Turki bin Abdullah Appointed Governor of Riyadh:
Our Commitment to Law and Human Rights is our Pride
Justice is the Basis of Human Rights

From Abdul-Aziz Bin Abdul Rahman Ibn Saud to the people of the Arabian Peninsula

"Is any of our subjects to feel oppressed or suffer an injustice, they should send their complaint via free mail or telegram and we are to afford the expenses. On the other hand competent employees shall accept such complaints even if they are addressed against members of the royal family (my sons and grandsons).

Let it be known to any officer who attempts to dissuade any of our subjects from submitting their complaints or influences them to memorandume in a milder tone, will receive severe punishment. I am not willing to hear about any oppressed or wronged. I am not willing as well to be held guilty before Allah because any of my subjects suffered injustice or because I did not support the wronged or help them get their rights".

“O Allah, I have delivered the message, may Thou be my witness”.
The Commission and other State Organizations are...Partners

The Human Rights Commission employs several mechanisms to advocate human rights culture and awareness. The Commission seeks through its various programs, conferences, educational symposia across the Kingdom, and the short educational documentaries to transform human rights concepts from theoretical framework to a practical one. In that way both the resident and citizen are aware of their rights and duties towards each other and the society. On the other hand, the Commission is not concerned with the internal rights only; but also it communicates with the international community through representing the Kingdom in the UN Human Rights Council. This is also established through its partnership with different international civil organizations to exchange experience, culture and work.

Since the Custodian of the Holy Mosques, King Abdullah bin Abulaziz Al Saud, has granted his consent to establish it, the Human Rights Commission has aimed at protecting and enhancing human rights in accordance with the Islamic Law, and the international human rights standards in different aspects.

Being the governmental institution responsible for offering consultancy on human rights issues, it is assiduously engaged in thorough monitoring. Members of the Commission Council across its different branches pay regular visits to the institutions provide service to both citizens and residents alike. They seek to reassure that the citizen has all the rights that the state has secured for him pursuant to the Saudi constitution which is based on the Islamic Law.

In its attempt to correct the false image propagated by enemies of the State who feel spiteful because the latter applies the Islamic Law of which we all are proud, the Commission has intentionally addressed the world through its publications and brochures. It has issued two editions of Rights in English and French, as well as the Arabic edition. It has also issued Bashar magazine which is concerned with the crimes of human trafficking. It has also issued another magazine specialized in childhood issues. These publications aim at reaching the largest portion of audience and informing of what has been achieved in the field of human rights. It is noteworthy that nothing would have been achieved in this field had it not been for the perpetual support of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, the Crown Prince, the Minister of Defense, and Deputy Prime Minister, his Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud and the Vice Crown Prince and Second Deputy Prime Minister, his Royal Highness Prince Muqrin bin Abdulaziz Al Saud.
This is the Fifth Issue of “Rights” magazine in English. It contains a translation of the most important topics and contents tackled by the Arabic version of the magazine.

Our Vision: We want to be pioneers in offering complete solutions in specialized media in the Arab world.

Our Mission: We are the first agency of specialized media in the Arab World that seeks a pioneering status in the Arab world. We offer complete solutions and distinguished media products that are highly professional and credible as it fulfills all the requirements of our clients and make them satisfied as we surpass their expectations.
The seventh issue of Rights includes a variety of local and international human rights news-stories. It also comprises several reports, and interviews tackling the most prominent issues. These include the rights of the detained and defendants within the Saudi regulations; which is derived from the Islamic law. Such regulations have secured their rights, maintained their dignities and guaranteed them the right for material and moral compensation in case they are proved innocent. This was enhanced as well by launching King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz Al Saud’s project to improve the judiciary system. This project has made life easier for litigants and provided speedy litigation.

We have also tackled harassment problem in this issue of Rights. Harassment is an extraneous phenomenon, never known before in our societies. In this issue of Rights different aspects of harassment and its negative consequences on the society. We have also highlighted the disciplinary procedures the Kingdom has set against whoever commits this crime.

The issue also highlights the nine fruitful years during which King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz Al Sa’ud has reigned. Congratulations from the royal princes, the citizens, the residents and all other governmental institutions. Among these congratulations were these offered by his Excellency Dr. Bandar Al- Aiban, President of the Human Rights Commission on behalf of the Commission.

Concerning qualifying the human being, who is the cornerstone of society, pages were dedicated to explain different methods that can be used to enrich human resources. It leads to creating a citizen and a society well aware of their rights and duties.

This issue has also traced international events and symposia. Among these is the International Day of Families which is simultaneous with the publication of this issue. In this issue, the Saudi efforts to maintain the family coherence were highlighted. These efforts encompassed all constituents of the family particularly women and children. Both have received great support from the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques. Due attention was also paid to the political, social and scientific achievements that women have made so far.

An objective study, prepared by one of the academic professors at Umm al-Qura University, about human rights is also presented in this issue. It highlights the strong connection between “ethics” and “human rights” in the Noble Qur’an.

A whole section was dedicated to “human rights awareness” as part of the efforts exerted to advocate human rights awareness within the society inorder to contribute to raising a well-informed generation capable of acknowledging his own rights and respects others’ rights.

Several articles by eminent writers are also presented in this issue. They express different human rights perspectives. The issue is concluded by the children rights’ section. The section includes a simple styled story informing the children through a school trip about the coronavirus and ways of protection from it.
His Excellency Dr. Bandar Al-Aiban, President of the Human Rights Commission has stated that: “the Human Rights Council praise of the by King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue (KAICIID) reassures the universal acclaim of the efforts exerted by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques and his initiatives to establish values of justice, peaceful life and protecting human rights across the world against any violations that may occur due to difference in beliefs and cultures.

His Excellency considered this praise an evidence on the keenness of the members of the Human Rights Council to support these efforts and initiatives in order to achieve their noble goals and protect humanity against the consequences and risks of conflict between followers of different religions and cultures. Dr. Al-Aiban has also added that: “the international community has fully realized the Saudi government tendencies towards achieving rapprochement and peaceful living among followers of different cultures and religions and how this should be used to protect human rights.

Countries raced to support these efforts which were crowned by launching (KAICIID) in the Austerian capital, Vienna. Representatives of all religions, cultures and beliefs have participated in the launching ceremony. Moreover, the Kingdom’s election as a member of the UN Human Rights Council for two rounds in a row is an evidence of the great development and support that human rights witness in Saudi Arabia. The Saudi Kingdom, led by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, does support advocating human rights awareness and implementing its protective mechanisms. It also supports local and international efforts seeking to achieve this goal.” Dr. Al-Aiban has also appreciated the efforts exerted by the General Secretary of KAICIID in supporting a great deal of initiatives and activities that aim at advocating human rights awareness and transferring it from elitist or theoretical frameworks into reality. This is done by means of scientific and talk shows comprising followers of different cultures and creeds. These programs offer radical solutions for some of the human rights problems that some societies suffer from, particularly issues concerned with children rights and their protection against abuse. He expressed his confidence in the Centre’s ability to continue its successful procession to pursue objective dialogue between followers of religions and cultures and interpreting the contents of wise initiatives into realistic practices that establish the values of justice and peaceful living between all human beings without any discrimination. This was part of his Excellency’s statement on the occasion of the Human Rights Council praise of KAICIID during its last convention in Geneva. The praise comes as part of the Council in a preface to approve an Act to fight fanaticism, violence and discrimination.
Al- Aiban Congratulates Prince Turki on the Occasion of his Appointment Governor of Riyadh

His Excellency, Dr. Bandar bin Mohammed Al – Aiban, President of the Human Rights Commission, and other officials at the Commission have visited his Royal Highness, Prince Turki Bin Abdelaziz at his office at the Ruling Palace to congratulate him on the occasion of issuing a royal decree appointing him a governor of Riyadh. His Royal Highness has expressed his thanks and appreciation for their sincere feelings and prayed to Allah to guide him to serve the faith, the King and the nation.

Dr. Al- Aiban has offered his Royal Highness, governor of Riyadh a detailed explanation about the role played by the Commission to advocate human rights awareness. He reviewed the Commission’s achievement under the great and continuous support of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah bin Abdelaziz. The Commission works on a program to advocate human rights awareness, expand social engagement in this advocacy and qualifying human talents on it.

The Prince’s Biography

His Royal Highness, Prince Turki bin Abdelaziz was born in Riyadh on Ramdan, 1st, 1291 A.H. He was appointed deputy for governor of the Riyadh province on 4/4/1434 A.H. On 15\/7\,1435 A.H., a royal decree was issued appointing his Royal Highness a governor of Riyadh province.

Prior to his being appointed deputy of the governor of Riyadh province, his Royal Highness was leader of the fighting squadron no. 92 at the third air force wing at King Abdulaziz air base at the eastern region. His rank was colonel pilot.

His Royal Highness was graduated from Williams air force base in the U.S.A. He received training course in leadership and staff at the college of joint leadership at the U.K. He has also earned master degree in military science and strategic studies with honours from Wales University at the United Kingdom.

His Royal Highness’ Military Involvements

His Royal Highness was the leader of the Saudi royal air forces that participated in the joint U.S.A. – Saudi Green Flag Exercise in 2010. The Green Flag is one of the most difficult and powerful flight exercises across the world. His Royal Highness has made great achievements with the Saudi team which were acclaimed by a lot of participants.

His Royal Highness has also worked at several Saudi air bases. He has participated in “Der’a Al- Ganoob” war and several air exercises within Saudi Arabia, the GCC states and Arab countries. He has also received an advanced training course in military defensive intelligence in U.S.A.

His Royal Highness has joined advanced air force training courses in Britain, France and the U.S.A.

He was head of the Air force Development Committee.

His Highness has received several orders and certificates of appreciation both in Saudi Arabia and abroad.

He contributed to the charitable air force fund at King Abdulaziz base and supporting sports activity in the air force.
The deputy minister of foreign affairs, Frank Belfrage, has praised the cooperation of the Human Rights Commission and its response to human rights inquiries. This occurred during his meeting with His Excellency, Dr. Zawd Abdul Al Hussein, Vice President of the Human Rights Commission. He expressed his admiration for the developmental progress witnessed by the Saudi Kingdom in various aspects. He affirmed that the Kingdom has witnessed pivotal shifts in the past two decades since he was the Swedish ambassador there.

Dr. Al- Hussein has reviewed at the beginning of this meeting the tasks performed by the Human Rights Commission. He stated that respecting and protecting human rights is a priority of the Saudi government. This is based on the main ruling system which is derived from Islamic shari'a. His Excellency has indicated the Saudi concern with enhancing and supporting human rights. He also highlighted the need for further enhancement of the Saudi government's policies and initiatives in protecting human rights. He stressed the importance of exchanging human rights experiences and developments in different areas of human rights, highlighting that the developments in each country are directly connected to the development of human rights in other countries.

The distinguished relationships connecting the two countries and proposed ways for their further development were discussed during the meeting. The Commission works on programs to advocate human rights awareness and support human rights in various fields. It advocates for the protection and enhancement of human rights through educational programs, particularly in the field of human rights education. The Commission also aims at training human talents on how to employ their human capital in the field of advocating human rights.

The Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs Praise the Cooperation of Human Rights Commission

Dr. Ibrahim A Shaddy, the Commission official spokesperson, has affirmed that the government's cooperation on human rights is the most important of patients' rights. It should be maintained and protected. He also stated that General Human Rights and Health Rights are on the agenda of the commission. He also mentioned that the Commission has demanded that the Ministry of Health maintain the privacy within hospitals. It should continue to follow up with the parties and make sure that it is the party directly concerned, despite the prohibition it issued earlier concerning this issue.

Meanwhile, the Human Rights Commission has demanded that the Ministry of Health should provide the documents to the ministry of health to maintain the privacy within hospitals. He also indicated that "in case the ministry of health does not respond, the aggrieved patients who were not informed of their rights by physicians and surgeons should have their rights by physicians and surgeons." They would videotape or photograph surgeries and post them on social media without documentation. Dr. A Shaddy has asked the aggrieved patients whose pictures were posted on social media to: "provide the documents to the ministry of health, since it is the party directly concerned, despite the prohibition it issued earlier concerning this issue."
The Saudi – British relation officer at the British ministry of foreign affairs, has praised along with the accompanying delegation has praised the great development witnessed by Saudi Kingdom in the field of human rights. She had also said that what is transmitted in media is not always right, sometimes it is fake. The media sometimes depends on inaccurate information sources, which has nothing to do with reality. She reassured the continuous cooperation between both countries.

Meanwhile, and during the reception of the delegation at the Human Rights Commission Residence, Dr. Zayd Abdul Mohsen Al – Hussein, Vice President of the Commission has given a presentation about the tasks performed by the Commission. He affirmed that work in the field of human rights is based on cooperation and consultancy. He also indicated the importance of exchanging expertise and enhancing international cooperation. He highlighted as well the role of shari’a in enhancing human rights standards. It helps keeping them uninfluenced and protective for humans. Moreover, shari’a keeps these standards fair, clear and politically neutral.

Dr. Al- Hussein has also affirmed that the Saudi Kingdom has a great deal with which it can contribute to the world and enrich human rights values. As a matter of fact, the first human rights declaration emerged at the beginning of the seventh century A.D. at the final pilgrimage. It is considered an immortal human rights document addressing humanity as a whole without exception. It has laid the bases for human rights and emphasized human rights for all classes. It has forbidden the violations of these rights, among which are women’s rights. This document has decreed the protection of women against what they have suffered across history.

He added that the strategy followed by the Saudi Kingdom with other countries in the field of human rights is cooperation. This is in order to enhance and protect human rights on local, regional, international and national levels. Moreover, exchanging expertise and human experience across different cultures, is another strategy used to enhance and protect human rights.

His Excellency, Dr. Zayd Al- Hussien has also highlighted the developments witnessed by the Kingdom in the field of advocating human rights. His Excellency has also reviewed the progress achieved by Saudi women within a short period of time.
Prince Turki bin Abdullah Appointed Governor for Al Riyadh

Our Commitment to Islamic Shari’a and Human Rights is our Pride

Rights

A royal decree was issued according to which his Royal Highness, Prince Turki bin Abdullah was appointed governor for Al Riyadh at a minister’s rank. During swearing the oath before the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, his Royal Highness, the governor of Riyadh has expressed his deep thanks and appreciation and prayed that he would be up to this trust.

This royal decree is regarded a milestone in the strategic record of the coherent, far-sighted national leadership. Riyadh has always been the lead of the internal administration. It leads other provinces towards urban development and expansion. Prince Turki has led, under the auspices of the former Riyadh governor, the executive and supervisory teamwork for projects in Riyadh. Together they worked on elaborating a new vision for development. Thus, thanks to his position as head of the planning and executive team responsible for the projects there, the prince has closely known the needs and the challenges faced by this city. It is noteworthy that the positive outcomes of these projects have been realized by the residents of the province.

Prince Turki will, therefore, lead the same team. He will execute all the plans concerning transforming Riyadh into one of the major international cities. His Royal Highness, will be responsible, along with his brother prince Khaled bin Bandar for Riyadh subway project until it is completed within the next few years.

Our Commitment to Islamic Shari’a and Human Rights is our Pride

His Royal Highness Prince Turki bin Abdulaziz, governor of Riyadh has stated that “our commitment to Islamic shari’a which decrees fairness and the preservation of human rights is our pride in this holy land. The Commission efforts to achieve justice by supervising courts and monitoring prisons are very well recognized.” His Highness has also affirmed: “the Saudi government led by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah bin Abdelaziz, his Highness the King’s Deputy and his Highness the Crown Prince provide all what is needed to serve the faith and the nation. Whatever has been achieved is an example of what the State offers to its citizens.”

His Highness has added on the occasion of the inauguration of the Bureau of Investigation and Public Persecution in Riyadh: “the Bureau’s work secures human rights which is given a high priority by the Saudi government. Therefore, headquarters for the Bureau was allocated across the administrative city of Riyadh. These are supported by his Royal Highness, Prince Naif bin Abdulaziz and the minister of interior affairs who is the general supervisor of the Bureau of Investigation and Public Persecution.”
Saudi Arabia has reassured during its participation in the International Labour Conference held in Geneva its commitment to international labour standards. The conference was concerned with regulation of economy and enhancing the procedures that aim at restricting forced labour. The conference also tackled how labour policies can vitalize labour market. Within the proceedings of the conference, Saudi Arabia has confirmed its obligation to protecting labour rights and fighting different form of human trafficking. The Saudi Kingdom has also affirmed its support for the efforts exerted by the ILO as long as they conform to its policies and principles. These efforts generally seek to create a regulated economy that would achieve employment security for those working in the private sector based on standards that secure them honourable life. The Kingdom has, meanwhile, reviewed its experience in hosting contracted foreign labour from different parts of the world. He stated that foreign labour, in turn, contributes to the constructive, productive and developmental projects in the Kingdom.

Furthermore, Dr. Mofrag Al – Haqbani, the deputy labour minister, has affirmed the Kingdom’s commitment to the international standards in order to protect the rights of violating labour and rectify their status. He also mentioned that violating labour should be given facilities, privileges and exemption of fines, fees or penalties based on their breaching status. He highlighted the strategies employed by Saudi Arabia in order to rectify the status of violating labour. This comes as part of a rectifying campaign the Kingdom has conducted in the middle of the previous year. The campaign lasted for seven months.

Dr. Al – Haqbani, the head of the Saudi delegation to the International Labour Conference, has also referred to the importance of shifting from unregulated economic system to a regulated one and enhancing the procedures used to reduce forced labour. He has also highlighted the efforts exerted by the ILO to achieve social justice.

Dr. Al – Haqbani, moreover, has indicated the importance of including the question of international migration within the proceedings of this round owing to its prioritized status as it raises a great deal of international argumentation. He assured the importance of taking into consideration the different concepts of migration and its permanent or temporary characteristics.

He added that the ministry has adopted several initiatives and programs in order to provide social protection for the labour force. It launched an advanced program to develop the organizations concerned with settling labour disputes. It included training and qualifying national talents working within this sector.

The Ministry of Labour Forbids Working in Exposed Areas under the Sun and Sets Penalties for Breachers

Owing to the extremely increasing temperature, the Ministry of Labour has rendered working in exposed areas under the sunlight during the period from 12 p.m. until 2:00 p.m. illegal. This was part of its efforts to protect the labourers’ health.

Meanwhile, the head of the labour office, Abdul Mone’im Al – Shahry has affirmed that this decision excludes those working in petroleum and gas companies and urgent maintenance. Yet, he emphasized that the required procedures for protecting them from harmful ultraviolet rays. He also stated that an employer should take into consideration when regulating the working hours based on the articles no. 98,99 and 100 of the labour law, what has been stated in the first clause of this decree. Al – Shahry has also highlighted that the novice decree penalizes the violator’s based on article no. (226) of the penalty law. The penalty can be a fine that is not less than 3,000 Riyals and does not exceed 10,000 Riyals for each violation or closing the company for a period no longer than a month or for good. The penalty can sometimes comprise both the fine and closing the company. Meanwhile, the risk should be put to an end.
The Shura Council Approves of a Bill for “Free Access to Information Regulation”

Rights Follow-ups:

The Shura Council has approved a new regulation allowing everybody to access their information in governmental institutions, provided that it does not impair the national security. 98 members of the Council have voted “yes” for the “Free Access to Information Regulation”.

The bill was previously presented by Dr. Fayez A-Shahry, a member in the Council. This regulation aims at “allowing Saudi citizens a systematic right to access the confidential information kept at the governmental institutions. It supports integrity and freedom of information exchange”.

“This right enables the citizen to realize the activities and plans of these institutions and perform their role and enhance transparency”. The regulation suggests at the beginning to form a committee to be called “Transparency and Information Committee” in all governmental or quasi – governmental institutions. This committee is to determine the degrees of information confidentiality and the disclosure strategies. These are based on accurate standards that clearly achieve the concept of public or private welfare either for an individual or an institution according to transparent and organized regulations. The regulation defines this as the “administrative committee that comprises leaders from the public institution to supervise archiving and classifying information. It also oversees the formulation of policies and regulations that guarantees the availability of information and facilitating its access to users. This committee should be formed as a supreme committee in each and every public institution.

The regulation secures the confidentiality of all the personal data or those related to national security or any data revealing personal, health or financial status except for the name and the general information. The regulation also secures the citizen and other corporate entities asking for information. Those who demand information shall not by any means be held accountable. The person should submit a written or electronic request through the institution’s advertised media. The applicant fills out a form prepared by the party concerned beforehand. The form includes the applicant’s name, ID number, address, the purpose of the request and methods for contacting him. The Transparency and Information Committee at each institution sets general regulations, policies and standards according to which the confidential information is classified into three levels: off-the-record for five years, off-the-record for ten years and off-the-record for twenty years. This is applied to all the documents and national records kept within the institution, apart from exceptions. The regulation contributes to the preservation of the nation’s supreme welfare through determining the levels of information security. It also supports the efforts for documenting and archiving public records. It also supports the efforts exerted in setting plans and written strategies to maintain the national archive within each public institution and making it accessible for citizens based on this regulation. This regulation, moreover, enhances the Kingdom’s commitment to international treaties and conventions as a founder state and a member within the UN; and an active member in several international organizations concerned with human rights and enhancing integrity and unlimited flow of information.
HRC Contributes to the Formulation of A Regulation Punishing Men Beating their Wives

Rights Follow-ups:

The HRC has participated in formulating a regulation according to which a man who beats his wife is punished. The regulation was formulated in cooperation with the ministries of social affairs, justice, health, internal affairs, education, King Khaled’s Foundation and the National Family Safety Program. The efforts were led by the experts’ committee at the cabinet.

