

Presentation of the
2010 King Faisal International Prize
By
PROFESSOR ABD ALLAH S. AL-UTHAIMIN

Secretary General of King Faisal International Prize
Tuesday 9 March 2010 (23.3.1431H)

In the Name of Allah, the Merciful, the Compassionate,

Praise be to Allah, the Sustainer of the Worlds, and Peace and Prayers be
Upon our Prophet Muhammad and all his family, companions and followers.

Your Majesty, Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques,
King Abd Allah Ibn Abd Al-Aziz,
HRH Prince Sultan Ibn Abd Al-Aziz
Crown Prince, Deputy Premier
Minister of Defense and Aviation and Inspector General Your Highnesses,
Your Excellencies,
Distinguished Guests

Al-Salam alaikum,

In the grandeur of this evening which fills the soul with happiness, and
under the gracious sponsorship by our leaders, whose words and deeds bear
witness to their unwavering commitment to the advancement of their
country and nation and to the welfare of all humanity, it gives me great
pleasure to introduce to you this year's winners of the King Faisal
International Prizes.

The King Faisal International Prize for Service to Islam has been
awarded to the Honourable Recep Tayyep Erdogan, Prime Minister of the
Republic of Turkey, who was nominated for the Prize by the World
Assembly of Muslim Youth in Riyadh.

He has been awarded the Prize in recognition of his landmark achievements in both his political and administrative capacities. Prime Minister Erdogan's contributions during his tenure as mayor of Istanbul have been instrumental to the progress of that city, while his leadership as the Prime Minister of his country have quickly established him as a statesman. of enormous dimension, nationally, internationally and throughout the Islamic world.

At the national level, Prime Minister Erdogan has launched major economic, social and cultural reforms that paved the way to significant development in Turkey, and placed it among the world's leading nations, economically and industrially, without compromising his ideals of democracy and justice.

At the Islamic level, and with ardent support of his citizens, he has rendered outstanding service to Islam by defending the causes of the Islamic nation, particularly the Palestinian cause and the just rights of the Palestinian people.

At the international level, he was a leading Muslim founder of the call for rapport between civilisations and a passionate advocate of constructive dialogue, openness and principles of international understanding and cooperation, thereby gaining Turkey the respect of other nations of the world.

I am pleased to invite the Honourable Prime Minister Erdogan to proceed forward to receive the Prize and deliver his speech.

The King Faisal International Prize for Arabic Language and Literature in the topic of (Studies Dealing with Arabic Grammatical Thought) has been awarded jointly to: Professor Abdurrahman Elhaj-Saleh (Algeria), Professor of Arabic Language at the University of Algiers and President of the Algerian Arabic Language Academy, who was nominated for the Prize by the University of Algiers; and Professor Ramzi Munir Baalbaki (Lebanon), Margret Weyerhaeuser Jewett Professor and Chairman of the Department of Arabic and Near Eastern Languages at the American University in Beirut, who was nominated for the Prize by the American University in Beirut and

by Professor Wadad Afif Kadi, former KFIP laureate and Chair of the Department of Near East Civilisations at the University of Chicago.

Professor Elhaj-Saleh has been awarded the Prize in recognition of his outstanding analysis of al-Khalil's linguistic theory and its relation to contemporary linguistic studies,' and his defense of, the originality of Arabic grammatical thought and its place among other grammatical theories, as well as his contributions to research, teaching and assessment of Arabic linguistics and his prominent role in the Arabicization movement.

I am pleased to invite Professor Hadj-Saleh to proceed forward to receive the Prize and deliver his speech.

Professor Ramzi Baalbaki has been awarded the Prize in recognition of his path-breaking studies of Arabic grammatical thought. His prolific publications, in Arabic and English, have greatly enriched knowledge of Arabic grammatical thought, contributions of Arab Grammarians, and originality of their methodology, and have benefited numerous scholars, including western scholars. Of particular importance are his deeply insightful studies of the Kitab of Si-Bawaihi, a legendary ancient Arab grammarian whose thoughts and methods have profoundly influenced his successors to the present day.

