# Saudi Eighty First National Day

The sixth pledge and achievements of the country's leader on the national day

### Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz ... a leadership that conquers the storms.

#### Business and Finance Club – Special

Since dawn of history, the peoples of the world looked for "historical leadership" that represents society and fulfill the goals of groups allying within certain political framework. However, history itself laid down set of factors as conditions for the appearance of the historical leader. Perhaps the most important factor is the leadership necessitated by responsibility and not position or chair.

These factors materialized in the personality of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud, may God protect him, and to whom the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia celebrated the sixth pledge last month. This was an expression of a formula that rarely becomes available in one country, namely: Big man in a big country steering history with all merits of greatness amidst economical and political storms and security challenges that shake the largest countries in the world but ease in the skies of the Kingdom and even avoids passing through it.

During the era of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah Bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud, may God protect him, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia witnessed several giant developmental achievements throughout its vast area in the different economical, educational, health, social, transportation, industrial, electrical, water and agricultural

> A ... Wisdom in leadership and pioneering in supporting Arab solidarity

sector which together represent grand achievements characterized with comprehensiveness and integration in building and developing the country.

Accordingly, the Kingdom assumed its new position on the map of the advanced countries in the world. In the field of growth, the Kingdom surpassed the ceilings recognized for achieving several developmental goals identified by the "Millennium Declaration" as set by the United Nations in the year 2000 and it is also keeping on the road to achieving another number of such developments before the expected deadlines. In his era, the people of the Kingdom enjoyed major achievements in different fields.

King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz started his rule about six years ago by amending the constitution and the introduction or establishment of the Pledge Panel comprising of the sons or grandsons, in some cases, of King Abdul Aziz asdetermined the law by addition in two to members to be appointed by the King, one from among his and sons one from among the sons of the Crown Prince. Upon the death of the King, the Pledge Panel shall call for offering

pledge to the Crown Prince to be the King of the country.

According to the regulation of the Panel, the King shall, after being pledged and after consultation with the members of the Panel, select whom he deems fit to be the Crown Prince. However, the King's choice shall be presented to the Panel to choose one of them and if does not nominate any of them, the Panel shall nominate another person as it deems fit to be the Crown Prince. If the King does not approve the nomination of the Panel, the latter shall vote to decide between the person nominated by the Panel and the person nominated by the King. After that, the nominee who receives more votes shall be nominated as the Crown Prince. In addition, the regulation of the Panel determined that the selection of the Crown Prince shall be made within a period not exceeding thirty days as of the date of pledge to the King.

The era of King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud is characterized with many accomplishments and quality shifting that placed the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia among the countries of the world in terms of economic, political, developmental, social and religious standards.

Starting from the project of the largest expansion in the Holy Shrine of Mecca in the Islamic history to the economical and industrial cities that made Saudi Arabia a pole for foreign investments and the several decisions and laws that enhanced the competitiveness of the Kingdom and made it a safe and attractive environment for work and decent living. In addition, the Kingdom witnessed development in education and scientific research sector and boosting the woman's participation in the community and finally, the severe financial crisis that stormed the globe two years ago but its waves broke at the borders of the Kingdom, thanks to the King's wisdom and rational leadership that maintained the Kingdom's place on the global economical map and made its economy more stable and solid.

With global humanitarian character, he steered the ship of his country and nation amidst rough waves with strength, pride, might and skillfully. The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques – may Allah provide him power – devoted major interest in internal issues and situations and under his directions and care, the Kingdom saw the achievement of many developmental and cultural projects. In addition, he placed major priority



The American President Obama said: I was impressed with the wisdom and generosity of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques... I'm full of confidence that by working together the USA and KSA shall achieve progress in whole lot of issues of common interest.

## Major accomplishments and events during the era of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques:

Saudi Arabia joined the World Trade Organization in 2005

Establishment of economical and industrial cities

Expansion in the programs of educational delegation grants and increase of salaries of delegates by 50%

Establishment of the King Abdullah University of Sciences and Technology

Establishment of the Princess Nora bint Abdul Rahman University for Girls

Amendment of the constitution and establishment of Delegation Panel

Issue of two new laws for judiciary and Grievance Court

Establishment of Housing Authority, Consumer Protection Association and National Water Company Execution of expansions in the facilities of holy rituals in Mina, Muzdalifa and Arafat

Establishment of "King Abdullah Hospital for Children" as world center for children's diseases

Launching the Conference of Dialogue of Religions at its third stage

Issue of decree for the establishment of the Atomic and Renewable Power City

Establishment of the Corruption Combating Authority provided that it shall report directly to the King

Allocation of SR 250 Billion for building 5 Thousand housing units

Laying down the foundation stone for the largest expansion in the history of the Holy Mosque

## A history that embodies the meanings of the present and projects the future

on the Arab and Islamic causes and he has pioneering standpoints and directions concerning the solidarity and unity of the Arab and Islamic world.

The King had several participations and initiatives on the international arena and he bore huge responsibilities while he was the Crown Prince where he took part in the various international, Arab and regional official political events and led the trends of reformation in the Arab house. The King represented the policy of moderation, frankness and clarity and his skill in leadership and shrewdness and experience in events promoted the role of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in the world.

A pioneer in reformation and development with deep rooted originality

The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques was born in the City of Rivadh in 1349H corresponding to 1931 and lived with his father, King Abdul Aziz bin Abdul Rahman Al Saud. He remembers well the events of that historical period which was full of social and intellectual challenges in the Arab Peninsula in addition to the political developments in the Arab region and the whole world during the two world wars. Since his early age, the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques was known for religions, moral and ethical discipline which made him gain the ability of mental judgment based on logic and dialogue against crisis.

The Custodian of the Two Holy

Mosques leadership assumed responsibilities at early age. In 1383H corresponding to 1962, Prince Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz assumed the position of the Chief of National Guard that included, in its early formation, the sons of the men who worked and participated with their leader, King Abdul Aziz, in unifying and building the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. His role in leading this military establishment had an effective impact on its development and modernization.

In 1395H corresponding to 1975, he became the Second Deputy of the Prime Minister and the Chief of National Guard. In 21.8.1402H corresponding to 13.6.1982 he received the pledge as the Crown Prince from the royal family, scholars, country's dignitaries and the Saudi public. On the same day, a royal decree was issued appointing him as the Deputy Prime Minister, Chief of National Guard and the Crown Prince.

In January 2006, the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz, may God protect him, was chosen as the Best Gulf Personality for 2005 according to the survey conducted by the Emirati Al Bayan newspaper in recognition of his achievements at the local level and his several initiatives at the political level. During the first year of his pledge, the King overcame, with his political shrewdness and wisdom, several crises at the Arabic level and dealt with the same with a mentality that demonstrates his far sight and keenness to mend cracks.

His distinguished presence and honorable standpoints at the Arabian level had major effect on gaining the appreciation of everybody. In addition, his sense of Islamic belonging and continuous support for the Muslims causes and his keenness to bring them good made him win their hearts. Famous quotes of the King...

We are with you living your hopes and dreams and our only wish is to serve you and look after your well being and follow up your conditions.

I make covenant with Allah and then you to have Quran as the constitution and Islam as methodology and that my first concernshallbe to protectrights, achieve justice and serve all nationals without distinction and hence I call upon you to lend me your support and help me bear the trust and don't deprive me from your advice and prayers.

Gift without care by those have it is like a small plant without care or watering and neither religion nor reason would accept that we neglect or ignore it.

Everybody can live with differences and diversity, but it is difficult to live with conflicts that do not have legal and national controls.

## Men of covenants and truth, the best help to the beloved King

His Royal Highness Prince Sultan bin Abdul Aziz, man of war and peace



The achievements of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques were made possible with the support of their Royal Highnesses, his brothers who joined the march of renaissance of the Kingdom and its people particularly His Royal Highness Prince Sultan bin Abdul Aziz, born in Riyadh City in 1928 and the first Minister of Defense in the world where he assumed the position of the Minister of Defense and Aviation in Saudi Arabia in 1962.

In addition to his positions and besides the family relation, a close personal relationship based on trust and loyalty bound the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques and Prince Sultan that in its turn boosted the strength of the Saudi regime that is known for its solidity in the face of challenges both in peace and in war. This is added to the big trust that the people places in Prince Sultan who had, throughout the years, nourished distinctive relations based on love and respect with people, militants, leaders, social and religious establishments and intellectuals and journalists.

With tolerant personality and extensive experience, Prince Sultan was the man of settlement, conciliation and a man of peace. The citizen feels comfortable with him; diplomacy did and still seeks him, in secret and in public, to solve most sensitive complications like those concerned with Gulf relations. Respectable status, simplicity, warmth, manners, modesty and the personal relations with senior leaders and officials in both the Arab and the western world, all of this made his task easy and excellence in his performance.

The status of Prince Sultan in Saudi Arabia was recognized by both the people and leadership. Here, the Saudi King sets aside ceremonial customs to be in person, prestige and status at receiving his Crown Prince when he returned from treatment trip. In addition, King Abdullah was keen to visit Sultan at his Saudi hospital and the Moroccan recovery spa proving the kindness of a King and the loyalty of a Crown Prince in a relation that is rarely known among the circles of decision, power and politics in a political world that is in confrontation with itself.

Prince Sultan was brought up under the care of his father, King Abdul Aziz Al Saud, and like other members of the household of King Abdul Aziz received proper education and learnt Quran and Arabic sciences from scholars. His close association with his father had great influence in making him gain practical experience and political shrewdness. He started his activities at early age and had always been in contact with the Saudi politics both within and outside Saudi Arabia.



Since his early age, His Royal Aziz, the Crown Prince, showed outstanding intelligence and a strong and active dynamic presence and in addition to his bold character he has spiritual efficiency that is fit for the prominent role that his country plays in the Middle East. His Highness is a shrewd politician who made a number of important visits to different Arab and western countries and made known and useful contributions in various regional and international conferences.

