



| The Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize Review | No. 2 |

Coverage on the first round of the Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize Award Ceremony in more than 280 Media

More than 320 news and interviews were on footage covering the Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize Award Ceremony in more than 280 dailies, the press and media and international websites from more than 20 countries.



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8



15



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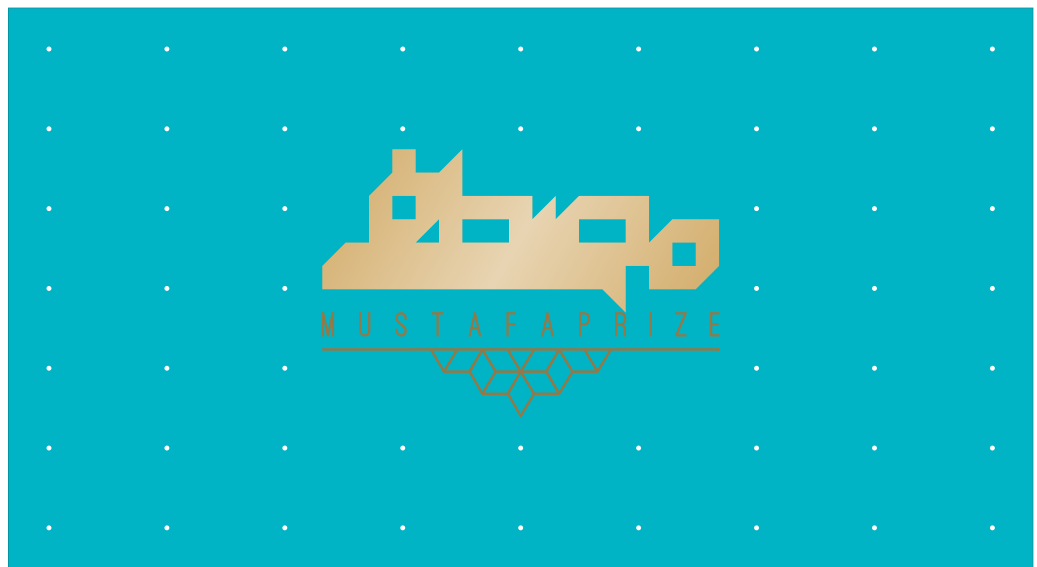


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About the Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize



Science
and
Technology
Award



In order to appreciate prominent scientists and provide the ground for scientific cooperation and development worldwide, the Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize was established in 2012 as one of the symbols of admiration and scientific excellence at international level.



Symbol of
Admiration and
Scientific
Excellence

This Prize is dedicated biennially to the outstanding works of top scientists and researchers around the world whose works would place a dramatic impact on the quality of the lives of the human beings. The laureates in each field are awarded a total amount of \$500,000 which is financed through the Science and Technology Endowments. They are also adorned with the Mustafa^(pbuh) Medal and a Diploma.

The first round of the Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize was celebrated in 2015, covered four different fields namely, "Nanoscience and Nanotechnology", "Life and Medical Science and Technology", "Information and Communication Science and Technology" and "Top Scientific Achievement in other fields".

According to the statute, the Policymaking Council of the Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize as the supreme body of the Prize, is responsible for adopting strategies and governing principles over the Prize. The council's international legal members includes the heads of Islamic international organizations including IDB, IAS, COMSTECH and heads of two accredited universities in the Islamic World. At the first round, heads of University of Malaya (UM), Malaysia and University of Karachi, Pakistan were member of the Council.



The Token for Excellence in Science and Technology in the Islamic World was awarded to two of the world's major scientists

Chairman of the Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize Policymaking Council, Sorena Sattari, President of Iran's Academy of Medical Sciences, Alireza Marandi, and President of the Islamic World Academy of Sciences, Abdul Salam Majali awarded the token of the Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize laureates.

