



PAKISTAN

# English Speaking Union of Pakistan

101<sup>st</sup> Annual Dinner Meeting graced by President of Pakistan

Newsletter | Issue 01 - 2019



President ESUP Aziz Memon, along with his NCEC members, presenting the Crystal ESUP Memento to the Honourable President of Pakistan, Dr. Arif Alvi, the Chief Guest at the 101 Annual Dinner Meeting 2019, held on the lush lawns of the residence of ESUP Vice President Kalim Farooqui.



The radiant Winner of National Public Speaking Competition 2019, Syed Hammad Mukhtar, is receiving the ESUP Ahmed E.H. Jaffer Running Trophy from the President of Pakistan, Dr. Arif Alvi, at the Annual Dinner Meeting of the ESUP. Present in the picture are: (L-R) Secretary General Majyd Aziz, Vice President Kalim Farooqui, Former ESUP President Abdul Kader Jaffer, the President ESUP, Aziz Memon, Tariq Ikram and Wahab Jaffer.

The Trophy was presented to ESUP by Ahmed E.H. Jaffer Foundation in memory of Ahmed E.H. Jaffer, one of the three founders of the ESUP.



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## ESUP Annual Dinner Meeting 2019 graced by President of Pakistan



**Dear ESUP Friends,**

The ESUP has been going strong for six decades in Pakistan as a member of the English Speaking Union, the mother organization which founded in 1918, last year completed a century. We are proud and delighted that the 101 Year Celebration Dinner Meeting of ESUP this year has been so graciously graced by our most honourable President of Pakistan, who is also an all time dear friend, Mr. Arif Alvi.

In all these years, we have maintained ESUP's dedication in letter and spirit to developing mutual understanding for peace and friendship with the people of the world through our regular friendly parlance and interactive meetings with foreign diplomats of high ranks. We also have frank and bold discussions with dignitaries, men at the helm of our national affairs and great personalities of the corporate, business and economic world. Yet, we determinedly remain apolitical.

Our chief objectives are just two. One is that stated above. Our second objective is to groom our talented youth for challenges of tomorrow by polishing their skills of communication and public interaction. Every year, ESUP organizes a prestigious public speaking competition to groom students aged 16 to 20. Participation carries no fees. The winner is provided the opportunity to travel to London on an all sponsored trip to compete with 80 plus participants from around the globe. It is very gratifying to see these boys and girls, who are the future of our nation, greatly enriched by the experience. I deeply appreciate the dedicated support offered by our ESUP friends who wholeheartedly sponsor the events, some continuing the tradition set by the Founding Fathers of this Organization in 1961.

It pleases me to inform you that our membership is growing. Recently some new friends have joined us and I take this opportunity to welcome them. ESUP members need to work closely and bring new ideas to promote our educational objectives, for ESUP is an educational charity.

I am sure your support shall continue to take ESUP to greater heights and positive outcomes always.

President ESUP  
Aziz Memon



Farooq Afzal reciting a Quranic verse.



ESUP Secretary General Majyd Aziz anchoring.



Tariq Ikram presenting the Vote of Thanks.

## ESUP Annual Dinner Meeting 2019 graced by President of Pakistan

It was an ESUP meeting, but ---- nothing like the high-brow, stiff necked, suit-tie meetings held in the James Bond 007 hall of BLH. Yes, it was a meeting all right for the English Speaking Union of Pakistan is all about like-minded people gathering together to communicate, discuss and consider matters of intrinsic importance, national or international, intellectually and soberly, and yes, in English!

However, this ESUP meeting was a little different. It was an elitist, blackbow-tie, social event with a formal but relaxed atmosphere; a celebration. The ESUP Annual Dinner Meeting was to celebrate the completion of 101 years of ESU's triumphant progress towards friendship and world peace, bringing nations closer with exchange of words and thoughts and in camaraderie. The meeting held on the lush, manicured lawns of ESUP Vice President Kalim Farooqui's residence, on a lovely spring evening among masses of multihued, fragrant flowers, the rippling cascade in the landscaped rockery and of course the incessant twittering of the excited birds who were also keen to welcome the President, was, well to say the least, enchanting!



President of Pakistan Dr. Arif Alvi addresses  
ESUP Annual Dinner Meeting

To complete the magic of the evening, the meeting was addressed by the Chief Guest, who was none other than the well loved and respected honourable President of Pakistan, Dr. Arif Alvi. The President of ESUP welcomed the President of Pakistan with warm words tinged with the light hearted familiarity of a long association. It was similarly reciprocated by the President in his address. No stranger to the ESUP, he lauded the great effort made by the organization to provide a platform for such meaningful, interactive discourses and for grooming the youth into the art of oratory.



