

Mr. President, Jack Chirac

Ladies and Gentlemen

Dear friends

It is pleasure to express my deepest thanks and gratitude for the honor you granted me by bestowing upon me the National Order of Merit.

This is the third time in my life I have been granted this great honor:

- 1- The first time was in 1979 in Paris Municipality when I was visiting Saint Cyr High School.
- 2- The second time was in 2000 after I was accredited as an ambassador in France.
- 3- This is the third time Mr. President. Thanks to Allah for his blessings.

Allow me to thank and praise all me dear friends, colleagues and instructors in France, from whom I learned the true meaning and real sense of serving my country.

I feel great gratitude for France where I have studied and I feel also great indebtedness for my country, His Excellency the Emir and my own family.

Allow me, dear friends, to express my thanks and gratitude to France and to you Mr. President for your generosity. Thank you.