

TRANSLATION

Speech of Shaikh
Sayyid Abul Ala'a Al-Mowdoodi

Winner of King Faisal International Prize
For Service to Islam 1979/1399H.
Wednesday 28.2.1979 (2.4.1399A.H.)

Presented by his son
Hussein F. Mowdoodi

In the Name of Allah, the Merciful, the Compassionate

Praise is to Allah the only God, praise be to the Almighty God, the Lord of heavens and earth and everything existent in them, who says in his Holy Book: (Let there arise of you a group of people inviting to all that is good enjoying AL-Ma'ruf and forbidding Al-Munkar. And it is they who are the successful). Prayers and peace be upon Muhammad the best of all human beings and the most honourable messenger, the Master of all guiders and reformers, and upon the members of His family and His good, blessed Companions and upon all those who followed their example until the end of the world.

Your Majesty King Khalid Ibn Abd Al-Aziz
Your Royal Highness Prince Khalid AL-Faisal,
Chairman of the King Faisal International Prize Board
Your Excellencies, the members of the reverend committee
Your Eminences, my good brothers

I greet you with —Islam greetings, May peace, merry and blessings of God be upon you.

I would have been very delighted to attend by myself this pleasant event, but my severe illness forced me to delegate my close colleague, his eminence Sheikh Cahill Ahmad AL-Hamada, to head some of my sons on behalf of me to attend this good event. I ask Allah to always bestow upon

him goodness and success, and to convey my best regards and earnest longings to His Majesty and the group of my brothers, my colleagues, in propagating call for God's religion.

My good brothers,

I was very impressed when your reverend committee recruitment chooses me to win the King Faisal International Prize for what I did of a modest service to propagate the religion—of truth, strength and freedom with a support and help of God the Almighty. What I did deserves no praise, because it is a part of my duty towards my religion as much as it is the duty of every Muslim, whether he is a man or woman. Each must do it as possible as he can; using all what he was granted—by God of fitness and capabilities. How much the work was great, it looks tiny compared to what we must do to suit the high rank of Islam that we belong to.

I pray to God the Almighty who is the best thanksgiving - to destine to my modest service His acceptance and to make it a medium to save me at the Day of Judgment (When no money or children will be of any avail except those who come to God with a proper, sound heart).

My good brothers,

My many thanks and deep gratitude to the reverend members of the committee who decided to give me this prize. However, this actually indicates how much deep the love of the committee members to God's religion and to those who call for it. I ask God the Almighty to reward—the members of the committee and to all those who took part in nominating me for this prize.

I congratulate, in particular, the sons of the late King Faisal who established this great charitable work, which is the first philanthropic work, as far as I know that has been established in the contemporary Muslim world, actually non— Muslims who are interested in such works.

I ask God the Almighty to reward the sons of the late martyr King and to bestow upon them His forgiveness and satisfaction and His indefinite mercy.

I ask him also to make this benevolent work a strong incentive to develop efforts and Islamic Studies, and an effective circle in the international Islam movement which exerts great efforts to check the destructive principles and the secular systems, and sacrifices a lot to revive Islam and assure its dominance on this globe as a system, civilisation and Shary'a.

In conclusion, I am pleased to pronounce, in front of you, that this prize will be spent for the sake of serving Islam and supporting efforts exerted to apply the Islamic rules in Pakistan.

Best wishes and assalam alaikum.