

KURT SCHORK AWARDS – 2005

Winners:

Local reporter category – **Muzamil Jaleel** (India)

Freelance category – **Patrick Graham** (Canada)

Special recognition award – **Pawel Smolenski** (Poland)

Ceremony held at Columbia Journalism School, USA, on 24th November.

Muzamil Jaleel



Writing with courage, originality and power, Muzamil Jaleel reports from Kashmir, one of the world's most bloody and enduring ethnic conflicts. A native Kashmiri, Jaleel displays an instinctive feel for his subject but remains a detached and informed observer. His account of a single village, untouched by war, where the cemetery is filled with people who died normal deaths, is particularly striking. So, too, is his gripping psychological portrait of young fedayeen guerrillas who unexpectedly take him captive. The judges are unanimous in selecting him as a winner of the Kurt Schork Award in International Journalism for local journalism.

Patrick Graham



The insurgency in Iraq is a mystery to many outside the country. At great personal risk, Patrick Graham, a Canadian freelancer based in Iraq, from November, 2002, through August, 2004, repeatedly visited rebellious tribal areas to meet and interview insurgents. His findings, published in Harper's Magazine, depict a nuanced web of people and groups resisting the American presence in Iraq. They turn out to be far more complex in their personal and tribal relationships and motives than the shorthand descriptions given them by Western government officials and journalists -- deadenders, criminals, Baathists, foreign zealots. And many do not seem to be in their last throes. For his courage, ingenuity and impactful journalism, Patrick Graham is awarded the 2005 Kurt Schork Award for a freelance reporter practicing international journalism.



Special recognition award: Pawel Smolenski

With remarkable courage and insight, Pawel Smolenski ushers us into the back alleys and shadowy mosques of Iraq, illuminating a world of religious intrigue, grinding poverty, fear and anger at 'Mister Americas' who have taken control of the country. He presents the view from the ground with an hypnotic subtlety that captures the labyrinth that is Iraq. For the originality of his work in portraying the most powerful man in the country, Ayatollah Sistani, and his commitment to understanding those without a voice, the judges gave a special recognition to Mr. Smolenski.