Dr. Muhammad Al- Harby, general manager at the ministry of social affairs has highlighted that the ministry of justice, represented in courts, is the party concerned implementing punishments. It has the right to appeal the reports prepared the social security. He further elaborated that the decision will be based on what the judge decides. Meanwhile, the social security units and committees, comprising ten parties, are responsible for examining and diagnosing the issue and present its recommendations to the administrative governor of the province. He indicated that protection committees and units attempt to make up matters between spouses. First, if amicable solutions are exhausted, the case is referred to the administrative governor and then to the concerned court. Al- Harby has illustrated that the ministry has assigned a centre to receive reports at 1919. The centre works 24 hours a day.

It has also established another centre for social consultancy at the free number 8001245005. It works for two shifts, the morning from 9-12, where qualified female specialists receive the calls. Meanwhile, the evening shift is from 6-9, where consultants receive the calls.

The protection general manager at the ministry of social affairs has revealed that the ministry has contracted with King Abdulaziz City to conduct two studies. The first one is entitled: “the National Strategy to Fight Violence”. It is to be implemented across ten years. The other one is entitled: “the Appropriate Awareness Methods to Protect Family against Violence”. He added that the ministry currently provides awareness campaigns to prevent domestic violence across areas since protective procedures are preventive in the first place.

The ministry of social affairs has assigned an e-mail to receive the reports against the harms inflicted within the family. This shows its concern for the complaint confidentiality and its being tackled immediately. This way it allowed reporting cases of violence against children below the age of 18 and women regardless of their ages.

Dr. Youssef Al- Othaimen, the minister of social affairs, has issued a general decree to the concerned parties and organizations about the new service. He affirmed that the ministry is responsible for providing social protection for women and children. He also emphasized that the protection procedures requires secrecy and speed.

His Excellency, the minister, has indicated that the organization that does not possess a means through which it can send reports via e-mail, the complaint can be faxed at 00112927742 or unpaid calls at 1919. Dr. Al- Othaimen has recently approved the executive rules for the “Protection Against Abuse Regulation”. According to this regulation, whoever commits any form of abuse, be it physical, psychological or sexual is to be sentenced to jail for a period ranging from one month to one year or paying a fine equal to 50 thousands Riyals, or both. Abuse may denote someone’s abstention from fulfilling their obligations concerning providing the basic needs for his family members. The regulation affirmed that in case these violations are repeated, the penalty is duplicated. The concerned court is authorized to issue substitute penalty for those depriving someone of their freedom.

The third article obliges the private or public organizations to report to the ministry or police any cases of abuse once they are informed about it. They are held responsible if they were inactive and did not report the case. Meanwhile, the fifth article has affirmed that the reporter’s identity cannot be disclosed without his written permission, unless the social protection unit believes that treating the abused necessitates disclosure, provided that it should be within a limited context.

The regulation has also affirmed that the social protection unit does not disclose the reporter’s identity to the officials unless a causative official request is submitted to the party concerned. The parties to which the identity of the reporter is disclosed has to keep this identity confidential, otherwise they are held accountable.
Several governmental and civil institutions have discussed the executive aspect of the “Protection Against Abuse Regulation”. The discussion was held in the presence of several legal experts during the second educational workshop. The workshop was inaugurated by Dr. Abdullah Al Youssef, the deputy minister of social affairs for family and social care at the ministry compound at Diriyah. Dr. Al Youssef has affirmed that the “Protection Against Abuse Regulation” has authorized the judiciary to decide on the sentence that can be an imprisonment that would last or one month at least, but does not exceed one year. The sentence can also be a fine that starts at 5000 Riyals and may reach 50000 Riyals. The cases stated within the regulation is not confined husbands abusing their wives only. He highlighted the judiciary will resort to the reports of the protection against abuse committees to decide on the sentence. However, the judiciary has the final say whether to use both sentences or choose one only. The judiciary also has the right to duplicate the sentence in case the offense is repeated. Dr. Al- Youssef has illustrated that the “Protection Against Abuse Regulation” is based on a mutual work plan with relevant civil and governmental institutions. He indicated that the ministry has called previously all the civil and governmental institutions and experts and the media to attend several of the open meetings and workshops that were held previously at Diriyah. These were the first of a kind concerning formulating the executive aspect of regulations.

Al Youssef has also indicated that the regulation has highlighted the ministry’s goals that are carried out through the social protection units. These goals include conducting social and psychological researches for the abused cases and to rehabilitate them in a way that helps them lead a stable life and adapt to their filial and social status. The Deputy Minister has also highlighted that this workshop is based on the ministry’s concern for the roles played by the civil and governmental institutions that participated in formulating the regulation and its executive aspect and which also supports the way the regulation is executed as well on the specialization of each party.

According to Dr. Al- Youssef: “the ministry has established 28 centres for protection against abuse in hospitals since the medical reports classify the form of abuse and to what extent it is grave. The ministry is determined to issue the first official list of domestic violence cases within two months. This list is based on the information received by the protection centres. Girls are trained to work in these centres, receive reports, evaluate to what extent they are grave and refer them to the concerned parties. I expect that this list will not be an immense phenomenon”.

Al- Youssef has invited citizens, and civil and governmental institutions to participate and interact with different cases of abuse and obtain the required awareness from the concerned parties. The twelfth article states advocating awareness among the individuals within the society.
In the Riyadh Statement Issued after their Third Meeting

The Arab Ministers of Culture Encourage the International Community to Protect Human Rights

The ministers of culture in the Arab world, and South America has invited, in the Riyadh statement which was issued at the end of the third meeting, the international community to fulfill their obligations that are based on the international law of human rights, particularly what is related to inciting religious hatred. These efforts aim at protecting everyone's freedom of thought, opinion and faith regardless of any discrimination. The ministers have agreed on enhancing cooperation between both groups through cultural diversity, archiving human rights documents, cooperation between intellectual organizations and implementing these articles.

Concerning the cultural diversity article, the countries have agreed on the importance of respecting cultural diversity, followers of other religions and the civilizations comprising the common human heritage. They affirmed that freedom of worship is one of the basic rights that should not be challenged, they have added that discrimination. They expressed their concern towards the increasing intentional negative and stereotypical depiction for followers of different religions and their sacred symbols.

They have also advocated encouraging creativity, participating in the cultural life, and enhancing policies of maintaining material and non material heritage whether it was transferable or not and making use of it. In addition, they advocated enhancing cultural and linguistic diversity in information community. They have also advocated allocating more support to develop human and financial resources to achieve cultural development.

They have affirmed their commitment to the common principles and goals of the ministries of culture to carry out common cultural programs and plans on both sides. These programs secure a larger space of interaction between peoples and enhance cultural cooperation, human development and international understanding.

The Publication of Human Rights in Islam: A Book by Salman Al - Omry

The Saudi intellectuals have all acclaimed the book entitled Human Rights in Islam: The Saudi Community An Example, by Salman Al- Omry. They have praised the writers' efforts on this academic achievement. The book is regarded as a pivotal addition to the Islamic intellect.

Readers have described the book as “valuable”. According to them it comprises a lot of information about human rights in Islam based on the Noble Qur'an and Prophet Muhammad's teachings (PBUH). It has directly highlighted the human rights as secured by the Islamic law since its emergence. It reveals that this holy land has a basic regime that maintained these rights.

They argued that this publication addresses one of the most influential contemporary issues. It expresses what humanity suffers from wasting their rights, false claims and empty words by human rights advocates in the civilized world. He illustrated a great deal of applications relative to human rights in Islam and how they are identified within the Saudi society. The book includes a lot of useful information in this respect. It tackled all aspects of the proposed topic. This, in turn, makes the book a source of concern.

They affirmed that the book includes significant views in the fields of human rights. They further add that their application in the Saudi Kingdom responds to a lot questions raised against the Saudi Kingdom. Moreover, the book is a valuable academic outcome where the effort exerted to introduce useful information is crystal clear. It is an academic addition to the Arab library. It is undoubtly a useful document that teaches us several issues including our religion's concern for the rights of its followers and whoever resides on Islamic land. It also teaches others how Islam has taken care of human rights before the West started to advocate them.

This book, as confirmed by his author Salman Al –Omry, enhances human rights awareness in the Saudi community in particular and the Islamic world in general. It is an attempt to encourage the respect for others among individuals and social institutions within the society.
In the Presence of 150 Human Rights Experts

Al – Yami Presides Over an International Conference about the Arab Court on Human Rights

Rights \ Exclusive

Dr. Hady bin Ali Al- Yami has headed the Arab Human Rights Committee (the Charter Committee) at the Arab League and board member of the HRC, at the second session of the proceedings of the International Conference about the Arab Court for Human Rights. The conference was held recently in Bahrain.

The conference was organized by the national organization for human rights in collaboration with the Arab League, the Arab Parliament and the Arab Network of the National Organizations for Human Rights. Over than 150 human rights experts have participated in this conference. The events of the conference included three main sessions and four workshops. They highlighted the basic system of the Arab Court for Human Rights and developing the mechanisms of the Arab League.

Dr. Al- Yami has focused during the session he headed on the experience of the European Human Rights Court, on the American Court on Human Rights, and the African Human and People’s Rights Court and how they developed human rights in the European, American and African continents respectively.

Several experts and judges have participated in the session. These were Josep Casadevall, the Vice President of the European Court on Human Rights, Prof. Christina Cerna, the human rights officer at the American Commission on Human Rights and head of the International Human Rights Law at the International Law Association and Dr. Fatsah Ouguergouz, a judge and former vice president of African Human and People’s Rights Court.

The conference has also reviewed the influential academic steps that have so far been achieved to complete the construction of the Arab Court for Human Rights.

Evidence about the basic regulation bill that is formulated by the high-level committee of legal experts within the Arab League, were provided as well.

It is noteworthy that the Arab Human Rights Committee has elected Dr. Hady bin Ali Al- Yami as its head with the consensus of the participating countries during the elections held at the meeting held by the committee at the Arab League headquarters in Cairo.

An Overview of the Committee

The Arab Human Rights Committee (the Charter Committee) is the first Arab mechanism to follow up the implementation of the Arab Charter or human rights as assigned by the Arab Summit held in Tunisia in 2004. It considers the reports submitted by the concerned countries about the procedures undertaken to carry out the rights and freedoms stated in the Charter. The committee comprises seen members in their personal capacity, elected by the member countries by secret ballot or a four year term. The members elected should be highly qualified and experienced. All of them are known for their integrity. The committee should not comprise more than one citizen from each of the member countries. The member can be elected more than once. Yet, the exchange principle should be taken into consideration. The Charter has obliged the member countries shall promise to secure the members of the committee the required immunity to protect them against any form of harassment or material or non material pressures or judicial tracking owing to their attitudes or statements while doing their jobs as members within the committee.
Enhancing and Protecting Human Rights Conference at the Arab League

Rights\ Exclusive:

Dr. Nabil Elaraby, the Secretary General of the Arab League, has affirmed that the changes that the Arab region is going through, the redefinition of several concepts and ideas are motivated basically by human rights protection. This requires working towards making this change a positive one that serves both the individual and the region as a whole.

Elaraby has affirmed during the speech given at the inauguration of the Regional Conference for Protecting and Enhancing Human Rights. This is the first regional conference held by the Arab League concerning human rights in collaboration with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).

He said that respect, commitment and interaction with the regional and international human rights mechanisms affirms how much these countries hold human beings in high esteem and their commitment to the international promises it made.

The President of the Arab Parliament, Ahmad Al-Grwan, has assured that the Arab Parliament gives the Arab women due attention particularly in this field. He argues that the woman is the cornerstone of Arab families as she plays an important role in establishing a coherent filial entity.

Al-Grwan has also indicated that the Parliament is to formulate an issue a convention about Arab women. This convention is to be a legislative and reference to make laws for women. It should be agreed upon by national Arab Parliaments. It should also take into consideration the cultural particularity and social status of Arab women.

“The Arab Court on Human Rights” Enhances Arab Human Rights Operation

Rights\ Exclusive:

The President of the National Human Rights Foundation in Bahrain, Dr. Abdulaziz Hassan, has praised the Arab efforts exerted to establish an Arab Court on Human Rights. The Arab League has decided during the meeting held in Cairo last September to hold its next meeting in Bahrain. Bahrain was also chosen as a headquarters for the Arab Court on Human Rights. Dr. Abdulaziz has stated that these efforts were part of the process of enhancing methods of protecting human rights, the human rights regional Arab regulation and human rights operation mechanisms in the Arab world. He regarded the establishment of the court a pivotal change in the Arab world and argued that it would be a substantial addition to human rights.

Moreover, the Secretary General of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (GCC), Dr. Abdul Latif bin Rashed Al Zayani has given a speech in which he indicated that the decision of establishing the Court which was approved in the 24th Arab Summit, will remain commemorated in the Arab history that has always aimed at supporting human rights. He added that the orientations and aspirations of the GCC leaders aim at enhancing human rights, consolidating their concepts and protecting them on regional, national and international levels. They were able to make a great deal of achievements thanks to their belief that the progress in human rights reflects the positive development achieved in all aspects, as long as they follow the principles of our Islamic faith.

The conference sessions were launched, where participants discussed several topics. Among these were the steps taken so far to establish the Arab Court on Human Rights and carrying out other reforms in the field of human rights within the Arab League. Other topics tackled were the role of the (OHCHR) and the Arab Parliament in supporting and enhancing the Arab Court on Human Rights and the bill of the basic regulation of the Arab Court on Human Rights. Moreover, several experiments in the field of human rights within countries and continents were reviewed.
Human Rights in the Arab Region “Challenges and Prospective”

Rights\Exclusive

The events of the first high-level regional conference to protect human rights were concluded in Cairo. The conference was held in Cairo during 20 – 22 May, 2014 in cooperation was the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the Arab League. It was entitled : “Human Rights in the Arab Region: Challenges and Prospective”. Representatives from governments, national human rights institutions, NGOs in the Arab region and several other regional and international organizations have participated in this conference.

The conference was held as part of the cooperation between the Arab League, the UN and their agencies. It is based on the UN resolution no.67\1, on 19th of October, 2012, and entitled “cooperation between the UN and the Arab League” as well as the General Assembly resolution no. 67\169 concerning “enhancing international cooperation in the field of human rights”, issued on 20th of January, 2012. The conference aims at determining prioritized issues in the field of human rights for several classes who needs protection in the Arab region such as: women, refugees, emigrants and human rights advocates. Below is the conference concluding statement:

A Partnership between (KAICIID) and UNESCO

The executive council of UNESCO has approved, in 194th round with the consent of (57) votes out of (58), of signing a partnership agreement with (KAICIID) in Vienna to lay the basis for cooperation on international levels. This agreement aims at enhancing dialogue, understanding and coexistence between followers of different religions and cultures and communities, particularly youth.

The Secretary- General of (KAICIID), Faisal bin Mo’amar has expressed his deep thanks to the executive council of UNESCO for voting for the partnership agreement with the Centre. He affirmed that this is part of (KAICIID) goals and aspirations to launch more fields of mutual cooperation with all organizations supporting dialogue and peace since it denotes good for humanity. He added that this partnership was first supported during the executive council sessions by the founding partners Spain and Austria. This support was further enhanced by the intervention of representatives of the executive council member states. Members have displayed their strong support and their determination to establish a world in which peace prevails.
Approving Treaties and Becoming Member Parties of them

In order for a country to become a member party within a particular treaty it has to approve of the concluding terms of the latter of which it should commit. This can be done either by signing which is followed by authorization (which in turn means approval), or becoming a party of the treaty. There is another way also known as succession.

What is meant by the aforementioned terms? When is it considered a member party or a succession?

First: signature: this is a preliminary step for approval. It does not impose any legal obligations upon the signing country. It affirms its determination to commit itself to the treaty on a later date; taking into consideration that there is no definite time during which the country should approve of the treaty it signed.

Second: Authorization. This is an act according to which the signing country proves its commitment to the treaty. It is done by means of presenting an authorization document to the UN Secretary – General. Authorization is a procedure that is preceded by signing the treaty.

Third: Becoming a member party: this is the country’s approval to commit itself to the treaty without signing it. It is done by means of presenting a joining document to the UN Secretary – General. Becoming a signing party has the same legal impact as the authorization. The difference lies in the fact that signing must precede authorization in order to establish legal commitment. Meanwhile, becoming a party requires one step only which is presenting the joining document. Becoming a party is usually used by the countries that desire to commit itself to the treaty after the final date of signature. It is noteworthy that several treaties comprising several parties state that becoming a part within the treaty is possible as long as signature is still available.

Fourth: Succession. Succession occurs in case the country that is a party of the treaty has undergone a radical constitutional transformation that casts doubt upon whether the commitment to the treaty is still valid or not. An example can be the separation of a state, the separation of an entity from a state or ending occupation. The country has the right to show its readiness to continue committing itself to the legal obligations of the same region assigned to the original member party. This is done by means of a succession act by the concerned country informing the UN General Secretary its determination to succeed the first in the legal obligations. The country has the right to approve of the treaty or becoming a party within it instead of succession.

The HRC Branch in A’sir Participates in the Women Entrepreneurs’ Fair to Advocate Human Rights Awareness.

In accordance with the effective and perpetual role played by the HRC to contribute to enlightening the society about human rights, the HRC branch in Asir has recently participated in the Women Entrepreneurs’ Fair to advocate human rights awareness. The Fair was entitled “Ram Asir”. It was held at Prince Sultan’s Urban Centre in the province of Khamis Mushait. Great deals of visitors have attended the HRC booth. Over 540 packs including booklets about human rights awareness and children stories conveying human rights messages were distributed. In addition, enlightening pamphlets aiming at advocating human rights awareness in the region were distributed as well.

The general supervisor of the HRC branch in Asir, Dr. Hady Al- Yammy has assured that the HRC’s participation in such festivals and fairs is an extension for further phases of programs approved by Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz Al Sa’ud to advocate human rights awareness. It is noteworthy that the HRC booth has witnessed several female inquiries that were answered female researchers who work for the its branch in Asir. Moreover, the male visitors were provided with the HRC telephone and fax numbers to contact researchers.

... And Carries Out Several Activities in Bisha Governorate

The female delegation of the HRC branch in A’sir has carried out several activities in Bisha governorate. The activities have lasted for two days simultaneous with the celebration of the Arab Day for Human Rights, which is celebrated annually on the 16th of March. This year the celebration was entitled (An Arab World Void of Discrimination). The first of these was visiting the charity organization at Bisha. The humane efforts provided by the organization were reviewed. Moreover, several topics relative to common interests between the organization and HRC branch in Asir.

Additionally, an enlightening lecture was given on the organization stage combining definition of HRC, its tasks, and the Arab Day for Human Rights. The lecture tackled different forms and degrees of discrimination. The most significant articles of the Arab Human Rights Charter for Fighting Discrimination, different forms of discrimination in the Arab World, its percentage and methods of fighting it were reviewed.

Meanwhile, the female delegation has paid several visits to the new residence for protection at Bisha that will be inaugurated soon to check its requirements. Moreover, they visited the Social Development Centre, holding a meeting with those affiliated with development to reach outcomes that aim at achieving mutual and common cooperation between private and governmental sectors in Asir.

The visit schedule included visits to the nursing home at Al- Naqha hospital, the public prison in Bisha, and Al- Khalidiya Educational Compound (education – teaching Qur’an – immersion – special education – adult female education). A report was submitted about these visits to realize its deficiencies and starting to handle them.

During the Last Year: The HRC Branch in A’sir has Called 415 Cases

The HRC branch in Asir has received last year 415 cases as well as 296 legal consultations.

Meanwhile, Dr. Hady Al- Yammy, the general supervisor of the HRC branch in Asir, has reassured that the cases concerned with prisoners’ and detained rights were the most prevailing cases. He indicated that the total consultations related to these cases were 21, meanwhile the total cases about prisoners and detained rights in which some procedures were carried out were 126.

According to Dr. Al- Yammy, the cases concerned with protection against domestic violence for both males and females come next. They were 65 cases. The total consultations concerning domestic violence were 87. Al- Yammy has indicated that the number of cases about possession were 49 and 11 consults, where males had the greatest share of it. Moreover, the cases concerned with the right to move and transport which were closed up last year were also tackled. They included 25 cases and 24 consults varying between males and females. As for the right to medical care, the relative cases were 20 and 22 consults.

The percentage of cases concerned with “the right to resort to judiciary” was less than those concerned with the right to medical care. They were 16 cases. Yet, the number of consults was equal to those concerned with the right to medical care. They were 23 consults.

Al- Yammy has added that the HRC follows particular regulations concerning the mechanism of receiving complaints. All complaints are received without exception in all fields; provided that all systematic methods by the parties responsible for handling these complaints are exhausted. This is what makes the difference between the consults and cases statistics. The consult is provided without carrying out any regulatory procedure to handle the case.
In Response to the Report Formulated by the HRC

The HRC Branch in Mecca Opens Up the Mental Health and Cure from Addiction Dossier

The report formulated by the HRC has recommended increasing the capacity of public and private hospitals, psychological rehabilitation hospitals, and rehabs. The HRC branch in Mecca has formulated a study related to mental health. A committee comprising employees from both the male and female departments was formed to investigate this dossier. They made the necessary recommendations to provide these patients with their rights without begging for them.

The general supervisor of the branch, Mr. Mazen bin Muhammad Betrij has indicated that this dossier is a major concern of the HRC. He says: "we have formed a committee from the employees of both the male and female departments who are qualified to investigate this dossier in order to come up with a goal that secures the dignity of this people and allow them to receive their therapy without imploring anyone."

On her side, the head of the female department at the HRC branch in Mecca, Dr. Jawaher bint Abdulaziz Al Nahary, has indicated that this is one of the humane dossiers that the HRC is greatly concerned with. She also stated that most of the mental patients reported to the HRC are men, since women cases are usually kept secret because families fear for their reputation. Under this pretext, several misbehaviours are committed such as tying, starving and imprisoning the patient in places that are not appropriate for habitat and lacks sound environment.

Even worse, that these cases stay for a long time in the family’s grip until they are either relieved or die. Perhaps, the Protection Against Abuse Regulation is relief for these cases in the future.

