

We owe our progress to Mohammed: Khalifa

ABU DHABI: President His Highness Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan has congratulated Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, on his selection as the Cultural Personality of the Year for the 9th edition of the Sheikh Zayed Book Award.

His Highness Sheikh Mohamed Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, also congratulated Sheikh Mohammed.

Supreme Council Member and Ruler of Sharjah His Highness Sheikh Sultan Bin Mohammed Al Qasimi also congratulated Sheikh

Mohammed for getting the honour.

Sheikh Khalifa said, "The naming of Sheikh Mohammed as a cultural personality by this huge symbolic award which bears the name of late father, Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan, is a deserved honour. Who else deserves this honour than my brother and life mate, whom I, the UAE citizens

and the Arab and Islamic nation owe him so much because of the development, humanitarian and cultural achievements as well as their impact across the world."

"Honouring of Sheikh Mohammed is an honour for the founding fathers of the country, since he is the best person who carried on their legacy and completed their march

wisely. "He also led the march of progress and development with ambition, hope and determination with the will that does not know what is impossible. Here is our country, under his chairmanship of the UAE Government, developing in various domains year after year, and moving steadily towards achieving its vision, "The

UAE Vision 2021," Sheikh Khalifa added.

Sheikh Khalifa concluded, "We congratulate Sheikh Mohammed for this honour. He has devoted his life to build, plant the hope, spread tolerance, moderation, extend bridges of communication, support science

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We owe our progress to Mohammed, says Khalifa

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and knowledge, establish concepts of innovation and excellence in all work and production fields in order to turn these into a lifestyle as well as building a better future for Emiratis who represent a role model for all mankind."

The Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi said, "The naming of Sheikh Mohammed as the Cultural Personality of the Year by the Award is a tribute to the vision of a leader keen to record the name of the UAE in the golden annals of history, and to strengthen the country's position on the world stage. He has won one success after another, and one achievement after another in various development, knowledge, culture and other fields."

He added, "It is a tribute to the leader of a unique calibre who exerted his efforts to complete the process of development, and continues to build the state. He achieved the development, built the bridges of communication and optimism in line with the course set by Sheikh Khalifa."

Sheikh Mohamed Bin Zayed said that the UAE Vice President has acquired inspirational and model development and cultural experiences that took the UAE to new heights of progress, development, and civilisation.

He added that his developmental and typical cultural experience have shown the world the possibility of coexistence of cultures and diversity along with tolerance, love and peace for the welfare of humanity.

He continued, "I congratulate my brother, Sheikh Mohammed on this honour," noting that his excellent initiatives complement the development process outlined by the late leaders, Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan and Sheikh Rashid Bin Saeed Al Maktoum. Sheikh Mohamed concluded, "I am pleased to take this opportunity to greet Sheikh Mohammed: we are moving forward together with the loyal people of the UAE, propelled by your positive and inexhaustible energy."