PRESS RELEASE
WINNERS ANNOUNCED
1996/1416H KING FAISAL INTERNATIONAL PIRZE
FOR
ISLAMIC STUDIES

Topic: The Life of Prophet Muhammad

The Selection Committee of The King Faisal international Prize for Islamic Studies has awarded the 1996 prize to:

Professor Akram Dia'a Ahmed Al-Umari

Professor Al-Umari (Iraqi) was born in Musul, northern Iraq in 1942, graduated from the College of Education, Baghdad University, in 1963 and obtained his PhD in Islamic history from Ain Shams University in Cairo, in 1974. He worked for nearly 20 years as a professor of Islamic University of Al-Madinah, Saudi Arabia. During that period, he chaired the Department of Graduate Studies and the University's Research Council for six years. At present he teaches Islamic history at the College of Shari'a and Law, Qatar University.

Professor Al-Umari has authored several important books dealing with the history and values of Islam in general, and with the life and history of Prophet Muhammad and the Khaliphs, in particular. His works place him among leading contemporary scholars of Islamic history. One of his best known contributions in his two-volume book The Authoritative History of the Prophet Muhammad (as-Sirah as-Sahihah) which contains exhaustive analyses and interpretations of events in the Prophet's life. This thoroughly documented manuscript which has been translated into English and other languages serves as an important source of information for researchers.