I am pleased to invite Professor Baalbaki to proceed forward to receive the Prize and deliver his speech.

The King Faisal International Prize for Medicine in the topic of (Non-arthroplasty management of Degenerative Joint Disease) has been awarded jointly to three scholars: Professor Reinhold Ganz (Germany), Professor and Chairman Emeritus of the Orthopedic Department at the University of Bern; he was nominated for the Prize by the McCaig Institute for Bone and Joint Health in Canada, and Professors Jean-Pierre Pelletier (Canada), Professor and Head of the Arthritis Center at the University of Montreal, and Director of the Osteoarthritis Research Unit at the University of Montreal Hospital Research Center, and Johanne Martel-Pelletier (Canada), Professor and Co-Director of the Osteoarthritis Research Unit, University of Montreal

Hospital Center; they were nominated for the Prize by the Institute of biological Sciences in France.

Prof. Ganz is a leader of conservative hip surgery that is non-arthroplasty surgery. He has been awarded the Prize in recognition of his seminal studies into the hip conditions that lead to frank osteoarthritis. He has also performed pioneering research into the vascular supply of the femoral head and devised surgical strategies to treat the pre-arthritis hip, thus preventing or delaying the progression of frank osteoarthritis. He has also trained hundreds of hip surgeons to safely carry out these surgical procedures.

I am pleased to invite Professor Ganz to proceed forward to receive the Prize and deliver his speech.

Professors Jean-Pierre Pelletier and Johanne Martel-Pelletier have been awarded the Prize in recognition of their outstanding translational research in the area of non-arthroplasty management of degenerative joint disease. Their principal focus has been on understanding the mechanisms involved in the pathophysiology of osteoarthritis. Their studies have paved the way for identification of therapeutic targets and the development of potential treatment strategies to modify or arrest the disease process. In addition, they have developed an innovative technology for quantitative assessment of the disease using magnetic resonance imaging.

I am pleased to invite Professor Jean-Pierre Pelletier and Professor Johanne Martel-Pelletier to proceed forward to receive their Prizes and deliver their speech.

The King Faisal International Prize for Science in the field of "Mathematics" has been awarded jointly to Professor Enrico Bombieri (USA) IBM von Neumann Professor in the School of Mathematics at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, U.S.A. who was nominated for the Prize by the Accademia Nazionale Dei Lincei in Rome and Professor Terence Chi-Shea Tao (Australian-American), James and Carol Collins Chair of Mathematics at the University of California, Los Angeles, USA, who was nominated for the Prize by King Abd Al-Aziz City for Science and

Technology in Riyadh and the University of California in Los Angeles, USA.

Professor Bombieri has been awarded the Prize in recognition of his pioneering contributions to various branches of mathematics. His work is characterized by originality, power, and clarity of exposition, addressing fundamental and difficult problems in number theory, algebraic geometry, exponential sums, complex analysis, and minimal surfaces. Of particular importance are his studies of the "large sieve" concept and its application in the "Bombieri-Vinogradov Theorem"

I am pleased to invite Professor Bombieri to proceed forward to receive his Prize and deliver his speech.

Professor Tao is a world-renowned mathematician; who became full professor at the University of California in Los Angeles at the age of 24. He works in a number of branches of mathematics including harmonic analysis, partial differential equations; combinatorics, number theory, and signal processing. He is best known for his contribution to the Green-Tao Theorem on arithmetic progression in primes and; his studies on Schrodinger non-linear equation. He is also known for his highly original solutions of very difficult and important problems and for his technical brilliance in the use of the necessary mathematical machinery.

I am pleased to invite Professor Tao to proceed forward to receive his prize and deliver his speech.

In conclusion, I am pleased to express, on behalf of the General Secretariat of the King Faisal International Prize, our sincere gratitude to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques for sponsoring this ceremony. I would also like to congratulate the winners of this year's prizes for a well deserved recognition, and to thank intellectuals, scholars and distinguished guests sharing with us this happy event. Special appreciation and thanks are extended to all of those who cooperated with us during the nomination, refereeing and selection processes.

May Allah assist and support all of those working towards the welfare of humanity.

Thank you and good evening to all of you.