

Qatar to send large team for Islamic Games in Baku

The Peninsula

Qatar will participate with a large delegation in the Islamic Games to be held in the city of Baku, Azerbaijan from May 12 to May 22. Qatar will also be represented at the Intercultural Dialogue Forum in Baku with a high-level official delegation, Ambassador of the Republic of Azerbaijan to Qatar, Towfik Abdullayev, has said.

2017 has been announced Year of Islamic Solidarity in the Republic of Azerbaijan and during this year a number of events will be organised in Azerbaijan, the most important of which is the fourth session of the Islamic Solidarity Games. And also The Global Forum for Intercultural Dialogue will be held at the beginning of May in Azerbaijan.

"I would like to point out that the brotherly State of Qatar, which is one of the most important countries that always strives to strengthen the pillars of Islamic solidarity among the countries of

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the Islamic world, will participate with a large delegation (which is expected to be one of the largest participating delegations) in the Islamic Games, as well as in other activities that will be organised in Baku within the framework of the year of Islamic solidarity in Azerbaijan. Qatar will also be represented at the Intercultural Dialogue Forum in Baku with a high-level official delegation,



Ambassador of the Republic of Azerbaijan to Qatar, Towfik Abdullayev.

which we trust that will enrich the discussions," said the ambassador in a statement.

The Islamic Solidarity Games, which aim to strengthen Islamic solidarity among member states and to consolidate unity, love, brotherhood and the spirit of cooperation and solidarity among

the youth of the member countries and to unify their positions in the international arena, now became one of the most actual and important issues for all Muslims.

"We trust that hosting of Baku for this games will contribute to the strengthening of the spirit of

solidarity and brotherhood, to the promotion of the youth and sport activity of Islamic countries, and to the consolidation of the Islamic values and principles among the youth of the Islamic Ummah, and we are pleased that all 57 Muslim countries will participate in this year's Games," said Abdullayev.

Around 5,000 athletes from Islamic countries around the world will represent their countries in 12 days of competitions on 21 different types of sport, including athletics, water sports, basketball, football and gymnastics, volleyball, boxing, zorchana, karate, taekwondo and weightlifting in 17 modern sport complexes in Baku.

In addition to this, all measures have been taken for sport-lovers and tourists to visit the Republic of Azerbaijan and to enjoy live watching of competitions, which is a mini-Olympics in proportion to the large number of participating countries from Africa, Asia and Europe.

"We in the Republic of

Azerbaijan highly appreciate the active participation of Qatari side in these events. Qatari participation will give an important asset that will contribute to the success of these activities and the implementation of their objectives. Especially, the State of Qatar today is one of the most important countries in promoting solidarity and a spirit of cooperation in both, the region and the world," said the ambassador.

Azerbaijan has historically been one of the most important centres of Islamic civilisation for centuries and has played an important role in the spread of Islam and the establishment of the Islamic Renaissance. This has led to the creation of a suitable ground for the formation of Islamic heritage in the territory of Azerbaijan.

Azerbaijan's reputation in the Islamic world was reflected in the declaration of the City of Baku as the Capital of Islamic Culture in 2009 and the city of Nakhchivan in 2018.