

الله أكبر



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King Abdul Aziz

A staunch believer and protagonist of world peace

KING Abdul Aziz built the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on the strong foundation of the oneness of God and Submission to the Judgement of God's Holy Book and the Traditions of His Prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him. Saudi Arabia's quest for a better life took off under his leadership, racing against time and setting new economic records. And, consequently within a few decades the Kingdom took its legitimate and prominent place in the comity of nations.

MESSAGE



TODAY, September 23, 2006 coincides with the 74th anniversary of the completion of the Unification of the Arabian Peninsula and establishment of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia as a modern independent state.

This is, indeed, a glorious day in the history of the people of Saudi Arabia. On this day, we recall with pride and dignity the sweet memory of the Unification of Arabia at the hand of the great founder King Abdul Aziz Bin Abdul Rahman Al-Saud, may Allah bless him, who established a new state in the name of "Kingdom of Saudi Arabia" and placed it under the lofty banner of Monotheism "La Ilaha Illallahu Mohammadur Rasulullah".

His Majesty King Abdul Aziz who is considered to be one of the renowned makers of modern history succeeded, through a strenuous journey of struggles, to reunite and rebuild the state of Saudi Arabia. Saudi Arabia first emerged as an independent state

Founder. King Abdul Aziz followed in the footsteps of the leaders of the two Saudi states that rose and fell in this region. The first Saudi state emerged in the middle of the eighteenth century through the alliance of the ruler of Diriyah, Imam Muhammad Bin Saud with the Islamic reformer Sheikh Muhammad Bin Abdul Wahab. The aim of the alliance was to spread true Islam and purify the faith and rid it of the superstitions and heresies that attached themselves to it over centuries of ignorance. The first fruit of that era was the unification of the disparate regions, the gathering of the tribes and the acceptance of the rule of God's law. A just society living in peace over vast areas of the Arabian Peninsula and beyond. Eventually, the state came under the pressure of foreign interference and wars, leading to its demise and the return of the Peninsula to its former chaotic condition. The situation pained Abdul Aziz who was living with his family in Kuwait. He swore to regain his heritage at all cost. At last on 5th Shawwal 1319 H (15 January 1902 AD) he succeeded in recapturing Riyadh, which turned out to be the springboard for the unification of the country. He fought battles after battles, and strove for nearly 31 years to bind the nation together and proclaim the establishment of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The people of the Peninsula saw the nobility of his cause and flocked together under his banner.

Strong belief in God
Abdul Aziz, driven by a strong belief in God, strong will and an instinctive understanding of the needs of the hour and aspirations of his people, succeeded in overcoming obstacles and laid the foundation of the young state under the banner of "There is no divinity but God and Muhammad is the Messenger of God". He then set about the task of building the structures of a modern state. He began to open the doors to

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King Abdullah

Dedicated to the service of the people

FOR nearly six decades, the new King of Saudi Arabia, King Abdullah Bin Abdul Aziz, has been closely involved in the profound changes that have taken place in Saudi Arabia, working with five Kings as they successfully brought about far-reaching socio-economic development while preserving and strengthening the foundations of Saudi society-commitment to Islam and Arab heritage. Under the guidance of his elder brother the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques late King Fahad Bin Abdul Aziz, who appointed him Crown Prince and Deputy Prime Minister in 1982. The then Crown Prince now King Abdullah has assisted in the implementation of the country's series of development plans and in former King Fahad's efforts to ensure the nation's peace and prosperity as well as serving Islam and the Muslim community.

Born in Riyadh in 1924, King Abdullah received his early education at the Royal court. Growing up around his legendary father, King Abdul Aziz Bin Abdul Rahman Al-Saud, who was at that time involved in the successful effort to unify the tribes of the Arabian Peninsula into the modern Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. King Abdullah demonstrated an abiding commitment to Islam and a keen interest in Arab history, culture and traditions. Like King Abdul Aziz's other sons, he was tutored by scholars in Islam and Arab history and underwent the rigorous training that King Abdul Aziz demanded of all of them. To develop the physical and mental strength of his sons, King Abdul Aziz is quoted as saying: "I train my own children to walk barefoot, to rise two hours before dawn, to eat but little, to ride horses bareback" and to study the Holy Quran, the Sunnah (teachings and sayings of the prophet Muhammad) and Arab history. As they came of age, the then crown Prince and his brothers spent much time in their father's daily majlis, meetings where any citizen could approach the King and discuss a grievance or concern. In this way, they learned the intricacies of statesmanship and the art of communication with people.