The first round of the Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize was celebrated on 25 December 2015, in the presence of Sorena Sattari, Chairman of the Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize Policymaking Council, Mohammad Farhadi, Iranian Minister of Science, Research and Technology, Ahmad Mohamed Ali, President of the Islamic Development Bank Group, Shaukat Hameed Khan, OIC Representative and COMSTech Coordinator General, Abdul Salam Majali, President of the Islamic World Academy of Sciences, Ali Akbar Salehi, former Deputy Secretary General of the OIC, Mohammad Mahdi Zahedi, Member of Islamic Parliament's Education and Research Committee, Saeed Sohrabpour, Iran's National Elites Foundation's Vice-President, and a number of scientists in the Islamic World and scientific, economic and cultural figures.

Mahdi Safarinia, Secretary of the Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize Policymaking Council and President of Pardis Technology

Park (PTP) presented a report about the process of the Prize preparation. "Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize Secretariat, has inspected more than 300 international scientific prizes to be able to follow the world standards." Safarinia explained. Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize Ceremony was followed by a talk from Hassan Zohoor, Head of Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize Scientific Committee. He gave a report on the selection process of the laureates. "In the Prize four scientific fields, scientists were nominated by more than 200 organizations and amongst the received projects, 100 files met the required criteria for entering final selection process." Zohoor explained about the projects received by the Secretariat. Afterwards, Shaukat Hameed Khan, OIC Representative and COMSTech Coordinator General, gave a speech. "We must step in the path to science and technology development and this should happen in the region's and the world's Islamic countries." He noted.

Next, the laureates were awarded. Prof. Jackie Ying, Executive Director of Institute of Bioengineering and Nanotechnology in Singapore was selected for the 2015 Prize in the field of Bio Nanotechnology for her remarkable work on "Stimuli-Responsive Systems for Controlled Drug Delivery" and Prof. Omar Yaghi from Jordan, Co-Director of the Kavli Energy NanoScience Institute at Berkeley was selected for the 2015 Prize in the field of Nanoscience and Nanotechnology for his unique work on "Porous Metal Organic Frameworks". Sorena Sattari was the next speaker. He noted some of the key policies, goals and strategies for this Prize and continued "Following the emergence of Islam, a strong emphasis was placed on science and scientific concepts turned into basic principals in Quran and Sunna. Unfortunately, however, during the last three centuries, this trend has been disturbed and the western countries has become the major player."



A review on “Iran creates ‘Muslim Nobels’”


Iran is offering a lucrative new science prize

A while after the Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize Award Ceremony, one of the well-known scientific journals in the world, Science Magazine, published a report titled “Iran creates ‘Muslim Nobels’” in vol. 351, issue 6269, page 109. This Magazine after giving a report about the first round of the Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize, made a look on goals and strategies of the Prize for excellence in S&T worldwide focusing on the Islamic World. The author tried to have a quick review on the importance of the Prize.

Although there are many science prizes all over the world but still a part of efforts done by many scholars including a major part of Muslim scientists is not acknowledged as they deserved. That's how the Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize is justified. The Prize born to encourage and motivate the scholars to dedicate their knowledge for a better life of human being. The Science Magazine pointed out the scope of the Prize and emphasized on the focus of this project on the Islamic World that is open to non-Muslims in Islamic nations too.

Synergy of scientists' researches in order to promote peace, health and security resulting to enhance the welfare of human kind may not be achieved without an effective cooperation among them and that's how science and technology could serve the people. This is an important mission of the Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize Secretariat hosted by Iran. Hence the American Science Magazine calls the objective to be a “research powerhouse” that certainly expected to play an important role to empower the research and development worldwide.

The author continued his report on the Prize amount that is equal to \$500,000 cash and a brief summery on laureates' profile.



Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize

An Incentive for Scientists

Dr. Ahmed Mohamed Ali, President of the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) Group and Member of the Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize Policymaking Council



Muslim Ummah benefit from this very great initiative

I am very happy to participate at the Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize ceremony. It's a great pleasure and I was impressed by the scientists, the sister and the brother who were the first laureates of this great prize.

