

MALABAR GOLD AND DIAMONDS TO INVEST MILLIONS IN GCC, INDIA AND FAR-EAST



Malabar Gold and Diamonds, one of the world's largest gold and diamond retailers, will open 21 retail stores across the GCC, India and Far East in the next six months with an investment outlay of \$125 million.

Of the total, Malabar Gold and Diamonds is investing \$60.7 million in eight stores in the UAE, \$27 million in five outlets in Saudi Arabia, \$15.5 million in three outlets in Oman and \$5.45 million in one outlet in Malaysia. In addition to these, the company will add four more outlets in India at an investment of \$16.3 million.

The expansion will see the jewelry retailer expand its retail network from 134 to 155 - reinforcing its position as the most preferred jeweler in the world. The new showrooms are part of the retailer's \$700 million expansion drive, announced in 2013, which aims to open 220 outlets by the end of 2018.

The move also reflects the fastest growth by a jewelry retail chain in the world - emerging from being a small player to being among the top 5 jewelry retailers worldwide within the span of just a decade.

Malabar Gold and Diamonds, which started its

international operations in Dubai just under ten years ago, has recorded phenomenal growth in gold and diamond jewelry sale despite the fluctuating gold price in the market.

"The current lower gold and commodity prices offer a great opportunity for investors and jewelry buyers. With gold prices remaining low, we see a strong buyer and investor interest for the yellow metal and diamonds," said M P Ahamed, Chairman of Malabar Group.

"We have seen a greater appetite among consumers who have continued to throng our outlets for more gold and diamond jewelry this summer. Our next phase of expansion is aimed at offering a better value to our customers as well as a wider option to investors who are looking at higher returns from investment."

The company is set to open eight outlets in the UAE including a large format 'jewelry paradise' that will be spread across 12,000 square feet of floor space in Abu Dhabi. This will be the largest jewelry retail outlet in the Middle East showcasing a variety of jewelry catering to a global audience and follows in the footsteps of the 'jewelry paradise' opened by the retailer in

the Gold Souq in Deira, Dubai last year. The company's \$4 billion annual turnover places it along the likes of Tiffany and Company, the world's second largest jewelry retailer and after Chow Tai Fook - the Hong Kong-based largest jewelry retailer.

"With consumer demand growing by the day, we feel the need to offer greater space, design, collections and options to our customers," said Shamlal Ahamed, Managing Director of Malabar Gold and Diamonds - International Operations. He added, "Customers to our new showroom in Abu Dhabi will be spoiled for choice, designs and a wider price point. We will be showcasing a wide variety of jewelry in 18K, 21K, 22K and 24K gold, along with solitaires, diamonds and pearl jewelry."

Recognizing their potential in the Middle East, they have embarked on expanding their footprints across the region. The group is represented in the Far East with three outlets in Singapore and one in Malaysia. The group will soon be expanding into Hong Kong and Indonesia. The company is also planning to spread their wings to European markets starting with UK and US.



ICSK KHAITAN CELEBRATES TEACHERS' DAY

Education is the manifestation of perfection already in man. This dictum stood apt while Indian Community School Kuwait (ICSK), Khaitan celebrated Teachers' Day on 8th September, 2015 to honor its teachers who strive hard to manifest the innate perfection of learners. It was a blessed day as the students of classes 10th and 9th shouldered the responsibility of governing the

school for the day. A special assembly was conducted by the students. It included songs, games, dance and a PowerPoint presentation. The Principal K G Shirath addressed the gathering and shared his views and experiences on teachers' day. Teachers were overwhelmed by the program organized for them. It was a day of delight for the teachers to see the talents of their students on 'Self Governance'

day. Acting as teachers, the students got a fair idea of the responsibilities of a teacher. As a mark of respect and reverence to our Missile man Late Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, an inspirational speech was delivered. The school took pride to honor Dr S Radhakrishnan, the second President of India, a great teacher whose birthday, 5th September, is celebrated as Teachers' Day in India.

