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## Al Neyadi to hold live call in Abu Dhabi

I wish to grow date palm in space, the astronaut tells Space University students

**ABU DHABI**  
**BY SAJILA SASEENDRAN**  
 Senior Reporter

Those interested in video calling UAE astronaut Sultan Al Neyadi before he departs from the International Space Station (ISS) can head to Abu Dhabi today, as the second last edition of 'A Call from Space' with him will be held in the capital.

The Mohammad Bin Rashid Space Centre (MBRSC), the agency behind the UAE Astronaut Programme, made the announcement yesterday.

### Unique opportunity

MBRSC will hold the final edition of the event in partnership with Louvre Abu Dhabi.

The event promises a unique opportunity for attendees to converse live with Al Neyadi, conducting the longest Arab space mission on the ISS during his final month in space before he embarks on his journey back to Earth.

The session will take place at the iconic Louvre Abu Dhabi, with the event set to commence from 1:45pm, MBRSC stated. The doors will open at 12:45pm and close at 1:40pm.

Considering the limited seating capacity, enthusiasts are urged to confirm their presence by visiting the website of Louvre Abu Dhabi.

### Popular event

The successful series has so far engaged more than 9,600 participants across the UAE, providing a unique perspective into Al Neyadi's historic longest Arab space mission.



Twitter/ @MBRSpaceCentre

■ Sultan Al Neyadi

**EVENT DETAILS**

**What:** Penultimate 'A Call from Space'  
**Where:** Louvre Abu Dhabi  
**When:** Today, at 1:45pm [doors open at 12:45pm]  
**Why:** You may get to chat with astronaut Sultan Al Neyadi through a video link, before he winds up his mission at ISS

Today Al Neyadi is completing five months on the ISS

### Growing palm tree in space

In another interactive session with students of the International Space University in Brazil on Tuesday, Al Neyadi expressed his wish to grow dates in space.

Responding to a question about what food he would prefer to grow in space, he said: "Honestly, this is something we already do here on-board the space station. We have facilities to grow plants. We have the facility to grow some vegetables. So it's an ongoing science and we have some astronauts who try the space-grown food. It is difficult, but personally, I would love to have maybe some palm trees with dates."