

AUTHOR PLANS NOVEL ON REAL LIFE STORIES OF ROAD ACCIDENT VICTIMS



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Muscat -

A human resource consultant, Maijid al Suleimany, is collecting real life stories of road accident victims and expects his sixth book, Behind the Wheel to come out in a couple of months. Disturbed by the rising road accidents and resulting casualties, Suleimany decided to pen short stories in a novel format. To reach to a larger audience, the book will be written in simplest of English.

“As we know that English is second or third language for a majority of Omanis and expatriates, I am trying to write it in a free flowing style, without the use of jargon and pompous words. This way, the book can be introduced in schools as part of the road safety curriculum,” he said.

The idea for the book germinated when a young girl Suleimany knew, perished in an accident along with her whole family. “I had not heard from the girl, who often used to call me about my writing and my work, for long. I called the general manager of that firm and enquired about the girl. I was shocked and deeply moved to hear about her and whole family's death in a car accident. I had read a newspaper article about the accident but never realised that it was about someone I knew.”

Suleimany has been busy meeting people who want to share their stories and even visiting hospitals to learn about people's losses and if they are interested in sharing their experiences with readers.

“We will use pseudonyms for those who do not want to be identified, but have a story that can be a lesson for others.” The book will have images, graphics and actual newspaper clippings with road accident stories.

Once published, Suleimany feels that there is scope for the book to be translated into Arabic. “We need to reach as many people possible to

raise awareness about the rising fatalities due to road accidents and the burden it causes on the families as well as the nation.”He is also looking for sponsors or like-minded people who want to spread the word on the issues of road safety