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PRESS RELEASE



** SABIS® PPP Schools Impress Public in Debate Club Event **

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For Immediate Release

Eighteen (18) students in the Debate Club from the Fakhir Mergasori International School (FMIS) and Sarwaran International School – two Public-Private Partnership (PPP) schools that are part of the SABIS® Network in Kurdistan – held an impressive event at the 10th Erbil International Book Fair in the Kurdish capital. The students from each school openly debated topics including environmental pollution and the benefits of reading to enrich the mind.

On Saturday, April 4, 2015, students from grades 6-8 stood on stage in front of a crowd of spectators and engaged in lively debate. Each debate topic had a time limit of 20 minutes, and a period of 30 minutes was left at the end of the event for the audience members to ask questions. The audience was comprised of journalists, professors, and highly-educated individuals whose provoking questions were answered by the students with poise and confidence.

“The audience was more than impressed by the students’ top-notch debating techniques,” said Mahmoud Omar, Student Life Coordinator at Sarwaran International School. *“It goes without saying that this Debate Club event has shown the public the true quality of SABIS® Network PPP schools in Kurdistan.”*



Audience gathered to watch the debate

Indeed, Debate Club students who participated in the event made a positive impression on the spectators, many of whom praised the students on social media platforms following the event. One university professor who was present at the event commented, *“I can see a new, talented, well-educated generation.”*

Next school year, FMIS and Sarwaran are planning a repeat performance at the annual book fair. There is no debating that that future events will be a success.

FMIS and Sarwaran are among seven SABIS® public-private-partnership (PPP) schools operating throughout Kurdistan. These schools were established based on a vision of Prime Minister Nechirvan Barzani to expand public access to high-quality education. Students attending SABIS® PPP schools in Kurdistan are admitted based on financial need and do not pay tuition. Students admitted to Sarwaran International School are all sons or daughters of martyrs. Currently, SABIS® PPP schools in Kurdistan educate more than 4,500 students.

For more information about FMIS, visit pppkurdistan-sabis.net/fakhir-mergasori and for additional information about Sarwaran, visit pppkurdistan-sabis.net/sarwaran. To learn more about the SABIS® PPP project in Kurdistan and view “Today, for Tomorrow,” a video about the project, visit <http://sab.is/SB1S8X>.

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