King Abdul Aziz Al Saud placed his trust in his son Sultan when he appointed him as the Emir of Riyadh, the capital of Saudi Arabia on 22nd February 1947 who participated with his father in establishing a solid administrative system based on social justice and implementation of Islamic Sharia. Prince Sultan was also appointed as a member in the Cabinet in Saudi Arabia after he was appointed as the Minister of Agriculture in 1953 when the first Cabinet of Saudi Arabia was formed. He contributed to the process of resettlement of nomads and helping them in establishing modern farms.

He was appointed as the Minister of Transportation in 1955 where he contributed to the introduction of modern land transportation networks and wire and wireless communication networks. Then he was appointed as Minister of Defense and Aviation in 1962 and is still holding this position. Royal order appointing Prince Sultan as the Second Deputy of the Prime Minister was issued on Sunday, 13th June 1982. His Royal Highness Sultan bin Abdul Aziz was appointed as the Crown Prince. Minister of Defense and Aviation and the General Inspector and Deputy Prime Minister On 26th Jamadi Thani 1426H.



The French President Nicolas Sarkozy: I would like to praise the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz for his commitment with courage and insight in facing challenges. His Royal Highness Prince Naif bin Abdul Aziz, the guarantee of security and safety



ajor issues and big files can only Whe dealt with by big men with great resolve. Among such cases is the issue of terrorism in the world as it spread largely particularly in Islamic countries, unfortunately. Allah graced the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia with a strong and trustworthy man who rooted security, spread safety and assurance and fought terrorism with iron hand making our country, thanks Allah, an example to be followed in combating terrorism in the field, through information and intellectually. The man behind this major file is His Royal Highness Second Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Internal Affairs the strong willed Prince Naif bin Abdul Aziz.

His Royal Highness Prince Naif bin Abdul Aziz, the Second Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Internal Affairs is considered one of the qualified men of state and who had a crucial role in rooting security and stability and tracking the terrorist "deviant". Among the efforts of His Highness in combating terrorism, he introduced a program for the rehabilitation of those arrested in cases of terrorism which received international commendations starting with the International Security Council in addition to the praise of many countries and organizations that requested to benefit from this experience where the intellectual treatment achieved lots of successes.

Prince Naif was born in the City of Taef in 1353H corresponding to 1934 and received his education at Al Umaraa School then was taught by leading scholars and sheikhs and continued gaining acquaintance in political, diplomatic and security affairs. He assumed many positions, mainly: the Undersecretary of the Emirate in Riyadh Area on 17.6.1371H and then the Prince of Riyadh Area by the Royal Decree dated 3.4.1372H until 25.8.1374H. The noble Royal Order No. A/45 was issued on 29.3.1390H corresponding to 3.6.1970 appointing him as the Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs. On 17.9.1394H the noble Royal Order was issued appointing him as the Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs with minister status. In addition, the noble Royal Order no. A/45 dated 17.3.1395H was issued



The German Chancellor Angela Merkel: I would like Custodian Two of the VOU. Holv Mosques, to know that you are playing a major role in enhancing and improving relations between all countries; your word is respected and you are always for dialogue to solve all problems and issues and you dedicate your efforts to solve disputes amicably and therefore we wish to cooperate with you.

appointing him as the State Minister of Internal Affairs and then the Minister of Internal Affairs, a position that he is still holding.

At "Thought of Extremism and Extremism of Thought" conference, that he personally inaugurated, he confirmed that it is necessary to combat extremism, exaggeration and terrorism that threatens the life of man, violates the secrecy of religion and threaten the resources of individuals and nations. This is the methodology of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia based on its religious and ethical duty as it is highly responsive in revealing the dangers of terrorism and intellectual extremism and combating them with the power of deterrence and methodology of deterring because deterring terrorism needs a power that stops and eliminates it because deterring thought requires a methodology that combats it and protects the youth from it and save the society from its evil.

Terrorism begins with intellectual extremism that evolves to actual extremism supported at this stage by extreme thought. Hence, the formula begins with extremism of "thought" that grows to become thought of "extremism" that upholds and supports it, justifies its speech and authorizes its actions. Therefore, if we want to combat extremism, lets combat its thought and if we want to combat its thought lets combat its intellectual and human sources. Many terrorist acts started with ideas promoted by some people based on jealousy and fellowship but they develop to the point of permitting grand acts of evil.

We thank Allah for bestowing us with leaders who led us to moderation and stood in the path of extremism of terrorism. The accomplishments of His Royal Highness in this field are too many to be summed up in this space. We shall suffice ourselves with what clearly apparent and pray to Allah to grant long life to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques and all his loyal men who made covenants and were truthful and where like pillars that solidified the Saudi regime in the region and the world.



In the memoires of the former President American **Rill** Clinton, "My Life", he thanks King Abdullah who provided him with moral support when his presidency was shaken. He says: "I flew to Sharm Al Sheikh in Egypt to attend a summit in the Middle East about violence with President Mubarak. Kina Abdullah (King of Jordan), Kofi Anan and Xavier Solana who was Secretary General of European Union. They the the all wanted to stop violence exactly like the Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah who was not there but heavily supported the trend".

Famous words of the King...

Dialogue represents the most effective and useful method to achieve harmony and coexistence among the members, classes and trends of the community. Difference of opinions and diversity of trends is a reality and it is a natural outcome of the human nature.

It is time we learn that when we unite our word no obstacle will stand in our way which will not remain dark. Union is our way to power in a world that only recognizes the powerful.

We have no chance to reserve life on this planet unless we defeat evil with good, injustice with justice, greed with generosity and abuse with forgiveness.

If the Islamic civilization led the whole world through the centuries of renaissance and prosperity, it is called upon today urgently to play its pioneering role in leading humanity.



## Events... In the life of a king

he personality of King Abdullah is the subject of interest and acceptance for all world politicians not because of the prominent position of the Kingdom only, but for his own personality. This was obvious while he was the Crown Prince and what happened in the USA - for example without limitation - in 1425H (2004) when he was received like kings and states' presidents and all ceremonies that are held customarily for presidents were held for him. The warm welcome he received was an exceptional event in the American diplomatic custom.

• For the first time, both the Prime Minister and the President of India receive a state president surpassing the diplomatic custom in India. This took place during the visit of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques to India years ago. In addition, for the first time, Turkey ignores its protocol when it prohibited all liquors at the hall of the Custodian of the Two Holly Mosques during his visit to Turkey lately and also the cancellation of the visit to the grave of Ataturk which is a political must for any leader visiting Turkey. For the first time, the King of Spain receives a State President

and in the same manner goes to bid farewell to a State President at the airport and this is what happened with the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques during his last visit to Spain.

• The American Forbes Magazine that enjoys global reputation in its classifications, chose King Abdullah as the First Arab and Ninth Global Influential Personality among 67 influential personality considering their regional and international influence. Thus, he preceded global personalities who have political, cultural and religious status like the German Chancellor Angela Merkel, the Italian President Sylivio Berlusconi, the Pope of the Vatican, Benedicts and the Russian President Dmitri Medvedev.

• In a study conducted by the Royal Institute of Islamic Research and Studies in Jordan in cooperation with the Prince Al Waleed bin Talal Center for Islamic Christian Understanding in George Town University, the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah came first in a list of the most influential 500 personalities in the Islamic World in 2009.



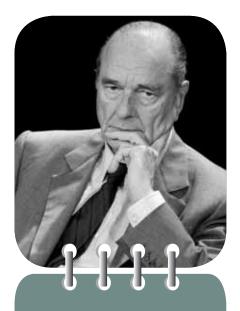
His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa the Crown Prince and Deputy Chief in Command in the Kingdom of Bahrain said: The efforts of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud to enhance stability in the region are blessed and appreciated by everybody. • In the economic field, the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah received international recognition when he was awarded the international "Barcelona



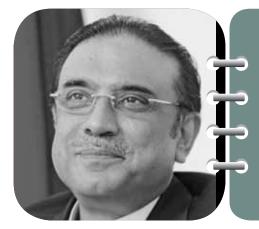
The Historian, Mr. Abdul Rahman bin Sulaiman Al Ruwaishid: to be honest, the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah is a pioneer leader that represents his position with full honesty and truth, he is a Muslim who loves Islam and his doctrine, a knight and human being with the full meaning of humanity. He loves this desert and his people in particular, and this is the main background of his biography. Award". At that time, the Manager of the Award Jose Bones said that "Barcelona forum decided to award the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah this prize in recognition of his giant efforts and the execution of unrecorded developmental project that reflects far sight, piercing vision and the positive initiative spirit he has".

The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques was awarded the prize of Champion of Combating Hunger to crown his human efforts, pioneering and historical generosity in supporting the efforts made to combat hunger from which more than 920 million persons around the world are suffering. Joset Cheran, the Executive Manager of the World Food Program said about that "the grant amounting to US\$ 500 Million which the Kingdom had contributed to the program last May helped to protect millions of persons in the developing countries from the consequences of high prices of food".

• According to a survey conducted by "World Public Opinion" Center attached to Maryland University, the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah came first among the leaders in the Middle East due to his political positions that are influential abroad and his support to the



The Former French President Jack Chirac: the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz continued with courage and success the national mobilization to face the terrorist threat and called upon an international commitment to combat it in order to root the basis of the policy of renewal and growth that he followed... France is following with interest the inertia that King Abdullah is launching in all fields in Saudi Arabia and appreciates the promising results.



The Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari: Many people talk about doing things and you, the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, act without talking. causes of Muslims and his help to poor countries.

• In 2010, the American "Forbes" Magazine announced that the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz is the third most influential personality in the world, for the year 2010, after the Chinese President Hu Jintao and the American President Barack Obama. Thus, King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz came ahead of 6 world leaders in the list of 2009 in which he held the Ninth position.

# 5 Years of achievements which made The Kingdom to enter the history.



n the Fourteenth of Shawal 1431H corresponding to the Twenty Third of September 2010, comes the Eighty First anniversary of the glorious national day. On a day like this in 1351H, 1932 the history recorded the birth of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia following the epic of heroism led by the founder, King Abdul Aziz bin Abdul Rahman Al Saud - may Allah bless his soul for thirty two years after regaining the City of Riyadh, the capital of the kingdom of his grandfathers and fathers on the Fifth of Shawal 1319 H, corresponding to 15th January 1902.

