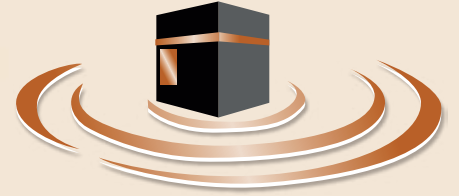


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الحج عبادة و سلوك حضاري ١٤٣٩ هـ

**Prince Abdullah
directs formation of
a working team to develop
pilgrims' housing in Mina**

**Dr. Benten hails South Asia Mutawiff's
Establishment's services**

King tells Afghans to open a new page



مؤسسة مطوفي حجاج جنوب آسيا
Muttawiffy Hujjaj South Asia Est.

يتشرف رئيس ونائبا وأعضاء مجلس إدارة

مؤسسة مطوفي حجاج دول جنوب آسيا
بتقديم خالص التهاني وأصدق التبريكات

إلى رؤساء مكاتب الخدمة الميدانية
ومطوفي ومطوفات المؤسسة وكافة منسوبيها
وذلك بمناسبة
قدوم عيد الأضحى المبارك

وكل عام ووطننا الغالي بألف خير



Immense efforts in hosting the pilgrims

Allah has honored the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the leadership, the government and the people, to serve the pilgrims to the God's Holy Mosque and the visitors of the His Noble Prophet's mosque, peace be upon him. Because of this, our honored government gives utmost importance to serving the Guests of the Most-Merciful in every way possible. His Royal Highness Prince Muhammad Bin Salman Bin Abdulaziz, Crown Prince and Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense, and Prince Khalid Al-Faisal, Advisor to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, Governor of Makkah and Chairman of the Central Hajj Committee have emphasized on every occasion that these Hajj services must abide by and be in accordance with the international service hospitality standards. The pilgrims must perform Hajj with utmost comfort and ease, from the moment they set foot in these sacred areas until they depart for home.

Our beloved country is witnessing these days a great season of unparalleled services during which we receive and serve the pilgrims to the holy land. The pilgrims have already begun to flock to these holy sites from all over the world.

All governmental and private sectors related to Hajj have completed their preparations and mobilized their resources in order to serve the guests of the Most-Merciful, providing them all they need at every stage of their performance of Hajj rituals.

At our end, the South Asia Pilgrims Mutawwifs Establishment has completed its readiness and preparations for the pilgrimage season this year, and has begun to receive the pilgrims at King Abdulaziz International Airport in Jeddah from the beginning of the month of Dhul Qa'dah, 1439 AH. Our field service offices receive pilgrims, then transport them to Makkah, in addition to carrying out special procedures for the travel of those wishing to visit Madinah before the Hajj.

The Board of Directors of the Establishment, many of its deputies and members of its Field Service offices take groups of pilgrims to the Grand Mosque, help them perform Tawaf of the Ka'aba, following the tradition of their parents and grandparents who worked as Hajj guides.

On the evening of Wednesday, 12/11/1439 AH, the Establishment met with the Minister of Hajj and Umrah, HE Dr. Mohammad Saleh Bin Taher Benten, accompanied by HE Dr. Abdul Fattah Bin Sulaiman Mushat, and a number of distinguished agents and officials of the Ministry to determine their preparations and readiness for the Hajj season this year.

His Excellency and his companions viewed the simulation model for the pilgrims' hostels located at the Muzdalifah train stations, as well as all of the emergency and safety preparations made by the committee. The simulation model was prepared by the Establishment to inform the office officials, tourism companies and pilgrims about status of improving pilgrims' housing (two-level housing).

HE Dr. Benten issued a decision appointing two Saudi women as members of the board of directors of the Establishment. Based on the decision, women mutawwifs Nijoud Haidar Jamal Al-Lail and Hanadi Abdul Qadir Ramadani have assumed their positions on the board. This is in line with the Kingdom's Vision 2030, which aims to increase the women's participation in all service sectors.

There will be no end if we detail all the effort to make the Hajj hospitality industry a success. What has been narrated should suffice to highlight our sincere efforts to serve the pilgrims. We ask the Almighty to bless our beloved homeland with security, safety and stability, and to preserve our good leadership. We ask Him to bless our efforts to serve His honored guests, to accept the Hajj pilgrims, and accept their Hajj rites, that they may return with their sins forgiven; He is indeed One who hears all who call on him.