As President of IDB we are proud of this Prize and we pray Allah, Insha'Allah that Muslim Ummah benefit from this very great initiative. These two scientists will be good examples for men and women in the Ummah in order to work harder and harder to enhance science and technology in the Ummah. That is what we need now so I am very proud, pleased and grateful. Many people worked hard for realizing this very important Prize.

To make the Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize a prestigious prize, the most important thing is to have confident. The way Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize has been constructed and conducted, reflects that it has the potential but this is just the beginning and this is the first year so I am confident that in a few years this Prize will gain momentum and will be known as a prestigious global prize.

It is a great honor for scientists to win the Prize

and I am sure it will encourage them to work more and more. Insha'Allah there will be more and more researches and this Prize could be an incentive for other scientists all over the world or in Muslim Ummah to work harder.

Unfortunately Islamic countries are very behind in contribution to the science and technology of the world but inshallah activities like this will help. We also need great efforts from our scientists to work harder and harder because science as you know is the real engine for growth and development in this modern time.

The educational system in the Islamic World especially in some countries have problems. I do hope that there will be greater cooperation among our member countries in the OIC so that they can benefit from each other. They can exchange their experience in order to raise the capacity of science and technology and boost the development.

As a Member of the Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize Policymaking Council, I know that the baselines of the Prize are very concrete and it has been developed in a very constructive way. We can, of course be bigger and bigger to involve more organizations in the Ummah for example involving COMSTECH, the permanent committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation in the OIC member countries, to hoping that they take more serious roles in supporting this Prize. Also I call on top universities in OIC countries to be more active in supporting such a Prize. Hopefully with the help and support of such organizations this Prize will grow more and more. This Prize can help the reputation of Islamic countries and show how cultivated we are. Unfortunately the news about the Muslim countries are mainly negative but we want to tell the world that the cooperation of Muslim countries can produce and develop good things not only for themselves but for the whole world.

The Prize encourage scientists to work more and more



Islam and Science Are Bound Together



These types of prize proves that Islam support science

Prof. Abdul Salam Majali, former Prime Minister of Jordan, President of the Islamic World Academy of Sciences (IAS) and Member of the Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize Policymaking Council

I think we are still at the beginning of revival of science in the Muslim World all together. Certainly there are certain countries such as Iran, Malaysia, Indonesia, and Turkey that have been contributing more than others. The rest of Muslim World are still behind the world in scientific research.

The share of scientists from the Islamic World in the science and technology progress is still very little. We need the attention from political leaders in the Muslim World to take care of this because you cannot have scientific research and innovation in any country unless the political leaders give enough money and support to scientists to sit and make research and make new inventions. Without new invention we cannot carry on with the pace of progress in the world. To achieve even faster progress in science and technology development in the Islamic countries and benefit from the existing capacities, we can use a lot of knowledge which comes now from the west to our advantage. There is enough procedures to be taken and if we make sure

about the availability of funds, and the will of the leaders to take a step, this would be done in a very short time.

By having science, the Islamic golden era pioneered through science and technology progress can be revived. Without science it is impossible as an Ummah to compete with the rest of the world and I do admire Iran for establishing Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize because it proves to the rest of the world that Islam and Science go along together and they are not against each other because currently there is an understanding in the west that Muslims are against science which is not true. Now these types of prize proves that Islam support science.

Science and technology prizes are an instrument for increasing research and development of scientists for regional development and improving the welfare of human beings. First it is necessary to increase scholars and scientific researchers to do more work and invention and second it helps our image and shows to the world that Muslims are not against science.



By having science, the Islamic golden era can be revived

Time to Rebuild Glorious Traditions of Islam

Dr. Shaukat Hameed Khan, Coordinator General of COMSTECH, the Ministerial Standing Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation of the OIC (Organization of Islamic Cooperation) and Member of the Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize Policymaking Council



The content of the Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize and the way it was organized, both were superb and excellent. I say this because I know how difficult it is to start a program like this and this is the first year that has gone very well; From the performances to the speeches to the winners selected by the council. Truly remarkable, good scientists I would say and most importantly Iran is taking the lead in acknowledging them and accepting them with Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize.

