# Al-Ahella



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Overcome danger of sectarianism, divisiveness: King





مؤسسة مطوفي حجاج جنوب آسيـا 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 الذدمة الميدانية ومساهمي ومساهمات المؤسسة وكافة منسوبيها

وذلك بمناسبة

قدوم عيد الأضحى المبارك



### **Efforts to be Remembered**

ur beloved King Salman, Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, His Royal Highness Prince Muhammad Bin Salman Bin Abdulaziz, the Crown Prince, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense have earned an unmatched global recognition for their untiring efforts to achieve security and stability in the world. In the Kingdom, they have been working for sustainable development in all fields as can be witnessed in various development projects that would benefit the citizens. Needless to say that the Hajj sector enjoys a large share of the development. While chairing the meeting the Council of Ministers on 16/09/1440, King Salman stressed on extending all the facilities and the best service to the pilgrims coming from abroad. It was also decided to transform the Tawafa establishment into a corporate body. Undoubtedly, this decision meets the requirements of Vision 2030 which envisages meeting challenges with professionalism and international standards and will contribute to the improvement of the services being provided to the pilgrims right from the time they arrive till they depart.

The decision will also enable companies to improve the efficiency of their employees and develop new mechanism based on governance, institutional efficiency, organizational capacity, effective management, qualitative and quantitative characterization of services, capitalization and separation of management from operations.

To achieve the needed efficiency, Board of Directors of Mutawiffy Hujjaj South Asia Establishment immediately after the conclusion of the last Hajj season initiated plans and programs to serve the Guests of Allah in the best possible manner. The Establishment formed an institutional transformation committee, composed of board members with relevant experience, in addition to international consultants to complete the process of institutional transformation of South Asia Pilgrims Muta-

wiffs Establishment. The Establishment has also completed its preparations with many new initiatives to receive the pilgrims and mobilized all its efforts to serve the pilgrims with utmost care.

In this Hajj season, we have also adopted many initiatives, ideas and development.

One of the most prominent of these initiatives was organizing the "Masha'er 1" exhibition to improve the pilgrims' accommodation in the holy sites under the guidance of HRH Prince Abdulaziz Bin Saud Bin Navef Bin Abdul Aziz: the supervision of HRH Prince Khalid Al-Faisal Bin Abdulaziz, Advisor to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques and Governor of Makkah Region and Chairman of the Central Hajj Committee; and the patronage of HRH Prince Badr Bin Sultan Bin Abdulaziz, Deputy Governor of Makkah Region; HE Dr. Mohammad Saleh Bin Taher Benten, the Minister of Hajj and Umrah; HE Dr. Abdul Fattah Bin Suleiman Mashat, and many officials of the ministry. The exhibition, which is the first of its kind in this Hajj field, has recorded positive response from pilgrims and heads of Hajj Affairs offices. They all hailed the exhibition which presented innovative initiatives and ideas to improve the service provided to pilgrims.

Other initiatives are the establishment of a number of multi-storey electrical kitchens in the existing kitchen areas at the pilgrims' camps in Mina to improve the pilgrims' catering services both at a storage and processing level, as well as the construction of models of two-story tents with precise scientific specifications in Mina to ensure comfort of the pilgrims.

I sincerely pray to Allah Almighty to accept the pilgrimage of the pilgrims and reward them amply. I also pray to Allah SWT to enable us to serve the pilgrims with our best and accept all our endeavors in their service so that the pilgrims perform the rituals with utmost peace and comfort. May Allah bless all those too who carry out their responsibilities in the noble cause of serving the pilgrims.



Dr. Ra'fat Ismail Badr

Chairman of The Board of Directors South Asia Pilgrims Mutawiffs Establishment

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# Overcome danger of sectarianism, divisiveness: King

audi Arabia has fought against extremism with "determination and decisiveness," the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques told the Muslim World League (MWL) four-day international conference titled "Values of moderation in the texts of the Qur'an and Sunnah," that began in Makkah on May 27, 2019.

Makkah - "Al-Ahella"

"Saudi Arabia has strongly condemned and fought all forms of extremism, violence and terrorism, with ideology, determination and decisiveness, and has opposed any identification with them," King Salman said in a speech delivered on his

behalf by Makkah Govenor Prince Khalid Al-Faisal.

The King called for an end to racist and xenophobic speech.

Saudi Arabia was committed to "spreading peace and coexistence and has established international intellectual platforms and centers to promote these principles," the King said.

"We reiterate our invitation to stop the racist and xenophobic speech from whatever source and under any pretext whatsoever," he added.

