

ABLE

ASIAN BUSINESS LEADERSHIP FORUM

HISTORY-MAKERS OF THE NEW ASIAN CENTURY

VOLUME III



2013 - 2014



IEDEA®

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ABLEF

The ABLF Series is a contemporary leadership platform with superlative information-sharing, recognition and mentoring initiatives, all of which bring together Asia's finest leaders, and facilitate the region's biggest intra-Asia business opportunities, while harnessing the economic and intellectual potential of the Asian region



*“ We are investing in the future. They say the sky is the limit for ambitions.
We say: the sky is only the beginning. ”*

The third edition of the ABLF Awards was dedicated to the magnificent city of Dubai,
and the equally magnificent leadership of

H.H. SHEIKH MOHAMMED BIN RASHID AL MAKTOUM
UAE'S VICE PRESIDENT, PRIME MINISTER AND RULER OF DUBAI

through whose prescient and brilliant vision has risen a spectacular city, unparalleled in the world.

Dubai, the destination venue of the ABLF Awards 2013, a growing, global economic force,
and a glittering urban megalopolis, within which beats an old-world Asian heart

ABLE



H.H. Sheikh Khalifa
Bin Zayed Al Nahyan
President of the UAE



H.H. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum
*Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE
and Ruler of Dubai*



H.H. Sheikh Tamim
bin Hamad Al Thani
Emir of Qatar



H.E. Sheikh Abdullah
bin Nasser bin Khalifa Al Thani
Prime Minister of Qatar



H.M. Sultan Qaboos
bin Said Al Said
Sultan of Oman



H.M. King Hamad
bin Isa Al Khalifa
King of Bahrain



H.R.H. Prince Khalifa
bin Salman Al Khalifa
Prime Minister of Bahrain

CELEBRATING VISIONARY



H.H. Sheikh Sabah
Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah
Amir of Kuwait



H.E. Pranab Mukherjee
President of India



H.E. Shri Narendra Modi
Prime Minister of India



H.H. Sheikh Jaber Mubarak
Al-Hamad Al-Sabah
Prime Minister of Kuwait



H.R.H. King Abdullah
bin Abdulaziz Al Saud
King of Saudi Arabia



Honourable D. M. Jayaratne
*Prime Minister and Deputy Minister of Defence
and Urban Development of Sri Lanka*



Sultan Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah
King of Malaysia



H.E. Yingluck Shinawatra
Prime Minister of Thailand



H.M. King Bhumibol Adulyadej
King of Thailand



Honourable Dato' Sri Mohammad Najib
bin Tun Abdul Razak
Prime Minister of Malaysia



H.E. Dr Tony Tan Keng Yam
President of Singapore



H.E. Lee Hsien Loong
Prime Minister of Singapore



H.E. Thein Sein
President of Myanmar

LEADERSHIP IN ASIA



Xi Jinping
President of the People's Republic of China



Li Keqiang
Premier of the People's Republic of China



H.E. Sheikh Hasina
Prime Minister of Bangladesh



Mahinda Rajapaksa
President of Sri Lanka



H.E. Dr H. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono
President of Indonesia



H.E. Md. Abdul Hamid
President of Bangladesh

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CHAPTER I

Messages from the Leadership

GREAT LEADERS UNDERSTAND THE EBB AND
FLOW OF THE TIDES OF FORTUNE,

ABLE

AND THUS EMPLOY WISDOM TO GUIDE AND INSPIRE THOSE
THEY LEAD TO BE THE BEST THEY CAN BE



H.H. SHEIKH NAHAYAN MABARAK AL-NAHAYAN

MINISTER OF CULTURE, YOUTH AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, UAE

One of the UAE's most respected leaders, H.H. Sheikh Nahayan Mubarak Al-Nahayan is committed to promoting greater economic and business collaborations for global empowerment. His Highness is a strong advocate of nurturing the knowledge economy and has thus paved a new path for the country's educational system, making it the hub for higher education and research in the region.

The ABLF has had the honour of receiving the attention, encouragement and patronage of H.H. Sheikh Nahayan Mabarak Al-Nahayan, who has imparted great wisdom through keynote addresses and letters to the Series. Here we share with you some of His Highness' inspirational words that have helped define the trajectory of the ABLF Series.

"I fully support the premise of the ABLF: that the growing stature of the Asian economies has major global ramifications and holds great potential. The work of the ABLF celebrates regional and international dialogue and cooperation to promote growth and create a better future for the region. I am confident that the presence of so many able Asian leaders here this evening will help strengthen Asian economic success. I am also hopeful that by working together, we will help promote the creation of viable regional markets and enhance the ability of our countries to attract joint ventures and investments."

"The UAE has good and close trade and economic relationships with other Asian countries and we support the notion that the growing links between private business, governments and the people of Asia have great potential. Great leadership in this age and time calls for the ability to build sustainable relationships and break through barriers."

"At the ABLF, all of you here are a remarkable array of outstanding and impressive individuals, who have demonstrated the impact that strong, effective leaders can have. Times of great change and challenge must be accompanied by appropriate social policies, successful local development, greater emphasis on ethical and transparent transactions, and wider individual and institutional participation in all economic activities. I am confident the ABLF will inspire thoughtful analysis and creative approaches to these challenges."

"Your presence at the ABLF here tonight reflects our collective economic aspirations and deep desire to enhance the prosperity of our countries, illustrates your strong commitment to strengthening trade and investment relations in the region, and also highlights our joint resolve to continue working hard to ensure that economic progress across the Asian region keeps pace with economic developments around the world."

MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, INDIA, TO THE ABLF SERIES 2013

The ABLF has garnered steady support from the Prime Minister's Office, India, over the last two years, and in 2013, the Series received a letter from Former Prime Minister, H.E. Dr Manmohan Singh, affirming India's commitment to the tenets of the ABLF, constructed on the premise of a stronger, integrated Asia.



सत्यमेव जयते

प्रधान मंत्री

Prime Minister

MESSAGE

I extend my best wishes for the success of Asian Business Leadership Forum (ABLF) 2013, being organized in the United Arab Emirates. The ABLF series is an important platform for showcasing and celebrating Asian business excellence and promoting intra-Asia business partnerships. It focuses on Industry, Infrastructure and Energy sectors, which are of critical importance to the economic growth of Asian countries. I am sure the series will in particular inspire young men and women to dream and achieve bigger. I once again commend the ABLF initiative.

Manmohan Singh
(Manmohan Singh)

New Delhi
10 December, 2013

HISTORY RISING

The ABLF Series would like to thank outgoing Indian Prime Minister, H.E. Dr Manmohan Singh, for his esteemed words of support and encouragement.

In early April, 2014, the world's largest democracy, and Asia's second largest economy, went to vote to elect India's next Prime Minister, with a record 814 million eligible voters – a figure unprecedented in human history. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) secured a whopping 282 seats in the Lower House of Parliament (Lok Sabha), thus securing India's most prominent leadership position for the party's Prime Ministerial candidate, H.E. Shri Narendra Modi, who was sworn in on May 26, 2014.

The ABLF Series would like to congratulate H.E. Shri Modi in achieving this historic win, and offers full support to his mission of "inclusive development, good governance and stability".



A NEW BEGINNING

MAY 26, 2014, WITNESSED
THE CHANGING OF THE GUARD
IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, INDIA

*"Let us together dream of a strong, developed and inclusive India
that actively engages with the global community to strengthen the cause of world peace and development."*

H.E. SHRI NARENDRA MODI

PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA

Passionate, poetic and progressive, H.E. Shri Narendra Modi is one of independent India's most popular leaders. A 'transformational leader' known for delivering results, he embodies courage, conviction and compassion. Under His Excellency's leadership as Chief Minister of Gujarat (2002 - 2014), the state won more than 300 awards in the past decade; the Chief Minister's Office was also recognised by the United Nations for 'Improving transparency, accountability and responsiveness in the Public Services'. As the Prime Minister of India, His Excellency has highlighted his vision for friendly cooperation with other members of the global community.



H.E. KITTIRATT NA-RANONG

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND
MINISTER OF FINANCE, THAILAND

TOWARDS CREATING GREATER ECONOMIC INTEGRATION IN ASIA

A Deputy Prime Minister in Prime Minister of Thailand H.E. Yingluck Shinawatra's cabinet, H.E. Kittiratt Na-Ranong is also the country's Minister of Finance. His business acumen is highlighted via the several high-profile positions he has held in the country's financial sector – as Managing Director of the Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET) for five years, and as Director of the Thai Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). His Excellency delivered the opening keynote address of the ABLF Awards 2013.

It is a great honour for me to attend the Asian Business Leadership Forum Awards this year, and to deliver this keynote address.

I am very proud to be here among the prominent leaders, policymakers, top businessmen, academicians and opinion leaders of core industries across Asia.

Before I entered politics and held a ministerial position, I worked in various fields in the private sector, including my position as the President of the Stock Exchange of Thailand. Thus, I fully understand how challenging it is for businesses to survive the turbulent environment of the global market and to stay competitive under the increasing pressure from new rules and regulations in almost all markets, particularly from the advanced countries.

I truly admire those who succeed; to not only survive, but also excel, and lead companies as well as nations to the acceptance of and recognition in the global market. There are many of you here today who well deserve the ABLF Awards.

Although our region was inevitably affected by the global economic crisis, I think we are still in relatively good shape, and I believe that the potential of the Asian Century may be even stronger. As the countries in the Western

world are still coping with the aftermath of the financial crisis and the lingering debt burden in the private and public sector, our region, with its strong and diversified base of production, strength in natural resources, which contributes to the robust agricultural and energy sector, diligent and hardworking population, and the increasingly capable private sector, and prudent macroeconomic management, continue to fork ahead to improve our competitiveness and generate new opportunities.

In Asia, the ASEAN Community will begin in 2015. The member countries are working together to create a single market and a single production base, which will increase the potential growth of the region and the attractiveness to investors, both inside and outside the region. The ASEAN Plus initiative will extend to this region and create greater economic integration in Asia.

Thailand is working closely with ASEAN members and also with other sub-regional corporations in Southeast Asia such as the Greater Mekong Sub-regional Economic Cooperation (GMS), Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS), Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle (IMT-GT) and Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC). There is a strong inclination in that region to look west for more integration, such as towards the Mekong-India initiative.

Many private sectors within the Gulf state, the Indian continent and Asia are already paving the way and do business between these regions. We should support and encourage them to do more.

The ABLF Awards focuses on the three drivers of global economy, namely: Industry, Infrastructure, and Energy. All of them are very crucial sectors. We need to develop a strong private sector in these sectors, which will invest and create new competitiveness for our region. We also need strong public and private cooperation in this endeavour.

I would also like to emphasise that technology, in the years to come, will serve as an important booster. In any sector, new technology will change the landscape of competitiveness, and in many cases, has totally changed the consumer or even the social behaviour, as we have witnessed in the convergence of telecommunications, broadcasting and information

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”

technology. Thus, our business sectors have to be at the forefront of technology, and invest more in research and development. I truly believe that whichever, the companies or the nations, come up with new technology and innovation, will be the winners, no matter whether they be creators or users in their own businesses.

In my capacity as Deputy Prime Minister, I have been focusing my office's efforts to improve the business and investment environment in order for the public sector to be able to facilitate businesses to compete and excel, for instance, through the reduction of corporate income tax and incentives for innovation, research and development.

Before I conclude, ladies and gentlemen, at the end of the day, it is the success of businesses that realises the benefits, creates jobs, generates national wealth and delivers economic growth, which is enjoyed by the population at large.

On that note, let me join this celebration today and congratulate all of you who have contributed to the rise of the Asian Century, and will receive the ABLF Awards this year.

Thank you very much for your attention.

ABLF

ABLF



H.E. KAMAL NATH

UNION CABINET MINISTER OF URBAN
DEVELOPMENT AND PARLIAMANTARY AFFAIRS,
INDIA

INDIA-UAE FRIENDSHIP A FORCE FOR PEACE AND HARMONY IN ASIA

H.E. Kamal Nath's unrivalled political acumen teamed with his diplomatic prowess has earned him global respect as of one of India's most esteemed leaders. During his five-year term as the Commerce and Industry Minister of India, he was successful in tripling India's foreign trade, engineering a seven-fold increase in FDI in-flows to India and under his leadership, significant strides were made in the areas of Intellectual Property and Industrial Design. His Excellency opened the India-UAE Showcase at the ABLF Awards 2013 with a rousing address.

Good evening Your Highnesses, Your Excellencies, and dignitaries. This is an important moment, in an important part of the world. And the moment and the part of the world are at a critical point of convergence, where great power and equally great opportunities abound. We are here, as part of this spectacular Asian celebration, because the region is experiencing a resurrection of its former glory, a return to a world order from centuries ago.

I have always espoused the cause of Asia. The region houses over 62 per cent of the world's population – a mammoth 4.3 billion of the estimated total of 7.1 billion. We, my fellow Asian leaders, are essentially, the future of the world – our actions and decisions today, will dictate tomorrow's global economy, and what today represents our vast youth capital, will tomorrow commandeer the world's outlook.

In view of this, cultivating and promoting a progressive, nurturing environment for entrepreneurship in Asia is paramount. And without a sturdily architected, well-rounded knowledge economy, the region will lose the vitality it has worked so hard to develop.

The ABLF is close to my heart because it encapsulates these aspects perfectly. I also take special pride in this event because I have strategically contributed to it and ideated it – I, along with many other Asian leaders, have dedicated personal time to deliver the Series to its contemporary avatar, because I feel that Asia is ready for a forum as relevant as one such as the ABLF.

The ABLF enshrines three narratives that have been crafted through a strategy platform that I have shared constantly. The Series advocates accolades for exemplary leaders – appreciation is the key to unlocking future potential through inspiration – the strengthening of the knowledge economy by encouraging conversation, for collaboration. And, through its freshly launched social responsibility arm, which will be showcased shortly, the series will work towards strengthening a mentorship base for Asia's tremendous youth capital through technology-aided channels, social media and green conferencing, to name a few.

What makes this evening's event even more distinctive is that it is held in the UAE. Since the beginning of the 1950s, India and the UAE have worked unerringly towards architecting a strong, multi-faceted relationship; our commercial equation is sans par because of the role tradesmen from both nations have played in building socio-economic bridges.

We in India, look upon the UAE as a great friend, and the bond the two nations share is a force for peace and harmony in the entire Asian region.

I stand here, at this event, in front of this quintessential, powerful Asian gathering, as an emissary from India, who wants nothing more than to enhance these bridges of cooperation and interdependence for the benefit of all. The security and economic stability this will foster will serve the region and intra-Asia relationships in good stead.

I have always believed in the ABLF as a frontrunner of development, of collaboration and interdependence, and it is with great pride that I present to you the India-UAE Showcase tonight, which I believe will highlight this inspirational bilateral relationship.

“

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SHOBHANA BHARTIA

CHAIRPERSON AND EDITORIAL DIRECTOR
HT MEDIA LTD., INDIA

BEYOND BREAKING THE GLASS CEILING

An Indian media mogul, and a Padma Shri recipient from the Government of India for outstanding contribution in the field of journalism, Shobhana Bhartia is unanimously hailed as the force behind the transformation of Hindustan Times – currently the second largest English daily in India – into a high quality, forward looking, professional media organisation. Through her position at the helm of India's largest media company, her pioneering strategies and relentless dedication, Shobhana Bhartia has revolutionised the face of print media in India, and, in turn, the Asian region as a whole. Shobhana Bhartia was invited to present the ABLF Woman of Power Award 2013, with a keynote address on women in business.

Good evening Your Highnesses, Your Excellences, and dignitaries. On behalf of India, I would like to extend a warm welcome to all the Asian leaders assembled here this evening, for this grand celebration of the region's excellence in business, the ABLF Awards 2013.

It gives me great pleasure to be addressing all of you at this event in the beautiful city of Dubai, an Asian state quite unlike any other, the rise and glory of which has shown the world that with vision, conviction and hard work, absolutely nothing is impossible. I take this opportunity to congratulate the emirate of Dubai, its people and its outstanding leadership, for their spectacular achievements, including their most recent win, the Expo2020, possibly the biggest trade event in the world.

When I was invited to present this cornerstone award at the ABLF Awards 2013, I agreed immediately because I believe that any recognition of women's achievements, especially in the extremely competitive business arena, is something for Asia to pride itself on. I lead a business in India, a land of over 1.2 billion people, and a country, which is as full of opportunities and challenges as it is diverse and beautiful. Leading a business of a considerable size and magnitude, such as the one I head,

warrants accountability, integrity and resourcefulness in equal measures, and is often a challenge because the path that I tread, the path that most businesswomen in Asia tread, is sometimes still considered a man's one.

In spite of this, today, across Asia, a growing number of businesswomen are breaking new ground, and are driving change across the multiple, and varied realms, of business and trade through entrepreneurship, innovation and determination.

Honestly, the challenge of cultivating success professionally, whilst simultaneously thriving personally, is huge. It is platforms like this, which showcase women in business, women of true power, that helps them gain momentum on their journeys towards gaining mastery over their spheres. I say this from personal experience as I myself strive to excel in my myriad roles as a mother, a wife, a daughter and a business leader, all at once.

The true beauty, and equally challenging facet, of being Asian lies in the ethos of the region, which holds traditional values at its core. This is what differentiates us from our Western counterparts; our desire to run a successful business or rise up the corporate ladder is a strong one, but the desire to prioritise family values is just as important. We don't want to sacrifice one at the cost of the other.

I'd like, however, to end with a bit of a contrarian view. We talk about the need to empower women and enable them to break the so-called glass ceiling and emerge as achievers, and are genuinely heartened to see more and more of them do so.

But I think the real testament to their success will come when we no longer slot women in a separate category in awards or power lists, when women compete with men on the same footing, under the same conditions.

Thank you for your time and it gives me considerable pleasure to have introduced to you, and to felicitate, the ABLF Woman of Power 2013.

“

We talk about the need to empower women and enable them to break the so-called glass ceiling and emerge as achievers, and are genuinely heartened to see more and more of them do so. But I think the real testament to their success will come when we no longer slot women in a separate category in awards or power lists, when women compete with men on the same footing, under the same conditions.

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LEADERS SPEAK



"I am happy to participate at the ABLF, which recognises great leadership in Asia, and showcases exemplary intra-Asia relationships such as the one India and the UAE share. I can see great progress in the Indo-Emirati relations at all levels, and the future looks bright for both countries."

H.E. SULTAN BIN SAEED AL MANSOURI
Minister of Economy, UAE

"I would like to commend the Asian Business Leadership Forum Awards for organising this Asia-wide initiative. An Asia-wide platform has not been created for many years. I initiated Asia Cooperation Dialogue during my tenure as Prime Minister in 2003 and invited all the Asian countries to join. That was for a political track; but for the business track, the Asian Business Leadership Forum is a great platform to bring business people together. Now is the time to build on Asia's potential to make it the economic powerhouse and the force for positive movement that it should be. The need for Asia to come together has never been greater."

H.E. DR THAKSIN SHINAWATRA
Former Prime Minister, Thailand



"The ABLF provides an ideal opportunity and an ideal platform to showcase the leadership in Asia and the business community to the rest of the world and show how the leadership can solve problems, not just of Asia but also of the rest of the world."

H.E. KAPIL SIBAL
Union Cabinet Minister of Communications and Information Technology,
Union Cabinet Minister of Law and Justice, India



"How do you promote economic and social development of a nation, any nation, without business intervention? The ABLF initiative makes this possible, it has procured a platform for people like us to discuss, debate and decide how to change the face of Asia. Needless to say, the award winners are extremely happy. I'm sure the ABLF will continue to encourage other people to excel in their areas."

T.K.A. NAIR
Advisor to the Prime Minister of India

"This is an interesting time, economically and geopolitically in Asia and I believe the Asian Business Leadership Forum is important for exchanging and producing new ideas that can prove useful for cross-border purposes. In the past few years, intra-economic activities within Asia have gone up tremendously whether it is in trade or in investment. I think it is important for us to explore new opportunities that will further bolster such economic relationships within the Asian community. The Asian Business Leadership Forum provides a forum for such dialogue and can become the Davos [World Economic Forum] of Asia."

H.E. GITA WIRJAWAN
Minister of Trade, Indonesia



"The issue of Asia's economic development has captured the attention of the world as the centre of global growth and power shifts from the West to Asia. I commend the ABLF Awards for building such a significant event that showcases how Asian business entities have played a defining role in the rise of Asia."

H.E. VAYALAR RAVI
Union Cabinet Minister of Overseas Indian Affairs, India

LEADERS SPEAK



"What we need in Asia is for the business leaders to get together, and there should be a leader to get them together. The ABLF is that leader."

H.E. MAQBOOL ALI SULTAN

Former Minister of Commerce and Industry, Sultanate of Oman

"The Asian Business Leadership Forum is the first time when India, West Asia and Southeast Asia have come together to recognise the success of the infrastructure industry. We at Adani are committed to the infrastructure sector, the potential of Asia and investing in the Asian region, and hence our endorsement of this initiative."

