



Celebrating UAE National Day

FESTIVAL

**"CELEBRATING CULTURES.
EMBRACING DIVERSITY"**

Tahbib Multilingual Festival
Unveiling Cultural Symphony with
Chief Guest, Mr. Javed Akhtar
On the Occasion of UAE 52nd
National Day



Leading Edge Event
Presents

In Association With
India Club Dubai
Tahbib Multilingual Festival

2023



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Introduction

In a dazzling display of poetic brilliance and cultural unity, the "Echoes of Expression" Multilingual Festival—presented by Leading Edge Events in association with India Club Dubai—unfolded its magic from December 1st to 3rd, 2023, in the vibrant city of Dubai, UAE. This literary and artistic extravaganza, held in celebration of the UAE National Day, left an indelible mark on the hearts of both attendees and poets.

A POST-FESTIVAL MESSAGE



Mr. Tariq Faizi
Founder, Tahbib
CEO, Leading Edge

Reflecting on the “Echoes of Expression” Multilingual Festival, I am filled with gratitude for the unity and creativity that were shared. "Harmony Verse" brought together poets, artists, and enthusiasts from around the world, showcasing the power of art to bridge cultures. The event celebrated diversity, demonstrating art's ability to inspire and foster empathy. The festival stood as a testament to the strength found in cultural intersections, creating a beautiful tapestry of shared human experiences.

Let us carry forward the spirit of "Harmony Verse", celebrating diverse languages and artistic expressions. The festival's success was the result of collective creativity, breaking down barriers and forging lasting connections. I am deeply grateful for each contributor's role in elevating the cultural dialogue. May the echoes of this celebration continue to inspire exploration and appreciation of global poetry and art.

[HTTPS://TAHBIB.AE/](https://TAHBIB.AE/)

A Symphony of Languages at the 'Tahbib' Festival

CELEBRATE DIVERSITY THROUGH VERSE AND ART: A GLOBAL TAPESTRY UNVEILED

Following the “Echoes of Expression” Multilingual Festival, the resonance of diverse cultures continues to echo through the poetic verses and artistic expressions showcased in Arabic, Urdu, Malayalam, English, and Hindi.

The Arabic sessions embraced diversity, weaving rich threads of global literature through engaging poetic recitations. Urdu poetry, with its profound cultural significance, served as a bridge between different communities. Malayalam poets added a vibrant touch to the festival, blending international perspectives with the unique essence of their language. The presence of English poetry enriched the event, fostering global connectivity and cultural appreciation. Hindi poetry sessions played a vital role in contributing to the multicultural exchange in Dubai. Together, these linguistic and cultural dimensions created a harmonious symphony of creativity and unity, defining the festival as a true global celebration of the arts.



Inauguration



The Inauguration Session, featuring a captivating blend of reality and imagination, marked the commencement of the "Echoes of Expression" Multilingual Festival on December 1st, 2023. Hosted at the prestigious India Club in Oud Metha, Dubai, UAE, the event witnessed a convergence of magical realism across five languages, transcending the boundaries between reality and the poetic realm.

Honorable guests and distinguished speakers—including His Excellency Marwan Bin Jassim Al Sarkal, esteemed poet Mr. Javed Akhtar, the renowned Mr. Shihab Ghanem, Mr. Ismail Meladi, and Mr. Atif Tauqeer—graced the occasion with their presence. The session was expertly moderated by the insightful Sumera Khalil. This amalgamation of linguistic and literary brilliance set the stage for a festival where the magic of words intertwined with the vivid strokes of artistic expression, creating an enchanting tapestry of cultural celebration.

The "Echoes of Expression" festival, with its diverse and illustrious lineup, promised to be a harmonious journey through the realms of poetry and art—guided by the luminaries who inaugurated this magical exploration.

Tariq Faizi: A Visionary Standing Against the Tide



JAVED AKHTAR

Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. I must admit that I find myself slightly confused as to how to begin, as I am also a guest, just like most of you. However, every year I come here and receive so much love, warmth, and a sense of belonging that I start to feel as if I am one of the hosts, though I am not. So, welcome to all of you, even though this welcome may not be entirely official.

I must congratulate Mr. Tariq Faizi for his tremendous efforts. For nearly 12 years, he has been striving against the odds, swimming against the tide. What had happened is... well, let me continue. The bell rang, and he called me, saying, "Please greet me as well, Guruji."

Over the last 75 years, since the independence of India and Pakistan, the middle class has evolved, particularly the children of the middle class. They shifted gears, viewing their parents as idealistic and romantic, not pragmatic or realistic. This new generation perceived themselves as more realistic and materialistic, believing that economics is the ultimate reality. Consequently, the urban middle class, especially in my country, has seen remarkable economic progress over the last 50-60 years. However, in this race to catch the gravy train, we left a lot of baggage on the platform. Culture, language, literature, fine arts, and folk arts were neglected as we prioritized material comforts.

Yet, I am not pessimistic about the future. I see a revival, an effort to balance material comforts with intangible, yet crucial, aspects of life like aesthetics, morality, sensibility, and sensitivity that literature and art provide. Mr. Tariq Faizi plays a significant role in this effort. Over the past 45-60 years, our commercial mindset has led us to seek financial gain in all endeavors, including literature. Mushaira, a tradition of poetic symposiums, also became a vehicle for commercial gain.

However, Mr. Tariq Faizi stood up and said this is not right. He organizes Mushairas not for material gain but to showcase young and unknown writers who deserve recognition. He provides a platform where emerging talents can stand alongside masters. His role is unprecedented and unparalleled.

