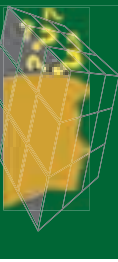


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**Riyadh The global core capital**

**Fifty Years of Achievements of HRH Governor of Riyadh**

**The City of Oil & Capital**



# Riyadh

## The global core capital

Business & Finance Club - Riyadh

Riyadh, the capital of Saudi Arabia, is one of the fastest developing and growing capitals around the world. Within a limited period of time, the city has immensely grown, various organizational and architectural projects were executed in various sectors. Riyadh is located in center of the Arabian peninsula on an alluvial hill about 600 m above the sea level at the eastern section of Najd hill. The main topographic milestones of the city are represented in valleys including Wadi Hanifa valley that penetrates the city from the north west to the south east, extending for 120 km, and the depth of the valley is below 10m.

### The 10 governors of Riyadh

Riyadh has been governed by ten princes in tranquil succession. After the settling down of Riyadh, it was run by the unifying king Abdulaziz. However, his historic role required him to go out to the extending desert. Thus, he assigned the administration of Riyadh to his father Imam Abdulrahman Al Saud who was

a ruler of special class who regained the city its power and glory. After his death, prince Saud governed the city in 1346H, but when the unifying king nominated prince Saud as his crown prince, the ruling of Riyadh moved to the king's cousin, Prince Abdulaziz bin Turki, then followed by one of the king's strong supporters, Prince Mohammed bin Saad bin Zaid. In 1359H prince Nasser bin Abdulaziz governed Riyadh city for about seven years to which he added various extensions and he worked to rebuild the city.

On 8 Rajab 1366H, the wise prince Sultan bin Abdulaziz became the governor of Riyadh to complete the message of Al Saud. During his era, Riyadh started to take its way towards globalization, thus roads were constructed, and the architectural milestones started to emerge. Within seven years, during which the wise prince Sultan bin Abdulaziz set the fundamental stones of the modern Riyadh to grow and take new political, administrative and global dimensions. After that, Riyadh was governed by Prince Naif who took Prince Salman as his vice governor. But soon, prince



*HRH Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz, governor of Riyadh*

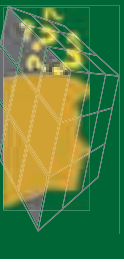


*HH Prince Dr. Abdulaziz bin Migren bin Ayaf Al Migren, Secretary of Riyadh region.*

Prince Salman is now governing Riyadh for over fifty three years, and thus he is considered one of the oldest rulers of this Emarah with his long prosperous service of this great city.







*Sketch of the train proposed to be established in the capital Riyadh*

Naif quitted the administration of Riyadh due to a health problem to his brother prince Turki who governed Riyadh for a short period not exceeding 4 months, and left the position to his brother prince Fawaz who handed the administration to prince Bader bin Saud. After that, prince Salman returned as a governor of Riyadh by the royal decree issued on 10 Ramadan 1382H. to start a procession between the prince of princes and the flourishing city, Riyadh.

### Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz

It is not possible to talk about the capital without mentioning its governor HRH Prince Salman

bin Abdulaziz and his great achievements in this valued city. Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz was born on Shawal 5, 1354H, (corresponding to December 31, 1936G) in Riyadh. He is the twenty fifth son in the series of male sons of King Abdulaziz Al Saud. HRH prince Salman was nominated as governor of Riyadh since 1970 to date. He is a key basis of the Saudi Royal family and was the trustee of his father late King Abdulaziz. Prince Salman is now governing Riyadh for over fifty three years, and thus he is considered one of the oldest rulers of this Emarah with his long prosperous service of this great city. He is nominated to enter Ginny's Records as one of the oldest governors worldwide.

### Rise of prince Salman

Prince Salman was brought up at the palace of his father in Riyadh, and received his religious education on the hands of the key religious scholars, and his knowledge increased by readings in various fields. He received his official education at Riyadh schools on the hands of the key professional teachers at that time.

His religious and academic education and his personal readings have qualified him to be a unique cultural facet. He is well advised in the political affairs and global trends, and he is a great reference for the history of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and reference for Al Saud family in all their affairs. Although prince Salman occupied the 24<sup>th</sup> position among the sons of King Abdulaziz, Prince Salman had preferable position for his father. He accompanied his father in his travels and visits and was close to him. The young prince learnt the principles of ruling, particulars of policy, ability to take wise decision, importance





of thinking in every small issue. The young prince lived for 17 years under the guardianship of his father where he learnt, studied and gained wisdom, principles of administration and ability of leadership.... Among his brothers, Prince Salman was known for his good memory and capability to retrieve the facts, excellent prediction and prudent assessment. The young prince gained the capability to confront and solve problems in a practical and quick wise manner.