Editorial



Dr. Ra'fat Ismail Badr

Chairman of The Board of Directors
South Asia Pilgrims
Mutawwifs Establishment



8

King Salman hosts 1,500 pilgrims from the families of Yemeni, Sudanese martyrs

10

Prince Abdullah directs formation of a working team to develop pilgrims' housing in Mina



12

Dr. Benten hails South Asia Mutawiffs Establishment's services



16

The South Asian Pilgrims Mutawiffs Establishment honors distinguished staff



King tells Afghans to open a new page

The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman bin Abdulaziz - God protect him - received on July 11, 2018 at Al-Salam Palace in Jeddah the delegation of Muslim scholars participating in the international peace conference on Afghanistan.



“Today, we are optimistic that your efforts would contribute to closing the page of the past and opening a new page in Afghanistan that would help realize the aspirations of the Afghan people for security and stability, and this requires adopting an approach of dialogue, reconciliation and tolerance on the lines of our religion of Islam.”

The King welcomed

the scholars, expressing his appreciation to them and the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) for organizing the conference stating: “You all are the best who work in the service of Islam and Muslims, in uniting their ranks, and removing the problems of terrorism and extremism that have afflicted the Islamic world. The Kingdom is honored to serve the Two Holy Mosques and this

is what we have always been doing.”

The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques emphasized that the Saudi people have lived side by side with the Afghan people throughout their struggles and civil wars. The Kingdom has provided humanitarian, economic, and political support to the Afghan people in an effort to resolve conflicts between various sections of Afghan



6

society.

The King expressed his gratitude to them for their efforts, asking God to grant strength to the Afghan people and bless them with all good.

Secretary General of the OIC, HE Dr. Yusuf bin Ahmad Al-Othaimeen, expressed his deep gratitude as well as that of the scholars attending the conference and the entire OIC to the King for hosting the conference

in the Kingdom in the vicinity of the Holy Ka'aba, the Qibla of the entire Muslim world and heart of 700 million Muslims. This gracious act was initiated by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques and his Crown Prince to help achieve safety and peace in Afghanistan, he added.

The OIC chief said that Afghanistan has suffered from killing, terrorism, and division, and that

more than one hundred Muslim scholars were brought together from around the world to clarify the meaning of reconciliation in Islam, and to unify the Shariah based-stance.

Al-Othaimeen clarified that this conference provided a pulpit that unites scholars to debate from a Shariah perspective on how to achieve peace, safety, and reconciliation between various seg-

ments and groups of Afghanistan. All of this through dialogue that stays above the fray, rejecting extremism, violence, and terrorism that is anti-ethical to our Islamic faith, the faith of mercy, peace, and co-existence. The conference adopted Makkah Declaration, which emphasized these lofty values and acts as a road map to reach a peaceful solution to Afghanistan's issue.

Powerful message

The OIC chief stressed that this conference will send a powerful, true message on the importance the Islamic Ummah gives to Afghanistan in particular and the world at large and that the Islamic Ummah has the ability to resolve its disputes from within by God's grace and then by the determination of the likes of these noble scholars accepting the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques' invitation to listen to his advice and consider the wisdom therein. He pointed to the Custodian of the Two

The conference adopted Makkah Declaration, which emphasizes values and acts as a road map to a peaceful solution

Holy Mosque's diligence in unifying the people, implementing peace, and ensuring safety and security in the Islamic World and Afghanistan in particular. Part of this being the peace treaty he brokered during the days of Eid Al-Fitr, calling all parties to accept his call to end bloodshed and create an environment of peaceful dialogue.

Al-Othaimeen drew attention to the fact that the call from King Salman which was followed by an invitation to this International Conference on Afghanistan reflects the Kingdom's clear and firm stance on Islamic unity.

Renewed support

The OIC official expressed his gratitude to the Custodian of The Two

Holy Mosques and the Crown Prince for their continued and renewed support to the OIC which is the unified voice of the Islamic world. He called upon Allah Almighty to reward the Custodian of The Two Holy Mosques greatly for his service to Islam and Muslims. He also prayed to Allah to continue to bless the Islamic world with safety and security.