This year's effort is unique. Languages were created to facilitate communication, yet often they become barriers. In my country, we have many languages like Punjabi and Malayalam, each with rich literature. Unfortunately, speakers of other languages such as Hindi, Urdu, Gujarati, or Bengali may not be aware of these literary treasures. Bridging this gap is the next crucial step, and Mr. Tariq Faizi's efforts are paving the way.

Congratulations to Mr. Tariq Faizi for this great initiative. I hope this idea catches on and similar events are organized in different parts of the country and beyond. Let us hope for the best. Welcome once again, from an unofficial guest. Thank you very much.



Message from the CEO of India Club



Dear Esteemed Guests and Participants,

It is with immense pride and joy that I extend my heartfelt welcome to each one of you at the Tahbib Multilingual Festival, hosted at the prestigious India Club Dubai. This festival is a testament to our shared values of unity, diversity, and cultural celebration. At India Club, we have always believed in the power of culture to bring people together, and this festival is a shining example of that belief.

India Club has a long-standing tradition of promoting cultural heritage and fostering a sense of community among our members and the wider public. Our mission has always been to create a space where people from diverse backgrounds can come together, share their unique cultural experiences, and learn from one another. The Tahbib Multilingual Festival perfectly aligns with this mission, offering a platform for the celebration of languages and cultures from around the world.

I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to Leading Edge for their invaluable partnership in organizing this festival. Their dedication and hard work have been instrumental in bringing this vision to life. I would also like to thank all the performers, artists, and participants who have traveled from near and far to be part of this cultural extravaganza. Your contributions make this festival truly special.

As we immerse ourselves in the vibrant performances, thought-provoking discussions, and enriching cultural exchanges, let us remember that it is our collective efforts and shared love for culture that make events like these possible. Together, we can continue to build bridges of understanding and friendship, transcending linguistic and cultural barriers.

Thank you for your presence and participation. I wish you all a memorable and inspiring experience at the Tahbib Multilingual Festival.

Warm regards,

*Bharat Chachara
CEO, India Club Dubai*

Arabic Session (Poetry)

Transporting the audience across the mesmerizing dunes of Arabic literature, the Arabic Session at the "Echoes of Expression"

Multilingual Festival on December 1st, 2023, unfolded a tapestry of enchanting verses. Hosted at the cultural haven of India Club in Oud Metha, Dubai, U.A.E., this session emerged as a poetic oasis—where the sands of tradition met the winds of contemporary expression. Curated by Shihab Ghanem, the session skillfully traced the rich heritage of the Arabic language, inviting renowned artists to grace the stage. Shihab Ghanem, Hamda Muheiri, Mahmoud Noor, and Wala Jamal—luminaries in the realm of Arabic poetry—infused the air with verses that echoed through the corridors of time. Hamda Muheiri, serving as moderator, gracefully guided the audience through the poetic landscapes, unveiling the profound beauty of each composition.

As the echoes of Arabic poetry reverberated, the "Echoes of Expression" festival reinforced its commitment to fostering cross-cultural understanding, celebrating the intricate nuances of the Arabic language, and bridging diverse perspectives through the universal language of art. The Arabic Session stood not only as a showcase of linguistic brilliance but also as a testament to the enduring power of poetry to unite hearts across cultures.

MODERATOR
HUMDA MUHEIRI



SHIHAB GHANEM

A renowned UAE poet, translator, and multifaceted professional, Dr. Shihab Ghanem has built a distinguished career spanning engineering, management, and industrial development economics. A Chartered Engineer in the UK, he holds a Ph.D. in Economics and an Honorary Doctorate in Literature. His literary contributions encompass over 60 books, including volumes of Arabic and English poetry, translated works, and seminal publications on industrialization. As a respected thought leader, Dr. Ghanem has served on numerous advisory committees, reflecting his lifelong commitment to cultural and intellectual advancement.



HAMDA MUHEIRI



MAHMOUD NOOR

A distinguished figure in Arabic literature and language, Mr. Mahmoud Noor serves as the Head of the Government Communication Department within the national program and is a faculty member at the Dubai Police Academy. Holding a Bachelor's degree in Arabic Language and Literature, he excels in both teaching and administration, imparting Arabic language skills across various educational levels. His extensive contributions include the creation of national songs, radio and television programs, and critical literary studies. Recognized with awards for excellence, Mr. Noor continues to play a pivotal role in cultural and literary events, embodying a deep commitment to education and artistic expression.



CURATOR
MAHMOUD NOOR

URDU SESSIONS



NAIRANG E KHAYAL

RAMZ E KHAYAL

DAM E KHAYAL

HUM KALAM HUM KHAYAL

NAQSH E KHAYAL

MIZRAAB E KHAYAL



Nairang & Khayal (Poem)



Session at the Tahbib – ‘Echos of Expression’ Multilingual Festival:



A stirring symphony of Urdu poetry unfolded at the India Club in Oud Metha, Dubai, as the stage was graced by renowned poets Ali Akbar Natiq, Atif Tauqeer, Salman Sarwat, Ali Zeerak, Omar Farooq, and the esteemed Mr. Javed Akhtar. Seasoned poet Sarwat Zahra also lent her powerful voice to the evening, with the session expertly moderated by the insightful Sumera Khalil. This carefully curated gathering transformed the India Club into a cultural haven, where verses painted a vivid kaleidoscope of emotions, inviting the audience to immerse themselves in the profound beauty of Urdu poetry. It was more than just a recital—it was a soulful journey, celebrating the richness of Urdu poetry within Dubai’s vibrant cultural tapestry.



