The first three shortlists of nominations have been announced for the Sheikh Zayed Book Award. The contenders in the Literature category are: *Hona al Qahira* (This Is Cairo) a novel by Ibrahim Abdelmaguid from Egypt; *La Shama Tadoll Ummi ‘Alai* (No Moles to Lead My Mother To Me), a poetry collection by Ghassan Zaqtan from Palestine; and *Majaneen Bait Lahem* (The Fools of Bethlehem), a novel by the Palestinian Osama Alaysa. The nominees in the Children’s Literature category are: *Sitt el Koll* (Against the Tide) by Taghreed Al Najjar from Jordan; *Al Fatat Allati Iqtatat Aathar Shakhssyyat Ibn al Muqaffa* (The Girl Who Traced the Characters of Ibn Al Muqaffa) by Nabihq Mheidli from Lebanon; and *Al Samaka al Mufakkira* (The Thinking Fish) by the Lebanese Hassan Abdallah. Nominated in the Young Author category are: *Harakyyet al Badee’ Fil Khitab al Shi’iri* (Aesthetics of Poetic Discourse) by Said Laouadi from Morocco; *Manzilat al Tamtheel fi Falsafat Ibn Rushd* (Representation in Ibn Rushd’s Philosophy) by the Moroccan Fouad Ben Ahmed; and *Sharq al Da’iri* (East Ring Road), a novel by Khaled Ahmed from Egypt. – The National staff