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First Emirati Mission to the Lunar Surface Successfully Launches from Cape Canaveral



The UAE made history when the Rashid Rover, the world's first Arab-built lunar rover, lifted off from Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida. The Rashid Rover soared into space atop a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket, housed inside a lunar lander designed by Japanese company ispace, and is expected to reach the Moon's surface in April.

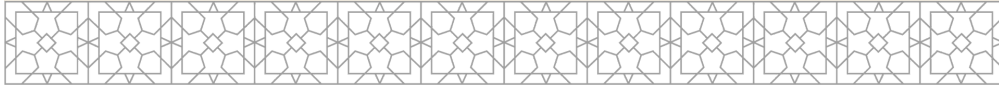
Witnessing the launch from the Mohammed Bin Rashid Space Centre's (MBRSC) Mission Control room, UAE Vice President and Prime Minister HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid said, "Rashid Rover is part of the UAE's ambitious space programme, which began with Mars, progressed to the Moon, and soon to Venus. Our goal is to increase our knowledge, enhance our capabilities, and leave a scientific legacy in the history of space and humanity."

Fast Facts About the Mission:

- Developed 100% by Emirati engineers, the Emirates Lunar Mission is the first Arab mission to the Moon.

- The mission will study different aspects of the lunar surface, including lunar soil, thermal properties of surface structures, and the lunar photoelectron sheath.
- Landing on a previously unexplored area of the lunar surface, Atlas crater, the mission will take high-resolution pictures and provide unique data.
- The Rashid Rover will test new technologies, systems and exploration techniques in the Moon's harsh environment.

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