

(From left) British scientist Peter J. Ratcliffe and United States scientists Gregg Semenza and William Kaelin. EPA PIC

UNUSUAL SEASON

US, British researchers win Nobel in medicine

Their work has paved new ways to treat cancer, says jury

paving the way for new cancer treatments, the Nobel Assembly said. William Kaelin and Gregg Semenza of the US and Britain's Peter Ratcliffe split the nine million Swedish kronor (RM3.8 million) award.

STOCKHOLM

THREE researchers from the United States and Britain yesterday shared the Nobel Medicine Prize for discoveries on how cells sense and adapt to oxygen availability,

"They established the basis for our understanding of how oxygen levels affect cellular metabolism and physiological function," the jury said, adding that their research has "paved the way for promising new strategies to fight anaemia, cancer and

many other diseases". Kaelin, 61, works at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute in the US, while Semenza, 63, is director of the Vascular Research Programme at the John Hopkins Institute for Cell Engineering. Ratcliffe, 65, is director of clin-

ical research at the Francis Crick Institute in London, and director of the Target Discovery Institute in Oxford. Yesterday's announcement opened an unusual 2019 Nobel season, in which two literature laureates will be crowned after a

scandal postponed last year's award. The Peace Prize will be awarded in Oslo on Friday, with speculation rife that Swedish teenage activist Greta Thunberg could win for her campaign to raise awareness about climate change. **AFP**

5 Prizes created in 1901

Medicine Chemistry Physics Literature Peace

9 million Swedish kronor
= 939,000 € (RM4.62 million) for each prize this year

590 Nobel prizes since 1901

935 laureates (individuals or organisations)
52 prizes attributed to women

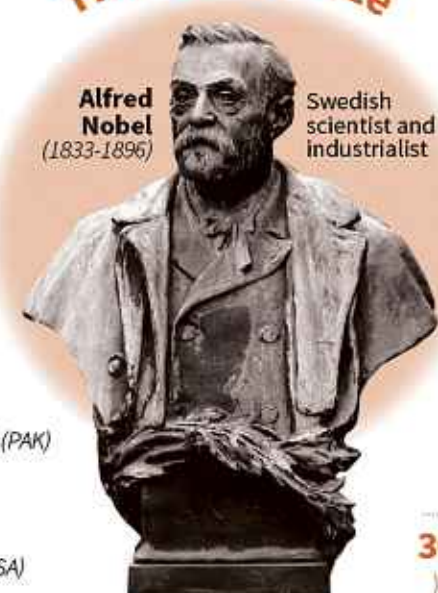
Laureates

- Youngest **17 years old** Malala Yousafzai (PAK) Peace 2014
- Oldest **96 years old** Arthur Ashkin (USA) Physics 2018

Literature laureates

29 English-speaking 14 French 13 German 11 Spanish

The Nobel Prize



Alfred Nobel (1833-1896)
Swedish scientist and industrialist

+ Economy
Established in 1968 by Sweden's central bank

49 prizes not awarded including **19 Nobel Peace Prizes**

6 laureates refused the prize

- 2 voluntarily
- J.-Paul Sartre (FRA) Literature 1964
- Le Duc Tho (VIE) Peace 1973

4 others were forced to turn it down (Nazi Germany, USSR etc)

301 Nobel Peace Prize candidates in 2019

All jury deliberations are kept secret for 50 years

Source: nobelprize.org © AFP

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