

# Qatar newspaper calls for action against sponsors

- By Habib Toumi, Bureau Chief
- Published: 11:56 November 18, 2010

Manama: A Qatari daily has called for action against sponsors or their representatives who do not meet their newly-arrived employees when they arrive in the country and make them wait for hours at the airport.

According to *Al Sharq*, domestic helpers and labourers, arriving for the first time in Doha, have to wait at the arrival lounge of the airport for hours, and at times an entire day, for their sponsors or company representatives to pick them up.

The paper reported that their attitude was against basic human values and tarnished the image of the country, and said that sponsors, including companies, should be punished for their careless and irresponsible actions.

Sponsors were previously warned not to make their new workers and domestic helpers wait at the airport for long hours, and most complied.

However, *Al Sharq* said the incidents are now recurring with many maids and labourers sitting on the floor of the airport's arrival lounge for long hours, waiting for their sponsors or their representatives.

Under the controversial sponsorship system, most Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries do not allow foreigners to enter unless their entry has been endorsed by a sponsor.