"As I assume the responsibility after the deceased (King Fahd bin Abdul Aziz) feeling that the burden is heavy and the trust is great, I seek help from Allah the Almighty and ask him to bestow me with the power to continue on the path established by the founder of the great Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, King Abdul Aziz Al Saud - may Allah bless his soul - followed by his noble sons, bless them, and I covenant to take Quran as the constitution, Islam as the methodology and that my main concern shall be to protect rights, uphold justice and serve the citizens without discrimination ... ".

With these clear and responsible words, the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz started his prosperous era after he was pledged by the Saudi people as the King and Leader of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on a historical day, the Twenty Eighth of Jamadi Akhira 1426H (Third of August 2005) as the successor of King Fahd bin Abdul Aziz who died on the Twenty Sixth of Jamadi Akhira 1426H (First of August 2005).

Since the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud became the ruler in the Kingdom six years ago, new value was added to this historical date that enriches its record and noble meanings that were acquired through the long past years. The national day had become an occasion for celebrating new achievements that are born every year along with this day.

During the first year of the rule of King Abdullah, the Kingdom witnessed several civic accomplishments at the political, economical, social and cultural levels and other fields. The year 2006 was full of pioneering decisions that aimed to serve the citizen and facilitate his affairs, mainly, the expansion of the economical market which made the Saudi economy the subject of attraction for major countries in the world.

As for the second year of the rule of King Abdullah, the Kingdom witnessed serious, true and tangible achievements during this year including, as example without limitation, the draft of Social Security Law, the national strategy for protecting honesty and combating while the third year corruption witnessed giant developmental accomplishments in various sectors which qualified it to surpass the recognized ceilings for achieving a number of developmental goals determined by the "Millennium Declaration" of the United Nations in 2000. In addition, among the major achievements is the double fold of the number of universities in the Kingdom from eight universities to more than twenty universities, the launch of comprehensive program for overcoming difficulties that face local, joint and foreign investments which qualified the Kingdom to be listed among the ten best countries that made economical reforms.

The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah made several decisions aiming to improve the standard of living of citizens where he gave instructions to increase the salaries of all grades of Saudis employed in the State, both civilians and militants, and the retirees by 15% and to reduce the prices of benzene and diesel. The Royal initiatives continued to provide decent living for the citizens of this country.

As for the fourth national day or the fourth year of the rule of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, many achievements were made such as announcing several huge economical projects including King Abdullah Economic City, expansion in the programs of scholarship programs of scholarship to study abroad and the establishment of economical cities. Last year, important decisions were made to improve the living standard of citizens and subordination of allocations of services sectors in addition to enhancing the pioneering role of the Kingdom in serving the Arab and Islamic causes and establishment of the pillars of Gulf, Arabic, Islamic and international

## Embassies commemorate The National Day throughout the world.

political work and to phrase its concept and plan its future. The role of the King in establishing world dialogue between the followers of major religions, cultures and civilizations is not a secret. In addition, the country witnessed a number of achievements and developmental projects including the inauguration of a number of industrial developmental projects such as Jubail Industrial City where the total volume of investments exceeds SR 54 Billion.

In recognition of all these renewed and increasing achievements of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques every year, extensive preparations are being largely made to celebrate the 81 anniversary of national day of the Kingdom where His Royal Highness Prince Faisal bin Bandar bin Abdul Aziz, the Emir of Al Qusaim Area, headed the meeting of the preparatory committee going through the reports made by the committee and at the same time giving instructions to the participating bodies to speed their reporting and preparations and express their joy with the valued occasion. Every year, the national day of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia does not pass until it receives its share celebration and glorification because it represents a turning point in the life of the nation and the history of people where the establishments and ministries celebrate the occasion each in harmony with its nature but they all agree on one thing which is the expression of overwhelming feelings filled with love for the country and expression of national loyalty.



Al Faisal, political shrewdness, difficulty for opponents, brought friends closer

Despite his many responsibilities and the great efforts that His Royal Highness Prince Saud Al Faisal is making in running the foreign relations of the Kingdom, the Minister of Foreign Affairs Prince Saud Al Faisal is very keen, every year, to direct and support the preparations of the ministry and the embassies of the country to celebrate the national day all over the world from one end to the other under excessive and continued follow up on the part of His Highness Ambassador Prince Khaled bin Saud bin Khaled Al Saud the Assistant Minister of

#### Foreign Affairs.

His Highness Prince Saud, is the bright face and the first identification card of the Kingdom all over the world. With his shrewdness and political wittiness, he was able to secure a firm position for the Kingdom on the global political map and became and still is, during his era, he who complies with the directions of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques and the higher interest of the country and the Arab and Islamic world, a difficult number that is possible for the opponents to overcome and made it easier for friends to deal and cooperate with him.

This year, the Ministry made the preparations to celebrate the 81st anniversaryofthenationaldaythrough many programs locally and abroad aiming to introduce the Kingdom and its bright history and its balance relations with countries based on the rules of mutual respect and common interests. In addition, the Ministry shall, through its embassies, hold special celebrations with this event accompanied by cultural and social functions and seminars that tell the history of the Kingdom through the years and various eras under the supervision and follow up of each of His Royal Highness Prince Abdul Aziz bin Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and His Royal Highness Prince Khaled bin Saud bin Khaled Al Saud, the undersecretary of the Ministry.



His Highness Prince Khaled bin Saud bin Khaled Al Saud, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

The embassies and representative offices of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia all over the world celebrated the 80th national day last year and the embassies received officials, members of the diplomatic core and political, cultural, economical and media figures. In Beirut, the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Ali Awad Aseeri confirmed that "the Kingdom is always keen to maintain the unity of the Arabs" during the celebration that he held on the occasion of the Saudi national day which was attended by a large group of presidents, ministers, representatives and social, economical and media figures.

The Ambassador of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques to Morocco, Dr. Mohammed bin Abdul Rahman Al Bishr held a reception on this occasion at the Saudi Embassy premises in Rabat at which which he confirmed that the national day of the Kingdom is considered a great day for every Saudi national because it symbolizes the anniversary of unification of the Kingdom by the late King Abdul Aziz Al Saud, bless his soul. In a statement he made, he said that the unification had a major influence at the Arab, Islamic and global level because the Kingdom plays a major role at all levels for promoting peace, coexistence and love among the people noting that the Kingdom makes its best efforts in order to achieve peace and love.

The Ambassador of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques to the United Arab Emirates, Dr. Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz bin Muammar said that as the Kingdom celebrates the Seventy Sixth anniversary of the national day, it remembers the steady steps that the late King Abdul Aziz bin Abdul Rahman Al Saud (bless his soul) towards establishing the pillars of this prominent entity relying on the principles and value of Islam and its tolerant teachings and went to wars in order to uphold the word of right first and then to ensure the unity of this great entity and the rights of citizens.

The Ambassador added: "today, despite all difficulties and calamities,



His Royal Highness Prince Abdul Aziz bin Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs

the wise leadership of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques was able to act with patience, strictly, calmly and with awareness and clarity which made the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia an example of solidity, growth and stability. This stability that continued and, with Allah's might and power, shall continue to be the sold grounds without which no building shall hold, development shall continue or renaissance shall be achieved).

He pointed out that during this blessed march the strength of the Saudi economy appeared as one of the main pillars of stability where the government of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques was able, with Allah's grace, to face the consequences of the successive crises that it witnessed during the last years and to maintain the rhythm of development and the equilibrium of sectors and with all strictness and strength faced all attempts to shake security and stability and fulfilled all of its international and local obligations.

### The media boasts the 81st Saudi national day



As is the case with Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Information in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia did not spare any effort to express the joy with the national day. Through the directions and follow up of the Saudi Minister of Culture and Media, Dr. Abdul Aziz Khoja, the Ministry is making the preparations with all of its components, tools and means to turn the national day celebration into a historic event to be talked about by all media in the world.

The Saudi Minister of Media realizes completely the importance of the national day, at both public and official levels and also realizes the authentic history represented in this occasion especially that he is part of it where the Saudi media is a part of the Kingdom's power that is not less important than the military, political and security acts. This was proven by history and is proven by the current reality and which Khoja always emphasizes Khoja turns the function into a renewed historic event

particularly during the celebrations of the national day every year.

From here, we see that the audio, printed and visual media getting prepared through a bouquet of programs, films, media materials and coverage that show the aesthetics of his day, its importance and the big joy that fill the hearts of Saudis, Arabs and Muslims on this day when the holy land became united, liberated and Arab like the language of the Holy Quran that Allah favored this nation with.

The celebrations of the Ministry of Information with the national day is not limited to the Saudi media attached to the ministry where it prepares many of festive events through which it expresses the joy of its employees and the Saudi people with this occasion. We see lots of seminars, greetings and printings that are made especially for this day to explain and convey to the later generations the history of this great country.

Under the huge power of media in all of its visual, audio, written and digital forms, the role of the Ministry of Information in promoting the national day and its festivities at home and abroad becomes prominent. Through these activities, the national day displays all of its noble meanings decorated with all achievements that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia had witnessed under the rule of its King and the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud, may he live long and continue to be the support for both the Arab and Islamic nations.

On its part, the media in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia are getting ready to celebrate the Eighty First National Day by allocating pages for speaking about the history of the Kingdom and the glorious establishment story which is considered as one of the greatest unification forms in the contemporary human history. The Eighty First Anniversary is only a special occasion to display the fine ethical values and astonishing achievements made during these years. In addition it is an important occasion during which the media are getting ready to congratulate the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz on this



huge national festival that gathers all citizens of this country.

The local visual, audio, printed and electronic media was keen allocate programs, songs and articles that talk about this great day to raise the level of this occasion which represents a main pillar in the history of the country and translate the mottos into true processes of building the precious country through fully studied strategies and benefiting from the lesson of the unification establishment as a distinguished human model in addition to rooting all values of modernization and work to improve the march of development that the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques is King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud is promoting.

