

**INTRODUCTION OF THE WINNERS
OF THE FOURTEENTH SESSION
OF THE KING FAISAL INTERNATIONAL PRIZE
Saturday 10 Ramadan 1412H
Corresponding to 14 March 1992**

By

**DR. ABDULLAH SALEH AL-UTHAIMEEN
Secretary-General of the
King Faisal International Prize Committees**

Your Royal Highness Prince Abdullah Ibn Abdul Aziz, representative of the
Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques,
Your Royal Highnesses,
Your Excellencies,
Distinguished Guests,

Gentlemen,

It is a truly happy occasion that we meet this evening to celebrate the achievements of people who are pioneers and leaders in their fields.

It gives me great pleasure to introduce the professors and scientists who have won this year's King Faisal International Prize in the fields of Service to Islam, Arabic Literature, Medicine and Science.

His Excellency dr. Hamed Al-Ghabid (of Niger), Secretary General of the Islamic Conference Organization, wins this year's King Faisal International Prize for Service to Islam. He was nominated for the Prize by both King Abdul Aziz University and the International Muslim Youth Symposium.

Dr. Al-Ghabed was born in Tanoon, Niger, in 1941. He earned his secondary education in Algeria, his university degree from the Ivory Coast, and a Ph.D. from the Sorbonne. The title of his doctoral dissertation was "Islamic Banks: Problems and Horizons".

He assumed numerous important positions in his country, becoming Prime Minister between 1983 and 1988. He has been Secretary-General of the Islamic Conference Organization since 1989.

Dr. Al-Ghabed has made prominent efforts to serve Islam and Muslims, the most important of which are:

1. His role in establishing the Islamic Foundation for Social Sciences in Niamey, Niger, for the purpose of financing projects of Islamic significance, such as mosques, schools, hospitals, publishing, and the organization of symposia:
2. His keen interest in building cooperation and coordination among Islamic states;
3. His tireless efforts on behalf of Muslim minorities, studying their problems, defending their rights, working to improve their conditions. These efforts have taken him too many places such as Bulgaria, Turkey and Albania.
4. His efforts in mediating internal disputes among Islamic states, always keen to save lives, restore legitimacy, and establish law and order; and
5. His appeals to rich nations to provide assistance to poor Islamic states.

The subject for this year's King Faisal International Prize for Arabic Literature was Translations of Literary and Critical Studies into the Arabic Language. The prize for this category is shared by Professor Muhammad Mustafa Badawi (who is citizen of both Egypt and Britain); Professor Abdul-Fattah Shukri Ayyad (Egyptian); and Professor Muhammad Yousuf Najm (Lebanese).

Professor Badawi was nominated for the Prize by both the University of Alexandria and Oxford University. Dr. Badawi was born in Alexandria, Egypt, in 1925. He earned a B.A. degree in English Language and Literature from the University of Alexandria in 1936. In 1954 he earned his Ph.D. from London University, majoring in English Literature. After teaching at the University of Alexandria for ten years, he moved to Oxford University where he became Professor of Modern Arabic Literature in 1964.

Dr. Badawi has lectured at many universities as a visiting scholar, and attended many conferences in different countries. He is a member of numerous scientific organizations and sits on the editorial boards of leading journals. He has published 12 books in Arabic, some of which he wrote himself, translated, or edited. He has published 11 books in English, some of which he wrote and some of which he translated.

Dr. Badawi's range of activities in the field shows his obvious role in translating literary and critical studies. His work on some translations lasted many years of his life and culminated in his adding to the Arabic library some important translated books such as I. A. Richard's Principles of Literary Criticism, a critical landmark at the beginning of the century, and a pioneering effort in modern literary criticism. Dr. Badawi was able to present this difficult book to the Arab reader in simple easy-to-understand Arabic.

Professor Shukri Ayyad's nomination for the Prize came from Cairo University.

Dr. Ayyad was born in Kafr Shinwan, an Egyptian village, in 1921. He earned a university degree from the Department of the Arabic Language at Cairo University in 1940. He got a Master's degree in 1948, and a Ph.D. in 1953.

Going through the ranks, Dr. Ayyad became a Professor of Modern Literature at the Department of Arabic Language at Cairo University in 1968. In 1971 he became Deputy Dean of the Arts College. He was later seconded to Khartoum University and then King Saud University. Since 1987 he has been working full time on writing.