### Achievements of Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz

HRH has spent his youth serving the capital with faithful restless effort for developing and improving the region. His effort were not limited to the official duty, but exceeded it to the human work, as Riyadh became a center for local and international charity activity supervised by Prince Salman himself.

Actually, during his long work in governing Riyadh region, Prince Salman exerted hard and continuous efforts for developing this region. So he made Riyadh a city he could be proud of and comparable with the most advanced capitals around the world.

Although development is the natural characteristic of all the country, Riyadh city preceded it age, and its development was incomparable. What was achieved in Riyadh city was the result of the loyal, persistent and faithful efforts of the government of

Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques in general, and from its faithful son HRH Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz in particular.

The interest of HRH in Riyadh city has coped with the development of this city along the years. When the ministries of the country moved to the capital during the era of King Saud, Prince Salman realized the significance of this step on the position of Riyadh, thus he prepared for construction of the necessary buildings for these administrative agencies.

When the embassies moved to Riyadh city, prince Salman was initiative in responding to this step since the country planned for such transfer. He planned a new ideal quarter that bears the qualities of original architectural feature originating from the culture of this country, the quarter that became a remarkable milestone of the capital, known as "Diplomatic Quarter".

### Prince Salman's interest in economy

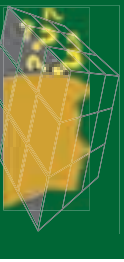
The present GDP of Riyadh is estimated at SR 60 billions, as Riyadh city, during the last three decades of the administration of prince Salman, has witnessed a quick development and change in the economic structure due to the changes witnessed by the Kingdom's economy in general, in addition to the unique features of Riyadh as a capital of special position of the Kingdom. The total GDP of the Kingdom, during that period increased over 20 times than before.



Riyadh city preceded its age,  
and its development is incomparable.







*HRH Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud at one of the national events.*

Various factors have contributed in increasing the economic capabilities of Riyadh city, including the large population growth and development of job opportunities.

The government sector plays an important role in the economy of Riyadh. This is manifested in the increase of employment at the government sector during the last decade. The Saudi private sector contributes at about 40% of the added value. It is anticipated that the private sector will become the main power for economic development of the countries in the near future.

Under the guidance of HRH Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz, Riyadh Development Authority

has set an economic strategy aiming at improving the productive environment, development of human resources and infrastructure in the region, within the larger objective of the plan, that aims at finding comprehensive and balanced development in the region that leads to releasing the heavy developmental and population pressure on Riyadh.

Riyadh Development Authority, presided by HRH Prince Salman, is studying the work plan and the progress in the projects of King Abdullah Capital Center, and IT and Communication City. The Authority agreed to establish an investment consortium for developing Al Dhahira area,

and agreed on the future vision of Sudir Industrial City. The Authority has also approved the second 5-year plan for the road system in Riyadh city till 1432H, and awarded contracts for executing the project of reducing the underground water in a number of quarters north Riyadh.

It has also studied the project of first stage of the electric train in Riyadh city that a feasibility study indicated its economic and financial feasibility. The electric train will operate on the King Abdullah road and Olaya main street and will produce great financial return that will cover six times the cost of the project. Among the benefits that will return on Riyadh: reducing the number of vehicle trips with about 250.000 trips daily, reducing the number of kilometers driven by cars daily at about 4.48 million km, saving about 400.000 fuel liters daily, and thus reducing air pollutants, improving the quality of air, reducing traffic accidents at 21 accidents per day.

Riyadh city is preparing to join the great capital centers to be





comparable with the similar centers worldwide, not at the regional level only but on the international level also. Efforts are currently exerted to start constructing the project of King Abdullah Capital Center that sets the developmental basis that will ensure a leading role of the Kingdom as the largest economy in the region. The project of IT City that sprung from the comprehensive strategic plan for Riyadh city, developed by Riyadh Development Authority under the presidency of HRH Prince Salman, includes an economic strategy that aims in general at achieving balanced economic development based on a number of objectives including diversification of economic base, increasing the local added value and developing the Saudi manpower. The IT city project in Riyadh aims at achieving a number of objectives including: increasing the competitive power internationally for the Saudi IT companies, improve the competitive status of Riyadh due to the privileges granted to it, raising the capital flow in the IT sector, in addition to developing the Saudi manpower.

In addition to contribution in the economic development and growth witnessed by Riyadh, the capital center aims at achieving a number of key objectives including: Grouping the organizations working in the capital sector, raising the capital sector's contribution in developing the national economy with all possible capabilities, attracting the different financial investments and

providing job opportunities to the national manpower through creating thousands of new jobs, and meeting the training and development needs by establishing a capital academy.

For the industrial sector, the 5 year plans have assured that industry has become the axis of development in the kingdom. The number of factories in Riyadh city during 1998 was 924 factories with total capital about SR 25 billion, and total labour about 87 thousands.

