

Speech of  
**Prof. Shaker M.K. Al-Fahham**

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

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

Thanks to God, He who deserves all praise. Prayers and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad, the Messenger of God and the best of His Creation.  
Eminent respect dictated them.

I am extremely delighted to assembly, overwhelmed with feeling of deference, respect and admiration, along with by this great occasion which stand here before this feelings of deference, exuberant meanings in mind I just mention four of them.

First, this eminent position for science and scientists in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, which all men in charge, on the top of whom is the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Fahd Ibn Abd Al-Aziz, pay all due care and attention.

As for the second indication which is manifested by this superb civilizing edifice which the King Faisal International Prize had laid its foundations and exalted its minarets, an achievement which opened up a bright chapter in the record of our scientific and cultural march.

This prestigious prize has honoured science and thought, and exalted their standing in recognition of their formidable roles in the development, progress and prosperity of nations.

In such a work it has become a competition to the most advanced nations which are captivated and competitive in the field of honouring creative persons and encouraging scientists.

It revived a habitual practice which was established in the golden ages of the Arabic-Islamic civilisation represented in honouring of science and scientists, bestowed upon them by Caliphs, Emirs, and Walis to induce endeavors, to whet unflinching zeal, to recognize merits, and to speak in glowing terms of talents and strenuous endeavors.

Moreover King Faisal Prize, as an international prize, has set a good example by virtue of its civilised humanitarian manifestations for calling upon scientists, men-of-letters and thought in the whole world regardless of their races or countries, to contributing to progress so the benefits of the coming civilisation will prevail all mankind.

It is a must to stop for a while to invoke the blessings of God upon the martyred King Faisal Ibn Abd Al-Aziz who dedicated his life for the Service of Islam and Arabism, hence the prize, as bearing his name,

indicates one of his remaining noble deeds.

The third meaning represented in the comprehensibility of the prize, as its encouragement and honouring are not confined to one aspect of knowledge, but it has expanded to cover all fields of scientific and cultural activities for pure and applied sciences have independent distinction as well as the human sciences have their own.

This balanced comprehensive outlook springs out of a genuine concept highlighting the unity and integration of the human heritage, and that the influence of the intellectual cultural and literary prosperity in the field of a Nation's progress and integration is equivalent to the advancement of sciences and technology, as they are both looked upon as the two wings of progress and development, because no advancement is made unless both of them are existing together.

The fourth meaning is represented in impartiality which marked the judgments of the prize, for the referees seek fidelity and right as they voluntarily confined themselves to regulations in their work, doing their utmost, to accomplish their ends in order to originate the rules of objectivity in their awards and have in mind to be absolutely fair and just. As result of this, the prize has acquired such good reputation which enhanced its importance , and made eminent men of letters and sciences look forward to it in recognition of its noble and distinguished nature and prospective.

Therefore I extend commendation to the referees for the good works they have done to keep the prize as an anchor of hopes for those who deserve, on an equal footing with the concepts of those who had initiated.

Finally I would like to conclude by extending my deep and sincere thanks to King Faisal Foundation represented by its leading personalities and all those in charge who initiated the prize in respect to the right of science and thought, who added to this noble deed new similar projects. We pray that their fruits will be redoubled. May Almighty God reward them with the best award for what they have done, and still doing, of good deeds.