Moderator
Sumera Khalil



Ramz & Khayal

(Recitation)

Irfan Izhar



On the luminous evening of December 2nd, the Multilingual Festival captivated audiences with the enchanting "Ramz-e-Khayal" session. Esteemed Chief Guest Mr. Javed Akhtar graced the occasion, illuminating the stage with his profound insights and adding an aura of poetic brilliance. The spotlight then shifted to the gifted artist Irfan Izhar, whose verses painted a captivating canvas of emotions and imagination. This evocative session allowed the audience to experience the magic of words, transcending linguistic and cultural boundaries. With its captivating "Ramz-e-Khayal" session, the festival continued to weave a vibrant tapestry of creativity and unity in the world of poetry and art.



Moderator
Sumaira Khalil



Dam & Khayal

A Night of Poetic Brilliance (Poetry)

Stepping into a night of poetic brilliance, the "Dam-e-Khayal" Mushairah captivated audiences at the Multilingual Festival.

Held at the prestigious India Club in Oud Metha, Dubai, this poetic gala featured luminaries such as Ali Akbar Natiq, Atif Tauqeer, Salman Sarwat, Ali Zeerak, and Omar Farooq, alongside the distinguished presence of Mr. Javed Akhtar. Guided by the skillful moderation of Sarwat Zahra, each verse wove a spellbinding narrative, creating an unforgettable evening where poetry transcended time and cultural boundaries.

Moderator
Aijaz Shaheen



HUM KALAM
HUM KHAYAL
Harmony Unleashed
(Discussion)

Elevating the poetic ambiance at the Multilingual Festival, the "Hum Kalam Hum Khayal" session, graced by the esteemed Mr. Javed Akhtar, unfolded a mesmerizing fusion of verses. Renowned artists Atif Taukeer, Ali Akbar Natiq, and Ali Zeerak, guided by the insightful moderation of Nibras Sohail, crafted an enchanting tapestry of words. This session transcended linguistic boundaries, celebrating the universal allure of poetry. Each verse, a brushstroke on the canvas of emotions, resonated in the hearts of the audience, forging a connection that echoed long after the final rhyme.

Moderator
Nibras Sohail

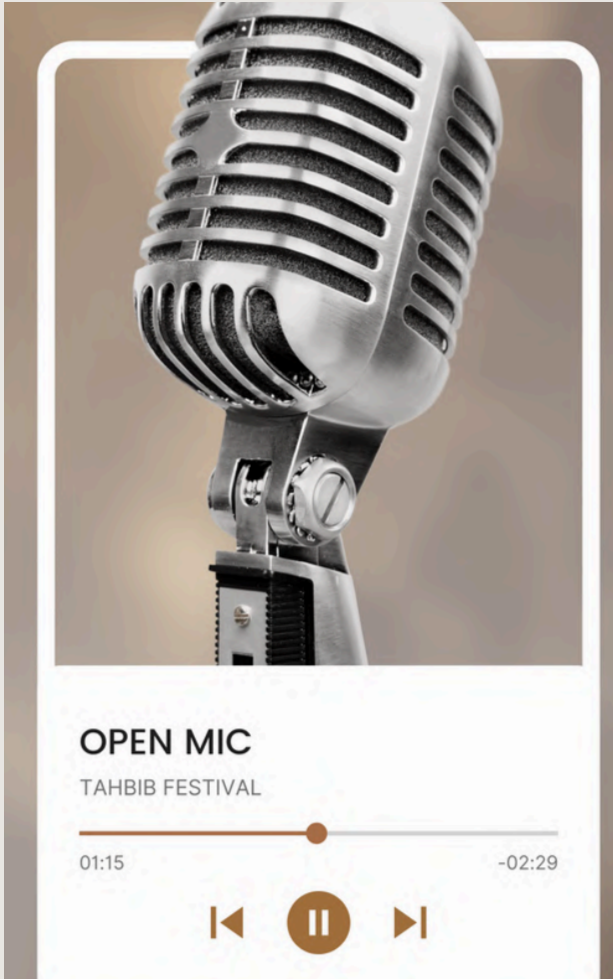


NAQSH E KHAYAL (LITERARY AWARDS)



Naqsh-e-Khayal, a highlight of this year's literature festival, was a memorable event that honored outstanding writers from India and Pakistan. The awards recognized individuals whose works foster dialogue and reflect the rich cultural tapestry of both nations. By celebrating these literary talents, the event strengthened the bonds of creativity and collaboration between our communities. It showcased the power of storytelling to bridge divides and inspire understanding. Heartfelt thanks to all who participated and contributed to this enriching experience. We look forward to many more literary celebrations in the future.

Moderator



The *Open Mic* Session

The vibrant evening provided a platform for aspiring poets to share their work. The diverse range of styles and personal experiences brought a unique energy to the event, showcasing the power of poetry to connect people through shared emotions and perspectives. The session was moderated by Danabelle Gutierrez.

Curator : Deeba Salim Irfan

Moderator: Danabelle Gutierrez

ENGLISH SESSION (Poetry)

Exploring Boundless Horizons



Curator
Deeba Salim Irfan

Co-Curator & Moderator
Tamreez Inam

The Tahbib Multilingual Literary Festival's poetry session, which concluded on December 1, 2023, left behind a melody of poetic voices and a renewed appreciation for the power of language. The English sessions focused on poetry, featuring both established poets and emerging talent who wove magic with their words. Highlights included a panel performance under the theme of Belonging and an engaging Open Mic session.