The media in the Kingdom stresses the importance of this even as it is the most important in the country and for what the Kingdom represents in terms of political, economical and cultural presence in the region and the world in addition to the huge cultural dimension that the country represented throughout all stages of history. This anniversary presents a rich material for the Saudi media by turning this day into a symbol of the Saudi person who was dedicated to build his country by overcoming all obstacles that he faced during the last years and to commemorate the unique cultural achievements that preceded its age by accommodating all human capabilities in all fields.

The national day had become an annual festivity anticipated by the local, regional and international media to race in its transmission and coverage. di

The largest expansion project of the Holy Shrine of Mecca throughout the Islamic history

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#### The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques approves more than SR 80 Billion for the expansion of the Holy Shrine of Mecca

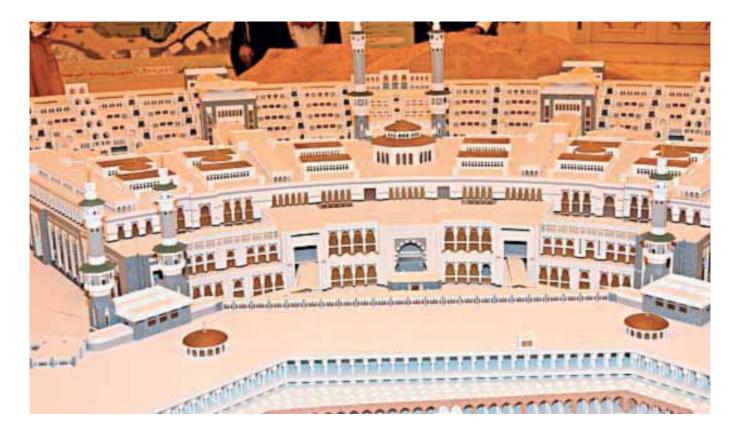


n a move that makes the whole Muslim proud, in August 2011 the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud launched the project of the largest expansion in the history of Holy Shrine of Mecca. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia approved the spending about SR 80 Billion (US\$ 21.3 Billion) during the next six years on this project that represents a personal dream of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques to develop all the architectural, technical and security aspects in the city on an area of about 400 Thousand Square Meter and with a depth of 380 Meter.

The project of the largest expansion in the history of the Holy Shrine of Mecca where the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia intends to spend about SR 80 Billion (US\$ 21.3 Billion) during the next six years on this project that represents a personal dream of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques to develop all the architectural, technical and security aspects in the city on an area of about 400 Thousand Square Meter and with a depth of 380 Meter.

Considering the huge volume of the project, it had been divided into 3 sections the first of which aims to

expanding the building of the holy shrine of Mecca to accommodate the largest number of prayers to reach to Two Million prayers simultaneously. As for the second section, it aims to the expansion and development exterior areas of the holy shrine that includes toilets, corridors and tunnels in addition to other supporting facilities which would facilitate the entry and exit of prayers and visitors of the Holy Shrine. The third section aims to the development of the services area which is considered the most important supporting facility that includes air conditioning stations, electricity stations, water stations



and other stations that provide support to the Holy Shrine area.

The Chairman of the Saudi Advisory Council, Dr. Abdullah bin Mohammed Al El-Sheikh, says that Holy Mecca witnessed historical move and new era in the march of serving the Holy Shrine through this move where this historical project in expanding the Holy Shrine and the other developmental projects that shall be witnessed by the Holy Shrine area would double the capacity of the Holy Mosque proportionately with the increase of the numbers of performers of pilgrimage and Imra and visitors every year. He explained that the approval of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques to this huge expansion confirms the continuous attention exerted by the leadership of the country paid to the most holy place on the face of earth.

Among the developmental projects

that accompany the expansion of the Holy Shrine of Mecca, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia intends to expand Almasaa (path of seeking) to 40 meters instead of 20 meters and to increase the number of floors to 4 with a total area exceeding 87 Thousand Square Meter after the total area was about 29 Thousand Square Meter, that is, with an increase exceeding 43 Thousand Square Meter before the expansion while the total building planes at all floors in the areas of seeking march and services amounts to about 125 Thousand Square Meter. This definitely means reduction in crowds' jam notably and consequently securing the safety of performers of pilgrimage and Imra.

The projects also include the project of King Abdul Aziz's Waqf (dedication) to the Two Holy Mosques where the waqf located next to the Holy Shrine is considered the largest residential and commercial building in the world in terms of built area that amounts to 1.5 Million Square Meter and also, it is the second highest building in the world. The project includes large car parking spaces connected to the ground tunnels below the building and tanks to provide water with capacity that exceeds 53,000 Cubic Meter to ensure availability of water especially at peak times. It also includes the additional needs required for the firefighting network around the clock.

Among the vital projects that the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques was keen to execute to serve the pilgrims of the Holy Shrine at the holy rituals there is the project of Jamarat (pebbles) Bridge and the development of the Jamarat Area of which cost amounted to more than SR 4 Billion and 200 Million. It was fully utilized during the previous pilgrimage season and its capacity is 300 Thousand pilgrims per hour. The bridge is 950 meters long and 80 meters wide and it is designed in the project with foundations capable of bearing 12 floors and five million pilgrims in the future if needed.

The project of Jamarat Area includes, in addition to the bridge, the execution of new projects in the area represented in reorganization of the area, facilitating the entry to the bridge by distributing the same to 6 directions 3 of which on the south side and 3 on the northern side in addition to the organization of the areas surrounding the Jamarat Bridge to avoid crowds in them and control the phenomenon of laying mattresses on the floor around the bridge next to the pilgrims lanes. This helped in the organization and allocation of proper places for services such as food, barber shops, toilets, medical and ambulance services and Civil Defense and General Security personnel.

Among the projects that he ordered is the Holy Rituals Train Project to transport pilgrims between the areas of rituals where the train came out as an idea to try avoiding the current transportation problems and the crowding of ritual areas with buses and other transportation means.

In addition, the traffic jam was one of the annual appearances of pilgrimage where the holy rituals at the time of pilgrimage are considered the most condensed population areas in the world. Therefore, the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud gave his directions to His Royal Highness Prince Miteab bin Abdul Aziz, Minister of Municipal and Villages Affairs at that time to find a solution to the traffic jam problem at the rituals area and approved the establishment of an integrated transportation project that eliminates the traffic jam and environmental pollutions with the highest international standards.

Large projects to improve and expand the Holy Shrine continuously



### **Prosperous era starting from the Holy Land**



Throughout the history, one who tracks records shall find that Holy Mecca and Medina have received major care from the leadership of this country since the era of the Founder King Abdul Aziz bin Abdul Raman Al Saud, bless his soul, through all leaders who ruled after the Founder, bless their souls, as they all worked on executing large projects to expand and rebuild the Two Holy Mosques and the Holy Rituals to serve their visitors and ensure their comfort.

The holy land witnessed several large developmental and civil accomplishments in all fields during the past years. Among the projects that were executed in Medina and provided great services for Islam and Muslims there is the project of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques to build and expand the Noble Prophet Mosque and the projects related to it.

Out of this truth, the Custodian of the

Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz was keen to continue such care because it is a distinctive trend for wise leadership that is proud of its responsibility for the Islamic sacred Mosques and to provide care for them and ensure that there are extensive achievements and hence he crowned his prosperous era, after the blessed pledge, with a visit to each of Holy Mecca and Medina where he visited the two holy Mosques.

During his visit to Medina, he issued his Noble Order to complete the remaining works of the project of expansion of the Noble Prophet Mosque and the King had the honor, during his follow up visit to Medina on the Twenty First of last Jamadi Awal, to place the foundation stone for this giant expansion and he expressed his happiness with this project and said in a speech he delivered at the people's ceremony after placing the foundations stone (since the establishment of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia under the leadership of King Abdul Aziz, bless his soul, Allah honored us with the service of the two holy Mosques were we extended our thanks and gratitude to Allah and with might and will we moved to carry out the burdens of this responsibility. After Islam we find no pride in anything more than we are proud of serving the two holy Mosques. For me, this service has no equal glory in the non lasting world and through the day and night I pray to Allah to help me in carrying out this service and to serve the dignified Saudi people).

The costs of the project of the expansion of the Noble Prophet Mosque amounted to about SR 4.7 Billion and this includes the erection of more than 200 sheds that cover all areas of the Noble Prophet Mosque to protect the prayers and visitors from the glare of sunshine and the risks of rains particularly the accidents of slipping as a result of the rainfall and they are fitted with systems to drain floods in addition to lighting and they open automatically when needed. Every single shed covers (576) square meters where more than 200 Thousand prayers.

In addition, the project included the execution of the eastern yard of the Noble Prophet Mosque with an area of (37,000) square meter that accommodate more than (70) thousand prayers and under which there are car parking spaces and buses that accommodate (420) cars and (70) large buses.

#### **Expansion of Mecca Haram**

Historically, Mecca Haram had witness several expansions at the time of Omar Bin Al khattab and Othman Bin Affan - may God be pleased with them - during the seventh AH year and the 26th AH year, particularly because of the growing number of pilgrims. Expansions had then been executed at the mosque itself, Al Mataf quarter and new passageways were added.

In 64 Hira, at the time of Abdullah Bin Al Zubair, a large expansion was made at the eastern and north southern parts of the mosque. Ater around a decade, definitely in 75 AH, the Umayyad Caliph Abdul milk Bin Marwan made architectural additions to the Al Masjid Al Haram without any change in its area. Instead, he raised the height of Al Masjid Al Haram's walls and roofed it with teak hardwood, where he put 50 mithgals of gold on the top of each cylinder. Then came his son, Al Waleed Bin Abdul Malik who - for the first time - brought the marble columns from Egypt and Damascus to Mecca, where the expansion at that time covered 2300 square meters.

Caliph Al Mansour who came later increased the area of Al Masjid Al Haram and reconstructed the architectural shape. That expansion included the construction of one new passageway with an access to Al Masjid Al Haram's nave. Caliph Al Mansour also built a minaret at the corner of the north western part of the mosque.

