

Zewail is the first scientist from the Arab world to ever receive the Nobel Prize, and the only living scientist from the entire Islamic World of more than one billion people so honored. An Egyptian by birth, he currently occupies the Linus Pauling Chair Professorship at the California Institute of Technology (Caltech) in Pasadena. He is also Director of the National Science Foundation's Laboratory for Molecular Sciences at Caltech. In addition to the Nobel Prize, Zewail has been awarded the Grand Collar of the Nile, Egypt's highest state honor. He has received more than a hundred honorary degrees, prizes, and Orders of States from around the world, and he is an elected member of numerous prestigious academies and societies, such as the U. S. National Academy of Sciences, the Pontifical Academy of Sciences, the European Academy of Arts, Sciences, and the Humanities, and the Royal Society of Great Britain. Zewail is renowned for his public lectures and writings in many fields and world affairs. He currently lives with his family in California.