UAE's homegrown poets who took the stage included Mark Fiddes, Danabelle Gutierrez, Omar Sabbagh, and the curator of the English session, Deeba Salim Irfan. The session was graced by the esteemed Mr. Javed Akhtar, the Chief Guest of the festival, who appreciated the event and shared poetic words of wisdom with all present. All the poems performed were stitched together with a common thread of Belonging and mesmerized the audience with captivating readings. The session was expertly moderated by co-curator Tamreez Inam, who closed the evening with a beautiful poem fitting for the occasion—On This Earth by Mahmoud Darwish.

Beyond the captivating performances, the poetry sessions fostered a vibrant community. A shared love for language filled the air, enriched by the audience's enthusiastic participation. The English program's success, a testament to poetry's enduring power, inspires us to create an even more enriching experience at the Tahbib Multilingual Literary Festival 2024.

HINDI SESSION (Poetry)



Inspirational Echoes: Hindi Session at Multilingual Festival

Envisioned as a celebration of linguistic richness, the Hindi session at the Tahbib Multilingual Festival, graced by the esteemed Mr. Javed Akhtar, immersed audiences in a poetic odyssey. Talented artists including Pradeep Laljani, Megi Asnani, Haider Amaan Haider, Nisha Tandon, and Anu Bafna, under the expert moderation of Pradeep Laljani and the curation of Shabbir Munawwar, transformed Crystal Lounge 2 into a sanctuary of creative expression. Through their verses, they painted vivid portraits of life's myriad emotions, stirring hearts and fostering a deeper appreciation for the beauty of Hindi poetry.

Curator
Shabbir Husain Munawar

Co-Curator
Azra Nazneen

MALYALAM SESSION (Poetry)

The Legend Awards: A Tribute to Contemporary Artistry



At the Multilingual Festival, audiences embarked on a poetic voyage as Malayalam and Ghazal intertwined, painting an exquisite canvas of emotions. Poets Soniya Shinoy, Aneesha, K. Gopinathan, Saifudheen Aadikadalayi, Kamarudheen Amayam, and Usha Shinoj graced the stage, weaving verses that resonated with cultural richness. Moderated by Ismail Meladi and curated by Ismail Meladi and Shaji, the session offered an evening of linguistic grace, capturing the timeless allure of ghazals. The audience became immersed in this lyrical symphony—a harmonious journey of the heart and soul.

Moderator
Nibras Sohail

MIZRAAB E KHAYAL

MUSIC SESSION WITH LIVE PAINTING



Narrator
Tarannum Ahmed & Sohail Anjum

Moderator
InJeel Sahifa



At the Multilingual Festival, the Mizraab-e-Khayal & Music Session became a memorable confluence of artistry and melody, graced by the presence of Chief Guest Mr. Javed Akhtar. This unique gathering featured an array of talented performers: Maya the dancer; singers Eijaz Ali and Basharat Baig; Kaushik on the flute; Sandhu on the tabla; Siraj with the sitar; and Arindam Chakarvarty. Moderators Shailla Khan and Nibras Sohail expertly orchestrated the evening. Adding another layer of sensory delight, Shiraz's live painting unfolded amidst the musical soiree. His brushstrokes danced across the canvas, blending seamlessly with the rhythms of the music to create an immersive experience of artistic fusion.

Shiraz Hussain's Mesmerizing Performance at the Tahbib Festival 2023

The Tahbib Festival 2023 witnessed an extraordinary performance that left the audience awestruck. Renowned painter Shiraz Hussain, known for his vibrant and emotive artworks, collaborated with Kathak dancer Maya in a live painting session that seamlessly blended visual art and classical Indian dance.

As Kathak dancer Maya swirled gracefully across the stage, her movements narrating stories of ancient lore and contemporary emotions, Shiraz Hussain captured the essence of her dance on the canvas. Each brushstroke synchronized with the dancer's rhythm, creating a visual symphony that unfolded before the captivated audience.

The live painting session became a dynamic interplay of colors, forms, and movements, highlighting the profound connection between different art forms. Shiraz Hussain's expertise shone as he deftly translated the fluidity and grace of Kathak into his painting. The canvas transformed into a vibrant portrayal of the dancer's journey, capturing the elegance of her footwork, the expressiveness of her gestures, and the ethereal quality of her spins. His ability to mirror the dancer's energy and emotion in his art was mesmerizing.

The audience, captivated by this unique fusion of art and dance, erupted in enthusiastic applause and admiration. Many expressed that witnessing such a performance was a mind-blowing experience, an unforgettable highlight of the festival. One attendee remarked, "It was like watching two art forms converse with each other. Shiraz Hussain's painting brought the dance to life in a way I've never seen before."

Shiraz Hussain's performance at the Tahbib Festival 2023 served as a vivid reminder of how art, in its various forms, can transcend boundaries and create unforgettable experiences. His live painting, paired with the Kathak dancer's graceful movements, became a spectacular showcase of artistic expression that left a lasting impression on all who witnessed it.





A



Voices of Celebration: Messages from the Tahbib Multilingual Festival Participants



Shahbaz Rizvi

Tariq Faizi's Tahbib Multilingual Festival beautifully unified diverse voices, celebrating poetry and music in a harmonious blend.

"Tahbib Multilingual Festival, under Faizi's guidance, brought together a symphony of voices, each contributing to a rich cultural mosaic."



Tarannum Ahmed



Dr. Salman Sarwat

The Tahbib Festival in 2023 was a unique experience, with several distinct aspects that set it apart from run-of-the-mill literary events.

Through poetry, music, and art, the festival highlighted the rich tapestry of languages, all thanks to Tariq Faizi's inspiring efforts.



Khalid Naseem



Injeel Sahifa

"Tahbib Festival was a vibrant celebration of multilingual artistry, with Faizi's dedication shining through every performance."

