

IN THE NAME OF ALLAH, THE MOST MERCIFUL, THE MOST
COMPASSIONATE

Speech delivered by

PRINCE KHALID AL-FAISAL IBN AB AL-AZIZ
Director General of the King Faisal Foundation and
Chairman of the Prize Board

On the 13th Awarding Ceremony
Tuesday 30/10/1411H (14/5/1991)

Praise to be Allah; and peace and blessings be upon our Allah's Messenger, Prophet Muhammad ibn Abd Allah and upon his household, his companions and all his followers.

My Lord, Your Royal Highness, Prince Sultan Ibn Abdul Aziz
Second Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Defense and Aviation and General Inspector.

Your Highnesses, Your Eminencies and Excellencies;
Dear Respected Brother:

Peace be upon you,

Prince of magnanimity and love

Minister of bravery and strength

You've extended love to people; so they love you

You've shown respect to people; so they respect you

Benevolence in your eyes shows quicker than in your right hand

There is a glow in your face

Cheerful yet determined

Gentle yet determined

Gentle yet resolute

To you the hearts have devoted their affection

To you the minds have submitted their conviction

So lay content

With Allah's bounty and more

My Lord. You have kindly come to patronize the awarding ceremony of the King Faisal International Prize, on behalf of your brother, the Custodian of the two Holy Mosques. Most surely, this prize is one of the major Saudi-Arab-Islamic International projects which command the care of our most beloved King, may Allah protect him. In fact, from the very beginning of the establishment of the King Faisal Foundation our wise leadership has unceasingly supported this Islamic international project through material assistance, supervision and encouragement.

This noble attitude is indeed an extension of the time-honoured tradition of this state from the movement of the great Reformer Imam Mohammad Ibn Saud, to the heroic uprising of Imam Turki Ibn Abd Allah Al Saud, to the declaration of the first Arab and the first Islamic unification in modern history at the hands of the founder of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, great King Abdul Aziz Ibn Abdu Arrahman Al Saud, till the present under the realm of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz Al Saud, the man of momentous decisions and the hero of the battle for the liberation of Kuwait, may Allah bless him with victory.

With your permission, Your Highness, I wish on this occasion to address the winners of the King Faisal International Prizes, for this year and tell them: Your Country, Saudi Arabia, as represented in this prize, whilst honoring you today, is in fact honoring through you, knowledge and the scholars who have distinguished themselves through their efforts in their respective fields in the service of their religion and a contribution to the progress of their nation. Please, accept all of you our congratulations and do proceed with your work, with Allah's blessings.

Your Highness, our gathering today comes in the wake of the calamity that befell the Arab-Islamic world. Accordingly, disbelief and atheism put on Islamic disguise and the betrayer of the Arabs unsheathed the sword of the Arabs to murder the Arabs.

Some naïve people believed his lies whilst the symbols of treason applauded his aggression. However, Allah, having promised the believers victory, has made the cause of truth vanquish the cause of falsehood. In this way, the so-called "mother of all battles" has thankfully proved to be nothing more than "the mother of all absurdities".

My Lord, Prince of generosity ... commander of strength.

After the battle between the truth and falsehood...some of those alleged men of knowledge were influenced by falsifications. Accordingly, they raised their voices warning against the threat to our country and our society allegedly posed by the presence of foreign troops in our land.

Let us see than how they came and left.

When they came, they had distorted conceptions about Islam and Muslim. However, by the time they left, they had developed greater respect for Islam.

When they came, they were aloof in their dealings with us. By the time they left, they had come to favor interacting with us.

Most of them rejected Islam at the time of their arrival but when they left, some of them had embraced Islam.

We conducted ourselves decently...and they respected us.

We observed our faith...and they admired us.

We have not changed...But they acknowledge the fact that they have changed for the better.

Transgression and aggression have been defeated and those taking part in the intrigues have been defeated.

We remembered and invoked Allah in prosperity...Therefore, He remembered us in our time of need.

We supported His religion.. Therefore, He supported us.

For all this – Praise be to Allah.
Indeed Praise be to Allah.

Peace be upon you.