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Egyptian novelist bags Nobel Literature Prize

STOCKHOLM, Oct. 13.—Egyptian novelist Naguib Mahfouz won the 1988 Nobel Literature Prize, the first Arabic-language writer to do so, reports Reuter.

The Swedish Academy of Letters said the 77-year-old writer won the award for "Works rich in nuance, now clear-sightedly realistic, now evocatively ambiguous."

The citation said the academy was awarding the 2.5 million crown (390,000 dollar) prize for work which formed an Arabian narrative art that applied to all mankind.

"His production has meant a powerful upswing for the novel as a genre and for the development of the literary language in Arabic-speaking cultural circles.

"His work speaks to us all", the academy said.

The decision, by a committee of 18 Swedish writers and academics,

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