

Address by
HRH PRINCE Khalid Al-Faisal
Chairman of the Board of Trustees, King Faisal Foundation
Third Ceremony, 23 February 1981

Your Majesty
Your Royal Highnesses
Your Excellences
Distinguished Guests,

I warmly welcome you to the King Faisal International Prize award ceremony in its third year. I thank Allah that we are all well, pursuing righteousness and seeking to reward pioneers of knowledge each in their field. The Islamic doctrine is based on the firm foundation of faith, ethics, virtue and thought. The King Faisal International Prize came into existence to consolidate these values by fostering this initiative in the form of recognition and encouragement of learned persons who rendered remarkable services to Islam in act and thought.

The Prize is proud to present the Custodian of the Holy Mosques, King Khalid bin Abd El-Aziz, as this year's winner of the prize for Service of Islam. The Award is conferred on his Majesty for the great role he plays in supporting other Muslim countries and consolidating bonds by his support of minorities and building mosques throughout the world with the objective of embracing the World under the auspices of Islam.

The selection of his Majesty comes at a time when he is fostering the Islamic Summit Meetings in Makkah, a gathering expected to have a wide ranging impact on the Islamic cause for humanity and to counter the distortions perpetuated by enemies of Islam.

It is to be emphasized that withholding the prize for Islamic Studies this year does not mean that the Islamic Nation lacks in scholars capable of the Award; it only means that nominated works did not meet the requirements of the concerned committees.

I extend congratulations to Dr Abd Al-Salam M. Haroon who dedicated his academic life for the study of Arabic Literature by verification and authorship of ancient Arabic works.

This year we are celebrating three categories of the prize but we hope to celebrate the fourth next year by adding Medicine and will hopefully follow it with the addition of a prize for Science in the next few years.

Please, allow me your Majesty on behalf of the King Faisal International Prize, to award you this year's prize of Service to Islam.

Thank You,