

TRANSLATION

Speech of Dr.
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Co-Winner of King Faisal International Prize
For Service to Islam 1980/1400H.

Tuesday 12.2.1980 (25.3.1400H.)

In the Name of Allah, the Merciful, the Compassionate

Your Highness, the Crown Prince
Distinguished guests

I may not find the proper words to express my praise and thanks to God the Almighty who destined me the honour of presenting myself in front of this honourable panel, and for this happy day and this good event. And to express my deep thanks to the honourable board for the King Faisal International Prize which granted me, this year, the prize for the Service to Islam jointly with my brother, His eminence, Abu Al-Hasan Al-Nadawi.

As a matter of fact, I did not expect to be honoured to be given this valuable prize, because I am just an ordinary enlisted man of the troops of Islam. All what I did in this field, could not be of my accomplishment alone. It is a collaborative work which many other companions of my brothers who participated with me in objectives, aspirations and joint liability took part in its accomplishment.

Therefore, when I accept this great honour, I accept it coupled with deep thanks on behalf of myself, and on behalf of my colleagues who devoted themselves for the sake of Islam either those who preceded me, or those who are still striving to accomplish the honesty of this exalted message.

So, I accept this honour having been full with feelings of engagement with them, wherever they might be.

We can't but honour the memory of the great leader of the Muslim World, which this prize eternized his great memory. The martyr King Faisal Ibn Abd Al-Aziz is the man who revived ~~the~~ Muslims' solidarity. His loud, faithful call to Muslim solidarity will remain ringing in our ears and the ears of the forthcoming generations. These summons request from all Muslims to overcome their differences and to know well their actual opponents, and to perceive well the ties and relations which made the Muslims one consolidated block as if they were a solid structure. They should do their best to achieve their wishes and their common objectives.

Muslims responded to his summons and achieved a lot of goodness which made his age and later on full of the best memories for his great leadership which is characterized by faithfulness and counseling to Islam and Muslims.

The late AL-Faisal was the third of three great leaders brought up by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, each of them left a deep effect in the renaissance of Muslims after the dark ages which prevailed in the Arab peninsula during the last centuries.

The first one is the reformer, Shaikh Muhammed Abd Al-Wahhab who summoned for the revival of the example of the devoted predecessors in their pure original doctrine and who repulsed the stains that affected Muslims in their last days, and those who took his example such as Jamal Al-Deen AL-Afghani, Shaikh Muhammad Abdou, Rasheed Ali Riza and Muhammad Iqbal. Therefore, the Islamic renaissance, which revived the Islam spirit, was founded.

Then, the late King Abd Al-Aziz ~~who~~ summoned Muslims to gather at a meeting for the Muslim world in 1346H., after abrogating the Ottoman Islamic Caliphate in 1344H. The late King Abd AL-Aziz, at this meeting, created an instrument to gather the Muslims. All the international Muslim meetings came after that meeting, so the Muslim's political entity came back, especially after the second world war.

Then, the late King Faisal ~~who~~ revived ~~the~~ Muslims' solidarity, and established the bases of the organisation of the Muslim Countries Conference in 1969, forming the notion of ~~the~~ Muslims' solidarity.

These three people, brought up in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia during ages and periods of the start movement of the great Muslim World, left their influence on us and devoted themselves to serve Islam.

Some passed away, and some are still doing faithfully among us, "Among the believers are men who have been true to their covenant with Allah and showed not their backs to the disbelievers of them some have fulfilled their obligations and some of them are still waiting but they have never changed in the least" God says in His Holy Book, the Qura'n.

Hence, comes our trust in His Majesty King Khal'id Ibn Abd Al-Aziz and his loyal Crown Prince, His Royal Highness Prince Fahd Ibn Abd Al-Aziz to go on this course.

In the light of this we face what should be faced after the independence of our countries. Our goal is not only ~~the~~ political independence, but ~~to go~~ backreturning faithfully to God and to Islam in form, subject, behavior and commitment. We, in front of these challenges, will never weaken, because those who raise these challenges move confusedly in darkness. These challenges should motivate us to present to them the light and the illumination which God granted to us; it is the light of Islam.

Let's come for work, "you do deeds, God and His messenger will see your deeds", God says in His Holy Book, the Quran. And let our guidelines be what God the Almighty says, "As for those strive hard in us (our cause), we will surely guide them to our paths and verily, Allah is with Muhsinun (good drivers)".

Thank you.