

Speech of his Excellency Dr.Hamed Al-Ghabid
Secretary General of the Islamic conference Organization
Winner of King Faisal International Prize for the Service
Islam for the year 1412/1992
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Thanks to God who guided us, without whom we wouldn't have been guided, and peace be upon the prophet Mohammad, the most noble of human beings, and peace be upon his family and companions and those who followed them to the day of judgement

Your Royal Highness Crown Prince Abdallah bin Abd Al-Aziz Al-Saud, prime minister deputy and president of the the national Guard,

Your Royal Highness the princes,

Your Excellencies,

This ceremony in which we gather today has become through the years one of the most important events and landmarks that distinguish this country, and the Islamic world. Moreover, the attendance of his Royal Highness the Prince as a representative of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques has bestowed a special presence on this happy event.

I would like, on this occasion, to thank his Royal Highness Prince Abdallah for honoring his ceremony by his presence and his sponsorship for King Faisal Foundation that has never stopped from doing glorious deeds , which are embodied in this strong encouragement for all those who work to raise

the word of Islam and raise the esteem of Muslims and advance humanity in general, in their faith in God and sacrifice for the sake of faith and the brightness of their mind and vision.

I would like in this occasion to give my sincere thanks to his Royal Highness Prince Abdallah bin Abd Al-Aziz, crown prince and prime minister deputy and president of the national Guard for his constant support for noble Islamic affairs and his concern for the Islamic conference Organization.

We know, your Highness, the devotion of leaders in the kingdom for Islam, and their commitment in protecting Islamic affairs. The marks of advancement that the kingdom of Saudi Arabia has accomplished under the wise leadership of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Fahed bin Abd Al-Aziz Al –Saud is a perfect testimony to that devotion and commitment . The leaders of this country have achieved incomparable success in their leadership of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia with their wisdom and pertinence, and they opened for their people ways of prosperity and horizons of development, without intruding in their strong faith in the noble values of our religion. I would like in this occasion, to congratulate the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques on the tenth anniversary of his ascension to the throne as king of Saudi Arabia.

These ten years of prosperous leadership have been crowned by publishing systematic texts inspired from our religion, which organize political and public life in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. This historical work will no doubt be the beginning of a new era of the development of your country and the advancement of your people on the road of prosperity and immunity.

You have achieved this due to the prudence of the leaders in Saudi Arabia in leading their prominent role in the common service of Islam for the sake of glory of Islam and Muslims, in allegiance to the noble principles that His Majesty King Abd Al-Aziz, founder of the country, may God rest his soul in peace, established sixty years ago.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has proved its attachment to all that which ensures The prosperity of Islam and its noble values by establishing this International Prize as a tribute to the memory of King Faisal may God rest his soul in peace, and its commitment to the prosperity of the Islamic nations.

The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques has done glorious deeds in his leadership of Saudi Arabia in the service of Islam and Muslims, and this is a source of incessant aid which inspires us in facilitating tasks in the Islamic conference Organization.

The great Honor that the committee of the King Faisal International Prize had given us for the service of Islam is an encouragement for us to fulfill our duties. Moreover, this honor represents a badge of honor for the pioneer role that the Islamic conference Organization is taking to unite Muslims and consolidate Islamic solidarity and achieve the ambitions of Muslims and defend Muslim issues.

The member states in the Islamic Conference Organization have contributed in their efforts throughout the past twenty years in an atmosphere of solidarity and brotherhood, to develop a multifarious common Islamic work and defend Islam and its values. Moreover, they worked for the economic and social development and participated in placing an international system based on justice, law, and peace. And despite all what has been achieved from success in this field, these efforts didn't always find the required scale. The city of Jerusalem and Palestine are still under occupation, and Islam and Muslims are still exposed to severity and misunderstanding. The courageous people of Afghanistan are still continuing their struggle to retain their independence and preserve their Islamic identity. Moreover, the continuous support of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the Afghani fighters has contributed in strengthening their resistance throughout the previous years. Somalia is still ragged, for many factions are still fighting, and the kingdom's insistence on continuing the search for a solution for the Somali tragedy through negotiation has

encouraged us. Moreover, poverty, need, ignorance, And sickness have prevailed over the life of millions of Muslims around the world and especially Africa and Asia. That means our struggle has not ended yet.

In order for our Umma to be able to face these challenges and maintain its identity and defend its rights, and achieve what it aims for from advancement and prosperity and to have an effective role in the world, it has to knock the doors of the next century with persistence determination. There are many difficulties and challenges in the deep changes going around the world for our people whose social, political, and economic skeleton is weak and threatened by destruction and explosion.

The Situation of Muslim minorities around the world is in need of enormous care from the Islamic Umma. In this context, I would like to thank the Custodian of the the Two Holy Mosques for his generous initiative in calling for the first international conference for Muslim minorities which will be held in Saudi Arabia.

The Islamic Conference Organization was established to be a crucible for the hopes of the Islamic nations, and a center in which common efforts gather to achieve what it aims at from freedom, peace, and advancement. Therefore, what we have achieved of excellence today will be Inshaalla an incentive for us to continue our efforts for activating the Islamic Conference Organization, and to give its work more benefit and effectiveness.

I have the honor today to thank the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Fahed bin Abd Al Aziz Al-Saud for his care for our efforts and work, and I also wish to thank Crown Prince Abdallah bin Abd Al Aziz ,deputy prime minister and president of the national Guard, and the government of Saudi Arabia and its people.

The leaders of this country have never failed in giving service for Islam and Muslims and they always fulfilled their promises.

God almighty said in the Holy Quran: "God has promised those of you who have attained to faith and do righteous deeds that, of a certainty, He will cause them to accede to power on earth, even as He caused [some of] those who lived before them to accede to it; and that, of a certainty, He will firmly establish for them the religion which He has been pleased to bestow on them; and that, of a certainty, He will cause their erstwhile state of fear to be replaced by a sense of security-[seeing that]they worship Me [alone], not ascribing divine powers to aught beside Me. But all who [having understood] this, choose to deny the truth-it is they, they who are truly iniquitous."