GAUTAM ADANI

Chairman, Adani Group, India



"The ABLF is a fantastic Series, which recognises the excellence in different individuals with different capacities. I am extremely proud to be a part of this event – I hope that we can really, through this close cooperation between Qatar Chamber and the ABLF, contribute our share to the growth and well-being of this institution, as I refer to it."

H.E. REMY ROWHANI

Director General, Qatar Chamber





"It is a great pleasure to be here at the ABLF because this is a forum where we can exchange information about the innumerable business opportunities"

H.E. DR MUHAMAD CHATIB BASRI
Minister of Finance, Republic of Indonesia

"I am happy to see that the ABLF has grown in relevance and stature over the past few years. I look forward to participating in the ABLF, and representing Oman at this important knowledge-intensive platform that brings together insights on partnerships, economic policy, regulatory measures and government support to industry."

H.E. DR ALI BIN MASOUD BIN ALI AL SUNAIDI
Minister of Commerce and Industry, Sultanate of Oman



"The development of the Industry, Infrastructure and Energy sectors is paramount to any nation's progress and the Asian Business Leadership Forum has successfully engaged in a remarkable effort of showcasing the talent and resource across Asia within these key areas of growth."

H.E. MOHAMED HELAL AL MUHAIRI
Director General, Abu Dhabi Chamber



CHAPTER II

The ABLF Elements

GREAT LEADERS NURTURE COOPERATION AND
COLLABORATIVE ENDEAVOURS,

ABLE



SHINE KNOWLEDGE ONTO ACTION, LIGHT THE PATH TO SUCCESS
AND RAISE THE BAR FOR EXCELLENCE

REGIONS OF FOCUS

The ABLF consistently brings together, through its narratives, the region's most powerful policy, opinion and business leaders; dynamic men and women of contemporary Asia, whose achievements, influence, proactive businesses and economic agendas have ensured that this century well and truly belongs to Asia. The ABLF focuses on three prominent regions of Asia: West Asia, South Asia and Southeast Asia.



WEST ASIA

Known in the past predominately for oil production, in recent years, West Asia has quickly expanded into many global sectors of economic development. Together the UAE, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Qatar, the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Sultanate of Oman, amongst others, have forged a path for infrastructural innovation, facilitated global business initiatives and investment, and are setting new records for rapid industrialisation. In 2012, West Asia pulled a combined GDP of USD 1.5 trillion, with only 50 per cent comprising oil revenues.



SOUTH ASIA

A region comprising up-and-coming global economies, such as India, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh, along with newer developing countries such as Pakistan, Nepal and Afghanistan, South Asia has experienced tremendous growth in the last decade. Despite regional political unrest, deficits and the global economic crisis in the West, South Asia has managed to expand in the areas of technology, industry and infrastructure. In 2012, the combined GDP of South Asia was USD 2.2 trillion, a testament to the regions resilience despite being hit hard by the economic recession.



SOUTHEAST ASIA

With a population of about 600 million and a combined nominal GDP of more than USD 2 trillion in 2011, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), if designated as a country, would rank as the ninth largest economy in the world in terms of nominal GDP. With rich natural resources, skilled labour, and an export industry concentrated in global high-growth sectors, Southeast Asia is likely to play a key role in realising the potential of an Asian economic community.

SECTORS OF FOCUS

The ABLF is Asia's premier showcase of excellence, innovation and outstanding achievements in the sectors of Industry, Infrastructure and Energy. At the cusp of great development, there are dramatic changes in the global architecture and Asia is the new driving force behind global economic growth. Therefore, it is only natural that these three crucial sectors play a vital role in fulfilling Asia's economic destiny.

INFRASTRUCTURE

The infrastructure boom in Asia has been the most visible sign of progress in the continent. By employing the latest technology, Asia has made a massive leap in this sector, and owing to the overwhelming demand for infrastructure and the strong financial backing it can attain, this sector holds unlimited potential. The growth of Asia's burgeoning middle class has also resulted in an immense spurt in the softer infrastructure sectors such as health, education and hospitality.



INDUSTRY

The process of industrialisation has paved the way for a societal transformation in Asia, as it did in the West in the past century. This has had a ripple effect on the economy as the infrastructure and energy sectors have now grown, thus further facilitating industries. With the region's developing nations contributing 25 per cent and industrialised nations contributing 20 per cent, the possibility of Asia surpassing the Western foothold in the industrial sector appears real.



ENERGY

Much of Asia's progress has come from rapid industrialisation and infrastructure creation, both of which require a consistent supply of energy. Replete with fossil fuel sources, Asia is not only the world's largest energy supplying continent, it has emerged as the biggest consumer of energy too, and Asia's energy demand is expected to double by 2035. Policy reforms by governments in the energy sector have been influenced by their goals to achieve energy security.





4 ABLF NARRATIVES

The ethos of the ABLF Series is crafted on four key narratives: an information-focused Knowledge Congress that supports the region's commitment to the creation of a sustainable knowledge economy by sharing and expanding corporate and industry know-how and information; the vast region-based social responsibility platform OneAsia2020 that seeks to bring Asia together for greater cooperation and interdependence; the powerful Asia-oriented mentor program Leadership Quotient that supports the rise of entrepreneurship and leadership dynamics in corporate Asia; and finally, the ABLF Awards, which with its Grand Awards Ceremony and its celebratory spirit represents the business zeitgeist of Asia.



The ABLF Awards is a glittering black-tie evening event, with worldwide media coverage that celebrates business achievers from across the three key regions of the Asian juggernaut - the West Asia, South Asia and Southeast Asia - and pays tribute to exemplary leaders who have played a significant role in the story of 'Asia Rising'.

The Awards event attendees are a sterling mix of policy architects and key decision-makers from international industries and leading sovereign wealth funds, investment authorities, JV and M&A consultants from across Asia. The event is acknowledged by media and global business commentators as the most powerful and eminent gathering of Asian business leadership in the region.



The OneAsia2020 initiative is a call for Asia to come together, and to co-create peaceful and diversified partnerships for mutual economic prosperity.

Initiated by H.E. Dr Thaksin Shinawatra, Former Prime Minister of Thailand, OneAsia2020 is an inclusive platform that brings alive intra-Asia dialogue to explore the possibility of sustainable and dynamic relationships for the future of the Asian people.

OneAsia2020 focuses on the exchange of experience and tangible knowledge between the policymakers and the public; the interaction will create a path of understanding on why we need to change and improve our lives together.



The ABLF Knowledge Congress is a definitive, zeitgeist business opinion platform, presented as a day-event that brings together the most powerful and most influential voices in Asia, voices credited with helping mould the region's contemporary business outlook and defining its future. Through debates and discussions, it showcases the ground event, and leverages, using television, social media and speciality communication, Asia's key people, governments, institutions and companies.

The Knowledge Congress presents a multitude of opportunities for exciting intra-Asia cross investments, funding opportunities, creation of new JVs and new PPP's of immense potential, each of which require astute management and architectural skills.



Leadership Quotient is all set to become the ultimate resource hub for leadership in Asia by leveraging inputs from the world of business and academics, through the vision and wisdom of its best ambassadors and teachers. It hosts a bleeding-edge resource centre and a global lecture circuit accessible to the region at large.

LQ was ideated and architected to become a one-stop portal for tactical knowledge on empowered leadership. It proposes perspectives on executive leadership within a contemporary multinational context, based on research, studies and surveys. It puts forth academic and intellectual introspection on the nature, types, constructs and circumstances of 21st century leadership in Asia by thinkers, strategists and social scientists, who have widely influenced the leadership design.



THE ABLF
KNOWLEDGE CONGRESS

A colloquium of consequence



In its second year, the ABLF Series augmented and embraced a more knowledge-focused trajectory. Acknowledging the need to create a platform for conversation and information-sharing, the ABLF Knowledge Congress was held as a precursor to the Awards at the Gate, Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC) in Dubai, UAE.

Entitled 'Leveraging the Key Drivers of the Global Economy', the Congress brought together business and policy leaders from across Asia to share insights on critical issues in Industry, Infrastructure and Energy in the region.

The inaugural edition of the ABLF Knowledge Congress reflected a global shift as established and emerging economies across the world pursue the creation, evaluation and efficient use of knowledge for growth. Industry, Infrastructure and Energy in modern Asia are the powerful drivers of global economy that hold the promise of transformation in a business space by promoting sustainable growth and development. These factors, when consolidated, present new opportunities for the creation of employment and wealth.

“

There are restrictions on the mobility of goods and services; there are restrictions on the mobility of human beings from one territory to another, but the one thing for which there are no restrictions is the transfer of knowledge. The one thing that has no boundaries is knowledge.

”

H.E. KAPIL SIBAL

*Union Cabinet Minister of Communications & Information Technology,
Union Cabinet Minister of Law and Justice, India*



THE ABLF KNOWLEDGE CONGRESS





POWERING ASIA THROUGH INFORMATION





ONEASIA2020

Sparking proactive conversations to build an integrated Asia

Infrastructure

Building blocks for future Asia

Capital

Architecting strategies for financial empowerment

Youth Unemployment

Diffusing a clear and present danger

Food Security

The role of infrastructure creation in ensuring food security

Poverty

Towards a better tomorrow

Future Energy

Powering Asia

Water Scarcity

Focusing on a red alert issue

Education & Empowerment

Asia's critical path to economic and social enablement

Culture Quotient

Understanding the Asian heritage

The ABLF has extended the concept of CSR from corporate social responsibility to regional social responsibility, where the vision does not just encompass community or country, but Asia as a whole. Bringing together people of influence, knowledge and authority on platforms that drive regional cooperation and raise the opportunity quotient for Asia is one of the ABLF's key objectives.

Created by H.E. Dr Thaksin Shinawatra, Former Prime Minister of Thailand, the OneAsia2020 initiative is a call to the Asian region to come together in proactive intent, peace and partnership in a pro-Asia movement, designed to create a unique circle of empowerment.

OneAsia2020 brings alive an important intra-Asia conversation to explore the horizons of 'Action led by knowledge-based information', towards a stronger, sustainable Asian future. OneAsia2020 focuses on the creation of a knowledge reservoir that engages both the policymakers and the public to harness the potential for reform in Asia, thus facilitating the region in achieving its full potential as an emerging global power house.

The initiative will use a variety of tools including high-level conferences, expert workshops, and consultations; an online information system, social media and a network of individuals and organisations from government, industry, academia and civil society to provide the information and knowledge to facilitate public education and help effect positive change.

“

This year's event surpasses last year's, especially because it has also been a platform to bring out this idea of 'one Asia'. The vision of OneAsia2020 that was articulated today, I'm sure, will give a new dimension to the activities of the ABLF.

”

T.K.A. NAIR

Advisor to the Prime Minister of India



H.E. DR THAKSIN SHINAWATRA

FORMER PRIME MINISTER, THAILAND

A POSITIVE FORCE FOR THE WORLD ASIA'S DYNAMISM

From a policeman, to a billionaire telecommunications executive, to former Prime Minister of Thailand, H.E. Dr Thaksin Shinawatra's career graph is nothing short of legendary. His revolutionary economic, healthcare, anti-drug, education and energy policies, as well as the administrative reform he brought to Thailand during his term as Prime Minister, make him one of the strongest leaders in Asia. His Excellency spoke at the occasion of the launch of the OneAsia2020 initiative at the ABLF Awards 2013.

While the vision of a single, united and interconnected Asia has always been close to my heart, the theme of 'One Asia' is one that has especially preoccupied my thoughts over recent months. With the will generated by Asian political and business leaders, there is indeed the momentum to take the 'One Asia' metamorphosis further. Now is the time to build on Asia's potential to make it the economic powerhouse and the force for positive movement that it should be.

The need for Asia to come together has never been greater.

We in Asia have always been fast to seize any emerging opportunities. We have never been afraid to learn. Particularly in terms of economic development, we have harnessed technology transfer and learned from the examples of others on what to do and what not to do.

So, what is holding us back?

For many decades, we have relied on the Western model of development. Even in our regional interactions, we have always had an eye out for Europe, perhaps without always understanding the context out of which European integration evolved.

The idea of Europe was premised on the need to prevent war after the carnage of World War Two. It thus focused not only on political integration, but also economic integration and social integration. And while such integration was uneven and imperfect, allowing egotism and discrimination to persist within European societies, the overall unifying vision was still able to pursue its course.

However, European integration also brought with it some unfortunate internal effects. Within the European Union, and beyond, it produced a large degree of “sameness” and standardisation. Over time, this “sameness” led to an inability to compete, therefore reducing economic interaction and diversification.

As mentioned, our old partners in the West are currently undergoing challenges in their economic and social structures. We wish them the greatest success in their efforts to move beyond their present turmoil. But we cannot wait for them to recover. Indeed, they can no longer continue to import from us as much as they used to. And we have to start by enhancing our internal market and consumption within Asia, and create qualitative change in our domestic growth.

Asia is already rich in old assets, but we need to know how to use them. We also need a sense of the future to help guide this effort, and we need to be creative in doing so. For instance, we need to make our comparative advantage come alive through Asian consumption and production

One of the first obstacles to overcome is the barrier to connectivity. Barriers to logistics stifle our potential and make it impossible to use creative productivity among our people.

Indeed, Asian people should be connected for trade through comparative advantage without governments having to intervene. I have always believed in unleashing the potential of people, to create opportunities for all. To me, non-intervention means allowing the people of Asia to act. It means taking down the barriers that prevent the small people, the ordinary people, from acting. It means the empowerment of all Asians, who indeed share a common landmass with our partners of Euro-Asia. Connectivity cannot be just for the privileged few.

The vastness of Euro-Asia may seem huge. But distances can be seen in a positive light if only our markets can be better connected. There is immense potential if we can all be connected through enhanced transport infrastructure, including high-speed rail links. Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore are among countries that have recently announced high-speed rail projects, in addition to other investments in transport infrastructure. Physical connectivity through new transport corridors and mega projects linked to rail, combined with virtual connectivity, will propel our future growth.

”

Our old partners in the West are currently undergoing challenges in their economic and social structures.

We wish them the greatest success in their efforts to move beyond their present turmoil. But we cannot wait for them to recover.

“

At the same time, we also need to build on our cultural and non-cultural assets. We may need to unlock our inner wealth by re-interpreting them using appropriate science and technology for modern day applications and to ensure world-class quality. And it will be the small and medium sized enterprises that will be the vanguard in turning vision into reality.

One Asia will not only strengthen Asia for the sake of Asians. It will enhance our purchasing power and our ability to be an engine for economic vibrancy within the global community. The Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) and the open regionalism model have already shown that we can work together cooperatively. Meanwhile, Asia has already shown its reliance through the latest economic turmoil, and the World Bank has recently reported that in 2013 the Asia-Pacific is expected to remain the largest contributor to the world's GDP at 40 per cent. We can thus easily anticipate that our rapid recovery will indeed spearhead global economic growth in the years to come.

I do hope that the message of 'One Asia' will generate interest and support, and indeed political will, behind the call for a more united and assertive Asia. And I am convinced that Asia's dynamism will be a positive force for all our partners and the international community as a whole, and that we will prosper together. Based on this premise, the discussions that will follow will indeed be most helpful on our road to turn the OneAsia2020 vision into reality. I wish it the greatest success.



THE ABLF AWARDS

Accolades for the leaders who walk the path of excellence



An international event of Asian significance, the ABLF Awards is Asia's premier showcase of exemplary business enterprise in the dynamic business sectors of Industry, Infrastructure and Energy – the key drivers of the global economy.

The ABLF Awards brings together the Asian nations of the world in an annual event series that celebrates the rise of Asia in the global consciousness through revival of old-school values for a brand new 'global business world'. The annual event honours and celebrates business achievers from across the three key regions of the Asian juggernaut - West Asia, South Asia and Southeast Asia - and pays tribute to exemplary leaders who have stood strong in the face of the economic downturn and played a significant role in the story of 'Asia Rising'.

The ABLF Awards highlights the key business qualities of entrepreneurship, philanthropy, sustainability, integrity, excellence, commitment and innovation, which are the mainstays of a world-class organisation.

With a vast, unique mix of delegates and decision-makers from international industries, the ABLF Awards focus on emerging high growth areas of the global economy. The mission of the ABLF Awards is to promote outstanding business practices, which demonstrate environmental stewardship, economic vitality and social responsibility.

“

Many awards recognise specific achievements and set clear benchmarks that people can aim for. The ABLF Awards, by contrast, recognise sustained dedication and commitment, honouring the fact that the winners have put to work excellence, wisdom, common sense, and a generous spirit for the public interest

”

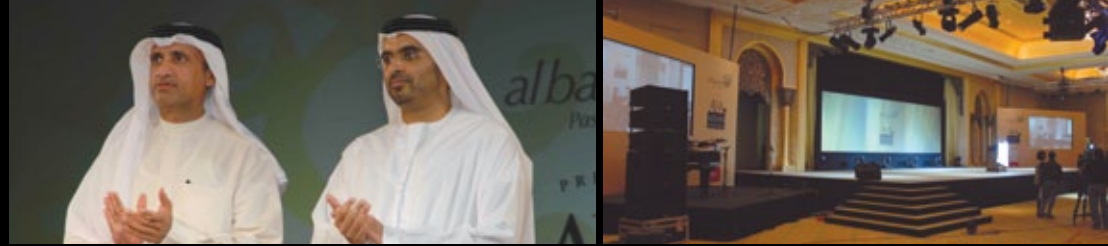
H.H. SHEIKH NAHAYAN MABARAK AL-NAHAYAN
UAE Minister of Culture, Youth and Community Development

THE WORLD'S MOST POWERFUL SHOWCASE OF ASIAN LEADERSHIP

*The ABLF brings you face to face
with Asia's finest*







CHRONICLING EXCELLENCE THE ABLF YEARS

Past perfect. Future promising.

2007

EMIRATES PALACE HOTEL,
ABU DHABI





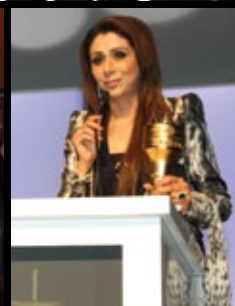
2012

ST. REGIS SAADIYAT ISLAND RESORT, ABU DHABI



2011

TAJ PALACE HOTEL, NEW DELHI



CHAPTER III

The ABLF 2013 Markers and Milestones

GREAT LEADERS SEEK BRAVE NEW PATHS

ABLE

THAT NOT ONLY REFLECT THE WISHES OF THE
LEADERS THEMSELVES, BUT ALSO THE HOPES OF
THEIR FOLLOWERS

THE GRAND AWARDS CEREMONY

On December 14, 2013, the stars shined brighter on Dubai, as we set the stage to receive over 300 exceptional leaders, each on a remarkable journey of excellence, courage and integrity, navigating the dynamic business highways of the great Asian Century.

An award ceremony is an illustrious gathering, and at the ABLF we pay special attention to detail because we believe that the setting of the celebration is just as important as the celebration itself. 2013's ABLF Grand Awards Ceremony was hosted at the exquisite Armani Ballroom, in the iconic Burj Khalifa, in an ambience as radiantly evocative as the city it stands in.

THE DINNER GALA

Set against the backdrop of the world's largest dancing fountains, the Armani Outdoor Pavilion was the spectacular setting for the signature dinner event, which follows the ABLF Grand Awards Ceremony. Conceptualised and designed around the myriad cuisines of Asia, the dinner event was a dramatic fusion of Asian culture and food, created by masterchefs, and complemented by specially blended drinks, created with passion by celebrated Asian mixologists.

Featuring exotic flavours from the Gulf and Arabia, aromatic, spiced dishes from South Asia, and traditional delicacies from Southeast Asia, the dinner event at the ABLF Awards 2013 was a flamboyant festival that made for the perfect finish to a perfect evening.