… It Recommends Involving Teenagers in Voluntary Activities

A field study conducted by the female department in the HRC branch in Mecca, recommended setting educational programs for families to help them understand the teenage phase. It should also tackle the kind of programs that media transmits for teenagers and encourages involving teenagers in charitable work. It has also encouraged making religious programs tackling Prophet Muhammad’s (PBUH) biography whom they should look up to as their role model.

On her part, Dr. Jawaher bint Abdulaziz Al Nahary, head of the women department in the Commission, has indicated that the HRC concern for examining teenage and making use of it is due to its concern for all social classes including the class undergoing circumstances that require the support of their families.

Dr. Al- Nahary has also called the teenagers’ families to deal with them in a balanced manner. She indicated that the female department has formulated a plan making use of the teenage and its problems. She added that this is a transitional phase between childhood and youth. It causes variable physical and psychological changes. She has also highlighted that many of the cases reported to the HRC are caused by teenagers who escape from their families, neglect religious and educational duties, rebelling against the family and becoming addicts.
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A delegation from the HRC branch in the Eastern province, led by Mr. Abdullah bin Salih A-Suhail, board member of the HRC and the general supervisor of the branch, has discussed with the general Presidency of Meteorology and Environment manager Muhammad bin Abdullah Al-Qahtani, several human rights based issues in the Eastern province and the strong relation linking man to his environment and the importance of living in a pure atmosphere.

The PME general manager Muhammad Al-Qahtani has reviewed before the audience the tasks performed by the PME to serve the society, its operation mechanisms, and fields of specialization. He affirmed the necessity of cooperation between HRC and the PME in the field of exchanging information and coordination in a way that serves the welfare of society and humanity.

At the end of the visit, the HRC has provided sample of print-outs in the framework of cultural exchange. Both parties have agreed on intensifying the cooperation between the HRC and the PME.

... And a Meeting with the Saudi Commission for Tourism and Antiquities

In response to the invitation given by the HRC Branch in the Eastern province, the head of the Saudi Commission or Tourism and Antiquities branch in the Eastern province, Engineer Abdul Lattif Al Bunyan accompanied by a delegation from the Commission, have visited the headquarter of the HRC. They convened with the general supervisor of the HRC branch, Abdullah bin Salih A-Suhail and some of the officials at the HRC branch there.

Both teams have discussed during the visit methods of mutual cooperation between HRC and the Commission of Tourism and Antiquities to advocate human rights awareness. Meanwhile, Al-Suhail has given a detailed explanation in which he illustrates the tasks performed by different departments and units within the HRC, in addition to other programs and activities sponsored by the HRC branch in the Eastern province.

At the end of the visit, A-Suhail has offered a commemorative shield to Engineer Abdul Lattif Al Bunyan. Moreover the visiting delegation has thanked the HRC for their hospitality and hoped for further cooperation to launch programs advocating human rights awareness.

... And Receives Representatives of Student’s Councils

The general supervisor of the HRC branch in the Eastern province, Mr. Abdullah bin Salih A-Suhail has given a presentation about the tasks, goals and duties affiliated to the HRC and the mechanisms it used to protect the rights of individuals within the society. The presentation was given before representatives of Students’ Councils affiliated to the education department in the Eastern province.

Moreover, A-Suhail has given a detailed explanation of the duties and tasks assigned to different departments within the HRC. He has also highlighted the most significant programs and activities provided by the HRC branch in the Eastern province.

At the end of the visit that was in response to the invitation made by the HRC branch in the Eastern province, students were invited to pose questions and make suggestions. The students were accompanied by Mr. Sami bin Abdulaziz, head of the cultural activity.

On his part, the general supervisor has awarded the students souvenirs hoping that they pay more visits to the HRC branches.
Entitled “Say I Love You” and Lasting for a Week...

The HRC Branch in the Eastern Province Participates in the Sixth Family Forum

The HRC branch in the Eastern province has participated in the Sixth Family Forum for the third year in a row. The Forum was held at Al-Ahsa Governorate. It was entitled “Say I Love You”. The Forum lasted for a week during morning and evening shifts. During the event, the HRC was introduced to the audience through distributing pamphlets and brochures. Moreover, the HRC employees has provided legal and social consultancy and received complaints. Moreover, meetings were held during the morning shifts with school students to introduce them to the HRC, its goals and activities. During the evening shift visitors came from everywhere. During the event, the HRC branch was honoured by Dr. Khaled bin Saud Al – Haleeby, head of the family development centre in Al – Ahsa governorate. Dr. Al – Haleeby has awarded the HRC branch an honorary shield and a certificate of appreciation.

… It Also Criticizes the Absence of Reference for People with Disabilities

The HRC branch in the Eastern province has affirmed that the care regulation for people with disabilities, that was issued on 23/9/1421 AH., comprises 16 articles. It included approval of establishing the Supreme Council for People with Disabilities Affairs. Yet, the decision has not been implemented. This means that there is no reference concerned with the handicapped affairs. He indicated that the ministry of social affairs is responsible for various tasks and duties such as divorced women, widows, orphans, poor people and elders etc...

The head of handicapped unit within the HRC branch in the Eastern province, Khaled Al – Hajery has criticized media since it does not deal with the people was disabilities except only on occasions such as festivals, the International Day of People with Disability and other occasions and events that are concerned with special cases.

Al- Hajery has affirmed that media is totally inconsiderate for people with disabilities' actual issues and does not try to find solutions for them. He indicated that media refers to disability as a “problem” or a “burden”. “If media desires to play an effective role in advocating and consolidating human variation and accepting the other, it should refer to disability as a normal human variation;” he added. He indicated that number of people with disabilities in Saudi Arabia is almost a million varying between males and females. He also highlighted that media has to tackle successful stories where a person could challenge and overcome their disability indicating that the former should focus on challenging the obstacles faced by the people with disabilities to get what others have easily since success is everyone’s right.

It is worth mentioning that Al- Hajery has offered a program entitled “the Art of Dealing with the People with Disabilities” at King Khaled’s Urban Centre in Brida. The program is part of Prince Faisal bin Bandar’s forth campaign to care for and qualify the handicapped. It is supported by the Charity Organization for Qualifying the Handicapped in Brida. It was attended by more than 100 people who are interested in the people with disabilities issues. The program tackled how to deal with different disabilities and the facilitating arrangement required to perform a task, and the skills needed to deal with the handicapped in professional and educational environments. He also argues that media should tackle aids, both acceptable and unacceptable environmental adaptation, exclusive behavioural practices and obstacles whether intentional or unintentional.
A Training Course at the HRC Branch in Al- Jawf about Human Rights in the Islamic Law

The HRC branch in Al – Jawf has held a training course entitled "Human Rights Principles in Islamic Law". The course was held on the occasion of the Arab Day for Human Rights. The training was delivered by Prof. Ahmad Ayesh Al- Husseiny, professor of human rights at Umm al- Qura University. He tackled the importance of advocating human rights awareness based the HRC regulations.

The course was inaugurated by a speech given by Dr. Ali Madd Allah A- Rawished, board member of the HRC and the general supervisor of the HRC branch at Al- Jawf. During this speech he welcomed the 100 participants who came from different governmental, military and civil sectors.

Within the same framework, the women department at the HRC branch at Al- Jawf has organized a female symposium. It was held at the campus in Sakakah. During the symposium, Dr. Moudy Hamdan A- Zahrany has discussed the efforts of shelter houses to care for and enhance women and children’s rights. Meanwhile, Ms. Seham Abdul Fattah, an advisor at the HRC has introduced the Commission, its goals and its mission.

Furthermore, Ms. Amel Abdul Rahman Al- Sadeery, the social researcher at the HRC has tackled the human rights in Islam and Dr. Rehab Ibrahim Al – Masoud has provided a detailed presentation about the HRC branch in Al – Jawf. She highlighted the most significant activities performed by the department during its past work.

At the end of the course certificates were awarded to the participants.

The HRC Branch at Al- Jawf Called on Total Rehabilitation Centres within Al- Jawf, the Northern Boarders Province and Tabuk

The specialists at the HRC branch have, owing to their logistic specialization, conducted inspective visits to total rehabilitation centres in the areas of (Al – Jawf- Northern Boarders – Tabuk). The visits aimed at inspecting the operation of these centres and the quality of care given to those who benefit from these centres.

The visits focused on several significant topics in these centres such as medical and social care, subsistence, cleanliness, benevolent treatment and safety. specialists have formulated reports about these visits comprising what has been observed in these centres and the most significant recommendations. The reports were submitted to the social affairs committee within the HRC to take the necessary action.
The Labour Regulation … Application is More Important

The ministry of labour has issued the domestic labour regulation to regulate the relation and mutual rights between the employer and the labourers. This way it ends any random efforts and deficiencies accompanying this relation and recovering some long-lasting gaps that lead to clear flaw in realizing the rights and obligations and the degrees of commitment.

The new regulation includes a bunch of legislations and procedures that match with labour standards and human rights for both parties concerning a domestic labour exceeding one million. Moreover, the daily recruitment rate is estimated in thousands in all areas in hundred thousands of families. Many of them included personal and legal clashes owing to several legal gaps.

It can be considered a framework regulating this important sector and reduces its problems if the articles included were fully realized by all parties. They are reasonable for everyone and the labour market as well. They define the duties which domestic labour including drivers and maids should be committed to, a definite contract securing the payment, the working term and the training period.

Moreover, the regulation has done the employer justice in a better way as long as the job is concerned with the family’s privacy, protecting his family and possessions, maintaining the family’s privacy and respecting Islamic tradition and Saudi habits. In return, the employer is committed to the agreed upon contract. He should not assign the labourer with extra tasks other than those agreed upon or dangerous jobs or expose them to jobs that would violate their safety or dignity. The employer should also provide the labourers with residence, allow them daily break and pay them regularly. The regulation also includes other rights and obligations for both parties.

The articles within the regulation include extensive details for the rights and duties of each party. Yet, application remains more important if we really wanted to benefit from it otherwise it would be a useless document. This regulation cannot be used; however, unless a violation takes place by any of the parties. Thus, awareness and proper realization of the articles by this large sector (including both families and labour) will create a civilized atmosphere and enhance professional awareness. It will also avoid temper and violations be it intentional or unintentional owing to ignorance of the bases of a relationship between the employer and domestic labour. Here comes the role of media, recruitment offices, embassies and certainly the ministry of labour. They should make sure the content of this regulation is conveyed to everyone. it is time to realize the importance of application since an ounce of prevention is always better than a pound of cure.
Simultaneous with the Global Family Day

The HRC Branch in Mecca Holds a Forum Entitled “Be Kind to Your Parents”

The HRC branch in Mecca has organized a forum entitled “Be Kind to Your Parents” in Jeddah governorate. The forum was sponsored by the governor of Mecca province, Prince Mishal bin Abdullah bin Abdulaziz Al - Sa’ud and attended by Dr. Bandar Al - Aiban, president of the HRC. The forum was held simultaneous with the Global Family Day. In 1993, the UN has decided on the 15th of March annually to celebrate the Global Family Day. During the forum, issues of rights, duties and disobedience.

His Excellency Dr. Bandar Al- Aiban, president of the HRC, has affirmed that the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz Al Sa’ud is highly concerned with (man). He assigned several tasks to several officials in order to secure human rights, particularly parents’ rights. He has also issued several regulations for those who are ungrateful to their parents.

His Excellency has said during the speech he gave at the forum that “parents’ rights constitute one of the most significant human rights. The favours the do to their children are infinite. Their love for them is the sincerest affection one can experience. Actually, no affection is equal to a parent’s love for their children. Therefore, Allah the Almighty has ordered us to be kind to our parents and thank them in terms of act and say. This is highlighted in two of the most eloquent holy verses: “And your Lord has decreed that you not worship except Him, and to parents, good treatment. Whether one or both of them reach old age [while] with you, say not to them [so much as], «uff,» and do not repel them but speak to them a noble word. And lower to them the wing of humility out of mercy and say, «My Lord, have mercy upon them as they brought me up [when I was] small» (17: 23-24)

Islam has decreed being kind to parents so that happiness pervades every aspect of our lives. Parents’ disobedience or disregarding their rights is a serious family problem that HRC is highly concerned with and seeks to enlighten people about its harm and consequences upon both the family and society. This forum, therefore, was held to investigate this issue, its causes, consequences and how to fight it with all possible means in order to keep the family, which is a microcosm for society, together.”
His Excellency further adds: “unfortunately the rates reported to HRC indicate that this problem is increasing in a worrisome manner. Perhaps judicial and other institutions share my worry. Therefore, we have to suggest solutions and work on implementing them through educational institutions, media and religious speeches in mosques. I would like also to thank you for your attendance and concern. I wish you the best with your discussions in this forum.

The HRC will do its best to benefit from the outcomes of this forum and hopefully transform them into a work plan to make people aware about this issue and its impact upon both individual and society.”

Dr. Al – Aiban has also indicated that “parents’ rights were proven by evidence from both the Noble Qur’an and teachings of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). Likewise is the retribution enjoyed by those who are kind to their parents during their lifetime and after their death and severe punishments suffered by those who disobey their parents.”

He goes on to say: “the number of disobedience cases is limited across the Kingdom is limited. The goal of launching a workshop entitled “Be Kind to Your Parents” is to come up with recommendations that serve the society as a whole and highlights the importance of making the youth aware about it. I hope that a mayor is appointed at each of the HRC offices because of the vital role played by mayors in reforming the affairs of those living in their areas and resolving the cases of parents’ disobedience.”

Dr. Al- Aiban has considered parents’ disobedience one of the few cases that we should fight by means of supporting the parents and prevent their disobedience through media. He highlighted as well the importance of treating one’s children properly and providing them with enough affection, kindness and time. This shall contribute greatly to being kind to parents when they are old.

Dr. Al- Aiban has affirmed that HRC and Human Rights Association are working along the same lines indicating that both receive reports about cases of parents’ disobedience and are keen on making youth and society aware about this issue. He has also demanded that the “Be Kind to Your Parents” forum shall during its concluding event effectuate the role of concerned institutions in enlightening the society and making it aware of the importance of being kind to parents and the negative impact that follows their disobedience.

Several governmental institutions have participated in the forum. They tackled the parents’ rights within the society and effectuating the role of governmental, social, and cultural institutions in advocating parents’ rights as decreed by our Islamic faith. The second day of the two – day forum’s proceedings has witnessed the presentation of a paper by his Rev. Sheikh Abdul Rahman Al- Hussieny, president of the General Court in Jeddah. He started by discussing the importance of the children’s obligations towards their parents.

He also encouraged children to be kind to their parents as decreed by our Islamic faith. He assured that the parents’ disobedience cases in Saudi courts are quite few. He reviewed some of these cases and illustrated their penalties and the methods of tackling them and how to reduce them.

On his part, Sheikh Abdullah Al – Qurni, President of the Bureau of Investigation and Public Prosecution has discussed the importance of advocating being kind to parents as preached by our Islamic faith. He referred to the role played by HRC in dealing with cases of parents’ disobedience and how to treat them. He has also tackled the HRC role in coordinating with the concerned parties to resolve such cases.

Meanwhile, Dr. Hani Al- Ghamdi, a psychological analyzer and specialist in family and society issues has stated: “parents’ disobedience is new to our society. It has started to emerge and all members of the society should work together to fight it. Programs should be launched to advocate the importance of being kind to one’s parents as decreed by the Noble Qur’an.” He affirmed that that parents’ disobedience is caused in most cases by parents’ mistreatment of their children or psychological disturbances on the children’s part that affect their dealing with others negatively. In such cases continuous educational and enlightening programs should exist to make both parents and children aware of each others’ rights and duties.

Furthermore, Abdullah Al – Tawy, the general manager of the social affairs in Mecca Province has assured the importance of advocating parents’ rights within the society. Being kind to our parents is one of the bases of Islam. Islam has preached being kind to parents and they will make you go to heaven. He reviewed the role played by the social affairs in dealing with cases of disobedience and methods of cooperation with other institutions to limit this phenomenon.

Saud Al – Shaikhy, head of the media and culture branch, has discussed the role of ministry of culture and media in launching educational programs about parents’ rights and broadcasting them through different forms of media to enlighten society and youth and preach children who are disobedient to their parents. There is also mutual cooperation with HRC and the social affairs to launch these campaigns and get them published.

The Saudi Efforts to Protect the Family

Family has always been a major concern for the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz Al Saud. He facilitated all methods of supporting and protecting the family since it is the nucleus of the society. He ordered his government to provide all elements of stability, luxury and safety. Laws and regulations supervised by all the State’s institutions in order to implement them. Several international convention protecting family and children were approved as well.

Protection Against Abuse

Issuing the protection against abuse regulation which was approved by the Cabinet on the 19th of Shawal, 1434 significantly indicates the concern of the Saudi leadership for protecting family members against violence and secure them safety. The regulation has defined (abuse) as: “any form of exploitation, physical, psychological and sexual assault, or threatening to commit any of these against any other person owing to their custody or authority over them or family or custody relationship”. Maltreatment encompass-
s a person’s abstention or dereliction from providing the basic need for another family member.

The regulation was formulated by eight governmental parties including the ministries of “interior affairs”, “education”, “health”, “Justice”, “social affairs”, “HRC”, “BIP”, and “NSFP”.

The regulation has allowed the social affairs to be aided by specialized security bodies in case urgent intervention or access to the place where abuse took place is needed.

According to the regulation, those who are proven to have committed the abuse crime are sentenced to jail for a period not less than a month and does not exceed a year and a fine not less than 5,000 Riyals and does not exceed 50,000 Riyals, or one of these two sentences only. In case, he repeated the crime the sentence might be duplicated. The regulation has dispensed the “well – meaning” from being held responsible in case it is revealed that the reported case is not really abuse. It has also stressed that the reporter’s identity unless he agrees.

Meanwhile, Dr. Maha Al Munif, the executive manager of “NFSP,” has revealed that the hot line has received around 800 calls about domestic violent. Researchers in the field of domestic violence argue that Saudi Arabia has shown earlier interaction towards the cases of violence against children. This is clear through its signing international conventions in this respect. The protection dedicated to children in Saudi Arabia is organized ascendingly starting from educational programs up to providing shelter and care houses through the ministry of social affairs.

The legal advisor and member of the NFSP, Ahmad Al – Muhymid has indicated that the regulation “represents a pivotal shift in laws and legislations relative to protecting women, children and vulnerable classes”.

The activist, Dr. Suhaila Hammad, has demanded that police stations would have female departments to support this. She assured that “a violently abused women, if went to the police to complain, is asked to wait for her custodian, who might be the abuser himself, to come and pick her up”.

It is known that the ministry of social affairs has established centres for social protection to receive reports. It established a free hotline to receive calls (1919). Reports can also be sent to the website of the general administration of social protection. Moreover, several governmental institutions participate in receiving reports such as provinces, hospitals and educational institutions.

Dalal Al-Argany, the specialist at the protection department in the social supervision centre, has stated that: “we receive reports on the unified number (1919). We then transfer them to specialists, who in turn start to call the woman suffering from abuse or the reporter who then comes and submit a written statement.”

**The Family in Islam**

Islam has always been keen on building a strong Muslim society. Thus, it supported the nucleus of social construction, which is the family. It attempts to please and support it. If the family is coherent, the society will be coherent as well.

Therefore, Islam has provided principles and legislations that consolidate filial relations and protect them against collapse. It obliged the society to follow these principles and regulations. As for marital relationship, Islam was keen on making it a strong...
one. Marriage in Islam is a social and religious institution which men and women join intentionally to achieve common interests for both sides.

The most important of these interests for both spouses is to provide a social status through which both enjoy the fruit of affection and gratify their innate human instincts in a stable and honourable manner. They can also gratify their parental instinct for having children and providing them with reasons or growth and development.

As for children, the family comprising husband and wife, represents the necessary environment for their mental, physical, an ideological growth. Certainly, the status of the Islamic family is characterized by its originality, the thing that makes it appropriate to serve its goals. “And of His signs is that He created for you from yourselves mates that you may find tranquility in them; and He placed between you affection and mercy. Indeed in that are signs for a people who give thought” (30: 21). This divine bond linking both spouses is based on affection, mercy, chastity, dignity and care.

**Family Dialogue**

Dialogue is an effective communicative method. It is highly important then to have a constructive dialogue within the family. Family dialogue enhances positive feelings and communication within a family. It also helps in creating love and affection between them. Family dialogue also helps in familiarizing different perspectives. It also teaches family members to respect other’s opinions. Family dialogue is the basis upon which intimate filial intimacy is built. It helps to raise the children in a sound way creating social interaction. It enhances confidence among family members and makes their more capable of achieving their dreams and ambitions. Reasons behind lack of family dialogue may include:

- Parents are busy with their professional life away from their children.
- Lack of confidence in the effectiveness of dialogue and underestimating its ability to achieve the desired outcomes.
- The emergence of satellite channels that has used up most of the time the family use to spend talking together.
- Ignorance about effective dialogue methods.
- The dictatorship of some parents who reject dialogue because they believe they are more experienced than their children who won’t be able to discuss their own affairs.
- Unreasonable financial luxury where cell phones and computers have become an important part of the youth’s life.
- Generation gap.
- Assigning important family affairs to maids.
- Polygamy where husbands might not be fair to all wives, so one family might be favoured over the other and eventually no dialogue will exist with the neglected one.

Families constitute the nucleus of societies. Relationships between generations contribute to extending this heritage continuously. International Day for Families, which we are celebrating today, is an occasion to celebrate the bonds combining family members together. It is an occasion to consider how these individuals influence social and economic attitudes and what can be done by the families to enhance these attitudes.

Unemployment forces a lot of young people who look forward for independence, rely on their relative for longer time than they expected. The lack of proper and smooth children care lead to the complexity of efforts exerted by parents in families that are supported by both parents, since they both have to do compromise both their jobs and household tasks.

