



United Nations Educational,
Scientific and Cultural Organization

**Nadezhda K. Krupskaya Prize,
International Reading Association
Literacy Award and Noma Prize
1980**

Meeting on 27, 28 and 29 August 1980 at Unesco Headquarters in Paris, THE JURY appointed by the Director-General to award the Nadezhda K. Krupskaya Prize, the International Reading Association Literacy Award and the Noma Prize in recognition of the services of institutions, organizations or individuals having distinguished themselves by making a particularly meritorious and effective contribution to the struggle for literacy,

Recalling that the Nadezhda K. Krupskaya Prize and the International Reading Association Literacy Award were endowed in 1969 and 1979, respectively, through the generosity of the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the International Reading Association,

Thanking Mr. Shoichi Noma for his beneficence in endowing the Noma Prize which shall be conferred for the first time this year and recalling in this connection the desire expressed by the donor that, to the extent possible, this prize be awarded to recognize meritorious work in the area of post-literacy,

Noting with satisfaction that several candidatures examined this year have effectively mobilized the human and material resources of their nations to launch large-scale literacy actions as part of an overall endeavour to create new and more just societies,

Observing that several submissions are outstanding examples of comprehensive programme planning combining the teaching of reading and writing with imaginative post-literacy activities designed to sustain, advance and apply the literacy skills of the participants,

Considering as an important measure of progress the evidence of more systematic and scientific approaches to literacy work to which several of the programmes examined bear witness,

Recalling, at the same time, that literacy work depends now, as always, upon the devoted efforts of selfless men and women,

Having examined the 20 nominations submitted by governments and international non-governmental organizations and in compliance with the stipulations and criteria of the General Rules,

has unanimously decided to award,
Firstly, the 1980 Nadezhda K. Krupskaya Prize

to the NICARAGUAN NATIONAL LITERACY CAMPAIGN for having (1) proclaimed the achievement of universal literacy a measure essential to the reconstruction of the Nicaraguan nation; (2) launched a massive campaign dedicated to the heroes and martyrs of liberation

which, it is reported by the Government, recruited and trained 120,000 volunteer teachers who, in less than five months, taught more than 400,000 persons to read and write, thereby reducing the rate of illiteracy from 50 to 13 per cent; (3) planned and initiated a systematic post-literacy programme in order to consolidate and build upon the remarkable achievements of the literacy campaign; and (4) offered an enduring testament to the nobility of the human spirit through the exemplary devotion to duty of its volunteer teachers, more than fifty of whom have given their lives in the service of their compatriots.

secondly, to confer the
International Reading Association Literacy Award for 1980

upon the ETHIOPIAN CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR THE NATIONAL LITERACY CAMPAIGN for (1) developing a broadly based organizational structure which has permitted the effective mobilization of the resources of society in the cause of literacy; (2) systematic planning of literacy work combining the initial teaching of literacy and numeracy with remedial and follow-up courses conceived in a perspective of life-long education; (3) preparation of innovative literacy materials which have been published in five national languages and distributed in more than fifteen million copies; (4) achievement of impressive results in the National Literacy Campaign in the first stage of which more than five million persons were reached, and (5) the positive impact which the Campaign has had upon the national life of Ethiopia and, in particular, on the overall pace and scope of national development;

and, thirdly, to bestow the first Noma Prize

upon the NATIONAL DIRECTORATE OF FUNCTIONAL LITERACY AND APPLIED LINGUISTICS OF MALI for: (1) The pre-eminent importance which it has assigned to post-literacy activities and for the development of innovative follow-up methods and materials through the application of a systematic and scientific approach; (2) its significant contribution to the preservation and advancement of an authentic national culture through the standardization, development and use of national languages as well as through the preparation of literacy and post-literacy materials based upon the oral traditions of Malian peoples; (3) relating the teaching of literacy and numeracy to the everyday needs and interests of the participants in a manner which has made the title "functional literacy" an apt description of the Directorate's programmes; and (4) the continuity and progress of its work which was begun within the framework of the Experimental World Literacy Programme and which the National Directorate has pursued with perseverance, imagination and increasing effectiveness for over a decade;

THE JURY, conscious of the need to recognize, reward and encourage those projects and activities in the field of literacy which can serve as a source of inspiration and emulation, has further decided

to confer an honourable mention of the
Nadezhda K. Krupskaya Prize

upon the NATIONAL LITERACY CENTRE OF ANGOLA for having launched, immediately after independence was attained, the National Literacy Campaign which, operating under difficult conditions and circumstances, has offered literacy instruction to 300,000 persons during the past three years; for the establishment of facilities and structures for literacy and post-literacy in even the remotest areas of the country; and for its persevering efforts to mobilize the entire Angolan population, particularly through the efforts of youth and popular organizations;

to award an honourable mention of the
International Reading Association Literacy Award

to the LITERACY TRAINING CENTRE in NIGER for developing on the basis of field experience and reflection a staff training and research programme for confronting a situation of mass illiteracy among an estimated 90 per cent of the population; for its efforts

to render literacy instruction relevant to the needs of rural communities and its farsightedness in integrating literacy and post-literacy actions in the district in which it conducts its field training, thereby establishing an effective model which may be adopted at national level; and for the exemplary spirit of regional co-operation which the Centre has manifested by inviting citizens of neighbouring nations to participate in its training programmes;

to award an honourable mention of the
Noma Prize

to the BANGLADESH ASSOCIATION FOR COMMUNITY EDUCATION for its significant contribution as a non-governmental organization to the causes of literacy and post-literacy through the activities it sponsors - particularly the publication of an informative and widely-distributed monthly newspaper, *Gonoshikka*- as well as through the effective support it renders to government literacy efforts; for its provision of education in health and community matters; and for the example of selfless service on the part of concerned men and women which it sets to humanity;

Having examined with satisfaction fourteen other submissions for the 1980 prizes for meritorious service in the field of literacy, THE JURY wishes to pay special tribute to the following: Mrs. RUTH JOHNSON COLVIN and the LITERACY VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA, which she founded, for persevering and dedicated service to the cause of literacy; the WOROWORODOU CENTRE IN GUINEA for its development of literacy materials and methods attuned to the interests and needs of rural communities; EL HADJ MAHMOUD BA, founder of the AL FALLAH SCHOOLS and nominated by the ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF MAURITANIA, for successfully adapting traditional education to new purposes while safeguarding its authenticity; the DEPARTMENT OF LITERACY AND ADULT EDUCATION of PARAGUAY for steadfastness and imaginative use of mass media in the struggle against illiteracy; the COMMUNE OF PHU PHUNG in the south of VIET NAM for the example it provides of total community commitment to literacy work; the WORLD YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION OF INDIA for its efforts in bringing literacy to women, who represent a growing majority of the world's illiterates; and the LESOTHO DISTANCE TEACHING CENTRE for its pioneering efforts in introducing innovative approaches for promoting literacy and post-literacy under difficult conditions and circumstances;

Finally, mindful of the offence to human dignity and the impediment to the progress of individuals and nations which illiteracy constitutes, THE JURY launches an urgent appeal to the international community to strengthen co-operation among States and peoples, and to take every measure necessary to mobilize resources and energies in order that the last two decades of the 20th century be a decisive turning point in the historic struggle to liberate humankind from the plague of illiteracy.

Members of the Jury:

Mr. Malcolm Adiseshiah, Chairman
H. E. Mr. Rodolfo Barón Castro
H. E. Mr. Ben Mahdy Cissé
Mr. G. N. Filonov
Mr. James Robbins Kidd
Mr. Thomas G. Sticht