As many as 1,200 prominent Islamic figures, dignitaries, scholars, senior officials and leading thinkers from the Muslim world from 139 countries attended the conference. They also approved the "Makkah Charter" as a historic document to establish the values of co-

### In Focus



existence among followers of religions, cultures, races and sects in Islamic countries as well as to achieve peace and harmony among various segments of society.

The charter follows the example of the "Madinah Charter," drafted by the Prophet (peace be upon him) 14 centuries ago to preserve the diversity of the Islamic nation and its coexistence.

One of the articles of the charter recognizes the principles of women's legitimate empowerment, rejection of their marginalization, the degradation of their dignity, the minimization of their role, or the obstruction of their opportunities in religious,

scientific, political, social or other realms.

At an audience who attended the international conference, King Salman underscored the need for the cohesion of the Islamic Ummah with overcoming the dangers of sectarianism and divisiveness.

The Kingdom also convened other major regional summits which included the emergency meetings of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and the Arab League to discuss the heightened tensions in the region with Iran.

The topics discussed in the conference included "Moderation in Islamic History

and Jurisprudence Heritage" and "Neutral Speeches and the Contemporary Age" under the theme of "Moderation Between Authenticity and Modernity."

Other topics discussed were "Differences and the Culture of Moderation" and "Practical Programs to Promote Moderation Among Youth."

The conference in its fifth session focused on "Moderation and the Message of Civilized Communication." Participants discussed religious pluralism and cultural communication, and the common values in contemporary international relations.





#### The Makkah Charter

The conference emphasized that only the gathering of well-established scholars, similar to the Makkah conference in the vicinity of Holy Ka'aba, can pronounce rulings on the issues of the Islamic Ummah, and speak on its behalf in its religious matters. It also underscored the significance of joint religious and humanitarian work aimed at benefitting all with the participation of all without exclusion, racism or discrimination against followers of any religion, race.

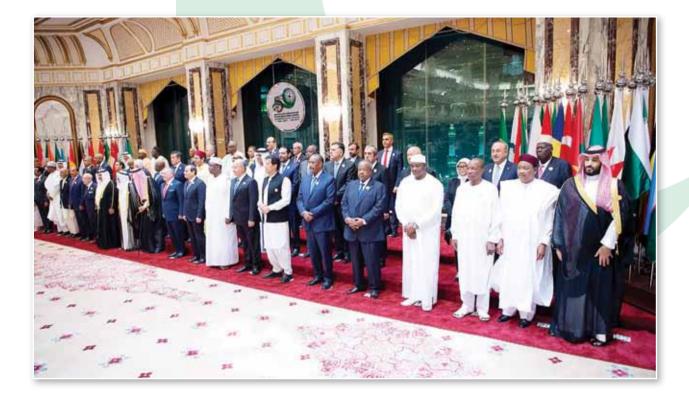
The participants in their document emphasized that the mankind with all its diverse components, belongs to a single origin and are

equal in their humanity, rejecting racist expressions and slogans, and condemning the abhorrent acts of superiority.

The document stressed that religious and cultural diversity in human societies does not justify conflict and clashes, but rather calls for a positive civilizational partnership and active communication that makes diversity a bridge for dialogue, understanding and cooperation for the benefit of all. It stimulates competition in serving and making happier of human beings as well as in building a nation of comprehensive citizenship, based on values, justice and legitimate freedoms, mutual respect, love of good for all.

The document called for the enactment of legislation to deter propagators of hate, instigators of violence, terrorism and civilizational clash, asserting that this is inevitable to drain the causes of religious and ethnic conflict. It also condemned the attack on houses of worship, calling it a criminal act that requires firm legislative and political guarantees.

The delegates also called for the fight against terrorism, injustice and oppression, and the rejection of exploitation of the capabilities of peoples and the violation of human rights, stressing that this is the duty of all



without any distinction.

#### **Makkah Charter**

"Makkah The Charter" considered the thesis of the civilizational conflict, the call for confrontation and the intimidation of the other are a manifestation of isolation, the elitism generated by racism and negative cultural domination. self-inclusiveness acts to incite hatred. foster animosity between nations and peoples, and prevent the realization of the demand for coexistence especially in countries of religious and ethnic diversity.

The document warned that the phenomenon of Islamophobia stems from the lack of knowledge of the reality of Islam and its cultural creativity and lofty goals. It emphasized the consolidation of noble moral values, the promotion of lofty social practices, cooperation in addressing ethical, environmental and family challenges according to common human concepts, and the protection of human values and the destruction of social systems.