During the coming years, Al Masjid Al Haram has witnessed continuous expansions, manly in 803 AH when a large fire devoured Al Masjid Al Haram and destroyed the western part of it. The northern part was also affected by the fire which totally destroyed the mosque's roofs and its marble columns.

During the rule of King Saud may god have mercy on him - a comprehensive expansion and the architectural design at Al Masjid Al Haram had been carried out at three phases at which the existing housing and commercial units adjacent to the place of Mas'a were removed, as well as the buildings which were nearer to Marwa. A new upper floor at 9 meter high with two-direction wall and a double-way track for disables people who use mobile wheelchairs in their Sa'i. A barrier was also constructed in the middle of Sa'i to divide it into two parts for facilitating Sa'i duty. Sixteen gates were also built for Al Haram in the eastern side (near Mas'a). By doing all these expansions, the surface areas of Al Masjid Al Haram became 193,000 square meters, about 131,041 square meter increase. Since then, Mecca Haram has accommodated 400,000 worshippers. This expansion covered the restoration of the Honorable Kaaba, enlargement of Al Mataf and renewal of the Commemoration of Ibrahim, peace be upon him.

At the time of King Fahd bin Abdul Aziz, may God have mercy upon him, expansion cornerstone Al Masjid Al Haram at Mecca Al Mukarrama was established. Expansion covered the lower floor (passageways) and the ground floor, with the expansion of 14 gates to become 112 gates in total. In 1991, new, large, adjacent areas to Al Masjid Al Haram were renovated and made suitable for praying, mainly during crowdedness times. The areas were tiled with cool marble, lit and furnished. The total area of these quarters is 88,000 square meters. In 1994, Al Safa area at Al Masjid Al Haram was expanded in the firs floor to facilitate the duty of the people who perform Sa'i. so as the narrow the cycle of Safa opening under Safa dome. In 1996, Al Marwa area was also restored for the purpose of decreasing crowdedness at that area. The area of the square became 375 square meters instead of the previous area - 254 square meters. in 1997, Al Ragooba bridge was established to connect Al Masjid Al Haram's surface with Al Ragooba area from the side of Al Marwa to make entrance to and exit from Al Masjid Al Haram's surface easy. The bridge is 72.5 meter long. Total expansion area following those sponsored by the Guardian of the Two Holy Mosques became 366,168 square meters.



Saudi Arabia – A meeting Point for Science and A Light Stand for Next Generation Knowledge

الدائد الرعين الرجيم



### SAR 500 Billion Investment in Education Sector in Four Years

Throughout its development plans, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia adhered to give the education sector a great priority. During the past 4 years, the Kingdom has spent about SAR 500 billion on the education and higher education sectors. as well as on the training of the academic staff, science, technology, scientific research and scholarship programs. The amounts allocated for education total SAR 150 billion, representing about 26% of the approved expenditure from the state's general budget for the year 2011. During last year, a sum of SAR 137.6 billion was allocated to education in comparison with SAR 121.9 billion in 2009.

#### Qualitative and Quantitative Educational Leaps under Historic Governmental Spending

#### Business and Finance Club – Saudi Arabia

hose who stand behind the qualitative leaps in the field of education, as well as other fields of development in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, are the men who are putting their country's and citizen's interest over anything else, insisting that their country should become the best ideal example to be followed, both regionally and globally. We have seen how His Highness Prince Faisal Bin Abdullah Bin Mohammed, Minister of Education is translating the guidelines set out by the Guardian of the Two Holy Mosques in the field of education into a reality that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia deserves to be proud of inside and outside. In this respect, he relied on people who share desire with their leadership to work for the development and prosperity of the country at all levels.

In the sixth anniversary of the pledge of allegiance to the Guardian of the Two Holy Mosques, Kind Abdullah Bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud, may God protect him, His Highness, Prince Faisal Bin Abdullah Bin Mohammed said that King Abdullah's belief that the first steps of achievements are made inside the school's wall, the education sector enjoys boundless support. This generous support has resulted in the quantitative and qualitative leaps in the field of education since its long process and schools for different stages covered the whole cities and regions.

His Highness also noted that the Ministry of Education continues the implementation of several quality projects which aims at raising the education level within a framework of academic plans and ongoing followup. The most obvious evidence is "King Abdullah Project for the Development



His Highness Prince Faisal Bin Abdullah, Minister of Higher Education: The educational renaissance is at the top of the priorities of The Custodian of The Two Holy Mosques

of General Education" which has reached advanced stages within the accelerating educational movement to keep pace with the knowledgeable nations.

Education at all levels and stages in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has bee receiving greatest interest and generous sponsorship since the time of the late King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz up to the time of the Guardian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah Bin Abdul Aziz, may God protect him, who allowed for all the potential to support education, in general, and higher education, in particular. He has recently issued a decree, requesting the allocation of SAR 476 million annually in support for Charitable Takaful Institution which male and needy female students in the general education sector.

Education plans in the Kingdom focuses on the importance of achieving the goals that deals with the

development of human resources by increasing comprehension energies of the universities and other educational includina institutions. vocational training, technical colleges, with focus on the development of quality curricula at all levels of education and training in order to keep up with the development and private sector's requirements. In addition, these pans aim at achieving economic effectiveness in both public and private sectors as a prerequisite for the success of the policies of economic diversification base.

The Kingdom has equal interest in all education stages in line with the urgent need for expanding skills, particularly the issue of rehabilitation of the skilled Saudi youth to be highly qualified for the employment market as a matter of necessity for the development of country's economy. Consequently, both basic education and higher education progress smoothly in all fields of improvement, and the comprehension energies of the educational establishments which are distributed among the geographical regions of the Kingdom have been expanded.

Concerning achievements in higher education, this is attributed to His Excellency Dr Khalid Bin Mohammed Al Ankari, the Minister of Education, one of the outstanding academic and administrative figures in the Kingdom. In addition to the renowned academic degree he attained, Dr Al Ankari is a man of management and arrangement at higher level. He is fully aware what has to be achieved, and realizes where and when to translate the directions of the Guardian of the two Holy Mosques into a tangible reality that could be seen by everyone in the field of education. Under His Excellency's wise management, the education



level has witnessed unprecedented expansion; the number of governmental universities reached 28, and this came in parallel with the establishment of an integrated university town for each. This has resulted in the creation of university towns in various parts of the Kingdom that compete with global ones in terms of design, capacity, modernity and content, so that they will have great returns in the future for the benefit of the country. This is actually a sort of investment in human capital.

Minister of Higher Education said that the number of academic seats made available by the higher education institutions in the scientific specializations have come in conformity with the development and community needs; Praise to God, and then the country's support; thanks to the directions stated by the Guardian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdulla Bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud. This achievement was embodied by the establishment of other new highly qualified colleges and universities with relevance to the employment market, Leading the increase in comprehension energies to meet the ever increasing demand on higher education.

The number of governorates which benefited from higher education development to support economic and human development increased from 16 to 79. The number of medicine, pharmacy and nursing colleges has also increased from 16 to 50, in addition to the establishment of technical and health institutes, as well as female education colleges. The Guardian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdulla Bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud desires for the establishment of a strong infrastructure for education sector through King Abdullah project for the development of the general education which seeks to highlight a unique point in the education process in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, With the purpose of building up a qualified

leadership generation. The project which will be executed over six years at SAR 9 billion includes programs for developing educational curricula, rehabilitation of male and female teachers, and improving the teachinglearning environment.

To diversify the sources of knowledge in the human resources rehabilitation process, the scholar project sponsored by the Guardian of the Two Holy Mosques came to the scene. More than SAR billions have been allocated for scholarships to the renowned universities is a number of developed countries for five years. In addition to the 24 governmental universities in the Kingdom, the higher education base has been expanded through the involvement of the private sector in opening national colleges. This is due to the encouragement received by the national sector to open non-profit educational institutions under sound administrative, academic, economic and financial regulations.

#### Over SAR Billion Flowed out by Saudi ARAMCO to Establish the University in An Unmatched Time



His Excellency the Minister of Oil, Ali Al-Noaimi, the man who surprised everyone and completed the project in a record time by arms and brains of "ARAMCO" Company.

As scientific research is an integral part of educational activity; as well as an important branch in the universities; and as it is considered a pillar of development and progress in all fields of science; and it is a means to establish the concepts of full economy of knowledge, King Abdullah University for Science and Technology was established in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to become an international university for research on the higher education level, dedicating its efforts to launch a new era of scientific achievement in the Kingdom and to have good returns on the region and the world. The university is a vision professed by the Guardian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdulla Bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud long ago, And when he wanted to implement and achieve it, he entrusted Minister of Oil, Ali Al Noaimi with the mission - the man who did the impossible and surprised everyone when he could achieve this academic edifice in unmatched time with high accuracy and success, Using the arms and minds of ARAMCO's men, even though its main specialization is too far away from this sort of activity.

However, thanks to the directions stated by Minister Al Noaimi and the company's serious interest, the results were beyond the expectations with regard to the establishment of King Abdullah University for Science and Technology.

The Guardian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdulla Bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud, may God protect him, sponsored the inauguration of the university in the presence of Their Majesty Holiness and Highness, Excellency, representatives from a number of and Islamic countries, as well as friendly ones. The King, may God protect him, honored Minister Al Noaimi during the inauguration event and awarded him King Abdul Aziz's decoration - second class. The ransomed king also awarded ARAMCO Director and its senior Chief Executive Khalid Al Faleh King Abdul Aziz's decoration - excellent



#### King Abdullah University for Science and Technology ... The Biggest Academic Research Edifice in the World

class, and ARAMCO Vice President and the University Executive Manager Waleed Al Bdeiwi King was awarded Abdul Aziz's decoration - first class.

On the occasion of the university inauguration, Minister of Higher Education, Dr Khalid Bin Mohammed Al Ankari said that the Kingdom's face is shining with its great historical events, and its virtues are growing in the course of time through understanding, cohesion, prosperity, inspired by the National Day anniversary, affirming that higher education in the Kingdom has received a complete sponsorship from the Guardian of the Two Holv Mosques King Abdulla Bin Abdul Aziz and the step-by-step follow-up of his trustworthy Heir Hiss highness Prince Sultan Bin Abdul Aziz and His Highness Prince Navef Bin Abdul Aziz, King's second deputy. A few years ago, plans that ensure the availability of higher education in all the Kingdom's regions and note to be centralized in the main cities were approved. We will soon – in God's will – witness the results of implementing these glorified and promising steps that would bede a qualitative comprehensive development future for each region in our country.

