

Emirati honoured for long journey

He undertook a 603km walk across the UAE to raise funds for children with autism

BY SIHAM AL NAJAMI
Staff Reporter

Dubai The Dubai Autism Centre (DAC) honoured the first Emirati to walk on a journey across the UAE determined to raise awareness and money for children with autism.

Jalan Bin Thaneya set off on January 3. The 20-year-old student studying at Middlesex University at Knowledge Village said that he undertook the 603km walk around the UAE in 23 days.

DAC board member Tawheed Abdullah said: "On behalf of all children with autism ... allow me to

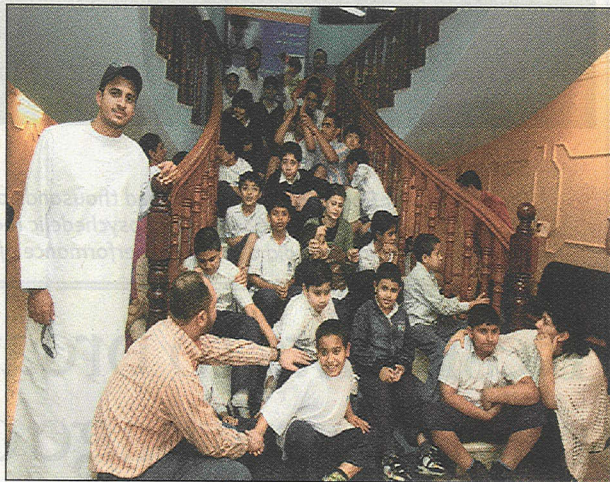
extend our deep gratitude and thanks to this wonderful young man. Our hearts were accompanying him."

Among the hardships he faced was walking for long distances with limited resources, Bin Thaneya said.

Initially he was interested in walking around the UAE to better understand its culture and history.

But when he found out about the campaign organised by DAC, he decided to combine the two causes in a single journey around the country.

"I met bedouins who showered me with their warmth and kindness," he said.



MEGAN HIRONS/Gulf News

In appreciation of efforts

Jalal Bin Thaneya (standing) at the Dubai Autism Centre with some of the students after receiving the award.

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