MICHAEL J. STEVENSON, SENIOR PARTNER, MIDDLE EAST REGION, PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS • ALEXANDER JOHN ANDARAKIS, FOUNDER & MANAGING DIRECTOR, ANDARAKIS ADVISORY SERVICES • DR. FATIMA SAEED AL-SHAMSI, SECRETARY GENERAL, UAE UNIVERSITY • ABDULAZIZ AL SAGER, CHAIRMAN, GULF RESEARCH CENTRE, PRESIDENT, SAGER GROUP HOLDING • SHEIKH SULTAN SAUD AL QASSEMI, MANAGING DIRECTOR, AL QASSEMI GROUP OF COMPANIES • RAJIV K. LUTHRA, FOUNDER & MANAGING PARTNER, LUTHRA & LUTHRA LAW OFFICES • RAJEN KILACHAND, CHAIRMAN & PRESIDENT, DODSAL GROUP • H.E. MOHAMED SULTAN AL OWAIS, AMBASSADOR OF THE UAE TO INDIA • H.E. HUMAID AL MAANI, FORMER AMBASSADOR OF OMAN TO INDIA & CURRENT AMBASSADOR OF OMAN TO FRANCE • H.E. THAKSIN SHINAWATRA, FORMER PRIME MINISTER OF THAILAND • H.E. M.K. LOKESH, AMBASSADOR OF INDIA TO THE UAE • PRANAY GUPTA, INTERNATIONAL JOURNALIST & EDITOR • NADIA ZAAL, CO-FOUNDER & CEO, ZAYA • PRANAV ADANI, MANAGING DIRECTOR, ADANI AGRIOLOGISTICS & ADANI WILMAR • SANJEY ROY, VICE PRESIDENT, DLF LIMITED • MOHAMMED SHARAF, CEO, DP WORLD • DR P. MOHAMED ALI, VICE CHAIRMAN & MANAGING DIRECTOR, GALFAR • ROBERTO ZAGHA, FORMER COUNTRY DIRECTOR - INDIA, WORLD BANK • GERARDO D. PAOLERA, PRESIDENT, GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK • T.K.A. NAIR, ADVISOR TO THE PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA • H.E. MOHAMED HELAL AL MUHAIRI, DIRECTOR GENERAL, ABU DHABI CHAMBER • DR TAYEB KAMALI, VICE CHANCELLOR, HIGHER

THE ABLF AWARDS GRAND JURY

Eminent opinion leaders from across Asia

COLLEGES OF TECHNOLOGY • RAJIV SINGH, VICE CHAIRMAN, DLF LIMITED • DR RAJIV LALL, EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN, IDFC • H.E. SALMAN AL FARISI, INDONESIAN AMBASSADOR TO THE UAE • H.E. PIT CHEN LOW, CHARGE D'AFFAIRES, SINGAPORE EMBASSY • H.E. KHALIL AL KHONJI, CHAIRMAN, FEDERATION OF GCC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & OMAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY • NAVEEN JINDAL, CHAIRMAN, JINDAL STEEL AND POWER LIMITED • ADI GODREJ, CHAIRMAN, GODREJ GROUP • CHANDRAJIT BANERJEE, DIRECTOR GENERAL, CONFEDERATION OF INDIAN INDUSTRY • MICHAEL J. STEVENSON, SENIOR PARTNER, MIDDLE EAST REGION, PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS • ALEXANDER JOHN ANDARAKIS, FOUNDER & MANAGING DIRECTOR, ANDARAKIS ADVISORY SERVICES • DR. FATIMA SAEED AL-SHAMSI, SECRETARY GENERAL, UAE UNIVERSITY • ABDULAZIZ AL SAGER, CHAIRMAN, GULF RESEARCH CENTRE, PRESIDENT, SAGER GROUP HOLDING • SHEIKH SULTAN SAUD AL QASSEMI, MANAGING DIRECTOR, AL QASSEMI GROUP OF COMPANIES • RAJIV K. LUTHRA, FOUNDER & MANAGING PARTNER, LUTHRA & LUTHRA LAW OFFICES • RAJEN KILACHAND, CHAIRMAN & PRESIDENT, DODSAL GROUP • H.E. MOHAMED SULTAN AL OWAIS, AMBASSADOR OF THE UAE TO INDIA • H.E. HUMAID AL MAANI, FORMER AMBASSADOR OF OMAN TO INDIA & CURRENT AMBASSADOR OF OMAN TO FRANCE • H.E. THAKSIN SHINAWATRA, FORMER PRIME MINISTER OF THAILAND • H.E. M.K. LOKESH, AMBASSADOR OF INDIA TO THE UAE • PRANAY GUPTA, INTERNATIONAL JOURNALIST & EDITOR • NADIA ZAAL, CO-FOUNDER & CEO, ZAYA • PRANAV ADANI, MANAGING DIRECTOR, ADANI AGRIOLOGISTICS & ADANI



**H.E. DR THAKSIN
SHINAWATRA**

FORMER PRIME MINISTER,
THAILAND



H.E. KAMAL NATH

UNION CABINET MINISTER
OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND
PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, INDIA



T.K.A. NAIR

ADVISOR TO THE PRIME
MINISTER OF INDIA



DR TAYEB KAMALI

VICE CHANCELLOR,
HIGHER COLLEGES OF
TECHNOLOGY, UAE

The ABLF Awards Grand Jury always comprises a high-profile consortium of leaders from across Asia; each leader independent, and each representing an opinion of the highest integrity and vision. The ABLF Grand Jury is keenly aware of their responsibilities and uses wisely their power to elect a winner in each category; a winner who represents Asian excellence in business to the world. The ABLF Strategic Advisory Panel – which represents a core faction of industry experts, economic commentators and international leaders from government, business, academia, advisory and other professional disciplines – recommends and elects the ABLF Grand Jury every year.

Leveraging their wealth of multi-disciplinary expertise and industry knowledge, the Jury (assisted by the ABLF global research teams) studies, deliberates and selects outstanding individuals from across Asia, whose success is not accidental, but rises from a deep commitment to excellence, governance and fine business practices, and is inextricably linked to the prosperity of the entire region.

THE PROCESS

Under the guidance and stewardship of the ABLF Analysts and Strategic Partners, the ABLF Awards maintains and upholds a published set of criteria to qualify for the various ABLF Award categories that have been applied to the previous editions of the Awards Event.

This year we picked up the drive on pre-event communications and augmented the process, employing our vast and enviable Asia-centric database, built painstakingly since 2007. Thus, after an intensive and engaging nomination campaign with an organic reach of over 100,000, the ABLF Team, under the advisement of the Analysts and the Strategic Advisory Panel, collated comprehensive profiles of five nominees per category, which were reviewed, vetted and elected by the ABLF Grand Jury.

15 AWARDS EXTRAORDINARY LEADERS

The iconic ABLF Awards Trophy is a 13-inch, 24 carat gold-plated masterpiece. Intricate embossed features and a traditional silhouette proudly symbolise its Asian origins, while the stunning gold façade epitomises the intrinsic prosperity and stability in the ABLF constituencies of West Asia, South Asia and Southeast Asia.



An unrivalled metaphor for excellence, the diamond embedded in the trophy is symbolic of the charisma, the resilience, and the unshakable determination that embodies the lofty ambitions, the clear vision and the stoic will of the recipients of the ABLF Awards.

The flawless, brilliant diamond encrusted in this trophy was handpicked by Asia's master jeweller, Dhamani, and came with a guarantee that transcends lifetimes.

REPRENEURSHIP • SUSTAINABILITY • INNOVATION • INTEGRITY • EXCELLENCE • COMMITMENT • PHILANTHROPY
NANTHROPY • ENTREPRENEURSHIP • SUSTAINABILITY • INNOVATION • INTEGRITY • EXCELLENCE • COMMITMENT
HILANTHROPY • ENTREPRENEURSHIP • SUSTAINABILITY • INNOVATION • INTEGRITY • EXCELLENCE •
MMITMENT • PHILANTHROPY • ENTREPRENEURSHIP • SUSTAINABILITY • INNOVATION • INTEGRITY •
ELLENCE • COMMITMENT • PHILANTHROPY • ENTREPRENEURSHIP • SUSTAINABILITY • INNOVATION
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HILANTHROPY • ENTREPRENEURSHIP • SUSTAINABILITY • INNOVATION • INTEGRITY • EXCELLENCE •
MMITMENT • PHILANTHROPY • ENTREPRENEURSHIP • SUSTAINABILITY • INNOVATION • INTEGRITY •

THE ABLF AWARDS CRITERIA

The mark and measure of authentic leadership

ELLENCE • COMMITMENT • PHILANTHROPY • ENTREPRENEURSHIP • SUSTAINABILITY • INNOVATION
NTEGRITY • EXCELLENCE • COMMITMENT • PHILANTHROPY • ENTREPRENEURSHIP • SUSTAINABILITY
NNOVATION • INTEGRITY • EXCELLENCE • COMMITMENT • PHILANTHROPY • ENTREPRENEURSHIP •
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REPRENEURSHIP • SUSTAINABILITY • INNOVATION • INTEGRITY • EXCELLENCE • COMMITMENT • PHILANTHROPY
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NNOVATION • INTEGRITY • EXCELLENCE • COMMITMENT • PHILANTHROPY • ENTREPRENEURSHIP •

The ABLF criteria grid represents a set of parameters that have been developed by global leaders in governance, law and policy for the ABLF Awards Grand Jury to shortlist winners in each award category.

BY RELEVANCE TO CONTEXT

Presence, participation and influence in the Industry, Infrastructure or Energy sectors

BY LEADERSHIP

Path-breaking and sustainable leadership.
An example to a generation of achievers

BY WEALTH-CREATION/MANAGEMENT

Business revenues and the exploring new avenues

BY BRAND-CREATION/MANAGEMENT

Building and sustaining a business brand with a global presence

BY ENDURANCE QUOTIENT

Steady growth and advancement through times of plenty and times of crisis across a decade

BY RESPONSIBILITY

Dovetails sustainability principles into business operations

BY ACCOUNTABILITY

Follows corporate governance norms and promotes employee welfare initiatives

BY GRACE

History and capability of handling business setbacks

BY INSPIRATION AND ASPIRATION

Leadership that has the heart to inspire and is committed to live up to the aspirations of team, community or people

BY PHILANTHROPY

Publicly documented contribution towards community, national and global altruistic initiatives

BY AMBASSADORSHIP

Promotes and upholds his/her country's values in international environments

BY MENTORSHIP

Perceived as a mentor and demonstrates appropriate qualities

BY KNOWLEDGE

Active interest and awareness in matters of global and national consequence

BY PARTICIPATION

Contribution to event space and occasions that have global relevance

BY INNOVATION

Significant contribution and commitment to exploring and implementing new empowering strategies that are suited to contemporary times

BY REPUTATION

Impeccable track record of good governance, best business practices and dedication to the development of human resources

JAGTIANI, VICE CHAIRPERSON, LANDMARK GROUP • SONNY VARKEY, CHAIRMAN, GEMS EDUCATION
RAMESH PRABHAKAR, CEO, RIVOLI GROUP • SYED M. SALAHUDDIN, MANAGING DIRECTOR, ETA ASCON &
R GROUP • YUSUFF ALI M.A., MANAGING DIRECTOR, EMKE GROUP • N.R. NARAYANA MURTHY, FOUNDER
EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD, INFOSYS • LAKSHMI N. MITTAL, CHAIRMAN & CEO, ARCELORMITTAL
H.E. SALAH SALEM AL SHAMSI, FORMER PRESIDENT, ABU DHABI CHAMBER • H.E. MOHAMMED ABDUL JALIL
FAHIM, HONORARY CHAIRMAN, AL FAHIM GROUP • H.E. OBAID KHALEEFA JABER AL MURRI, CHAIRMAN, AL
ER GROUP • DHIRUBHAI AMBANI, LATE FOUNDER CHAIRMAN, RELIANCE GROUP • H.E. MOHAMMAD AL
BAIR, FOUNDING CHAIRMAN, THE ZUBAIR CORPORATION • RATAN TATA, FORMER CHAIRMAN, TATA GROUP
OPINATH PILLAI, EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN, SAVANT INFOCOMM • HIND BAHWAN, DIRECTOR, SUHAIL BAHWAN
UP • CHANDA KOCHHAR, CEO & MANAGING DIRECTOR, ICICI BANK • OLIVIA LUM, GROUP PRESIDENT
D), HYFLUX GROUP OF COMPANIES • SALMA HAREB, CEO, JAFZA & ECONOMIC ZONES WORLDWIDE • SHASHI
A. CHAIRMAN, ESSAR GROUP • STEPHEN LEE CHING YEN, CHAIRMAN, SINGAPORE
IES • GHAITH AL GHAITH, CEO, FLYDUBAI • A.M. NAIK, CHAIRMAN & MANAGING
ECTOR, LARSEN & TURBO • GAUTAM THAPAR, CHAIRMAN & CEO, AVANTHA GROUP
GEORGE S. TAHIJA, PRESIDENT DIRECTOR & CEO, PT AUSTINDO NUSANTARA JAYA

THE ABLF AWARDS CATEGORIES

The eight facets of contemporary Asian leadership



MOHAMMED ALABBAR, CHAIRMAN, EMAAR PROPERTIES • H.E. MOHAMMED
DHAEN AL HAMLII, FORMER UAE MINISTER OF ENERGY • H.E. KAMAL NATH,
IAN MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT & PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS • H.E.
KSIN SHINAWATRA, FORMER PRIME MINISTER OF THAILAND • H.E. DR OMAR AL
WAWI, FOUNDER & CHAIRMAN, OMAR ZAWAWI ESTABLISHMENT • BABA KALYANI,
AIRMAN, KALYANI GROUP • KISHORE MAHBUBANI, DEAN, PROFESSOR IN THE PRACTICE OF PUBLIC POLICY,
KUAN YEW SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY • RAJA EASA AL GURG, MANAGING DIRECTOR, EASA SALEH AL GURG
UP • MALLIKA SRINIVASAN, CHAIRMAN & CEO, TRACTORS & FARM EQUIPMENT LIMITED • SHINTA WIDJAJA
MDANI, MANAGING DIRECTOR, SINTESA GROUP • DR AMER BIN AWADH AL RAWAS, CEO, OMANTEL • MANOJ
JR, EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN & CEO, JAYPEE GROUP • A.K. NATHAN, CHAIRMAN & MANAGING DIRECTOR,
RSENDAI GROUP • H.E. SULTAN BIN SULAYEM, CHAIRMAN, DP WORLD • ANAND MAHINDRA, CHAIRMAN
MANAGING DIRECTOR, MAHINDRA & MAHINDRA • GARIBALDI THOHIR, PRESIDENT DIRECTOR, PT ADARO
ERGY • VANDANA LUTHRA, FOUNDER & MENTOR, VLCC • RENUKA JAGTIANI, VICE CHAIRPERSON, LANDMARK
UP • SUNNY VARKEY, CHAIRMAN, GEMS EDUCATION • RAMESH PRABHAKAR, CEO, RIVOLI GROUP • SYED

THE ABLF GLOBAL ASIAN

is a powerful individual, a visionary and a game changer, whose business performance is matched only by his steadfast commitment to excellence. The Global Asian stands head and shoulders above his contemporaries and consistently engages international interest and attention through his global businesses, while remaining deeply committed to the Asian ethos and values, which encompasses region, country and community.

THE ABLF STATESMAN

is an inspirational leader with immense capabilities and political prowess. His innovative and pioneering approach to the growth and development of his country has shaped proactive and positive government policy. A master of political statecraft, this leader has unmatched foresight, and channels his power and authority to lead with energy, and by example.

THE ABLF LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

recipient is a benevolent commander in chief who wields his potent influence to mentor and inspire generations of rising entrepreneurs with old world wisdom and contemporary business acumen. He has spent a lifetime ensuring inclusive growth and sustainable development in all spheres, is modern and articulate, but firmly rooted in Asian tradition and values.

THE ABLF WOMAN OF POWER

is the true essence of powerful business leadership in Asia. She effortlessly straddles a traditional social environment and a cutting-edge modern business world, and is consistently at the top of her game. She is commanding, innovative, influential and embodies the culture and values of Asia.

THE ABLF BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARD

recognises and celebrates business organisations that adopt a holistic approach to building and sustaining both business excellence and developing human resources, while honouring the enterprising leader whose vision has delivered the dream.

THE ABLF BUSINESS COURAGE AWARD

recipient is an unsurpassed businessman who defines the essence of a true captain; a formidable and benevolent force who leads effortlessly during times of plenty and times of crisis, ensuring the safety of both, the company as well as its human resource capital.

THE ABLF TRAILBLAZER

has secured a place in the impressive world of business achievers with an unprecedented record of powerful and original business strategies and accomplishments. This Trailblazer embodies immense talent, takes calculated risks and consistently displays proactive business wisdom.

THE ABLF AMBASSADOR OF COMMERCE

is a determined and driven leader, who plays an extensive role in facilitating and forging new economic relationships within his region, through his pivotal position as an emissary of commerce. With a progressive outlook on development, this individual's service and commitment to furthering his region's prosperity is legendary.



CHAPTER IV

The ABLF 2013's Iconic Winners

GREAT LEADERS ARE EXEMPLARY
ENTREPRENEURIAL CAPTAINS,



WHO COMMANDEER WITH FORESIGHT, STEER INNOVATION AND
EXPERTLY NAVIGATE CALM SEAS AS WELL AS TROUBLED WATERS



THE ABLF STATESMAN AWARD

H.R.H. PRINCE KHALIFA BIN SALMAN AL KHALIFA

PRIME MINISTER, KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN

H.R.H. Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa has served as the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Bahrain since its independence in 1971, and continues to lead the country to this day. His 43-year tenure as the Kingdom's Premiere make him the longest serving incumbent Prime Minister in the world, and this, along with His Royal Highness's immense, inimitable contributions to the country make him a befitting and well-deserving recipient of the ABLF Statesman Award.

Born on November 24, 1935, H.R.H. Prince Khalifa is the second son of the former ruler of the Kingdom of Bahrain, H.H. Sheikh Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa. Through His Royal Highness' formative years, he was instilled with a sense of strong leadership values and responsibility, both of which served him well as the future caretaker of the nation's well-being. His Royal Highness started to attend his father's court since he was of 7 years of age, prompting this then young leader to delve into the roots of the lives and concerns of the citizens of the nation, and develop a keen understanding that would go on to become a valuable trait that is now seen as second-nature to this benevolent leader.

In 1953, H.R.H. Prince Khalifa became the assistant of the office of his father – the work that His Royal Highness did upon assuming this position marks the first of his contributions towards the growth of the Kingdom in an official capacity. Following on, H.R.H. Prince Khalifa went on to become President of the Education Council, in which capacity he instated a well-structured educational system and laid great stress on encouraging higher education among young Bahrainis. Over the next two decades, until H.R.H. Prince Khalifa became the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Bahrain, he held several positions including, but not limited to, Acting Secretary of the Government of Bahrain, Director of the Government's Finance, President of the Irrigation Council and Chairman of the Supreme Defence Council, among others.

His Royal Highness has thus served on many council bodies and through this has driven remarkable developmental change, shaping the Kingdom of Bahrain into the nation that it is today. His Royal Highness has also implemented positive policies that have brought holistic reforms to the country in the areas of health, housing, industry, press and media, education, finance and tourism.

Over six powerful decades, four of which have seen him serve as Prime Minister, His Royal Highness has gradually, one area at a time, studied, planned for and implemented several improvement measures across

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I am honoured to receive the ABLF Statesman Award, and accept this felicitation on behalf of the people of the Kingdom of Bahrain, who share this glory with me. Asia is a land of great promise, and the Kingdom of Bahrain wholeheartedly supports the betterment of intra-Asian relationships for the greater good of the region and its people.

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H.R.H. PRINCE KHALIFA BIN SALMAN AL KHALIFA

the sectors of education, financial and economic development, energy resources and other areas that needed attention to improve the life of the Kingdom's citizens.

Alongside his consistent efforts to boost commercial and industrial activity in the Kingdom of Bahrain, His Royal Highness also pays special attention to the protection of the environment, staying very mindful of what is not just a temporary development but a sustainable improvement that is for the greater, longer good of the nation.

Meanwhile, it is under His Royal Highness' unwavering, visionary leadership that the Kingdom of Bahrain has worked tirelessly to improve its political and economic ties with all the nations of the world, but particularly with the Asian states.

The ABLF Statesman Award, year on year, is presented to an individual who is an inspirational achiever of government and public service. H.R.H. Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa has nurtured the Kingdom of Bahrain and continues to do so, displaying admirable qualities and innovative leadership, all the while embodying compassion and a selfless, unwavering commitment to the betterment of the Kingdom. It is thus His Royal Highness was presented with the ABLF Statesman Award.



THE ABLF GLOBAL ASIAN AWARD

H.H. SHEIKH AHMED BIN SAEED AL MAKTOUM

CHAIRMAN, DUBAI WORLD; CHAIRMAN, DUBAI AIRPORTS;
CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE, EMIRATES AIRLINE AND GROUP, UAE

President of the Dubai Civil Aviation Authority (DCAA) and Chairman and Chief Executive of Emirates Airline and Group, H.H. Sheikh Ahmed Bin Saeed Al Maktoum is arguably one of the most respected businessmen in the UAE. In the last 25 years, His Highness has been at the forefront of Dubai's remarkable economic development, spearheading the successful expansion of the aviation industry, and more recently, formulating economic, investment and fiscal policies and strategies in support of the emirate's overarching vision.

H.H. Sheikh Ahmed made his foray into the aviation industry in 1985 when he was appointed President of the DCAA, assigning him the challenging task of launching Emirates Airlines, marking the single most significant moment in the UAE's corporate history.

With his visionary leadership and razor sharp business acumen, His Highness has led Emirates Airlines from a small, regional airline with two leased aircrafts to its name, to become the world's most profitable airline with a network that includes over 100 destinations and a fleet with almost twice as many aircraft carriers which define the last word in luxury.

His Highness has shaped and nurtured Emirates to be a benchmark concept airline, the standard of which the world's leading airlines strive to follow. From being the first airline to offer individual televisions and entertainment systems for passengers, to being the first airline with on-board showers, it is little wonder that Emirates has been named the leading airline in the world over and over again in the past two decades.

