

Address by
Dr. Ahmed M. Al-Dhubaib,
Secretary General, King Faisal International Prize
The Third Ceremony, Saturday, 25 February 1984

In the Name of Allah the Most Merciful

Your Majesty,
Your Royal Highness the Second Deputy Premier,
Your Highnesses,
Your Excellencies,
Distinguished Guests,

Amid the great delight and pride in awarding Your Majesty the King Faisal International Prize for Service to Islam, I would like also to introduce to you the laureates of the other four categories of the prize: Islamic Studies; Arabic Literature; Medicine; and Science.

The King Faisal International Prize for Islamic Studies is awarded to one of the pioneers of research in Islamic Sharia, Sheikh Mustafa Ahmed Al-Zarka'a, for his distinguished contributions to Islamic jurisprudence, including:

1. His book, "Introduction to General Theory of Islamic Jurisprudence", which is praised and deeply appreciated by the Selection Committee for its depth and detailed explanation of its subject as well as for its innovative dealing with delicate questions and minute variances in jurisprudence.
2. His distinguished contributions to Islamic jurisprudence, through his notable publications in addition to his work in the "Islamic Jurisprudence Encyclopedia" as well as his efforts in the establishment of several Arab universities and formulating their curricula. He also contributed to conferences dealing with jurisprudence or other Islamic issues along with a handful of books and various researches.

The King Faisal International Prize for Arabic Literature is awarded to Mr. Mahmoud Mohammed Shakir for his valuable contributions on ancient Arabic literature in terms of the following:

1. His book, "Al-Mutanabi" in its first version dated 1936. The book contains a host of great literary merits, including: depth of study, thoughtfulness, thoroughness, ability to draw conclusions; and the tight linkage between poetry and life events and disclosures in the evolution of Al-Mutanabi's life.
2. His wide-ranging insights and his contributions to the literary and intellectual life.
3. His general stances and research works that deserve high level of appreciation.

As regards the Prize for Medicine, it is awarded, in its first part, to Prof. John S. Fordtran (USA) for his efforts over twenty years that enabled him to discover the mechanisms of transportation of fluids and ions across the epithelial lining of the intestinal tract as well as to explain the quantity of this transport. He has also classified diarrheal diseases based on their symptoms and

causes. Prof. Fordtran's achievements constitute a platform for other researchers to conduct further research in this field, a fact that accorded him a distinct scientific position worldwide.

The second part of the Prize is awarded to two laureates: Dr. William Greenough III (USA); and Prof. Michael Field (USA) for their distinguished research. Through their joint studies at Johns Hopkins and Harvard universities, they were able to demonstrate that cholera toxins increased adenylate cyclase activity and the secretion of adenosine mono-phosphate, resulting in great loss of fluids and ions through the intestinal mucous membrane. This has instigated several attempts to finding chemicals and medicines that could counter the impact of such toxins; and they also led more studies on ways of the intestinal secretion.

Dr. William Greenough III, in earlier studies, showed the effectiveness of tetracycline in reducing the impact of cholera.

As regards the Prize of Science, it is awarded this year to two co-winners: Dr. Gerd Binning (Germany); and Dr. Heinrich Rohrer (Switzerland) for their prominent research in physics. They invented the Scanning Tunneling Microscope (STM) as a sophisticated imaging device to study surfaces of matter.

Your Majesty,
Your Royal Highness the Second Deputy Premier,
Your Highnesses,
Your Excellencies,
Dear Audience,

I wish also to announce that the Selection Committees of King Faisal International Prizes decided that topics of next year would be as follows:

- (1) The prize of Islamic Studies would be on "Research addressing Islamic creed, as either original study or editing";
- (2) The prize for Arabic Literature would be dedicated to, "Studies on ancient criticism of Arabs either in terms of history, figures, issues or books".
- (3) The Prize for Medicine would be dedicated to, "viral hepatitis".
- (4) The Prize for Science would be awarded on the topic of "Biochemistry"

I wish to conclude by gratefully appreciating Your Majesty's patronage of this event. Likewise, I wish to thank all those who have cooperated towards achievement of our objectives in terms of nominations, selection or refereeing.

Thank you.