

Translation

Presentation of the  
2005 King Faisal International Prize Winners

By

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*In the name of Allah, the Merciful, the Compassionate.  
Praise be to Allah, the Sustainer of the Two Worlds, and Peace and Prayers be upon his  
Messenger to mankind, Prophet Mohammad, and all his family and companions.*

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,  
Distinguished Guests.

In this sensational evening to celebrate the presentation of King Faisal International Prize awards to this year's Winners words are inadequate to express thanks to His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Ibn Abd Al-Aziz for sponsoring the celebration nor to you, distinguished guests, for honoring us by your presence and being witness to this glittering intellectual festivity

It is my utmost pleasure to present the 2005 winners in different categories of the King Faisal International Prize.

The King Faisal International Prize for Service to Islam is awarded jointly to His Excellency Dr. Ahmed Muhammad Ali of Saudi Arabia and the Al-Hariri Foundation of Lebanon for their distinguished services to Islam.

Dr. Ahmed Muhammad Ali, currently the President of the Islamic Development Bank, is a self-made individual with an imposing record of dedication and accomplishments throughout his career. Nominated by the Muslim World League, he was awarded the Prize in recognition of his outstanding achievements in the field of Islamic banking. As President of the Islamic Development Bank since its inception thirty years ago, he has led the Bank successfully towards fulfillment of its mission, without compromising the principles of Islamic law. During his tenure, the bank flourished in an unprecedented manner, assuming a momentous role in promoting economic relations between Islamic countries. He has established an ambitious infrastructure within the Bank, including the Islamic Banks Portfolio, Investment Shares, Islamic Investment Institution, Islamic Research and Training Institute, Prize for Islamic

Economics, and many others. In short, he has set a shining example of successful Islamic banking in modern times.

I am pleased to request His Excellency to come forward to receive his Prize and deliver his speech.

Your Royal Highness,  
Distinguished Guests:

[PAUSE]

Indeed! It is Al-Hariri Foundation whose founder, May Allah have mercy upon him, has given much to the disadvantaged over the past 25 years. The Foundation was nominated for the Prize by the *Shari'ah* College of the Islamic University of Beirut and receives the award in recognition of its outstanding accomplishments in Islamic philanthropy. These accomplishments include supporting the education of nearly 35,000 college and graduate students in a wide range of disciplines in leading universities world-wide; as well as building schools, colleges and technical institutes, establishing and/or supporting health care and social welfare centers, orphanages and facilities for the elderly, preserving Islamic architecture, restoring and refurbishing historic mosques and building new ones in Lebanon, and supporting relief efforts and education in other Arab countries.

I am pleased to request H.E. Mr. Bahaa' Ud-Din Rafique Al-Hariri to come forward to receive the Prize on behalf of Al-Hariri Foundation and deliver acceptance speech.

The King Faisal International Prize for Islamic Studies, assigned for "studies dealing with Muslims' defense of their homeland during the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Centuries A.H.," is awarded to Professor Carole Hillenbrand of the United Kingdom, Professor of Islamic Studies in the Department of Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies at the University of Edinburgh. Professor Hillenbrand, who commands several modern and ancient languages, including Arabic, Persian and Turkish, was nominated for the Prize by her University and is recognized for her distinguished research into medieval Islamic history in general and particularly her landmark book: *The Crusades: Islamic Perspectives* which redresses, in great profundity, objectively and insightfulness, the Crusades through Muslim eyes, making it possible for the history of that era to be viewed from a more nuanced perspective.

I am pleased to request Professor Carole Hillenbrand to come forward to receive her Prize and deliver her speech.

The King Faisal International Prize for Medicine in the topic of "Tobacco Risks on Human Health" is awarded jointly to two outstanding British Scientists: Professor Sir Richard Doll and Professor Sir Richard Peto of the United Kingdom. Both were nominated by the Royal Society of London and awarded the Prize for their distinguished studies on tobacco risks that profoundly impacted national health policies of several countries and prompted the World Health Organization to endorse the fight against tobacco consumption on an international scale.

Professor Sir Richard Doll is an Honorary Member of the Clinical Trial Unit at Oxford University and former Regius Professor of Medicine and Warden of Green College at Oxford. He was awarded the Prize in recognition of his pioneering and ground-breaking research into the risks of tobacco on human health, which revealed - since the mid 1950s - the link between tobacco and lung cancer and a host of other diseases. Professor Doll's pivotal research over the past fifty years has established smoking as the most dangerous, and continuous, epidemic known to mankind and a particularly tragic one since it is entirely man-made. Professor Doll has published more than 500 papers, in addition to books and reports that are now standard medical references world-wide.

I am pleased to request Professor Sir Richard Doll to come forward to receive his Prize and deliver his speech.

Professor Sir Richard Peto is currently Professor of Medical Statistics and Epidemiology and Co-Director of the Clinical Trials Unit at the University of Oxford. He has worked – and continues to work – alongside Professor Doll for more than three decades on documenting the risks of tobacco. Their studies were not limited to western countries, but were also extended to China, India, Mexico, Cuba, Egypt and other developing countries, where the risk of smoking is even greater. Their studies in the UK have shown that mortality of continuing cigarette smokers is, on average, twice that of life-long non-smokers throughout middle and old age. They have also estimated that smoking was responsible for more than 100 million deaths during the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

I am pleased to request Professor Sir Richard Peto to come forward to receive his Prize and deliver his speech.

The King Faisal International Prize for Science is awarded in the field of Physics to three of the most distinguished physicists: Professor Federico Capasso, of Italian and U.S. nationalities, Professor Frank Wilczek of the U.S. and Professor Anton Zeilinger of Austria.

Professor Federico Capasso is the Professor of Applied Physics at Harvard University which nominated him for the Prize. He was awarded the Prize in recognition of his fundamental contribution to the invention of the Quantum Cascade Laser and its applications in science and industry. This fundamentally new light source is at the forefront of developments in laser physics during the last decade.

I am pleased to request Professor Capasso to come forward to receive his Prize and deliver his speech.

Professor Frank Wilczek is the Professor of Physics at MIT and a Noble laureate in Physics for 2004. He was nominated for the Prize by Case Western Reserve University in Ohio and was awarded the Prize in recognition of his outstanding contributions to theoretical physics, particularly elucidation of Quantum Chromodynamics as the correct model to the Strong Force, as well as his numerous other achievements in cosmology, particle theory and solid-state physics.

I am pleased to request Professor Wilczek to come forward to receive his Prize and deliver his speech.

Professor Anton Zeilinger is Professor of Physics and Director of the Institute of Experimental Physics at the University of Vienna, which nominated him for the Prize. He is recognized for his pioneering studies into fundamental aspects and applications of modern quantum technology, particularly his milestone achievement of quantum teleportation in real life, and the first realization of quantum cryptology.

I am pleased to request Professor Zeilinger to come forward to receive his Prize and deliver his speech.

In conclusion, the General Secretariat of the King Faisal International Prize is pleased to extend, once again, sincere thanks to His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Ibn Abd Al-Aziz for sponsoring this ceremony on behalf of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, and to all guests sharing this event with us. Special appreciation and thanks are due to His Royal Highness Prince Khalid Al-Faisal, Director General of King Faisal Foundation, for his continuous support of the Prize, and to every individual that helped the Secretariat in the nomination, refereeing and selection processes. Last but not least, warm congratulations are extended to the winners. May Allah support those serving humanity.

Salam Alaikum.