The conference was attended by Prince Khalid Al-Faisal, Advisor to the Custodian of The Two Holy Mosques and Governor of Makkah; Prince Abdul Aziz bin Saud bin Naif, Minister of Interior; Shaikh Dr. Ali bin Abdullah Bin Hameed Advisor to the Royal Court; HE Sheikh Abdullatif bin Abdulaziz Al-Sheikh, Minister of Islamic Affairs, Dawah and Guidance; Dr. Abdullah bin Muhammad Al Mutlaq, Advisor to the Royal Court; Dr. Musaid bin Mohammed Al-Iban, minister and member of the Council of Ministers as well as Dr. Nizar bin Obaid Madani, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs.

King Salman hosts 1,500 pilgrims from the families of Yemeni, Sudanese martyrs



The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman Bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud, has ordered to host 1,500 pilgrims from the families of the martyrs of the Yemeni National Army and the Sudanese forces who participated in Operation Decisive Storm and Operation Restoring Hope. They will be hosted as guests of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, a program overseen by the Ministry of Islamic Affairs, Da'wah and Guidance.

Making this announcement, HE Minister of Islamic Affairs, Dawah and Guidance Sheikh Abdullatif bin Abdulaziz Al-Sheikh, who is also the director general of the program, said: "This royal gesture by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques is merely an



extension of his noble acts and generous deeds towards all Muslims and in particular the families of these martyrs in particular, in recognition of the immense sacrifices they have made – may Allah have mercy on them – in defending the cradle of faith, the land of Yemen, and defending the honor and dignity of its people.”

Al-Sheikh thanked the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques and His Royal Highness the Crown Prince for their efforts to defend the security and unity of Yemen and its territorial integrity from the domination of

Houthi militias supported by Iran. This program comes as part of the continuous efforts of the Kingdom, along with its brothers in Arab alliance countries, to support the legitimacy of their sister-state, Yemen.

Benten hails royal gesture

Meanwhile, HE Dr. Mohammad Saleh Bin Taher Benten, the Minister of Hajj and Umrah, hailed the royal gesture to host 1,500 pilgrims from the families of martyrs from the Yemeni and Sudanese forces who partici-

pated in the two operations.

His Excellency said that the royal gesture is an extension of the concern and interest of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, to serve Islam and Muslims, and help pilgrims perform the Haj rituals in peace and comfort.

He added that all resources and energy has been expended to enable the pilgrims to perform haj rituals with ease and comfort from the moment they arrive in the Kingdom to throughout their stay here and until the time they leave for their homes.

Prince Abdullah directs formation of a working team to develop pilgrims' housing in Mina

During his tour of Mina, Deputy Governor of Makkah Region, Deputy Chairman of the Central Hajj Committee, Prince Abdullah Bin Bandar, formed a working group under the supervision of the region's Development Authority in association with a number of security authorities to study the specific needs of pilgrims encamped in the holy sites with the goal of creating an environment appropriate for their comfort.



This comes as an extension of his visit to a number of pilgrim camps last year, during which he listened to the observations and needs of a number of pilgrims directly.

Following this, he directed that a team be formed to monitor these observations and discover ways to avoid them during the current Hajj season. The team submitted a report to the prince, including the proposed solutions.

South Asia camps

During the tour, the Dep-

uty Governor of Makkah Region inspected the camps of the Hajj Guide Foundation for South

Asian pilgrims in the holy site. He was accompanied by HE Minister of Hajj and Umrah Dr. Mohammad



Saleh Bin Taher Benten and his deputy HE Dr. Abdulfattah Bin Sulaiman Mashat, as well as a number of ministry and civil defense officials.

The Prince was briefed

on a number of services extended to the pilgrims - both essential and auxiliary - provided by South Asian Hajj Guide Foundation and associated institutions.

A distinct experience

During his recent visit to one of the camps in Mina, HE Dr. Benten was briefed, in the presence of his deputy and Under Secretary of the Ministry, on the experience of South Asia Mutawiffs Establishment in the use of the two-stage family housing in Mina pilgrim camps during the current pilgrimage season.

The Minister and his accompanying staff was received by the Chairman of the South Asia Mutawiffs Establishment, Dr. Ra'fat Ismail Badr along with his deputies and members of the Establishment's Board of Directors. The minister listened to Dr. Badr explaining how families are housed in the camps.

