

Great Pakistanis of 2016

Shagufta Naeem

Here is the list of the Bright Pakistanis who graced their country in 2016. We divided them in two groups of individual excellence and team work in the following categories:

1-Advocacy & Activism 2-Arts, Culture, Fashion & Entertainment 3-Education
4-Entrepreneurs & Innovators 5-Professionals 6-Science, Technology & Research 7-Sports

Please take your time and click on the links to read detailed stories of these inspiring people.

(Sequenced Alphabetically)

Advocacy/ Activism

Jawad Saleem - Cannes Lions award, France

<http://www.hipinpakistan.com/news/1150029>

Muhammad Ali Nawaz - Whitley Award, London <https://www.snowleopard.org/>

<https://www.snowleopard.org/whitley-award-for-slt-pakistan-director-ali-nawaz/>

Nighat Dad - Human Rights Tulip, the Netherlands <http://digitalrightsfoundation.pk/>

<http://www.the-netherlands.org/news/2016/11/human-rights-tulip-winner.html>

Saeed Bajwa Dr - ICNA Relief Award, USA

<http://drsaeedbajwanews.com/2016/05/dr-saeed-bajwa-receives-icna-relief-usa-award-appreciation/>

Sarah Belal - Franco-German Prize for Human Rights

<http://www.dawn.com/news/1299846/jpps-sarah-belal-wins-franco-germany-human-rights-prize-2016>

Tabassum Adnan - Nelson Mandela – Graça Machel Innovation Award, Colombia

<http://tribune.com.pk/story/1094089/pakistani-activist-wins-nelson-mandela-award-2016/>

Arts, Culture, Fashion and Entertainment

Ahsan Shah- International Creativity Awards, Bahrain

<http://www.dawn.com/news/1257497>

Fawad Khan – In March 2016, Ranked ahead of Shah Rukh, Salman and Aamir on Times Celebex monthly celebrity ranking

<http://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/blog/2016/05/01/fawad-khan-outranks-srk-salman-khan-on-times-celebex-list/>

Fawzia Mirza - Champion of Change Award, USA

<https://www.geo.tv/latest/105220-Pakistani-American-artist-Fawzia-Mirza-bags-Champion-of-Change-award>

Ghulam Mohammad - Jameel Prize 4, London

<http://ca.blouinartinfo.com/news/story/1423280/pakistani-artist-ghulam-mohammad-wins-jameel-prize-4>

Imran Qureshi - First solo exhibition at KUNSTEN Museum of Modern Art, Denmark

<https://www.newswire.com/news/pakistani-artist-holds-solo-exhibition-in-denmark-to-promote-new-image-7590190>

Jawad Ahmed - Human Rights Award, Pakistan

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/173335-Singer-Jawad-Ahmed-dedicates-his-rights-award-to-labourers>

Khadim Ali – *Among top 40 young artists in Asia Pacific by Apollo, Australia*
<http://tribune.com.pk/story/1175874/pakistani-painter-named-among-top-40-young-artists-asia-pacific/>

Sharif Awan - *Global Music Awards (GMA), Pakistan*
<https://www.thenews.com.pk/magazine/instep-today/129553-Indus-Raag-producer-Sharif-Awan-wins-gold-medal>

Sharmeen Obaid Chinoy – *Oscar, USA* <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-35690403>

Syeda Amara - *Talented Young International Designer Award, Paris* @amera.clothing

Usman Riaz – *Funding granted for his unique project “The Glassworker”*
<http://images.dawn.com/news/1175464/from-sketches-to-hand-drawn-animation-journey-of-the-glassmaker>

Yasmeen Lari - *Fukuoka Asia Cultural Prize, Japan*
<https://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/123972-Japan-announces-Fukuoka-Asia-Cultural-Prize-Pakistani-female-architect>