Over the years H.H. Sheikh Ahmed has led Emirates with a single-minded purpose to be the very best airline in the world; the airline has witnessed doubled growth every four years while other airlines struggle to merely maintain respectable profit margins.

The fact that Dubai is now firmly established as the region's most desirable leisure destination is due, in no small measure, to the efforts of H.H. Sheikh Ahmed. Under his leadership, the Dubai International Airport has grown into the world's fourth busiest airport for international passenger and cargo traffic with a network of over 220 destinations, served by more than 150 airlines

With the launch of flydubai, its own budget carrier, Dubai added another first to its long list in June, 2009. With H.H. Sheikh Ahmed to guide the fledgling carrier as its Chairman another success story is already in the

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As Asia shapes its infrastructure industry to bridge the world, Dubai's geographical position is critical and I am proud to say that we are ready and full participants in supporting Asia's growing global relevance in the world of trade, commerce and industry, the drivers of the global economy.

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H.H. SHEIKH AHMED BIN SAEED AL MAKTOUM

making. Today, flydubai has emerged as the second largest contributor to traffic at Dubai International Airport, and flies to more than 45 destinations.

As Deputy Chairman of the Dubai Executive Council, which is responsible for formulating policies and strategies for the emirate, His Highness has initiated and overseen the rapid development of Dubai Airports to keep pace with Emirates' stunning growth. This includes the introduction of Dubai International Airport's Terminal 3 dedicated exclusively for Emirates Airlines' operations.

The recent launch of Dubai World Central's Al Maktoum International Airport marked another momentous occasion in His Highness' illustrious career, fulfilling his most cherished vision to make Dubai the trade and tourism centre of the world.

H.H. Sheikh Ahmed holds a number of government positions, and plays an increasingly pivotal role in leading the emirate's finance and energy sectors, and despite his numerous business activities, he is patron of many charitable organisations. He has also received numerous recognitions and accolades from various governments and multi-nationals.

It is through remarkable feats such as the foregoing that His Highness was presented with the ABLF Global Asian Award 2013, a category which honours an Asian leader, whose business footprint and commitment to excellence have engaged international interest and attention.



THE ABLF LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

DR PRATHAP C. REDDY

CHAIRMAN, APOLLO HOSPITALS GROUP, INDIA

IN CONVERSATION WITH DR PRATHAP C. REDDY

How difficult is it to strike that all-important balance between your two personas of India's most respected cardiologist and one of the nation's most prosperous entrepreneurs?

I did not find it too difficult. As a matter of fact, my being a doctor is a big advantage. It has armed me with a unique perspective on how a hospital must be run. Perhaps it is because I am a doctor first, and an entrepreneur next, that Apollo Hospitals is a totally patient-centric institution. And my medical knowledge enables me to make sure that it remains so. I have always maintained, there is always a market for the best international standards in healthcare, as long as it is justly priced.

What is the one leadership quality you believe fundamental to being a successful and effective leader especially in an organisation as vast as Apollo?

Very simply put, the passion and the ability to make people's lives better. And I am not just talking about the lives of patients. It also includes our doctors, nurses, technicians and every other individual who makes up a big hospital. At Apollo, I have managed to inculcate this belief in to the top management team. So much so, that I notice this crusade to make people's lives better actually visible at every level at Apollo. I would like to add one more necessary leadership quality – the desire and capability to inspire others to keep bettering themselves. I am happy that at Apollo, we constantly raise the bar, and in the process our patient care standards match the best in the world.

How do you, as the leader of your organisation, extend yourself to support the empowerment of Asia's biggest asset, the region's promising youth capital?

There is no doubt that India and several other countries in Asia are sitting on a veritable treasure with a large youth population. It is also true that their energies have to be channelled through education to get the best out of this invaluable resource. One field I can talk about with some authority is healthcare, where there is an acute shortage of quality manpower, especially in India. Apollo runs several nursing schools and colleges. While this empowers the students to be job-ready, it also helps fill Apollo's own continuously increasing need for nurses, lab technicians and paramedics.

Dr Reddy, how do you envision the future of the healthcare and private medical services in India, and the role Apollo plays in this future?

Health of individuals is central to the sustainable economic development of society as it directly affects productivity. Indians are currently hugely

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In all humility, I accept this Lifetime Achievement Award not just on my behalf, but on the behalf of all those who supported me since the first Apollo Hospital came up in Chennai 30 years ago. Recognitions of this nature invariably provide motivation to deliver even more.

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under-served by the healthcare system – the country has just about 10 beds for every 10,000 people. This has to change. I foresee an exponential increase in the demand and supply of healthcare services in India, as she develops and our income levels go up. As it is, the Indian healthcare industry is growing in double digits and investment in it is becoming increasingly attractive to private players, with no prospects of a slow-down. In the last 10 years, private healthcare providers have created 80 per cent of the new bed capacity in India. I think their role will only increase.

Apollo has treated over 37 million people and performed over 150,000 heart surgeries till now, with 99 per cent success rate, something few hospitals in the world can boast. We will continue to expand and will continue to play a dominant role in the Indian healthcare system. It goes without saying, in all these expansions, Apollo will never compromise on its core values. Our mission is and will remain to make world-class medical care accessible and affordable to every Indian. Having said that, let me add, our cost is just 10 per cent of what healthcare costs abroad.

Your comments on the ABLF Awards, and being felicitated with the ABLF Lifetime Achievement Award 2013.

I consider it a great privilege and honour to receive this award. In all humility, I accept this Lifetime Achievement Award not just on my behalf, but on the behalf of all those who supported me since the first Apollo Hospital came up in Chennai 30 years ago. Recognitions of this nature invariably provide motivation to deliver even more. It has been a long and eventful journey for me. There were quite a few struggles and challenges. But today, I am a happy man when I see how the Apollo family has grown and has become a vital part of the Indian healthcare system.

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THE ABLF BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARD - FINANCE

DOHA BANK, QATAR

REPRESENTED BY H.E. SHEIKH FAHAD BIN MOHAMMAD BIN JABOR AL-THANI, CHAIRMAN

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IN CONVERSATION

H.E. SHEIKH FAHAD BIN MOHAMMAD
BIN JABOR AL-THANI

Your Excellency, tell us about Doha Bank's strategy for growth in the coming decade, and the future of the banking sector in the GCC and Asia.

Qatar is forecasted to continue as one of the fastest growing economies in the world and the bank's strategy is primarily to grow organically to become a one-stop financial services provider. The awarding of World EXPO 2020 to Dubai, the 2022 FIFA World Cup to Qatar and the MSCI decision to upgrade Qatar and United Arab Emirates from frontier markets to emerging markets with effect from May 2014, with the backdrop of improved market accessibility, has opened up significant opportunities and is also expected to have a major impact on the banking sector in the region in the future.

The global banking sector which encompasses Asia and the GCC region is well-regulated on account of financial reforms proposed after the global financial crisis. Basel III will be one of the key drivers of banking business models in the near future, which will enable the building up of high quality capital base, restricting excessive on and off sheet balance leverage and strengthening liquidity.

What is the one leadership quality you believe fundamental to being a successful and effective leader, especially in an organisation as prolific as yours?

The fundamental quality of being a successful and effective leader is the ability to visualise opportunities and drive a proactive change management framework to capitalise on them, all alongside managing the stakeholder expectations. Over a period of time, Doha Bank has developed a culture which is conducive for growth and innovation as well as being socially responsible.

The ABLF Series works towards promoting intra-Asia relationships – how important would you say facilitating such connections is?

Intra-Asia relationships are very important as they can facilitate bilateral trade. The intra-Asia corridor is the one of the fastest growing trade areas worldwide – it represents around 25 per cent of Asia's total USD 6 trillion annual exports and is expected to pick up further. Intra-Asia connections can be achieved realistically when member countries recognise that a part of their economic growth is dependent on increased economic and trade cooperation with emerging and developing countries.

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The fundamental quality of being a successful and effective leader is the ability to visualise opportunities and drive a proactive change management framework to capitalise on them, all alongside managing the stakeholder expectations. Over a period of time, Doha Bank has developed a culture which is conducive for growth and innovation as well as being socially responsible.

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Your comments on forums such as the ABLF Awards that work towards bringing Asia and Asian business opportunities together, and being felicitated with the ABLF Business Excellence Award in the Financial sector.

The Asian Business Leadership (ABLF) Forum is Asia's most prestigious event and the ultimate get-together of the elite business and policy leadership from the vibrant Gulf – South Asia – Southeast Asia Corridor. The Asian growth has enabled itself to shield itself from the global financial crisis, and the financial sector also plays a key role in the trade and investments in the Asian region. The ABLF Awards recognise business organisations, such as Doha Bank, and the leaders at their helms for adopting a holistic approach to building and sustaining both business excellence and developing human resources.

It has been said that the youth quotient is the Asian region's biggest asset; this huge asset reservoir needs education, training, information and mentorship. How do you, as the leader of your organisation, extend yourself to support the empowerment of this promising youth capital?

We need to create a favourable framework for the youth to contribute to. This can be achieved through a combination of encouragement and empowerment. Encouragement is necessary to bring out their talents and empowerment is necessary so that youth develop a sense of ownership. Corporates also focus on this dimension to develop future leaders. Mentorship plays a vital role in the development of youth capital.

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THE ABLF BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARD - LEGAL

LUTHRA & LUTHRA OFFICES, INDIA

REPRESENTED BY RAJIV K. LUTHRA, FOUNDER AND MANAGING PARTNER

IN CONVERSATION WITH RAJIV K. LUTHRA

Mr Luthra, your dedication has catapulted Luthra & Luthra Law Offices to becoming one of the largest legal players in the global infrastructure market – what were the key factors that helped you reach this station?

Being an early starter in the field was one of the crucial factors in our success, along with the massive growth India has experienced in the past two decades. When we started advising on infrastructure projects in the early '90s, the concept of project finance was unknown in India. We were pioneers in the development of the project finance and public-private-partnership (PPP) models in India, because we recognised the immense opportunities presented by this sector very early on. To anticipate developments, and move into new practice areas well in advance is part of our organisational DNA, and has stood us in good stead over the years.

What is the role and significance of corporate law in the context of Asia's unstoppable growth, with respect to business and commerce?

The best kind of corporate lawyer is one who serves not just as a legal adviser, but also as a bridge between various stakeholders involved in business and commerce, and can function as a trusted adviser to all parties. This is the crucial role that I believe lawyers need to play as part of Asia's growth story. I think this is especially relevant in the context of the explosive growth we are witnessing across the continent, because, for such growth to be sustainable one needs an effective regulatory environment, which is both robust and unobtrusive. You need lawyers to build and run such regulatory systems, which are a sine qua non for long term economic growth.

What is the one leadership quality you believe fundamental to being a successful and effective leader, which has paved imperative for the growth of your organisation?

I think that being accessible to all the people in your organisation is key – while this is generally true for most organisations, it gains special importance in the context of a law firm, where your human resources are by far your biggest asset. At Luthra & Luthra, I instituted an open-door policy right from the start, which continues today – this means that even the junior-most associate can walk into my office at any time to discuss something with me. This helps me keep a finger on the pulse of the organisation, and makes the firm a more cohesive unit.

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It is truly an honour to be conferred the ABLF Business Excellence Award, and I feel privileged to be amongst such august company. The ABLF Awards are a sterling effort at providing a forum where the top decision makers of Asia can meet and forge links, and I think that the relationships formed here will have a significant role to play in the future of the region.

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The ABLF Series works towards promoting intra-Asia relationships – how important would you say facilitating such connections is? How can this be achieved realistically?

There is no doubt that this is the Asian century, and building and strengthening the relationships between Asian countries, both business and interpersonal, is going to be a key factor in deciding the growth trajectory of the world economy. Seen in this light, there is no doubt that building intra-Asia relationships is of immense importance. We need to be able to recognise each other's particular strengths, find areas where our interests are aligned, and leverage these to boost engagement and trade. In this context, I think that India could play a unique role since it can serve as a bridge, both geographically as well as culturally, between the Middle East and Southeast Asia. Both regions have historically played host to a large community of expatriate Indians, quite a few of whom have taken the opportunities provided by their adopted homelands to become successful entrepreneurs.

Your comments on being felicitated with the ABLF Business Excellence Award 2013 in the Legal sector.

It is truly an honour to have received the ABLF Business Excellence Award, and I feel privileged to be amongst such august company. The ABLF Awards are a sterling effort at providing a forum where the top decision makers of Asia can meet and forge links, and I think that the relationships formed here will have a significant role to play in the future of the region.

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THE ABLF BUSINESS COURAGE AWARD

DR P. MOHAMED ALI

VICE PRESIDENT AND MANAGING DIRECTOR,
GALFAR ENGINEERING & CONTRACTING SAOG, SULTANATE OF OMAN

IN CONVERSATION WITH DR P. MOHAMED ALI

At the time of the ABLF Grand Awards Ceremony in 2013, Dr Ali was the Vice President and Managing Director of Galfar Engineering and Contracting SAOG, and has since stepped down from this position.

Dr Ali, you are a career philanthropist and have sought to promote and facilitate education, especially among the underprivileged. What is the rationale behind this?

Philanthropy is an extension of the basic human nature to care for others, by sharing what you have with them. In my younger days as a student, I personally experienced the benefits of financial assistance, and so I understand what it is like to be on both sides – to receive and to give. Education helps propel communities away from backwardness. India has a population of over 1.2 billion people, of which a very large proportion still does not receive a formal education. I feel a moral compulsion to do something about this. Education is the key to fight oppression, because it opens the doors to awareness of the outside world as well as boosts self-esteem. Once people know their rights, and learn to look after themselves, the country will prosper.

As a leader of significance in the Asian business-scape, how important do you think it is to create employment for the Asian population and cultivate the region's human resources?

Asia is rich in diversity and human potential. There has probably been no better time than now to synergise efforts across the region. Employment leads to economic empowerment, which is the anchor for any form of stability in any region. If you can assure economic independence, then confidence, strength and self-belief will surely follow.

What is the one leadership quality you believe fundamental to being a successful and effective leader, especially in the Asian region?

Walk the talk. A good leader is not a boss. Instead he shows, handholds, corrects and encourages his people. In Asia, there is a lot of importance given to hierarchical relationships – but it is important to understand that power dynamics are changing across the world, and one has to adapt to the changing times by maintaining traditional values in modern relationships

The ABLF Series works towards promoting intra-Asia relationships – how important would you say facilitating such connections is?

Asia is the centre-stage of action and the breeding ground for future

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I thank the ABLF team and the distinguished Grand Jury for this award. Doing business always involves risks. Business is the ability to articulate and convert risks into opportunities. Every situation has an opportunity, and it depends on us to make the choices based on what we define as the strength of our support systems and safety nets.

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leaders. So it is important to work together towards economic development through partnerships in knowledge and industry. Moreover, it is important to complement each other's strengths and weaknesses, and focus on the collective strength of the region rather than competing against each other.

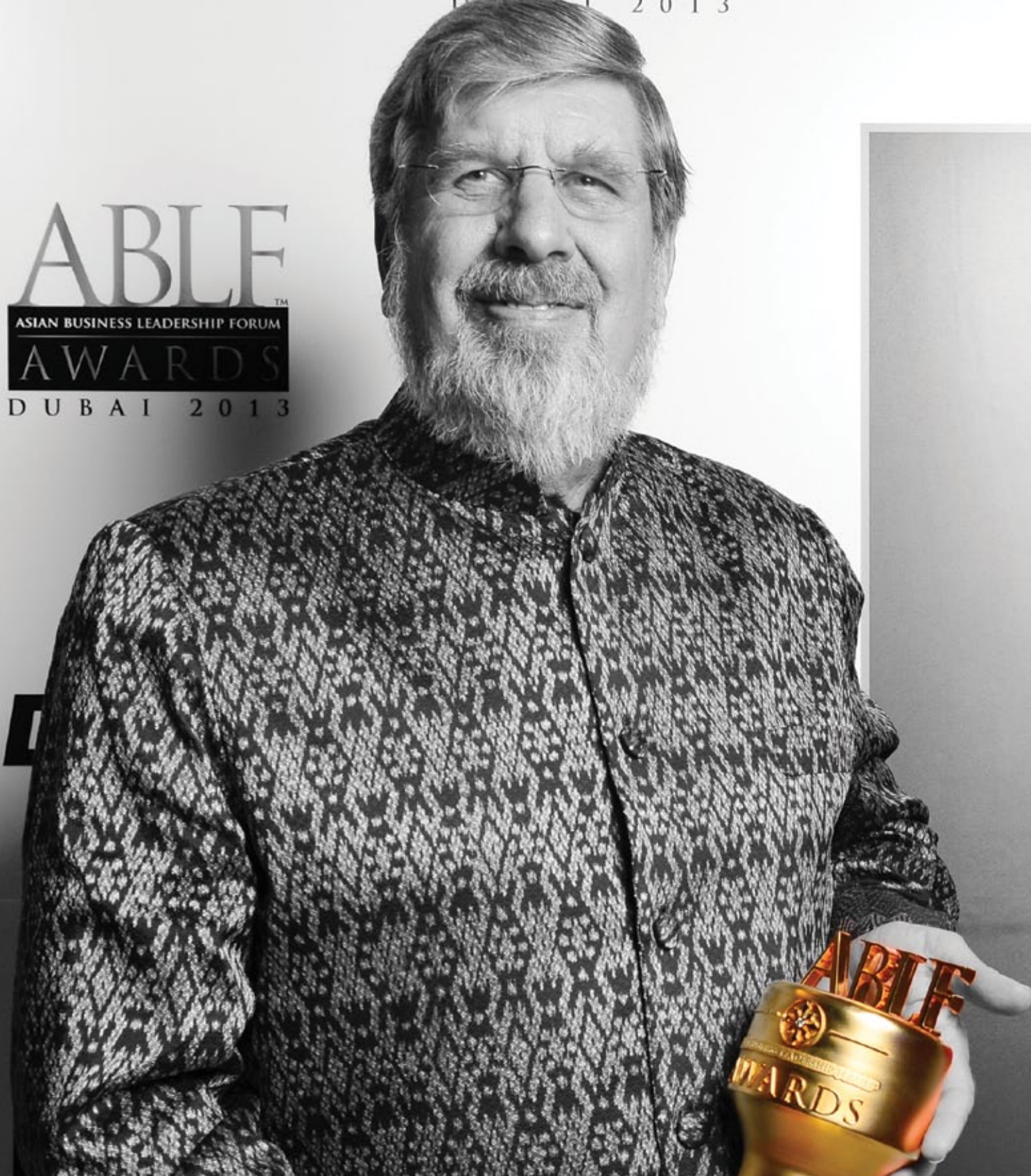
Your comments on forums such as the ABLF Awards that work towards bringing Asia and Asian business opportunities together, and being felicitated with the ABLF Business Courage Award.

In a short period of time, the ABLF has brought together business leaders on a common platform, which has made it easier to network and join forces to create opportunities for further collaboration. On being awarded the Business Courage Award – I thank the ABLF team and the distinguished Grand Jury for this award. Doing business always involves risks. Business is the ability to articulate and convert risks into opportunities. Every situation has an opportunity, and it depends on us to make the choices based on what we define as the strength of our support systems and safety nets.

How do you extend yourself to support the empowerment of Asia's promising youth capital, often hailed the region's biggest asset ?

There is a great pool of young talent within our own companies, whom we mentor and educate. Our efforts with youth training and empowerment have given us many insights. By collaborating with educational institutions in the region, we can conduct several student exchange programs, which foster understanding, and co-operation, as these are the essential tools that will define Asian leadership in the era of multiculturalism.

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THE ABLF TRAILBLAZER AWARD

WILLIAM E. HEINECKE

CHAIRMAN AND CEO, MINOR INTERNATIONAL, THAILAND

Bloomberg

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IN CONVERSATION WITH WILLIAM E. HEINECKE

Mr Heinecke, you've grown an empire from the ground up in an Asian nation – what sort of potential does the region holds for entrepreneurs such as yourself and how can it be leveraged?

As the saying goes, 'think local and act global' – it's true, and this concept certainly shouldn't be underestimated in Asia. The value of local knowledge is a key success factor in any business and especially in the hospitality sector.

Leveraging potential is about being ready, being prepared and surrounding yourself with good people. It also takes a lot of hard work and you have to be willing to take some qualified risks along the way. Success is not based on one single thing, it is the combination of a wide ranging skill set and most importantly, ensuring that you are surrounded by people who are more talented than you are!

How promising are the growth prospects for Asia's social infrastructure including the tourism and hospitality sectors?

I have enormous confidence in the tourism and hospitality industry here in Asia. I feel that it is an exciting and dynamic industry which offers a lot of opportunity for talented young individuals. Minor Hotel Group continues to grow and expand and we still see a lot of untapped opportunity across the region. Within the Anantara brand we just recently launched our 11th hotel in Thailand, we opened our first hotel in Cambodia and we are about to launch our third hotel in China. Our AVANI brand will see two new hotels joining the portfolio over the next month with a number more before the end of the year. In my mind, Asia is the most exciting region in the world with regards to the hospitality industry.