The president of King Abdullah Science University for and Technology, Professor Chaun Fong, delivered a statement in which he confirmed that one day we will see the university well established in this vital center, while the recognition of its role stimuli in the economic growth in the kingdom of Saudi Arabia at a wide scale inside and outside the country. In his speech at the university's inauguration event, Professor Chaun Fong expects that the university will after one



H.E the Minister of Higher Education, Dr. Khalid Bin Mohamed Al Anqari, the Kingdon Image is brightened by the events of its great history.

generation achieve the dream of the Guardian of the Two Holy Mosques by turning into a meeting point for sciences and researches and a light stand of knowledge for generations to come, hoping that it will achieve constant growth and prosperity and to remain a viable endowment for the next generations in the world.

The university was opened in September 2009 and it grants scientific degrees in 11 academic fields. The university campus has an area of more than 36 million square meter on the Red Sea coast, nearly 80 kilometers of Jeddah, second largest north city in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The meticulous academic specializations taught by the university came as a natural result of actual needs of graduates and specialist in these specializations, Including - but not limited to mathematics, computer science, physical and chemistal engineering, environment engineering, geology and NATO technology.



#### Saudi Arabia Spends Over SAR 20 Billion for First and Biggest Women University in the World



the Western ontrary to I fabrications, that alleging the marginalization of Saudi woman in the fields of labor and education, The Kingdom's policy was wisely, carefully formed and focused on women education in accordance with the country's regulations which have been approved by the state to make the woman's education un/ non-mixed, and to direct the curricula towards achieving the Islamic culture. The policy also suggested free education to be available for all citizens of the Kingdom. Woman's education did not stop to this limit but it developed to take the path of higher education represented in the University education. In addition to the colleges that had been opened by the Presidency of Girls education.

Therefore, one can say that women education was moving in well studied a developing plan. This was reflected by the big turnout and the great increased towards education in schools.

During the regime of the Guardian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdulla Bin Abdul Aziz, Princess Noora Bin Abdul Rahman University, the first women dedicated university, was opened in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The Kingdom also had a great interest in the university. For this reason, the person behind the idea. For this reason, the choice of the person responsible for establishing and bringing this university to light was very precise and it had been granted to Excellency/ Minister of Finance/ Dr. Ibrahim. His Excellency, Minister of Finance, Ibrahim Bin Abdul Aziz Al Assaf described the difficulty behind the mission which was assigned to him by the Guardian of the Two Holy Mosques when he said at the inauguration of the University: Two and a half years ago, you entrusted me with supervision of Princess Noora Bin Abdul Rahman University to be a symbol for women involvement and country development, and to be ready in two years, save and not to any effort and money to do so, and also to finish the project in a specified time. You have even ordered that cameras should be installed to personally follow up the matter round the clock. We are now here to celebrate after two years and two months. The establishing of the city which is considered one of the biggest projects all over the world in terms of size and components, and it is quickest one in the world in terms of specifications with the shortest time to finish.

His Excellency, Minister of Finance, Ibrahim Bin Abdul Aziz Al Assaf said that "The university town is considered an architectural and technical edifice, and – in God's will – the university will become a global scientific edifice with its human abilities and research centers and medical and scientific colleges."

Al Assaf noted that the university design was made in accordance with the most up to date environmental specifications and energy saving, using latest sun energy to heat water. A number of criteria have also been adapted to make a friend to people with special needs in all of its parts, including automatic transport train in which establishment and operation, the environmental aspects were considered. The project was implemented and prepared by more than 2000 Saudi companies, establishments and factories and Saudi suppliers, indicating that the number of daily workers in sites in phases implementation of reached over 75,000 persons, including engineer, technician and worker. The University of Princess Noora Bin Abdul Rahman University, the first women university in the world, includes 15 colleges of different theoretical and scientific specializations part of them 5 medical colleges and educational hospital capacity of 700 beds, a research center with most up to date equipment, a clinical skill developing Center, in addition to the housing area which consists of 1440 housing unit villas for faculty members and another housing unit for female students which can accommodate more than 12,200 female students.

The first college in the university – Education College –was established in 1390 Ah (1970 AD), and then followed by 6 other colleges till number of colleges in Riyadh region reached 23 colleges which represent the colleges that the university accommodates at its beginning. The University Director Dr Huda Bint Mohammed Al Ameel that the university is considered an excellent achievement and commitment by Guardian of the Two Holy Mosques to rehabilitate and teach the girls in this country so as to give them new and variable opportunities and open new horizons to serve their community, and to give respect to their employment market and their mind, and as an important partner in the process of comprehensive social and economic development. Dr Huda noted that they are comprehensive visions which not restricted to academic qualifying only, but extends to reach the scientific and vocational aspects, as well as building of the character in the best manner in accordance with our religion, our values and our ethics.

The Ministry of Higher Education is seeking to make Princess Noora Bin Abdul Rahman University into one of the most outstanding universities in the field of university education, qualifying human cadres through its commitment to implement comprehensive quality criteria and ongoing development, with emphasis on the required courses, books, excellent skills of the graduates and suggesting conceptions for the future visions in light of the local and international data. Which ensures that its graduates will enjoy capacity to perform skillfully in the employment market.

Princess Noora Bin Abdul Rahman University is one of the wide-scale educational projects in terms of budget and the rapid implementation.



His Excellency Minister of Finance Dr. Ibrahim Bin Abdul Aziz AI Assaf "The university town is considered an architectural and technical edifice and in Allah's will, it will become a global scientific edifice with all its human abilities, research centers and medical and scientific colleges."

The University accommodated about 40,000 female students, 60% of them are graduates of higher schools in the Kingdom. A huge it is the first for girls globally university town was build for this university integrated. It should be noted that the great role of the Ministry of Finance with regard to financing the project and honoring its commitments generously and smartly, shortening the time needed for completion to the least time in terms of size or area recognized by similar projects in terms of size or area in the world.



# Saudi Arabia beyond the crisis and maintains its position on the world economic map

#### Business & Finance Club - Exclusive

ver the past five years, Saudi Arabia has witnessed а continuous growth in the economy and a strength in the infrastructure of the systems and regulations of the economic and financial sectors, making it a unique example among the countries that faced the latest world financial crisis that hit all over the world in the year 2008, in addition to a set of procedures and measures taken by the rational leadership represented by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud - may Allah protect him, with an aim to face the repercussions of this crisis on the economy that has boomed over the past five years due to the directives of His Majesty, to be through its structure and economic and industrial cities at the forefront of the countries of the world on the world economic map. The Kingdom has achieved historical budgets over the past years, which contributed to promoting the economic development ordered by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud, whose announcement in inaugurating the Group of Twenty (G20) summit meeting in 2008, for implementing the investment program for the governmental and oil sectors by allocating 400 billion dollars over the next five years, a clear step under the deceleration of the world economy. This step has contributed to recover the economic situation of the country and restore confidence in the economy in general.

Saudi Arabia has announced the last budget with historical levels for the fiscal year 2011, estimating it by 580 billion riyals, and expected revenues of 540 billion riyals. Saudi Arabia seeks also to promote the contributions of the private sector in the development processes on which the government works, through the vision held by the Ninth Development Plan, for which 1.4 trillion rivals (374 billion dollars) were approved over the years between 2010 and 2014. The Ninth Development Plan includes acceleration of the development process and establishment of its sustainability, and achievement of balanced development among the regions of the Kingdom, and continuing improvement of the standard of living for the citizens and improving the quality of their lives.

This Plan, recently approved by the Saudi Government, has come in continuation of the course of previous plans, through the country's trends and principles represented in contributing to build a human civilization under the Islamic tolerant values with its sublime ethical ideals. and consolidating the foundations of the state and its identity and Arabic and Islamic heritage, and maintaining the comprehensive national security, promoting the national unity and supporting its components, ensuring the human rights, maintaining the social stability, and reinforcing the mission of the family in the society, and achieving the comprehensive sustainable development.

This Plan is based in formulating its trends as stated by the Ministry of Economy & Planning on the future long-term vision of the Kingdom as expressed in the long-term strategy of the national economy up to the year 2024 on one hand, and on the progress achieved by the Eighth Development Plan in this field on the other hand, as the Ministry indicates that the Plan is based in its trends on its general objectives which included acceleration of the development process and establishment of its sustainability, and achievement of balanced development among the regions of the Kingdom, and continuing improvement of the standard of living for the citizens and improving the quality of their lives, and minimizing unemployment to the lowest possible level.

580 billion riyals for the budget of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the year 2011, and expected revenues of 540 billion riyals

The economic reforms in the Kingdom in the era of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques have positively reflected on its rating in the business performance report issued by the World Bank, as the Kingdom has been rated in the year 2009 to the 13th rank among one hundred and eighty three countries rated as the best investment environment in the world, and in culmination of the wise financial and monetary policy adopted by the Government of the King, may Allah protect him. The global rating agency (Fitch) has confirmed the sustainability of the economy and the financial strength of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and good management of its foreign investments and foreign exchange reserves, and controlled supervision over the banking sector.

# General Investment Authority establishes economic cities with a cost beyond 225 billion riyals



mr bin Abdullah Al Dabbagh, governor of the General Investment Authority says that the Authority has sought in the context of the overall program directed by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, may Allah protect him, for enhancing the investment environment in the Kingdom, to identify a clear and specific goal that is easy to be introduced to all investment-related governmental authorities. The progress to be achieved therein can be measured by the Kingdom being among the top 10 countries in the world in terms of the competitive investment environment at the end of the year 2010.