The document recommended not to interfere in the affairs of states for whatever reasons, emphasizing that it is an unacceptable breach, especially the methods of political hegemony with its economic and other ambitions, and the marketing of sectarian ideas. It emphasized that successful

development experiences in the world have promised a model to deter all forms of corruption, to implement the principle of accountability and to change the patterns of consumption that hinder development programs, and drain and waste wealth.

The participants emphasized the fortification of Muslim societies with adoption of the concepts of moderation. The document recommended the creation of a global forum on youth affairs as an Islamic initiative with the objective of engaging the youth in constructive dialogue with all within and outside the Islamic world.





'Together for the Future'

## Kingdom takes over OIC presidency; summit commits to Palestinian cause

he Holy City of Makkah hosted the 14th summit of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) on May 31, 2019. The summit, titled "Makkah Summit: Together for the Future", aimed at developing a unified stance on events in the Islamic world. Meanwhile, Saudi Arabia took over the presidency of the OIC, during the meeting of the foreign ministers, preparatory to the 14th OIC summit.

Makkah - "Al-Ahella"

Opening the summit, Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman said: "Palestine is our main issue until the Palestinians get their rights."

He added: "We reaffirm our

unequivocal rejection of any measures that would prejudice the historical and legal status of Al-Quds Al-Sharif," the third holiest place in Islam.

King Salman also reiterated

that efforts must be made to confront terrorism and those who sponsor it.

He felt the recent attacks on oil tankers off the UAE coast in the month of Ramadan was carried out by Irnian-backed terrorist groups.

"During this holy month, commercial vessels, including two Saudi oil tankers, were subjected near the UAE's territorial waters to terrorist sabotage. This poses a serious threat to the security and safety of maritime traffic and

We emphasize that these subversive terrorist acts not only target the Kingdom and the Gulf region, but also the security of navigation and world energy supplies."

"We hope that the Summit will achieve the aspirations of the Islamic countries for progress, development and prosperity," the king told leaders and heads of states of 57 countries of the OIC.

An OIC statement said that it supported the Palestinians to "attain their inalienable national rights, including their right to self-determination and the establishment of an independent and sovereign Palestinian State on the 1967 borders with Jerusalem as its capital."

It also rejected any solution that does not secure the Palestinian people's rights and rejected Washington's relocation of its embassy to occupied Jerusalem.

Addressing the summit, King Abdullah of Jordan said: "We want an integral solution that would preserve the Palestinians' rights in accordance with the borders of 67."

Heads of Islamic countries



renewed their commitment to the Palestinian cause and reiterated the Palestinians' right to statehood.

The official agenda of meeting was to address 'current issues in Muslim world' and 'recent developments in a number of OIC member states. Also, amid soaring tension between Iran and the US and its Gulf allies, the OIC summit discussed the regional security issues. The Mecca summit supported Palestinians and backed Saudis in Iran standoff. The Islamophobia dossier too of great importance.

The final communique of the conference expressed gratitude and appreciation to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman Bin Abdelaziz Al-Saud, for hosting the 14th session of the Islamic Summit Conference on the Promotion of Islamic Solidarity, and to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and its people in general for the warm hospitality and the consistent support extended by Saudi Arabia to the Organization, to Islamic Solidarity, and to Joint Islamic Action.

It commended the role of King Salman and Crown Prince Muhammad Bin Salman in sponsoring reconciliation initiatives in the Horn of Africa;

It expressed support for the choices of the Sudanese people and the decisions they make for their own future. It further expressed its full solidarity with Lake Chad Basin countries, namely Nigeria, Niger, Cameroon and Chad. It also expressed deep concern and strong condemnation of the recent acts of violence against Muslims in Sri Lanka and urged the Government of





this country to hold accountable to perpetrators of these acts, bring them to justice and counter firmly the spread of rhetoric of hatred and intolerance, while ensuring the security and safety of the Muslim community in Sri Lanka. Moreover, the communique expressed full support for the Iraqi Government in its efforts to combat terrorism.

The communique reaffirmed its solidarity with Lebanon.

The communique affirmed its principled position on the need to preserve the unity, sovereignty, territorial integrity and social harmony of Syria and reiterated support for 6 the political solution of the Syrian crisis. It also affirmed its support for the countries of the Sahel region, particularly the G-5 Sahel.

The communique noted with

satisfaction the steady progress being made by the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) under His Excellency President Mohamed Abdulahi Mohamed and reiterated its full support for the peace building endeavors of the FGS.