### Prince Salman's interest in education sector

When King Saud university became overloaded with students, the idea of establishing a large academic city in Riyadh city emerged, and prince Salman was the one who shouldered the burden of this giant project until it became a truth within few years.

The interest of HRH prince Salman did not stop at this limit, he played a key role in the construction of the campus of Imam Mohammed Ibn Saud Islamic University, since the project was just an idea. With some officials, he searched for the suitable land until they selected the location where the project was executed on the entrance of Riyadh city through King Khalid International Airport road to Riyadh.

### Prince Salman's interest in health sector

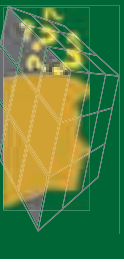
In the health projects, Prince Salman was interested in establishing hospitals, either under the Ministry of Health,



Prince Salman's interests were not limited to supervising the governmental activities related to Riyadh city, but he follows up and encourages the private sector works in Riyadh city, including: his interest in following up the activities of Riyadh chamber of commerce and industry, encouraging the national factories and removing their hindrances.







*HRH Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz opening a factory at the 2<sup>nd</sup> industrial city*

other governmental agencies or adopted by the private sector. The health projects, including public hospitals, specialized hospitals, clinics, etc were founded in different areas of Riyadh city.

Prince Salman, may Allah preserve him, was and still following up all the developments witnessed by Riyadh city during the last fifty three years, and was keen to supervise these developments closely through his presidency of the higher committees in Riyadh city. After the issuance of the Regions Regulation, Prince Salman as the governor of Riyadh Region became the chairman of Riyadh Region Committee

that is responsible for planning and follow-up of the proposed projects.

### Prince Salman's interest in public and trading services sector:

Regarding the government service agencies in Riyadh city, prince Salman is the chairman of their higher committees. He is the chairman of Riyadh Development Authority, that is responsible for setting the higher policy for developing the capital, approving the metropolitan service programs and development planning requirements for all ministries, agencies, public and private

organizations, and method of program performance.

Actually, Riyadh Development Authority was and still responsible for all the vital projects that were carried out and are still in progress in this giant city. HRH is also the chairman of water and sanitary drainage authority in Riyadh region, chairman of King Fahad National Library, Chairman of King Abdulaziz Foundation. He is the president of the organizing committee of "The Kingdom between the past and the present exhibition" that was held in a number of Arabian and European countries and in USA. He is the founder and honorary chairman of Prince Salman Center for Disability Research, Honorary president of Prince Salman Social Center

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in addition to his restless work to maintain the position of Riyadh on the international arena, attracting international investments through creating the suitable climate for investment, and other various interests exerted by HRH prince Salman for Riyadh region, a burden almost no other person can shoulder.

Despite all the works and duties, prince Salman did not forget the human aspect, but he gave it much care and consideration.

Representing the policy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia since the era of the founder King Abdulaziz till the era of Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz, no one inside the Kingdom or among the expatriates who are included in his kindness could ignore such charity and benevolent works, and the prosperous efforts for serving people who found difficulty in life. We mention here some examples without limitation.

Prince Salman is the chairman of Charity Association in Riyadh that assisted the poor and the needed, and he is still giving his care and interest to the association and he follows its projects until it became a financially independent association.

Chairman of Disabled Children Association that was created and developed under the support and encouragement of HRH, Chairman of Prince Salman Social Center and different other humanitarian projects serving Riyadh city in particular and Riyadh region in general.

Further, the humanitarian projects and assistance adopted by prince Salman for giving assistance to those needed outside the kingdom, are also uncountable.

Prince Salman's interest was not limited to Riyadh only, but he was keen to provide assistance to all Moslems who need help and support, due to his personal conviction and for achieving social collaboration principle stipulated by Islam, and in pursue of the policy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia since the era of its founder King Abdulaziz, and supporting the Arabian rightful issues.

### 19<sup>th</sup> Arab League Summit

It is worth saying that HRH prince Salman has lately exerted great efforts for the preparation of the 19<sup>th</sup> Arab League Summit that was held in Riyadh, as the chairman of organizing committee for the 19<sup>th</sup> Arab League Summit. HRH, before the summit date, has conducted various visits included a number of key sites such as King Abdulaziz International Conference Center, Summit Security Headquarters, Media Center founded by the Ministry of Information for this purpose at Marriott hotel. HRH has personally viewed all the arrangements and preparations for the summit in all sectors and agencies of the city, whether civil or military. HRH has gave also his directions for providing the necessary facilities to the participants in the summit. Thus, this summit was considered by the Arab leaders as one of the most successful Arab League Summits.



Interest of HRH Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz was not limited to Riyadh, but he has been interested in giving help to all Moslems who need help in all human and political issues.

