



King Faisal
INTERNATIONAL PRIZE

Press Release

THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE 2017 KING FAISAL INTERNATIONAL PRIZE WINNERS

Riyadh, 10 January 2017, HRH Prince Khalid Al-Faisal, Executive President of King Faisal Foundation, tonight announced the winners of the King Faisal International Prize.

First: King Faisal International Prize for The Service to Islam

The King Faisal International Prize for The Service to Islam 2017 has been awarded to:



The Custodian of The Two Holy Mosques
King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud



King of Saudi Arabia



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In recognition of his outstanding services to Islam and Muslims, namely:

- Unflinching commitment to serving the two Holy Mosques and their visitors/pilgrims.
- Allegiance to the Prophet's Sira (i.e. Life of Prophet Mohammed), sponsorship and support of the Historic Atlas of the Prophet's Sira and its implementation by King Abdulaziz Dara (Foundation for Research and Archives), and founding of King Abdulaziz Complex for Endowment Libraries in Al-Madinah Al-Munawwarah for preserving Arabic and Islamic heritage.
- Dedicated endeavors to unite Arabs and Muslims in the face of daunting challenges currently unfolding in the Arabic and Muslim worlds, including the formation of a Riyadh-based Islamic military alliance to combat terrorism.
- Upholding throughout the decades unwavering Arabic and Islamic stance in support of the Palestinian issue by providing political, moral and humanitarian support to the Palestinians.
- Chairmanship and personal supervision of a number of popular committees and humanitarian societies for the relief of destitute people in several Arab and Muslim countries.
- Establishment of, and generous support for, the King Salman Center for Relief and Humanitarian Aids for the provision of aid to needy Arab and Islamic countries.



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Second: King Faisal International Prize for Islamic Studies

The King Faisal International Prize for Islamic Studies for this year 2017 Topic: (Muslim Political Thought up to the 9th CenturyH/15 Century G) has been awarded to:



Professor Ridwan Al-Sayyid



Lebanon

Professor, University of Lebanon



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In recognition of his overall specialized publications that enriched the Arabic Library as well as his distinguished contribution to the Prize's topic namely:

- The contributions in his researches and studies of broad and through knowledge of the Arabic Islamic jurisprudential and political heritage with full acquaintance with modern research methodology.
- Characterization of his academic research by precise scientific methodology.
- Successful integration of original Islamic political thought and current Arabic Islamic reality.
- Multiplicity of his studies on Muslim political thought, including issues of governance, authority, state, society and nation as related to historic Islamic reality.



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Third: King Faisal International Prize for Arabic Language and Literature

The King Faisal International Prize for Arabic Language and Literature for this year 2017, Topic: (Efforts of individuals and institutions to Arabicize science and technology for transfer, research and educational purposes) been awarded to:



Arabic Language Academy of Jordan



Jordan



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The Committee's unanimously decided to award this year Prize's to the Arabic Language Academy of Jordan in recognition of its distinguished efforts in the transfer of science and technology through translation, Arabization of technical terms, and publication of specialized glossaries and its relentless efforts to make Arabic the language of instruction, an objective sought by various scientific institutions throughout the Arab World

The Academy entrusted the task of translation to highly qualified specialists known for their mastery of both English and Arabic, thus ensuring the highest quality for its project.



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Fourth: King Faisal International Prize for Medicine

The King Faisal International Prize for Medicine for this year 2017, Topic: (Biologic Therapeutics In Autoimmune Diseases), has been awarded to:



Professor Tadimitsu Kishimoto



Japan

Professor, immunology Frontier
Research Center, Osaka
University and Emeritus
professor, Osaka University,
Japan



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In recognition of his prominent role in developing a novel biologic therapy for autoimmune diseases.

Professor Kishimoto, through his work for more than 30 years, is responsible for discovering interleukin-6 (IL-6), its receptor and signaling pathways. He established the physiological function of the interleukin-6 (IL-6) pathway and its role in inflammatory/autoimmune diseases.

Subsequently, he developed an interleukin-6 (IL-6) receptor-blocking antibody into a biological therapy, leading the clinical development of this therapy towards first approval for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis.



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Fifth: King Faisal International Prize for Science

The King Faisal International Prize for Science for this year 2017, Topic: (Physics), has been awarded to:



Professor Laurens Molenkamp



The Netherlands

Professor and Head, MBE Unit,
University of Wurzburg, Germany



Professor Daniel Loss



Switzerland

Professor, Department of Physics,
University of Basel, Director,
Basel Center for Quantum
Computing and Quantum
Coherence, University of Basel,
Switzerland



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Professor Daniel Loss is a pioneer in the theory of spin dynamics and spin coherence in quantum dots showing promise for practical applications in spin quantum computers. The idea is to use the spin rather than the charge of electrons trapped in quantum dots as quantum bits. His work has inspired many important experimental programs. Professor Loss' contributions open the door to powerful spintronic quantum computers with exceptional speed and storage capacity.

Professor Laurens Molenkamp has significantly contributed to the experimental field of spintronics. His work includes groundbreaking methods for creating and manipulating spin- polarized charge-carrier states in semiconductors, with the potential to develop magnetic storage devices. Professor Molenkamp has experimentally confirmed the quantum spin-Hall effect, which firms up the field of topological insulators, a novel form of quantum matter.



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