ABU DHABI, 1st May, 2017 (WAM) -- His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the #UAE Armed Forces, stressed that the UAE, under the leadership of President His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, provides great support for culture, literature, science and knowledge, placing them among its priorities, while encouraging authors and cultured people from Arab countries and all over the world.

This was said during His Highness's reception today at the Al Bahr Palace of the winners of the Sheikh Zayed Book Award, most notably the Moroccan historian and intellectual, Dr. Abdallah Laroui, the 11th Cultural Personality of the Year 2016-2017, as well as the winners of the Prince of Poets competition, the judging panel, publishers, organisers of the Abu Dhabi International Book Fair and the Chinese delegation as the fair's guest of honour, while accompanied by Faris Khalaf Al Mazrouei, Chairman of the Committee for Festivals and Cultural and Heritage Programmes (CFCHP); Mohamed Khalifa Al Mubarak, Chairman of the Abu Dhabi Tourism and Culture Authority, and Dr. Ali bin Tamim, Secretary-General of the Sheikh Zayed Book Award.

His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan congratulated the winners of the 11th Sheikh Zayed Book Award and the Prince of Poets competition, expressing his happiness for the cultural, intellectual and literary elite and his appreciation for their role in strengthening the cultural and knowledge scene in the community through their intellect and creativity, for which they deserved this honour. His Highness also thanked the judging panel for their significant efforts in the judging process.