The ABLF Series works towards promoting intra-Asia relationships – how important would you say facilitating such connections is? How can this be achieved realistically?

Promoting intra-Asia relationships is the key to our future success. We can no longer look inwards and have a solely insular view - we have to look outwards, we have to look to our neighbours and see how we can work together towards the future and towards shared success. Today we operate on a global platform and we have to leverage each other's strengths and share each other's weaknesses to ensure a well-balanced global economy.

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It is a great honour to be chosen as the ABLF Trailblazer. As the CEO and Chairman of Minor International, a company of more than 40,000 people, I am reminded each and every day of the importance of team work, creativity, dedication and tenacity. Hence I feel that this award is actually a reflection of all the hard work and dedication of the Minor team. I feel that the ABLF awards are a great platform to encourage the leaders of tomorrow and support them on the path to success.

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Your comments on the ABLF Awards, and being felicitated with the ABLF Trailblazer Award 2013.

It is a great honour to be chosen as the ABLF Trailblazer. As the CEO and Chairman of Minor International, a company of more than 40,000 people, I am reminded each and every day of the importance of team work, creativity, dedication and tenacity. Hence I feel that this award is actually a reflection of all the hard work and dedication of the Minor team. I feel that the ABLF Awards are a great platform to encourage the leaders of tomorrow and support them on the path to success.

How do you as the leader of your organisation work towards empowering Asia's promising youth capital, often hailed the region's biggest asset?

Here at Minor International we have a number of CSR efforts that support the youth of tomorrow including the 'Roy E Heinecke Fund'. This fund supports less fortunate children of all ages throughout the country who have outstanding records of performance. Each year, the foundation gives scholarships to 449 students which helps support their education from early learning stages through to graduation. In return, students are asked to support projects in their own communities. Since 2000, the foundation has supported thousands of children and many have graduated to earn professional degrees. Education is the key to our future.

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THE ABLF AMBASSADOR OF COMMERCE AWARD

H.E. KHALIL ABDULLAH AL KHONJI

CHAIRMAN OF THE OMAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
AND FEDERATION OF GCC CHAMBERS

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DUBAI

IN CONVERSATION

WITH H.E. KHALIL ABDULLAH AL KHONJI

Your Excellency, your comments on the OCCI serving as a catalyst for economic growth in the Sultanate of Oman – tell us about the future of the OCCI with respect to the nation and the region.

OCCI is expected to play to an essential role in the Omani economic field as it used to. It is a key representative of the Omani private sector and it delivers their issues, requirements and expectations to the decision makers in the government. OCCI has gained trust from both the government and the private sector due to its great and noticeable efforts and as a result it may help more authorities in the coming years. It also aims to activate its participations in development plans as well as ensure its presence in economic events globally.

What is the one leadership quality you believe fundamental to being a successful and effective leader?

Being a leader in the economic field requires many characteristics, however I can say that having the ability to read and analyse economic methodology as well as being able to take quick decisions when required are the most important qualities. These are essential leadership characteristics for a successful leader in an organisation such as the OCCI. You may also add to that a sense of commitment towards the organisation one works for .

The ABLF Series works towards promoting intra-Asia relationships – how important would you say facilitating such connections is? How can this be achieved realistically?

Connections and unions are extremely important and a clear vision and mission must be set in order for them to exist, through which goals, targets and roles are clarified, because a successful business environment requires strategy.

I am honoured to receive the ABLF Ambassador of Commerce Award 2013. Awards presented by economic forums motivates leaders like me to do more. It increases creativity and innovation in the field. It also improves competitiveness among the business community.

It has been said that the youth quotient is the Asian region's biggest asset; this huge asset reservoir needs education, training, information and mentorship. How would you, as the leader of your organisation, extend

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yourself as well as the senior human resources of your organisation to support the empowerment of this promising youth capital?

That's true. Youth percentage is the highest among the population pyramid as per the 2010 census. And that indicates how important it is to provide them with good education first, and then with appropriate jobs . Through providing these we can consider the youth as an asset, otherwise they will be inactive and not serve the society. Hopefully, decision makers in Oman give high importance to the youth. I believe that investing in the youth is really worth more than any other investment.

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THE ABLF WOMAN OF POWER AWARD

CHUA SOCK KOONG

GROUP CEO, SINGTEL, SINGAPORE

IN CONVERSATION WITH CHUA SOCK KOONG

Ms Chua, SingTel's international strategy is focused firmly on Asia – tell us about the potential the region and the emerging markets hold for the telecommunications sector.

SingTel has extensive operations in Asia – Singapore, Indonesia, India, Thailand and the Philippines – as well as in Australia and Africa, and we serve more than 480 million mobile customers. Across all our markets, the pace of mobile internet development is quickening. In the emerging markets of Asia, it has taken almost two decades for basic mobile phone services to reach mass market status. We are optimistic that mobile internet adoption will take a much shorter time. In the last year, we have seen double-digit growth in the usage of mobile data services in Indonesia, India, Thailand and the Philippines. As telcos, we own and operate networks, and that is the key for customers' access to the mobile internet world. To seize the growth in mobile internet, we are making investments in our network and content to enhance customers' experience, while delivering sustainable returns for the business.

How difficult is it to strike the balance between being a successful, effective businesswoman, while maintaining the equilibrium in a social context?

I won't lie. It is tough. Women have many roles to play in their lives – wife, daughter, mother, boss, co-worker – and often it's a challenge striking a balance to meet each demand. It is important to recognise that priorities at different stages in a woman's life may be different. There's no magic formula. In life, there are always trade-offs. So my advice is to expend your energy on things that interest and excite you.

The ABLF Series works towards promoting intra-Asia relationships – how important would you say facilitating such connections is?

The world economy is becoming increasingly interconnected and businesses are becoming global in nature. It is not enough to know the best ways of doing things in your home country; you need to know what international best practices are. The ABLF is a very useful platform for learning from the very best about what makes a market tick, best practices across the region, new ideas that excite a market, and most importantly, for making new acquaintances and to be inspired.

Do you believe that forums such as the ABLF Awards, where you won the ABLF Woman of Power Award, promote the cause of Asian women in business? Is

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The ABLF is a very useful platform for learning from the very best about what makes a market tick, on best practices across the region, new ideas that excite a market, and most importantly, for making new acquaintances and to be inspired.

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there still some distance to go before men and women are considered on equal footing in the corporate world?

Forums such as the ABLF Awards create platforms and opportunities for women to learn, establish support and be inspired from the very best across the region. Over the last few years, in the Asia-Pacific region, women have made significant strides in the workplace. However, women still fall behind men in career progression. The main cause of this disparity is the ability to balance work and family responsibilities. It's important for companies to have HR policies that are gender neutral and allow flexibility to accommodate employees' responsibilities outside of work. But I am not an advocate in setting quotas to achieve diversity. I am a firm believer in finding the best person for the job. Having said that, successful women must also be prepared to play a more active role in mentoring aspiring female colleagues. A female mentor who is a co-worker or senior can lend a sympathetic ear because often she has been there herself.

Your comments on empowering Asia's promising youth capital, often hailed the region's biggest asset.

As the Group CEO, I cannot over-emphasise the importance of staff engagement, especially the younger generation of staff. It is important to share the company's strategic goals and plans, update them about the progress and celebrate achievements. One thing I insist on is the 'Meet the Talent' tea sessions, where I set aside an hour to meet with about 10 new talented individuals at a time. Over tea, I share my vision for the company and share my experiences from when I was a young executive. To me, leadership equals having a vision, sharing that vision, inspiring and engaging others to work together towards it, to bring about extraordinary outcomes. Leadership is also about building the next generation of leaders and ensuring continuity.



THE INDIA-UAE
SHOWCASE
AT THE ABLF AWARDS 2013



A WINNING
INTERDEPENDENCE

THE INDIA-UAE SHOWCASE

A WINNING INTERDEPENDENCE

Since 3000 BC, India and the seven Emirates, which now make up the United Arab Emirates, have been close, and have sustained a deep and abiding friendship based on historic and cultural ties. The two countries are also each other's biggest trading partners, and nurture a deep investment in each other's future.

India-UAE trade, valued at USD 180 million per annum in the 1970s, is currently close to USD 75 billion, thus making India, the UAE's largest trading partner for the fiscal year of 2012-2013. Time-tested, and constantly growing, the Indo-Emirati economic ties have largely contributed to the stability and strength of the rapidly diversifying relationship the two nations share.

The 2013 edition of the ABLF Awards turned the spotlight on India and its highly respected status as the UAE's most prominent trading partner. The India-UAE Showcase, with keynotes, messages and commentaries from the leadership of the two nations, featured the felicitation of six leading Indian and Emirati leaders, who have defined and helped architect one of the strongest bilateral relationships in the world, with the India-UAE Business Icon Awards.

The ABLF India-UAE Business Icons are individuals whose visionary ideals reflect their lofty and noble intent to continually optimise and leverage the socio-cultural and economic ties linking India and the UAE. These individuals are consummate business leaders as well as diplomats, straddling the dynamic arenas of business and bilateral engagement with wisdom and reverence, in the best interest of their nation and for the greater good.

With the concept of 'sustainable and collaborative leadership' at the heart of this showcase, the recipients of the 'India-UAE Business Icon' Awards are considered significant architects of the India-UAE business landscape and shapers of its future.

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We are keen to maintain and enhance existing bridges of cooperation with India for the mutual benefit of both nations, so that the security and the economic stability of the Gulf region, the Indian subcontinent and the whole world can be achieved.

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H.H. SHEIKH MOHAMMED BIN RASHID
AL MAKTOUM

Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai

INDIA-UAE JURY



H.E. KAMAL NATH
UNION CABINET MINISTER OF
URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND
PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, INDIA



ABDULHAMID JUMA
CHAIRMAN, DUBAI
INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
(DIFF), UAE



T.K.A. NAIR
ADVISOR TO THE PRIME
MINISTER OF INDIA



**H.E. MOHAMED HELAL
AL MUHAIRI**
DIRECTOR GENERAL,
ABU DHABI CHAMBER, UAE

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THE ABLF INDIA-UAE BUSINESS ICON AWARD

H.E. ABDULLAH MOHAMMED SALEH

GOVERNOR, DUBAI INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL CENTRE (DIFC), UAE

IN CONVERSATION WITH H.E. ABDULLAH MOHAMMED SALEH

His Excellency completed his governorship tenure at the DIFC shortly after the ABLF Grand Awards Ceremony - the ABLF is proud to have showcased His Excellency as an India-UAE Business Icon.

Your Comments on India-UAE relations.

Historically, trade between the UAE and India has been very strong and dates back to well before the modern oil driven economy. There is every sign that this relationship will remain strong, well into the future.

Your Comments on the role and contributions of the Indian community to the growth and success of UAE's economy.

The Indian community has been and still is an important driver of economic development and growth in the UAE, but particularly in Dubai. In the formative years of Dubai's growth, Indian families were in many cases the drivers of change and were respected advisers to the late Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE, and Emir of Dubai, H.H. Sheikh Rashid bin Saeed Al Maktoum.

Apart from areas of general trade they have always put something back into the community particularly in the education and health sectors, I think. It is difficult to envisage a scenario which would result in a lessening of the very strong socio-economic relations I am describing.

What is the one leadership quality you believe fundamental to being a successful and effective leader?

I have been fortunate over the years by being able to consult with some very able people, without whom the success we enjoy today would not have been possible. Humility, in my view, is a principle component of a leader's skills – the simple ability to recognise the need to consult as a tool to achieve whatever the corporate or personal objective may be.

The ABLF Series works towards promoting intra-Asia relationships – how important would you say facilitating such connections is? How can this be achieved realistically?

I believe that all tools that are designed to foster better or stronger relations between the UAE and the rest of the world are to be welcomed. The recognition of this factor is clear in the roles being played by the Dubai

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I believe that all tools that are designed to foster better or stronger relations between the UAE and the rest of the world are to be welcomed. Forums such as the ABLF Awards are useful benchmarks to mark both personal and corporate achievement at differing levels. Against the background we have been discussing I would rate the ABLF Awards very highly.

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and Abu Dhabi Chambers, supported by the many embassies and country-specific business groups operating in the UAE.

Your comments on being felicitated with the ABLF India-UAE Business Icon Award at the ABLF Awards 2013.

Forums such as the ABLF Awards are useful benchmarks to mark both personal and corporate achievement at differing levels. Against the background we have been discussing I would rate the ABLF Awards very highly.

It has been said that the youth quotient is the Asian region's biggest asset; this huge asset reservoir needs education, training, information and mentorship. How would you, as an Asian leader, extend yourself to support the empowerment of this promising youth capital?

Youth represents our future and yes, their productive employment is a particular challenge to be faced in the UAE and the GCC States. Over time I believe this problem can be resolved and I am always happy to support private sector initiatives that are designed to contribute to this process.



THE ABLF INDIA-UAE BUSINESS ICON AWARD

KHALAF AHMAD AL HABTOOR

CHAIRMAN, AL HABTOOR GROUP, UAE

IN CONVERSATION WITH KHALAF AHMAD AL HABTOOR

Your comments on India-UAE relations.

The UAE has a long history with India, from the early days of trading to today. We remain one of India's top trading partners. Our history dates back centuries. We have built on that friendship over the years. After the union of our nation in 1970, the relationship became better than ever. There are many Indian nationals living in the UAE, who see value in the country. They have helped us build this nation into what it is today. There is a lot of cooperation between us and India. We have excellent bilateral and economic ties. I, myself have many Indian expatriates working within the group.

Your comments on the role and contributions of the Indian community to the growth and success of UAE's economy.

Indians are the second largest ethnic group in the UAE so by default they contribute a lot to our economy. They have also helped build key infrastructure in the country and helped us develop our nation. There is a vibrant Indian business community in the UAE with professionals and a large number of blue collar workers. There are many influential Indian businessmen and women here, many of whom have invested in real estate or set up businesses here and made a lot of money in the UAE. The UAE is a great place to open up a business and prosper. It is the land of opportunity.

How do you envision the future of the India-UAE socio-economic ties to be?

Now that the UAE has secured the EXPO 2020, businesses will flourish even further. The property market will also benefit and people of all nationalities will benefit. India and the UAE have a lot of history together. We have a long-lasting friendship with India and understand the importance of a strong partnership. We will keep on building on the foundations for the benefit of both nations. We value each other's contributions to our respective nations.

What is the one leadership quality you believe fundamental to being a successful and effective leader especially in an organisation as vast and prolific as yours?

Discipline is the most important factor. To be successful you need to be disciplined. However trust and loyalty go hand in hand. My employees are my biggest asset. For me, nurturing quality talent and retaining staff is a big factor to a successful business. Many of my directors and staff have been in the company for decades. My company may be diverse but

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We live in a global world – and it needs to be connected. You always need a medium to connect through. Joining the dots with likeminded people and getting businesses from various sectors in different continents together is imperative. It is the first step to success. This knowledge-sharing can be replicated between countries. We can learn from each other's failures and successes and build on them.

”

the moral standing between the units remains the same throughout. Our values are replicated throughout the entire business.

The ABLF Series works towards promoting intra-Asia relationships – how important would you say facilitating such connections is? How can this be achieved realistically?

Promoting international relations is very important. We live in a global world – and it needs to be connected. You always need a medium to connect to. Joining the dots with like-minded people and getting businesses from various sectors in different continents together is imperative. It is the first step to success. This knowledge-sharing can be replicated between countries. We can learn from each other's failures and successes and build on them.

Your comments on being felicitated with the ABLF India-UAE Business Icon Award.

There are a lot of growth opportunities in the Middle East and Asia. It is good to have a facilitator to connect business and thought leaders between countries. We are operating in an established yet developing nation with plenty of growth ahead. Collaboration is very important. Asia is home to many emerging economies and many established economies so the environment is very diverse. Knowledge-sharing, and sharing success stories and challenges will only help.



THE ABLF INDIA-UAE BUSINESS ICON AWARD

H.H. SHEIKH HAMED BIN ZAYED AL NAHYAN

MANAGING DIRECTOR, ADIA, UAE

H.H. Sheikh Hamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Managing Director of Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA), is a member of the Al Nahayan Ruling Family, a humble leader and a prominent figure in the steady development of Abu Dhabi, the capital of the UAE.

On December 17, 2006, by an Emiri Decree issued by H.H. Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE and Ruler of Abu Dhabi, H.H. Sheikh Hamed was appointed to the post of Chairman of the Crown Prince Court of Abu Dhabi.

As Managing Director of ADIA, H.H. Sheikh Hamed presides over the Abu Dhabi government's largest investment vehicle and one of the world's largest sovereign wealth funds. His economic vision closely ties in with the economic vision of H.H. Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan. The Abu Dhabi Economic Vision 2030 is built on sustainability, openness and a globally competitive business and economic environment that thrives in what is rapidly turning into a world-class capital city.

H.H. Sheikh Hamed's strong educational background and vast exposure to economics has led to His Highness' being appointed to deliver in several dynamic roles in various government bodies across Abu Dhabi. His Highness has made notable contributions in the past in his capacity as Chairman of Abu Dhabi Department of Planning and Economy, Chairman of Health Authority, Executive Committee Chairman of Executive Council, Chairman of Higher Corporation for Specialized Economic Zones, and Vice Chairman of Abu Dhabi Council for Economic Development.

H.H. Sheikh Hamed's contribution in the development of Abu Dhabi as the investment capital of the UAE has reflected in the continued and structured growth of the emirate and of the nation as a whole. Directed by his vision, the Abu Dhabi Department of Planning and Economy has worked consistently to construct and implement a viable commercial and economic policy for the region. Having chaired the boards for other authorities in the emirate such as the Health Authority and the Abu Dhabi Council for Economic Development, H.H. Sheikh Hamed has guided constructive reform, while setting an exemplary standard for generations of young leaders.

H.H. Sheikh Hamed's educational background focuses on economics with a Bachelor's Degree in Economics from the Emirates University, followed by a Master's Degree in Oil Political Economy from the University of Wales,

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Economic leadership is passing to emerging markets, not just as their weight in the global economy passes 50 per cent, but as their share of likely future global growth moves far higher.

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H.H. SHEIKH HAMED BIN ZAYED AL NAHYAN

United Kingdom. Owing to his keen interest and specialised expertise in the subject, His Highness is currently serving on numerous boards, in various positions of power and authority including Chairman of the Board of Directors of Al Etihad Airways and Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Khalifa University of Science, Technology and Research (KUSTAR). His Highness is also a Member of the Supreme Petroleum Council (SPC), a Member of the Abu Dhabi Investment Council, a Member of the Abu Dhabi Executive Council, in addition to being the Chairman of the Board of the Gulf Holding Corporation – a body which, under His Highness' keen leadership has become one of the UAE's largest industrial conglomerates and a major contributor to the Emirate's economic diversification initiatives.

H.H. Sheikh Hamed stands as a recipient of one of six powerful ABLF India-UAE Business Icon Awards, in recognition of his strong leadership as Managing Director of ADIA, a role that H.H. Sheikh Hamed assumed in 2010. In his position at the helm of ADIA, H.H. Sheikh Hamed has taken the onus of exploring and creating new investment opportunities for the UAE in the Indian market, thus contributing to the betterment of the India-UAE economic and business relationship.

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THE ABLF INDIA-UAE BUSINESS ICON AWARD

YUSUFFALI M.A.

MANAGING DIRECTOR, EMKE (LULU) GROUP, UAE

Arabian
Week
Middle
East

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ASIAN BUSINESS LEADERSHIP
AWARDS
DUBAI

Yusuffali M.A., Managing Director of the Abu Dhabi-headquartered EMKE Group of Companies is one of the most respected business leaders across Asia and ranks as a prominent and well-respected NRI business personality. The group has diversified into many significant areas under his dynamic stewardship, retail being the most prominent of them. Yusuffali's astute business vision is only matched by his legendary diplomatic skills and his ability to forge long-lasting friendships. He is equally loved and respected by not just the Indian community but also that of every country he enjoys a presence in.

Headquartered in Abu Dhabi, the capital city of the UAE, the EMKE Group is best known in the Gulf through a chain of popular shopping malls, hypermarkets, supermarkets and department stores which serve the widest segments of multi-ethnic residents in the region. Foremost among them is the Lulu Chain of outlets, followed by Al Falah Plaza and Emirates General Market. The group's formidable position in retail is ably supported by an integrated network of import, distribution and wholesale marketing operations, apart from a cross-continent network of outsourcing operations.

EMKE Group, with its 31,440-strong workforce from 37 different nations and operational bases extending over the UAE, India, Oman, Qatar, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Yemen, Egypt, Kenya, Benin, Tanzania, Senegal, Uganda, Nigeria, Ghana, Ivory Coast, South Africa, Mozambique, Cameroon, Togo, Gambia, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia, Brazil, Turkey, and United Kingdom, thus making it one of the most successful corporates of the times with a steadily ascending growth curve over the years. The group sees an annual turnover of USD 5.1 billion globally.