There is a lot of good science happening in Muslim World and the problem is we don't know each other and what anyone is doing.

As a sideline program of the Prize ceremony, I visited Iran Nanotechnology Initiative Council (INIC) and I was amazed, I was truly amazed at what they've done in the last 10 years.

The Muslim scientists in the world are doing very well, but unfortunately our countries do not have that scientific culture, it could be a reference point, you have to let people think out of the box, and I tell my students and my colleagues look we have decided to go and look after the second world -Akherat-, this world also belongs to the Muslims, why handing it over to others? We talk about the glorious traditions of Islam, great but that happened 800 years ago and it's time to start rebuilding. There will be no shortcut and it can happen only with sustained efforts.



Acknowledging Scientists with the Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize



The Muslim scientists in the world are doing very well



Call for Mustafa Prize Nomination Announced

The second round of the Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize will be held in **December 2017**, announcing laureates from the Islamic World.

◆ Nominating Rules

Mustafa Prize is awarded in the following categories:

1. Information and Communication Science and Technology
2. Life and Medical Science and Technology
3. Nanoscience and Nanotechnology

For the above categories, the nominees should be citizens of one of the 57 Islamic countries with no restrictions on religion, gender and/or age.

4. All areas of science and technology

For this category, only Muslims may be nominated with no restrictions on citizenship, gender and/or age. These areas include the following UNESCO fields of education:

Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics; Information and Communication Technologies; Engineering, Manufacturing and Construction; Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries and Veterinary; Health and Welfare as well as Cognitive Science and Islamic Economics and Banking.

The nominees can only be nominated by one of the following scientific institutions and renowned scientists.

- Accredited scientific centers and universities
- Science and technology associations and centers of excellence
- Academies of science of Islamic countries
- Science and technology parks.

◆ The Prize

- The Mustafa Medal
- A certificate
- 500,000 USD

◆ Calendar of Prize

- Nomination deadline: 31st December, 2016
- Prize ceremony: December, 2017

◆ The Mustafa Prize Secretariat Contact details

(Working hours: Saturday to Wednesday from 10-17 LT)

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Fax number: +9821- 22272934

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Iran creates 'Muslim Nobels'



New Award puts islamic science back in the spotlight



Africa: New Award Puts Islamic Science Back in the Spotlight



Yaghi wins Mustafa Scientific Prize



Islamic science back in spotlight

GLOBAL HEALTH

Recognizing Muslim Scientists



The Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize



Jackie Ying Wins Mustafa Prize Scientific Achievement Award



Professor Jackie Y. Ying Wins The Mustafa Prize Top Scientific Achievement Award



Singapore-based scientist wins top science and technology award of Islamic world



She wins top science award for Muslims



Professor Jackie Y. Ying Wins The Mustafa Prize Top Scientific Achievement Award



Effective Nanotechnology Innovations to Receive Mustafa Prize



Singapore-based scientist wins top science and technology award of Islamic world

Video Clips and Reports



Complete Video of the Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize Award Ceremony



Teaser of the Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize



Press TV Report



Sahar TV Report



Al-Alam News Network Report

The Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize is after reviving the Golden Era of Scientific Efflorescence within the World of Islam



**Dr. Ali Akbar Salehi, former Deputy Secretary
General of the OIC**

The Mustafa^(pbuh) prize is not after competing with any international prizes including the Nobel Prize but it is seeking to revive the golden era of scientific efflorescence within the World of Islam as an independent Prize.

The Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize is rooted within the nation of Iran and it aspires to revive the Islamic civilization that was abandoned for many year since its golden era.

After many years of progress, the Islamic World has witnessed major downhill, but now we can see the blossoms of scientific growth and development within our country and in the

Islamic World. Thus, with this Prize we wish to take a major step in encouraging and advancing science and technology in the Islamic countries. This move does not mean competing with others such as the Nobel Prize, as it is an independent Prize grounded on our will that we wish to move on the line of Islamic teachings and concepts.