Education

Akif Ramzan - *Erasmus Mundus scholarship, European Union*
<https://socialfeed.info/congratulations-to-akif-ramzan-who-was-awarded-an-erasmus-mundus-scholarship-to-2789328>

Ikra Saleem Khan – *Topper at the International LLB exam, UK*
<http://tribune.com.pk/story/1160957/pakistani-student-tops-international-llb-exam/>

Jawad Shafique - *Broke Denmark’s maximum grading scale of 12 with 13.6*
<http://tribune.com.pk/story/1128742/pakistani-student-breaks-denmarks-grading-scale-record/>

Muhammad Taha Tariq – *Selected in Germany’s “Youth and Parliament”*
<https://propakistani.pk/2016/06/25/this-pakistani-student-got-selected-to-act-as-an-mna-in-german-parliament/>

Sarah Ahmad - *Microsoft Student Partners (MSPs), Egypt*
<https://en.dailypakistan.com.pk/technology/pakistans-sara-ahmed-wins-hero-microsoft-student-partner-award/>

Shahmir Khan Niazi – *Accolade Prize (4th), USA*
<http://dailytimes.com.pk/pakistan/25-May-16/pakistani-student-wins-accolade-at-intel-tech-fair>

Shandana Waheed - *Falak Sufi Scholarship, USA*
<https://plus.google.com/+XperiencePakistan/posts/fLcXy5sB92H>

Sidratul Muntaha alias Sidra Khan – *First position with 100% marks in Management Accountant’s worldwide competition* <http://www.dawn.com/news/1280667>

Entrepreneurs, Innovators

Fiza Farhan – *Among Forbs honored 30 under 30 Social Entrepreneur*
<http://thediomat.com/2015/03/fiza-farhan-a-pakistani-change-maker/>

Hira Batool Rizvi – *Started She’Kab. She’Kab is a technology platform that connects female riders to trusted taxi drivers in Pakistan*
<http://www.news.gatech.edu/2016/04/12/georgia-tech-graduate-making-travel-safer-women-pakistan>

Jehan Ara – *Invited at The White House to deliver speech on Entrepreneurship in Pakistan*
<https://www.techjuice.pk/jehan-ara-invited-by-the-white-house-to-speak-on-entrepreneurship-in-pakistan/>

Muhammad Shahzad – *Google Hall of Fame*

<https://www.techjuice.pk/14-year-old-security-researcher-from-pakistan-listed-in-google-hall-of-fame/>

Neha Shahid Chaudhry - *Designing walking stick for Parkinson's patients, UK*

<https://www.theengineer.co.uk/smart-walking-stick-could-aid-parkinsons-patients/>

Samya Arif – *Internationally recognized artist*

http://www.nytimes.com/2016/05/12/arts/international/samya-arif-a-pakistani-artist-aiming-to-go-beyond-ornamentation.html?_r=0

Sara Saeed Dr - *The Prince of Wales Young Sustainability Entrepreneur Prize, UK*

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/120931-Dr-Sara-Saeed-has-won-Young-Sustainability-Entrepreneur-Prize>

Shaiza Rizavi – *Great Immigrants Award, USA*

<https://www.gilderlehrman.org/about/shaiza-rizavi-0>

Syed Faizan Hussain - *The Queen's Young Leaders Award, UK*

<http://tribune.com.pk/story/1250453/pakistani-student-wins-queens-young-leaders-award/>

Talha Ahmed - *Winner of The Think Science competition, Sharjah*

<http://gulftoday.ae/portal/ad3be53f-19e2-4cce-86a8-0cfc39b5a17c.aspx>

Usman Haider – *The SKAPA Development Prize, Sweden*

<https://www.techjuice.pk/pakistani-wins-swedens-most-prestigious-innovation-award-for-a-device-to-help-the-elderly/>

Zymal Umer - *Children Pioneer Award, Saudi Arabia & founder Zee Bags, Saudi Arabia*

