

For favour of publication

Curtain raiser ~ Mushaira Jashn-e-Bahar – 2017

Hailing in the spring of literary excellence at mushaira Jashn-e-Bahar

New Delhi: Bringing together the best among the practitioners of Urdu verse, Mushaira Jashn-e-Bahar 2017 is all set to hail in a spring of literary excellence for lovers of poetry and India's syncretic cultural heritage. The mushaira, the biggest such event in the capital's cultural calendar, will be held at Delhi Public Road, Mathura Road; on Friday, April 14th, 2017, 6.30 pm onwards.

Leading contemporary Urdu poets from all over India and the world will regale the thousands of poetry lovers who gather annually for this incomparable literary evening organized by the non-profit Jashn-e-Bahar Trust that works towards promoting our beautiful language and the spirit of *amn* and *kaumi yakjahati*, peace and brotherhood.

In its 19th Year, the present edition of the mushaira presents poets from Japan, England, the USA, Canada, Qatar and Kuwait, besides the leading luminaries in this field from India. The poets list for the evening includes – Dr Abdullah Abdullah, New York, The USA; Basir Kazmi, Manchester, the UK; So Yamane, Osaka, Japan; Jawaid Danish, Toronto, Canada; Aziz Nabeel, Doha, Qatar; and Shahjahan Jaffery, Kuwait City, Kuwait. From India – Javed Akhtar, Mansoor Usmani, Gauhar Raza, Popular Meeruthi, Dr Nusrat Mehdi, Dr Naseem Nikhat, Aqeel Nomani, Aalok Shrivstav, Meenu Bakshi and Hussain Haidry.

The mushaira will be held in the Gracious Presence of Dr Najma Heptulla, Hon'ble Governor, Manipur. Janab Shamsur Rahman Faruqi will preside over the poetry evening. Member of Parliament, Jb Shatrughan Sinha will be the Chief Guest and Jb Amarendra Khatua, Director General, Indian Council for Cultural Relations will be the Guest of Honour.

“With the firm belief that Zabaan-e-Urdu and its poetry unite people across class, creed and cultures, we, at Jashn-e-Bahar Trust, strive to present the diversity in the practice of Urdu verse and its cross-cultural, and now global, richness to our audiences,” says Kamna Prasad, Founder of the non-profit Jashn-e-Bahar Trust that organized this international mushaira.

“Every year, more than 5,000 people attend mushaira Jashn-e-Bahar. This is testimony not just to the popularity of the mushaira but also to the fact that Urdu, our beloved language, is very much alive and continues to resonate with the sensibilities of people of all ages,” says Kamna Prasad. This year the mushaira also travels to Patna, another dabistan (stronghold) of Urdu where it will be held on Saturday, April 15th at the Shri Krishna Memorial Hall, she adds.

Contemporary Urdu poetry and the best of our syncretic cultural traditions are showcased at Mushaira Jashn-e-Bahar where modern calligraphy by eminent painter M F Husain representing the sweep and reach of Urdu, finds place amid cutting edge new media and set décor reminiscent of the classical age of Urdu poetry. Underscoring the mission of Jashn-e-Bahar, M F Husain's calligraphy depicts Faiz Ahmed Faiz's famous line – *Hum parvarish-e-lauh-o-kalam karte rahenge* (Forever will we nurture the tablet and the pen).

Mushaira Jashn-e-Bahar 2017 is organised with the support of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), Delhi Public School, Mathura Road, Takshila Educational Society, M R Morarka Foundation, Tata Sons Ltd, Overseas Infrastructure Alliance (OIA), Ambuja-Neotia Holdings, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd (ONGC) and Petronet LNG Ltd.

Entry is strictly by invitation. Invites can be downloaded from our website www.jashnebahar.org. The invitation cards are also available at the following places:

Jashn-e-Bahar Trust: 216-A, Gautam Nagar, New Delhi – 49, Ph. 41642893

India Islamic Cultural Centre: 87-88, Lodhi Road, New Dehi-03, Ph. 43535353

Urdu Academy: CPO Building, Kashmiri Gate, Delhi – 54, Ph. 23863858

Ghalib Academy: Hazrat Nizamuddin (West) New Delhi – 13, Ph. 24351098

Al-Hikmah Foundation: Gali No.8, Near Jama Masjid, Zakir Nagar, New Delhi-25, Shakeel-ur-Rehman Ph # 41069880, Mobile # 9891651424

Taameer-e-Millat Foundation: Jahanpanah, Hauz Rani, New Delhi-17, Mirza Zaki Ahmad Mobile # 9811026322.

SR International: 96-A, Masjid Wali Gali, Bharat Nagar, New Delhi – 25, Ph:#41069880

Haji Hotel: 1918, Jama Masjid, Delhi – 06, Mobile # 9810715159

Al Nawaz Restaurant: A-50, Abul Fazal Enclave, Okhla Head, Jamia Nagar, New Delhi – 25, Mobile # 9711794455

Evergreen Sweets: Sarai Julena, Opp. Escorts Hospital, New Delhi – 25, Mobile # 9871289289

Sadia Homeo Clinic: E-11/72, Opp. Sahara Chemist, Hauz Rani, New Delhi-17, Mobile# 7838380024.

Zakfai Mobile Electronics: 1 & 16 India Mall, Community Centre, NFC, New Delhi-65, Ph:#41414180,

Maktaba Jamia Ltd: 4167, Urdu Bazar, Jama Masjid, delhi -06, Ph# 23260668

We will greatly appreciate if you can publish a curtain raiser for the mushaira in your publication and support us in the service of Urdu, one of the best examples of our secular, syncretic culture.

For any further information please contact

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Encl: Invite for Press Meet, Invitation card for the mushaira, A Background note on Jashn-e-Bahar Trust, Photographs.