Due attention should be given to the inadequate retirement pensions and caring for elder people after having achieved our goal which is to prolong lives. Such challenges double the importance of the family support for youth who look for jobs and are living with their parents more than any time before. Likewise, support should be provided for grandparents who rely on their families for shelter and care and for members within extended families who are responsible for children.

Family members across the world are playing vital roles. They deserve the support of policy and decision makers whether in public foundations or private corporations.

Our need to enhance policies that advocate cooperation between generations is increasingly recognized. Likewise is support for common programs and initiatives between generations. Evidence indicates that retirement pensions are sufficient and care provider support the whole family as well as the elderly.

Common generation programs advocating volunteer work I the circles of young and elderly people is useful for every one regardless of their ages. They provide job opportunities for people with different ages thus connecting and reviving entire societies.

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On the International Day for Families I call on governments, civil societies, families and individuals to support initiatives that involve different generation to make the world a better place for everyone.
A number of organizations and groups participated in celebrating this World Day including government institutions caring for the older persons, NGOs, individuals and families concerned with care of the older persons and those who are working in the areas of health care and rehabilitation of the older persons, as well as workers in the health centers. The International Day of Older Persons or the International Day of the Elderly is an annual global event, endorsed by the General Assembly of the United Nations under resolution 106/45 in December 1990, to be celebrated in the first day of October, every year.
UN reports indicate change of the pattern of the traditional demographic balance in the Arab countries in the past decades. One outcome of the demographic shift is the decline in the proportion of the population category of children (till the age of 14) and a slow rise, though, gradually, in the proportion of older persons (65 years and more), and the aging process seems also in its early stages in the Arab region, where the start of a decline in fertility trend is relatively recent. However, in the wake of the rapid change of the demographic state in the region, there is need to meet the challenges inherent in the high proportion of the elderly population due to the absolute number of people aged 65 years and more has doubled from 5.7 million people in 1980 to 10.4 million people in 2000 and is expected to rise to 21.3 million by 2020.

Europe
In a report issued by the European Central Bank, the Bank warned of increasing numbers of older persons in the region of Europe, pointing out that this reduces the level of economic growth by half by 2050. The report stated that in the event of failure to reach solutions to defuse “bomb of elderly Europeans”, the growth of GDP will stop at the rate of 1%. The report estimated that Social Security will devour, starting from this year, about 3% of the total government spending of Euro countries.

Secretary General of the United Nations Statement
As part of the celebration of the International Day of Older Persons, the Secretary-General of the United Nations (Ban Ki-moon) said in a press statement: The longevity is what constitutes the future, and the speed of aging is one of the greatest social and economic and political transformations in our time, but longevity is one of the achievements of public health, stressing that during the preparation of the development plan for after 2015 the United Nations

Older Persons Around the World
According to the annual report issued by the United Nations Population Fund in 2012, the number of older persons in the world is growing at a faster rate than any other age group, and by 2050 the generation of older persons more in number than the world’s population under the age of 15.

The report, which was released under the title “Aging in the twenty one century ... An opportunity to celebrate and meet the challenge”, pointed out that there are currently more than 700 million people across the world who are aged more than 60 years, and it is expected that this number will increase by 2050 to reach two billion people, or about 20% of the world’s population, which would far exceed the number of children in the world on that date.

The report predicted that the number of older persons over the next ten years will exceed one billion persons with an increase of almost 200 million people over the decade, adding that two out of every three people in the age of sixty years or more live currently in developing countries and countries with emerging economies, and by the year in 2050 that figure will rise to nearly four out of every five persons.

The report recorded that the rapid aging of the population and the steady increase in the length of human life in all parts of the world is one of the greatest social, economic and political transformations in this age, stressing the need to take care during the formation of the United Nations plan for the development of the post-2015 to develop a new vision that makes aging consistent with economic and social growth, and protects the rights of the older persons and integrates them into society through the development of means of transport easy to use and accessible communities, and ensuring the availability of health care and appropriate social services or also by providing a suitable platform for social protection.

The report warned that if these issues not addressed immediately, they may have bad consequences on countries that are not ready to confront them, reminding that people of the world should be aging in dignity and under a sense of security, and to enjoy their lives through the realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

According to the United Nations Population Fund many countries many have made significant progress with respect to the adoption of new policies, strategies, plans, and laws on aging, pointing out that during the past ten years about one hundred countries applied non-subscription systems of pensions in recognition of the poverty associated with aging.

Ban Ki-Moon: Everyone should integrate the older persons in the community and protect them
The importance of the role of the older persons in the transfer of expertise and experiences of other generations

Human Rights Commission participated in Asir in the International Day of Older Persons and women delegation visited 28 older women at the Social Care House in Abha. Dr Hadi Al-Yami, general supervisor of the Human Rights Commission in Asir and board member of the Commission, the Commission’s keenness to participate with older women and men their international day through various activities and to provide appropriate gifts for them and instill the concept of love in the hearts of our children towards the elderly while striving to introduce them to all the basic concepts that increase their respect for the elderly.

Dr Al-Yami explained that the visit aims to promote the importance of self-esteem in the elderly and people with special needs and help them socially and psychologically and bring a smile to the lips of older women through various programs undertaken by the Commission. It is noteworthy that the Human Rights Commission in Aseer visited the elderly women and checked the services provided to them such as the and mental and health care and ensuring they have their rights stipulated in the Convention applicable inside the house, in addition to providing an introductory presentation to the elderly of the house about their rights.
must prepare a new model that makes the demographic aging consistent with the economic and social growth, and protects the human rights of the elderly.

The Secretary-General noted that when embarking upon the formation of the United Nations plan for the development of the post-2015, a new model should be developed that makes the demographic aging consistent with the economic and social growth, and protects the elderly, stressing the responsibility of individuals and groups towards integration of the elderly in the community, both through the development of means of transport easy to use, and accessible communities, and to ensure the availability of health care and social services appropriate for the age, or by providing a suitable platform for social protection.

Ban Ki-moon added that longevity is an achievement of public health, and not social or economic responsibility only, and in this International Day of Older Persons, everyone should undertake sponsor older persons and winning their meaningful participation in the community so we can all benefit from their knowledge and abilities.

Objectives and Messages
The objectives of the adoption of the International Day for Older Persons are to draw the attention to this age group, which contributed to the development of communities and their ability to continue to contribute, and this can be achieved through several things, including:

- Awareness of the importance of preventive and curative care for the elderly.
- Strengthening health services and disease prevention, and the provision of appropriate technology and rehabilitation.
- Staff training in the field of care of the elderly.
- The provision of facilities to meet the needs of the elderly such as nursing homes.
- Urging non-governmental organizations and families to provide support for the elderly so that they follow good health habit.
- Cooperation between governmental institutions, families and individuals to provide a good health environment and welfare for the elderly.

Maintaining their Health
Various medical reports point out that maintaining the rights of the elderly to a dignified safe life is achieved through the care of their food and ensuring to conform it to international standards because they are in need of greater attention because of their old age, due to the change in activity of the body and the lack of movement and the slow activity of internal organs and tissues in the elderly which cause several health problems for them, which become more painful in case of a lack of bone density and increased fragility, especially among women, and this is accompanied by muscle atrophy and inflammation in the joints and vertebrae, resulting in failure of motion, and increase the chances of obesity at different rates.

So Dr. Fares Al-Anzi, Consultant and Associate Professor of Immunology at the University of Al-Kharj, presents several medical and food tips that may help them in addressing diseases of period of life. These tips include the food of the elderly should be rich in proteins, vitamins, fibers and liquids, and moderate in carbohydrates and relatively poor in terms of the proportion of fat, as well as reducing the use of salt, pickles, canned products. In order to be nourishing and restorative for immunity, it should have some of the most qualities, of which the most important:

- The diet should be easy to digest and absorb and protective from diseases of aging, such as hardening of the arteries and osteoporosis.
- Avoiding high-fat and chemically treated foods.
- Eating foods containing fresh fruit and vegetables, in addition to cereals (wheat, corn and barley).
- Getting sugars in a proper way and not depending only on refined sugar.
- Eating white meat and fish is preferred because they contain omega-3, which helps to reduce bad and low-density cholesterol and increase HDL cholesterol because the older persons at this stage are susceptible to strokes.
- Glucose is preferred to improve and enhance memory, and energy can be obtained from complex carbohydrates such as brown bread.
- Eating boiled or grilled food is preferred, and the best meal for the elderly is vegetable soup containing 3 types of vegetables (zucchini + carrots + potatoes) with fried chicken pieces with added lemon which serves as a complete nutrients meal.
- Drinking sufficient amounts of water and fluids at a rate of 8 cups a day is a must, because with aging the proportion of water in the body is decreased.
The Importance of Strengthening the Immune System

It is known that aging weakens the body’s resistance to disease, and the immune system protects the body from invaders such as (bacteria and viruses). Researches indicate that the infection in the elderly continues for a long time because of a weakened immune system, as ageing weakens the white blood cells which help fight diseases. The truth is that Allah Almighty bestowed upon people an amazing immune system, and all should be known is that healing comes from within ourselves, and everyone must maintain this interior therapeutic power.

The body’s needs of nutrients vary depending on the age group, in the phase of old age the efficiency of the body’s systems decreases and the chances of disease increase, which requires a special diet that keeps pace with these changes and works on improving it.

It is expected that the number of elderly people in the Arab region will reach 12.3 million people by 2020. The number of older persons over 60 years is about 700 million people around the world.

- Avoiding anxiety and fatigue, and getting enough time of sleep and staying away from the causes of stress and exercising sports and maintaining an ideal weight.
- Maintaining the health of teeth: to be in good condition, if not so it is preferred that foods are not solid so that it does not need to severe chewing.
- The number of older persons over 60 years is about 700 million people around the world.

Fight Osteoporosis with Food

Osteoporosis is one of the most important silent diseases faced by older persons especially postmenopausal women. The building of bone in the age of growth and adolescence forms the basic building block for the prevention of this disease, which often affects surreptitiously the infected persons making them vulnerable to a host of complications, most notably the sudden spontaneous fractures which sometimes occur simply because of sneezing or coughing. It is true that heredity plays a role in getting osteoporosis disease, but there are other factors, including nutrition. Providing the body with lime and vitamin D throughout the human life is a fundamental pillar for building strong bones that can withstand vicissitudes of time. In addition to lime and vitamin D, there are other dietary factors that have an impact on the level of protection from osteoporosis disease, including:

- Boron metal found in abundance in: raisins, grapes, dates, apples, pears and nuts, especially almonds, walnuts, peanuts and hazelnuts.
- Magnesium metal: sesame, dates, yogurt, cocoa, beans, dried fruits and legumes.
- Almangnez metal; grains, nuts, oatmeal, spinach and tea.
- Vitamin K: egg yolks, cabbage and cauliflower.
- In addition to nutrients, they should be consumed moderately because excessive consuming of some drinks contributes to stealing calcium from the bones, most notably: coffee, tea, and soft drinks.

Dates ... An Integrated Nutrient

A medical report pointed out that dates like mine rich of integrated and basic food elements basic human in terms of quantity and quality, as it helps producing energy and repair damaged tissues. Many doctors and nutrition specialists agree that dates are important in several aspects including; it helps to reduce cholesterol in blood and prevention of atherosclerosis because it contains pectin, and contributes to the prevention of hemorrhoids and reduce stones formation in the gallbladder, and facilitates the stages of pregnancy and childbirth, as it contains good fibers and quick digestion sugars. It is also a cure for anemia because it contains iron, copper, vitamin B and also is a cure for those who complain of osteoporosis because it has calcium and phosphorus and vitamin A.

200 elderly woman participated in the World’s celebrations of the International Day Older Persons in the province of Jeddah, under the slogan “Loyalty of Children for Parents”, in the presence of former Director of Women Social Supervision in Mecca and social advisor Nora Abdul Aziz Al-Sheikh and the number of businesswomen and media in Jeddah.

The businesswoman Hanadi al-Balawi said during the celebration that the goal of the celebration of the International Day of Older Persons is to involve older women and mothers, who are the main factors in raising the children and prepare them to be the nation’s wealth, as Islam recommended, and pay attention to them in this celebration is a kind of appreciation for what they presented for this generation.

Balawi said that there is an urgent need to raise awareness of the society duty towards this category because they are most deserving of world appreciation and interest, stressing that attention must be paid to the elderly and give them their rights that fit their lives. She also delivered a special speech for older women, in which she provided her thanks to the organizations and agencies that participated in organizing this International Day, to show interest of the Kingdom in the importance of appreciating this category that is dear to the hearts of every human being, due to the fact that they sponsored the first beginnings for their children, until they became in higher position in life.
In the various countries of the world, people with special needs suffer from many problems in several different fields, particularly within their community, most notably lack of some of their rights to education and proper employment opportunities and health care.

And this very dear category in the Kingdom receive great care from the side of the guardians, as there are increasing efforts for their support in the development of their capabilities and exploit their energy positively, to be able to live naturally as the rest of the sons of the homeland.
The rights advocated by people with special needs usually are to provide the urban environment in public and private facilities and facilitate them for the use especially for people with disabilities, and it may be difficult, for example, for people with wheelchair to enter some ministries, companies or banks that do not contain paved corridor or elevator or car parking areas equipped for them, which is contrary to the requirements for the municipal services in the Kingdom, which give the right to persons with disabilities to have special place for their cars in public and private parking, by not less than 5% of the area of these parking, and the space allocated per car not less than 25 square meters.

People with disabilities demand to provide a broader industry centers for compensatory devices and aids, in addition to the necessity of activating new vocational training programs that keep pace with the requirements of the labor market and directed to people with simple medium disabilities, and inclusion of awareness texts about people with disabilities and ways to deal with them in the general education curriculum.

People with visual disability seem to suffer more sever than for the rest of their peers, as until now, prominent figures in the elevators have not been provided for them, or guiding plates close to the level of touch in bold font to help them have not provided, in addition to the lack of proper sidewalks in many of the streets.

Care and Rehabilitation
Due to the growth of those problems and its increasing severity, the Kingdom was keen on providing the bulk of its attention to the facilitation of that class of society, and since 1421 AH People with Disabilities Care System was issued by Royal Decree No. (M / 37) to approve the decision of the Council of Ministers call (224) dated on 14/09/1421 AH regarding adoption of the system which considered a culmination of all the pioneering efforts in the field of care for the people with disabilities and their rehabilitation.

Also the subsidies ceiling provided by the Ministry of Social Affairs for persons with disabilities was raised to the amount of 492 million riyals, so the total Social Security benefits become more than 23 billion riyals, in addition to the support of the item devoted to the special medical devices and aids submitted for persons with disabilities with 8 million riyals so what is offered in this item becomes 30 million riyals.

As for the government regulations relating to people with special needs, these regulations ensured that the child with disabilities has a right to be educated in less complex environments through integration with his peers in a regular school, which has a positive impact on increasing social acceptance of him, and enabling him to emulate the behavior of the normal children, thus contributing to the improvement of normal children trends towards children with disabilities.

This is in addition to the establishment of organizations and private entities based on the care for people with special needs in the Kingdom, such as the Disabled Association, headed by His Royal Highness Prince Sultan bin Salman bin Abdulaziz, which provides several important services for people with special needs,

“Taqdeer” ... New service aims to help people with special needs when visiting of Civil Status Offices.

“Municipality” requires the provision of a special place for people with disabilities in public and private parking.
as well as a number of their special programs. Furthermore, the Kingdom is keen to urge all groups of society to feel the needs of that category, by simulating their suffering in real life, including the "Wheelchair Experience" program, which His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz, Crown Prince and Deputy Prime Minister made a tradition practiced by ministers and officials from time to time to urge them to introduce suitable projects and programs to meet the needs of those who spend their whole lives sitting or moving via wheelchair. Also His Highness Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz announced Riyadh a capital city for people with special needs when he was Governor of Riyadh, by issuing his guidance to all state institutions to take into account the right of people with special needs to move easily through the corridors and roads of the institutions, ministries and government and private agencies, as well as shops, malls and others, through the allocation of a mechanism to facilitate their movement, without the need for anyone.

Suitable Jobs and Soft Loans

With regard to the employment of the people with disabilities, Labor Law committed every employer who has 50 or more workers and the nature of work enables him to employ persons with disabilities who have been rehabilitated to employ people with disabilities at least 2% of the total number of workers. (The meaning here of “the nature of work enables him to employ persons with disabilities” is that the works of the employer in its entirety are not hard and do not agree with the disability conditions of the disabled person). The national system of care for the persons with disabilities ensure the right of the disabled to get soft loans to start professional or commercial business, commensurate with his ability, either individually or collectively.

In the same context, the Item No. 2 of Article 12 of the international Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities stipulated the right of the person with disabilities to have legal capacity on an equal basis with others in all aspects of life, as the rights of persons with disabilities emphasized on the importance of securing the necessary protection for them from all forms of exploitation, discrimination, injustice and the violation of dignity.

On the other hand, the Ministry of Interior introduced a new service under the name “Taqdeer” to serve the elderly, and people with special needs and patients who have difficulty in going to the Civil Status Offices in their homes, hospitals or associations of people with specialized needs, to benefit from the services of the renewal, issuing or replacing of national identity cards.

Activation of the Rights of the Persons with Disabilities

Also in the frame of catering for the rights and demands of the persons with disabilities, Human Rights Commission has established a special unit related to the rights of the disabled and those with special needs, which is primarily designed to activate the Supreme Council for the Disabled, which was established in 1421 and comprises representatives of a number of government agencies.

Human Rights Commission also participated recently in the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, which was held at United Nations Headquarters in New York with the participation of 193 countries of the six continents of the world, and in which they discussed a number of
international, humanitarian and economic issues related to persons with disabilities. The Commission emphasized in front of the countries of the world on the KSA's attention to the persons with disabilities stems from care to devote human sensibility that characterizes the people of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in all service facilities at its different regions, given the fact that helping persons with special needs require in the first place hearts full of humanity and the love of people, and not a directive from the government or an official. So that such rights are guaranteed officially and legally for people with disabilities, KSA has sought to create a legal framework for the promotion of those rights, where it issued a system to take care of their own affairs, and a package of legislations that regulate the process of accessing to health and social care and education and facilitating access to it, in addition to the privileges and exemptions from duties granted by the state for persons with disabilities.

KSA also issued other systems such as the "Protection from Abuse", besides the child protection system, and the system of combating trafficking in persons.

Similarly, the Kingdom was always in the first place to ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol, as well as international conventions related to human rights, as well as its contribution to the support of regional and international cooperation in the field of disability, in addition to the Kingdom's seeking in its next plans to promote disability issues through the development of comprehensive statistics for the areas of disability and spreading greater human rights awareness on disability and capacity building and the creation of executive operational mechanisms, with establishing government focal point for the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Historic Care

It is noted that supporting persons with disabilities and observing their their special circumstances was not limited in the Government of the KSA to one party or another or a certain time, and the history records the great eagerness of Price Sultan bin Abdulaziz - may God have mercy on him - to turn state's interest in that category into reality, through his keenness, since he was a defense minister, on the development of services of persons with disabilities and the provision of health, social and rehabilitation services for them, where His Highness issued several resolutions in this aspect still have extended impact until today, including his agreeing to create programs to ensure government health insurance programs for the persons with disability, with the addition of their treatment services within the services covered by insurance companies, and the allocation of units in major hospitals to the treatment and care of injuries, especially spinal cord injury, in addition to the adoption of training programs for the staff of the Red Crescent and hospitals emergencies to deal with injuries to mitigate complications of persons with disabilities.

He – may God have mercy on him - also recommended to prepare new vocational rehabilitation programs that keep pace with the requirements of the labor market designed to people with simple and medium disabilities throughout the Kingdom in order to accommodate waiting lists held by the Ministry of Social Affairs, in partnership with the private sector, in addition to providing appropriate training by the General Organization for Technical Education and Technical for simple cases, with the expansion of the establishment of comprehensive rehabilitation centers for persons with severe disabilities and developing it and supporting it with qualified cadres.
The Fruitful Years

Abdulaziz bin Othman Al – Falih

The strategic planners, whether politicians or economic or military shape their plans according to well-structured and clearly defined givens. They might face challenges and obstacles when it comes to implementation owing to financial or human resources or balance in formulating the plans. These are the main bases for long or short term strategic planning. Strategic plans may remain mere documents not even worth the ink it is written with unless there is a brave political decree urging their implementation. This decree requires clear futurist visions and its influence whether mentally or materially. The decision maker should be blessed with a thorough insight in order to be able to implement strategic plans maintaining the regional balance. A country similar to Saudi Arabia is vast in area and has several provinces that are far apart, requires balance when it comes to implementing plans. This to avoid the presence of human masses in one place only while others are left deserted. The Kingdom’s celebration of the ninth anniversary of swearing allegiance to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz Al- Sa’ud, on Saturday, the 26th
of Jumada II, is a celebration of nine fruitful years.

Each year comprised 365 achievements that are well-planned and well-employed. These could be hospitals, clinics, universities or highly significant political gains that stand on equal footing with material achievements, and are even supportive of them. Political gains are the base for stability and development.

The King has protected these gains as decreed by the Noble Qur'an: "And prepare against them whatever you are able of power and of steeds of war by which you may terrify the enemy of Allah and your enemy and others besides them whom you do not know [but] whom Allah knows. And whatever you spend in the cause of Allah will be fully repaid to you, and you will not be wronged." (8:60).

Celebrating these nine years is a celebration of a procession of stability and achievements. During these years, systems were developed, state institutions were updated, and several educational, health, developmental, athletic and financial projects were launched across the country. This was beneficial to all social classes, be them wealthy or poor, urban or rural and will aim at achieving comprehensive and balanced development. Different parts of Saudi Arabia have witnessed a construction and renaissance phase. Throughout the past nine years, several national gains and achievements were made. They are beneficial for both the country and the citizen. Throughout this short time, consequent successes both on the Arab or international levels were made that promote the Saudi position and rendered it acclaimed worldwide. Saudi Arabia has always pioneered charitable and human incidents.

