

Announcement

The Secretariat General of King Faisal International Prize

Deliberations of the Selection Committees of

King Faisal International Prize for 1985

(15-20 December 1984)

The Selection Committees of the 1985 King Faisal International Prize, in its five branches: Service to Islam; Islamic Studies; Arabic Literature; Medicine; and Science, convened a series of meetings during the period 15-20 December 1984 and reached the following decisions:

First:	<p>The Selection Committee of the 1985 King Faisal International Prize for Service to Islam has decided to award the Prize to:</p> <p>Professor Abd Rab Al-Rasoul Saiaf (Afghanistan), Professor of <i>Hadith</i> (Prophet Mohammad's sayings) at Kabul University and Chairman of the Islamic Union for the Libration of Afghanistan.</p> <p>Saiaf founded the first Afghan Islamic movement and strove - through his lectures, publications and preaching activities - to unite Afghan Muslims around the principles of Islam. He was one of the leaders of resistance against the 1973 communist coup in his country and was jailed for several years before fleeing to Peshawer in Pakistan where he played a leading role in the struggle against communists which resulted in their expulsion from his country.</p>
Second:	<p>The Selection Committee of the 1985 King Faisal International Prize for Islamic Studies (Studies and Editions on the Islamic Doctrine) has decided to award the Prize jointly to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Professor Farouk A. Al-Desouki (Egypt);2. Professor Mohammad R. Salim (Saudi Arabia); and3. Professor Mustafa M. Hilmi Suliman (Egypt) <p>Professor Al-Desouki is recognized for his significant contributions to the study of the Islamic doctrine. He has authored several papers and books in this field, including his well-known 3-volumed book on Destiny in Islam, for which he is awarded the Prize. The book reflects Al-Desouki's articulation of the subject and his ability to convey his views in a clear, convincing and documented manner.</p> <p>Professor Salem is recognized for his 11-volumed edition of <i>Ibn Taimiyya's Dara' Ta'rudil Aql ma'an Naql</i> (Avoiding Clash between thought and tradition), which is part of a large project on the heritage of the renowned Islamic scholar, Ibn Taimiyya.</p> <p>Professor Suliman is recognized for his rigorous studies on the Islamic Doctrine, particularly his books dealing with fundamentalism between the Islamic faith and western thought, Sufism and principles of Fundamentalism in Islamic thought.</p>

	The Committee selected the following topic for the 1986 Prize: "Studies Dealing with Islamic History."
Third:	<p>The Selection Committee of the 1985 King Faisal International Prize for Arabic Literature (Studies on Ancient Arabic Literary Criticism) has decided to withhold the Prize due to lack of sufficient merit of the nominated works, despite efforts exerted in them.</p> <p>The Committee selected the following topic for the 1986 Prize: "Studies on Arabic Literature during the 5th and 6th Centuries A.H."</p>
Fourth:	<p>The Selection Committee of the 1985 King Faisal International Prize for Medicine (Viral Hepatitis) has decided to award the Prize jointly to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Professor Mario Rizzetto (Italy), and - Professor R. Palmer Beasley (USA) <p>Professor Rizzetto is recognized for his discovery of the delta antigen (currently known as HDV) and elucidation of its role in fulminant and chronic hepatitis. He has shown that HDV is a nuclear antigen in patients infected with HBV, and emphasized its impact on viral hepatology and other viral infections. Professor Rizzetto's studies have been instrumental in the search for an effective vaccine against this dangerous virus.</p> <p>Professor Beasley's studies have led to two key discoveries: the first is that infection with viral hepatitis can be transmitted from pregnant women to the fetus and that 90% of all infections originated from pregnant mothers. Professor Beasley and his co-workers stressed that inoculating babies of infected mother with immunoglobulins at birth significantly reduces infection. The second is that around 40% of those infected with Hepatitis B virus could be prone to primary liver cancer, thus stressing the urgency and benefits of preventing Hepatitis B in order to save human lives.</p> <p>The Committee selected the following topic for the 1986 Prize: "Diabetes Mellitus."</p>
Fifth:	The Selection Committee of the 1985 King Faisal International Prize for Science for 1985 Prize has decided to withhold the Prize due to insufficient merit of the nominated works, despite efforts exerted in them.