

Old portrait pictures for late Sheikh Zayed at Sorbonne



Paris-Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi held at its campus yesterday a lecture for Geneviève CHAUVEL, a French writer and reporter, who started the program by granting the university 12 portrait pictures that she took for the late Sheikh Zayed in the mid70s in his palace in Al Ain. Mrs. CHAUVEL discussed many topics including bridging civilisations especially the Orient and the Occident, her experience and writings on many aspects of the Middle East.

The lecture was attended by Mrs. Sophie Linon-Chipon and Odile Lemarchand from the publishing house of Sorbonne, PUPS, and Mrs. Fairouz Villain, Friend of Sorbonne association, and Bernard Michotey, Press Advisor at the French Embassy in Abu Dhabi.

This step comes to prove the sense of gratitude that is held for the late Sheikh Zayed, may God bless his soul; and appreciation to the wise leadership in the UAE headed by H.H. Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, president; and H.H Sheikh Mohamed Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince and Depute Supreme commander.

Dr. Daniel Balland, Director General of the university, welcomed the guests mentioning the tied bonds that gather the UAE and France since the days of Sheikh Zayed; may God bless his soul. Mrs. CHAUVEL discussed afterward the important of understanding the history and origins of nations to a smoother and deeper communication. Driven by that concept, and influenced her childhood in Syria and Algeria before settling down in France, Mrs. CHAUVEL discussed her latest book "Aisha, the prophet's most beloved" where she remarked on her admiration to the high status role Islam granted women in many areas like equality, mercy and inheritance. Mrs. CHAUVEL also discussed her other books such as Saladin. She revealed some little incidents which, to her observation, reflect the symbols embedded in the Arabic culture. One of which, is that the late King Hussein would stop by his mother's every time he was headed towards a trip, or traveling back.

Mrs. CHAUVEL was born in Fréjus in France. She earned her degree in Law and Economical Sciences in Algeria and France. Mrs. CHAUVEL worked as a journalist from 1967 till 1982 for many agencies such as GAMMA then SYGMA covering many happenings such as War of Vietnam, Angola, Mozambique, Portuguese Guinea, War of Biafra, Six Day old War in Syria and Jordan, and Black September in Amman. She also worked as a director of Television in Egypt, Kuwait, Vietnam, North America, Thailand, and France. Mrs. CHAUVEL has 9 books in different fields.

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