It has sponsored interviews and conferences concerning dialogue between religions and cultures. These have provided a positive image of our glorious Islamic faith. It has contributed in resolving disputes. There were also initiatives to settle disputes. In addition, the charity balance during this period was 855 billions. The charitable King always tells his citizens that the citizen is a priority. His Majesty affirms that the balance figures is not what really matters, but the projects and facilities they stand for do. These include securing dignified life for citizens while balancing the needs of the current and future generations, enhancing integration between public and private sectors, enhancing the governmental sector performance, effectuating the role of general administration in the development process, continue to improve education, curing the disruption in labour market in order to provide more job opportunities, enhancing citizenship, and stressing the best use of resources.

The construction balance seeks to provide long term plans. Generous funds are provided to develop human beings. This is what has been emphasized by his Majesty: man is the base, for him universities were set up. Actually, three universities were inaugurated recently in the provinces of Hafar Al-Batin, Bisha and Jeddah. The fruitful years has also resulted in King Abdullah’s Sports City.

During the inauguration of this landmark, his Majesty stated that the Saudi people deserves much more than this, it has given a lot and hopefully will gain more. Therefore, Saudi Arabia seeks to vary sources of income, reduce energy consumption, expand in providing job opportunities for young people and greater partnership between the public and private sectors. The ninth anniversary of swearing allegiance to his Majesty highlights the eminent achievements for the nation and the citizens. By means of a thorough insight, it was able to make major achievements on all levels. Re-electing Saudi Arabia as member within the UNHRC for a third term reflects its highly estimated international status and the efforts it exerts to protect and enhance human rights whether locally or internationally. The bravery of the decision maker and the thorough royal insight has led to great achievement across these nine fruitful years that have in turn, blossomed in a civilization we are all proud of. We swear our allegiance to you Majesty for better or worse.
Saudi Arabia and Human Rights

By: Ezzat Abdulaziz Murad

In the introduction to his book, the author argues that human rights is one of the most controversial issues across history. Several arguments were raised about it and a lot of thinkers and philosophers have tried to formulate viewpoints about it. Moreover, its articles were phrased in different forms. Articles were either added, omitted or modified within affiliated conventions. Sometimes these modifications are criticized or even rejected and others they were accepted entirely. Yet, up till now, these articles are effective in a unique that ultimately leads to resorting to Islamic law and regulations based on it. Continuous adaptations are carried on as well to match these divine orientations.

Chapter One: Introduction to Human Rights (the innate and the acquired)

The author has affirmed in this chapter the importance of interpreting meanings and putting them in the correct context. He distinguishes between two different human rights concepts in order to avoid unfruitful controversy. First, there is “innate human rights” which are granted to the person since his birth, and exists long before this and will remain to exist later. These are boiled down to one standard which is dealing with him as a human being. The only reliable source to which this standard can be attested is divine teachings as decreed by Allah the Almighty since He is the Creator and knows what is best for man. The other definition is “acquired rights” which are gained through life variables and demands. These are still a matter of controversy among activists.

The Emergence of Human Rights Concept

The author has tackled in this chapter the history of the emergence of human rights concept. He highlighted the history of the emergence of human rights concept. Certainly they existed implicitly, although names differed. Since Allah has created the universe, He decreed legislations that secures protecting rights and never to trespass them. Yet, the official concept for human rights became into frequent use following WWII. By that time, legislation was more mature. They need to have it elaborate in the form of conventions and behaviour that exceed 100 conventions.

The international human rights legislation comprises five major treaties. Among these are: the International Human Rights Convention, and the International Treaty for civil and political rights.

The UN and Phases of Formulating Human Rights

The author argues that formulating human rights through the UN has gone through numerous phases. The whole thing started in 1945 with the UN Convention. According to this Convention, the international community has approved of committing itself to laying human rights guarantees that secure protection for threatened individuals, groups and local communities by means of governmental procedures. These efforts were followed by the International Declaration for Human Rights. It is a highly idealistic treatise that secures civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights. It comprised 30 articles including:

• All human are granted the right to enjoy the freedoms and rights stated in this convention without any discrimination.
• Every person is granted the right to
live freely and safely.
- No human being should be enslaved by another.
- No human being should be subjected to torture.
- All people are equal before law
- All people are granted the right to resort to national courts.
- No one should be detained or expelled on arbitrary basis
- Individuals are granted the right to have their cases considered in court by an objective and independent court and on equal footing with others.

Organizations and Drawbacks within Practices

The author reveals at the end of this chapter some of the drawbacks found within the practices of the organizations concerned with human rights. These drawbacks can be interpreted in different ways. Sometimes it may indicate deficiency in collecting and analyzing data. At other times they might indicate some sort of ideological, political or religious discrimination.

Chapter Two
Human Rights and the Regional Systems
(The European System of Human Rights)

The second chapter of the book tackles human rights within regional systems. The author argues that European human rights are liable to a strong regional system linking members. The European Convention for Basic Human Rights and Freedoms, issued in 1950 secured personal, legal, civil and political rights. Meanwhile, the Social European Charter, issued in 1961, regulates the economic and legal rights. The rights mentioned in these conventions are similar to those stated in the international legislation for human rights. Moreover, the decision making procedures in the European system is of great importance owing to the influential monitoring powers practiced by the European Commission for Human Rights and the European Court on Human Rights.

The American System

The book indicates that the American Declaration for human rights and issued in 1948 follows the human rights as stated by the international legislation. However, the American Convention for human rights issued in 1969 is similar to its European counterpart. It is confined to personal, legal, civil, political as well as possession rights. There is no American agreement similar to the social European Charter or to the international convention of economic, social, and cultural rights. Similar to the European case, the procedures within the American system are much more important than the standards.

Africa, Asia and the Middle East

The writer then moves to (OAU) approval of the African Charter for Human Rights in Nairobi in June, 1981. The draft was phrased in Banjul in Gambia. He indicated that the African charter comprises some creative standards. The most important of which are the collective rights or people's rights such as the right to enjoy peace and development and affirming the respectful status bestowed upon the individual by the charter.

Chapter Three
Human Rights in Islam

In the third chapter of the book, the author states that: "we are not here to compare the Islamic methodology used to run and protect human rights with man-made systems that philosophers have worked hard to formulate. Western systems have sought for more than 50 years to impose these systems claiming that they are the best solution. Certainly this is not the case. As Muslims, we believe that only Allah is perfect and the divine law is not comparable to anything else. We are not here to prove that Islam is the only methodology securing human rights.

These rights are actually secured within a divine view point that is considerate for every detail. It does not ignore anything. We are proposing here, however, details that we as Muslims should not ignore thanks to our belief in the perfection of divine wisdom.

The author goes on to explain that Islam decreed to reform the status of mankind after they have yielded to their own tendencies for long years making corruption the norm. Islam came to end the transgressions of man-made systems and allow humans to lead a safe and dignified life.

The Five Bases for Human Rights in Islam

The author explains the five bases for human rights as defined by scholars in details:
- The right to maintain life (blood right), the right to maintain money (possession), the right to maintain offspring (women and family), the right to maintain mind and the right. He indicated that these five rights are mandatory for any human regardless of their age, wealth or authority. According to Islam, human soul is an indispensable aspect of human life. All souls are equal even those of non – Muslims. It is noteworthy that non-Muslims living under Muslim rule enjoy the same rights as Muslims as long as have not caused any sort of corruption. Moreover, Islam does not force followers of other creeds to convert.

The Noble Qur'an and Respect for Humanity:

The author has also highlighted the fact that the Noble Qur'an has persuaded the necessity for appreciating and respecting humanity in general. People accept the idea of free will because they are distinguished from the rest of creatures by their mentality.

Humans are also capable of affording the duties assigned to them by Allah. Thus, all their rights should be respected even before birth. That is to say, a man should choose a good mother for his children, and she should not be aborted unless there is a necessity. After birth, children should be given good names and be called by the names they like. They should be disciplined, educated and respected. They should not be punished physically or abused. Moreover all children should be treated fairly and not to favour one over the other.

The First Human Right Treatise

The book presented the first human rights treatise issued in Islam. It was issued by the first Muslim Caliph, Abu Bakr A- Sadiq to regulate the ways the military treated the residents of the newly conquered land. These were actually commands to secure the protection of an individual's rights at all times particularly during war and crises.

The Second Human Rights Treatise

As the Islamic nation grew bigger, social problems varied and became more complicated. Thus, judiciary has to be improved in a way that guarantees justice with everyone.

The Third Treatise

If this treatise has laid the bases for stability and social harmony that is based on social peace in Al Medina newly Muslim society, then Ali bin Abi Talib's promise to Malik Al- Ashtar is considered a great development in terms of the tasks of a Muslim ruler.
Chapter Four
The Saudi Perspective on Human Rights

The author in this chapter started talking about human rights generally. He stated that: “let us first agree that Saudi Arabia does not consider human rights in isolation from its political system which is based on the Islamic law. Human rights is an aspect of life that is regulated by the Islamic law in every single detail.

He added: “this issue is therefore is as ancient as the Islamic law itself. It is not a privilege added by the Kingdom, it is actually one of the blessings granted by Allah to all creatures.

Human Rights in the Saudi Political Discourse

Human rights are part and parcel of the political and media discourse in Saudi Arabia. One of the late King Abdulaziz bin Abdul Rahman Al – Saud famous quotes: “Muslims cannot advance by exaggeration, but their belief in the onness of Allah and avoid getting astray and following the Quranic and Prophet’s teachings is their way to advance”.

In another speech for this late founding King after conquering Hijaz, he addressed the people saying: “we owe you rights and you have duties towards us. We are to guide, respect your lives, honour and money. Meanwhile, your duty towards us are to advise us. Whoever sees an evil deed should advise us and the reference we should all resort to is the Noble Qur’an and Prophet’s teachings”.

Islam and the Faith Freedom

The author discusses in this chapter the faith freedom; or the individual’s right to choose their religion as advocated by the West. He indicated that our Islamic faith is the best for everyone. Following this religion makes us the best nation on earth. Therefore, as Muslims we do not accept another alternative. Those converting from Islam should not be left to themselves because they are then sinful and are risking falling into Hell.

The Kingdom and Using Islamic Law

The author then discusses the rule of Islamic law in Saudi Arabia. He appreciated the insight of its wise leaders. He argues that Saudi leaders have stuck to the peaceful Islamic law and could use it in different aspects of life. This in turn led to aggravate the West against this country and its stability, safety and compassion. They have launched conspiracies to distort Islam and attack Saudi Arabia that sticks to this religion.

Chapter Five
The Saudi Judiciary

In its fifth chapter, the book has tackled the Saudi judiciary declaring that it is fair and independent. He has also stated that it respects human rights since it conforms to the Islamic law. Therefore, it has always been characterized by equality and objectivity. Islam has laid solid bases securing human and society’s rights.

The author also argues that human rights in Islam are protected by a fair judicial system that guarantees it will not be violated. It also secures that no abusive procedures will take place. These regulations are applied to citizens and residents without exception. Examples of these regulations are:

- "The Arrest Regulation": it comprises the bases for arresting, temporary detention and release. It also includes the right of the detained to complain and present his/her complaint at any given time.
- "The Regulation of Jail and Arrest": Several articles stated the rights of the detained. The seventh article stated: “it is illegal to arrest anybody or put them to jail without a written permission issued
by the concerned authority. The detained must not remain in jail after the period of detention ends.” Meanwhile, the 17th article has obliged the prison administration to secure Muslims the rights of performing their religious rituals and provide them with the necessary equipment for that. Moreover, it necessitated that every jail should have a preacher to guide the detained and help them perform their rituals.

- The General Security Regulation
This regulation reveals the keenness to protect the detained rights. It prohibited abusive practices while arresting people. It stated that whoever arrests a person without a reason should be sentenced to jail of the same period and to fix the harm he caused.

- Circulations by the Ministry of Interior Affairs
The circulations issued by the ministry of interior affairs decreed that due attention should be given to the cases of the detained. Their cases should be considered as quickly as possible and whoever causes delay or ignores the rules should be held accountable.

- The Regulation of Arrest and Temporary Detention
This regulation has given the detained the right to complain at any given time for being detained after the detention period is terminated. It has also decreed that a committee should be formed to consider the complaints of the detained who were supposed to be released.

- The Regulation of the BIP
The sixth article of the Regulation of the BIP and the first clause in particular reveals the Saudi keenness on the detained rights and their protection. It stated that the BIP is responsible monitoring and investigating prisons.

Chapter Six
Women’s Rights in Saudi Arabia

The sixth chapter of the book highlighted women’s rights. The author argues that women, who constitute half the society, have the rights considered as part of the human rights system as a whole. It is also considered as part of the Islamic law as they are granted by the Creator Himself. The author further adds: “Non – Muslims will not understand because they do not realize the essence of Islamic law. Therefore, their attack against the Islamic law is accountable. They claim that there are discriminating practices against women; but they are not aware that that Allah has created both men and women and He is aware of the nature of each. Thus, He maintained women’s rights in a way that suits their nature and avoid trespassing into men’s roles.

Chapter Seven
Saudi Arabia and the Protection of Honour and Possessions

The author discussed the Islamic limits (Hudood) and their application and their role in protecting honour and possession. He attributed the attack led against Saudi Arabia by some of the supposed Human Rights Organizations to the Saudi implementation of Islamic limits that are decreed by Allah to guarantee the safety and security of Muslim society against any threats.

Chapter Eight
Saudi Arabia and Protecting the Rights of Residents

The author in this chapter discusses the rights of residents on this holy land. None of the foreigners who visited this country or stayed there for a while can deny his sense of security and safety while staying here. They cannot also deny that they are treated as equal as Saudi citizens.

Such advantages have bestowed the Kingdom with a privileged status epitomized in its capacity to include different nationalities and securing their rights to co-exist peacefully and prevent their rights despite the challenges they might face owing to difference in languages, traditions and faith.

Chapter Nine
Saudi Arabia and the International Cooperation to Protect Human Rights

In this chapter, the author indicates the efforts exerted by Saudi Arabia to support the international attempts seeking the protection of human rights. It has expressed across different international events its appreciation for the mechanisms formed by the UN in this respect. The most important of these is the Geneva Committee. It has also supported the organizations concerned with human rights and the international documents they issued across 50 years.

The Saudi Membership in the Geneva Committee
The author has also discussed the Kingdom becoming a member in the Human Rights Commission. He referred to Prof. Robert Dernan’s acknowledgement, an emeritus pro- fessor of law at Georgetown University, of the Saudi role. He stated that the Saudi membership in Geneva Commission is an evidence of its commitment to international human rights standards and this is to refute the pretexts that others use to criticize human rights in the Kingdom.

Chapter Ten
Saudi Arabia and the Durban Review Conference

The author has concluded the tenth chapter by talking about the Saudi consistent attitudes towards the issue of discrimination and fighting them. Saudi Arabia has always supported international legitimacy and the UN treaties as they serve humanity rights. This was clear through the conferences seeking to lay an international creed to respect human rights and the specificity of man, place, faith tradition and folklore.

Furthermore, Saudi Arabia has emphasized during the Durban Review Conference held in South Africa, rejects terrorism and fanaticism. It encourages tolerance and cooperation. It stated during its speech in this conference, that was boycotted by both the US and Israel, and almost the EU has almost withdrawn, that the KSA thanks to its belief in the principles of international cooperation and its spiritual status for the Muslims across the world, is keen on contributing to the success of this historical event that our people has high hopes in.
The Islamic Law

The Saudi Regulations Maintained the Detainee’s Rights and Dignity

Justice is the basis of ruling. It is the main nucleus upon which wise ruling is built. Allah, the Almighty has blessed us in our homeland the bless of implementing his law. We were also blessed with a bunch of successive great leaders who made the Islamic law a constitution and reference for KSA.

The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz has always been keen on making laws and regulations that conform to the Islamic law and secure the rights of the accused and litigators. These rights work on terminating their lawsuits in a way that secures their rights and dignity. The last of these was the project concerning improving the judiciary.
**Ethical Compensation**

Prof. Mustapha Al-Bitar—Professor of Law at King Abdulaziz University, has affirmed that the teachings of the Islamic law has granted those who were ethically injured the right to litigate before BIP in case they were arrested illegally and ask for a compensation. However, evidence should be provided for the act. If the litigator proved right, then he has the right to file a complaint against the party causing him injury within 60 days of the event. He indicated that this organization has to prove that it was right, if not they are to compensate the injured.

Al-Bitar has added: “the detained can receive material compensation if proved not guilty of innocent and was fired from work”. He indicated that the instructions provided to the judiciary and executive institutions are fair towards all detainees who were arrested by mistake until they are proved innocent.

On the other hand, the solicitor Muhammad Al-Mo’nes argues that material compensation does not suffice if the detained proved innocent. The matter requires ethical compensation and his acquittal to be announced in newspapers. Yet, this last point depends on the case and the person’s preference for the type of compensation. He has also highlighted that: “the regulation has defined the crimes that require detention like state security and other major lawsuits that require detention during investigation. The detention in this case is because it is feared that evidence might be lost if the detained is relieved. In this case, detention is not considered a crime. He added that in some cases the detention period is determined as a period of 5 days. It can increase according to the case. In case the detained is proved innocent later, or the evidence is not enough, then he should be compensated materially; but if he was acquitted from the beginning he has no right to receive any compensation.

**The Perfection of the Judiciary System**

On his part, Sheikh Dr. Abdullah A-Sa’adan, an appeal judge, has said that: “the pleading regulations are the second pivotal shift in the judiciary procession during the reign of King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz. The judiciary has, by this time, achieved perfection after laying solid regulatory bases derived from the Islamic law. Thus the Kingdom kept up with the contemporary legislative developments.

**Decisive Justice**

Rules of legislative and administrative pleadings and criminal procedures are considered part of the comprehensive regulations. It is highly connected with the rights of both citizens and residents. Through this they can resort to the judiciary seeking fair trial and decisive justice. These rules have emphasized the principle of judicial independence, the right to litigation and the right to defense. They have also emphasized the necessity of considering the rights of the defendant in a perfect legal system securing both the citizen and the resident their full legal and human rights. They have also provided procedures that will improve the judiciary system and enhance the performance and the product quality and reducing the litigation period. Moreover, issuing new regulations have paved the way before those in charge of King Abdullah Project to improve the judiciary. Their issuing means the elimination of any obstacles and assigning the responsibility to trustworthy people.

Meanwhile, the solicitor Abdul Rahman Al-Garis the solicitor of detainees in security cases and the Saudi detainees abroad has demanded that the new regulations should be put into action. He said: “these regulations if effectuated will influence justice positively. It is obvious that its studying and formulation have consumed much effort. Their influence will not show unless they are practically implemented”.

**Vexatious Litigation**

Solicitor Suliman Al-Game’ay has indicated that there is a sort of lawsuits known as vexatious litigation. “The Saudi law comprises what is known as vexatious litigation. The sentence in this case may be material compensation or imprisoning this who caused the imprisonment of an innocent person”, he said. He further explains that what should be investigated here is the value of compensation. He indicated that some judges may decree a certain compensation while another might decree a lesser compensation in a similar case. The difference in value here may be due to the different provinces.

Al-Game’ay has suggested making a law defining the value of compensation and not leaving them to mere estimation. He added that compensation are always done according to one’s own mind.

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The innocent defendant should be acquitted in public and compensated materially.

Courts apply the Islamic law when considering law suits.
He indicated also that this status is passive and it makes it possible for several vexatious litigations to take place. He has also affirmed that material compensation does not retain the reputation of the defendant. The current instructions decree that no one should be put into jail unless there is a legal sentence against them. He argued that ideology should be altered in to cope with the current development and train those working in the field to cope with the developments taking place.

Meanwhile, Dr. Tala’at Al- Attar, the international arbitrary and a member in Amnesty International and the Arab Organization for Human Rights has affirmed as well that the defendant is innocent until proved guilty. This means that arrest should be ordered following a thorough thought. Moreover, arrest should be due to sound reasons. Also, the detention period should be used to reform the person and help them return to the society as a good citizen respectful of laws.

He has also highlighted that if an innocent person is detained, he has the right to ask for compensation for any harm inflicted upon him during detention. He also affirmed that regulations secure fair compensation for whoever is imprisoned by mistake. He has also indicated, that based on what is previously mentioned, there must be ethical and material compensation according to an integrated system determining the value of compensation according to each case.

Dr. A- Sa’adan: the pleading regulation is a pivotal shift in the improvement of judiciary

The HRC has been assiduously following up with the cases of the detainees. It was keen on offering them the best possible care. This done by means of paying unexpected visits to prisons and mutual cooperation with other concerned parties such as the general prisons’ administration, provinces’ administration and the national committee for caring for the detainees and their families.

The report issued by HRC lately concerning human rights status in Saudi Arabia, emphasizes the importance of implementing regulations derived from the basic ruling system such as criminal law, the pleading regulation, labour regulation, anti-human trafficking regulation and other human rights related regulations. Laws, regulations, procedures, and behavior of executives should be approximated with the values and principles of human rights.

The report refers as well to the improvement and reform procession led by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz in order to enhance and consolidate values of equality and justice among members of the society and guaranteeing human rights as secured by Islam.

The report has also reviewed the major achievements during his Majesty’s reign which has witnessed pivotal reformative leaps and royal decrees and instructions that aim at securing stability for this country and blessing both citizens and residents with a dignified life. The most significant of these decrees was the improvement of the judiciary system and its procedures.

The HRC has submitted the report to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz, based on the 10th close of the 5th article of the HRC regulation. It affirmed that his Majesty and his government give due care to and support human rights.
The legal consultant and solicitor Fahd A-Sulymany has affirmed the necessity of sticking to the required instructions and orientations in the cases that do not threaten the safety of the country and society. No one is to be imprisoned unless proved guilty. He indicated that in case he is not proven guilty, he is to be released and pay a bail. Moreover, he should not be arrested for more than few hours. He has also indicated that in criminal cases the arrest should not be more than a week. He should be tried within this period. He also highlighted that putting a person in jail with the criminals may cause them a great harm.

