



**Professor Ghassan Aouad**

Chancellor of Abu Dhabi University, Past President ...

1w · Edited



## Dr Ali Aldhaheri: A True Educator and Leader

The purpose of this post is to tell you about the secret of success. I have been working with Dr Ali Bin Harmal Aldhaheri, Ph.D. for two and a half years and I have seen firsthand his exceptional leadership in driving all educational institutions under his wing including [Abu Dhabi University](#), [Liwa University](#), Liwa Schools, and [Knowledge Group Consulting](#). I have frequently posted about ADU achievements under his leadership, and the same applies to the other entities. I sit on the Board of Trustees of Liwa Schools and witness how these schools are going from strength to strength.

For Abu Dhabi University, I am grateful to work alongside Dr. Ali, who has achieved so much for the university he founded 21 years ago. Under his clear guidance, we have made significant progress in various areas, including international university rankings (ADU is ranked in the top 200 in the [Times Higher Education](#) World Universities Rankings 2025 and top 400 in the [QS Quacquarelli Symonds](#) World Universities Rankings 2026), professional accreditation, student recruitment, and a substantial increase in research publications and funding. The university is also gaining a serious international reputation and a strong presence on the global stage.

I am learning a great deal from Dr. Ali's humility, knowledge, experience, fairness, wisdom, vision, leadership, creativity, tolerance, charisma, and, most importantly, his passion for quality. I consider myself lucky that our visions align on many aspects that impact the university's future. The separation of governance and management at ADU is effectively implemented, allowing the Chancellor and senior team to manage the university daily while benefiting from the proper governance provided by the Board of Directors, chaired by Dr. Ali.

Dr. Ali holds several other significant positions, including Chairman of [NEMA Holding](#), Managing Director of [Bin Harmal Group](#), Chairman of Liwa Education and [Magna Investment LLC](#), and Chairman of the [Abu Dhabi International Arbitration Centre \(arbitrateAD\)](#), among many others. He is also the First Vice Chairman of the [Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce and Industry](#) of Commerce Board of Directors.

Dr. Ali holds an MBA from the American University in Washington, D.C., USA, and a PhD from [Durham University](#) UK.

I feel fortunate to be working with such a visionary and inspirational leader.

"A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way." - John C. Maxwell

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