The concept of this Prize is that science and religion can work together perfectly besides each other. We seek a form of science that is equally important as ethics and spirituality, just like a bird having two healthy wings for flight it can reach the sky, the same is true for the Islamic World that it can reach the peak when science and religion become like a pair of wings, this is what we are after.



**A major step in
encouraging and
advancing
science and
technology in the
Islamic countries**



The Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize A Noble Effort to Revive the Islamic Scientific Golden Era

Prof. Mostafa A. El-Sayed, Julius Brown Chair and Regents Professor, Director, Laser Dynamics Lab, Georgia Institute of Technology, School of Chemistry and Biochemistry, Atlanta, GA, USA

I believe that the status of the Islamic World in scientific advancements and in technology-based achievements is very diverse from very very poor to very good. The share of scientists from the Islamic World in the science and technology progress is not very high. The good ones like in Iran, Turkey and Pakistan is good.

Faster progress in science and technology development in the Islamic countries and benefit from the existing capacities would be achieved by investing more in scientific research and equally important by learning more about coupling the results of scientific research and industrial development.

By educating new young generation about the scientific method (which in many ways overlap with the best of the religious teachings) in reaching everyday decisions and spending more on scientific research and encouraging more the scientific and technical innovation, the Islamic golden era that once pioneered through science and technology progress can be revived.

There is no doubt that the Nobel Prizes have



**Learning more
about coupling
the results of
scientific research
and industrial
development**

had a great impact in accelerating the (western) science and technology in the near past.

I evaluate the Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize absolutely necessary in developing science and technology in the World of Islam. We are in a transitional period. The Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize could be given to variety of contributions by Muslims that accelerates and assist the Muslim countries to catch up with the western countries. First, by Doing first rate research in the West with a strong interaction with his/her country for possible transfer and encouraging the young scientists in his/her country to catch up. Second, by developing a medicine in the west and trying to introduce it or apply its use in his/her country first (like our research on cancer in Egypt) and third, by having a continuous strong interaction with and his lab being open to scientists from the Muslim World.

This is a very noble effort in helping the Muslim countries to catch up with the West in scientific output and the return of the golden period of the Islamic history.



Value research much more than we do now

Prof. Abdallah Daar, Professor of Clinical Public Health, Global Health and Surgery, University of Toronto, Canada

At present, I believe that the status of the Islamic World in scientific advancements and in technology-based achievements is generally not very impressive.

The share of scientists from the Islamic World in the science and technology progress is also very small.

We can achieve even faster progress in science and technology development in the Islamic countries and benefit from the existing capacities by investing more in education at all levels. Have confidence. Value research much more than we do now. Value the role of science in society. Invest in both basic and applied sciences. Think big and collaborate with genuine collaborators. Allow scientists (and students) to think critically and to question old ways of thinking.

All of the influential factors are effective and play a critical role in revival of Islamic golden era that once pioneered through science and technology progress.

I think that science and technology prizes have a big role to play in awakening consciousness about science and technology. By itself, without taking care of the mentioned issues, their value will be less critical. I think the Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize is potentially one of the biggest developments in the world of science in the Islamic world. I wish it great success.



Think big and collaborate with genuine collaborators



The 2015 Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize in Bio Nanotechnology was Awarded to

Prof. Jackie Ying



Prof. Jackie Ying (born 1966, Taiwan) is the Executive Director of the Institute of Bioengineering and Nanotechnology in Singapore. She has been recognized with several awards, for her research on nanostructured materials, including:

- ◆ The American Ceramic Society Ross C. Purdy Award
- ◆ National Science Foundation Young Investigator Award
- ◆ Camille Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar Award
- ◆ American Chemical Society Faculty Fellowship Award in Solid-State Chemistry
- ◆ American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) Allan P. Colburn Award
- ◆ Singapore National Institute of Chemistry-BASF Award in Materials Chemistry

Prof. Ying was elected as World Economic Forum Young Global Leader, and a member of the German National Academy of Sciences, Leopoldina. She was named one of the “One Hundred Engineers of the Modern Era” by American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE), in its Centennial Celebration. She was selected by The Muslim 500 in 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015 to be one of the world’s 500 most influential Muslims. She was selected as an Inaugural Inductee for the Singapore Women’s Hall of Fame in 2014. She is the Editor-in-Chief of Nano Today, which has an impact factor of 15.