He added that royal decrees were issued by his Royal Highness, late Prince Nayef before his death to establish “alternative prison” for those accused in general cases. The prisoner should, meanwhile, be assigned to serve the community during his period of detention. He has also highlighted that material compensation cannot replace the ethical and spiritual harm inflicted upon the defendant. There should be appropriate ethical compensation. He has also advocated forming committees studying the prisoners’ status effectively and form special courts inside the prisons in order to accelerate the trial of the detainees instead of taking them to courts in chains. If the detained is imprisoned while being innocent and then released, he becomes an outcast to an extent that no one would accept to employ them.

This support is a reflection of the basic ruling system and the comprehensive improvement plan.

A Visit to Najran Prison

A team from HRC has made an earlier visit to Najran prison owing to the video published on YouTube and other social media which reveals the poor quality of the food offered to the prisoners. Dr. Hady Al-Yammy, a member in HRC, has clarified that HRC has communicated with the general prison administration, Najran province, and Najran prison to investigate how far the video published on YouTube is real. The video screens a dinner meal offered to the prisoners comprising unhealthy cooked chicken heads.

Dr. Al-Yammy has indicated that efforts were coordinated to know the procedures carried out in order to verify the video. He highlighted that the concerned parties have immediately stared investigating the issue.

He affirmed that HRC does its best to secure the rights of prisoners within Saudi Arabia and following up with what is going on inside the prisons through the unexpected visits where they meet the prisoners and listen to their complaints and demands or through the complaints sent through media or the prisoners’ families. He stressed the necessity of starting to build the model Najran prison that was finally approved.

Cooperation with the Mercy Committee

The HRC branch at the eastern province has agreed recently with the national committee to care for prisoners, released prisoners and their families to formulate a cooperation treatise between the HRC branch and the committee.

This was agreed upon during a meeting held between Abdullah A-Suhail, a HRC member and the general supervisor of the HRC branch in the Eastern Province and the executive manager of the Committee Dr. Khaled A-Sabty. The HRC was informed of the committee efforts and its ambitious plan to care for the prisoners and their families. The HRC branch has valued the efforts exerted in this respect and studied the methods of cooperation with committee concerning the humane aspects.

Alternative Prison

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What is Human Rights?

Human rights are the inherent rights of all people, regardless of their nationalities, place of residence, gender, race, color, religion, language, or any other distinction. We have all the right to human rights on equal footings and without discrimination. All such rights are interrelated, interdependent and indivisible.
Universal human rights are often expressed and guaranteed by the law in the form of conventions, the customary international law, general principles, as well as the other international legal sources. The international human rights law established obligations on governments to work on certain ways or refrain from working in certain ways to promote and protect human rights and the other basic freedoms of individuals and groups.

**Universal and Inalienable**

The principle of the universality of human rights is considered the milestone of the international human rights law. Since its first issuance in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948, this principle has been expressed repeatedly in several international human rights conventions, declarations and resolutions. It was highlighted in the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna 1993, for instance, that it is the duty of all states to promote and protect all human rights and basic freedoms, regardless of their political, economic or cultural regimes.

Every country has ratified at least one of the basic conventions on human rights whereas 80% of the countries have ratified four or more, which reflects the countries’ approval in a way that establishes legal obligations on them and a specified discrimination on the universality of the rights.

Some basic human rights norms enjoy universal protection via the customary international law across all borders and civilizations. Human rights are inalienable, and should not be revoked except in specific conditions and in accordance with the applicable procedures. For instance, the right to freedom may be restricted if a criminal court discerned that a person is convicted of committing a crime.

**Interdependence and Indivisibility**

All human rights are indivisible; such as the right to life and equality before the law and the right to freedom of expression, as well as the economic, social and cultural rights; such as the right to work, social solidarity, and education. Moreover, there are social rights, such as the right to development and self-determination, are indivisible, interrelated and interdependent. Enhancing one of the rights facilitates the promotion of other rights. Similarly, the deprivation of one of the rights negatively affects the other rights.

**Equal and Non-discriminatory Rights**

Non-discrimination is a comprehensive principle in the international human rights law. The principle exists in all the main human rights conventions, and provides the main topic for some international human rights convention, such as; the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

This principle applies to everyone in relation to human rights and freedoms. It is prohibited to discriminate on the basis of a non-exclusive list of categories, such as; gender, race, color, and so on. The principle of non-discrimination is completed by that of equality in accordance to what is stated in the in the first article of the universal declaration of human rights: “All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights.”

**The Entire Set of Rights and Obligations**

Human rights encapsulates both the rights and obligations. According to the international law, countries are obliged to respect, protect and fulfill human rights. The obligation to respect that the countries should not interfere in the enjoyment human rights or the reduction of such enjoyment. The obligation to protect human rights requires from the countries to protect the individuals and groups against human rights violation. The obligation to fulfill human rights means that the countries should undertake positive procedures to facilitate the enjoyment of human rights. Whereas we have the right to enjoy our human rights, we should also respect the human rights of others, on the individual level.
Dr. Maha Al-Muneef spent years of her life working, advocating against and introducing domestic violence through organized programs and campaigns. She succeeded and excelled within this frame. She received plenty of awards in this respect, the most recent of which is the discretionary award, which President Barak Obama handed to her in person during his last visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. This award is to honor the efforts she exerted during the past years in the field of the Rights of the Child and Family as well as the social development.

After receiving the “US Secretary of State’s International Women of Courage Award for Advocating Human Rights, Equality and Social Progress”

Dr. Maha Al-Muneef Opens her Heart to “Rights”
The award is entitled “US Secretary of State’s International Women of Courage Award for Advocating Human Rights, Equality and Social Progress”. It is presented by the US Secretary of State. Dr. Al Muneef asserted that this award means a lot to her, being presented by the highest authority in the strongest country of the world. This award has come to a woman working in the governmental sector, proving that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has empowered women in the field of human rights. She works in the governmental sector, which has contributed to establishing several systems including the one against domestic violence.

Dr. Al Muneef has received many awards in this field, such as; the Women Leadership Award, granted to the women pioneers in the public sector for her countless offerings in defending children and their protection against harm and domestic violence. She never stops demanding the establishment of an observatory for the statistics on domestic violence, as well as conducting research in the Saudi universities to study its causes and correct the misconceptions related to it. In this interview, we will dive into the heart and soul of this female Saudi gem to get to know her and her offering for children.

Dr. Al Muneef has a Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery from King Saud University and from the American Board in the fields of Pediatrics, the equivalent of infection and epidemiology, as well as Child Abuse. She is a member at the American Academy of Pediatrics.

She has held several positions, the most recent of which is the executive director of the national family safety program. She is a member of the Arab Network for the Protection of Children against Abuse, a member in the committee of domestic violence victims in King Abdulaziz Medical city, and a part-time adviser for the Shura Council.

Dr. Al Muneef has received many awards such as; the Women Leadership Award, granted to the women pioneers in the public sector. Her offerings are various and known. Some of her contributions tackle the issue of defending and protecting children against domestic violence and child abuse while others pertain to the demand to establish an observatory for the statistics of domestic violence, and a place for research in one of the Saudi Universities to study its causes and the correction of its misconceptions.

* Dr. Maha Al Muneef, the executive director of the family safety program, in the reign of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz, women have achieved great care and attention. Perhaps receiving the International Women of Courage award is the fruit of this attention. Talk to us about this. What is the nature of the award you received?

In relation to the award I received, I would like to assure that I do not represent myself by receiving this award; I rather represent an entire governmental body working against domestic violence. I also represent the Saudi women in general. Therefore, this recognition is for all Saudi women and is a clue that they could work hard with perseverance to reach universality through their work within the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Moreover, this award could erase the stereotype of the vulnerable Saudi woman who does not participate in decision making and in the programs of social development. It also proves that the Saudi woman has reached a high standard of education, and that she is able to work in a highly professional manner to change society to the better.

* You are the only Saudi woman who represented the region of the Middle East, and the only Arab woman among nine others awarded this title, who are they?
The nominees for the Women of Courage award come from different Arab countries, but I am the only one chosen on the Arab and local levels. The women chosen for this award are pioneers in different fields worldwide. Each of them has contributed by courage through her style in her specific field; whether medicine, human rights, law, or even art, to deliver a social message and contribute to the process of development without allowing obstacles to keep them or discourage their hopes and contributions in their societies.

- This is not your first award as you have been awarded several others in this field, such as the Women Leadership Award granted to the pioneer women in the public sector. When did you receive this award and what was the occasion?

Indeed, I received the Women Leadership Award in the public sector in 2010. This award is given to the pioneer women in the public sector, as I was honored in a ceremony aiming at promoting the role of women in decision-making positions and civil society institutes, as well as encouraging and supporting business pioneers.

- We live in a country whose constitution is the Islamic law, which guarantees and protects the rights of the family. Do you see that the Saudi woman has received all her rights within the limits allowed by the Islamic law?

The Islamic law has guaranteed the rights of women. The image taken by the world for the Saudi woman as not participating in the decision making process, and that she is unable to affect and change her society is a wrong stereotype formed by the society’s culture, custom, tradition and wrong practices that are not related to Islamic law. For instance, talking about violence against women, the reasons for this violence are similar all around the world. However, its causes in Saudi Arabia, I think, go back to the culture of the society that justifies violence through the idea of disciplinary violence and the culture of property.

Therefore, I must assert that we should not associate religion with such cultures because our religion does not encourage violence. On the contrary, Islam bans any type of violence, which obliges us to change such cultures in addition to changing the concepts of domestic violence through spreading awareness among the individuals of the society to know their rights and duties.

From a social and legal perspective, reporting the cases of domestic violence does not mean interfering in the internal affairs of the family but rather a national duty. Whereas some countries give the public the freedom to report domestic violence or not according to their culture, we, in KSA, oblige the employees in the field of the family in the health, educational or legal sectors to report all the cases of violence. However, when we talk about women in employment, one of the main requirements of some places, according to the culture of the society, is the guardian’s approval for employing a woman although women are capable of taking such a decision legally and lawfully, as well as signing contracts without seeking the approval of their guardians.

- Talk to us about the role of the Saudi woman in the development of the society and her recent accomplishments beside contributing to the decision making process. Where does the Saudi woman in particular and the Arab woman in general stand in comparison with her international counterpart?

Women in our society, as in other societies, play a vital role not only in the education and the development of children, but also in the comprehensive development of the society. Thus, supporting and enabling mothers and women in general and attending to their social, economic and legal affairs, as well as granting her the rights stated by the Islamic law is necessary to guarantee the comprehensive and sustainable development of this nation. Women constitute half of the society who brings up and educates the other half. Marginalizing the role of women in the development in any country is one of the main obstacles of development. Therefore, the wise leadership has enabled women in different fields to make their professional options and fields of innovation wider and more comprehensive. The percentage of political representation of women in Saudi Arabia is high in

I wish to become an example for my children and a role model for young men and women in this nation

This award erases the negative image taken about the Saudi women and highlights their positive role in the development program
comparison to the other Arab countries since women were able to represent 30% of the total number of the members of the Shura council. Moreover, from a health perspective, child and women’s reproductive health accomplished great universal success by enhancing the indicators.

In the field of education, Saudi Arabia has supported the education of women for more than 50 years. Free education and the bonuses offered for students in higher education have contributed to this success, in addition to applying the foreign scholarships project, which supported university and continuous education for women. This contributes to providing ambitious talents able to develop and change the society for the better.

As the Director of the National Program for Family Safety, which works in the first place on the protection of family members against violence, and as the director of the Arab Network to protect children against abuse, would you talk to us about these programs, their activities and accomplishments in the field?

The national family protection program is a specialized program established upon the royal decree issued in 18/11/2005 as a program to combat domestic violence through awareness, guidance, the promotion of partnerships, solidarity on both the official and public levels, as well as finding meaningful resolutions and programs to alleviate suffering and care for those affected.

The program includes sections for social services, awareness, training, development, scientific research, operation and projects, media services, as well as the hotline for children aid.

The programs and activities of the national family safety program covered every part of Saudi Arabia. They target different categories of the society’s individuals and institutions, especially those involved in the problem of domestic violence regardless of their roles, as well as the institutes directly related to this issue. These programs are keen on promoting the principle of prevention and increasing holistic awareness on the issue of family safety among all social levels. Among the most prominent community-based programs is to hotline for children aid launched officially through a regional conference sponsored by her Royal Highness Princess Adela bint Abdul- la, the director of the national family safety program and the head of the supervisory board of the hotline of children aid. The conference has taken three days last December, with a big number of specialists as participants. It was attended by over 1000 participants in addition to the Gulf and Arab delegations. Moreover, it was accompanied by three other conferences that targeted the public in Riyadh, Jeddah and Al Khobar to receive positive feedback in all such places. This is in addition to the role played by the program and its contribution to the issuance of the System of Protection against Abuse by the council of ministers in August 2013, which is considered a real quantum leap in the field of protection against violence and abuse in Saudi Arabia. The system is comprehensive, supportive and proponent for all the efforts exerted by the related authorities in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia since it provides the necessary social, psychological and health assistance, treatment and care. It also stresses on raising awareness among the members of society on abuse and its consequences. Although the system concentrates on the protection procedures after the occurrence of violence, it also does not overlook the procedures of prevention against violence before its actual occurrence through raising awareness and spreading the culture of family safety, which is sought after by the program’s strategy. In general, the program and its contributions in the field of protection against abuse stresses the high awareness of the wise leadership headed by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz, and its attention to the society’s issues, social safety, and the stability of its members. This also proves the Saudi keenness on answering the repeated calls of the specialists and the society in general to establish a system that punishes all forms of domestic violence, including child abuse as well as violence against women and seniors, which the program participates in its study and establishment. Moreover, this represents the commitment of Saudi Arabia to the international standards and requirements in the field of human rights stated in several conventions ratified by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Among such conventions are; the Convention on the Rights of the Child as well as the Optional Protocol of the Convention on the Rights of the Child related to trafficking in children, child prostitution, and the exploitation of children in pornographic material. Moreover, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, as well as the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities also state on the necessity of the existence of internal systems, which criminalize all acts of violence and abuse.

We hope that “Rights” gets some exclusive lines on the human side, wishes and memories that shape the life of Dr. Maha Al Muneef.

I am a Saudi woman, who got educated in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. I graduated at the faculty of medicine with the accurate specialization of infectious diseases. My path to success as a specialized physician was clear through my ambition and perseverance. However, this was not enough for me, as I preferred pioneering to success via taking a somehow unpaved untrodden road in Saudi Arabia since it poses the sensitive issue of domestic violence.

Entering this field, which has only a small number of specialists at this time, I did not think it would attract governmental and non-governmental bodies, organizations, and other individuals who were interested in the issue and dedicated their whole attention to it.

In my opinion, this is a declaration that successful human rights law is not necessary dependent on individual activists in this field, but it might also be achieved via governmental institutions. In addition, I have always believed that, like other pioneer women in their fields, breaking out of the stereotype image of a woman as a housewife or an employee in limited jobs is the reason behind describing women accomplishments as distinguished and brave. This gives them a taste different from the accomplishments of men, who are not less than women in ambition, deeds and bravery.

Our religion does not encourage violence, but rather it bans all its forms.
The legal proceeding systems, issued upon the recent approval of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz Al-Sa’ud, are reinforcements for the guarantees of human rights in Saudi Arabia. This protects rights, works on speedy dispositions of cases, and establishes the principle of qualitative specializations of courts in a way that guarantees judicial independence. From the perspective of legislation, these systems have completed the rights of women in both Procedures and proceedings to guarantee their dignity and privacy.

The new legal proceeding systems have created great positive effect on lawyers, human rights activists, and intellectuals. Moreover, they were commended by the HRC and the council of ministers, which consider them a very significant accomplishment to develop the judicial sector.
The HRC

Dr. Bandar Al Aiban, the director general of the Saudi HRC, thanked the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques for adopting the legal proceedings system. Moreover, he valued the issuance of the Royal decrees for the projects of legal proceeding, criminal procedures, as well as the proceedings before the Office of the Ombudsman, which come as part of the project of King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz to develop the judicial sector and establish specialized courts. Such a program would have a great impact on the social and human rights life as well as the independence of the judiciary.

Dr. Hady Al-Yammy, the member of the HRC’s Council, stated that “the issuance of the royal approval for the projects of legal proceeding, criminal procedures, as well as the proceedings before the Board of Grievance is a development for the judicial sector that accelerates the litigation process.”

Dr. Al-Yammy also explained that decision of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz to develop the judicial sector strengthens the guarantees of human rights compatible with this development. This development stemmed from the Saudi adherence to the Islamic law that establishes justice, equality and tolerance among people. He noted that the decision includes protecting the women rights to trial and advocacy, as well as accelerating the procedures for quick rulings in the lawsuits of marital disputes, custody, alimony and visitation. Moreover, it authorizes the court to habeas corpus by force in the case of the respondent’s tardiness to appear before court, as well as finds a shorter route to avoid procrastination in granting rights and compensating victims.

A Lawyer for the Non-Affluent

He stated that the law had advanced in applying the standards of fair trial to give those non-affluent the right to ask the court to assign a counsel for their defense at the expense of the state. He also noted that the system had blocked malicious claims in accordance with mechanisms determined by the judge considering the case.

Al-Yammy added: “we expect that the Magistrate Offices would contribute to the elimination of the lawsuits coming to courts in relation to human rights and personal status. This would reduce the burden on the judiciary with the purpose to mend fences.”

He also noted that the system had blocked malicious claims in accordance with mechanisms determined by the judge considering the case.

He stated that the new judicial system considers the lawsuits against non-Saudi Muslims. Moreover,
the labor courts consider issues related to labor contracts, wages, employment rights, and compensations for work-related injuries. He also noted that the specification of commercial, labor and other justice.

**Settling Complaints**
Mr. Ibrahim Al – Nahiany, deputy of the general supervisor of the HRC branch in Mecca, has expressed his satisfaction and pleasure thanks to the King’s supreme instructions legal proceedings, criminal procedures and pleadings before the Board of Grievance. He said that “the issuing of the three regulations consolidates the principle of justice upon which the State stands. It has also identified methods of filing lawsuits, defined its procedures thoroughly and highlighted the multiple levels of lawsuits that are used to consider cases during appeal sessions in the presence of the adversaries, unlike how it was previously”.

He indicated as well that the issuing of these three regulations is a continuity of the path followed by this country, since its establishment, to consolidate truth, justice, securing rights and empowering whoever was treated unjustly when asking for their rights before independent judiciary that is supposed to secure the person justice.

**Legal Experts**
Several legal and human rights experts argue that these decrees have enhanced the independence of the legislative, judicial and executive authorities. It has also secured these authorities against any pressure exerted on them. They considered it a pivotal shift for the judicial system in Saudi Arabia. The Saudi legislator is now able to make laws meanwhile maintain the essence of the Islamic law and cope with international legal procedures.

According to Dr. Mansour bin Salih Al- Khanizan, the solicitor, “the royal decrees that were issued concerning the legal pleadings, criminal procedures and pleadings before the Board of Grievance, represents a pivotal shift in the Saudi judicial system. They have perfected the Saudi judicial system guaranteeing the justice and liberty of judicial procedures, investigation and execution for both the Saudi citizens and residents alike”.

He added: “we are proud of these radical modifications that were decreed. This reveals the insight and craftsmanship of the Saudi legislator who was able to make this law while maintaining the Islamic legislation and coping with the international judicial procedures in phases of investigation, filing lawsuits and execution. These modifications have also enhanced the independence of the legislative, judicial and executive authorities and secured the dignity, liberty and rights of the defendant.

**Women’s Rights**
Dr. Al- Khanizan has continued: “the legislator has assured the essence of Islamic law that maintains women’s rights through these decrees that have protected women’s rights in this country. Women previously used to suffer during phases of investigation, filing lawsuits and execution. Thanks to these decrees, women’s rights were perfected in terms of legislation, whether in proceedings or pleadings. They have secured women their dignity and privacy. They have also relieved women from man’s dominance who used to take advantage of their circumstances and helplessness.”

Dr. Al- Khanizan has also indicated that the Saudi legislator has maintained the fundamentals of Islamic law while making use of the development of judicial procedures that are currently coping with those in developed countries. Furthermore, he demanded both the judicial and executive authorities to realize and interpret these legislations as required. Investigation parties should be aware of the defendant’s rights and grant him/her the right to call on their lawyer during the investigations sessions, since they are essential aspects upon which the defendants’ rights are based.

**Getting Trained to Use these Regulations**
Prof. Al- Khouly, professor of international law at the Faculty of Law, at King Abdulaziz University in Jeddah argues that these decrees develop the current regulations. “They remedied several vulnerabilities in previous regulations that were already implemented”, he said.

Prof. Al- Khouly has indicated that these regulations have taken into consideration several humane aspects. He has also emphasized the importance of implementation. He has also highlighted that this regulations will not be complete unless the officials assigned to implement them are well trained. Such regulations remain mere texts unless they are implemented in reality through individuals who are well aware of their essence and the reason behind developing them which is achieving what the rulers have aspired.

“These judicial standards cope with most of the internationally implemented legal standards. It illustrated the objection proceed-
ings before the Supreme Court and the Administrative Supreme Court. They have also taken into consideration the women's right to pleadings and filing lawsuits, even in the defendant's country and bring along her legging adversary by force. Moreover, they secured women the right to have lawyers appointed by the State for those who cannot afford them. They have also secured flexibility and shorter duration for lawsuits; he added.

**A Privilege for Women**

The Secretary – General of the National Association for Human Rights, Dr. Khaled Al – Fakhery, has affirmed that women were privileged within these regulations. She gained a new advantage which is pleading before the judiciary. Several procedures were facilitated such as filing a lawsuit in her country of residence and having the lawsuits she files considered by the judiciary soon. He indicated that the Saudi regulations have held women high estimation for women in order to maintain rights. He also added that these regulations did not discriminate between women and men.

