

Presentation of the
2003 King Faisal International Prize Winners

By

**Professor
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In the name of Allah

Praise be to Allah and peace and prayers be upon the Prophet Mohammad and all his family, Companions, and all his followers until the day of judgement

Your Royal Highness, Prince Sultan ibn Abd Al-Aziz
Second Deputy Premier, Minister of Defense and Aviation
and Inspector General
Your Royal Highnesses
Your Excellencies
Brothers and Sisters

Assalam Alaikum,

It gives me great pleasure to present the winners of the 2003 King Faisal International Prize for Service to Islam, Islamic Studies, Medicine, and Science.

The King Faisal International Prize for Service to Islam has been awarded to Sultan bin Abd Al-Aziz Al-Saud Foundation, which was nominated by King Khalid University, Abha, Saudi Arabia; and World Assembly of Muslim Youth, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. It has been awarded the prize in recognition of its outstanding humanitarian achievements including the provision of social services and health care for the elderly and comprehensive rehabilitation programs for the disabled, in addition to several other ambitious housing, educational and medical programs.

The King Faisal International Prize for Islamic Studies (History of Islamic Economics) has been awarded jointly to Professor Izz El-Din Omar Mousa of Sudan and Professor Ibrahim Abu Bakr Harakat of Morocco.

Professor Mousa is a professor of Islamic history at the college of Arts, King Saud University. He was nominated for the Prize by Faculty of Arts and Human Science, Muhammad V University in Rabat; King Saud University; University Lumiere, Lyon 2, France; French Culture Institute in Madrid and the Inter-national League of Islamic Literature in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. He has been awarded the prize for his authoritative book on the economic activities in the Maghrib in the 6th Century A.H., which is an important resource for researchers interested in economic life in the Maghrib more than 800 years ago.

Professor Harakat is a professor at the College of Arts at Muhammad V University, Rabat, Morocco. He was nominated for the prize by the College of Arts and Humanities, Muhammad V University in Rabat. He has been awarded the prize for his research on Islamic economics between the 1st and 9th centuries A.H. This distinctive work provides a holistic view of Islamic economic history as it reflected on society during that period.

The King Faisal International Prize for Medicine (Breast Cancer) has been awarded jointly to Professor Umberto Veronesi of Italy, and Professor Axel Ullrich of Germany.

Professor Veronesi is the Scientific Director of the European Institute of Oncology in Milan. He was nominated for the prize by the National Academy in Lincei. Professor Veronesi has been awarded the prize in recognition of his pioneering work on breast cancer management, including the development of breast-conserving surgery as an alternative for radical mastectomy for treating certain types of breast cancer, in addition to his major contribution to the sentinel node technique, and research on intra-operative radiotherapy, which could reduce complications and time for multi-modality therapy of this disease.

Professor Ullrich is the Director of the Department of Molecular Biology at the Max-Planck Institute for Biochemistry in Germany. He was nominated by the Max-Planck Institute for Biochemistry. He has been awarded the prize in recognition of his pioneering work on the design of genomic-based target driven drugs. This is best exemplified by his development of Herceptin – a "humanized" monoclonal antibody against the HER-2 gene; this drug is currently used widely in treating breast cancer.

The King Faisal International Prize for Science (Chemistry) has been awarded jointly to Professor M. Frederick Hawthorne of USA and Professor Koji Nakanishi of Japan.

Professor Hawthorne is a University Professor of Chemistry at the University of California. He was nominated for the Prize by University of California. He has been awarded the prize in recognition of his outstanding achievements in the field of boron chemistry, and his major contributions to the development of boron neutron capture therapy of cancer.

Professor Nakanishi is the Centennial Professor of Chemistry at Columbia University. He was nominated for the prize by Columbia University. Professor Nakanishi one of the greatest chemists in the world. His exceptional contributions to chemistry has been recognized world-wide. A major international Prize, the 'Nakanishi Prize' was established jointly in his honor by the American Chemical Society and the Chemical Society of Japan. His auto biography, *CA Wandering Natural Products Chemist*, was published by the American Chemical Society, and a special symposium, the Nakanishi Symposium, was held in his honor at Harvard University. Professor Nakanishi has been awarded the prize in recognition of his outstanding accomplishments that have led to the isolation and structure determination of hundreds of biologically active natural products, in addition to his studies on the interaction of light with rhodopsin, which could lead to the development of a treatment for macular degeneration.

On behalf of the General Secretariat of King Faisal International Prize, I would like to thank His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn Abd Al-Aziz, representative of the Custodian of the Two Holy

Mosques, under whose auspices this ceremony is held, and to all of you for kindly attending the occasion. I would also like to thank everyone who cooperated with the General Secretariat of King Faisal International Prize during the nomination, refereeing, and final selection processes. In particular, I would like to thank His Highness Prince Bandar bin Saud, and every one of the staff of the General Secretariat of the Prize. My special thanks go to my colleagues Ustaz Yusuf Al-Hamdan, Deputy Secretary General of the Prize, Professor Mansour Faris of King Saud University and Mr. Farid Warsi of the Public Relations Department of the King Faisal Foundation for their great efforts in making this occasion a success. The active participation of students from the King Faisal School in organizing this celebration is also gratefully acknowledged.

May Almighty Allah guide and support those engaged in virtuous deeds. May Almighty Allah help our laureates in their endeavors to serve humanity, enrich human knowledge, and reduce human suffering.

Thank you all for accepting our invitation to share this occasion with us.

Best wishes and assalam alaikum.