

The Lionel Gelber Prize

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CONTACT:
Diane Hargrave
DIANE HARGRAVE PUBLIC
RELATIONS
(416) 467-9954

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## WINNER OF PREMIER LIONEL GELBER (\$50,000 CDN) LITERARY PRIZE ANNOUNCED

Jonathan D. Spence, author of the bestselling *The Search for Modern China*, today, during the closing ceremony of the International Festival of Authors, was awarded the **first Lionel Gelber Literary Prize** consisting of a work of art and \$50,000 (Cdn) in cash. The Prize, one of the largest of its kind in the world, was established as one of the last public acts of Canadian writer, historian and advisor on international affairs, Lionel Gelber. Deeply committed to increasing public awareness of global issues of war and peace, Lionel Gelber envisioned the prize as a stimulus to authors writing about international affairs. It is awarded to the author of the year's best book on international relations available in English, in Canada, during the calendar year.

The Search for Modern China, a work of unsurpassed learning, imagination and passion, is the story of four centuries of Chinese history, from the end of the once-glorious Ming dynasty to Deng Xiaoping's bloody suppression of the pro-democracy demonstrations in Tiananmen Square. Through the ideas and emotions of its reformist Confucian scholars, its poets, novelists, artists and visionary students, the story unfolds of one of the world's oldest cultures struggling to define itself as Chinese and modern.

Jonathan D. Spence is George Burton Adams Professor of History at Yale University. He was named a MacArthur Fellow in 1988. Born in England in 1936, he was educated at Winchester College and Cambridge University and received a Ph.D. in history from Yale in 1965.

For further information on the Lionel Gelber Prize, and to set up telephone interviews with the winner of the Prize, Jonathan D. Spence, please contact:

Address correspondence

Manager, The Lionel Gelber Prize, 410 Queens Quay West, Suite 100, Toronto, Ontario M5V 2Z3

Tel: (416) 973-4760 Fax: (416) 973-8729 Diane Hargrave
DIANE HARGRAVE PUBLIC RELATIONS
73 Laird Dr., Ste. 305
Toronto, Ontario, M4G 3T4
Phone: (416) 467-9954
Fax: (416) 467-0881