CHEF NOACK: NEW CLUSTER CULINARY DIRECTOR AT SHERATON

Sheraton Kuwait, a Luxury Collection Hotel and Four Points by Sheraton Kuwait is proud to welcome Frank Noack as their new Cluster Culinary Director, bringing over 33 years of top-notch culinary experience to his new post to continue what the hotels started since decades providing superior and personalized customer service in addition to the finest delectable menus from all over the world. Chef Frank will be responsible for the overall operations of the hotel's well known restaurants in Sheraton Kuwait, Four Points by Sheraton Kuwait, The Grand Avenue - The Avenues Mall, as well as banquets and outside catering, in addition to his qualified supervision of the luxurious events and weddings held in the hotel.

Over the last 33 years, Chef Frank has worked in different locations of the globe gaining incredible mixture of experience and foresight in culinary

and reputable hotels around the world starting from his country Germany, moving to West Africa and Middle East in Dubai before joining the family of Sheraton Kuwait and Four Points by Sheraton Kuwait recently. During his outstanding culinary journey, Chef



Noack's talents have been recognized and appreciated through multiple reputable awards and most recently is shortlisting him in Hotelier Magazine for the "Executive Chef of the Year Middle East" Award 2013.

Among his aspirations is to create

authentic cuisine in a modern and contemporary setting with bold flavors grounded in the tradition of each restaurant in Sheraton Kuwait and Four Points by Sheraton Kuwait. "I look forward to contributing to Sheraton Kuwait and Four Points by Sheraton Kuwait's continued success by showcasing the highest quality of our finest cuisines making it a memorable experience through the uniqueness of food and ambience," said Chef Noack.

On this occasion, Area Director and General Manager of Sheraton Kuwait, a Luxury Collection Hotel Fahed Abushaar welcomed Chef Noack and stated: "We are extremely delighted to welcome Chef Noack to Sheraton Kuwait and Four Points by Sheraton Kuwait family and are proud of his experience and foresight that will showcase the hotel's food and beverage concept in offering memorable dining experiences to all of our guests."

Greetings

A very happy birthday to our beloved Joana Abiguel! With lots of love. From Angelo and Alan.

WHAT'S ON - SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

All photos submitted for What's On should be minimum 200dpi. Articles must be in plain text and should include name and phone numbers. Articles and photos that fail to meet these requirements will not be published.

Please send them to news@kuwaittimes.net

Under the Patronage of Masjid Al-Kabir - Ministry of Awqaf & Islamic Affairs-Kuwait

Indian Muslim Association - Kuwait

Cordially invites you along with family and friends for a public program in Urdu on the occasion of the day of Arafah

Jalsa e Youm Al-Arafah

On Thursday, 17th Sept 2015
Soon after Isha prayer (8:00 pm)
at Urdu Khutbah Masjid Near Gulf Mart, Fahaheel

HAJ KI AHMIYAT
BY JANAB MASOOD SHAHAB

KHUTBA-E-HAJJATUL WIDA
BY MAULANA HAFEEZUR RAHMAN

Program in Urdu | Dinner packets will be served | Contact 97378675
Separate seating arrangement for ladies

IMA'S 'JALSA-E-YOUM AL-ARAFAH' ON THURSDAY AT FAHAHEEL, KUWAIT CITY

Under the auspices of the Ministry of Awqaf and Masjid Al-Kabir (Grand Mosque), the Indian Muslim Association (IMA) is organizing Public Programs on 'Arafat Day' on Thursday 17th of September 2015 at 8:00 pm at Urdu Khutbah Masjid, Fahaheel (near Gulf Mart) as well as at Masjid Yousuf Al-Adsani, Kuwait City. Renowned Islamic Scholars will speak on the relevant topics. Separate seating arrangements for ladies. All are cordially invited with family and friends. Dinner Packets will be served at the end of the programs. For details please contact 99117842, 55132227 and 66891841.

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Behind Sheraton Hotel, Maliya, Kuwait City

KHUTBA-E-HAJJATUL WIDA
BY JANAB ISHAQ ZAHID SAHEB

MILLAT-E-IBRAHIMI KA LAQAB KIYON
BY JANAB SHARAFUDDIN B.S

Program in Urdu | Dinner packets will be served | Contact 99117842
Separate seating arrangement for ladies