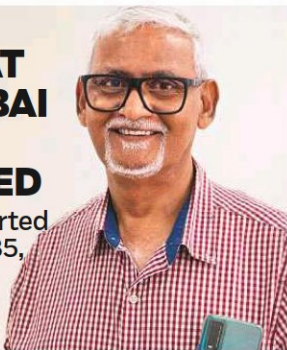


INDIAN EXPAT CREDITS DUBAI FOR ALL HE HAS ACHIEVED

Mario Fernandes started as a technician in 1985, and now he is a project manager



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Al Neyadi to call on his 42nd birthday

UAE University to host fourth event of series in astronaut's hometown of Al Ain

ABU DHABI

BY SAJILA SASEENDRAN
Senior Reporter

UAE astronaut Sultan Al Neyadi, who is on the longest Arab space mission on the International Space Station, will make a special call with his hometown on May 23, his 42nd birthday.

UAE University (UAEU) will host the fourth 'A Call from Space' event in Al Ain, the Mohammad Bin Rashid Space Centre (MBRSC) announced yesterday. People will have the opportunity to interact live with Al Neyadi, who was born on May 23, 1981, in Umm Ghafa, 30 km southeast of Al Ain.

How to attend

The event will take place at The Great Hall in the UAEU at 2pm, with doors opening at 1pm. Due to limited seating, individuals should book their place by visiting the events section on the MBRSC website.

Salem Humaid AlMarri, director general, MBRSC, said: "Each call we share with Sultan is an invaluable window into the realities of life beyond our planet. It is also an opportunity to learn, to inspire, and to fuel our collective curiosity.

"We are not only hearing about an astronaut's journey, but also shaping the future narrative of space exploration for our country and the



■ Sultan Al Neyadi

world. With each call and interaction, we are stepping closer to turning our space aspirations into a tangible reality and inspiring a new generation to carry the torch of exploration into the future."

Al Neyadi has been making history in space for over two months. His responsibilities on the ISS are varied; he has conducted scientific experiments, performed maintenance work, and even aided in the relocation of the Dragon spacecraft that launched his SpaceX Crew-6 on March 2.

Significant milestones

In a recent landmark event, Al Neyadi, alongside fellow crew member Stephen Bowen, became the first Arab astronaut to perform a spacewalk.

The spacewalk, which spanned seven hours, involved skillfully executing a number of preparatory tasks, that included routing of power cables and laying the groundwork for the installation of the ISS Roll-Out Solar Array (iROSA).

Abu Dhabi researcher contributes to discovery of Earth-sized planet

LP 791-18 d carpeted with volcanoes, but may be hospitable to life

ABU DHABI

Gulf News Report

An Abu Dhabi researcher has contributed to studies that led to the discovery of an Earth-sized exoplanet that is carpeted with volcanoes, but may be hospitable to life.

Dr Mohammad Ali-Dib, a research scientist at the NYU Abu Dhabi (NYUAD) Centre for Astro, Particle, and Planetary Physics made contributions to work led by the University of Montreal towards the discovery of LP 791-18 d, a planet beyond our solar system.

The planet was found and studied using data from Nasa's Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS), the Spitzer Space Telescope, as well as a suite of ground-based observatories. Dr Ali-Dib specifically led the study of the planetary system's stability and

discovered that the orbits of its planets are long-term stable. In the paper titled 'A temperate Earth-sized planet with tidal heating transiting an M6 star', which published in the journal *Nature*, researchers explained that LP 791-18 d was discovered orbiting a small red dwarf star located approximately 90 light-years away in the southern constellation Crater.

They estimate that the newly discovered planet is only slightly larger and more massive than Earth. There are two other known planets in this system, referred to as LP 791-18 b and c.

Each time planets c and d passed each other in orbit, the larger planet c produced a gravitational pull on planet d. This consistently deformed planet d and created an internal friction, which substantially heated the planet's interior and produced volcanic activity at its surface.

