Press Release
The King Faisal International Prize for Arabic Literature for 1983

**Riyadh, 12 Jan. 1983:** The Selection Committee of the 1983 King Faisal International Prize for Arabic Literature on the topic of studies on Arabic literature in the second and third Hijra Centuries announced today that it awarded Dr. Ahmed Shawqi Daif for his outstanding publications:

- History of Arabic Literature in the First Abbasid Era; and
- History of Arabic Literature in the Second Abbasid Era.

In addition, the laureate has other seminal studies on ancient and modern Arabic literary history, in the eastern or the western Arab world, on Quranic studies, grammar and rhetoric, which provided deep insight into Arabic literary studies. These studies spanned the fields of authoring and editing manuscripts. Dr. Daif's studies are characterized by:

- A comprehensive view towards Arabic literature, both prose and verse, along various ages, across genres and origins.
- Clarity of style, rigorous methodology and tapping at certain literary phenomena as well as attempts to link these studies to their intellectual, cultural and social roots.
- Directing literary studies and opening horizons for new topics for the benefit of a whole generation of scholars, whose research represents a significant service to Arabic literature from various aspects.

Dr. Daif’s contributions, spanning over forty years, have profoundly impacted numerous students from different Arab and Islamic countries, who benefited from his tutelage, leadership and belief in Arabic heritage.

Finally, the Selection Committee decided that 1984's prize would be dedicated to the theme of "Studies on Arabic literature in the fourth Hijra Century".