## DNHG Desert Trek in Sharjah Friday, 15th January 2016

**Location**: Desert opposite Arabia's Wildlife Centre, Interchange No. 9, Sharjah-Al Dhaid road

Meeting Point: Roundabout below Sharjah Monument

Timing: Meet at 06:15 AM to start trek at 06:30 AM

**<u>Trip Highlights</u>**: Sunrise views in the desert, flora, fauna, desert landscape, photography

**Trip Summary**: Post the recent downpours, a range of desert flora is expected to be sprouting and blooming on the desert sands. *Silene villosa, Arnebia hispidissima, Malva palviflora, Tribulus /Convolvulus / Kohautia /* sp. etc. are the species which Ajmal hopes to find blooming in good numbers as some of them are rain dependent and have not been seen in 2015. The omnipresent Ghaf (*Prosopis cineraria*), Rimth (Haloxylon salicornicum) and Sodom's apple milkweed (*Calotropis procera*) dot the desert landscape. The area is also rich in fauna such as the Striped mantis (*Blepharopsis mendica*), Desert Runner ant (*Cataglyphis niger*), White spotted lizard (*Acanthodactlus schmidti*), Toad headed agama (Phrynocephalus arabicus), etc.

See also link below https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a. 10151256792757007.452052.640872006&type=1&l=0364db5451

**Trip Leader**: Ajmal is one of the most active outdoor members of the DNHG and is a staunch supporter of nature conservation and awareness. A desert freak, join him as he heads out on his ritualistic weekend treks in one of his favorite stomping grounds and fairly untouched haunts – the vast Al Batayeh desert in Sharjah! With over 300 solo desert treks to his credit, he lives and breathes the deserts (especially the sand) when he is not at work.

## Participants: Ideally a group of 25

Those interested should contact Sonja Lavrencic on lavson@gmail.com