The 2015 Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize was granted to Prof. Ying for her remarkable work on “Stimuli-Responsive systems for Controlled Drug Delivery”.

She led the development of stimuli-responsive polymeric nanoparticles that allow for self-regulated oral/nasal insulin delivery to diabetic patients only when their blood sugar level is high, without the need for external blood sugar monitoring.

The 2015 Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize in Nanoscience and Nanotechnology was Awarded to

Prof. Omar Yaghi



Prof. Omar Yaghi (born 1965, Jordan) is the Co-Director of the Kavli Energy NanoScience Institute at Berkeley. He received numerous awards for his contributions to the design of materials. Recent ones include:

- ◆ The Solid State Chemistry Award of the American Chemical Society and Exxon Co.
- ◆ The Sacconi Medal from the Italian Chemical Society
- ◆ The US Department of Energy Hydrogen Program Award
- ◆ The Materials Research Society Medal
- ◆ The American Chemical Society Chemistry of Materials Award
- ◆ King Faisal International Prize (KFIP) in the science category

He holds over 10 distinguished professorships from universities in China, South Korea, Vietnam, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates. Prof. Yaghi has published over 200 publications in high impact journals (>20 in Science and Nature) and received the Newcomb Cleveland Prize of the American Association for the Advancement of Science for the best paper published in Science (2007). He was the second most cited chemist in the world (2000–2010).

The 2015 Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize was granted to Prof. Yaghi for his remarkable work on “Porous Metal-Organic Frameworks (MOFs)”.

MOFs are an important class of solid-state materials and introduced new possibilities in applications that have traditionally utilized the porous inorganic materials, such as catalysis and separations, size- and shape-selective uptake, and gas storage.

For many centuries the World of Islam was in the forefront of human civilization and achievement

Prof. S. Riazuddin, HEC National Distinguished Professor, Lahore, Pakistan

The status of Islamic World and its contribution to the present day scientific advancement and technology based achievements is dismal. The disparity between the intellectual achievements of the Islamic World and the rest of the world, is indeed staggering. In his 2002 book *What Went Wrong?*, Bernard Lewis remarked that "For many centuries the World of Islam was in the forefront of human civilization and achievement. Nothing in Europe could hold a candle to what was going on in the Islamic World until about 900 A.H." In the present time, however, the spirit of science in the Muslim World is as dry as the desert. Pervez Hoodboy, a Pakistani physicist, in an article titled "Physics Today" (2007) presented the following statistics:

"Muslim countries have nine scientists, engineers, and technicians per thousand personnel, compared with a world average of forty-one. In these nations, there are approximately 1,800 universities, but only 312 of those universities have scholars who have published articles in research journals. Of the fifty most-published of these universities, twenty-six are in Turkey, nine are in Iran, three each are in Malaysia and Egypt, Pakistan has two, and Uganda, the U.A.E., Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, Kuwait, Jordan, and Azerbaijan each have one".

For over six centuries, spanning from the second century to the eighth century after Hijra (A.H.), Muslim scientists made outstanding discoveries. President Obama, in his speech in Cairo (June 04, 2009), duly recognized the scientific and intellectual contributions of the Islamic World to human civilization as well as the foundations for Europe's renaissance. The relevant part of his speech is reproduced below:

"It was Islam that carried the light of learning through so many centuries, paving the way for Europe's Renaissance and Enlightenment. It was innovation in Muslim communities that developed



the order of algebra; our magnetic compass and tools of navigation; our mastery of pens and printing; our understanding of how disease spreads and how it can be healed".

