

Remarks by H.E. Ambassador Hiroshi Suzuki  
for the Kyoto Prize Ceremony at the  
University of Oxford on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Chancellor Lord Hague,  
Dean Professor Woods,  
Professor Pendry,  
Professor Hoffman,  
Mr Forsythe,  
Distinguished Guests,

It is a great pleasure for me to attend this  
Dinner for the Kyoto Prize at Oxford in this  
magnificent setting here at Rhodes House.

I would like to start by conveying my warmest congratulations and deep admiration for the great achievements of the three 2024 Kyoto Prize laureates:

in Advanced Technology – Professor Sir John Pendry,

in Basic Sciences – Dr. Paul F. Hoffman,

and in Arts and Philosophy - Mr William Forsythe.

While the three laureates have significantly different areas of interest and competence, they share the common characteristics of imagination, dedication, and curiosity, and it is these virtues that inspire and encourage many people in Japan and around the world.

It was a huge privilege for me to have the opportunity to listen just now to the Laureates Panel conversation with Professor Ngaire Woods, and to learn more about their respective areas of expertise.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation for the continued engagement of the Inamori Foundation and the outstanding contribution made by those who were involved in organising this prestigious event.

When Mr Kazuo Inamori established the Kyoto Prize back in 1984, he wanted to recognise and honour those who have made outstanding contributions to the progress of science, the advancement of civilization, and the enrichment and elevation of the human spirit, and to motivate these people and others to reach even greater heights.

I believe that this is a very noble idea that people in the UK can fully understand, and this event is a way in which Japan can share his vision with our friends in the UK.

I would also like to express my sincere gratitude to the University of Oxford, which have been invaluable hosts of the Kyoto Prize for many years. Japan's academic community has long enjoyed a wonderful cooperative relationship with the University of Oxford, and I am sure that the Kyoto Prize at Oxford will continue to be a shining example of our partnership.

【Check against Delivery 実際の発言と多少内容が異なることがあります】

I would like to close my remarks by paying tribute once again to the three 2024 Kyoto Prize Laureates and all those who have been involved in today's celebrations.

Thank you very much.