<http://www.motivatepakistan.com/proud-moment-for-pakistan-having-child-entrepreneur-zymal-umer/>

Professionals

Hamid Mir - *Most Resilient Journalist Award, the Netherlands*

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/161844-Free-Press-Geos-Hamid-Mir-wins-Most-Resilient-Journalist-Award>

Rafia Qaseem Baig – *First Pakistan female to join Bomb Disposal Unit (BDU)*

<http://www.newsgram.com/29-year-old-rafia-qaseem-baig-is-the-first-pakistani-woman-to-join-bomb-disposal-unit-bdu/>

Sylvestre Wahid – *Winner of 2 Michelin stars, France*

<https://www.facebook.com/EmbassyofFranceinPakistan/photos/pcb.1799304953685853/1799304563685892/?type=3>

Taurees Habib – *Soundtrack designer for Hollywood*

<http://images.dawn.com/news/1175982/this-young-pakistani-helps-design-soundtracks-for-hollywood-films>

Uqbah Malik - *Britain's Royal Military Academy Trainer*

<http://tribune.com.pk/story/1260220/meet-major-uqbah-malik-first-pakistani-instructor-britains-royal-military-academy/>

Zakia Jamali – *First female Naval Commissioned Officer from Balochistan*

<http://www.dawn.com/news/1254034/pioneering-women-defying-stereotypes>

Science, Technology & Research

Haris Aziz - *Solved one of the most important open problems in 20th-century mathematics, USA*

<http://www.brecorder.com/arts-a-leisure/arts/297905-pakistani-mathematician-solved-one-of-the-biggest-maths-problems.html>

Muhammad Ismail Dr – Awarded the UNESCO Green Chemistry of Life Grant

<http://tribune.com.pk/story/1114769/killing-flies-not-us-professor-g-b-selected-coveted-unesco-grant/>

Namira Salim - Femina Middle East Women Awards, Dubai

<http://images.dawn.com/news/1175426/about-last-night-three-pakistanis-honoured-at-the-femina-middle-east-awards>

Nergis Mavalvala – Part of the team which detected space-time gravitational waves predicted by Albert Einstein a century ago and regarded as the biggest scientific breakthrough of the century, USA

<http://www.dawn.com/news/1239270>

Rashid A Chotani Dr - Scientific Achievement Award 2016, NATO's STO

<http://tribune.com.pk/story/1277546/pakistani-american-wins-nato-scientific-achievement-award-2016/>

Sports

Abad Arkam - Helps refugees and brings people together through Cricket, Germany

<https://www.facebook.com/GermanEmbassyIslamabad/posts/1037707989608414>

Minhal Sohail - First Pakistani female shooter in the Olympics

<http://arynews.tv/en/manahil-sohail-becomes-first-pakistani-female-shooter-perform-olympics/>

Misbah-ul-Haq - ICC's Spirit of Cricket Award, Abu Dhabi

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/173711-Misbah-becomes-first-Pakistani-to-win-ICC-Spirit-of-Cricket-Award>

Mustafa Ali – First Pakistani to compete in the World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE), USA

<http://www.wwe.com/superstars/mustafa-ali>

Shairoze Akram - Won All-Ireland medal for his team Mayo GAA, Ireland

<http://www.the42.ie/shairoze-akram-mayo-2747273-May2016/>

Winning teams of the talented Pakistanis in 2016

Advocacy and Activism

Gulalai Ismail and Saba Ismail – Chirac Prize, France

<http://tribune.com.pk/story/1243964/two-pakistani-women-awarded-prestigious-chirac-prize-paris-conflict-prevention/>

Muhammad Usman Khan and Zainab Bibi - The Queen's Young Leaders, UK

<https://en.dailypakistan.com.pk/pakistan/two-pakistanis-presented-2016-queens-young-leaders-award-at-buckingham-palace/>