Apart from his immense business involvement, Yusuffali is equally active on the social front and is associated with various organisations. In recognition of his remarkable achievements in business and industry and his distinguished services in the field of social work, the prestigious Padma Shri award was conferred on him by H.E. Pratibha Devisingh Patil, the former Honourable President of India in 2008. He was the first NRI from the Gulf and the West Asian countries to be honoured with this coveted award by the Government of India.

Taking into consideration his valuable contribution in promoting the honour and prestige of India, his efforts in fostering the interests of

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My heartiest congratulations to the ABLF Series on bringing together the spirit of Asia. As an Asian Business Awards Middle East 2007 alumnus, it gives me great pride to see that the mandate of the event is Asia-focused. Collaboration is important, now more than ever, for Asia to achieve its full potential as the global economic torchbearer of the future.

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YUSUFFALI M.A.

overseas Indians, and his outstanding achievements in the field of business, Yusuffali has also been conferred with the prestigious Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award, the highest Indian Government Award given to NRIs, by H.E. Dr A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, the former Honourable President of India, in 2005. The crowning glory in his career came when he was elected by the business community in Abu Dhabi as the director board member of the Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce and Industries (ADCCI) in the year 2005. This was the first time that elections were held for the ADCCI and expatriate was elected to the Director Board of one of the world's most prosperous and wealthy business regulatory authorities. In addition to this, he was also unanimously elected by the board members as the Vice-Chairman of the prestigious Trade Committee of the ADCCI. After four years, in the year 2009, the UAE business community re-elected him to the Director Board of ADCCI.

Owing to his untiring contributions to furthering the Indo-Emirati economic and socio-cultural ties, and thus being a significant architect of the India-UAE business continuum, Yusuffali was awarded the ABLF India-UAE Business Icon Award 2013.

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DUBAI 2013



THE ABLF INDIA-UAE BUSINESS ICON AWARD

DR B.R. SHETTY

FOUNDING PARTNER AND CEO, NMC HEALTHCARE;
AND MANAGING DIRECTOR AND CEO, UAE EXCHANGE, UAE

IN CONVERSATION WITH DR B.R. SHETTY

Your comments on India-UAE relations.

India and the UAE share a long and fruitful relationship spanning across centuries, so much so that many Indians including myself have made the UAE their second home. I feel a sense of belonging to the UAE for this is where I have progressed and prospered. I am thankful to the Royal Families of the UAE for their benevolence towards people from India and I hope we are able to reciprocate the same with gratitude and diligence.

Your comments on the role and contributions of the Indian community to the growth and success of UAE's economy.

Indians account for a sizeable portion of UAE's working population and contribute significantly to the country's economy and trade through various entrepreneurial ventures as well as holding important positions in the service industry. The India-UAE trade topped at USD 74 billion during 2012-13 and the years to come will only enhance these figures. India serves as a source of skilled manpower and the UAE, a hub of opportunities. This has led to the progress of both nations and their respective economies.

How do you envision the future of the India-UAE socio-economic ties to be?

Once the Bilateral Investment Protection Agreement is signed between India and the UAE, it will help India tap the UAE market for future investments. It is also the time for India to capitalise on the benevolence of the Rulers of the UAE, by establishing ventures that will lead to the progress of both the nations. The UAE is already investing heavily in India; these collaborations speak greatly about the promising future of socio-economic ties between India and the UAE.

What leadership qualities do you believe fundamental to being a successful and effective leader?

I consider the three Ps - passion, patience and perseverance as significant attributes of a good business leader and have inculcated these three qualities in to my business philosophy as well. I believe that there is no-short cut to success and hard work has been and still is an essential ingredient of my accomplishments.

The ABLF Series works towards promoting intra-Asia relationships - how important would you say facilitating such connections is?

I heartily appreciate the efforts of the ABLF series to promote intra-Asia

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The ABLF Awards is a great platform for bringing Asian businesses and leaders together on a single podium to encourage sharing of ideas between influential visionaries. I feel extremely honoured for being conferred the ABLF India-UAE Business Icon Award and I wish to continue making greater efforts in enhancing the relationship between both the countries.

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relationships, which I consider are extremely significant for Asian countries' progress at various levels. These enhanced relationships will lead to greater sharing of knowledge, growth of investments and creation of employment opportunities across varied industries including information technology, hospitality, real estate, healthcare and financial services to name a few. Progress on this front can be achieved through strategic planning and implementation of friendly foreign policies. The ABLF Awards is a great platform for bringing Asian businesses and leaders together on a single podium to encourage sharing of ideas between influential visionaries. I feel extremely honoured for being conferred the ABLF India-UAE Business Icon Award and I wish to continue making greater efforts in enhancing the relationship between both the countries.

How do you extend yourself as well as your organisation to support the empowerment of Asia's promising youth capital?

The youth are the leaders of tomorrow and I consider their empowerment to be of supreme importance for the world's progress. I believe that the most vital way to empower them is through education. To meet the ever-increasing demand for quality education in this part of the world, I established Bright Riders School and Deira Private School in Abu Dhabi and Dubai respectively. Complementing this effort is my role as the Honorary Chairman of Abu Dhabi Indian School, the largest community school in Abu Dhabi. I am now working towards realising my long-cherished dream of setting up colleges for professional training across health education and healthcare management among others.



THE ABLF INDIA-UAE BUSINESS ICON AWARD

CAPT C.P. KRISHNAN NAIR

FOUNDER AND CHAIRMAN EMERITUS, LEELA PALACES, HOTELS AND RESORTS, INDIA

THE CAPTAIN'S JOURNEY

By Pranay Gupte

Pranay Gupte is an award-winning veteran international journalist, and author of the forthcoming biography, 'The Captain: C. P. Krishnan Nair and the Globalization of India', due for release this year.

C. P. Krishnan Nair looks and acts every bit the army captain he once was. He walks ramrod straight. He dresses neatly and fastidiously, paying attention to every item and accouterment of his attire, choosing carefully from gaily coloured and well-tailored suits from Italy, the United States and Britain. He looks you directly in the eye. He speaks firmly and fluently.

Most people think he's of uncertain age – very few people are able to ascertain that Captain Nair, in fact, marked his 93rd birthday last February.

In their conversations with him, most people get the impression that Captain Nair would love to do whatever he could to make the world a better place. He is, in a manner of speaking, a natural philanthropist and humanitarian. He's also, in a definite manner of speaking, an enormously curious man who constantly searches for intellectual stimulation. The man has read exhaustively; but even more importantly for him, he engages everyone who meets him in lively conversation. There are great yields for him in such encounters – he absorbs new information, he obtains tidbits of knowledge, and – yes – he soaks up gossip.

But routine bores Captain Nair. Not only does he come up with inventive ideas in his business, his body language suggests a certain impatience with the status quo.

Captain Nair's loyalty to his colleagues and associates gains him an enduring place in people's hearts and minds. He can be stubborn, of course, and sometimes he can be downright obstinate, as his subordinates will tell you – although not within his earshot. And he can show flashes of temper – as his subordinates will also tell you, and this, too, not within his earshot.

So who is this C. P. Krishnan Nair? He was born into a rural family of modest means. After winning a life scholarship at the age of 10 from the Maharaja of Chirakkal in North Kerala, Nair obtained his education in Madras. He

then became an aide – at the age of 14 – of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, and came into close contact with Gandhi, Nehru, Patel, and other leaders of India's Freedom Movement. As a teenager, he was even put into jail by the British. These early experiences made Nair determined to make a contribution to the development of free India.

After enlisting in the army's Maratha Light Regiment, Nair rose to rank of captain, and was later befriended by giants such as Lord Louis Mountbatten, and V. P. Menon. At the insistence of his wife, Leela, he left the army in order to promote his father-in-law's textile business. He transformed that Kerala-based business into a successful national handloom enterprise.

His success in reviving India's handloom industry emboldened Nair to launch an export business. He invented Bleeding Madras textiles – which became the rage in the United States – and also sparked what would become a multi-billion-dollar garment export industry. His textile company, Leela Scottish Lace, became one of the most prosperous enterprises of its kind in India.

Nair himself is credited with being the 'father' of globalisation of India's garment and textiles industries. He overcame thickets of bureaucratic and governmental regulations through a canny mix of intuition, charm, guile and foresight. His friendships with stars such as Gregory Peck, Marlon Brando, Elizabeth Taylor and the Rajmata of Gwalior, made him a celebrity – and attracted more business for his fabrics.

Acting on an idea that his uncle V. P. Menon – who'd been the mastermind of the consolidation of princely states into the modern Indian polity – had once planted in his mind, Nair started The Leela Group of Palaces, Hotels and Resorts. Bankers were unwilling to lend him money at first. But Nair persisted. Today, his eight super-luxury properties are considered among the world's finest. More hotels are being built across India and abroad.



AN ILLUSTRIOUS ALUMNI

THE ABLF AWARD RECIPIENTS THROUGH THE YEARS



LATE DHIRUBHAI AMBANI
*Founder Chairman
Reliance Group, India*



H.E. KAMAL NATH
*Union Cabinet Minister of Urban
Development and Parliamentary Affairs, India*



H.E. DR THAKSIN SHINAWATRA
Former Prime Minister, Thailand



H.E. MOHAMED ALI RASHED ALABBAR
*Chairman
EMAAR Properties, UAE*



ANAND MAHINDRA
*Chairman and Managing Director
Mahindra & Mahindra, India*



GARIBALDI THOHIR
*CEO and President Director
PT Adaro Energy, Indonesia*



RATAN TATA
Chairman Emeritus
Tata Group, India



A.M. NAIK
Group Executive Chairman
Larsen & Toubro, India



RAJA EASA AL GURG
Managing Director
Easa Saleh Al Gurg Group, UAE



MALLIKA SRINIVASAN
Chairman and CEO
Tractors and Farm Equipment
Limited (TAFE), India



SHINTA WIDJAJA KAMDANI
Managing Director
Sintesa Group, Indonesia



HIND SUHAIL BAHWAN
Founder and Chairperson,
Bahwan Cybertek Group;
and Director, Suhail Bahwan
Group, Sultanate of Oman



SALMA ALI SAIF BIN HAREB
CEO
JAFZA and Economic
Zones Worldwide, UAE



OLIVIA LUM
Executive Chairman and Group CEO
Hyflux Group, Singapore



STEPHEN LEE CHING YEN
Chairman
Singapore Airlines, Singapore



MANOJ GAUR
Executive Chairman and CEO
Jaypee Group, India



DR AMER BIN AWADH AL-RAWAS
CEO
Omantel, Sultanate of Oman



KISHORE MAHBUBANI
Dean, Professor in the Practice of
Public Policy, Lee Kuan Yew School of
Public Policy, Singapore



SHASHI RUIA
Chairman
Essar Group, India



AN ILLUSTRIOUS ALUMNI

THE ABLF AWARD RECIPIENTS THROUGH THE YEARS



H.E. OBAID KHALEEFA
JABER AL MURRI
*Chairman
Al Jaber Group, UAE*



H.E. MOHAMED BIN
DHAEN AL HAML
Former Minister of Energy, UAE



VANDANA LUTHRA
*Founder and Mentor
VLCC, India*



H.E. SULTAN AHMED BIN SULAYEM
*Chairman
DP World, UAE*



H.E. MOHAMMAD AL ZUBAIR
*Founding Chairman
Zubair Corporation, Sultanate of Oman*



B.N. KALYANI
*Group Chairman
Kalyani Group, India*



N.R. NARAYANA MURTHY
Founder and Executive Chairman
Infosys Limited, India



GHAITH AL GHAITH
CEO
Flydubai, UAE



LAKSHMI N. MITTAL
Chairman and CEO
ArcelorMittal, India



CHANDA KOCHHAR
Managing Director and CEO
ICICI Bank, India



RAMESH PRABHAKAR
CEO
Rivoli Group, UAE



SYED SALAHUDDIN
Managing Director
ETA Ascon Star Group, UAE



GEORGE SANTOSA TAHIJA
President Director
Austindo Group, Indonesia



RENUKA JAGTIANI
Vice Chairperson
Landmark Group, UAE



A.K. NATHAN
Executive Chairman and
Group Managing Director
Eversendai Group, Malaysia



**H.E. ENG. SALAH SALEM
BIN OMAIR AL SHAMSI**
Chairman
LIWA Petroleum & Industrial Supplies, UAE



**H.E. DR. OMAR BIN ABDUL
MUNIEM AL ZAWAWI**
Founder and Chairman
Omar Zawawi Establishment (OMZEST), Oman



GOPINATH PILLAI
Executive Chairman
Savant Infocomm, Singapore



GAUTAM THAPAR
Founder and Chairman
Avantha Group, India



CHAPTER V

The ABLF 2013 Moments

GREAT LEADERS LEAVE BEHIND FOOTPRINTS
IN THE SANDS OF TIME

A black and white photograph of a desert landscape. In the foreground, a sand dune is covered in fine, rhythmic ripples. A trail of footprints leads from the bottom center towards the middle ground. In the background, more sand dunes are visible under a cloudy sky. A large, faint watermark of the word "WOLFF" is overlaid across the upper half of the image.

AND WEAVE INTO THE THEIR LEGACIES, DISTINCTIVE MOMENTS
THAT SERVE AS GLORIOUS SIGNPOSTS FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS





THE ABLF AWARDS 2013 RED CARPET PHOTO GALLERY











THE ABLF AWARDS 2013

ROYAL MAJLIS PHOTO GALLERY







THE ABLF AWARDS 2013

THE EVENT PHOTO GALLERY









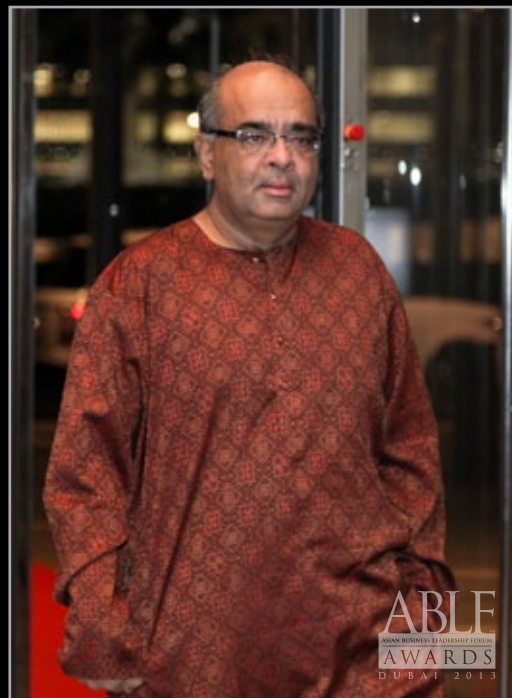












"I propose that we work towards collaboration the Asian way: by building trust and shared value. When it comes to improving the quality of the life of our people, then the challenge is for us to work together, not separately. We owe that to our people."

H.E. DR THAKSIN SHINAWATRA

LEADERS OF ASIA COME TOGETHER TO LAUNCH ONEASIA2020 AT THE ABLF AWARDS 2013



Front row (left to right): H.E. Abdullah Mohammed Saleh, H.H. Shaikh Khalifa bin Rashid Al Khalifa, H.H. Shaikh Khalifa bin Ali Al Khalifa, H.E. Dr Thaksin Shinawatra, H.H. Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, H.E. Kamal Nath, Yusuffali M.A., T.K.A. Nair, Shobhana Bhartia and Chua Sock Koong

Back row (left to right): H.E. Khalil Abdullah Al Khonji, B. N. Kalyani, Dr Prathap C. Reddy, Dr B.R. Shetty, Vivek Nair, Mohammed Khalaf Al Habtoor, Rajiv K. Luthra, William E. Heinecke, Mohiuddin Mohamad Ali and Dr Amer Bin Awadh Al-Rawas





THE ABLF AWARDS 2013

ABLEF MOMENTS









THE ABLF AWARDS 2013

DINNER PHOTO GALLERY





THE ABLF STATESMAN AWARD 2013



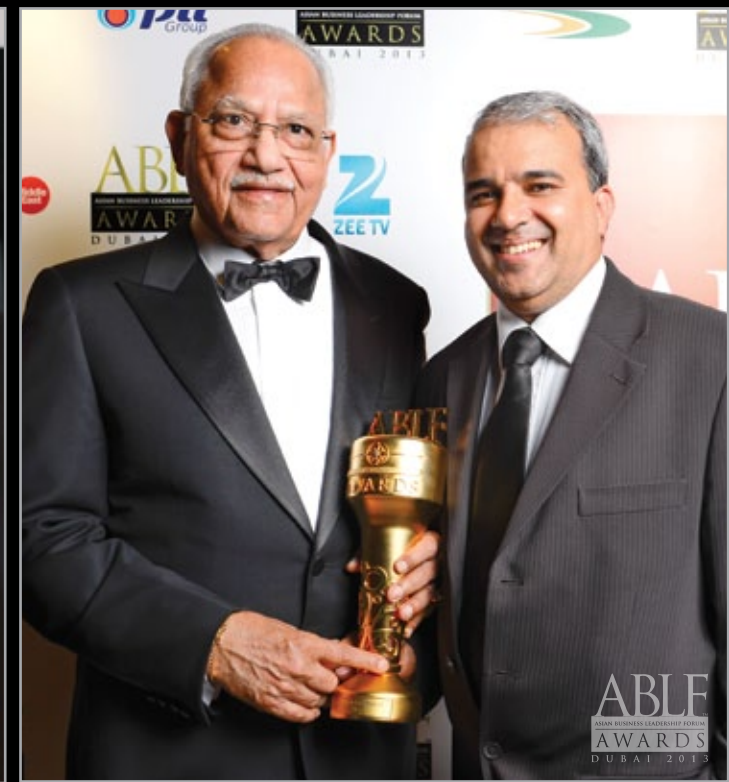
H.H. Shaikh Khalifa bin Rashid Al Khalifa and H.H. Sheikh Khalifa bin Ali Al Khalifa, Royal Emissaries from H.R.H. The Prime Minister's Court, Kingdom of Bahrain, receive the ABLF Statesman Award on behalf of H.R.H. Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa . The Award was presented by H.H. Sheikh Ahmed Bin Saeed Al Maktoum and H.E. Sultan bin Saeed Al Mansouri

THE ABLF GLOBAL ASIAN AWARD 2013



H.H. Sheikh Ahmed Bin Saeed Al Maktoum receives the ABLF Global Asian Award 2013, and delivers a brief note of thanks following his felicitation. The Award was presented by H.E. Kittiratt Na-Ranong and H.E. Kamal Nath

THE ABLF LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD 2013



Dr Prathap C. Reddy receives the ABLF Lifetime Achievement Award for his commendable work within the healthcare sector in India. The Award was presented by H.H. Sheikh Ahmed Bin Saeed Al Maktoum and H.E. Kamal Nath

THE ABLF WOMAN OF POWER AWARD 2013



Chua Sock Koong receives the ABLF Woman of Power Award, as part of a powerful Woman of Power showcase. The Award was presented by Shobhana Bhartia

THE ABLF BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARD 2013



H.E. Sheikh Fahad Bin Mohammad Bin Jabor Al-Thani receives the ABLF Business Excellence Award for Doha Bank, presented by H.E. Dr Thaksin Shinawatra and H.E. Remy Rowhani



Rajiv K. Luthra receives the ABLF Business Excellence Award for Luthra & Luthra Law Offices, presented by T.K.A. Nair and Dr Amer bin Awadh Al-Rawas

THE ABLF BUSINESS COURAGE AWARD 2013



Mohiuddin Mohamed Ali receives the ABLF Business Courage Award on behalf of Dr P. Mohamed Ali. The Award was presented by H.E. Kittiratt Na-Ranong, B.N. Kalyani and an official emissary from the Abu Dhabi Chamber



THE ABLF TRAILBLAZER AWARD 2013



William E. Heinecke receives the ABLF Trailblazer Award, presented once again by H.E. Kittiratt Na-Ranong, B.N. Kalyani and an official emissary from Abu Dhabi Chamber

THE ABLF AMBASSADOR OF COMMERCE AWARD 2013



H.E. Khalil Abdullah Al Khonji receives the ABLF Ambassador of Commerce Award for his contribution to the economic growth in the GCC region. The Award was presented by H.H. Sheikh Ahmed Bin Saeed Al Maktoum and H.E. Sultan bin Saeed Al Mansouri

THE ABLF INDIA-UAE BUSINESS ICONS AWARD 2013



H.E. Abdulla Mohammed Saleh receives one of six powerful India-UAE Business Icon Awards, presented to him by H.E. Kamal Nath and T.K.A. Nair



Mohammed Al Habtoor receives one of six powerful India-UAE Business Icon Awards, presented once again by H.E. Kamal Nath and T.K.A. Nair



Official emissary from Abu Dhabi Chamber received an India-UAE Business Icon Award on behalf of H.E. Mohamed Helal Al Muhairi, Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA), presented by H.E. Kamal Nath

THE ABLF INDIA-UAE BUSINESS ICONS AWARD 2013



H.H. Sheikh Ahmed Bin Saeed Al Maktoum and H.E. Sultan bin Saeed Al Mansouri present Dr B. R. Shetty with an India-UAE Business Icon Award



Yusuffali M.A. receives one of six powerful India-UAE Business Icon Award, presented once again by H.H. Sheikh Ahmed Bin Saeed Al Maktoum and H.E. Sultan bin Saeed Al Mansouri



Vivek Nair receives an India-UAE Business Icon Award on behalf of Capt C.P. Krishnan Nair. The award was presented by H.H. Sheikh Ahmed Bin Saeed Al Maktoum and H.E. Sultan bin Saeed Al Mansouri

CHAPTER VI

The ABLF 2013 Communiqué

GREAT LEADERS CONSTRUCT
COMMUNICATION SUPER HIGHWAYS



ABEF

THAT BRIDGE THE CHASM OF DISSONANCE AND IGNORANCE
BY KEEPING OPEN CHANNELS OF DIPLOMACY AND
INFORMATION-SHARING



FORUMS • CONCLAVES • CELEBRATIONS • PUBLICATIONS • LEADERSHIP QUOTIENT • JOINT VENTURES • PARTNERSHIPS • THE ABLE KNOWLEDGE CONGRESS • ONEASIA2020 • THE ABLE AWARDS



A global perspective

A CLOSE ALLIANCE BUILT ON TRUST

WELCOME TO THE ABLE AWARDS DUBAI 2013

RELEVANCE

WALK WITH THE TITANS
MINGLE WITH THE LEGENDS
CELEBRATE ASIA

ABLE AWARDS DUBAI 2013

ABLE AWARDS DUBAI 2013

WITH TRADE

BUSINESS ASIA

FRIENDSHIP THAT SPANS OVER FIVE MILLENNIA

ABLE FORUM

THE HONOUR
THE GLORY
THE CITATION

ACROSS THE WATERS OF

Dedicated to the magnificent city of Dubai and its visionary leaders

H.H. SHEIKH MOHAMMED BIN RASHID AL MAKTOU
VICE PRESIDENT AND PRIME MINISTER OF UAE, AND RULER OF DUBAI

A global perspective

RECOGNITION

A RELATIONSHIP CRAFTED BY INDIVIDUALS

ASIAN BUSINESS LEADERSHIP FORUM



AND NOTHING WILL
EMERGE AS WINNERS

M.M. BIN RASHID AL MAKTOU
(H. 2007)



TONIGHT
WE CELEBRATE THIS EXEMPLARY
INTRA-ASIA RELATIONSHIP

ON DECEMBER 14, 2013
ALL ROADS LEAD TO DUBAI

ACCOLADES FOR 16
CONTEMPORARY ASIAN LEADERS
WHO WALK THE PATH OF
EXCELLENCE

TODAY, INDIA IS THE UAE'S GREATEST
TRADING PARTNER.