"Tariq Faizi's festival showcased the beauty of linguistic diversity, offering a platform for poets and artists to share their unique expressions."



Megi Asnani

GLOBAL POETRY AND ART FESTIVAL IN DUBAI ORGANIZED BY TAHBIB

Uniting Hearts and Minds: The Tahbib Multilingual Festival

“Article by,
Shahid Nasim Chaudhary



There are no boundaries in the world of art. It brings together poets, writers, artists, and anyone who loves literature and fine arts. This strong relationship unites people on a deeper level, fostering laughter, constructive ideas, and ultimately, happiness.

The vibrant city of Dubai, where skyscrapers pierce the sky and whispers of ancient traditions dance with the desert wind, became the stage for a unique celebration of literary culture: the Tahbib Multilingual Festival. Held under the patronage of the world-renowned poet, lyricist, and scriptwriter Mr. Javed Akhtar Sahib, and organized by the visionary Tariq Faizi Sahib, the festival aimed to showcase both established and up-and-coming artists.

A Celebration of Creativity and Connection Inaugurating the festival, Mr. Javed Akhtar acknowledged Tariq Faizi's dedication to Urdu literature. He highlighted the historical significance of Faizi reviving the traditional "mushaira" poetry gatherings, a practice dating back 148 years. Akhtar himself rarely participates in such events, but Faizi's commitment compelled him to join.

The Tahbib Multilingual Festival, with its roots in the UAE literary organization "Tahbib," embodied the spirit of "Transcending Boundaries." It brought together poets, writers, and artists from the UAE and the Indian subcontinent, fostering creativity and human connection. The festival's soul, Tariq Faizi Sahib, envisioned an inclusive space where artists of all backgrounds could celebrate the universal language of creativity.

A Haven for Artistic Expression The festival offered an immersive experience, engaging the senses and stirring the soul. From classical Arabic poetry to contemporary spoken-word performances, each moment resonated with emotion and vivid imagery. Established and unknown poets, alongside emerging talents, shared their unique perspectives. "Tahbib" served as a platform for a global exchange of ideas, fostering a deeper understanding across cultures.

Literary and cultural barriers crumbled as local and international artists showcased their creations. Each canvas, each piece, told a unique story. The festival championed artistic evolution by embracing the fusion of traditional and contemporary art forms. Furthermore, it transcended the visual, showcasing an eclectic mix of creative talent encompassing poetry, music, and discussions.

Beyond Spectacle: A Forum for Thoughtful Dialogue The Tahbib Multilingual Festival wasn't merely a spectacle. It featured panel sessions and workshops that explored the socio-cultural impact of art, examining its role in shaping narratives and promoting empathy, particularly with regards to Urdu literature. These intellectual exchanges became the cornerstone of the festival, transforming it into a forum for thought-provoking conversations.

The venue in Dubai, a city synonymous with innovation and growth, added another layer of significance. It symbolized the harmonious blend of tradition and modernity, emphasizing the enduring power of art in navigating the complexities of human existence.

A Legacy of Creativity Tariq Faizi's vision materialized in a vibrant celebration of diversity and cultural harmony. The festival, a testament to the enduring power of poetry and art, explored various genres through events like Dam-e-Khayal, Nirang-e-Khayal, Asnaf-e-Khayal, and Muzarab-e-Khayal. The success of the Dubai event has spurred Faizi, an ambassador of Urdu literature, to plan exhibitions around the world, bringing the beauty of artistic expression to places like Turkey, Germany, Italy, and beyond.

The Tahbib Multilingual Festival, held in the heart of Dubai where the desert meets the modern skyline, created a haven for art lovers. It proved that the universal language of creativity transcends borders, leaving an indelible mark on the soul. Tariq Faizi's efforts not only showcased artistic beauty but also reaffirmed the universal truth – in the realm of art and poetry, we are all united.

Tahbib Festival 2023: A Multicultural Extravaganza Redefining Literary Events

A Symphony of Creativity: The Tahib Multilingual Festival in Dubai



**Article by,
Deeba Irfan
Author, Poet &
Curator of Tahbib
(English)**

In the bustling metropolis of Dubai, where cultural celebrations are a vibrant kaleidoscope, the Tahib Multilingual Festival of 2023 emerged as a beacon of uniqueness and diversity in the realm of literary gatherings. Unlike its counterparts, this event transcended the limitations of language, showcasing the rich heritage and artistic expressions of five distinct languages: Urdu, Arabic, Hindi, Malayalam, and English.

What truly set the Tahib Multilingual Festival apart was its groundbreaking integration of various art forms. Alongside the traditional literary showcases, the festival seamlessly blended photography, music, and dance into a captivating performance experience. Attendees were treated to a kaleidoscope of cultural expressions, each element contributing to the festival's vibrant richness. Imagine a captivating dance performance intertwined with a poignant Urdu poem, or a soulful melody echoing the emotions of a Malayalam story – this was the immersive and enriching experience the Tahib Multilingual Festival offered.

At the heart of this extraordinary gathering was Tariq Faizi, the visionary whose unwavering dedication to excellence, innovation, and inclusivity brought the festival to life. His commitment transformed what could have been a standard literary event into a three-day spectacle that left a lasting impression on all who participated. From the conceptualization stage to the final execution, every aspect of the Tahib Multilingual Festival was meticulously weaved to ensure a memorable experience for participants.

Faizi's vision extended beyond simply showcasing established artists. The festival provided a platform for both renowned and upcoming poets, writers, and artists to share their talents. Poetic virtuosity flourished across diverse genres, from the free verse English to the heart-wrenching ghazals of Urdu. Each performance captivated audiences and left them spellbound by the sheer brilliance on display. The Tahib Multilingual Festival became a testament to the unifying power of art, showcasing the ability of diverse creative expressions to transcend language barriers and forge a deeper connection between cultures.