There are roughly 1.6 billion Muslims in the world, but only three scientists from Muslim countries, have won Nobel Prizes in science for their work done in the scientifically advanced world: The first from Pakistan for research done in Physics in England (1979), the second from Egypt for research in chemistry in USA (1999), and the third from Turkey for research done in biology in USA (2015). Forty-six Muslim countries combined contribute just one percent of the world's scientific literature; Nobel laureate physicist Steven Weinberg stated, "for forty years I have not seen a single paper by a physicist or astronomer working in a Muslim country that was worth reading."

The U.N. Report (2003) on Arab Human Development states that "during the period from 1980 to 2000, Korea granted 16,328 patents, while nine Arab countries, including Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and the U.A.E., granted a combined total of only 370, many of them registered by foreigners". A study in 1989 found that in one year, the United States published 10,481 scientific papers that were frequently cited, while the entire Islamic World published less than ten. In 2002, Nature magazine



It was Islam that carried the light of learning through so many centuries, paving the way for Europe's Renaissance and Enlightenment

published a sketch of science in the Arab World and as a bad and insulting joke, identified three scientific areas in which Arab countries had excelled, namely desalination, falconry, and camel reproduction. The recent push to establish new research and science institutions in the Arab World clearly still has a long way to go.

Given that science in the Islamic World was the most advanced in the world up until about the eighth century A.H., it is tempting to ask what went wrong in the subsequent years? Why is it that the golden era has run out of steam? Why is it that modern science did not arise from the capitals of the Islamic World? What happened to the legacy of Al-Khawarizmi, Al-Razi, Al-Farabi, Ibn Sina, Al-Biruni and Ibn Rushd. The answer to this question is long and complicated but it is important to keep in mind that the decline of scientific activity is the rule, not the exception, of civilizations. Like the Muslims, the ancient Chinese and Indian civilizations, both of which were at one time far more advanced than the West, did not produce the scientific revolution.

To achieve even faster progress in science and technology development in the Islamic countries and benefit from the existing capacities, I propose the following measures;

- i) In order to overcome the existing shortage of specifically trained manpower and to help indigenous research groups already working at sub-critical levels, it is proposed to arrange multiregional and multinational collaborations among laboratories in Islamic countries and with laboratories in the West.
- ii) The proposed collaborations should include joint research aimed at exploiting complementarities.
- iii) Facilitate visits to laboratories working on similar goals through meetings, symposia, seminars and specific hands on training (Both short and long term).

There is no dearth of sound minds in the Islamic World and given the right conditions, the Islamic golden era can be revived.

نہیں ہے، اسی لیے اقبال نے کہتے ہیں کہ
دماغ ہر قوم کی بہت زرخیز ہے مگر

The existing gap between the West and the Islamic World requires a well thought strategy with a sound planning. Following are my thoughts:

- i) Political Commitment to ensure continuity and no interruption with change of governments.
- ii) Improve/enhance laboratory infrastructure in universities which are the breeding grounds for

innovation/inventions.

- iii) Improve school education to bring it at par with standards in the west.
- iv) Institute competitive research grant system for solicited projects (according to well thought long term plans) and unsolicited projects on the pattern of EU funding/ NIH-NSF funding of research projects.
- v) Increase funding for education and scientific research to bring the GDP to research funding ratio at par with that in the developed world
- vi) Institute Incentive Schemes in the form of prizes to recognize research scientists, promote innovations and prevent brain drain.
- vii) Encourage promotional programs on electronic/print media

Science and Technology prizes are a big incentive for scientists and scientific institutions and have greatly contributed to the development of science and its applications for the benefit of mankind. In scientifically advanced countries, private organizations have instituted international prizes to promote scientific discoveries.

The Mustafa^(PBUH) Prize is an excellent initiative to encourage scientists and promote scientific discoveries in the Islamic World. The plight of scientific research viz-a-viz discoveries/inventions is very discouraging. It may be noted that young men and women who obtained early education from their own countries, when migrate to the developed world, catch up with their counterpart in a few years and compete with them favorably and the young ones in the next generation, often do better than the natives.

