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Al Neyadi answers his floating iPad question

'Sultan of space' praises insightful responses as a sign of passion for science in Arab world

## DUBAI

BY SAJILA SASEENDRAN

Senior Reporter

emember the tricky question from UAE astronaut Sultan Al Neyadi about an iPad floating aboard the International Space Station (ISS)?

Well, the Sultan of Space yesterday returned to social media to answer the question he posted on Monday. Al Neyadi had challenged "smart people" to answer why the iPad had made an asymmetric movement when it was rotated vertically.

The Najmonaut (Arab astronaut) on the longest Arab space mission stated: "Thank you to everyone who responded to my last question. Your insightful responses always give me confidence in the abundance of creative and passionate minds for science in our Arab world. Here is my answer to the physics question."

Speaking in Arabic, he said in the video



that many people had answered his question. The video had in fact gone viral. "Many of you answered the question and indeed it is the simple axis theorem," he said.

"Anything that rotates whether on Earth or in space, has several axes. A



Nevadi answer his tricky iPad auestion

circle has no specific axis, so its rotation is equal in all directions. To put it simply. if there is a body like this rectangular one and it is rotated this way, it means it rotates in the short axis or the first axis," he said rotating the iPad sideways.

"If it is rotated in this way, it rotates on the long axis," he said flipping the iPad vertically. But if it is rotated in this way, it rotates on the middle axis, causing an imbalance in the movement...It is located between the long and the short axis so the result is a misalignment," he explained.

## Plumbing duties

Meanwhile, Al Nevadi did plumbing duties on the ISS, according to Nasa. As they awaited the docking of a cargo spacecraft, the astronauts kept busy completing lab work, ultrasounds, and plumbing duties, Nasa said. Flight engineer Al Neyadi was tasked with replacing a toilet along with flight engineer Frank Rubio.