Summayka Qadir and Deepa Kumari - Let Girls Learn Ambassadors, USA

<https://www.usaid.gov/pakistan/news-information/press-releases/american-ambassador-david-hale-meets-pakistani-let-girls>

Arts, Culture, Fashion and Entertainment

Acting/ Fashion: Farah Talib Aziz, Mahira Khan and Maliha Aziz - Femina Middle East Women Awards, Dubai

<http://images.dawn.com/news/1175426/about-last-night-three-pakistanis-honoured-at-the-femina-middle-east-awards>

Fashion: Mahnoor Ansari and Saadia Khabab – *Participated in Virginia Commonwealth University Annual Fashion Show, Qatar*

<http://www.bq-magazine.com/industries/retail-industries/2016/04/virginia-commonwealth-university-in-qatar-students-present-17th-annual-fashion-show>

Photography: Muhammad Ashar, Tahsin Shah and Usama Shahid – *Winners of the world's largest online photography competition 'Wiki Loves Monuments' 2016*

<https://propakistani.pk/2016/12/16/3-pakistani-photographers-among-winners-wiki-loves-monuments-2016/>

Music Atif Aslam, Hadiqa Kiani, Farhan Saeed, Ali Zafar, and Amanat Ali – *Nominees for the Big Apple Music Award, Dubai*

<http://www.phasermag.com/big-apple-music-awards-dubai-2016/>

Udaari: *A Television series aired on Hum TV for exposing the dark truth of child abuse that has either been enormously underreported or not reported at all. Udaari directed by Mohammed Ehteshamuddin and the written by Farhat Ishtiaq*

Education

Best Booth Award: Pakistani Students Outshined Others in Munich, Germany

<http://www.voiceofjournalists.com/pakistani-students-outshined-others-in-munich-germany/>

Higher Education Commission (HEC), Shahid Afridi Foundation and Taleem Foundation - *Global Good Governance (3G) Award, Turkey*

<http://tribune.com.pk/story/1116843/global-good-governance-pakistans-surprising-win-3g-awards/>

Entrepreneurs and Innovators

Automobile: Abdul Aleem, Shariq Waqar, Ahsan Lakhani, Imran Riaz, and Syed Muhammad Taha Rizvi – *Makers of the first ever Formula Electric Car in Pakistan*

<https://www.techjuice.pk/nust-students-make-pakistans-first-ever-formula-electric-car/>

Ahmed Hassan, Muhammad Usman and Muhammad Waqas – *Developing an interactive e-learning platform for special children* <http://thenestio.com/incubatee-teams-2/wonder-tree/>

Telenor – *World Communication Award, UK*

<http://www.dawn.com/news/1304663/telenor-triumphs-in-customer-care-wins-wca-best-customer-care-award>

Professionals

Aviation: Erum Masood and Maryam Masood – *World record of two sisters flying Boeing 777 simultaneously*

<http://www.dawn.com/news/1281129/pia-pilots-make-history-by-becoming-first-pair-of-sisters-to-fly-boeing-777s-concurrently>

Sports

Rukhsana Parveen, Khoushlem Bano and Sofia Javed – *Women boxers from Pakistan participated in south Asian games* <http://www.dawn.com/news/1238416>

Credits: dawn.com/ pakistantoday.com/ geo.tv/ ca.blouinartinfo.com/ newswire.com/
thenews.com/ tribune.com/ breccorder.com/ thediplomat.com/ news.gatech.edu/ techjuice.pk/
theengineer.co.uk/ nytimes.com/ gulfoday.ae/ facebook/ wwe.com/ arynews.tv/ the42.ie/
socialfeed.info/ propakistani.pk/ dailypakistan.com.pk/ dailytimes.com.pk/ plus.google.com/
hipinpakistan.com/ snowleopard.org/ the-netherlands.org/ wdam.com/ newsgram.com/
usaid.gov/ bq-magazine.com/ voiceofjournalists.com/ thenestio.com/ bbc.com/ dailymail.co/
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