To make up for the deficiency, it is important to allow some time for nurturing in a non-competitive environment. In this regard, The Mustafa^(PBUH) Prize is a timely and excellent initiative to provide an incentive to scientists working under sub-optimal conditions/infrastructure for the betterment of people in the Islamic World.

The Mustafa^(PBUH) Prize, meant exclusively for scientists working in the Islamic World, will encourage "indigenous research" devoted to the well-being of own people.

One of the best features of The Mustafa^(PBUH) Prize is that it restricts own scientists from competition to make it honest and transparent.

Last but not the least, it is the best tribute to our Prophet, Peace Be Upon Him; to name the Prize in His name and award it on 12th Rabiul Awal to celebrate his teachings "to understand Allah's creations in a scientific spirit and seek knowledge even in China".



There are roughly 1.6 billion Muslims in the world, but only three scientists from Muslim countries, have won Nobel Prizes in science



Developed countries have benefited a lot by attracting scientists from the Islamic World

Prof. Ali Asghar Mirarefi, University of Illinois, USA and AUIP Program Director

Status of the Islamic World in scientific advancements and in technology-based achievements is definitely much below than in the developed countries that have invested a lot of resources to science and technology. Developed countries have benefited a lot by attracting scientists from the Islamic World and giving them the opportunities and funding to carry out research and contribute to their advancements. Unfortunately the Islamic World has not invested enough to be among the beneficiaries of the outcomes of research in developed countries.

We can achieve even faster progress in science and technology development in the Islamic countries and benefit from the existing capacities by investing in attracting expats who are anxious to bring the result of their research to Islamic World countries and commercialize the outcome of their research that can bring economic growth to Islamic World. Industrial involvement can be very important in this respect.

The Islamic golden era pioneered through science and technology progress can be revived following the guidance of Prophet^(pbuh) who emphasized seeking knowledge from Birth to

Death. He made it a necessity for every man and woman to acquire science and encouraged traveling even to remote areas to fulfill their thirst for knowledge.

Islamic World need to pay more attention to these facts and invest much more in education and research.

They need to facilitate collaborations with scientists from the Western World who are keen to make contribution to advancement of knowledge. Advancement of knowledge and research in the developed countries became possible because these countries invested a lot in attracting top ranked talented researchers and educators and providing an environment that enabled them to flourish and develop their ideas that improve lives.

Science and technology prizes definitely draws attention, acknowledges, and rewards researchers and research that ultimately contribute to human capital development, bring economic growth to the Islamic countries resulting welfare of human beings.

The Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize is a very good step to advertise and market the value that Islamic World gives to research and education.



Investing much more in education and research



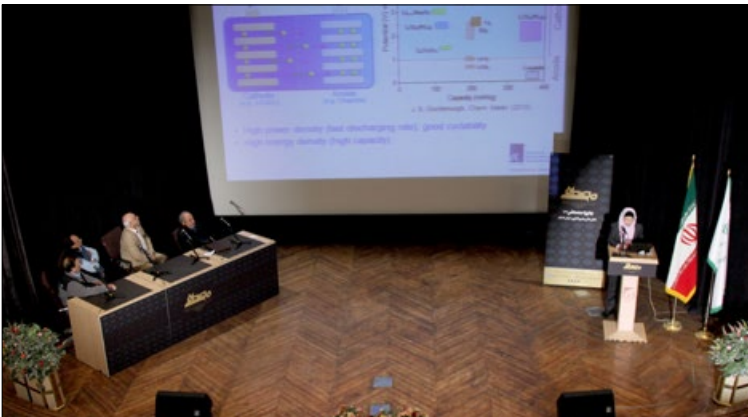
The Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize Award Ceremony and Sideline Programs



▲ Cultural Tour



▲ Scientific Meeting



▲ Lecture at Tarbiat Modares University



▲ Lecture at University of Tehran



▲ Speech at Policymaking Council



▲ Speech at Award Ceremony



The Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize Secretariat

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