ABLE
AWARDS
2013

ABLE AWARDS 2013

ABLE
FORUM
AWARDS

INDIA AND THE UAE

THE HONOUR
THE GLORY
THE FELICITATIONS

INTEGRITY

REPUTATION

INNOVATION

A RELATIONSHIP OF COLOUR

WILL YOU BE THERE?

10,000

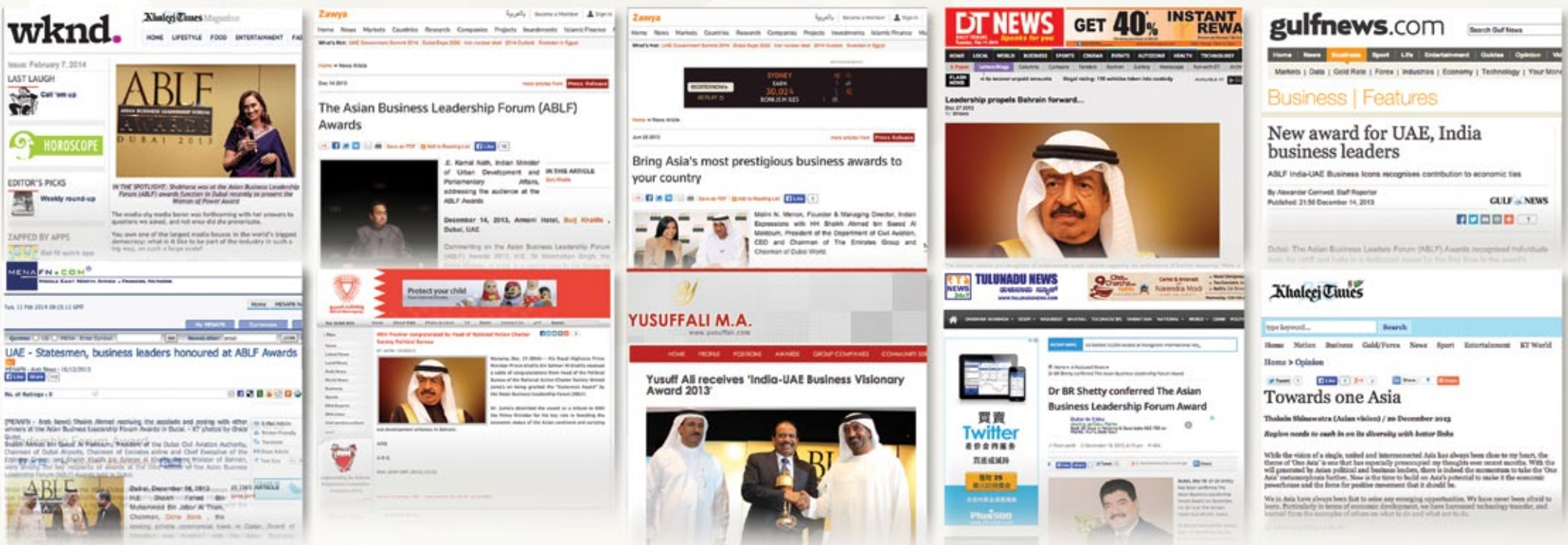
ONE
ASIA
2020





THE ABLF ADVANTAGE A PAN-ASIA MEDIA OUTREACH

The ABLF media plan is a comprehensive campaign that incorporates multiple media, most significantly direct communication facilitated by BTL channels, as well as the traditional print (full-page adverts, editorials, photo features and advertorials across leading Asian broadsheets, newspapers and magazines including *Bloomberg Businessweek Middle East* (UAE), *Gulf News* (UAE), *Hindustan Times* (India), *The Oman Observer* (Sultanate of Oman), *Khaleej Times* (UAE), *The Hindu - Business Line* (India) and other major newspapers across Southeast Asia; radio (chat shows and event promos); online news portals such as Muscatdaily.com, Chennaionline.com, Zawya.com and television media across Asia. The ABLF platform enjoyed constant presence in the global news space through multimedia communications over a strategically planned outreach campaign that ran for five months leading up to the event in December 2013.



OMAN TRIBUNE

The Edge of Knowledge

OMAN AIR

Armed Forces Day celebrated in Delhi

Japan pledges \$700 aid to Oman

Taste of 'Olympic'...

Uganda's debt share...

Act against...

Alexa not...

Khaleej Times

Dubai, December 22, 2013 | gulfnews.com

Decree will ease ma...

DUBAI IS EXPECTED TO SEE FAVOURABLE IMPACT ON DYNAMIC...

FOR those and businesses in Dubai will be benefited by a new decree that will ease the process of doing business in the emirate, according to a report by the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) in Dubai.

The report, which is part of a study on the impact of the new decree, says that the average time to start a business in Dubai is 10 days, compared to 15 days in other emirates.

The new decree will also allow for a more flexible approach to the registration of companies, and will also allow for a more flexible approach to the registration of companies.

Times OF OMAN

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2013 | KHALEEJ TIMES

Statesmen, business leaders honoured at ABLF Awards

Shaikh Ahmed, Bahrain PM among top individuals felicitated



CONGRATULATIONS

TO 15 OF ASIA'S LEADERS FOR THEIR INSPIRATIONAL WINS AT THE REGION'S MOST POWERFUL BUSINESS AWARD EVENT IN THE SECTORS OF INDUSTRY, INFRASTRUCTURE & ENERGY

THE ASIAN BUSINESS LEADERSHIP FORUM AWARDS 2013

THE HONOUR • THE GLORY • THE FELICITATIONS

December 14, 2013 • Armani Hotel, Burj Khalifa, UAE

H.H. Shaikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, The ABLF Statesman Award Winner, H.H. Shaikh Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa, The ABLF Lifetime Achievement Award Winner, Chua Sock Koong, Winner, Dr Prathap C. Reddy, The ABLF Lifetime Achievement Award Winner, William E. Heinicke, The ABLF Trailblazer Award Winner, Rajiv Luthra, The ABLF Lifetime Achievement Award Winner, Dr P. Mohamed Ali, The ABLF Trailblazer Award Winner, M.E. Sheikh Fahad Bin Muhammad Bin Jabr Al Thani, The ABLF Lifetime Achievement Award Winner, E. Suresh, The ABLF Trailblazer Award Winner, H.E. Khalil Abdullah Al Khater, The ABLF Ambassador of Commerce Award Winner, The ABLF Business Excellence Award Winner, H.E. Abdullah Mohammed Saleh, Khalid Ahmed Al Habtoor, H.H. Sheikh Hamad bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Yasuf Ali M.A., Dr B.R. Shetty, Capt. C. P. Krishnan Naik

ABLIF

THE STARS WERE SHINING BRIGHTLY OVER DUBAI ON THE NIGHT OF DECEMBER 14, WHEN THE ABLF AWARDS BROUGHT A PANTHEON OF ICONIC LEADERS FROM ACROSS ASIA TO THE CITY TO HONOUR ITS AWARDEES

H.E. Kamal Nath, Union Cabinet Minister, bin Rashid Al Khalifa, Kingdom of Bahrain, Shrinewara, former Prime Minister, Pakistan, Bhartiya, Chairperson and former Director, Ministry of Finance, Thailand, Mohammed Al Akbar, former PM of India, B. N. Kalyani, Chief Minister, Karnataka, Group CEO, Dabur, H. Chennurath, The Ambassador to the UAE, H. Robinson to the UAE

Sunday December 22, 2013 Super PR 1455

GULF NEWS

gulfnews.com

Switch network but keep your number

Telethon raises Dh120m for Syria

Sharjah Water Festival

Beating autism

Forum to bring Asian industrialists together



ABLIF awards to be held in Dubai on Dec 14

region," said Malini N Menon, founder and managing director of West Asia-based Indian Expressions Management Consultancy, pioneers and producers of the ABLF Series.

ABLIF is an Asian industry and business platform backed by a panel of leaders, policymakers, academia, media and opinion makers of core industries across Asia.

It showcases business enterprise in the dynamic sectors of industry, infrastructure and energy, the key drivers of the global economy, and pays tribute to outstanding leaders from Asian nations.

"The ABLF Awards platform gives credence where it is due, to the top leaders of current business affairs across the Asian continent," said Sheikh Nahayan Mubarak Al-Nahayan, minister of culture, youth and community development, UAE.

Past recipients of ABLF awards include Ratan Tata, chairman emeritus of Tata Group, AM Naik, executive chairman of Larsen & Toubro and Chanda Kochhar, MD and CEO of ICICI Bank.

ABLIF BUSINESS LEADERS AWARDS

for UAE, India business leaders

Minister of Urban Development presented the ABLF India-UAE Business Leadership Awards to Shaikh Mohammed Saleh, governor of Dubai International Financial Centre.

ABLIF

Celebrating UAE-India trade ties

China to tackle debt as part of reforms

BAUME & MERCIER

Daily News

The voice of Bahrain

free trial till end of February subscribe now

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Lancers International School

An IB World School

ADMISSION OPEN

NTISH HURLS RYOT CHARGE BACK AT MOOL B.P TO MEET

THE POWER OF PROACTIVE PARTNERSHIP

**Bloomberg
Businessweek**®

Middle
East

ABLE
ASIAN BUSINESS LEADERSHIP FORUM
AWARDS

A highly anticipated and recently launched regional edition of an über successful and widely respected US publication, *Bloomberg Businessweek Middle East (BBW ME)* provides insightful business news and analysis, critical to the Middle East and North African (MENA) region, exploring everything from global economics, technology and finance, to travel, fashion and lifestyle pursuits.

With a compelling mix of local and international content, the fortnightly publication aims to provide influential decision makers with the information they need to stay ahead of the pack, and has been extremely well-received since its launch in October, 2013.

The ABLF Series – with its core mandate of highlighting Asian business achievers, influential decision makers, and institutions, organisations and governments operating in the region – associated with the *BBW ME* for its 2013 edition, with the publication as its Print Partner, to further spread the message of leadership values to the title's readers.



EXPERIENCE THE POWER OF BUSINESS ASIA

ABLE
ASIAN BUSINESS LEADERSHIP FORUM
AWARDS
DUBAI 2013

THE ABLF SERIES
AND BLOOMBERG BUSINESSWEEK ME
PARTNER TO BRING YOU
THE POWER OF BUSINESS ASIA

THE ABLF SERIES
AND BLOOMBERG BUSINESSWEEK ME
PARTNER TO BRING YOU
THE POWER OF BUSINESS ASIA



ABLE AWARDS

UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF
H.H. SHEIKH NAHAYAN MABARAK AL-NAHYAN
MINISTER OF CULTURE, YOUTH & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

THE ASIAN BUSINESS LEADERSHIP FORUM AWARDS 2013

December 14, 2013
Armani Hotel, Burj Khalifa, Dubai, UAE

Asia's most powerful leaders
come together at the region's biggest celebration of business

WILL YOU BE THE NEXT?

By invitation only
For more information email: viphospitality@ableawards.com
www.ableawards.com

CONGRATULATIONS

TO 15 OF ASIA'S LEADERS FOR THEIR INSPIRATIONAL WINS AT THE REGION'S MOST POWERFUL BUSINESS AWARD EVENT IN THE SECTORS OF INDUSTRY, INFRASTRUCTURE & ENERGY

December 14, 2013 • Armani Hotel, Burj Khalifa, UAE

H.H. Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, The ABLF Global Asian Award Winner; **H.R.H. Sheikh Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa**, The ABLF Statesman Award Winner; **Dr Prathap C. Reddy**, The ABLF Lifetime Achievement Award Winner; **William E. Heinecke**, The ABLF Trailblazer Award Winner; **Chua Sock Koong**, The ABLF Woman of Power Award Winner; **Dr P. Mohamed Ali**, The ABLF Business Courage Award; **Luthra & Luthra Law Offices, India**, represented by **H.E. Sheikh Fahad Bin Mohammad Bin Jabor Al Thani**, The ABLF Business Excellence Award Winner - Legal; **Doha Bank, Qatar**, represented by **H.E. Sheikh Fahad Bin Mohammad Bin Jabor Al Thani**, The ABLF Business Excellence Award Winner - Finance; **H.E. Khalil Abdullah Al Khonji**, The ABLF Ambassador of Commerce Award Winner; (The ABLF India-UAE Business Icon Awards Winners: **H.E. Abdullah Mohammed Saleh**, **Khalaf Ahmad Al Habtoor**, **H.H. Sheikh Hamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan**, **Yusuff Ali M.A.**, **Dr B.R. Shetty**, **Capt. C. P. Krishnan Nair**)



ABLE AWARDS

THE ICONIC ABLF AWARD 2013 PRESENTERS

H.E. Kamal Nath, Union Cabinet Minister, India; **H.H. Shaikh Khalifa bin Ali Al Khalifa**, Chairman of the Board of Directors, Middle East

Bloomberg Businessweek

THE RISE OF

THE ABLF'S INTERACTIVE SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN



What sets the ABLF Awards communication campaign apart is the intelligent use of its communication channels. In 2013, the ABLF Series made its presence felt in a big way in the online space through a highly collaborative social media campaign spreading word about the ABLF Series events and its presenters via Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.

 www.facebook.com/ablfseries



TWITTER

ABLF AWARDS DUBAI 2013

ABLF

@ABLFseries

Asian Business Leadership Forum Series - Tweets from Asia's most powerful platform for business excellence in Industry, Infrastructure and Energy.
ablfawards.com

TWEETS **587** FOLLOWING **552** FOLLOWERS **41.4K** [Edit profile](#)

Tweets

ABLF @ABLFseries · Feb 5
Are you following us on Facebook? Like and follow our page #ABLFawards for exciting news about the upcoming #ABLFawards.
Expand [Reply](#) [Delete](#) [Favorite](#) [More](#)

ABLF @ABLFseries · Feb 3
Join us on #ABLFAWARDS on Facebook to discuss the newest raise in tariff taxes: Milk.
timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/delhi/Mil...
[View summary](#) [Reply](#) [Delete](#) [Favorite](#) [More](#)

Retweeted by ABLF
AI Habtoor Group @alhabtoorgroup · Dec 24
Khalaf Al #Habtoor awarded India-UAE Business Icon @ABLFseries. Receiving the award on his behalf @MKHabtoor
flickr.com/photos/ablf/11...
[View photo](#) [Reply](#) [Retweeted](#) [Star](#) [Favorited](#) [More](#)

ABLF @ABLFseries · Dec 17
The #ABLF #Grand #Awards #Ceremony captured in pictures. Here's a glimpse of the power of #Business #Asia: ablfawards.com/gallery/
Expand [Reply](#) [Delete](#) [Star](#) [Favorite](#) [More](#)

Retweeted by ABLF
Simone Heng @simoneheng · Dec 14
@rizkhanshows @ABLFseries #ablf13 pic.twitter.com/7HfjcpSWJG

[Expand](#) [Reply](#) [Retweeted](#) [Star](#) [Favorite](#) [More](#)

Retweeted by ABLF
Riz Khan @RizKhanShows · Dec 14
ABLF brings together key leader from the Gulf, South Asia & SE Asia; very classy bash! I'm honored to be here supporting unity! @ABLFseries
Expand [Reply](#) [Retweeted](#) [Star](#) [Favorite](#) [More](#)

Asia's Biggest Night: The ABLF Awards

Published on Feb 5, 2014
The 3rd Annual Asian Business Leadership Forum Awards (ABLF) held at the Sheraton Hotel in the Bay Khalifa, Dubai, UAE.

@ablfseries

www.youtube.com/ABLFseries

YOUTUBE

YouTube

ABLF Series

THE SPIRIT OF ASIA COMES TOGETHER IN CELEBRATION, CONVERSATION & COLLABORATION

ABLF Series

Uploads

- Asia's Biggest Night: The ABLF Awards (4 views, 3 days ago)
- Malini Manon and the ABLF Awards 2013 - Zee TV (7 views, 2 months ago)
- Save the Date promo (15 views, 5 months ago)
- Zee TVC - ABLF Promo 3 (1 view, 1 year ago)
- Zee TVC - ABLF Promo 2 (3 views, 1 year ago)
- Zee TVC - ABLF Promo 1 (3 views, 1 year ago)
- CHBC TV18 - ABLF Promo 2 (1 view, 1 year ago)
- CHBC TV18 - ABLF Promo 1 (2 views, 1 year ago)
- ZEE Connect Episode 4 (4 views, 1 year ago)
- ZEE Connect Episode 3 (4 views, 1 year ago)

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Asia's Biggest Night: The ABLF Awards

Published on Feb 5, 2014
The 3rd Annual Asian Business Leadership Forum Awards (ABLF) held at the Sheraton Hotel in the Bay Khalifa, Dubai, UAE.

THE ABLF COLLATERAL EXPRESSING EXCELLENCE





THE EXCLUSIVE INVITATION

ABLE
AWARDS

DURHAM 2014

ABLE
AWARDS
2014

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ABLE
AWARDS

THE GRAND MARSHALL
AND GALEA DINNER

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AWARDS



CHAPTER VII

Leaders at the Helm

GREAT LEADERS
CULTIVATE TRUST AND COMMITMENT
IN THEIR TEAMS,

ABLE

TO LEAD THROUGH THE DANGERS OF CREVASSES AND
HIGH WINDS ENROUTE THE SUMMIT OF SUCCESS



KEY PRESENTER



Dhanin Chearavanont, Chairman and CEO of the CP Group, heads the Thai multi-national conglomerate with core businesses in agro-industry and food, retail and telecommunications. Founded in 1921, the CP Group currently employs, through its subsidiaries, over 280,000 people and invests in 15 countries worldwide, generating over USD 33 billion annually.

The CP Group is a team of the leading manufacturers and suppliers of separation technology for the waste management and recycling industries. Under common ownership, the CP Group provides customers and partners with engineering expertise and superior support. The CP Group is a single resource for all waste management and recycling separation needs, from the tipping floor to baler storage area and everything in between. The CP Group keeps the focus on customer needs and the evolution of resource recovery.

Over 86 years ago, CP Group founders Ek Chor and Siew Whooy established a small seed shop named Chia Tai Cheung in Bangkok's Yaowarat area (China Town). As the business flourished, Chia Tai Cheung progressed towards the production of animal feed and later on initiated livestock farming, processing, marketing and distribution to becoming integrated.