First Lady Samina Arif Alvi

Referring to the lingua Franca of the ESUP, he spoke of the importance of languages for global communication, and particularly of English which, as he said, has indeed evolved like other languages from the signs and guttural and labial utterances of the early man, but has gone much beyond all the others in reaching out to the greater part of the world as a composite universal language. English has played an important role in promoting global trade, socio-political relations and, ever since the invention of Johannes Gutenberg's printing press reached the enlightened world, English has been spreading knowledge of all fields of learning to every corner of the earth. Books, he said were essential for life itself. He spoke of the grand collection of books, some old treatises and manuscripts collected, read and handed down father to son down many generations and which are the most cherished heirlooms of his family now. He said it was very sad that in parts of Pakistan despite awareness of its importance, it is still being debated from which level to begin the teaching of English Speaking of languages, he averred that he was very proficient



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in English and felt in his skin reading, writing and speaking it. He has authored a book; written articles prolifically on health, national issues, politics, etc.; sent out tens of thousands of tweets, and it was all a breeze. He found writing easy and more down his lane than giving a speech, which, he said, he never could quite master like his awards winning sister. He shared a secret; his life long admiration of Javed Jabbar's mellifluous oratory. He felt equally comfortable speaking Urdu, he said, and had a felicity of expression while speaking, but, with a wistful note in his voice, regretted not having mastered its graphemes despite his mother's super efforts. She had insisted that he write all his letters from US to her in Urdu, which she would then check for spelling and grammatical errors and return. On a lighter note, he said it didn't matter anymore if your spelling was poor. Technology would take care of it. However, he cautioned, with technology racing on at lightning speed, it would soon be reading a man's secret thoughts. 'Beware of that day,' he said.

Enjoying the President's light hearted speech were many distinguished guests. Among them was the Commissioner Karachi Dr. Iftikhar Ali Shallwani. Other than English, the gentleman can speak Japanese and Spanish too. Also present were Prof. Dr. Abdul Bari Khan, Prof. Dr. Shahid A. Sami and Mr. Samar Ali Khan who would be awarded the 'Hilal-e-Imtiaz' and the 'Sitara-e-Imtiaz' respectively by the President of Pakistan on 23rd March. The diplomats present were Consuls General of USA Ms Jo Anne Wagner, of Japan Mr. Toshikazu Isomura, of Turkey Mr. Tolga Ucac and the Deputy High Commissioner of Bangladesh, Mr. Noor-e-Helal Saifur Rehman, all accompanied by their spouse. Others present were the USAID Chief in Karachi Mr. Mike and Political Affairs Officer Jimmy with his wife Jennifer; Vietnamese Trade Commissioner Mr. Nguyen Hong Tien, former IG Police Sindh Aftab Nabi Noor, former MD OUP Ms. Ameena Saiyed, OBE, Mr. Wahab Jaffar, who lives in Canada and was in Karachi, and the members of the NCEC.



Moin Farooqui and Abbas Akberali of Amreli Steel enjoying a relaxed evening.



A view of the guests and the beautiful garden.



Vice President Kalim Farooqui with the US Consul General Ms. Jo Anne Wagner & Mrs. Shaheen K. Farooqui.



President Memon in conversation with the US Consul General Ms. Jo Anne Wagner.



Dr. Samina Aziz Memon, an anesthesiologist with love for fragrant blooms.



ESUP Newsletter Editor Zohra Ashraf Noorwala flanked by First Lady Samina and President of Pakistan Dr. Arif Alvi at the ESUP annual dinner.

## Celebrating the Sturdy Spirit of ESUP

### Welcome Address by the President of ESUP

President Dr. Arif Alvi, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

President Alvi is neither a stranger to the English language nor the English Speaking Union. As our worthy colleague, he has been around for long, though most of us do not have the privilege to have experienced the sensation of his dentist's drill! We all are proud of our association with him as his career progression in politics is indeed one of its kind and he is the only dentist to have a deserving right, or may I say, bite, to be the president. Our President is famous for his sparkling smile, a sure sign of also being a successful dentist.

We are all gathered here this evening to commemorate the sturdy spirit and staying power of the English Speaking Union that began its journey as an educational charity a hundred and one year's ago and is still going strong. Throughout its illustrious career the English Speaking Union has helped foster a bond between diverse people of the globe speaking English language. English is now a global lingua franca and ESUP has been one of the earliest front-runners of its cause.

To the great credit of English Speaking Union, it has steadfastly preserved its status as an apolitical platform essentially devoted to promoting understanding between nations and their people. The ESUP considers itself an international vehicle carrying forward different ideas emanating from all parts of the globe. It believes in developing progressive perceptions on many prevailing issues and also looks forward to emerging matters pertaining to national and international affairs.

On the functional side, English Speaking Union, under its auspices, provides scholarships to deserving candidates to quench their thirst of learning through most prestigious international institutions. We encourage public speaking skills and we encourage intellectual exchange of ideas and believe in entertaining different opinions expressed by a cross-section of people. We provide opportunities to the younger generation to intelligently formulate and express their opinions.

English Speaking Union is currently headed by the Princess Royal, popularly known as Princess Ann, daughter of the Queen of England who carries an international reputation for her philanthropic work. In Pakistan we have kept the flag flying by becoming a credible sounding-board for national and international policies presented through our platform by our own luminaries and high-ranking foreign representatives. We reflect on developments happening around us and convey them to our distinguished speakers with a view to inculcate healthy exchange of ideas. I would also thank the members of ESU of Pakistan to have measured-up well to the changing times by steadfastly standing by us. They are all committed individuals who consistently work for the larger public interest.

