

President pats Mohammed over 'personality award'

ABU DHABI

President His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan has congratulated Vice President and Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, on his selection as the Cultural Personality of the Year for the 9th edition of the Sheikh Zayed Book Award.

Sheikh Khalifa said, "The naming of Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid as a cultural personality by this huge symbolic award which bears the name of late father, Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, is a deserved honour. Who else deserves this honour than my brother and life mate, whom I, the UAE citizens and the Arab and Islamic nation owe him so much because of the development, humanitarian and cultural achievements as well as their impact across the world."

"Honouring of Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid is an hon-

our for the founding fathers of the country, since he is the best person who carried on their legacy and completed their march wisely. He also led the march of progress and development with ambition, hope and determination with the will that does not know what is impossible. Here is our country, under his chairmanship of the UAE Government, developing in various domains year after year, and moving steadily towards achieving its vision "The UAE Vision 2021," Sheikh Khalifa added.

Sheikh Khalifa concluded, "We congratulate Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid for this honour. He has devoted his life to build, plant the hope, spread tolerance, moderation, extend bridges of communication, support science and knowledge, establish concepts of innovation and excellence in all work and production fields in order to turn these into a lifestyle as well as building a better future for Emiratis who represent a role model for all mankind." —WAM