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# Shangri-La's sous chef named Chef of the Year

Wafaa al Hadhrami beat 130 contenders from the chain's 72 hotels for the title

## Our Correspondent

Muscat

Junior sous chef Wafaa al Hadhrami of Shangri-La's Barr al Jissah Resort & Spa has been named the hotel chain's Chef of the Year. Wafaa beat 130 contenders from Shangri-La's chain of 72 hotels worldwide for the coveted title. Winning the award has come as a surprise for this National Hospitality Institute graduate.

"It has also encouraged me to cook up more new recipes," said Wafaa. She joined Shangri-La's Barr al Jissah Resort & Spa in 2005 after completing her courses at the hospitality institute and along the way, has won several awards for the hotel at local culinary competitions.

"I come from a family of chefs.



Junior sous chef Wafaa al Hadhrami (Muscat Daily)

I like sharing my cooking not only with my family, but with Omanis and guests of this country. I have been fond of cooking since childhood and on finishing school, decided that I wanted to become a chef. I thank the hotel for giving

me the chance to excel."

Wafaa currently works at Al Bandar hotel's Al Tanoor restaurant at the resort and is periodically deputed to the chain's 20 other food and beverage outlets.

Wafaa prides herself in cook-

ing up original recipes and sharing them with her team. Her signature dish, the Kingfish Soup, is a favourite among guests. "I am thankful to be in the Shangri-La family. The hotel is committed to the growth of its employees and cares for their careers. I have been able to develop my gourmet skills and have learned a lot from the multicultural and talented team of chefs here," she said.

Shangri-La's executive chef Bernhard Butz said Wafaa has been at the forefront in serving Middle Eastern cuisine. "We are proud of Wafaa and very pleased with the recognition - our very first. Wafaa, who has great knowledge of local cuisine, has helped us in serving authentic Middle Eastern cuisine at Al Tanoor," he said.