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## Embassy of Pakistan in Doha Hosts Poetry Evening to Celebrate Independence



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The Embassy of Pakistan in Qatar brought together Pakistan's rich literary heritage and patriotic spirit by hosting an Independence Day celebration at its auditorium. The evening, dedicated to poetry, turned into a cultural gathering that resonated with the essence of Urdu literature and the pride of national identity.

The event, held under the auspices of Ambassador HE Muhammed Aamir, drew a large audience from the Pakistani community, eager to celebrate their beloved homeland through Urdu poetry.

The programme was presided over by the Defence Attaché at the Embassy, Mr Sher Wali Khan, while noted businessman and community leader Mr Israr Malazai attended as Chief Guest.

Welfare Attaché Mr Osama Idrees graced the occasion as Guest of Honour.

The programme proceedings were steered by Dr Faisal Hanif, chairman of Bazm-e-Urdu Qatar, founder of Guzergah-e-Khayal literary forum and Iqbal Academy Middle East, and a well-known writer and literary critic, who set the tone for the evening with a warm welcome and an evocative recitation from the noted Urdu poet Josh Malihabadi, celebrating the beauty and grandeur of the Urdu language.

The event began with the national anthem of Pakistan and a recitation from the Holy Quran by Asif Younus, followed by an engaging literary segment. Two thought-provoking essays captured the

audience's attention: the first, by educationist and social activist Riyaz Ahmed Bakali, explored the intricate relationship between thought and language, culminating in a tribute to Urdu's expressive power. The second essay, delivered by the analyst, published author, and prominent journalist Osama bin Javed, reflected on the meaning of independence and its contemporary relevance, earning warm applause.

The highlight of the evening was a grand mushaira (poetry symposium) featuring 12 distinguished poets, including Sobiya Khan, Sanwal Abbasi, Tahir Jamil, Samreen Nadeem Samar, Shabbar Ali, Farzana Safdar, Rana Anwar Ali, Asif Shafi, Qaiser Masood, Sheraz Ahmed Bakali, and Zeenat Lakhani. Their poetic presentation, spanning classical themes and patriotic fervour struck a deep chord with the audience who responded with admiration and applause throughout.

In their concluding remarks, session president Mr Sher Wali Khan and Chief Guest Mr Israr Malazai commended the quality of the programme, praising the Embassy and community for fostering cultural and intellectual exchange. Certificates were presented to the participating poets and essayists in recognition of their contributions, followed by a vote of thanks and closing remarks by Welfare Attaché Mr Osama Idrees.

The evening ended on a warm note with a dinner, offering an opportunity for camaraderie and cultural connection. The event was coordinated by the Embassy team led by Deputy Head of

Mission Syed Mustafa Rabbani and Welfare Attaché Mr Osama Idrees at Pakistan Embassy and supported by community organizers Abdul Rahman Nadeem, Riyaz Ahmed Bakali, and Dr Faisal Hanif. This literary celebration not only marked Pakistan's Independence Day but also reaffirmed Pakistani community's deep love for Urdu language, literature, and traditions in the heart of Qatar.