Mr. President, Sir, I am sure that you will keep on gracing the functions of the English Speaking Union and we may soon ask you to be our guest of honour and speaker at one of our regular monthly meetings. We will leave the selection to you of the subject you wish to offer your views on, that may range from politics to dentistry. The choice will be yours and I can assure you that you will address one of the best audiences in the country. And to end, I would like to express my gratitude and thanks to Vice President, Kalim Farooqui for hosting the Annual Dinner on his lush Lawns.



ESUP President Aziz Memon  
presenting his welcome address



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## Glimpses of the Evening



President ESUP Aziz Memon welcoming Commissioner Karachi Iftikhar Ali Shalwani.



Mrs. Shaheen Kalim Farooqui welcomes the President of Pakistan to her lovely home.



President of Pakistan Dr. Arif Alvi is greeted by ESUP member Pervez Madraswalla.



The President in conversation with Moin Fudda and Mushtaq Noorwala.



Kalim Farooqui called attention to CEO Mitsubishi Corporation, Kimihide Ando, recipient of 'Sitara-e-Pakistan', the President's Award 2018, for his contributions to promoting Pak-Japan trade.



Sharing a moment of hilarity.



A view of the gathering at the ESUP Dinner Meeting all ears tuned to President of Pakistan Dr. Arif Alvi.



President Memon and Vice President Kalim Farooqui with the Consul General of Turkey, Tolga Ucak.



A group photo of the ESUP NCEC members with the Honourable Chief Guest and President Aziz Memon.

## The President of Pakistan:

An introduction by Vice President ESUP Kalim Farooqui

Vice President of ESUP, Kalim Farooqui, as per tradition of the ESUP meetings, enjoyed the honour of formally introducing the President of Pakistan, who was the Chief Guest of the evening, to the august gathering. Among them were diplomats, a dedicated Past President of ESUP, Abdul Kader Jaffer, and a Japanese Businessman Mr. Kimihide Ando, CEO of Mitsubishi, who has lived here for a cumulative fourteen years and contributed greatly to promotion of Pak-Japan business. Speaking eloquently and in glowing terms, he informed the distinguished guests some salient features of the illustrious life of the President of Pakistan. The President, despite his great achievements, remains humble and down to earth. He is a man who looks beyond today, thinks deeply, and gets into action for the greater good. A man who says he's not comfortable with the spoken word, yet is one who never dishonours his word given whether in faith or in jest. Here is what we learnt about the President.



Kalim Farooqui introducing the President of Pakistan

Dr. Arif Alvi was sworn in as the 13th President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan on 9th September 2018. He was born in 1949 and completed his early education in Karachi. He did his (BDS) Bachelor of Dental Surgery from De' Montmorency College of Dentistry, Lahore (Estd. In 1934, the oldest and most prestigious dental college of Pakistan) as Karachi lacked one then, and where he was declared the "Best Graduate". He completed his Master of Science in the field of Prosthodontics from the University of Michigan in 1975 and in Orthodontics from the University of Pacific, San Francisco in 1982. He was awarded the Fellowship of the 'Diplomatic American Board of Orthodontists' in 1995.

President Dr. Arif Alvi has been a renowned professional and has held many important positions in the field of Dentistry. He remained Dean of Orthodontics, College of Physicians and Surgeons of Pakistan, President, Pakistan Dental Association, Pakistan Association of Orthodontists Asia Pacific Dental Federation and Councilor of the World Dental Federation. Through his sheer hard work in the World Dental Federation, he was able to get the declaration of 20th March as World Oral Health Day. He has also authored a book and has written many articles and has thousands of tweets to his credit.

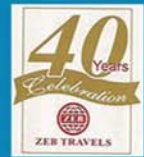
Dr. Arif Alvi's political career commenced with his pro-democracy struggle. He is a founding member of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf that came into being in 1996. He remained a member of the PTI's Central Executive Committee since its inception and has held the offices of PTI President of Sindh, Central Vice President and Secretary General. During his tenure as the Secretary General of the party, Dr. Arif Alvi introduced social media platform in the politics of Pakistan. He was instrumental in holding intra-party election and enabled millions of party members to digitally participate in the election process. In line with the Constitution of Pakistan, he resigned from all positions of PTI before assuming the prestigious office of the President.

He was elected as member of National Assembly from Karachi in 2013 and 2018 and was instrumental in drafting and the passage of many bills including one on Alternate Dispute Resolution. He also chaired the sub-committee of EVM's, Digital Identification of voters and voting of overseas Pakistanis. The latter has finally come to fruition. Dr. Arif Alvi has keen interest in education and health sectors. Provision of basic facilities to the common man and uplifting the country's image are very close to his heart which is evident from his activities and involvement as also his support to all such related forums. It would not be out of place to mention about his love for nature as he has been a regular visitor to my annual garden parties during spring and to the Horticulture Society's Flower show at the Seaview in Karachi. He considers people of Pakistan as the most precious asset and, therefore, accords special focus to human resource development in the country. He is happily married to Samina Bhabi and who together are proud parents to four children.



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