

I am honoured to accept award: VP

ABU DHABI — His Highness Shaikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, has thanked the President, His Highness Shaikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan; His Highness Shaikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces; and Their Highnesses, Members of the Supreme Council and Rulers of the Emirates, for congratulating him on being named Cultural Personality

of the Year by the trustees of the Shaikh Zayed Book Award in its ninth edition. He said: "The words of the President conveyed warm regards from a person raised by the late Shaikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan and brought up in an exceptional Zayed leadership school. Shaikh Khalifa is always keen to be the first well-wisher on such occasions and achievements."

Shaikh Mohammed also thanked Shaikh Mohammed bin Zayed, describing him as a "brother and friend," noting that

his wishes carried themes of love and appreciation. "I am honoured to accept this award, which bears the dear name of a person whose legacy, values and principles are still fresh in the minds of all Arabs," Shaikh Mohammed said. "What we have been achieving in all areas is attributed to what we have learned from the school of the founding fathers: Zayed and Rashid. It is a legacy, which I, with my brothers, Shaikh Khalifa, Shaikh Mohammed bin Zayed and all the Rulers will continue to serve our people." — *Wam*