

## Nobel Prize winners of 2017

Mr Thusitha Malalasekara



Following scientists won the Nobel Prize in 2017 as per their respective disciplines

### Physiology and Medicine

2017 Nobel Prize for Physiology and Medicine was awarded to 3 American scientists for their research and discoveries regarding the daily rhythms of the human body.

These three scientists are Jeffrey C.Hall, Michael Rosbash and Michel W.Young. Research conducted by them aimed to answer the questions about sleep and the body's need to perform certain biological activities. According to these researches

not only humans, but animals and plants are all constantly trying to perceive the changes in the environment that surrounds them and to adapt accordingly.

They were able to isolate a gene that controls the normal daily biological rhythms of human body. Through their research they were able to “look” inside the biological clock of humans and to get an understanding of its inner workings.

They described that every moment and with every change of the environment a hormonal flow takes place inside the body. This is what fundamentally helps the biological processes such as sleeping, resting, getting rid of waste, that takes place

in accordance to the clock of the each organ or part.

These researches were working on this field since 1984. And their findings will help to understand sleep patterns, food habits, hormonal activities, blood pressure, body temperature. Eventually these findings will go a long way to combat illnesses caused by the sudden changes of the biological system.

### Chemistry

Two Americans and one Swiss scientist won the 2017-Nobel Prize for Chemistry.

Their research that led to the development of the Cryo-Electron Microscopy is expected to move biochemistry in to a new era. The developments made by these three scientists will simplify and improve the imaging of biomolecules according to the Royal Swidish Academy of Science. The names of the three nobel laureates are Jacques Dubochet, Jochim Franck and Richard Hendarson. According to the communique issued by the Royal Swidish Academy of sciences states that developing Cryorelectron microscopy for



Jeffrey C.Hall



Michael Rosbash



Michel W.Young

the high resolution structure determination of biomolecules in solution, these three scientists need nobel recognition.

**Physics**

Three scientists have proved that there are gravitational waves in space. This discovery is expected to help a better understanding of Black holes and may pave the way for the discovery of life beyond earth.

The three Nobel Laureates who won the 2017 Physics Award are the scientists Rainer Weiss, Barry Barish and Kip Thorne.

The Royal Swedish Academy for Sciences, awarding the nobel prize for this decisive contribution in the observation of gravitational waves said that “ This is something new and different, opening up unseen worlds”.

**Literature**

Japanese born British author Kazuo Ishiguro won the 2017 Nobel Prize in Literature.

He has written 8 books and has written scripts for Television and



**Kazuo Ishiguro**



**Jochim Franck**



**Richard Hendarson**



**Jacques Dubochet**

film productions. Most of the themes that Kazuo selected were associated with time, memory and self-disillusionment. His latest novel is “The Buried giant”. The novel that was published in 2015 explores how memory relates to oblivion history to the present, and fantasy to reality.

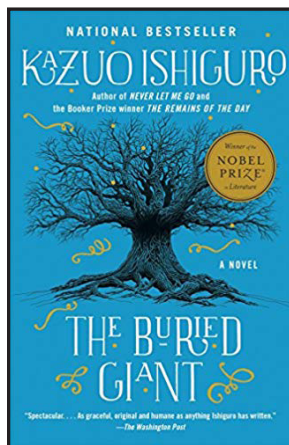
**Economics**

Richard H Thalar an American economist was awarded the 2017 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences. Thalar tried to bridge the gap between Economics and Psychology through his research. His findings are expected to help understand the Pshychology of people belonging to all sectos and clases. These are expected to facilitate economic planning

considering their Psychology. The Nobel Prize was awarded to him for his contribution to behavioural economics. He has used his concepts of behaviorral economics in his book “Nudge” (2008) which was a global best seller.

**Peace**

International campaign to abolish Nuclear Wepons (ican) which is a coalition of non governmental organisations from around 100 different countries of the world was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for 2017 by the Norwegian Nobel committee. The Ican organization repeatedly highlights the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of using nuclear wepons. They are pressuring the world leaders to formulate a treaty based on Prohibition of such wepons. The organization wants the leaders to understand the economic threats and environmental issues apart from the human misery if world endures in to nuclear arms proliferation.



**Mr Thusitha Malalasekara**