The communique condemned the inhumane situation in which the Rohingya Muslim community lives and called for urgent action to end acts of violence and all brutal practices targeting this minority and give it all its rights without any discrimination or racial profiling. It emphasized that the Government of Myanmar is fully responsible for the protection of its citizens and underscored the need to stop the use of military power in Rakhine State immediately.

The communique urged the Government of Myanmar to

take practical, time bound and concrete steps to restore the citizenship of Rohingya IDPs.

The communique reiterated its deep appreciation for the people of Bangladesh and the Government of the Honorable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina for opening their hearts and borders and giving shelter in Bangladesh to the forcibly displaced Rohingya.

The Conference reiterated continued support for constitutional legitimacy in Yemen.

The communique commended the genuine efforts of the Government of Thailand to enhance the conditions of the Muslim community.

The communique welcomed the launch of the OIC Sawt al-Hikmah (Voice of Wisdom) Centre for Dialogue, Peace and Understanding, describing it as an important step in the effort to dismantle and undermine the foundations of extremist discourse terrorist groups are disseminating through the media, particularly social media, calling on the Member States to provide the Centre with the necessary support and promote partnership and cooperation between the Centre and relevant institutions in the Member States.

The communique commended the efforts made to ensure the welfare and social security of the elderly and persons with special needs in the Muslim world.





# Kingdom determined to work with G20 agenda

#### Crown Prince invites leaders to Riyadh next year

n behalf of Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman, Crown Prince Muhammad Bin Salman, Deputy Premier and Minister of Defense, delivered a speech at the closing session of the 14th G20 Summit held in Osaka, Japan on June 29, 2019.

He first praised the G20 work program during the Japanese presidency and stressed that the Kingdom will continue its support for the Japanese presidency to implement the work program during the rest of the year.

The Crown Prince also praised the progress achieved over the past years on the economic level, and emphasized on the need to strive hard to reach inclusiveness and justice, and achieve the greatest level of prosperity.

He stressed that the Kingdom is determined to continue working toward achieving progress on the group's agenda and to work with all member states, especially Troika members Japan and Italy to discuss the pressing issues of the 21st century, promote innovation and preserve land and human well-being.

He also emphasized that empowering women and youth remain two key pillars to achieving sustainable growth, and encouraging entrepreneurs and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

To ensure sustainability, the agenda under the Kingdom's G20 presidency will include climate change, the pursuit of practical







and feasible solutions to reduce emissions from all sources and to adjust to their impacts, and to ensure environmental balance in the world, he added.

The Crown Prince said that providing adequate funding to implement the Sustainable De-

velopment Goals is one of the most important challenges facing the world, and he explained the urgent need for cooperation with low income countries in many domains, such as food security, infrastructure, access to energy and water sources, and invest-

ment in human capital. These issues, he stressed, will be the focus of attention during the Kingdom's G20 presidency next year.

Saudi Arabia will assume the chairmanship of the G20 in December 2019 and the Crown Prince welcomed the leaders of the G20 members and expressed his hope to host them next year in Riyadh.

The Crown Prince affirmed that water security and sustainability, as well as environmental and political challenges related to this issue, are one of the most important issues facing the world in general and the Middle East in particular, and he noted that that work will be done with member states to find consensus and meaningful policies.

The Crown Prince explained the need to enhance international cooperation and coordination and stressed to strengthen international consensus by establishing the principle of expanded dialogue, and building on the international system based on common principles and interests.

He pointed out that enhancing confidence in the multilateral trading system depends fundamentally on reforming the World Trade Organization (WTO) and working under its umbrella and stressed on the necessity to address the tax issues of the digital economy.

He also pointed out that the new technologies, like "Artificial Intelligence" and the "Internet of Things", can provide the world

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immense benefits, if utilized properly.

But he cautioned that these new innovations may produce new challenges such as changing the patterns of work and skills needed to adapt to the future of work, as well as increasing the risks of cybersecurity and information flow. "This requires us to address these challenges as soon as possible to avoid them turning into economic and social crises. ... The G20 members bear the responsibility to work together and cooperate with all partners to create an environment in which science flourishes, and to enhance the level and effectiveness of in-

Saudi Arabia is committed to "reducing greenhouse gas emissions and adapting to the negative effects of climate change,"

vestment in future skills and jobs."



the Crown Prince told the G20 summit.

The Kingdom has recently launched several projects which aim at increasing the production of renewable energy, and that integrating and exploiting all energy sources is a necessity, he added.

