Moroccan Inventor Rachid Yazami Wins Scientific Innovation Award

Moroccan scientist and inventor Rachid Yazami has won the “Scientific and Technological Innovation” award as part of the “Takreem 2018” initiative.

Moroccan scientist and inventor Rachid Yazami

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Rabat – The award recognizes **Yazami**'s inventions, particularity the graphite anode for lithium-ion batteries.

Every year, the Takreem Initiative awards prizes for Arabs in nine categories, including entrepreneurs, sustainable developers, pioneering Arab women, education innovators, scientific and technological innovators, cultural creatives, providers of humanitarian services, and leaders in business.

Yazami received his prize at a ceremony on Saturday night in Kuwait.

Yazami is best known for his research on lithium-ion batteries.

He graduated from the Moulay Rachid and Moulay Driss high schools in Fez. He then obtained his baccalaureate in mathematical sciences in 1971. After a year at Mohammed V University in Rabat, Yazami moved to the French city of Rouen where he joined preparatory classes for the grandes écoles, before enrolling at the Institut Polytechnique Grenoble (INP) in 1978.

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After his graduation, Yazami prepared a Ph.D. at the Absorption and Gas Reaction on Solids Laboratory on graphite, a complex material used in battery electrodes.

In 2014, King Mohammed VI honored Yazami with a decoration on Throne Day.

Yazami also received the Charles Stark Draper award in 2014 from the Washington-based National Academy of Engineering in recognition for his work in developing reloadable lithium batteries more than 30 years ago.

Yazami began his career at the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CRNS) in France, where he later became the research director in 1998.

The Moroccan also served as a visiting professor at the California Institute of Technology between 2000 and 2010, before being appointed as a visiting professor at the Nanyang Technological University (NTU) in Singapore. He later became the Cheng Tsang Man Chair Professor in Energy at the School of Materials Science and Engineering.