

Presentation of the
2017 King Faisal International Prize Winners
By Dr.

Abdulaziz Alsebil

Secretary General of King Faisal International Prize

39th KFIP Awards Ceremony
Tuesday 4/4/2017 (7/7/1438H.)

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 our Prophet Muhammad and all his family, companions and followers*

Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques
King Salman Bin Abd Al-Aziz,
Your Highnesses,
Winners of the Prize,
Esteemed scientists,
Your Eminences,
Your Excellencies,
Brothers and sisters

Assalamu Alaikum.

It gives me great pleasure to introduce this year's
(2017G/1438H) winners of King Faisal International Prizes.

The King Faisal International Prize for Service to Islam for
this year (2017/1438H) has been awarded to The Custodian
of The Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz
Al-Saud King of Saudi Arabia

In recognition of his outstanding services to Islam
and Muslims, namely:

- Unflinching commitment to serving the two Holy
Mosques and their visitors/pilgrims.

- Allegiance to the Prophet's Sira (i.e. Life of Prophet Mohammed), sponsorship and support of the Historic Atlas of the Prophet's Sira and its implementation by King Abdulaziz Dara (Foundation for Research and Archives), and founding of King Abdulaziz Complex for Endowment Libraries in Al-Madinah Al-Munawwarah for preserving Arabic and Islamic heritage.
- Dedicated endeavors to unite Arabs and Muslims in the face of daunting challenges currently unfolding in the Arabic and Muslim worlds, including the formation of a Riyadh-based Islamic military alliance to combat terrorism.
- Upholding throughout the decades unwavering Arabic and Islamic stance in support of the Palestinian issue by providing political, moral and humanitarian support to the Palestinians.
- Chairmanship and personal supervision of a number of popular committees and humanitarian societies for the relief of destitute
- people in several Arab and Muslim countries.
- Establishment of, and generous support for, the King Salman Center for Relief and Humanitarian Aids for the provision of aid to needy Arab and Islamic countries.

The King Faisal International Prize for Islamic Studies for this year 2017 Topic: (Muslim Political Thought up to the 9th CenturyH/15 Century G) has been awarded to:

Professor Ridwan Al-Sayyid (Lebanon) Professor, University of Lebanon

In recognition of his overall specialized publications that enriched the Arabic Library as well as his distinguished contribution to the Prize's topic namely:

- The contributions in his researches and studies of broad and through knowledge of the Arabic Islamic jurisprudential and political heritage with full acquaintance with modern research methodology.
- Characterization of his academic research by precise scientific methodology.
- Successful integration of original Islamic political thought and current Arabic Islamic reality.
- Multiplicity of his studies on Muslim political thought, including issues of governance, authority, state, society and nation as related to historic Islamic reality.

The King Faisal International Prize for Arabic Language and Literature for this year 2017, Topic: (Efforts of individuals and institutions to Arabicize science and technology for transfer, research and educational purposes) been awarded to: Arabic Language Academy of Jordan (Jordan)

The Committee's unanimously decided to award this year Prize's to the Arabic Language Academy of Jordan in recognition of its distinguished efforts in the transfer of science and technology through translation, Arabization of technical terms, and publication of specialized glossaries and its relentless efforts to make Arabic the language of instruction, an objective sought by various scientific institutions throughout the Arab World

The Academy entrusted the task of translation to highly qualified specialists known for their mastery of both English and Arabic, thus ensuring the highest quality for its project.

The King Faisal International Prize for Medicine for this year 2017, Topic: (Biologic Therapeutics In Autoimmune Diseases), has been awarded to Professor Tadimitsu Kishimoto (Japan) Professor, immunology Frontier Research Center, Osaka University and Emeritus professor, Osaka University, Japan

In recognition of his prominent role in developing a novel biologic therapy for autoimmune diseases.

Professor Kishimoto, through his work for more than 30 years, is responsible for discovering interleukin-6 (IL-6), its receptor and signaling pathways. He established the physiological function of the interleukin-6 (IL-6) pathway and its role in inflammatory/autoimmune diseases.

Subsequently, he developed an interleukin-6 (IL-6) receptor-blocking antibody into a biological therapy, leading the clinical development of this therapy towards first approval for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis.

The King Faisal International Prize for Science for this year 2017 Topic: (Physics), has been awarded to Professor Daniel Loss (Switzerland) Professor, Department of Physics, University of Basel, Director, Basel Center for Quantum Computing and Quantum Coherence, University of Basel, Switzerland and Professor Laurens Molenkamp (The Netherlands) Professor and Head, MBE Unit, University of Wurzburg, Germany

Professor Daniel Loss is a pioneer in the theory of spin dynamics and spin coherence in quantum dots showing promise for practical applications in spin quantum computers. The idea is to use the spin rather than the charge of electrons trapped in quantum dots as quantum bits. His work has inspired many important experimental programs. Professor Loss' contributions open the door to powerful spintronic quantum computers with exceptional speed and storage capacity.

Professor Laurens Molenkamp has significantly contributed to the experimental field of spintronics. His work includes groundbreaking methods for creating and manipulating spin-polarized charge-carrier states in semiconductors, with the potential to develop magnetic storage devices. Professor Molenkamp has experimentally confirmed the quantum spin-Hall effect, which firms up the field of topological insulators, a novel form of quantum matter.

Distinguished Guests,

The General Secretariat of King Faisal International Prize expresses its deep thanks and gratitude to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman bin Abd Al-Aziz, for sponsoring this ceremony, and congratulates the winners of this year's prizes for a well deserved recognition. Thanks are also extended to our distinguished guests for sharing this happy event with us. Special appreciation and thanks are due to all of those who cooperated with us during the nomination, refereeing and selection processes and the organization of this ceremony.

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

Assalamu Alaikum, and may the mercy and blessings of Allah be upon you.