحانات عن بعد في ظل جائحة كورونا) بقلم: الأستاذة موزة الذوايدي - مديرة مكتب الإرشاد

نظم مكتب الإرشاد بعمادة شؤون الطلبة ورشة عمل افتراضية بعنوان (تقنيات فاعلة للنجاح في الامتحانات عن بعد في ظل جائحة كورونا) وذلك في تمام الساعة الثالثة مساءً من يوم الأثنين الموافق 30 نوفمبر 2020 حاضر فيها الدكتور علي الداود القائم بأعمال رئيس قسم العلوم السياسية بكلية العلوم الادارية ، حيث تطرق الدكتور المحاضر الي عدة محاور وتقنيات للعمل بها خلال فترة الإمتحان شملت ماهية الامتحانات الالكترونية والقلق من الامتحانات وطرق التغلب على مخاوف الامتحانات عن بعد واستراتيجيات الدراسة الفعالة في ظل جائحة كورونا، وقد تفاعل الطلبة مع الدكتور المحاضر الذي قدم لهم النصائح القيمة خلال فترة المذاكرة وتقديم الامتحانات إضافة الي الاستفادة من تقديم الامتحانات التجريبية حتي يكون للطلبة تجربة قبل دخولهم في الامتحانات عن بعد



السيمنار الثاني لكلية الحقوق للعام 2020-2021 بعنوان " تنفيذ حكم الإلغاء في القانون الإداري " بقلم: الأستاذ الدكتور مراد الجنابي - رئيس اللجنة العلمية والثقافية

عقدت اللجنة العلمية والثقافية ومنسقية البحث العلمي في كلية الحقوق – الحلقة العلمية الثانية بعنوان " تنفيذ حكم الإلغاء في القانون الإداري " ألقاها د.رمزي هيلات رئيس قسم القانون العام /أستاذ القانون الإداري المشارك ، وذلك في تمام الساعة الثانية ظهراً من يوم الأربعاء الموافق 25/11/2020 ، وذلك بحضور 25 أستاذاً من الكلية وطلبة الدراسات العليا ، وتم توثيقها للاستفادة منها علمياً وثقافياً ضمن الموسم العلمي لمنسقية البحث العلمي في كلية الحقوق .



Quote of the Week

“ Great teamwork is the only way we create the breakthroughs that define our careers”

- Pat Riley

من روائع الشعر العربي

الخيرُ في النَّاسِ مَصْنُوعٌ إِذَا جُبِرُوا وَالشَّرُّ في النَّاسِ لَا يَفْنَى وَإِنْ قُبِرُوا

وَأَكْثَرُ النَّاسِ آلاَتٌ تُحْرِكُهَا أَصَابِعُ الدَّهْرِ يَوْمًا ثُمَّ تَنْكَسِرُ

فَلَا تَقُولَنَّ هَذَا عَالِمٌ عَلَّمَ وَلَا تَقُولَنَّ ذَلِكَ السَّيِّدُ الْوَقْرُ

فَأَفْضَلُ النَّاسِ قُطْعَانٌ يَسِيرُ بِهَا صَوْتُ الرُّعَاةِ وَمَنْ لَمْ يَمْشِ يَنْدَثِرُ

-جبران خليل جبران