

## KURT SCHORK AWARDS – 2009

### Winners:

**Local reporter category** – **Maqbool Ahmed** (Pakistan)

**Freelance category** – **Manon Querouil & Nir Rosen**

Ceremony held at Thomson Reuters Building, Canary Wharf, London on 12<sup>th</sup> November.

Born in Karachi October 1969, **Maqbool Ahmed** entered journalism as a trainee subeditor at Pakistan Press International (PPI) newswire in 1988. Spurred by its exciting prospects, he later switched to reporting in 1992 before joining the prestigious English-language daily The News in 1995 where he covered political proceedings and legal cases at the higher judiciary. When progressive journalist Najam Sethi launched Daily Times from Lahore in 2001, Ahmed was part of the launch team at its Karachi Bureau. In 2006 he joined monthly current affairs magazine Herald where his report “The Invisible Displaced”, on the plight and ordeal of people displaced from Balochistan, was recognised by the Islamabad office of the International Committee of the Red Cross.

#### Winning Stories

**Sold in Haste**

**Inside Swat**

**The Long Shadow of the North** - All published in The Herald, Pakistan

Joint freelance winner **Manon Qu erouil**, 29, graduated from the Oriental Languages Institute in Persian language and civilisation. Specialised in Middle East and gender issues, Manon has been working on numerous stories over the past few years in Iraq, Yemen, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Colombia, Guatemala and Kosovo among others. She has lived in both Iran and Afghanistan. She has been widely published in the French Marie Claire, the Figaro Magazine and in other European magazines. Her latest work on rebels in Niger Delta was published in Paris Match. She is currently writing a book on the life of an Afghan policewoman to be published in April 2010.

#### Winning Stories

**Pirates in Somalia** (English translation) - Le Figaro

**Swat Valley of Horrors** (English translation) - Marie Claire

**Colombia - Occupation: Contract Killer** (English translation) - Marie Claire

Joint freelance winner **Nir Rosen** is a freelance journalist from New York and is based in Beirut with his wife and son. He is a Fellow at the New York University Center on Law and Security. Nir moved to Iraq in 2003 and covered the early years of the invasion. He has also reported from Afghanistan, Pakistan, the former Yugoslavia, Somalia, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda, Kenya, Lebanon, Palestine, Syria, Jordan, Yemen, Turkey and Egypt. Nir has filmed for documentaries and consulted for humanitarian organisations.

#### Winning Stories

**How We Lost the War We Won** - Rolling Stone

**We Run the Road** - The National

**The Gathering Storm** - The National