

## **Press Release**

### **The Conferment Of Certificates Of Commendations From Japanese Consul-General On Mr. Abdul Karim Khan, Mr. Yusuf Hussain Shirazi, Mr. Sohail Pervez Ahmed And Professor Rais Alvi**

On 20<sup>th</sup> May 2015, Mr. Akira Ouchi, Consul-General of Japan in Karachi, conferred Certificates on Commendations on Mr. Abdul Karim Khan, Founder of Pakistan Horticulture Society; Mr. Yusuf Hussain Shirazi, Chairman of Atlas Group; Mr. Sohail Pervez Ahmed, Chairman of Pakistan Japan Business Forum (PJBF) and Professor Rais Alvi, Director of Khadim Ali Shah Bukhari Institute of Technology (KASBIT), in recognition of their contributions to the deepening of mutual understanding and friendship between Japan and Pakistan. The commendation award ceremony was held at the Official Residence of Consul-General of Japan.

The Japanese Consul-General's Commendation is awarded to an individual or a group to acknowledge its contribution to the promotion of mutual understanding and friendship between Japan and Pakistan.

Mr. Abdul Karim Khan is the pioneer of horticultural activities in Pakistan. He introduced and designed some of the earliest Japanese gardens in the country and has been playing an influential role in promoting Japanese horticultural beauty among the Pakistani people.

Mr. Yusuf Hussain Shirazi founded the Atlas group which deals in engineering, power generation, financial services and trading. Mr. Shirazi constituted the business partnership with Japanese companies and played a founding role in the establishment of Pakistan-Japan Business Forum. Mr. Shirazi has always been supportive of JICA and JETRO initiatives in Pakistan and has promoted bilateral economic and business relations.

Mr. Sohail Pervez Ahmed, Chairman of PJBF, has taken many initiatives to strengthen economic and business ties between the two countries and has been facilitating the Japanese companies in their business activities. He is keen on promoting Japanese way of management in Pakistan through arrangement of training workshops by Japanese specialists.

Prof. Rais Alvi is former registrar of University of Karachi and is currently serving as Director of KASBIT. He had taught Urdu language and literature at Tokyo University of Foreign Studies from 1985 to 1989. He has been making valuable contributions for cultural and literary exchanges between Japan and Pakistan. Prof. Alvi has translated classical Japanese poetry into Urdu and also edited Japanese-Urdu dictionary.

Mr. Akira Ouchi, while speaking on the occasion, highly appreciated their contributions and stated that they have been playing an important role in strengthening economic, business and cultural ties between Japan and Pakistan.

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*For further information, please contact the Japan Information and Culture Center at the Consulate-General of Japan in Karachi: 35220800 (Ext. 134). Also please kindly visit our web-site: <http://www.kr.pk.emb-japan.go.jp/> in regard to this event.*