



Fashion tycoon named in 'most powerful' list

A FASHION boss who has built up a multi-million pound empire in Preston has been named one of the most powerful in the Muslim community.

Managing director Arif Patel, the co-owner of Faisaltex Ltd, has been named in the Muslim Power 100 Excellence awards which aims to recognise the leading players in a community which contributes more than £31 billion to the British economy every year.

The 36 year old co-founded the company, which is based in Fletcher Road in Deepdale, Preston with his brothers Munaf and Faisal. The family has amassed a £75 million fortune having founded it 20 years ago.

The Power 100 is drawn Bank of Britain and in-mogul Sir Gulam Noon, Uddin, And Bolton born



up by the Islamic cludes food industry Labour peer Baroness boxer Amir Khan.

Sultan Choudhury, of the bank said "we feel that it is now more important than ever to recognise the valuable contribution the Muslim community has made to the social, cultural and economic well being of Britain.

Not only does this list recognise exceptional achievements, but it also illustrates the opportunities for success available for Muslims in Britain.

The Patel family is also know to have a property portfolio worth more than £42 million, including large holdings in Preston city centre.

Faisaltex Ltd, together with it's subsidiary companies including Faisal imports Ltd, was formed in 1987 with just 12 sock machines and now employs more than 50 people and has a 50,000 sq ft purpose built factory in Preston.

It supplies socks, underwear and nightwear to high street fashion stores, including New Look, Tammy Girl and Matalan.

The Muslim Power 100 was launched with a special ceremony in London last weekend having been drawn up by a panel of judges from the 5,200 nominations received via the awards website.