Tahbib Festival 2023: A Multicultural Extravaganza Redefining Literary Events

A Symphony of Creativity: The Tahib Multilingual Festival in Dubai



**Article by,
Syed Abbas Ali**



The Tahbib Multilingual Festival 2023, held at the picturesque India Club in Dubai, celebrated unity, cultural diversity, and harmony through the universal languages of poetry and music. Attracting attendees from around the globe, the festival fostered an atmosphere brimming with shared humanity and interconnectedness.

The opening ceremony was a highlight, featuring poets reciting in their native languages. This multilingual performance transcended linguistic barriers, allowing the audience to connect emotionally with the messages conveyed, even without understanding the specific words.

As the festival progressed, a sense of togetherness grew stronger. The closing ceremony culminated in a grand performance where all participating artists came together, symbolizing the festival's core message of unity. This final event served as a powerful testament to art's ability to bridge divides and bring people closer.

Founded by Tariq Faizi, the festival embodied his vision of celebrating cultural diversity and fostering peace through art. This year, the festival honored Javed Akhtar, an iconic poet and lyricist in Hindi cinema, as the Chief Guest. Akhtar's profound lyrics and poetic brilliance have left an indelible mark on Indian film and literature, earning him numerous accolades.

The Tahbib Multilingual Festival 2023 transcended a mere celebration of poetry and music; it demonstrated art's enduring power to unite. In a world often divided by conflict and misunderstanding, the festival shone as a beacon of hope, illustrating that through shared cultural experiences, we can promote peace, foster harmony, and build a more inclusive and compassionate world. In essence, the Tahbib Multilingual Festival 2023 was a grand testament to unity in diversity, proving that through poetry and music, we can strive to create a more peaceful and harmonious world.

Tahbib Festival 2023: A Multicultural Extravaganza Redefining Literary Events

A Symphony of Creativity: The Tahib Multilingual Festival in Dubai



Article by,
Syed Manazir

The festival, hosted at Dubai's India Club from December 1st to 3rd, 2023, showcased a vibrant tapestry of culture and creativity. Over three exhilarating days, the festival delighted attendees with a diverse range of performances, from moving poetry readings to captivating musical compositions. The atmosphere buzzed with energy, offering a space that was both stimulating and inspiring.

The festival's success was made possible by the generous support and sponsorship of dedicated individuals and organizations. Their commitment played a pivotal role in transforming the event into a dynamic platform for highlighting a myriad of artistic expressions. Special recognition goes to our moderators, whose adept facilitation ensured each session flowed seamlessly, keeping the audience engaged and immersed in the experience. Their skillful guidance significantly contributed to maintaining a welcoming and interactive atmosphere throughout the festival.

Reflecting on the triumphant Tahbib Multilingual Festival underscores the power of collaboration and shared passion for cultural diversity. We extend sincere gratitude to everyone who contributed to making this event unforgettable. Your support not only brought the festival to life but also set a benchmark for future celebrations. We eagerly anticipate continuing this journey of celebrating our rich cultural heritage together.



Wisdom in words



SHIHAB GHANEM EMIRATI POET

Poetry is very important to me, and it should be also important to many people, and it conveys the feelings and the spirit of a nation. If you want to understand any nation, just read the poetry of its top poets. And today, I am very happy to participate in this event, which promotes poetry in many languages, in five languages. In fact, I am one of the people who established the Poetic Heart, which is a multilingual annual festival every year in Dubai in February. So, it gives me a great pleasure to be a participant in this event. Today, it was with the famous poet, Mr. Javed Akhtar and also, the occasion is today is the National Day. So, it is very dear to my heart as a UAE national, and to also all the people who live in the UAE. I am very grateful, and I found it very enjoyable. The quality of poetry was high standard. Thank you very much.



Wisdom in words

ISMAIL MELADI

POET AND JOURNALIST



I'm Ismail Meladi, a poet from Kerala. And I'm very happy to participate in this Tahbib Festival. I've heard that before there was only Urdu poetry, but this year onwards we have added five languages totally, and Malayalam is included in that. And I think this is going to be a cultural interactive session, because mostly in Indian languages also we get very little time, very little occasion to come together in poetry and literature. And this will be a big boost to the literature as a whole, and also the literature in different languages from India. Plus we have Arabic also. We have added Arabic because we are having this program in the UAE. And I'm happy that Mr. Tariq Faizi of Leading Edge has come out with a great idea like this. And this will be a big interactive place, interaction between different cultures, like Arabic culture, Indian culture, and also different cultures of India coming together. And this, I think, is the need of the hour, that people come together and represent different cultures and also participate in this kind of activities. It will be a good occasion for making friendship between different nationalities and different cultures. Thank you very much.

Wisdom in words



HAMDA ALMHEIRI
EMIRATI POETESS

I am happy today to celebrate in this great festival, Tahbib. Today was the Arabic season, and we said poems about our national day, we are proud of our union here, and it's a very nice celebration, and it's gathering all the cultures by five different languages together, and I hope every year we make such as this great festival. I would like to thank Tariq Faizi for his great cooperation with all people and guests in this festival, and thank you very much.



Wisdom in words



ATIF TAUQEER (GERMANY) JOURNALIST & POET

Hi, this is Atif Tauqeer. Tahbib Festival is a festival where we are currently celebrating UAE's National Day and also five different languages. And the best part of this festival is that we have poets from five different cultures, five different nationalities, and also musicians from all over the world. And we are celebrating the diversity. This is one wonderful festival where Tariq Faizi has invited people from different regions and bringing everybody together to learn from each other and to celebrate and observe the fruits of diversity.





