Press Release

The King Faisal International Prize for Service to Islam for 1986

**Riyadh, 17 Dec. 1985:** The Selection Committee of the 1986 King Faisal International Prize for Service to Islam has announced today that it has awarded the Prize jointly to:

1. Mr. Ahmed H. Deedat (South Africa); and
2. Dr. Roger Garaudy (France)

Mr. Deedat is known for his relentless Islamic preaching activities which extended for more than 35 years at the local, regional and international levels. Through his numerous public debates, Mr. Deedat has staged reasoned arguments to counter the opponents of Islam. He participated in many Islamic conferences, delivered countless public lectures and speeches in mass media, and established As-Salam Center to train preachers of Islam and provide them with the necessary tools that ensure the success of their mission. He has also authored numerous publications and pamphlets on Islam, fighting missionary efforts and educating Muslims about their own belief, its principles and teachings.

Dr. Roger Garaudy has been awarded the Prize for the following considerations:

a) Publishing important books that reflect an honest image of Islam, such as “Islam Lives in Our Future”, and “Promises of Islam” in which he elaborates the position of Islam, its validity, fundamentals and values, and its capability to secure a dignified life for mankind at all times.

b) Defending Palestine and Palestinians in his lectures, press articles and books and disclosing Zionist policies. This is particularly evident in his book, “The Palestinian Issue”.

c) Contributing to many international conferences in which he strikes a balance between civilizations and the Islamic principles and fundamentals. He demonstrated that adhering to these Islamic principles would certainly redeem man from current worries threatening the world.