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Press Release Mushaira Jashn-e-Bahar 2017

Top Urdu poets from across the globe regale Patna's poetry lovers at Mushaira Jashn-e-Bahar 2017

Patna, April 15: Top poets from across the globe and India presented modern Urdu poetry in all its scintillating *rang-o-aahang*, styles and genres, during India's biggest international mushaira Jashn-e-Bahar 2017 held in the city this Saturday. Thousands of poetry lovers enjoyed the enchanting literary evening organised by Takshila Educational Society and Jashn-e-Bahar Trust at the iconic Shri Krishna Memorial Hall.

Now in its 19th year, mushaira Jashn-e-Bahar is known for bringing all the myriad flavours of contemporary Urdu verse to its audience. In this edition, poets from Japan, England, the USA, Canada, Qatar, Kuwait and India showcased the richness and diversity of contemporary Urdu verse. The scintillating poetry recited at the mushaira explored ever new poetic horizons ranging from politics and burning social issues, to the philosophy of life and the joy of spring.

The dazzling poets' list for the evening comprised – 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 – Mansoor Usmani, Gauhar Raza, Popular Meeruti, Dr Nusrat Mehdi, Aalok Shrivstava, Dr Naseem Nikhat, Prof Minu Bakshi, Khursheed Akbar, Zahidul Haq and Hussain Haidry. Senior poet Dr Abdullah Abdullah presided over the literary evening while Jb Mansoor Usmani conducted the mushaira.

In her opening remarks, Kamna Prasad, Urdu Activist and Founder of the non-profit Jashn-e-Bahar Trust, set the tone for the mushaira. Jashn-e-Bahar is dedicated to promoting our beautiful language and the spirit of *amn* and *kaumi yakjehati*, peace and brotherhood, she said and added, "As our era is beset with hatred and terrorism, it's pertinent that we preserve the syncretic values and culture associated with Urdu. For Urdu is an essentially Indian language. A language of love, it is a product of our Ganga-Jamni *tehzeeb* that removes the distance between temple and mosque." Jashn-e-Bahar is dedicated to the service of Urdu and our *mushatarika tehzeeb*, composite culture, for the past 19 years, she added.

"Mushaira is a unique tradition where poets present their creations directly to their audience. It's a great opportunity for experiential learning about our cultural and civilizational roots especially for young minds. And Jashn-e-Bahar strives to present the richness and diversity of contemporary Urdu verse being practised not just in India but across the world," said Sanjiv Kumar, Secretary, Takshila Educational Society.

Representing the sweep and reach of Urdu through set décor reminiscent of the classical age of Urdu poetry and cutting edge new media, Jashn-e-Bahar mushaira is an ode to the classical yet contemporary nature of this beautiful language. With eminent painter M F Husain's calligraphy depicting faiz Ahmad Faiz's famous line – Hum parvarish-e-lauh-o-kalam karte rahenge (We shall

forever nurture the tablet and the pen) as backdrop, the mushaira aims at celebrating and keeping alive the grandeur of Urdu verse.

While the non-profit Jashn-e-Bahar Trust is dedicated to the service of Urdu and our syncretic culture, Takshila Society is well known for its endeavors in promoting value based education and the best in India's cultural and literary traditions.

Please oblige with appropriate coverage.

Thanks and regards

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