Tahbib DUBAI

Event Glimpses 2023





TAHBIB DUBAI



EVENT GLIMPS
2023



Event Echoes



اورنگ آباد کی تاریخ اور ثقافت کا جشن
اورنگ آباد کی تاریخ اور ثقافت کا جشن منانے کے لیے ایک تقریب منعقد ہوئی۔ تقریب میں اورنگ آباد کے مختلف شعبوں کے نمائندے شریک ہوئے۔ تقریب کے دوران اورنگ آباد کی تاریخ اور ثقافت کے بارے میں گفتگو ہوئی۔

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Global Poetry and Art Festival - TAHBIB in Dubai from Dec 1
Prayagraj: Welcome to the Global Poetry and Art Festival - TAHBIB, an event presented by Mohammad Tariq Faizi at the India Club in Dubai on Friday, December 1, 2023 at 4:30 PM. On the occasion of UAE National Day, Tariq Faizi's organization Leading Edge in collaboration with Dubai India Club is organizing a multi-language global poetry and art festival - 'Tabhīb' at India Club, Dubai from December 1 to 3. Get ready for a mind-blowing experience at the Global Poetry and Art Festival, where creativity takes center stage on December 1, 2023! Multilingual event featuring languages: Arabic, Hindi, Urdu, Malayalam, English and Arabic. Bollywood film writer and famous lyricist Javed Akhtar will be the chief guest of the program. In this program, Arabi poet Dr. Shabab Ghannem Noor Mehmood, Hamada Mahiri, Wala Jamal, Urdu poet Ali Akbar Naezi, Ati Tanzeem, Inji Safia, Sarwat Zahra Hindi poet Magesh Asmani, Mark Fildes of English, and poet Ismail Meladi of Malayalam. The program will include ghazals, story telling, literature discussion, Sufi songs and live painting with Kathak dance. Deeba Inan, Shiraz, Maya, Tanzeem Siddiqui from Kanpur India, Wajid Ameer Melwih Alham, Zia Maqar Qamar Raza Shahrzad will be the main attraction of the programme.

Prepare to be enchanted by the captivating performances of renowned poets and artists from around the world. Immerse yourself in the power of words and the beauty of visual art as renowned artists come together to celebrate the diverse forms of artistic expression. Throughout the festival, you will have the opportunity to witness thought-provoking poetry readings, awe-inspiring art installations, and engaging panel discussions. This is a unique chance to connect with like-minded individuals, share your own creative work, and gain inspiration from the brilliant minds in attendance. Whether you are a seasoned poet, an art enthusiast, or simply curious about the world of poetry and art, this festival promises to be an unforgettable experience. So mark your calendars and get ready to be swept away by the magic of the Global Poetry and Art Festival!

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تحسب فیستول۔۔۔ بین اللغاتی اور بین الثقافتی ہم آہنگی کا مظہر
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"Tabhīb: A Linguistic Symphony Echoes Beyond the Event"

DUBAI: In the wake of the enchanting cultural celebration, "Tabhīb," held at the prestigious India Club from December 1st to 3rd, 2023, attendees and enthusiasts still find themselves still resonating with the poetic echoes of this extraordinary event.

Curated by the visionary Mr. Tariq Faizi and powered by American Tourist in association with India Club and sponsored by Kana Jewels, Sharaf Exchange, Rockford Computer LLC, Zenith Business Solution, Vision, Makhanwala, Tack & Track, and media partners including Khaleej Times, Zee TV, Zee Cinema, Zee Keralam, VIBE FM 105.4, 360 RADIO, The Brew, Malayala Manorama, UAE Times, and Airline Partner Air Arabia.

The heartbeat of "Tabhīb" lies in its multilingual approach, with poetry and literature taking center stage in Urdu, Hindi, Arabic, English, and Malayalam. The event reflected the rich tapestry of cultural diversity, offering attendees a rare opportunity to immerse themselves in the lyrical beauty of five distinct languages.

Adding an extra layer of prestige to the event was the esteemed Chief Guest, Mr. Javed Akhtar, a luminary in the world of literature and Indian Cinema. His presence underscored the significance of "Tabhīb" as a platform that transcends boundaries and brings together literary minds from different corners of the world.

Mr. Tariq Faizi, the driving force behind Leading Edge Events, expressed his enthusiasm for the project, stating, "Tabhīb is not just an event; it is a celebration of the power of words to connect and inspire. We wanted to create a space where language becomes a bridge, allowing people to appreciate the beauty of expression in various forms."

from India was honored with the Tabhīb Cultural Award during his participation in the multi-lingual festival, Tabhīb.

Javed Akhtar Said: "Extend



a warm welcome to each and every one of you, though I must clarify that this welcome is not just a formality; it is an acknowl-

edgment of a significant effort that deserves our congratulations and appreciation. Today, I stand before you to express my admiration for Mr. Tariq Faizi, a visionary who has been dedicating himself to a noble cause for nearly 12 years.

In a world where the pursuit

of material comforts often takes precedence, Mr. Tariq Faizi has been courageously walking against the wind and swimming against the tide. The realms of

culture, language, literature, fine arts, and folk arts, which were perhaps neglected in the bustle of our daily lives, are the very

back to the middle of the road, where the tangible and intangible aspects of life converge. A place where creativity, innovation, sensibility, and sensitivity, bestowed upon us by literature and art, take center stage.