In 1988 he earned Egypt's Prize of Appreciation. That same year he was also awarded Kuwait's Prize for Scientific Progress.

Dr. Ayyad has a leading position in scientific and academic circles. He has written many critical and literary studies and articles in Arabic and English as well as six collections of short stories. His many translations include Aristotle's Poetics. His task in translating this important book was dual. He authenticated Matta Ibn Younis' ancient translation in to Arabic, then retranslated the book with the help of modern and old European translations. With all this effort, Ayyad's translation came out precise in words and meaning, faithful to the original and well presented.

Professor Muhammad Yousuf Najm was nominated for the Prize by King Saud University. He was born in Palestine in 1925. He became a Lebanese citizen in 1962. He earned a B.A. degree from the Arabic Language Department at the American University of Beirut in 1946. He later earned an M.A. degree from the same department. He got his Ph.D. from Cairo University in 1954.

Rising through academic ranks, he became a full Professor of Arabic Literature at the American University of Beirut. His academic activities include membership in numerous and famous cultural and literary committees and councils.

His scientific work is multi-faceted. He authenticated 12 literary works and wrote seven modern novels. He authored or co-authored tens of critical and literary studies. His translations into the Arabic Language include three critical and literary books, two of which he jointly translated. Probably his most important translation is Ditches' Methods of Literary Criticism, which is a highly regarded book in the modern history of literary criticism. This translation is both pleasant in style and faithful to the original ideas.

The subject of this year's Prize for Medicine is Coronary Artery Disease. The winner is Professor Attilio Maseri (of Italy) whose nominations for the Prize came from London University and Lancy National Academy.

Professor Maseri was born in Udine, Italy, in 1935. After he graduated from the Medical School at Padua in 1960, he received specialized training in cardiology at the University of Pisa where he later worked as an Assistant Professor. In 1970, he became Professor of Cardiopulmonary Medicine at the University of Pisa. He continued his research until 1979 when he was appointed Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine at the University of London. He worked there until 1991. Last year he returned to Italy to become Professor of Cardiology and Director of the Institute of Cardiology at Policlinico Agostino Gemelli.

Dr. Maseri has made important contributions to our knowledge about heart disease and to the development of diagnostic and treatment methods. He has authored, sometimes jointly with his associates, over 200 scientific articles published in some of the most prominent medical journals in the world.

Dr. Maseri's research work into coronary artery disease is characterized by a great deal of originality as in his leading investigations into the vital role of coronary vasospasm as a cause of ischaemic heart disease, as well as his clarification of the significance of neurotransmitters and other chemical factors in the development of coronary vascular occlusion. His discoveries have helped in the development of a variety of therapeutic agents such as coronary vasodilators in the treatment of ischaemic cardiac pain and acute myocardial infraction.

Aside from his pioneering research, Dr. Maseri has trained many heart disease specialists and enriched our human knowledge by his lectures, articles, and his contributions to scientific conferences.

The subject for this year's King Faisal International Prize for Science is Biology. The winner is Professor Sydney Brenner from Britain. He was nominated by Nature Magazine and by McMillan.

Dr. Brenner was born in 1927 in South Africa where he got his university education. He earned his Ph.D. from Oxford University in 1954.

He has taught, done research and lectured at some of the most prestigious universities in the world. He holds memberships in numerous scientific associations and research centers.

One of Dr. Brenner's earliest discoveries was his development of an elegant genetic proof of the triplet nature of the genetic code. His most significant achievement was the experimental demonstration of the existence of messenger RNA. This discovery closed the gap in the chain of information transfer from gene to protein, and ranks next in importance to the discovery of the DNA structure in establishing the foundation of modern molecular biology.

The Secretariat General of the King Faisal International Prize is deeply grateful to His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz, the Crown Prince, for representing His Majesty the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques in patronizing this ceremony.

We thank all our guests for accepting our invitation to come tonight.

We thank all those who have cooperated with us in this work, whether by nominating, or refereeing, or selecting.

We extend our deepest congratulations to the winners, hoping the King Faisal International Prize will be another incentive for continuing their original and creative work.

Thank you very much. God bless you all.