



VICKY NOON EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Trustees: The Hon. Dr Paul Flather (Chair); Sir Nicholas Barrington KCMG, CVO, FRSA; Prof Haroon Ahmed; Mr Ehsan Mani; Ms Naila Hayat Noon; Dr Rosemary Raza; Mr Ahmad Hosain, Mrs Ameena Saiyid OBE, Dr Faisal Devji; Prof Kamal Munir

Annual Noon Scholars' Reception

Ameena Saiyid OBE

Former Managing Director, OUP Pakistan; Managing Director, Lightstone Publishers; Founding Director, Pakistan Literature Festival, London

'Freedom to Publish in Pakistan - a personal story'

Friday, 23 June 2023, 18.00 – 20.00

Khalili Lecture Theatre, SOAS, Torrington Square, London, WC1H 0XG

Ameena Saiyid first joined Oxford University Press (OUP) Pakistan in 1979, before setting up her own successful publishing house in 1986. In 1988, she was invited to rejoin OUP as Chief Executive for Pakistan, a position she held for 30 years.

Ameena is the first woman in Pakistan to become head of a multinational company, and the first woman to become President of the Overseas Investors' Chamber of Commerce and Industry. She started Pakistan's movement of literature festivals, founding festivals in Karachi and Islamabad, as well as the Children's Literature Festival, which is held across the country.



In 2005 she was awarded an OBE from Queen Elizabeth II, and in 2013 received the *Chevalier des Arts et de Lettres* from the French Government. She was awarded the *Sitara-e-Imtiaz* (Star of Distinction) by the President of Pakistan in 2018, and is currently Managing Director of Lightstone Publishers, Pakistan.

You are invited to join us for the annual reception and talk from one of our trustees to celebrate the continuing success of The Lady Viqarunnisa and Sir Firoz Khan Noon Educational Foundation (VNEF), established in 1992 by Lady 'Vicky' Noon to support bright young scholars from Pakistan to study at leading universities in the UK. Over the past 30 years, the Foundation has spent and leveraged more than £6 million to support 225 scholars at the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge.

RSVP: email info.vnef@gmail.com before 26 May 2023