Now, let me tell you why Tariq Faizi's role in this endeavor is crucial. Over the last 45-50 years, our societal attitude has shaped us into commercial beings, eager to turn everything we touch into something bankable. Even literature and traditions like Mushaira, which hold great cultural significance, have fallen victim to this materialist mindset. However, Mr. Tariq Faizi has taken a stand, declaring that this is not the path we should be on.

I hold great respect for this young man because he organizes Mushairah not for material gain but to provide a platform for deserving yet unknown writers. He strives to bring these young talents to a stage alongside established masters, playing an unprecedented and unparalleled role in the process.

This year, Tariq Faizi is introducing a unique change. Languages, which were originally meant to facilitate communication, have paradoxically become barriers to understanding. In a country with a rich tapestry of languages like mine, numerous literary gems go unnoticed by those who speak different languages. Mr. Faizi is addressing this gap, bringing writers from diverse linguistic backgrounds together—a step that is not only positive but long overdue.

So, let us extend our heartfelt congratulations to Tariq Faizi for his outstanding efforts. May his vision resonate far and wide, inspiring similar events across the nation and wherever our diaspora thrives. I welcome all of you once again, not as an official representative, but as someone who appreciates

and supports the essence of this event. Thank you very much."

Imad Meladi said "This festival actually presents that. It's a representation of different languages. And when we talk about different languages, it means different cultures, different people from different colors, different traditions. They are all together and then it's a marvelous chance to learn from each other. And that's called celebrating diversity."

Ali Taqvi said "Germany has a single kind of linguistic paradigm there. Normally we speak only German. But it's beautiful that Tariq Faizi and Leading Edge, they have decided. And actually, I was talking to Tariq last year. He said that his plan is to keep on this tradition, gathering different languages, especially these five languages, where Urdu was always a part of that. But, I mean, this year you see five languages, and in the future we'll see maybe more. But a fundamental thing that we see is that the fusion and the integration can only take place if we have the respect and a celebration of diversity."

Shabab Ghannem said "I am very grateful to the organizers, TAHBIB, and it is an honor because today, tomorrow, will be our national day which is very dear to our hearts in the UAE. And I am grateful to my friend Ismail for inviting me to meet the famous poet Sri Javed Akhtar and to meet you all."

For those who were unable to attend, the lingering impact of "Tabhīb" continues to resonate through the hearts and minds of those who cherish the universal language of human expression. Leading Edge Events extends an invitation to all poetry and literature enthusiasts to join future celebrations, ensuring that the spirit of "Tabhīb" lives on.



Mr. Manazir Abbas, a renowned social worker and industrialist in Dubai, commends Tariq Faizi of Leading Edge for organizing the Tabhīb Festival. This event not only provides a unique space for languages such as Hindi, Urdu, Arabic, English, and Malayalam in Dubai but also unites literary figures globally. Mr. Abbas anticipates that in the coming year, Shri Tariq Faizi will continue to elevate the Tabhīb Festival, offering a historic platform for languages and associated personalities.

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



American Tourister proudly supported the Tahbib Multilingual Festival as a key sponsor in 2023, recognizing the power of cultural exchange and the arts to foster global unity. By backing this unique event, American Tourister demonstrated its commitment to social responsibility and peace, encouraging people from diverse backgrounds to come together in celebration of their languages and heritage. The company firmly believes that through poetry, music, and art, we can build a more harmonious world—bridging cultural gaps and promoting mutual understanding.



Visions Corporation played a pivotal role in the success of the 2023 Tahbib Multilingual Festival. The event reflected a deep commitment to social responsibility by bringing together people from diverse cultures in a shared celebration of language and art. Visions supported this unique initiative as it resonated with its core values of inclusivity and cultural appreciation. The company believes in the transformative power of the arts to unite communities and foster understanding in our multicultural world.

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

ZENITH BUSINESS SOLUTIONS

Zenith Business Solutions was delighted to sponsor the Tahbib Multilingual Festival in 2023—an event that celebrated peace and cultural unity through language, poetry, music, and art. Our support underscored our commitment to social responsibility and the importance of fostering multicultural dialogue. At Zenith Business Solutions, we believe in the transformative power of the arts to unite diverse communities and create a platform for mutual respect and appreciation.



Kanz Jewels was proud to support the Tahbib Multilingual Festival in 2023—an event that beautifully united diverse cultures through the universal languages of poetry, music, and art. Our sponsorship reflected our commitment to social responsibility and our belief in the festival's mission to promote peace and cultural unity. Kanz Jewels values the unique opportunity this event provided to celebrate diversity and bring people together in a harmonious, inclusive environment.



A Heartfelt Thanks to All Our Valued Contributors

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who contributed to the resounding success of the Tahbib Multilingual Festival, held on December 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, 2023. This celebration of linguistic and cultural unity was made truly unforgettable thanks to the unwavering support of our sponsors and the dedication of our remarkable team.

Our sponsors played an integral role in promoting and executing the festival with grandeur. Their generosity and belief in our vision were instrumental in creating an inspiring experience for all who attended. We deeply appreciate their trust and partnership.

A special thanks goes out to our outstanding moderators—Tarannum Ahmed, Sumaira Khalil, Shailla Khan, and Tamreez Inam—whose eloquence and grace added depth and distinction to the sessions.

Their skillful moderation and ability to engage the audience were truly commendable.

We also wish to recognize the tireless efforts of everyone involved in planning and organizing the festival. Your creativity, dedication, and passion were the driving forces behind its success.

Together, we created a memorable celebration of cultural diversity and artistic expression. Thank you all for making the Tahbib Multilingual Festival 2023 an extraordinary event. Your contributions have left a lasting legacy, and we look forward to many more meaningful celebrations together.

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