Dr. Benten expressed his happiness at the great preparations made by the South Asia Mutawiffs Establishment to serve the pilgrims, with specific appreciation for the nutrition program he was briefed on, where 15% of the meals used are ready-made to fit the pilgrims' needs. His Excellency also reviewed the quality of accommodations that are provided in the camps.



Dr. Benten hails South Asia Mutawiffs Establishment's services



During his visit to the South Asia Mutawiffs Establishment's headquarters in Rusaifah, Makkah, on 12.11.1439H, the Minister of Hajj and Umrah, HE Dr. Mohammad Saleh Bin Taher Benten, hailed the great efforts made by the South Asia Mutawiffs Establishment in serving the pilgrims and providing them every year with excellent services and innovations in and around Makkah and the holy sites.



On his arrival at the Establishments headquarters, HE the Minister was received by the Chairman of the Board Dr. Ra'fat Ismail Badr and his two deputies Eng. Zaki Omar Hariri and Eng. Hisham Abdul Rahman Shilli along with members of the Board.



The minister and his accompanying delegation, inspected a model for simulating pilgrims and the emergency and safety committee. Based on the simulation, the model is pre-





pared by the Establishment to inform the officials of the offices of pilgrims and tourism companies to improve the environment of housing pilgrims.

This was followed by a workshop presentation held under the supervision of the General Union of cars. The minister also toured the comprehensive exhibition of the institution and saw the visual



presentation of the achievements of the Establishment during the last Hajj season .

HE Dr. Benten also inaugurated the website of the Establishment and later held a meeting with the Board of Directors of the Establishment during which he listened to a brief explanation by Dr. Ra'fat on the operational plan of the Establishment for the current Hajj season.





The South Asian Pilgrims Mutawiffs Establishment honors distinguished staff

On the evening of 28/10/1439H, the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the South Asia Pilgrims Mutawiffs Establishment, Dr. Ra'fat Ismail Badr; His Excellency Deputy Minister Zaki Omar Al-Hariri, and Board members honored heads of field service offices who participated in the last Hajj season (1438 AH) at the Grand Lecture Hall of the Establishment's headquarters in Rusaifah.

Dr. Ra'fat Badr welcomed the heads of the field service offices and expressed his thanks and appreciation for their great efforts during the Hajj season 1438H, which led to the success of the Establishment's operational plan in all fields. "This past success makes us hopeful to achieve further success in line with the unlimited support provided by the government of the Custodian of the Two Holy

Mosques to all governmental and private sectors, in the service of the guests of the Most-Merciful to enable them to perform Hajj rituals in comfort. Included in this is also the assistance provided to all Tawafa institutions so that they serve the pilgrims with the highest levels of excellence."

He said that the Establishment has completed all preparations and ar-



rangements for the current Hajj season, with actual work beginning at the commencement of Hajj season, when the first batch of pilgrims arrived. The Establishment provides the best services to the pilgrims. “We ask Allah to make this season successful by all standards, both the for South Asia Pilgrims Establishment as well as all stakeholders involved. We pray this especially because the Kingdom employs all its potential and mobilizes all its human and material resources to serve the guests of the Most-Merciful.”

Dr. Raafat Badr added

that one of the most important developments in the Hajj season this year is to provide the multi-level family housing service in Mina, which will be implemented by the Establishment for the first time to serve the pilgrims, as part of a new system of services. He exhorted all the heads of offices and concerned employees to pay attention to the security situation and make it as one of their priorities in this season. This can be achieved by full vigilance in treating any suspicious situation around the camps and informing security personnel. He urged everyone to

work with the spirit of one team in this regard.

The Establishment Chairman stressed that the officials of the Board of Directors “are working with you around the clock, hand in hand, and shoulder to shoulder. Your success is our success and our success is your success. The South Asia Pilgrims Establishment is known for the success of its loyal employees in each pilgrimage season. We must maintain these successes, and continue to develop them year after year.”

He said that cooperation



between the Establishment and the all concerned parties is related to the crowd distribution at the Jamarat and use of the train system in the holy sites. "Mr. Ahmed Attas will meet with you to explain the plans. The train and all related schedules will transport the offices of pilgrims' affairs, which will in turn schedule the transport of their pilgrims before coming to the Kingdom."

Lastly, an honoring ceremony was held for the employees of the 1438 AH Hajj season in recognition of their excellent work. The ceremony was attended by



members of the Board of Directors of the Establish-

ment and heads of field offices.