

Thomas Friedman

Pulitzer Prize winner and NYTimes columnist

Thomas Friedman, the internationally-renowned American journalist with three Pulitzer Prizes to his name, will base his lecture on his No.1 bestseller “The World is Flat”. In this book he is courageous, profound and forward-looking showing a pragmatic approach to the world we live in today.

This prolific writer covers a range of topics on foreign affairs including global trade, the Middle East and climate change in his columns.

Born in Minnesota in 1953, he graduated from Brandeis University in Boston with a B.A. in 1975. He earned his M.Phil in Middle Eastern Studies from St. Anthony’s College at Oxford University, England. Thereafter, Friedman joined the London bureau of United Press International (UPI) where he was soon dispatched to Beirut. That was the beginning of his journalistic forays in Middle Eastern issues.

He covered Secretary of State James Baker during the administration of President George H.W.Bush and was the White House correspondent during Bill Clinton’s tenure. In 1994, he dealt more with foreign policy and economics, then moving onto the op-ed page of the NYT as a foreign affairs columnist.

In 2002, he won the Pulitzer Prize “for his clarity of vision, based on extensive reporting, in commenting on the worldwide impact of the terrorist threat”.