Professor Jacques Tits, professor emeritus at the Collège de France, and Mr. John Griggs Thompson were recently awarded the Abel Prize in recognition of their discoveries in algebra and particularly for creation of the modern theory of grouping. This distinction once again rewards the quality of French research in mathematics, more specifically in algebra. Through his work Professor Jacques Tits has contributed in a particularly significant way to the understanding of the properties of symmetry that govern our universe.

The Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs is particularly happy to congratulate him for the essential role he has played in the international mathematics community.

The Abel Prize is an annual award, given since 2003 by the Science and Humanities Academy of Norway, in the field of mathematics. Mr. Jean Pierre Serre, chair of the algebra and geometry department at the Collège de France from 1956 to 1994, was the first recipient of the Abel Prize.

Learn more here (in French).