2019 in Review:
The UAE’s Year of Tolerance

The United Arab Emirates celebrated 2019 as the Year of Tolerance in recognition of the country’s inclusive, multicultural heritage and forward-looking vision. Throughout the year, the UAE made it a special priority to encourage inclusion and inspire hope for a better future.

- In February, His Holiness Pope Francis made a historic visit to the UAE. His Holiness joined Dr. Ahmed el-Tayeb, the Grand Imam of Al-Azhar, to sign the Document on Human Fraternity for World Peace and Living Together. Pope Francis also celebrated mass in front of 180,000 worshipers at Zayed Sports City.
- In March, Abu Dhabi hosted the 2019 Special Olympics World Games, bringing together 7,500 athletes from more than 190 countries. The games set new records in
terms of nations represented and participation by female athletes.

- The first Emirati astronaut, Hazzaa AlMansoori, traveled to the International Space Station (ISS), alongside American and Russian astronauts.
- UAE leadership announced plans for the Abrahamic Family House in Abu Dhabi. Including a mosque, synagogue and church, the interfaith center will provide a place of worship, learning and dialogue for all visitors.

In 2020, the UAE will remain committed to the deeply held values of tolerance and inclusion in order to create a more open and peaceful region.