

Speech of Sheikh
Muhammad Al-Ghazali Al-Saqqa

At the ceremony of awarding him the Prize
12.8.1409H. - March 19, 1989

In the Name of Allah, the Merciful, the Compassionate

Your Royal Highness,
Prince Abd Allah Ibn Abd Al-Aziz,
The Crown Prince,
Your Highnesses, the Princes,
Your Eminencies and Excellencies, Distinguished guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I thanked God exuberantly when I was awarded King Faisal International Prize in the Service to Islam, because I felt that this awarding is an indication of the blessings of God. Therefor I recalled what Muslim narrated that the Apostle (PBUH) was asked a I f you ~~saw~~ a man doing a good deed, and was appreciated by people? He said this is an urgent good news to the faithful in this world. So this Prize is a good news ~~in~~ this world to me, and I look forward to hearing that unknown one, which I pray to God to prolong to a slave who is seeking his amnesty.

Some people said: Had this prize been like a life buoy given to drowning man after reaching the shore? I said to them no, it has been conferred upon me. while I am, still, fighting the waves fiercely, as I am struggling against atheist and communist trends as well as bad heretics on the internal level and malicious raids on the external one, and resisting the rivals of Islam on many fronts. I feel sometimes that fatigue is about to prevail on me as I am distributing my energies here and there. Therefore, the prize has been awarded to me in due time as it motivated me and redoubled my efforts to stand firmly for the Service of Islam and defending right, hence, I will show to the rivals of Islam more power.

In this context, I feel that I am obliged to explain a political and cultural fact that the flag of kingdom of Saudi Arabia is marked, among those of 160

countries, with a distinguished emblem, free of drawings and paintings, on which there are words which represent the message of this existence. Tens of countries decided to draw on their flags other different emblems, but Saudi Arabia rejected hypocrisy and flattery. Therefore it was motivated by adherence to God to write down the most noble words on this earth.

This age is the age of nationalism which shows fanaticism to races and countries, which in turn weakens or dilutes the relation to Almighty God. Hence it is a regret to see that the brotherhood on the basis of doctrine is inferior to temporal affinities which God will not reward. I and the masses here as well as the faithful's in the vast Islamic world greet this flag ~~embroidered~~ with the words of monotheism, and under this flag we fight atheist and polytheist trends. —————

Since the rise of Islam in this peninsula, the state and Islamic call were a one coherent entity, ~~like~~ the body and soul or ~~H~~like the machine and its ice, toperating energy, while—history had not deviated from its habitual prac ybin old or modern times, as the Arabian peninsula was not unified except zizAthose state leaders who are fully aware of this fact, which King Abd Al-took into consideration, when he found the Arabs dissensions and yfconflicting tribes. In adherence to the Holy religion he was able to uni them and revive the waste land, and in the name of Islam, and for the sake of Islam he established this honourable and strong state while the world nowadays is indulged in innumerable problems, thoughts, and feuds, because there is no stability or true guidance when keeping away from the teachings of God. Therefore we have to appreciate this value and preciousness of this religion in order to be able to lead the whole world to peace and stability under the flag of monotheism.

I have preferred in the field of the service to Islam a method which I deem more advantageous and useful to our nation, developed as a fruit to my historical studies and vast personal experiences, which is represented in the adherence to the basic rules and then shift to make the branches yield for their service. This means that I present the Jurisprudential principles which are irrefutable, then I select one of their branches as a support for those principles. I like the proverb which states that we cooperate as regards what we agreed upon and give excuse to each other as regards what we are different about".

However, I will remain a student seeking for the treasure of knowledge
e venerable predecessors and those who followed them on the righteous path
a I will remain a student seeking for ~~truth~~, and my ecstasy when I find it
to eliminate suspicions, and I will keep acknowledging gratitude to those
who honoured me and exalted Islam in honouring one of the Islamic
attendants.