Continuing his speech he said that due to Saudi Arabia's pivotal role in the world economy, the availability of and accessibility to energy is a priority for the Kingdom and that Saudi Arabia emphasizes the importance of the security and safety of energy supplies to ensure that the basic







needs of the global economy are met.

### Honor to be with MBS: Trump

On the sidelines of G20 summit the Crown Prince also met US President Donald Trump who praised him by saying: "You have done a spectacular job."

"It's an honor to be with the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia... a man who has really done things in the last five years in terms of opening up Saudi Arabia," Trump said.

President Trump referred to the Crown Prince as "a friend of mine." In the meeting the two discussed "the importance of human rights issues," among other subjects.

Crown Prince Mohammed also had a bilateral meeting with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

#### The Communique

G20 leaders' declarations — known as "the communique" issued in Osaka on June 29, 2019 is described as "a work of diplomatic art." Some of the features of

the communique include:

The 20-plus political leaders met "to make united efforts to address major global economic challenges. We will work together to foster global economic growth, while harnessing the power of technological innovation, in particular digitalization, and its application for the benefit of all."

"We reaffirm our support for the necessary reform of the WTO to improve its functions. We agree that action is necessary regarding the functioning of the dispute settlement system consistent with the rules as negotiated by WTO members."

They agreed to "promote decent work and reaffirm commitment to take actions to eradicate child labor, forced labor, human trafficking and modern slavery in the world of work, including through fostering sustainable global supply chains."

The leaders pledged on African development and investment, as well as the promotion of global health and medical investment.

They "emphasized the importance of providing financial resources to assist developing countries with respect to both mitigation and adaptation in accordance with the Paris Agreement."

One of the initiatives that Japan was especially proud of at the G20 was the "Osaka Blue Ocean Vision" to stop marine pollution, especially by the plastics industry.





### Prince Badr opens Mashair 1 expo

rince Badr Bin Sultan Bin Abdul Aziz, Deputy Governor of Makkah inaugurated the The Mashair One exhibition in the camps of the National Tawafa Establishment for South Asian Pilgrims in Mina. The exhibition is an international showcase of the latest developments and improvements in the services offered by the Kingdom to the pilgrims. It aims to encourage businesses to come up with new ideas and technical innovations that can help to enrich the experiences of millions of people who visit the holy places each year.

Makkah - Al-Ahella

The exhibitors included companies specializing in subsistence and housing,

and twelve creative ideas for enhancing the Hajj experience were presented. "There are many efforts exerted by Saudi Arabia to serve Hajj among the security, governmental and private sectors, and they are always ready to serve pilgrims," said Dr. Mohammed Salih Bentin, Hajj and Umrah Minister. "The inauguration of the exhibition is part of Saudi Arabia's efforts to care for Hajj and Umrah pilgrims, and all the sectors that serve the pilgrims."



The minister pointed out that the exhibition was designed to highlight products and services that help to improve the quality of accommodation for the pilgrims in the holy places and to encourage the development of the services provided to them.

"The exhibition is based on the directives of the wise leadership, primarily King Salman, who makes every effort to provide all resources for Hajj and Umrah pilgrims and visitors and improve the services provided to them," said Bentin.

Doyof Al-Rahman Program (The Guests of God Service Program), a key initiative with more than 130 features within Saudi Vision 2030, was inaugurated by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman in Ramadan this year. It is designed, Bentin said, to help the ministry prepare for the arrival of millions of pilgrims and provide them with quality services to assist them in the performance of rituals. This is achieved in conjunction with an integrated network of governmental and non-governmental bodies, in coordination with the Hajj Supreme Committee and the Central Committee.

"To familiarize officials with the services presented







### News and Follow-up







to Hajj and Umrah pilgrims, generate the best ideas and improve the accommodation for pilgrims in the holy places, the Hajj and Umrah Ministry organized Mashair One exhibition," said Bentin. "It has attracted a large number of businesses and specialist companies from inside the country and abroad, so that we can benefit from their knowledge, experiences, technical means and creative ideas."

Dr. Ra'fat Badr, Chairman of The Board of Directors of South Asia Pilgrims Mutawwiffs Establishment for South Asian Pilgrims, said: "The exhibition aims to be an international platform for companies that serve pilgrims in the holy places, in line with Saudi Vision 2030."

Improvements to accommodation for pilgrims includes improved air conditioning, bunk beds, mattresses, furniture, lighting, power provision, chilled drinking water, and recycling and waste-disposal services. In addition, improvements are being made to services for people with special needs, including adapted restrooms and kitchens, "smart camp" facilities are being enhanced, prepared meals can be provided and gifts will be presented to pilgrims.

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