Evacuation Plan

In the Event of a Fire

1. Notify the members of your household; awaken anyone who is asleep and proceed to the exit.
2. Call the Civil Defense on the emergency number: 999.
3. Use the available methods of extinguishing the fire to combat it without putting yourself in danger.
4. Wait for the Civil Defense, give them a proper description of the situation and notify them of anyone trapped inside the home.

Smoke Detectors:
More than half of all fatal fires occur at night while people are asleep, and having a smoke detector will sound a warning bell that will wake up the residents before they are trapped by fire or suffocated by smoke. Therefore, smoke detectors can contribute, by the permission of Allaah, to lowering the possibility of death due to a household fire by about half. For this reason, do the following:

- Install smoke detectors both inside and outside each bedroom for extra precaution.
- Follow the installation directions closely and inspect the devices every month.
- Replace the batteries for every device at least once a year with new ones.

Automatic water sprinkler systems work to combat the fire while it is still in its initial stages and its initial location. Consider installing a similar system when building a new home and look into the possibility of installing such a system in your current residence.

Hajj & 'Umrah Relations Department
Permits & Contractors Relations Section
Phone: 44700000        Fax: 44701192
P.O.Box: 422 Doha - Qatar

In cooperation with the Department of Civil Defense

Evacuation Plan
In the Event of a Fire

Evacuate the home or building as soon as you are able to, and do not go back inside for any reason. If anyone is left trapped inside the house, then the firemen are best suited and the most capable of saving them. The heat and smoke resulting from the fire are very difficult to bear but the men of the Civil Defense are trained and experienced, and have the proper tools for entering a burning building.

Smoke Detectors:
More than half of all fatal fires occur at night while people are asleep, and having a smoke detector will sound a warning bell that will wake up the residents before they are trapped by fire or suffocated by smoke. Therefore, smoke detectors can contribute, by the permission of Allaah, to lowering the possibility of death due to a household fire by about half. For this reason, do the following:

- Install smoke detectors both inside and outside each bedroom for extra precaution.
- Follow the installation directions closely and inspect the devices every month.
- Replace the batteries for every device at least once a year with new ones.

Automatic water sprinkler systems work to combat the fire while it is still in its initial stages and its initial location. Consider installing a similar system when building a new home and look into the possibility of installing such a system in your current residence.

Priority of Actions during a Fire:
1. Notify the members of your household; awaken anyone who is asleep and proceed to the exit.
2. Call the Civil Defense on the emergency number: 999.
3. Use the available methods of extinguishing the fire to combat it without putting yourself in danger.
4. Wait for the Civil Defense, give them a proper description of the situation and notify them of anyone trapped inside the home.
It is possible for the residents of a home, by the permission of Allaah, to escape from a fire outbreak - even if it is major - if they spot it early enough and exit the home swiftly and remain outside. This can happen if they practice a fire drill or evacuation plan in case of a fire while taking the following necessary preventive measures:

**Preventive Measures:**
1. Install fire extinguishers and early alarm systems; inspect them from time to time to ensure they are working.
2. Prepare an evacuation plan and practice it with your family.
3. Install a water sprinkler system to extinguish a fire should it occur.

**How to Formulate an Evacuation Plan in case of a fire:**
If a fire breaks out, you will not have time to formulate an evacuation plan on the spot. Rather, sit down today with your family members and put a plan together, detailing how to evacuate the house in case of a fire; it should comprise the following:
1. Draw a blueprint of the house indicating two points of safe exit from each room, especially the bedrooms, and have all family members participate.
2. Designate a place of gathering outside the home where all family members can congregate in case of a fire, where they can wait for the fire brigade. This will allow you to be certain of everyone's presence. Notify the Civil Defense Administration (the fire department) about anyone who is trapped inside the burning building.
3. Practice the evacuation plan at least twice a year, and request one family member to monitor your performance while everyone else participates in the drill; remember that the drill is not a race, but rather entails a swift exit with caution.
4. Make the drill more practical and serious by stipulating that some of the exits are blocked by fire and that the lights are out and that some of the paths to safety are filled with smoke, so practice using substitute exits while observing the following:
   a. Check that every family member is able to quickly open doors and windows even in the dark; and that each window and door is fitted with handles that are easy to open quickly. Each family member should know how to use them.
   b. If you live in an apartment building, use the stairway for exiting, and never use the elevator as it may stop between floors or take you to a floor where fire has broken out.
   c. If you live in a two-story building and you must exit from one of the second-floor windows, then make sure there is a way to reach the ground safely, and perform special drills for children and the handicapped. Furnish the bedrooms of those who face difficulty when moving around with a telephone, and if possible, have them sleep on the ground floor.
   d. Inspect doors before opening them by kneeling in front of the door and touching the doorknob with the back of your hand; if it is hot, use another exit to escape; but if it is cold, then open it with caution.
   e. If you find yourself trapped, then close every door between you and the fire, block every gap around the door to prevent smoke from entering, and wait near the window, waving a light-colored garment or a flashlight for help. If there is a telephone in the room, then call the Civil Defense and tell them about your location.
   f. Exit quickly if a fire breaks out and do not stop for any reason.
   g. Do not try to save your possessions or your pets and head directly to the assigned point of gathering, and then call the Civil Defense on the emergency number: Qatar (999) Saudi (998).

**In Case of Thick Smoke:**
1. Smoke contains poisonous gases and hot air rises; so the purest air during a fire will be that which is nearest to the floor. If smoke blocks your way to the main exit, try to use the substitute exit, but if there is no way to avoid crossing a smoke-filled area, crawl on your hands and knees while keeping your head above the floor at a distance of around 21-24