Al – Fakhery has also said that the regulations of legal pleadings and criminal procedures that were decreed by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques cope with the individuals' needs and protect their rights and thus making justice prevail. He has highlighted that these regulations secured additions, developments and modifications that is for the public welfare. It will allow the individuals to have their rights and realize their duties easily and smoothly.

**Humane Perspectives**

Meanwhile, several female intellectuals and human rights activists have expressed their gratitude for the King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz Al – Saud's decree…

They have said that "the King has realized what women suffer. Therefore, he made laws and legislations that help women resolve their private and public cases within courts."

Omyyma Al-Khamis, the Saudi author, has reassured that the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques has always attempted to provide the Saudi women with all their rights and privileges. "The most significant of these decrees was this concerned with providing non-affluent women with lawyers to defend them in court," she said. "The most significant of these decrees was this concerned with providing non-affluent women with lawyers to defend them in court," she added. She has also indicated that "most women lack legal experience that will be crystal clear within these royal decrees."

Al Khamis has also expressed her thanks to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques for the decrees he has issued which all are for legal experience that will be crystal clear within these royal decrees". Following the issuing of these royal decrees concerning the pleading regulations, I became sure that women will receive their rights in courts, she added.

The Secretary General of the National Association for Human Rights, has also stated that these decrees will protect the poor from the greed of some lawyers who exaggerate their fees since the royal decree has stated that lawyers should be afforded by the government. Dr. Al-Abadin has also indicated that these royal decrees will make a great difference in women suffrage. She highlighted that only women are liable to violence and depriving her from marriage and appointing a lawyer by the government will help her resolve her lawsuits. She demanded as well litigation in family courts should be enhanced as it will be a great benefit to women.

**Accelerating Litigation**

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**A Positive Step**

The Saudi author Haleema Al Muthr’ has expressed her appreciation for these decrees as well explaining that they constitute a step forward for women.

She said: "in the past there were several obstacles hindering the resolution of women's lawsuits in courts. Examples are women's attempt to end a marriage for particular reasons or the husband blackmailing women for divorce or custody leading women at the end to go to the court. These new decrees will enhance litigation and settling on a resolution. "The decree concerning appointing a lawyer for the non-affluent to be afforded by the government secures women's dignity and protects them from abuse. It is a radical change in the Saudi judiciary. The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques has always been keen on achieving justice for both men and women alike. These decrees will be beneficial for women," she added.

**A Pivotal Shift for both Men & Women**

On her part, the lawyer Ferial Keng, has highlighted that these royal decrees concerning the pleading systems will cause a radical change and will help women as they will accelerate their legal and judicial proceedings within courts. Keng has also added that "Saudi women have been going to courts long time ago. They have always encountered obstacles owing to fear and timidity. The royal decree concerning appointing a lawyer for the non-affluent who will be paid for by the government will be of great help to widows, divorced and elderly women. It will enable them to ask for the rights legally and accelerate the resolution of their cases".

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Harassment is Extraneous Phenomenon to Our Society Requiring Integration of Official and Civil Efforts

Harassment is a crime that injures a person’s both honour and body. Harassment has different forms and can happen either individually or collectively. There are degrees as well for such a hideous crime. The fourth and fifth degrees for example imply suggestions, while the third one implies words. As for the second degree, it implies both act and words. The first degree implies a material act that can be proved after confronting the harasser with evidence and witnesses. Statistics indicate that the greater percentage of victims exposed to this crime constitute women and children.
To face any problem, practical thinking implies that we should investigate the problem, its reasons, consequences and seriousness. Then we should look for solutions that suit the society and its tradition in order to be effective and not mere tranquilizers leading to intensifying the phenomenon secretly then explode suddenly. Improper thinking and misinterpretation of any phenomenon would always lead to mistreatment. What if the phenomenon is as serious as harassment?! Certainly, all the solutions proposed on wrong bases will not be good enough.

In order to reduce the spreading of such a phenomenon, HRC has committed itself to fighting this crime and considered it one of its major priorities since it is directly linked to its work which is violating human rights and threatening its safety. The HRC different organizations has committed itself to advocating awareness for different social sectors against the seriousness of this crime and making potential victims aware of how to protect themselves against people with perverted behaviour.

Moreover, the HRC organizations do their best to launch programs enlightening people about the harassment laws and penalties, the consequences of such a crime and its impact on the society in general. These activities are part of the HRC efforts to advocate human rights awareness.

According to official statistics that appear every now and then, the raping cases registered in courts were 111 during the past year. The rape cases considered in courts across different parts of the Kingdom throughout this year are 65.

In order to face this spreading phenomenon among youth, the social affairs committee in the Shura Council has made an initial proposal for an anti – harassment law. This proposed law aims at imposing penalties against anyone behaving towards others in a way that is sexually suggestive within a legislative framework. This act on the committee’s part affirms that this law aims at protecting human dignity, privacy and personal freedom as provided by the Islamic law. It also aims at eradicating different forms of harassment, punishing harassers and protecting its victims.

Among the eradication procedures and penalties used to fight this phenomenon, the minister of justice and president of the Supreme Judiciary Council, Muhammad bin Abdul Karim Al – Eissa has issued a judicial circulation to all Islamic courts concerning raping children cases. According to this circulation, sentences in raping cases should vary according to the crime, the criminal, the victim and the circumstances during which the crime took place. The minister has guided the courts to give due attention to and prioritize these cases when considered in courts in a way that maintains social safety.

The circulation has stressed the fact that all the concerned parties to perform its duties to arrest criminals, carry out investigations with them and preserve criminal evidence to present them to court as soon as possible. The circulation issued by the minister of justice is based on the comprehensive study submitted by the HRC to the Supreme Court concerning this issue.

Harassers usually target women and children. Therefore, the new law has committed governmental and non – governmental organizations to take the necessary procedures for protection. This is to be done through focusing on the risks that this behaviour ensues and its impact on society and individual, providing a safe environment at workplace, schools, malls and other public places. This is in addition to making laws to receive reports and complaints within the organization.

Unfortunately, harassment has become an increasing phenomenon and is spreading through YouTube channels. It reflects a negative image of social behaviour. Perhaps the wide circulation of the video that screens a group of young males harassing some girls in a shopping mall in day time, has contributed to highlighting the issue of harassment to the public opinion.

Yet, the scene did not seem like the act initiating the phenomenon, but it has just raised argument about it. However, this argument did not lead up till now to proper main therapeutic program that limits this phenomenon or crime. According to several specialists, it is obvious that harassment is a nuisance to a lot of people, especially when we hear of harassment incidents at workplace, home, schools and on street.

Such behaviour is regarded as extraneous to the Saudi society and its Islamic identity. Those interested in this issue, including Prof. Sultan bin Fayhan, Aba – El Ela, a university professor of civilian and contractory regulations at King Abdulaziz University, has announced in a recent media statement that implementing the anti – harassment law will limit this phenomenon that has become wide spread in the society in a hideous way.

He adds that it aims at protecting human dignity, privacy and freedom. He has also indicated that it is everyone’s duty of governmental and non – governmental organizations to follow instructions and implement procedures that to prohibit this phenomenon. They should use preventive and not wait for therapeutic procedures as long as women are involved in the working environment.
Proposing a tranquil therapy that is behaviour oriented and the legal protection system is the right attitude. However, it does not mean that the rate of such crimes decreased. This solution tries to resolve the issue and issue penalties according to the Islamic law. Yet, more important this phenomenon confronts the society with three important and serious aspects. This society lacks the least abilities needed for ratification. Several organizations are responsible for the systematic psychological orientation of the discourse of values, respect, and the sacredness of people’s dignity.

Any behavioural error or actual pervert ideas suggested by those who account for these young people is not at all an excuse for such hideous acts. Similarly, are the pretexts such as inappropriate outfit or gesture on the girls’ part.

On his part, Dr. Khaled A-Raqqas, associate professor of psychology at King Saud’s University, argues that harassment is a hidden phenomenon. He states that some of those who are exposed to sexual violation are afraid to report. Inevitably, any statistics in this respect are not accurate. He stressed the fact that sexual harassment should not necessarily be accompanied by violence. Children tend to trust others and rely on them. They follow the instructions they are given since it will make them gain others’ affection and appreciation.

He added: “there are several sexual harassment symptoms that we should pay attention to. Although these symptoms are not necessarily the result of sexual assault, they might be caused by one or more elements that are might be caused by a sexual assault or another problem. These symptoms can be classified into psychological, behavioural and physical, material ones”

This announcement was simultaneous with the educational program about children sexual harassment which is launched by the National Media Centre by the beginning of the current second semester. Dr. A-Raqqas was hosted on twitter at saudimoh@ as part of the ministry of health efforts. He replied to queries concerning the symptoms that appear on children who were sexually harassed and were according psychologically, behaviourally and physically affected. He would respond also to other relative queries.

Experts and specialists in sociology and psychological behaviour and religious scholars argue that we should dismiss narrow minded perspectives to broader ones to realize the reasons behind this phenomenon. There are several reasons actually, yet they are boiled to the following:

• Going astray from religion: inappropriate outfit will naturally arouse young people’s desires especially when it is accompanied by loud voice and inappropriate gestures in the presence of impious individuals.
• Sexual harassment scenes that clearly indicates a moral crisis. Corrupt and misleading media perverts what is right into wrong, moral into amoral and vice versa.
• The unemployment suffered by a lot of young people and the spoilt life that some of them lead. They would spend their time at lingering at cafes and harassing girls.
• Marriage Obstacles: the immense number of conditions and requirements provided by the bride’s family make young men avoid getting married as it consumes all what they have gained from their work or long years.

Islamic Principles are the Solution to Harassment

Our religious teaching affirms that sexual harassment is a sin. Moreover, Islam has forbidden whatever would lead to harassment. As a matter of fact Islam has a realist and comprehensive view of this issue. Such a view is based on divine knowledge that is very well aware of human nature and its changes since Adam was first created until the day the world ends. That is why the Noble Qur’an forbade looking at wom-
an that a person is eligible to marry in directly stated verses no matter she is veiled or not or even naked. This divine decree is inclusive of every time and place.

Moreover, Allah the Almighty has ordered women to wear the Islamic outfit the moment she begins to menstruate. Scholars have agreed that a woman’s body should be wholly covered except for the face and the hands. Yet, there is an ongoing controversy about whether both hands and face should be covered out of grace or is it a must.

Since it is something agreed upon by scholars, it should not then be disobeyed. Actually, agreement is regarded as a source of legislation. In case a woman thinks of disobeying these divine orders, a male custodian like her father, husband or brother should stop her even by force. He would be sinful to let her go out without the Islamic outfit.

If Allah the Almighty has ordered to cover the pudenda and lowering gaze, Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and his companions had advocated facilitating marriage, something which has become a must nowadays. Otherwise, the whole society is to be held responsible for this hideous crime by turning off youth both men and women from what Allah has granted them rightfully and leading them to the sinful path. Each family reviews its own affairs to realize that its members are suffering owing to this unaccountable intransigence.

Upbringing, Media and Manners

It has become inevitable that educational organizations should retrieve their role in bringing up generations as they used to do in the past. They have graduated generations of well mannered people even though they were not bright from the educational aspect. Moreover, those in charge of educational institutions should be relieved from the limitations they are burdened with in order to be able to play their role fully.

Meanwhile, they should be qualified to perform this role. Also, we are in a dire need for a new type of media, one that appreciates religious teachings and does not mock them, respects social traditions, and morals and advocates adhering to them. We need constructive not destructive media. Media is a main constituent of cultures and in our Arab societies it is the most significant and sometimes the sole constituent of this culture.

Different members of the society, its educational and religious organizations, civil society, media, and the State executive, legislative and judicial institutions should all cooperate to face this hideous crime. Otherwise, it would continue to increase day after another and eventually we will find ourselves facing a true catastrophe.

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A Permanant and Unchangeable Commitment

A study prepared by Dr. Yehia bin Muhammad Hassan Zamzamy, a professor at Umm – Al Qura University, has revealed how the Noble Qur’an has taken care of human rights and advocated their maintenance. He tried through the study to refute the falsehoods propagated about Islam when it comes to human rights. He clarified the strong link between morals and human rights as stated by the Noble Qur’an. He has also highlighted the benefits of applying this moral system concerning respecting human rights and implementing them in real life.

Dr. Zamzamy states that the Noble Qur’an has paid due attention to the moral aspect of life. It is connected to other religious aspects such as faith, worship, dealing with people, family, social and international relationships etc... In addition, it is deeply connected to the purposes of Shari’a (Islamic law) in general and the five necessities in particular.

He argues that this moral system has several characteristics. Among these are: divinity, inclusiveness, moderation, consistency, simplicity, and realism. Accordingly, world and after world retribution were formulated.

He further highlights that the Noble Qur’an has lent the human rights issue a complete legitimacy. It dignified man and granted him legitimate rights. Moreover, Islam has secured humanity protection against violation and abuse in a way that has never existed except in the Noble Qur’an.

He reassured the strong bond between morality and human rights in the Noble Qur’an in terms of concept, features, and privileges; despite the fact the most influential factor in morality is one’s nature and obligation in terms of rights.

The study has revealed the great impact of the Qur’anic moral system in respecting and maintaining human rights. According to the Noble Qur’an there is a class of obligatory morals that achieve the same goal as human rights. Furthermore, it regulates people’s behaviour and modifies it. It also maintains the coherence of Muslim society. Its impact extends even to international relationships.

Maintaining the Five Necessities

According to the study, the consolidation of morality in the Noble Qur’an is due to its connection the purposes of Islamic law and maintenance of the five necessities agreed upon in different religions. These are “faith, soul, mind, offspring and money”.

All creeds have decreed good manners despite difference in application as stated in the Noble Qur’an: “To each of you We prescribed a law and a method” (5:48).

The verses on this issue has praised good manners and forbade other reprehensible habits: “Say, «My Lord has only forbidden immoralities - what is apparent of them and what is concealed - and sin, and oppression without right, and that you associate with Allah that for which He has not sent down authority,
and that you say about Allah that which you do not know." (7: 33)

Forbidding indecencies, sins and injustice has maintained these necessities and morals as well.

This is confirmed also through the fact that all creeds were keen on maintaining faith. All divine creeds have advocated monotheism and prohibited polytheism: “And We certainly sent into every nation a messenger, [saying], «Worship Allah and avoid Taghut.» (16:36)

Monotheism is based on particular types of morality such as sincere worship, justice, charity and piety. It is also connected with forbidding indecencies and vice: “Indeed, Allah orders justice and good conduct and giving to relatives and forbids immorality and bad conduct and oppression. He admonishes you that perhaps you will be reminded.”(16:90)

Human Rights in the Noble Qur'an

Dr. Zamzamy assures that the Noble Qur'an is replete with human rights. Moreover, they were fully explained by the teachings of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). These concepts are summarized as follows:

**First: dignifying humans:**

Human rights, as stated in the Noble Qur'an are based on dignifying humans by Allah the Almighty. Dignifying here refers to the privileges that Allah has granted human beings. Some scholars have discussed features of this dignifying based on the holy verse "And We have certainly honored the children of Adam and carried them on the land and sea and provided for them of the good things and preferred them over much of what We have created, with [definite] preference." (17:70)

In his interpretation of this verse, Al – Tabary has explained dignifying means that humans are overpowered other creatures, while other creatures are there to serve them. Meanwhile, Ibn Katheer interprets it as follows: “Allah the Almighty has honoured humans by creating them in the best forms giving them sight, hearing and a heart that privilege them over other creatures, and make them able to distinguish items and realize their benefits, harms, and features in worldly and afterlife matters.

On mediating the verses mentioned in this respect, we can conclude that the features of dignifying include:

- Allah has privileged man by creating him with hands, gave him soul, created him in the best form and made the angels kneel for him: “[So mention] when your Lord said to the angels, «Indeed, I am going to create a human being from clay. So when I have proportioned him and breathed into him of My [created] soul, then fall down to him in prostration.» (38:71-72)
- Allah has given humans mind, speech, and the ability to distinguish: “The Most Merciful. Taught the Qur'an, Taught the Qur'an, [And] taught him eloquence.” (55:1-4)
- Allah has subjected the heaven and earth to man: “And He has subjected to you whatever is in the heavens and whatever is on the earth - all from Him.” (45:13)
- Allah has protected him: “There is no soul but that it has over it a protector.” (86:4)

**Second: Consolidating Human Rights in the Noble Qur'an:**

The study has affirmed the legislative scriptures mentioned in the Noble Qur'an included several principles regulating humans' relations with each other. These principles included:

- Parents’ rights
- Kinship’s rights
- The rights of poor and wayfarers
- Children’s rights
- The right to live
- The orphan’s rights
- Keeping promises
- Conducting fair measurement

These rights as stated in the Qur'an connotes obligations:

- Allah has given humans the responsibility and leave him to make the choice: “Indeed, we offered the Trust to the heavens and the earth and the mountains, and they declined to bear it and feared it; but man [undertook to] bear it. Indeed, he was unjust and ignorant.” (33:72)
- Prophets were sent for humans’ salvation: “Just as We have sent among you a messenger from yourselves reciting to you Our verses and purifying you and teaching you the Book and wisdom and teaching you that which you did not know.” (2:151) – “We have already sent Our messengers with clear evidences and sent down with them the Scripture and the balance that the people may maintain [their affairs] in justice.” (57:25)

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The commentary mentioned at the end of some verses. One of the collective verses in the Noble Qur’an that consolidates human rights is the “Rights” verse in chapter 4: “Worship Allah and associate nothing with Him, and to parents do good, and to relatives, orphans, the needy, the near neighbor, the neighbor farther away, the companion at your side, the traveler, and those whom your right hands possess.” (4:36)

The legislative decree implies an order to maintain the orders of several classes of people (parents, relatives, orphans, needy, neighbours travelers and slaves). It is an obvious regulation of rights between a person and the aforementioned classes. In addition, there are similar verses in the Noble Qur’an that consolidates and contextualize human rights.

The Impact of Applying the Noble Qur’an System in Repecting Human Rights

The study reveals that similarity between morality and human rights in the Noble Qur’an is highly influential within the practical aspect.

The effects of following the moral system as decreed by the Qur’an in respecting human rights can be boiled down to:

- The necessary morals imply fulfilling obligations towards others fully. The moral system in the Noble Qur’an makes moral practices part of our real life: part of religious practice lead to retribution whether in the form of penalty or reward.

“Rights in the Noble Qur’an are linked to the purpose of Islamic law and maintaining the five necessities”

- Desired morals in general support and enhance respect for rights. The obligatory morals impose the minimum of these morals that one should follow. It is desired to do as much as possible for the Muslim to enjoy this. For example one right granted in Islam is that of the needy. The minimum we can do for them is to pay “zakat”. Yet, the Qur’an has persuaded us to be kind to them in general. Thus, “kindness” opens several other door of goodness before the Muslim that are infinite. The more you are kind, the more your reward is, and the more consolidated the right become.

- Following the moral system as decreed in the Noble Qur’an regulates a person’s behaviour as it guides him/her to respect and do not violate others’ rights. Eventually, behavioural discipline becomes an integral part of us.

“Obligatory morals imply fulfilling rights totally and it is the greatest respect for human rights.”

- Following this moral system stabilizes the person’s psyche and guides them towards goodness and kindness. It guides them towards good manners that provide him with a good life where his rights are fully secured.

- Morals in the Noble Qur’an elevate man above human deficiency that can be caused by indifference towards others’ rights. The Qur’anic morals compensates this deficiency and cures this weakness. Thus, the Muslim becomes a respectful person who cares for others.

- Following the Qur’anic moral system secures coherence and stability within the society. It connects its different aspects, whether culturally, socially or morally. This coherence creates real respect for different rights. It protects society against selfishness and perverted inclinations that are mostly the causes behind violating rights and freedoms.

- The impact of applying the moral values as decreed in the Noble Qur’an extends to a greater field which international public relations. There are common public rights between world nation, that should be respected and taken into consideration by every country according to both tradition and nature. Examples of these rights are justice, equality, freedom, maintaining security, advocating virtue, fighting ignorance and vice and finally creating dialogue to illustrate rights. None of these rights can be observed or respected unless they were based on a moral and legal system that
Commitment to this unique moral system inevitably ensues respect for human rights and other religious obligations.

consider its performance a virtue and a right as stated in the Noble Qur’an.

• Respecting international rights leaves the Muslim consistent in the time of war despite religious differences. This is highlighted through the verses revealing warriors’ rights:
  • Leave the unbiased unharmed: “So if they remove themselves from you and do not fight you and offer you peace, then Allah has not made for you a cause [for fighting] against them.” (4:90)
  Those who surrendered must not be killed, looted or captivated because their surrender forbids so.
  • Observing the rights of signing parties with treaties as long as they kept their word and have not breached the treaties: “… except for those with whom you made a treaty at al-Masjid al-Haram? So as long as they are upright toward you, be upright toward them. Indeed, Allah loves the righteous [who fear Him].” (9:7). They cannot be killed as long as this is their state.
  • Rights of women, children and elderly people should be observed as well. They should not be killed or threat-
  • Thanks to the connection between morals and human rights and their connection together with different aspects of life such as faith, worship, filial and social relationships etc... and in terms of its link to the purposes of Islamic law and maintaining the five necessities, the application of this moral system within these perspectives achieves a large part of the goal because of which the rights were originally imposed. Respecting human rights is one of the most significant consequences of the Qur’anic moral system.
  • The Noble Qur’an has persuaded Muslims to follow practical individual manners which lead to respecting others’ rights and forbids their violation such as chastity and lowering gaze: “Tell the believing men to reduce [some] of their vision and guard their private parts. That is purer for them. Indeed, Allah is Acquainted with what they do.” (24:30). Following this behaviour obliges the Muslim to respect others’ rights and do not violate them. Likewise is modesty when observed by Muslim. It makes him observe several social rights such as parents’ rights, being kind to the needy, and others’ rights to express themselves etc…
  • The social and filial manners that the Noble Qur’an has persuaded us to follow are one reason behind respecting human rights. Among the appreciated filial manners are love and affection: “And of His signs is that He created for you from yourselves mates that you may find tranquillity in them; and He placed between you affection and mercy. Indeed in that are signs for a people who give thought.” (30:21).
WHAT ARE THE SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF CORONA VIRUS INFECTION?