Words of the governor of the Saudi General Investment Authority is reflected in the foreign investment boom in the Kingdom over the past four years, which can be called the inseparability of word and deed, such characteristic for which Al Dabbagh has always been known, even before assuming the leadership of the General



H.E Amr Al Dabbagh Governor of General Investment Authority rises the Kingdom up to the investment environment in the world

Investment Authority, through which he has been able to turn the Kingdom to an oasis attracting investment from all parts of the world, and this is what is demonstrated clearly and obviously by figures, as the foreign direct investment flows coming thereto during the year 2008 have amounted to US \$ 38.3 billion, with an increase of 57.2 percent compared with the previous year. The diverse investment opportunities and the efforts exerted by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for diversifying its economy have contributed in making it in an optimistic position in respect of the foreign direct investment, and as the Kingdom is the largest recipient of foreign direct investments, this has significantly contributed to support its active striving to become among the list of the most competitive ten economies in the world at the end of 2010, relying therein on the substantial efforts exerted by the Authority in the field of providing the legislative and legal environment required for the investors on one hand, and providing all services required for the investors in various stages of work and to the maximum degree of flexibility and speed.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has achieved in the era of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah Bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud – may Allah protect him, a remarkable economic growth despite the financial crisis, and due to stability of the political and economic factors in the Kingdom, the confidence of the investor has exceeded the regional average, and Saudi Arabia has become one of the leaders of foreign investment in the region, and it continuously holds the lion's share of financial flows coming thereto.



## Economic cities lead the Kingdom to internationality in the Competitiveness Index

n order to achieve its goals, the Saudi General Investment Authority has launched the economic cities projects at a cost of more than US \$ 60 billion, and with a contribution in excess of US \$ 150 billion. Amr Al Dabbagh again has been the leader of the work, and has made these cities as models to be followed worldwide, and to be taught in the fields of real estate, trade and social and economic life. The investment by the Kingdom in these cities results in more than one million jobs, and by 2020, the population in these cities shall be 4 – 5 million people.

The economic cities have been established on the sites of the "Green Field", and in a strategic concept, these sites have been around the Kingdom to perform a leading regional role, as these cities shall reflect the modern civil features and using therein the latest digital systems services and infrastructure. These cities have been developed based on the latest and most smart designs in the modern era, including the advanced infrastructure, persistent continuance of these systems that

form a consistent and ideal correlation at all times. The positive environment that supports the works beside the attractive incentives of investment shall create a significant competition and a positive return for all projects in these cities, in addition to the industrial dimension within these cities, as many considerations have been made to make the life inside these cities in line with the highest levels. This is the main idea in designing these cities, where education, healthcare, and entertainment aspects are in line with the latest international standards, therefore the life inside the economic cities are characterized by a high-style of living, and the work therein is characterized by global specifications.

The image reflected by these modern cities are not such as "free zones" or "industrial zone", but more than that; they are modern and civilized areas perfectly planned and designed to suit the life in the practical and entertaining sides, where the General Investment Authority works with the leading environmental institutions to ensure designing these cities based on a modern ideal environment; to be in line with the world standards recognized in such projects.

#### US \$ 60 billion for cost of the economic cities projects

The economic cities provide an ideal environment for those who live and work therein, where low level of environmental pollution, modern houses designed in high quality world styles, advanced sports facilities, recreation centers, state-of-the-art specialized healthcare centers, worldclass schools providing world-class curriculums to the children of the employees from all over the world. There are large shopping centers (malls) and restaurants that offer the finest foods from all different parts of the world. These economic cities provide world record standards of living and working in the Kingdom, and provide a comfortable and advanced place for the new businessmen and their families.



## King Abdullah Financial District is the coming world investment gate in the region

Business & Finance Club – Riyadh

The King Abdullah Financial District "KAFD" project is considered as one of the most prominent economic projects worldwide, due to the enormity of the unique project, which excels in respect of the area and diversity of its sectors its counterpart "Canary Wharf" in London, whose area amounts to 345 thousand sq. meters, while the area of the King Abdullah Financial District project amounts to 1.6 million sq. meters.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia seeks through this project to reinforce its position as a financial capital of the middle east besides being the oil capital of the world, as the project cost amounts to 37.5 billion Saudi rivals and contains residential, educational, sports, cultural and commercial complexes in addition to the financial centers and office tower consisting of 40 floors, which shall ensure continuity of the leading role of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia as it holds the largest economy and financial position in the region, as well as being one of the best leading

> Cost about 38 billion riyals and area 1.6 million sq. meters.



HE Mr. Mohammed bin Abdullah Al Kharashi, Governor of the Public Pension Agency

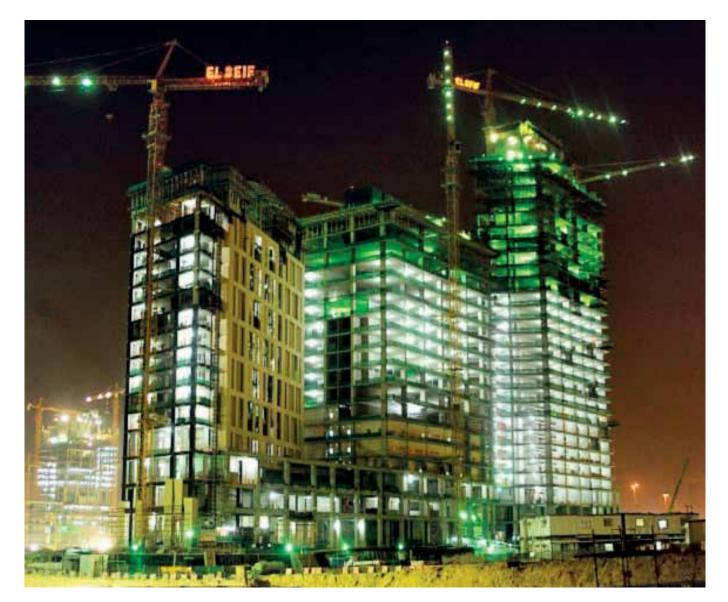
investment destinations in the world, where the foreign direct investments exceeded 135 billion riyals in the year 2009.

The KAFD is an integrated work environment, equipped with the latest satellite and optical communication means, which is a key element in developing the business of KAFD, and it has also been provided with all facilities ensuring continuity of its work and developing its future performance, thus KAFD becomes a difficult international figure in the world of finance and business. Many local and world companies and banks desire to move to the new financial district to efficiently and strongly contribute to diversify the activities of one of the largest centers of economy in the world.

The KAFD also contains the headquarters of the "Capital Market Authority", the headquarters of the Saudi Stock Exchange "Tadawul", the headquarters of many other financial institutions and their related service companies, such as the chartered accounting and auditing and advocacy offices, the evaluation institutions, the consultative and financial institutions and the IT firms.

The KAFD is expected to be inaugurated in the next year, which shall change the economic and financial map in the region, forming the strongest element of attracting investments inside the Kingdom, while combining the efforts to unify the economic and financial channels to promote the standard of living for the Saudi citizen, and scheduling the investment projects intended to be established inside the country.

The KAFD shall form a milestone in the world of economy through combining all elements of financial success, starting from the distinguished location in a suburb of the capital of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Riyadh, in respect of easy access thereto via the airport, and its high potential for having capacity for the workforce and the skillful and specialized individuals in the financial



and related sectors, in addition to the existence of banks and financial institutions as well as the offices of the other service institutions.

HE Mr. Mohammed bin Abdullah Al Kharashi, governor of the Public Pension Agency said that: (The Public Pension Agency adopts investment programs that yield benefit to the rights of pensioners and help enhancing the financial resources of the Agency. The investment made by the Agency in this project has been in consistency with this policy, and the Agency shall acquire and develop the whole project and give the opportunity to the Capital Market Authority and the other governmental authorities, such as the Monetary Agency and the related companies, such as the insurance companies, banks and financial service companies, to obtain places suitable for them, equipped with the latest world standards. The Agency has actually started to take the steps required for the same. The Agency expects that this project shall create a high quality work environment that is suitable for attracting the good investment opportunities.)

## The King's noble grant shook the world and made joy



n coincidence with his return from his blessed medical trip for recovery after the successful surgery performed in New York, the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques has issued his generous royal noble grant, the budget of which exceeded four hundred billion Saudi riyals, which include thirteen royal decrees, the major part thereof relates to distribution of social benefits to the Saudis of up to 140 billion riyals, aiming at raising the standard of living for the citizens, and providing a decent life for them, and extending and developing the care and social development services, in addition to providing housing and facing unemployment and creating job opportunities for the national graduates.

The royal decrees have also included the approval of a regulation under the name of "Financial Rights and Benefits Regulation" concerning the staff of the State, and joining the male and female students studying abroad at their own expense in a number of disciplines in the program of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques for scholarship, and providing the financial support to all literary and sport clubs in the Kingdom, and amnesty for the public right prisoners pursuant to the regulations prescribed, and creating 1200 jobs in the control bodies to enhance their ability to control, investigate and prosecute as hoped, and raising the level and efficiency of these important bodies.

The royal decrees have also include facing the unemployment problem through employing part of the financial resources of the Human Resources Fund to approve a

#### 400 billion riyals for development and raising the standard of living

temporary financial subsidy for the youth seeking to work in the context of an urgent and viable solution at this stage, and providing this support from the reserves of the Human Resources Development Fund for an initial period not exceeding one year, during which the scope of the social insurance system shall be studied in order to bring national workforce instead of immigrants, enabling the General Organization for Social Insurance to develop a program for cooperative insurance for the unemployed citizens, and supporting the job seekers by using its own resources to be the first sign of a package of incentives and regulations that shall support the Saudization program.

The noble grant of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, may Allah protect him has focused on housing, and this was evident in its text which states:

"Out of the importance of providing decent housing for our national sons and daughters, and based on the charge entrusted to us which requires us to search the best means to achieve the same, as the citizen's concerns are ours and his comfort is ours out of religion and trust: Therefore we ordered the following: First: Support the budget of the Public Housing Authority with fifteen thousand million riyals. Second: The Public Housing Authority is required to expedite the awarding of the housing projects and report monthly on progress to the Royal Court to be presented to us. Third: This decree shall be notified to the competent authorities for approval and implementation."

