

Speech of Professor Farouk A. Al-Desouki
Winner of King Faisal International Prize for Islamic Studies
For the Year 1405 – 1985
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In the Name of God, Most gracious, Most Merciful,

Thanks to God, and peace and blessing be upon the Prophet Mohammad,

the last of the prophets, and upon his companions and descendants, and those who follow him to the day of Judgement.

Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques,
Your Royal Highness the Princes,
Your Excellencies,

Assalamu Alaykom wa Rahmatu Ilahi Wa Barakato

It is a blessing from God for me to be one of the winners of King Faisal International Prize for Islamic Studies, in the subject of Islamic doctrine(Aqidah)-which is one of the most important intellectual fields that is targeted and attacked by enemies of Islam through suspicion.

Therefore, it is compulsory for Muslim thinkers, scholars, and scientists to confront the intellectual movements that oppose Islam to show their falseness and refute their suspicions.

The Islamic nations look forward to return the Shar'ia of God Almighty in their countries, by which there is a great hope of a new emergence of Islam in the world, by which humanity will get rid of corruption in land and sea, which people acquired by their hands, as humanity was happy before when our predecessors got rid of this corruption.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is, and will remain, a pioneering example in applying Islamic Shari'a, and –at the same time- to strive for excellence in civilization and advancement, for it became a witness and a proof for the agreeability of Islam with living means on earth----when the Kingdom established in a few years this magnificent transformation in civilization in many aspects of life.

This civil advancement and constructional progress that happened in the last ten years-which is a short time in the age of nations and societies-proves the faithfulness and honesty of the authorities in this generous country towards their people and their extreme concern for their benefit. It is also a proof of the validity of Islamic Shar'ia, and its full accommodation of construction and civility styles, that humanity has reached until now, and what it will reach after that till the day of judgement.

The honest doctrine that the prophet peace be upon him and his ascendants have followed require from us to strive for civil advancement and constructional development.

It also proves that Islamic Jurisprudence is comprehensive and flexible, which enabled Saudi society that is based on Tawheed to accommodate this advancement without hindrances, psychological frustration, or administrative complexities.

In spite of all this, The kingdom still has a high degree of security and safety among countries around the world, in spite of the various nationalities and religions it has who reside in it. Moreover, this is a proof of the validity of Islamic Shar'ia and its fruitful achievement that we aspire to in every society and every age.

No doubt that the appearance of Muslim societies who return to God in

their governance require from Muslim scholars to exert strong efforts and scientific efforts, night and day to get rid of principles that oppose our Islamic principles in our Institutions universities, and schools.

This cannot be achieved without restructuring the social, psychological, and educational sciences, and the historical and economic sciences, so that they start from the principles of the Islamic faith, and to strive for the goals that Shari'a specifies.

Western Humanistic sciences that exist today in Islamic universities around the world form the head of the process of intellectual invasion and westernization directed against the hearts and minds of Muslims. We hope that the universities of the Kingdom –in their prosperous age- and in the centers of research- will give sufficient care to this important and vital subject in the history of the modern Islamic Umma.

King Faisal International Prize, with its numerous branches, contributes in returning the dawn of new Islam. Moreover, in addition to its being an Islamic International phenomena, it has high esteem and encouragement, which drives scientists and scholars to put their efforts for the benefit of Muslims and humanity.

It is no doubt that the presence of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Fahed bin Abd Al-Aziz in this blessed festivity is a great honor for scientists and scholars in an international Eid, and that requires from us thanks and gratitude.

I would also like to thank those who work for King Faisal Foundation, and I wish God will help us achieve the goals of the Muslim Umma that King Faisal, God bless his soul, strove for.

I would also like to thank the committee of the King Faisal Prize and all the committees that nominated me for the prize.

Wassa lamu Alaykom wa rahmatu llahi wa barakato