Address by Dr. Farouk Ahmed Hassan Desouki
Laureate of King Faisal International Prize for Islamic Studies for 1985
Tuesday, 2 April 1985

In the Name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful,

Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques,
Your Royal Highnesses,
Your Excellences,

Dear All,

It is a blessing to be among the laureates of King Faisal International Prizes as a winner on the topic of Islamic Creed. This is undoubtedly an important intellectual field which is presently under the suspicion and attacks of the enemies of Islam. Such fact warrants that Muslim thinkers, scholars and researchers should address all antagonist currents and explicate their fallacies and refute their misconceptions.

The Islamic Nations started to aspire to re-introduce Islamic Sharia in their homelands. For this reason, hope is great that a new dawn of Islam is imminent, a dawn in which humanity would overcome the so-called, “Corruption has appeared in the land and the sea on account of what the hands of men have wrought” exactly as humanity was once happy when their ancestors salvaged them of such corruption.

Saudi Arabia has been, and will remain to be, a leading example in applying Islamic Sharia and adopting basics of civilization and developmental growth to be a live evidence for synchronization between Islam and the means of progress in human lives. This is already apparent in Saudi Arabia as in a short period it has achieved a paradigm shift in all aspects of life.

This progress in aspects of civilization and development during the last ten years, a short period in the scale of Nations and societies, is a testimony of the sincerity of leaders of Saudi Arabia and their commitment towards their people. This also is a testimony of the validity of Islamic Sharia to accommodate all aspects of development and civilization realized by humanity on Earth. In reality, genuine Islam invites its adherents to adopt all means of civilization progress and development growth. This also testifies to the comprehensiveness and flexibility of the Islamic jurisprudence, a matter that enabled the Saudi social structure to embrace this advancement without any intellectual barriers, psychological impediments or administrative complications.

Indeed, King Faisal International Prize, in its various branches, contributes substantially to bring about the new dawn. In addition to being an International Islamic phenomenon, the Prize is imbued with meanings of appreciation, guidance and encouragement. This incentivizes researchers to direct their efforts to benefit Muslims and humanity at large.

I would like finally to express thanks to the officials at King Faisal Foundation, hoping that they realize their aspirations in terms of the historical wishes of the Islamic nations. And I wish to thank the Secretariat General of King Faisal International Prize, and all concerned institutions, in nominating me for this prize.

Thank you all.