



PRESS RELEASE

Pioneers honoured by Top 100 Asian Stars in UK Tech 2019 list

London, June 5 2019: Thirty of Britain's leading tech entrepreneurs were honoured with a Pioneers Award at the Top 100 Asian Stars in UK Tech list launch on Tuesday 4th June 2019. The list celebrates diversity in the digital sector with a focus on disruptive technologies and celebrated its fifth anniversary last night. Among those recognised with a Pioneers Award were **Faisal Butt**, Founder and CEO of Pi Labs, who has invested in startups like Trussle, the UK's first digital mortgage advisor, and Hubble, an office space marketplace; **Shaolan Hsueh**, the Founder of virtual language-learning platform, Chineasy; innovation expert, advisor and mentor **Bindi Karia** and **Dharmash Mistry**, an entrepreneur, non-executive director and experienced investor, currently General Partner at Lakestar, one of the leading VC firms in Europe, investors in Spotify, Facebook & Airbnb among others.

Dilip Joshi MBE, Chairman of Diversity UK said: *"I am delighted that the Top 100 Asian Stars in UK Tech list has celebrated its fifth birthday with a stellar list of nominees and that we have been able to honour the Pioneers who have been appearing on this list since it began. The Pioneers exemplify how the tech sector has matured over the past 5 years; fintech continues to be a star sector in Britain, but we also have to note the emergence of artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning (ML) and other deep learning, technologies - whether in drug discovery technologies, healthtech or in autonomous vehicles. Diversity UK is a think tank focused on equality and inclusion. Indeed, we started the Top 100 Asian Stars in UK Tech list to create a platform to celebrate companies and individuals who embody the spirit of our endeavours. It is therefore pleasing to celebrate the Pioneers who continue to light the path for new startup founders."*

The official list of the Top 100 Asian Stars in UK Tech 2019 was launched on June 4th by Diversity UK in association KPMG and NewAsianPost.com and hosted at KPMG, Number Twenty Grosvenor Street, London.

By highlighting the ground-breaking business models, apps, funding and support networks being created by Asian digital entrepreneurs, the list addresses the perceived lack of diversity in the tech sector and showcases the wealth of talent that is currently growing the British tech scene. The evening also saw a panel of judges selecting the top five Asians in the UK involved in business, healthtech, investors, startups and women.

Bina Mehta, KPMG Partner leading engagement with the new generation of Asians added: *"It has never been more important than it is right now to celebrate and champion the benefits and successes that diversity brings to the UK. It is fantastic to be able to shine a light on the important role that the Top 100 Asians Stars in UK Tech and the Pioneers play in the growing recognition of the UK as world leading innovator. Technology is our fastest growing and most successful sector, creating wealth and employment across the country. Having a technology sector which reflects the society that we live in is absolutely key in attracting the new generation of entrepreneurs and talent that will continue to build our reputation and wealth in this space. The people recognised tonight are fantastic role models to the younger generation of innovators and we congratulate all of the outstanding individuals for the part they have played in the UK's technology success story."*

The Top 100 Asian Stars in UK Tech list, NewAsianPost.com and Diversity UK are the brainchild of the digital entrepreneur Lopa Patel MBE who has long been recognised as an evangelist for STEM and the tech industries in the UK.

Notes for Editors:

High Resolution Images: <https://bit.ly/31dmRgs>

Top 100 Asian Stars in UK Tech Pioneers

To mark the 5th anniversary of the Top 100 Asian Stars in UK Tech list, individuals who have previously appeared in the list on three occasions or more are here celebrated as '**Pioneers**'.

In alphabetical order by surname.

1. **Tushar Agarwal**, Co-Founder & CEO - Hubble
2. **Hasan Bakhshi MBE**, Director, Creative Industries - Nesta
3. **Faisal Butt**, Founder & CEO - Pi Labs
4. **Vivian Chan**, Founder & CEO - Sparrho
5. **Ajay Chowdhury**, Partner & Managing Director - BCG Digital Ventures
6. **Rishi Chowdhury**, Founder - Incubus Ventures
7. **Rajeeb Dey MBE**, Founder & CEO - Learnerbly
8. **Gi Fernando MBE**, Founder - Freeformers
9. **Faisal Galaria**, Angel Investor - ex-Skype, Kayak and Spotify
10. **Suran Goonatilake OBE**, CEO - Bodymetrics
11. **Shaolan Hsueh**, Founder - Chineasy
12. **Hussein Kanji**, Partner - Hoxton Ventures
13. **Bindi Karia**, Innovation Expert + Advisor, Super Connector
14. **Shalini Khemka**, Founder & CEO - E2Exchange
15. **Manish Madhvani**, Managing Partner - GP Bullhound
16. **Dharmash Mistry**, Partner - Lakestar
17. **Vin Murria OBE**, Founder - Advanced Computer Software plc
18. **Rohit Nanda**, Founder - The Business Troubleshooter
19. **Ali Parsa**, Founder & CEO - Babylon
20. **Nitin Passi**, Founder - MissGuided.com
21. **Neeta Patel**, CEO - New Entrepreneurs Foundation
22. **Ash Puri**, Founder & Partner - eNTIER Capital
23. **Debu Purkayastha**, Managing Partner - 3rd Eye VC
24. **J P Rangaswami**, Formerly, Chief Data Officer - Deutsche Bank
25. **Nikhil Shah**, Co-Founder - MixCloud
26. **Reshma Sohoni**, CEO - Seedcamp
27. **Anil Stocker**, Co-Founder & CEO - Market Invoice
28. **Vasanth Subramanian**, Co-Founder & CTO - Acasa
29. **Hiro Tamura**, Partner - Atomico
30. **Zia Yusuf**, Co-Founder & CEO - Velocity

Those highlighted in yellow attended the event on 4th June 2019.

About Asians in Tech

The Top 100 Asian Stars in UK Tech is the definitive list of Asians working in the digital and technology sectors in Britain. The aim of the list is to showcase diverse talent; from startup founders, technologists, venture capitalists and investors; to the game changers and digital influencers in business and social enterprise.

<http://asiansintech.com> | [@asiansintech](https://twitter.com/asiansintech)

About Diversity UK

Diversity UK is a think tank to research, advocate and promote ideas for improving diversity and inclusion in Britain. Diversity UK delivers its objectives by undertaking research and consultations, facilitating debates, hosting roundtable meetings and by publishing a monthly newsletter focusing on contemporary equality issues. In November, it also hosts the annual Paul Stephenson lecture, named after the pioneering British civil rights campaigner, on race and equality. Diversity UK is a registered charity (No: 1155189) in England & Wales.

<https://diversityuk.org> | [@diversityuk](#)

About KPMG's Innovative Startups Practice

KPMG's Innovative Startups practice works with early stage and high-growth companies through all stages of their lifecycle. Their teams offer support and advice to innovative businesses around key areas such as how to successfully scale a business; corporate structuring; entering new markets overseas; accessing finance and transactions advice. Furthermore they host a range of industry and networking events for the startup community and support a number of programmes, including mentoring and coaching, which are aimed at helping scaleup companies with their growth ambitions.

For further information visit www.kpmgenterprise.co.uk

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About NewAsianPost.com

NewAsianPost.com is a news, business and entertainment website for the South Asian diaspora. With an ambition to usher in a new era of high quality citizen journalism, NewAsianPost.com focuses on the 'untold stories and unheard voices' of the community. It publishes the 'Asian Power Couples Hot 100' and 'Top 100 Asian Stars in UK Tech' lists.

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