

Hayat Sindi: One Person Helps the World

Hayat Sindi is on National Geographic's list of 14 people who can make the world a better place. She is a medical scientist who helped make an invention that can save the lives of millions of people in poor countries.

Sindi was born in Makkah, Saudi Arabia, and she is one of eight children. After she finished high school, she told her parents she wanted to go to England to study, and they agreed. First, she worked hard to learn English and then passed her exams to enter a university. Finally, she entered King's College in London. She graduated in 1995 and then attended Cambridge University. Sindi was the first Saudi Arabian woman to enter Cambridge and the first to get a Ph.D. in biotechnology.

The invention that Sindi helped to make with other scientists is a quick way of finding out if a person has a certain disease. In poor countries, there are places with no doctors or hospitals. People don't know why they are sick. But now this great invention can help them.



It is a piece of paper the size of a postage stamp and costs only a penny. You put a drop of blood from the sick person on the paper and wait for a minute. The paper changes color and tells you what the problem is. Right now, this invention works on certain diseases of the kidney and the liver. In the future, this invention may be used for other diseases like malaria, HIV, and diabetes.

Sindi helps the whole world through her work. In 2010, she was the winner of the Prince Khalid Award for her work in science. In 2012, she was a UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador because she helped to make science education important for girls in the Middle East. Also, she was on Newsweek magazine's list of "150 Women Who Shake the World."

In 2009, Hayat Sindi was working at Harvard University when U.S. president Barack Obama chose her and four other scientists to make a film that shows how important science education is for young people.



VOCABULARY

VOCABULARY IN CONTEXT

Complete these sentences with the words in the box.

attended
blood

disease
graduated

list
postage stamp

scientist
winner

1. Sindi's invention is an easy way to find out what _____ is making a person ill.
2. The test uses only one drop of _____ from inside a person's body.
3. The paper for the test is as small as a(n) _____ that people put on letters.
4. Hayat Sindi's name is on a(n) _____ of people's names who can change the world.
5. Sindi is a(n) _____ who works and studies in the area of medicine.
6. Sindi _____ Cambridge University where she studied for many years.
7. In 2010, Sindi was the _____ of an award for her work. That year, she came in first out of all the scientists.
8. In 1995, Sindi _____ from King's College and received her degree.