To develop a strong bond with the people, a deep respect for their heritage and understanding of their aspirations, King Abdul Aziz desired that his sons spend time with the bedouins in the desert. The years the then Crown Prince Abdullah spent living with the tribes instilled in him a respect for their values, simplicity, generosity and bravery and strengthened his desire to serve the people.

King Abdullah's close association with the affairs of government and the people continued after King Abdul Aziz passed away. He acted as advisor to King Saud Bin Abdul Aziz and later to King Faisal Bin Abdul Aziz and was deeply involved in the internal affairs of the Kingdom.

In 1962 the then Crown Prince Abdullah was appointed to command the Saudi National Guard, which was formed from the descendants of bedouins who were King Abdul Aziz's followers during the years he was working to establish the modern Kingdom.

The then Crown Prince worked tirelessly to modernise the National Guard and make it a potent force committed to the preservation of the Kingdom's peace and security. He supervised the establishment of military and technical schools with a view to modernising the force, as well as the establishment of hospitals,

side of late King Fahad the then Crown Prince Abdullah became intimately involved in major foreign policy issues, such as Saudi Arabia's relations with Arab, Islamic and other countries, its efforts to resolve crises, including the civil war in Lebanon, the factional fighting in Afghanistan, the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina and the Middle East peace process.

As late King Fahad's emissary, the then Crown Prince Abdullah has represented the Kingdom at various international conferences, including summit meetings of member states of the League of Arab States; the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) and the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM). He has met with world leaders in Saudi Arabia and conducted state visits to other countries, including the United States.

While performing all these duties, the then Crown Prince now King Abdullah has steadfastly supported efforts to preserve Saudi Arabia's rich heritage. As chairman of the organising committee for the Jeddah National Culture and Heritage festival, he has overseen the two-week festival held annually since 1985 to promote a greater respect for and a deeper understanding of Saudi Arabia's rich past, its dynamic present and its promising future.

Throughout his life, King Abdullah has retained a love of the desert, which is reflected in his patronage for equestrian clubs, the Camel Race and other activities associated with the bedouins. He also has developed a passion for knowledge and reading. He has established two libraries, the King Abdul Aziz library in Riyadh and one in Casablanca, Morocco.

After decades of public service in positions of importance. The new King Abdullah is today recognised not only in Saudi Arabia, but also in the Arab and Islamic worlds, as a leader dedicated to ensuring his country's continued future development while preserving past achievements.



Crown Prince Sultan Bin Abdul Aziz

CROWN Prince Sultan Bin Abdul Aziz stands among the leaders of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia who built the modern state with its mass development plans.

He took responsibilities since the early stages of his life, and worked with all the successive Saudi Monarchs from King Abdul Aziz till the era of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques. He was always at the core of the Saudi domestic and foreign policy.

Crown Prince Sultan was born on Jan 5, 1928. He lived under the careful eye of his father, the founder King Abdul Aziz. On Jun 2, 1947, he was nominated the governor of Riyadh by King Abdul Aziz. When the first cabinet was formed, Prince

Sultan took the portfolio of the ministry of Agriculture on December 24, 1953. One of the great projects he executed, at that time, was the settlement of the nomads which was one of the concerns of the government. On November 5, 1955 he was appointed minister of transport. On October 13, 1962 he was appointed Minister of Defence, Aviation and Inspector General.

Since then, the Armed forces witnessed great development in its reorganising, modernising of its military weapons and equipment's, building of its military schools and colleges. All branches of Saudi Armed Forces achieved a big jump in modernisation and became one of the most advanced armed forces.

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Our Heartiest Felicitations to the Government and the Brotherly People of the Kingdom of SAUDI ARABIA on the Occasion of their 75th National Day



Our heartiest felicitations and greetings to the Government, Royal Family and the Brotherly People of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on the auspicious occasion of their

National Day



His Majesty King Abdul Aziz Bin Abdul Aziz



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Sultan Bin Abdul Aziz

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