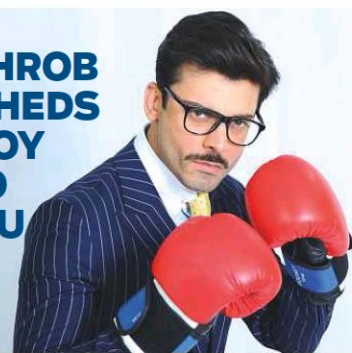




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## Here's how to watch Al Neyadi's spacewalk

Historic event is scheduled to begin at 9.15am (5.45pm UAE time) on Friday, April 28

**DUBAI**  
BY SAJILA SASEENDRAN  
Senior Reporter

Space enthusiasts in the UAE will be able to watch live when Sultan Al Neyadi performs the first-ever spacewalk by an Arab on April 28.

Nasa said Al Neyadi and his crew mate, Nasa astronaut Stephen Bowen, will conduct the spacewalk "to continue installation of hardware to support future power system upgrades" to improve the space station's power generation capability.

"The historic spacewalk is scheduled to begin at about 9.15am (5.45pm UAE time) on Friday, April 28," Nasa revealed.

It is expected to last about 6.5 hours.

The agency said it will provide live coverage of the spacewalk beginning at 7.45am (3.45pm GST) on Friday. Live coverage of the news conference and spacewalk will air on Nasa Television, Nasa app, and on the agency's website.

### Key moment

Salem Humaid Al Marri, director-general of MBRSC, told *Gulf News* that Al Neyadi's spacewalk would be "a key moment" in the UAE's space exploration history.

**SEE ALSO P2**

# Details of Al Neyadi's first Arab spacewalk on April 28 revealed

## UAE SET TO BECOME 10TH COUNTRY TO CARRY OUT EXTRAVEHICULAR ACTIVITY

**DUBAI**  
BY SAJILA SASEENDRAN  
Senior Reporter

Nasa has revealed more details about the first Arab spacewalk by UAE astronaut Sultan Al Neyadi, including how space aficionados can watch the historic mission on April 28.

The 'Sultan of Space' is set to make history along with his crewmate, Nasa astronaut Stephen Bowen. Nasa said the spacewalk aims "to continue installation of hardware to support future power system upgrades" to improve the space station's power generation capability.

Nasa experts will preview the spacewalk during a live news conference at 10pm Gulf Standard Time on April 24 from Johnson Space Centre in Houston.

### 'Key moment'

Salem Humaid Al Marri, director-general of MBRSC, told *Gulf News* that Al Neyadi's spacewalk would be "a key moment" in the UAE's space exploration history. "Spacewalks are usually [meant] for the partners who built the ISS. It's the first time a non-ISS partner does a spacewalk on the ISS," he said. Sultan will be the first person from this region to do it. He's been training for a very long time. We believe he is ready."

### Space suits

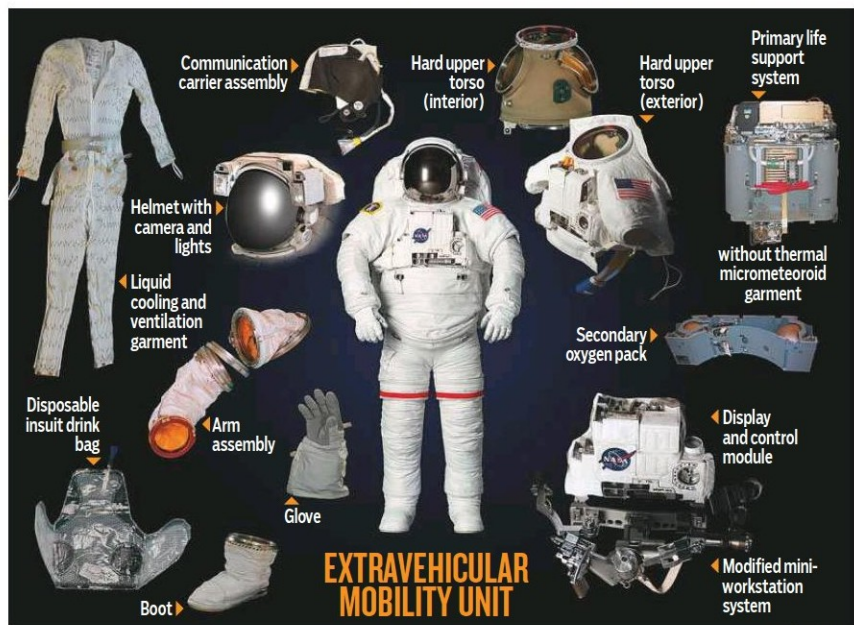
Al Neyadi's spacewalk will make the UAE the 10th country to undertake Extravehicular Activity (EVA) in space. The EVA spacesuit worn for spacewalks is called the Extravehicular Mobility Unit, or EMU.

While it is the maiden spacewalk for Al Neyadi, it will be the eighth spacewalk for Bowen, which becomes the 86th US spacewalk. Nasa said Bowen will serve as extravehicular crew member 1 (EV 1) and will wear a suit with red stripes. Al Neyadi will serve as extravehicular crew member 2 (EV 2) and will wear an unmarked suit.

### Quest airlock

For the spacewalk, Al Neyadi and Bowen will exit the space station's Quest airlock to prepare for the future installation of upgraded solar arrays on the starboard side of the station's truss. Nasa said the astronaut duo will also retrieve an S-band antenna equipment, which enables communication with Earth, and bring it inside the ISS for refurbishment.

The Quest airlock is a pres-



Courtesy: Nasa

The spacesuit worn on spacewalks is called the Extravehicular Mobility Unit. Nasa said Stephen Bowen will wear a suit with red stripes while Al Neyadi will wear an unmarked suit.



Nasa says that spacewalk aims to continue installation of hardware to support future power system upgrades on ISS.

**Spacewalks are usually [meant] for the partners who built the ISS. It's the first time a non-ISS partner is doing it. Sultan will be the first person from this region to do it. He's been training for a very long time. We believe he's ready for it."**

**Salem Humaid Al Marri** | Director-general of MBRSC

surised space station module consisting of two compartments attached end-to-end by a connecting bulkhead and hatch.

The first compartment is the 'Equipment Lock' which provides the systems for suit maintenance and refurbishment. The second one is the 'Crew Lock,' which provides the actual exit for performing space-

walks. The airlock is the primary path for spacewalk entry and departure for astronauts wearing US spacesuits. Quest can also support the Russian Orlan spacesuit for spacewalks.

### iROSAs solar arrays

Nasa said the spacewalk is part of a series to augment the station's power channels with

### HOW TO WATCH

The historic spacewalk is scheduled to begin at about 9.15am (5.45pm UAE time) on Friday, April 28, Nasa said. It is expected to last about 6.5 hours. Nasa will provide live coverage starting at 3.45pm. Live coverage of the news conference and spacewalk will air on Nasa Television, Nasa app, and on the agency's website.



**Video:** Sultan Al Neyadi shares images of Makkah from space station

new ISS Roll-Out Solar Arrays (iROSAs). Standard solar arrays in space can be expensive, heavy, and often very complex to operate. Roll-Out Solar Arrays are an alternative to existing solar array technologies.

The latest ISS ROSAS (iROSAS) installed aboard the ISS augment the existing power supply. iROSAs are also powering deep-space exploration and scientific missions and their design has been integrated into commercial satellites.

Nasa said four of the new arrays have been installed so far, and two additional arrays will be mounted later this year.