

PRESS RELEASE**UBL holds the 6th UBL Literary Awards in Karachi**

Mr. Wajahat Husain, President & CEO, UBL (center) along with acclaimed Urdu writer and former UBL President, Mr. Mushtaq Ahmad Yousufi (5th left) at the 6th UBL Literary Awards held in Karachi recently. Also seen in the picture are (L to R): Mr. Ghazi Salahuddin, Dr. Arfa Syeda, Dr. Asghar Nadeem Syed, Mr. Masood Ashar, Ms. Kishwar Naheed, Ms. Amina Saiyid, OBE, CEO OUP, Dr. Asif Farrukhi, Dr. Anwaar Ahmed and Mr. Ali Habib, Head Corporate Affairs & Marketing, UBL

The 6th UBL Literary Awards 2016 were held at the Beach Luxury Hotel in Karachi on Saturday, 11 February 2017. The awards were held in conjunction with the 8th Karachi Literature Festival. Celebrating the literary efforts of Pakistani writers, UBL, Pakistan's Best Bank 2016, held these awards for the sixth year running.

Acclaimed Urdu writer, Mr. Mushtaq Ahmad Yousufi graced the event with his presence. Mr. Yousufi is recipient of the 'Sitara-e-Imtiaz' (1999) and 'Hilal-e-Imtiaz' (2002), the highest literary honours, by the Government of Pakistan, for his celebrated literary works. He has also been a former President of UBL, (1974-76) and has been awarded the 'Quaid-e-Azam Memorial Medal' for his distinguished services in Banking.

Over 160 entries were received as nominations for the seven categories of the awards. The books, which were written by Pakistani authors and published in Pakistan in 2015, were shortlisted by an esteemed panel of judges which included the likes of Dr. Asghar Nadeem Syed, Dr. Asif Farrukhi, Mr. Ghazi Salahuddin, Dr. Arfa Syeda, Ms. Kishwar Naheed, Dr. Anwaar Ahmad and Mr. Masood Ashar.

The winners from each category are:

- Urdu Fiction: *Dahshat Main Mohabbat* by Mohammad Hameed Shahid
- Urdu Non-Fiction: *Hum Bhi Waheen Mojoood Thay* by Akhtar Viqar Azim
- Urdu Poetry: *Shajar Tasbeeh Kartey Hain* by Abbas Tabish
- Urdu Translation: *Qissay Lahore Kay* (Urdu Translation) by Waheed Raza Bhatti
- Children's Urdu Literature: *Jungle Kahan Gaya* by Muhammad Idrees Siddiqui
- English Non-Fiction: *Lahore- 101 Tales of a Fabled City* by Abdul Majid Sheikh
- Children's English Literature: *Our Bhattai* by Fehmida Riaz

A Special Acknowledgement Award was also given to the book "Surkh Salaam" by Kamran Asdar Ali.

Mr. Wajahat Husain, President & CEO UBL, during his speech, said "Pakistan is a glorious mix of cultures, languages and ethnicities and our literary pedigree is best proof of that. UBL has grown with Pakistan through the last 70 years and we consider it incumbent on ourselves to support and motivate writers and artists to continue contributing to our literary wealth. We should ensure that the literary momentum does not slacken and that future generations continue to benefit from these literary treasures".

About UBL

United Bank Limited (UBL) is one of Pakistan's largest banks in the private sector. The bank operates a network of over 1,375 branches across Pakistan and 19 branches overseas. It was declared Pakistan's Best Bank 2016 at the first Pakistan Banking Awards and the bank's entity ratings were also recently upgraded to AAA/A-1+. The Bank maintains its leadership in branchless banking through UBL Omni which has an agent network of over 42,000 Dukaans across Pakistan. With a customer base of over 4 million, it leads the banking and financial services sector in Pakistan. Customers across the world have 24/7 access to the bank via UBL's world class Internet Banking.