

Address by  
Dr. Ahmed M. Al-Dhubaib,  
Secretary General, King Faisal International Prize  
The Third Ceremony, Sunday, 08 March 1987

In the Name of Allah the Most Merciful

Your Royal Highness Crown Prince,  
Your Highness Deputy Premier and President of the National Guards,  
Your Highnesses,  
Your Excellences,  
Distinguished Guest,

Allow me Your Highness to introduce to you winners of the King Faisal International Prizes for this year.

The Prize for Service of Islam is awarded this year to Sheikh Abu Bakr Mahmoud Gumi, a prominent Islamic figure in Nigeria. Born in 1932, he studied Sharia'a and Arabic Language. He became assistant to the renowned Nigerian leader, Ahmadu Bello. The two men formed the Organization for Support of Islam, which played a significant role in fighting ignorance and superstitions and in promulgating Islamic values among Nigerian Muslims. He wrote two books explaining Islamic creed and refuting heresy beside his book 'Contemporary Economics' in which he explained ways of dealing with Banks. He also translated the Quran into the Hausa language.

The Prize for Medicine, on Prevention of Blindness, is awarded to Professor Barrie Russell Jones, born in New Zealand 1921 and moved to Britain 1951. He worked for 17 years as Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology at the Eye Hospital in London before relinquishing the chair to set up a new Department of Preventive Ophthalmology. He devoted his entire professional life to studying the etiology, transmission, pathogenesis and treatment of eye diseases and infections. He made seminal contributions to the diagnosis, therapy and prevention of viral and Chlamydia eye diseases. He developed novel chemotherapeutic measures and surgical procedures to prevent blindness and trachoma. He collaborated densely with the WHO and charity organizations working mainly in fighting against River Blindness common in Sudan and other African countries.

The Prize for Science, allocated this year for Mathematics, is awarded to Professor Sir Michael Ateya (UK), born 1929 in London. A graduate of Cambridge, he became the Savillian Professor (Chair Person) of Geometry and Fellow of St. Catherine's College of Oxford University. He was visiting Professor of Harvard, Yale, Chicago and other leading universities. He was awarded the title 'Sir' in 1983. His famous contributions to Mathematics included the development of the K-Theory (shared with Herzebruch), a versatile topologic technique that led to the solution of many hitherto insolvable mathematical problems.

The prizes for Islamic Studies on the topic of International Relations in Islam, and for Arabic Literature on the topic of Modern Arabic Literary Prose are withheld this year as none of the nominated works met the required criteria.

The Selection Committees decided that topics of the prizes for next year (1988) will be:

- 1- Islamic Studies: Studies on Islamic Education
- 2- Arabic Literature: Arabic Literature in Andalusia
- 3- Medicine: Leukemia
- 4- Science: Biology

The Secretariat General of King Faisal International Prize would like to thank the Custodian of the Holy Mosques for kindly fostering this event, and would also like to thank the attendants and all those who cooperated with us.

Thank You.