Huge budgets and continuous growth and the citizen in on top of the list of priorities

The Ministry of Housing has announced a number of steps that determine the priorities of building governmental housing projects recently announced, which are about 18 projects distributed to all regions of the Kingdom. HE Minister of Housing, Dr. Shuwaish bin Saud Al Duwaihi, has presented sincere thanks and appreciation to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud - may Allah protect him, for his persistent keenness on providing adequate housing for his national sons, and achieving welfare to them.

He said on the occasion of issuing the kind royal decree for supporting the Public Housing Authority with 15 billion riyals "We can not describe the efforts exerted by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques to achieve prosperity for the citizens and his persistent seeking for fulfilling their needs and achieving their dreams in owning homes with distinguished specifications, as this noble royal grant, represented in supporting the Public Housing Authority, comes to confirm his great passion – may



**HE** Minister of Housing, Dr. Shuwaish bin Saud Al Duwaihi, we cannot describe the efforts exerted by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques to achieve prosperity for the citizens and his persistent seeking for fulfilling their needs and achieving their dreams

Allah support him - for his own people, and working in all means to overcome all obstacles they face, in respect of housing". He pointed out that the great support ordered by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques for "the Public Housing Authority" shall have a major role in increasing its ability to provide a large number of houses in all regions of the Kingdom, pointing out that the Authority shall seek to expedite the awarding of the housing projects and report monthly on the progress to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, stressing that it shall go forward to achieve all desired expectations, anticipated by all Saudi people, to achieve the vision of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques for fulfilling the needs of the citizens.

#### AED 60 billion for investments of the industrial cities

he director general of the Saudi Industrial Property Authority "Modon", Dr. Tawfig bin Fawzan Al Rabiah says that "Every riyal spent by the Kingdom on the industrial cities shall yield 66 riyals to the national economy, which means that the amounts spent during the past four years shall yield benefit to the local economy by about 462 billion rivals". This is not an exaggeration, but a fact that everyone has become feeling on the ground, as Al Rabiah has become known as the industry's first man in the Kingdom, and what he has managed to achieve in the industrial cities, in light of the directives of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, has become a focus of interest and discussion all over the world, and through which Saudi Arabia has turned from a mere oil country to a country in which the industrial sector competes notably in supporting the domestic product of the country.

The total cost of the establishment, expansion and development of the industrial cities projects in the Kingdom, that have been signed during the past four years, has amounted to about 7 billion rivals, in addition to the establishment of 40 new industrial cities by the end of 2015." The Saudi Industrial Property Authority supervises at present 20 industrial cities spread out in all regions of the Kingdom. The industrial cities have witnessed tremendous strides over the recent years thanks to the unlimited support given by the government of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz to the industry sector in the Kingdom, in addition to the



H.E Al Rabiah the man who precedes saying by deed

plans and strategies approved by the Saudi Industrial Property Authority for the establishment, development or expansion of the industrial cities.

The Authority plans to increase the industrial cities to be more than 40 cities by the year 2015, after the number of these cities was not more than 14 cities in the year 2007, which would double the developed area of the industrial cities to 160 million sq. meters. The new industrial cities that the Saudi Industrial Property Authority plans to develop up to the end of 2015 shall include the expansion of Sudair, expansion of Al Kharj, Shagra, Al Dammam 3, Jeddah 3, Hafar Al Baten, Al Ahssa 2, Al Guryat, Duba, Al Qassim 2, Al Baha 2, Rabigh.

The total area of Jeddah 3 project located east of Al Laith road, south of Jeddah governorate, has amounted to about 20 million sq. meters, while the cost of the project implementation amounts to 277 million rivals, as the scope of work in this project includes development of the networks of roads and networks of storm water drainage, street lighting, networks of electric medium voltage. As for Al Dammam 3 project, its total area amounts to 48 million sq. meters at a cost of up to 250 million rivals, while the area of Rivadh 3 city located in Al Ha'ir, south of Riyadh near the reformatory amounts to about 1,000,000 sg. meters, as the total cost of the project amounts to 24,4 million rivals.

The costs of developing the first phase with the road connecting to the industrial city in Al Baha amount to 50 million rivals on an area of 1,000,000 sq. meters out of a total area for the project amounting to 3,000,000 sq. meters. As for the industrial city in Al Khari, the costs of the project implementation amount to 545,3 million riyals on a total area of up to 99,481,000 sq. meters, while the area of the first phase of this project amount to 5,000,000 sq. meters, and the existing and under construction factories in Al Kharj are 172 factories.

40 new Saudi industrial cities by the end of 2015



The costs of developing Sudair City for Industry and Business in its first phase amount to about 1,09 million riyals, while the area of the first phase of the project amounts to 8,000,000 sq. meters, while the costs of developing Jeddah 2 project amount to 731 million riyals on a total area of 8,000,000 sq. meters. As for the industrial city in Al Zulfa, its costs amount to 8 million riyals on a total area of 18,000,000 sq. meters.

The costs of implementing the project of industrial city in Shaqra amount to 5 million riyals with the project's total area amounting to 9,6 million sq. meters. As for Al Qassim, the costs of implementation thereof amount to 32 million riyals and the development area mounts to 1,300,000 sq. meters, and in Taif, the costs of implementing the project amount to 4,9 million riyals, and the development projects in Riyadh 1 & 2 amount to 449 million riyals.

The national strategy for industry provides a national vision for the pivotal role of the industrial sector in the growth and in the development and in establishing and sustaining wealth in the Kingdom, by maximizing

Every riyal spent by the Kingdom on the industrial cities shall yield 66 riyals to the national economy

the proceeds of its natural resources and investing them for settling the productive human experts and for diversifying the economy, and it also provides a conception for the means of achieving this role, including the efficient management mechanisms, updated laws and the necessary funding.

This strategy has been formulated based on a detailed analysis of the current status of the industry in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and the economic and technology trends in the world, and extensive discussions on the characteristics of the Saudi economy and society, and several meetings involving the industrial relationship parties in the public and private sectors, and also taking advantage of several examinations of the world experiences in the industrial development.

The strategy adopts achievement of the role hoped for the industry in the Kingdom's orientation towards the knowledge-based economy, the first is knowledge in the fields of energy and petrochemicals, which enhances the innovative capacities, competitiveness and industrial diversification.

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## **Corporate Overview**

The beginnings of the exploitation of hydrocarbon resources in the (Partitioned Neutral Zone (PNZ) have their roots in the history of oil and gas exploration and development in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. In 1958, the Arabian Oil Company took over the rights for exclusive exploration in the offshore area of the PNZ under the terms of two separate Concession Agreements, one with the Saudi Government and the other with the State of Kuwait Government. The Saudi concession expired in 2000 and the Kuwaiti concession expired in 2003 leading to the formation of the Aramco Gulf Operations Company and the Kuwait Gulf Oil Company, subsidiaries of Saudi Aramco and Kuwait Petroleum Corporation, respectively, who are the 50-50 joint partners in KJO.

Khafji Joint Operations (KJO) is committed to producing high quality oil and gas products using the most



modern techniques available and has set itself the aim of becoming a model Oil and Gas operation in the Gulf region and a leading example of international cooperation and teamwork. To achieve this KJO has completed a Business Restructuring Program aimed at streamlining its operations and undertaken a US\$1.2 billion capital construction and rehabilitation program. At the same time as starting these major initiatives KJO has been mindful of its responsibilities towards its employees, the local community and the environment.

Today, KJO stands at the threshold of a new era of modernization and development which, with the help of a re-invigorated and well-trained workforce, will contribute greatly to meeting the energy needs of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the State of Kuwait and the world at large.



History of Oil Industry in Khafji



Oil industry in Khafji started in mid-1956 when Mr. Yamashita Taro and a group of Japanese entrepreneurs established the Japan Petroleum Trading Company Ltd. In February 1957, Mr. Yamashita made his first visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in order to obtain an oil concession whereas he held preliminary negotiations with the Saudi Government top officials.

The government positively responded and promised to consider the concession application. Following that promise Mr. Yamashita established the Arabian Oil Company Limited (AOC Ltd).

In July 1957, Mr. Yamashita was entrusted with power to conduct negotiations on the owners' behalf, K.S.A. at that time sent a delegate to Kuwait to ask for a Saudi-Kuwaiti joint move over the concession agreement of the Divided Neutral Zone between the two countries.

In December 1957, the negotiations conducted by signing the concession agreement between Saudi Government and Japan Petroleum Trading Company Ltd.

On February 10, 1958, the operating company "Arabian Oil Company Ltd." Was established, Consequently all rights and obligations under the said concession were assigned to it from the mother "Japan Petroleum Trading Company". Under the said agreement the K.S.A. government provided the company with an exclusive petroleum exploration and prospecting license for a period not exceeding two years and exploration concession for 40 years as of the date of termination of the former period.

On July 5, 1958, Kuwait Government

granted AOC, the concession of its one half interest of the neutral divided zone for 44 years including the period of exploration and geological survey.

Following the conclusion of the two concession agreements in the years 1957 & 1958, AOC commenced its activities at Khor Al-Mufattah, 33 km northward Khafji.

In 1960, as a result of the discovery of oil in commercial quantities, AOC had decided to consider its permanent operations base at Al-Khafji and constructed all the onshore supporting facilities of production, shipping, offices, housing and other facilities required for the company developing operations.



## **Our Vision & Mission**

Al-Khafji Joint Operations (KJO), a leading oil producer and exporter, began its tenth decade with exciting prospects of realizing the full potential of Khafji Offshore Area and still continues at the forefront of the industry and remains a leading example of international cooperation and teamwork and **perform all activities in a competitive, profitable and responsible way, creating lasting value to all our stakeholders** towards ..

"making KJO a model of Oil and Gas industry in the Gulf"



#### عمليـات الـخفـجي المـشتـركـة AL KHAFJI JOINT OPERATIONS

## Power through Partnership

Al Khafji Joint Operations KJO, a leading oil producer and exporter, begins 2010 with exciting prospects of realizing the full potential of Al Khafji offshore area. Fifty three years after its inception, KJO continues at the forefront of the industry and remains a leading example of international cooperation and teamwork.