**DHANIN
CHEARAVANONT**
*Chairman and CEO,
Charoen Pokphand (CP) Group,
Thailand*

As the business developed into a fully integrated agribusiness (from seed to feed to farm to food), today the group has become the world's largest producer of animal feed and shrimp, and one of the leading producers of poultry.

It is through its long history of vertical integration and phenomenal growth that the CP Group has managed to secure a firm position not just in Thailand, but across Asia. In 2013, this regionally high-profile key player came on board the ABLF as a key presenter to further the cause of business excellence in Asia, and honouring the region's key leaders and their achievements.

KEY PRESENTER



DLF Limited is India's leading real estate company with a 60-year track record of sustained growth, customer satisfaction, and innovation; its primary business is development of residential, commercial and retail properties. Dr K. P. Singh, Chairman of the Board of DLF Limited, is widely recognised across the world for his path-breaking and visionary contributions to the building of modern India. Dr Singh has transformed the urban landscape of the country by setting new standards in the housing and urban development scenario and creating world-class infrastructure to attract unprecedented levels of foreign and domestic investment inflows.

Currently, DLF has 314 msf of planned projects, with 52 msf projects under construction. From developing 22 major colonies in Delhi, DLF is now present across 15 states and 24 cities in India.

The development business of DLF includes homes and commercial complexes, which caters to three segments of the residential market – super luxury, luxury and premium, offering a wide range of products including condominiums, duplexes, row houses and apartments of varying sizes. DLF is credited with introducing and pioneering the revolutionary concept of developing commercial complexes in the vicinity of residential areas. It has the distinction of developing commercial projects and IT parks that are at par with the best in the world and has become a preferred name with many IT and ITES majors and leading Indian and international



The ABLF has proven to be an extraordinary effort in bringing together the regions of West Asia, South Asia and Southeast Asia together to one spectacular business platform. I commend the effort.

RAJIV SINGH
Executive Vice Chairman of the Board, DLF Limited, India

corporate giants, including GE, IBM, Microsoft, Canon, Citibank, Hewitt, Bank of America, Infosys and Symantec, among others.

DLF also pioneered the retail revolution in the country and brought about a paradigm shift in the industry by redefining shopping, recreation and leisure experiences with the launch of City Centre in Gurgaon in 2000. The company also owns and operates the luxurious Aman Resorts around the world.

DLF's mission is to build a world-class real estate development company with the highest standards of professionalism, ethics and customer service and to thereby contribute to and benefit from the growth of the Indian economy. With over six decades of excellence, DLF is a name synonymous with global standards, and it is thus that the DLF has continued to play the role of an active Key Presenter at the ABLF over the years.

KEY PRESENTER



Petroleum Authority of Thailand, or PTT Public Company Limited, is Thailand's premier multinational energy company. The group's inspirational chief, Parnpree Bahiddha-Nukara has successfully escalated Thailand's profile in the energy sector, globally, through his position at the head of the group and his relentless efforts. PTT Group's mission, as the nation's energy company, is to conduct integrated energy and petrochemical business, and ensure long-term energy security by providing sufficient high-quality energy supply at fair prices to support economic growth.

PTT was established in 1978, during the period of the second world crisis of petroleum shortages, and currently owns extensive submarine gas pipelines in Thailand, a network of LPG terminals throughout the nation, and is involved in electricity generation, petrochemical products, oil and gas exploration and production, and gasoline retailing businesses. Its affiliates include PTT Exploration and Production, PTT Global Chemical, PTT Asia Pacific Mining, and PTT Green Energy.

Today, PTT is one of the largest corporations in the country and also the only company from Thailand listed on the Fortune Global 500 companies – the company ranked 81st as per revenues in 2013. PTT also owns 45.4



**PARNPREE
BAHIDDHA-NUKARA**
*Chairman of the Board and
Independent Director, PTT Group,
Thailand*

per cent of Sakari Resources, a Singaporean operator of coal mines, and in 2012, PTT Exploration and Production (PTTEP) took over Cove Energy, which owns an 8.5 per cent share in a huge natural-gas field in Mozambique. PTT also currently operates 58 retail stations in the Philippines, and will add an additional 15 to 20 petrol stations in Luzon and the Visayas, specifically in the province of Cebu.

PTT Public Company Limited and Pertamina, Indonesia's state-owned oil company, signed into partnership to build a new petrochemical complex in Indonesia for an estimated cost of USD 4 to 5 billion.

In 2008, PTT joined the PetroSkills Alliance, where member companies came together to create detailed skill and competency maps, which act as a guide for the over 200 short courses, taught to industry professionals in over 40 locations worldwide. It is because of initiatives such as this, and PTT's growing footprint in the region, that the ABLF associated with the group in 2013.

KEY PRESENTER



**CHAROEN
SIRIVADHANABHAKDI**
*Chairman of the Board,
Thai Beverage Company (ThaiBev),
Thailand*

It is through the efforts of Charoen Sirivadhanabhakdi, Chairman of the Board of the Thai Beverage Public Company Limited, or ThaiBev, as it is better known, that the organisation is realising its vision of becoming the leading beverage producer and distributor in the region, with commercial excellence, product premiumisation, and professionalism, as its key values. The organisation has always, and continues to work towards offering top quality products to all customer segments.

ThaiBev was established in 2003, and in 2006, ThaiBev registered its listing on the Singapore Exchange (SGX), whilst further expanding into the food industry, and thus diversifying its product portfolio, enhancing the logistics efficiency and mitigating business risks. Today, ThaiBev is not only the leading beverage producer in Thailand, but also one of the largest beverage producers in Asia.

At the end of 2012, ThaiBev Group achieved a net profit of over USD 880 million – an increase of 140.3 per cent when compared to its net profit in the previous year. The same year ThaiBev also launched a popular carbonated beverage under the brand ‘est’ to penetrate consumption at food shops, restaurants, and groceries via the solid and extensive distribution network

across Thailand. Another major milestone was ThaiBev’s investment in shares of Fraser and Neave, Limited – a leading company in the region engaging in production and distribution of beverages.

Charoen has noted that the commencement of the ASEAN Economic Community or AEC in 2015 presents a great opportunity for ThaiBev to expand its business from the existing 65 million consumers in Thailand to serve the demands of over 600 million consumers and trade partners in the near future. The company continues to expand as per the proactive business plan for the ASEAN market.

ThaiBev’s longstanding experience of over three decades and various awards received from national and international institutions are the guarantee of its success and readiness to take on to bring Thai products to ASEAN and global markets in order to enhance the reputation of Thailand and generate more revenues for the country. ThaiBev also places great emphasis on continuous development its employees; ThaiBev steers employees to move forward in the same direction through provision of training programs, and it is for these reasons and more that the ABLF is proud to have been associated with ThaiBev in 2014.

KEY PRESENTER



The Adani Group is a globally integrated infrastructure player with presence in resources, logistics and energy sectors, committed to nation-building and inclusive growth. The group was founded and is led by first generation entrepreneur Gautam Adani, whose career trajectory is a study in rapid growth and inspirational approach. From humble beginnings to building a professionally managed, world-class integrated infrastructure giant spread across continents, his journey inspires awe and respect.

The USD 8.7 billion Adani Group marks its presence across six ports in India and two in Australia, making it the only Indian private port company to successfully venture overseas. The group manages the largest private port in India, the Mundra Port in Gujarat, which boasts the world's largest automated coal import terminal.

The Adani Group is also actively investing in renewable energy and has commissioned the largest solar power project in India. It aims to meet India's growing energy needs while minimising the impact on the environment and is therefore adopting initiatives to improve efficiency and reduce waste, such as the biodiversity protection program in the ecologically sensitive areas of Mundra. Moreover, Adani Power is the first power company in India to use 'supercritical' technology to reduce CO₂ emissions, an initiative that has won the Clean Development Certification from the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC); the only thermal power plant in the world to do so.



The ABLF Series offers a common platform for Asian business leaders to forge new partnerships, and such an initiative deserves support from the global business community. We are proud to lead this great Asian movement in creating and sustaining excellence.



PRANAV ADANI

Managing Director, Agro and Oil & Gas, Adani Group, India

The Adani Group is governed by the three core values of courage, trust, and commitment. Its business strategies have given new meaning to the collaboration paradigm – to dovetail business plans and strategies with those of the nation by participating in the great Indian growth story and delivering optimal value to its shareholders. The group's continuous endeavour to raise the bar in corporate and social initiatives has resulted in an optimum business model that benefits both stakeholders and society.

Adani believes that with sustainability, collaboration, and responsibility at the core, new opportunities can be created for greater growth and success. Adani Group's directives towards collaborative dialogue and its shared mission to mentor and support new business talent have led to its continual support of and association with the ABLF Series.

THE ABLF AWARD 2013 ASSOCIATES AND PARTNERS



THE ABLF 2013 ASSOCIATES



غرفة أبوظبي
ABU DHABI CHAMBER



غرفة قطر
QATAR CHAMBER



Confederation of Indian Industry

THE ABLF 2013 KNOWLEDGE PARTNERS



كليات التقنية العليا
HIGHER COLLEGES OF TECHNOLOGY



CERT

Centre of Excellence for Applied Research and Training
Group of Companies

THE ABLF 2013 MEDIA PARTNERS



Bloomberg
Businessweek[®] Middle East

THE ABLF 2013 TROPHY JEWELLER

DHAMANI

THE ABLF 2013 LUXURY PARTNER

McLaren



CHAPTER VIII

Looking Forward

GREAT LEADERS STAND TALL AND FIRM,

WISDOM

UNSHAKABLE IN THEIR BELIEFS, ANCHORED AS THEY ARE BY DEEP
ROOTS OF INTEGRITY AND HONOUR

THE FUTURE OF THE ABLF A COMPELLING CANVAS

Coupled with our excitement on the new, progressive developments in our home city, Dubai, the phenomenal success of the ABLF 2013, and our brand refresher, which propels our identity forward from Indian Expressions to IEDEA, we look at the fourth edition of the ABLF evolving into a more powerful Asian interface.

From our inception in 2007, where we began to narrate the 'Asia Rising' story with the legendary India-UAE friendship as our pivot, we have strategically extended our constituencies within Asia year on year. 2014, therefore, is a watershed year for us as we invite the giant of the East, the People's Republic of China, into the ABLF Series, thus making it an important time in the evolution of the platform, now well on its journey to consolidate its position as Asia's premier business event series.

Though it is a time to present the ABLF on a wider and more compelling canvas, we do not rest on past laurels. There is work to be done, that is as exciting as it is important, and as significant as it is necessary. And at IEDEA, Team ABLF is preparing to deliver yet another flawless edition of this celebrated Series in December, 2014.

The ABLF has been fortunate enough to receive the attention and patronage of several world leaders who have expressly put their weight behind its premise. And the reason is this: together with our delivery and impeccable standards of excellence, the ABLF has gained the trust of and commitment from leaders across the realms of industry, business, governance, media and management in Asia.

H.E. Kittiratt Na-Ranong, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance of Thailand, commented at the ABLF Awards 2013, "The ABLF Series is a very special event and I am sure the ABLF Awards will remain one of the most prominent awards in Asia, forever." It is perhaps encouragement such

as this that keeps us on top of our game. This year, we have elaborated on the mandate of the ABLF, by clearly defining the four pillars of the Series, which translate into cultivating and reinforcing Asian leadership, building the region's knowledge economy, facilitating an effective regional social responsibility programme for an integrated Asia, and finally, the celebratory platform which recognises Asian achievers and excellence.

The future of Asia is therefore at the core of our mission, and it lies before us, fraught with issues, yet poised with promise. On the threshold of a new turning point, 2014, we are presented with limitless opportunities. But before we head there, let's take a brief look back to the century that was, and the importance of true leadership, to bring this present moment in contextual focus.

1914. A 100 years ago. Asia was colonised and the world stood at the doorway to thirty years of catastrophe – marked by two world wars and the Great Depression. Prospects of international cooperation were infinitesimal, and by the end of the Second World War, large parts of the world lay in ruins. It was the role played by visionary, resolute leadership of the highest calibre that brought the world back from the brink of total annihilation, to restore it to a trajectory of peace and prosperity. This force for change that comprised the leadership of several nations revived global economic order; the path was paved with trust, cooperation and willingness to invest in a larger global interest. At IEDEA, we believe that the past seven decades stand as testimony to the power of true leadership such as this, where through a larger effort, cooperation and goodwill, the living conditions of billions can and have been changed.

Arguably, the world's greatest untapped wealth rests in its youth capital, with almost half the world's population under 25. Asia hosts a huge percentage of this human resource potential, filled with opportunities for innovation, dynamism, and creativity. The task of generating enough

jobs in Asia to satisfy the aspirations of the rising generation is not just the responsibility of governments. It is through the work of non-government organisations and responsible companies with an Asian focus and vision, that this precious youth capital can be best applied. At IEDEA, we believe that every Asian is a stakeholder, and this is our future. Education, empowerment and mentorship are the keywords in ensuring that we do not waste this opportunity to prepare the youth of tomorrow to inherit the world.

As we stand here, in 2014, armed with the wisdom of history, we must recognise that there has not been a greater need for Asian leadership than now. The betterment of Asia necessitates a strengthened framework for regional cooperation and interdependence, to manage conflict through peace, and to create an environment for better economic and commercial activities.

2014 is an important year for us at IEDEA, when some of the projects closest to our heart will manifest across several Asian nations. We hope for you to join us in our endeavor to bring glory, success and empowerment to Asia.

I close here with one of my favourite quotes – one that has inspired me as well as my colleagues at IEDEA. In the words of one of India's greatest leaders, incidentally an ABLF Lifetime Achievement Award recipient, N.R. Narayana Murthy, Founder and Executive Chairman of the Board, Infosys Limited, "When, one day, you have made your mark on the world, remember that in the ultimate analysis, we are all mere temporary custodians of the wealth we generate, whether it be financial, intellectual, or emotional. I believe that we have all at some time eaten the fruit from trees that we did not plant. In the fullness of time, when it is our turn to give, it behoves us in turn to plant gardens that we may never eat the fruit of. I believe this is our sacred responsibility."

“

As we stand here, in 2014, armed with the wisdom of history, we must recognise that there has not been a greater need for Asian leadership than now. The betterment of Asia necessitates a strengthened framework for regional cooperation and interdependence, to manage conflict through peace, and to create an environment for better economic and commercial activities.

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MALINI N. MENON
*Founder and Managing Director
IEDEA*





IEDEA[®]

IEDEA is a leading West Asia-based business ideation company that creates, owns and manages event and publishing properties that are Asia-centric, Asia-focused and Asia-inspired, for the global market.

The IEDEA mandate is to showcase Asia, key Asian achievements, and successful intra-Asia partnerships through a number of specialty programs; high-profile publishing initiatives, events, business forums, conclaves, PR junkets and business award properties.

With over 18 years of West Asia market experience and a portfolio of over 500 successful initiatives, IEDEA primarily showcases the outstanding business potential in the mega-economies of Asia, with a focus on the GCC, the Indian subcontinent and the ASEAN member states, striving to facilitate greater business potential between these dynamic business nerve centres. IEDEA's initiatives facilitate joint venture projects, M&A deals and big-ticket investments, through powerful networking opportunities that are custom-created and industry requirement specific.

IEDEA provides strategy and consultancy on high-profile Asia-centric events and publishing initiatives, and owns and manages, on a turn-key basis, several IP portfolios such as the 'Asian Business Leadership Forum™', 'Asian Business Awards Middle East™' and others. IEDEA also specialises in creating and delivering networking infrastructure facilitating the launch of new businesses, events and initiatives by securing funds, offering professional advisory services and creating custom-built PR solutions for the Asian markets through its extensive corporate network.

IEDEA produces and publishes exclusive coffee table books and white papers that take inspiration from Asia-related subjects. *India and the UAE: In Celebration of a Legendary Friendship* – is the first in the series of premium limited-edition coffee table books and among upcoming releases are *India and Oman: In Celebration of a Legendary Friendship*, *Images of Success™* and others.

IEDEA takes great pride in its associations and alliances and believes that the moment belongs to those who invest in it wisely, with spirit, vision and compassion.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The ABLF Team is proud of the great intellectual and visionary capital that has been bestowed upon the property through its association with Asia's finest. We are sincerely thankful to the following people for their unwavering support, guidance and encouragement towards the development of the ABLF property across Asia.

H.H. Sheikh Nahayan Mabarak Al-Nahayan, Minister of Culture, Youth and Community Development, UAE; **H.E. Dr Manmohan Singh**, Honourable Prime Minister of India; **H.E. Dr Thaksin Shinawatra**, Former Prime Minister, Thailand; **H.E. Kittiratt Na-Ranong**, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Thailand; **H.E. Sultan bin Saeed Al Mansouri**, Minister of Economy, UAE; **H.E. Kamal Nath**, Union Cabinet Minister of Urban Development and Parliamentary Affairs, India; **T.K.A. Nair**, Advisor to the Prime Minister of India; **H.H. Shaikh Khalifa bin Rashid Al Khalifa and H.H. Shaikh Khalifa bin Ali Al Khalifa**, grandsons of **H.R.H. Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa**, Prime Minister, Kingdom of Bahrain; **H.E. Warawudh Chuwiruch**, Thai Ambassador to the UAE; **H.E. Mohammed bin Hamad Al Mo'awda**, the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the UAE; **H.E. Salman Al Farisi**, Ambassador of Indonesia to the UAE; **Abdulhamid Juma**, Chairman, Dubai International Film Festival, UAE; **H.E. Mohamed Helal Al Muhairi**, Director General, Abu Dhabi Chamber, UAE; **H.E. Remy Rowhani**, Director General, Qatar Chamber; **Shobhana Bhartia**, Chairperson and Editorial Director, HT Media Ltd, India; **B. N. Kalyani**, Chairman, Bharat Forge, India; **Dr Amer bin Awadh Al-Rawas**, CEO, Omantel, Sultanate of Oman; **Dr R. Seetharaman**, Group CEO, Doha Bank; **Dr Tayeb Kamali**, Vice Chancellor, Higher Colleges of Technology, UAE; **Hasu Masrani**, Chairman, Mitras International Trading, UAE; **Gautam Adani**, Chairman, Adani Group, India; **Pranav Adani**, Managing Director, Agro and Oil & Gas, Adani Group, India; **Rajiv Singh**, Vice Chairman, DLF Limited, India; **Rajeev Talwar**, Managing Director, DLF Limited, India; **Dhanin Chearavanont**, Chairman and CEO, Charoen Pokphand (CP) Group, Thailand; **Charoen Sirivadhanabhakdi**, Chairman of the Board, Thai Beverage Company (ThaiBev), Thailand; **Parnpree Bahiddha-Nukara**, Chairman of the Board And Independent Director PTT Group, Thailand; **Amit Dhamani**, CEO and MD, Dhamani Jewels; **Bloomberg Businessweek Middle East**; **Abu Dhabi Chamber**; **Zee TV**; **the Management of the Armani Hotel**; and most of all, we are thankful to the Emirate of Dubai, headquarters of IEDEA – a perfect city to host a perfect event.



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A BRIGHT FUTURE BECKONS...

We set the stage for the fourth edition of the ABLF in a world that teeters on the curved edge of great change, where magnificent new opportunities and knowledge-empowered creativity are hindered only by the barriers of ignorance, conflict and short-sightedness.

At the ABLF, we believe the only sustainable antidote to the spiral into dissonance at any level – globally, regionally, or at the level of country or community – is the power of dynamic and principle-driven leadership. And thus we believe that every effort to nurture young leadership or celebrate the achievements of legendary leaders is an investment in our collective future.



CAN YOU
AFFORD TO MISS IT?

History-makers of the New Asian Century is the signature publication of the Asian Business Leadership Forum Series. An international event, the ABLF Series showcases business excellence in the sunshine sectors of Industry, Infrastructure and Energy. It brings together Asian nations of the world in an annual event series, which celebrates the rise of Asia in the collective global consciousness, through a seamless fusion of old-school and new-age values.

The 2013 showcase honoured and celebrated business achievers from across the three key regions of the Asian juggernaut – South Asia, West Asia and Southeast Asia – and paid tribute to exemplary leaders who have played a significant role in the story of ‘Asia Rising’. It also provided these pioneers with a platform to collaborate and pool together their efforts to catapult Asia into an even more successful tomorrow.

Volume I, which was the inaugural edition, featured the ABLF Series 2011 events and paid tribute to the business acumen of the Asian representatives of the changing face of leadership.

Volume II, the second edition for the signature publication of the ABLF Series, came at a time when the world was still reeling from the effects of the global downturn. It emphasised the need for principle-centred leadership, sustainable development and youth empowerment through mentorship.

This third edition is a zeitgeist of a more economically stable Asia in view of the gradual revival of the world’s developed markets. Nevertheless, recovery in the advanced world has yet to translate into tangible benefits for developing Asia. The ABLF seeks to create networking platforms for dynamic Asian leadership, who can collaborate to enhance intra-regional trade and promote domestic consumption for the greater economic advancement of the region.

www.ablfseries.com