- Cough
- Fever
- Congestion in the nose and throat
- Shortness of breath
- Diarrhea

**CORONA VIRUS**

Middle East Respiratory Syndrome- Corona Virus (MERS-COV)

According to the Recommendations of the specialized scientists who attended the International Medical Meeting in Riyadh

**HOW CORONA VIRUS DOES TRANSMIT BETWEEN PEOPLE?**

MERS-CoV transmits its like other Corona virus and Flu, which transmits through:

1. Direct contact with infected patients.
2. Droplets during the patients coughing or sneezing.
3. Contact with patients tools then touching the nose, mouth or eyes directly.
4. Possibly Transmitted by infected Camels.
WHAT ARE THE POSSIBLE PROTECTION MEASURES FOR CORONA VIRUS?

1. Wash your hands well and continually with water and soap, or other hand disinfectants, especially after coughing, sneezing, using toilets, before handling/preparing food, and after contact with patients or their personal tools.

2. Avoid contact with patients and their personal tools, and use face-masks only if you’re sick or visiting sick patients.

3. Use a tissue when coughing or sneezing, then get rid of it in a waste basket. After that, wash your hands carefully. If there is no tissue, it is preferred to cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve or elbow, not your hands.

4. Avoid touching your eyes and/or nose as much as possible.

5. Maintain good hygiene habits in general.

6. Wash vegetables and fruits thoroughly before eating them.

7. Maintain other healthy habits such as balanced diet, physical activity, as well as getting enough sleep; this will strengthen immunity.

Do you have any inquiry...?
How to Convince People with Your Ideas?

From Irresistible Influence
Written by: (Sa’ad Al- Hamoudy – Sa’eed Al- Malki)

How to convince people with what they reject?

The question sounds incomplete unless we added another question about guaranteeing people’s compliance to what you will say. Thus, persuasion becomes one of the foci of your message. If you managed to draw people’s attention to you, then you have guaranteed your ability to convince them with what you want.

Several psychological researchers who are interested in the question of persuasion argue that there are seven major drives generating our compliance. Research and observations have proved that those who master persuasion can use these drives well in order to persuade others into the desired responses. These drives are:

Comparison

A lot of issues in our lives are controlled by clear cut standards. There are also several others that are left non-standardized; but can be measured relatively.

When we want to buy something or judge its quality or seek the legitimacy of some request we usually look for a standard according to which we can make our judgments. Since standards are not always determined and are relative as it is previously mentioned, we usually resort to comparison with another product, or opinion. Sometimes we rely on experience. All these efforts are to find a standard on which our decision should be based. For example, real estate agents are offering a house in bad state for sale. The client complains about it. They, then, would offer him another house in a better state. This way the client has made the first house a standard for measurement and compared the other house to it. They would then offer a third house better than the previous two. Although the third house is not perfect and still has some shortcomings, it might
impress the client compared to the other two houses and he might consider buying or renting it.

Children actually master this technique. When they are allowed to choose a gift, they would resort to manipulation and ask for a “beyond expectation” gift. If their request is not answered, they ask for the actual gift which they did not ask for at the beginning hoping to get it without negotiations. The price comparisons that the parent might have carried out in the previous example would induce him to accept the second alternative immediately.

**Reciprocation - “Being Grateful”**

Reciprocation means responding to others’ positive behaviours the same way. Often we feel that we have to respond to others’ behaviours. We feel that we have to respond in a similar way out of courtesy. This is noted on feasts and occasions particularly when exchanging gifts or greeting messages.

Reciprocation is highly influential. In a study conducted on reactions and responses, two persons were selected to sell a product to their colleagues at work. One of them was friendly and very nice to his colleagues while persuading them to buy the product. On the other hand, the other one was aggressive and mistreated his colleagues. One day, the aggressive guy bought his colleagues drinks. Afterwards, he offered his product again. He noticed that his colleagues have bought from him although their feelings towards him are still the same. This behaviour on the colleagues’ part indicates the effectiveness of reciprocation.

Many companies specialized in publicity can increase its sales by offering free samples and gifts. Then, it can intensify its advertising campaigns so that people are encouraged to buy.

The impact of the people that we do not like or reject can increase if they used this drive effectively. They can offer us simple stuff that would make us feel how important it is to respond to and comply with them.

**Reciprocation Drive in Human Culture**

Reciprocation drive is considered one of the most frequent marketing tricks. For example, if one party distributed free samples, this will have a positive impact on the decisions of the benefiting. A worker at a dairy store could buy a huge amount of cheese in one day. He managed to do that by offering free samples. According to Bob Stone, a professor of marketing at North Western, it is normal to increase the response with 25% or more if you offered suitable gifts.

A lot of books were written about negotiations. They are all keen on making the reader believe in the principle of “starting by offering something” or reaching a compromise during a negotiation session in order to get what you want as if they were saying: “I have made a compromise and now it is your turn.”

**Loyalty**

Embedding loyalty is highly important. It was found that connecting people to a particular product, idea, association, slogan or an idea indirectly contributes to consolidating any of the previously mentioned items in people’s minds. Moreover, it attracts more people to this product, association or idea. When, for example, a particular association distributes badges to all members and those affiliated to it during meetings, it embeds and consolidates their sense of belonging. Furthermore, its influence extends to those around them as well. It would encourage other people to join. Moreover, it would make the members more dedicated.

**What is the Secret Beyond This?**

When the second group accepted to wear the badge, this is considered on commitment on their part to be loyal to the association and help it. When the idea of supporting and donating to the association was suggested to them, they felt it is their duty to do so owing to their commitment to the association. Research in this field has revealed three important aspects:

- Simple and initial agreement could lead to major agreement.
- Public commitment is stronger than individual or clandestine commitment.
• Written commitment is stronger than oral ones.

Authority
Authority imposes its respect upon us most of the time. The decisions made by people in office are usually accepted or at least convincing. Authority is not confined to supreme offices only. It can be acquired through uniform like the traffic officer who regulates car flow using his both hands to guide its movement. If he did his job in a civilian outfit, the response will be greatly reduced.

Rarity
It is innate to man to value and appreciate whatever is rare. His human nature could lead to either of two things. First, he would consider the material or spiritual value of this item or he would desire to have it.

By the late eighteenth century, the French connected leprosy to potatoes. They believed that potatoes caused this disease. In Germany Potatoes were fed to cattle. In Russia, meanwhile, the farmers used to think that potato is a poisonous plant. One day “Catherine the Great” the Russian Empress, wanted to eradicate this misconception. She ordered that potatoes field should be surrounded by high walls and warned the people against stealing the potatoes. This psychological trick made people believe that this crop is rare and consequently valuable. Otherwise, the Empress would not have warned them against stealing it. This lead to raising the value and popularity of potatoes. The farmers’ misconception about it was gone for good.

Merchants, politicians, jewelers use such techniques masterfully. This extended to encompass the field of publishing as well. When we learn that a book was censored or withdrawn from the market, we do our best to get although we would not exert the same effort if it was not censored.

An evidence of how influential this principal is, are auctions that sell paintings, celebrities’ possessions and antiques. It is funny to know that a cigarette lighter that once belonged to president John Kennedy and is worth no more than 400 $ was sold at one auction at 585,000 $.

Conforming to the Group
When we make our buying decisions we mostly follow the dominant tradition and the behaviour of the majority. This is common in most cultures. The psychologist “Solomon Ash” found through a research that he conducted about the influence of the majority’s opinion that 75% of the people follow the majority’s opinion when the face a problem.

This reminds us of the well known proverb “when in Rome, do like the Romans do”. This is a natural thing be-
cause man usually accepts things that he is familiar with. You might have experienced a similar situation yourself in a meeting or a poetry reading circle when everyone started to applaud and you just did the same although you might think it is not worth it.

Most of us remember the charity campaign launched by Saudi Arabia to raise donations for the Tsunami victims and other television campaigns to raise donations for Iraq, Pakistan, and Syria etc… Have you ever thought why was the advertisement broadcast that way? The mean reason is that those advertising are very well aware of the impact of the “group drive”. It will encourage more people to join. Mentioning the donors’ names and repeating them every now and then increases the percentage of donors. It also helps some of the people to get rid of their hesitation and feelings of insecurity persuading them to follow the others’ suit.

Cordiality “the Clandestine Bond”

When a cordial bond exists between us and another person, we mostly accept what he or she says. The American president “Jimmy Carter” had made use of this principle when he ran for presidential elections in 1975. He deliberately used to start his speeches by:

“I am Jimmy Carter. I came from a small town in the South. I am a pious farmer. I have spent my military service as a nuclear engineer in the US Navy. I used to be the governor of the State of Georgia”.

Why did Carter repeat this introduction at every speech?

Carter was trying to highlight what he has in common with the rest the American people (such as being a farmer, a family man, a soldier, piety) in order to gain their respect and love. If they loved him his voters’ rate will increase and eventually will win the elections.

We can conclude from this situation that this similarity with others generates love, friendliness and cordiality. Researchers such as “Richmond”, “Dal” and “Mikrewisky” argue that there are four important elements creating similarity:

• Attitude
• Values
• Culture
• Appearance

When a particular situation happens, one wonders: Does he think like me? Do we share the same values? Do we belong to similar cultures? Is the speaker similar to me? The most important of these two aspects are “value” and “attitude”.

The most reputable car merchant in the U.S.A for over 12 years, Joe Gerard, used to sell an average of 5 cars daily. His competitors could not sell more than one car daily. When “Joe” was asked about the secret, he answered that there were two reasons: reasonable price and clients’ love. He used to gain his clients’ affection by sending a greeting card monthly saying “I love and respect you”. He used to send to all his clients who were around 12,000. He believed that people are fragile before compliment. Moreover, compliments increase the cordiality between people.
Children’s Rights and Modern Upbringing

Dr. Shaimaa Hilal
Psychotherapy Consultant – A Specialist in Building Children’s Personality

We live in a time when most parents tend to spoil their children. They follow all their children’s desire under the pretext of modern upbringing. Meanwhile, some families still tend to be strict with their children to the extent of scolding the youngsters. The question here is: who possesses the best skills for upbringing? Which upbringing method we should follow with our children? Shall we follow our generation and be lenient with our children or shall we stick to the way we have been raised in our homes?
One mother tells the story of her two-year-old son. She says that she is now in the phase of making him do without diapers. She removed the diaper on the first day and told her son that we will start using toilet. Of course, he did not understand what she was saying. She waited for two days only. She is impatient by nature. Then she decided to change her way with him. Every time he pees on the floor, she slaps him on the face.

The boy always cried bitterly, but she did not pay heed since she believed that will help him get rid of the diaper sooner. Moreover, she brought a wooden pavilion that which her mother used to hit her with. She waited until the baby peed and hit him on his legs. He looked at her crying and said “I want Dad”. This woman must realize that although she lives in the 21st century, she has borrowed an out of date way of upbringing that does not cope with our time.

Many specialists in this field indicate that the traditional method of upbringing is an authoritative and very strict one. It aims at making children totally obedient. If they did not respond, different methods punishment become a must leading to physical chiding. Traditional upbringing boils down to making discipline associated with punishment. When we talk about a traditional mother in her way of upbringing we are referring to the kind of mother that totally dominates her children and persuades them to do what she wants even if unwillingly. This method of upbringing has several negative consequences.

When we over dominate our children, we are not teaching them difference between behaving properly or misbehaving. They do not learn to make their own decisions and be responsible. We teach them nothing but how to obey orders in order not to be physically punished. This was the case with the youngster who was beaten by his mother when he peed on the floor ignoring that it is natural for the child to make mistakes. Authoritative traditional upbringing leads to extremely obedient children that suffer from lack of confidence and appreciation from others. They lack emotional stability as well. They grow to be individuals who are not able to achieve a lot in their lives and would not develop any social or organizational skills enough to run their lives in the future.

In contrast with the traditional model, several observations in our surrounding reveal that modern upbringing is based mainly on being lenient with the child.

All what a child asks for is answered without any restraint. Several specialists in the field indicate that modern upbringing is void of imposing any limits upon children. Moreover, it has other disadvantages that are not confined to spoiling the child only their behaviour affects the whole household.

This is because of the quick life style we are experiencing nowadays. The parents are always busy. They seldom find time to follow up with their children. “In many families, the maids are responsible for upbringing children”. As a result, the parents seek different methods to distract their children. We leave our children for a long time before television. We award them by the destructive electronic devices that limit the child’s creativity and attention development to suit his chronological age. They also hinder them from getting involved with other people naturally.

Since modern upbringing depends mostly on being lenient, you can ask yourself the following questions to realize whether you are a lenient mother or not:

• Who is the leader at home?
• Do my children make most of the decisions?
• Do I give them what they need or more?
• Do I perform tasks on their behalf or they perform themselves?
• Do I provide them with harmful stuff because they just want these stuff?

It is worth mentioning that realizing whether you are a lenient mother or not represents the first step towards change, especially if she knew that the consequences of lenient are very serious. They imply a belief that that all your child’s demands should be fulfilled which risks his becoming an imperious perso in the future.

A Combination of Democracy and Firmness is the Solution

According to Specialists in the field of upbringing, the solution is to adopt a firm style convincing the children that we are the decision maker, provided that we act that way without any form of physical, verbal or psychological violence. We should also avoid forcing children into obedience. An example is when a domineering mother beats her child because he refused to do his homework, meanwhile a lenient mother would do the homework for him, a firm mother however, will inform her child about the consequences of his laziness and let him decide on his next step. A firm mother focuses on self disciplining for her her children.

She teaches them how to think reasonably and bear the consequence of their decisions since her aim is to consolidate the sense of independence and self reliance. Be moderate then… do not domineer children and raise a generation unable to lead their own life and do not over spoil them so they become selfish beings."

“ In several families, the maids are responsible for bringing up children’’
In a Report Submitted to the UN

Protecting Children Against Violence is an International Priority

The report submitted recently to the UN Security Council by the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Violence against Children, Ms. Marta Santos Pais, highlights the fact that millions of children across the world still suffer different forms of violence.

Santos Pais has stated as she submitted her report to the Council that “the danger of children being exposed to violence still exists everywhere— including places that should provide children with the greatest level of safety— that is schools, care houses and even within their homes.”

The report has also highlighted the major challenges encountered to stop violence at workplaces. There are a lot of children who are forced to work on ranches, fishing at deep seas or used in risky activities.

According to the report almost 15.5 millions of children work within domestic labour across the world which in turn poses a great threat.
Children who work within domestic labour are mostly introverts, since there is no official organization defending their rights. They are liable to exploitation since they are overworked and are deprived of breaks, vacations or payments. Moreover, they are exposed to the risks of violence and maltreatment.

The report indicates that in addition to the influence of violence upon victims and their families, it deviates resources from social expenditure. It slows the economic development. Moreover, it undermines the nation's social and humane capital. Domestic violence can, within hours, eliminate the developmental gains that have been achieved in years.

During the interactive discussion at the Security Council, Santos Pais has shed light on the results of the international survey published recently about the violence against children. It is the first comprehensive review of the progress within this issue since the survey conducted by the United Nation in 2006. This survey affirmed that the protection of children against violence is getting more recognition in international, regional and national programs. Additionally, the survey has highlighted the noticeable increase in signing and implementing conventions concerned with protecting children against violence.

Despite the positive developments, Santos Pais argues that progress is "slow, uneven, and terribly partitioned which does not allow real achievement".

Santos Pais stated that: "children’s dignity and their right to be protected against violence should be an international concern. Similarly, this dignity and right should be major national strategies."

Santos Pais has also emphasized the importance of fighting violence against children while formulating the post 2015 international development plan: "violence accidents is linked to the fragility of the rule of law, the increase of systematic crime, particularly murder and impunity.

In children's case this means a sense of depravation, immense ear, increasing the probability of poor health condition, poor educational performance, and relying on social aids for longer time.

As for the society, this means long term expenditure, deviating resources from social expenditure, slowing the economic development and undermining the nation's social and humane capital.

Therefore, protecting children against violence should be a top priority and consider it an important pillar in the post-15 international plan."

The annual report concerning violence against children, which was presented at the 25th round of the Council, includes the major developments and initiatives to accelerate the progress of protecting children against violence. It determines the efforts required to maintain the achievements made and develop them."
The Saudi Discourse …
Action and Methodology (3)

The discourse of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz reveals his concern for dialogue. On receiving the participants in the national dialogue sessions, his Majesty has affirmed that dialogue is the cornerstone of mutual understanding to achieve goals in a smooth and convincing manner. It also shows that the Kingdom’s role and policy encourages all aspects of dialogue in conferences and meetings.

Based on this ideology, King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue (KAICIID), was launched to encourage dialogue. The King’s discourse focuses on dialogue, its role and influence. It traces the influence of the dialogue and maintains its importance through several events including the “Religions Dialogue Conference” in Spain and the UN Culture and Religions Dialogue in New York. It encourages practical application so that it is not just a mere slogan to be used in media propaganda only. Thus, implementing King Abdullah’s vision and ideology on dialogue is a collective responsibility to reach positive outcomes as has long been desired by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques.

Achieving this goal requires a great deal of effort in conferences, interviews, meetings, house, university, work and different aspects of life. An example is the International Mecca Conference for Islamic Dialogue that was held two years ago. 500 scholars have participated in this conference. It tackled daily issues like security, coexistence, peace and cooperation between people. It aims at rectifying humanity, defending Islam and negating its connection with terrorism, injustice and human rights violation. Actually, a lot of western voices are trying to offend Islam by making use of the misunderstanding of religion. It is not a limited religion but it aims at serving humanity. The conference aims at projecting the real image of Islam, the creed of security, peace, reassurance and dialogue. It should always be remembered that dialogue has played an active role in spreading Islam. A lot of people have converted to Islam based on realistic and convincing dialogue.

The Muslims are in dire need for dialogue whether with themselves or others who misunderstands Islam. They lack someone to converse with them quietly and convincingly. Unfortunately, our Islamic media does not reach the international public opinion, despite the conferences and interviews that end once the event is over. A great deal of this falls in the archived documents.

Awakening:

“The strategy of the Saudi discourse in the political scene is to maintain a balanced language in objective propositions. This style is followed by all the Saudi kings since its establishments. Any royal speech addressed to the Arab world echoes across the world. It is supported by everyone. The Saudi discourse has always adopted resolving disputes in the Arab and Islamic world”.

Faleh Al- Sagheer
Journalist
Forcing Labour into work during Summer
It’s My Right to Take Care of My Health

Written by: Tamer Mussa

Yazeed usually spends his break time at school with his friends having fruitful discussions while eating their lunch. Their talk today was about the Middle East Respiratory syndrome corona virus.

Yazeed: Hello my friends.
Friends: Hello Yazeed! How are you doing?
Khaled: Yazeed, why are you wearing this mask?
Yazeed: to protect my health against the corona virus.
Bassam: Tell us more about this virus Yazeed.
Yazeed: There are different forms of virus, yet the new corona virus which causes the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome, is not well known to everyone.
Khaled: What are the symptoms of this virus?

Yazeed: Symptoms comprise fever and coughing. It may be accompanied by shortness or difficulty of breathing. Symptoms may get worse causing severe asthma.
Bassam: How is the infection carried on from one person to another?
Yazeed: Since it is a new virus, and is still studied by experts, scientists have not confirmed yet how it transferred from one person to another. It is probably transferred through direct mingling with those infected, or through drizzle that the patients produce during coughing or sneezing. It can be also transferred indirectly.
by touching surfaces and tools contaminated with the virus then touching the mouth, nose or eye.

Khaled: Is there any treatment for it?
Yazeed: Up till now no treatment or vaccine was found for this virus. Medical care is provided to the infected to lessen the severity of the symptoms and its complications.

Bassam: What are the means of protection from this disease?
Yazeed: There are several methods for protection Bassam. They are:

First: washing hands thoroughly and continuously with soap or disinfectants after coughing or sneezing.

Second: Using tissues when coughing or sneezing then dispose of them. Hands shall then be washed thoroughly. In case tissues are not available use the upper part of the arms; not the hands.

Third: Try as much as you can to avoid touching the eyes, nose or the mouth by hand. Both hands can transfer the infection after touching the contaminated surfaces.

Fourth: Avoid direct contact with the infected or using their personal tools.

Fifth: Wear masks in crowds like pilgrimage, or schools or malls.

Sixth: Maintain individual hygiene and keeping floors and surfaces clean.

Seventh: Being concerned with good nutrition and eating fresh fruits and vegetables. Avoiding junk food while keep practicing sports and having good sleep.

Khaled: Thank you Yazeed
Yazeed: You are welcome Khaled. May Allah protect us all against this virus.

Bassam: Tell me Yazeed, how did you know all this information?
Yazeed: The ministry of health has launched a site including all the necessary details about corona virus.

Khaled: And where did you buy this mask?
Yazeed: It is available at medical centres and drugstores. Actually I brought one for each of you.

Bassam: Thank you Yazeed.
Khaled: But a lot of our colleagues do not know anything about the corona virus.
Yazeed: That’s true! We have to help them and let them know about this virus and how to get protected from it.
Bassam: So, what shall we do now?
Yazeed: I have learnt that the ministry of health has launched an immense educational campaign targeting all the schools across the Kingdom. I guess we can participate in it.

Khaled: How can we do that?
Yazeed: We can volunteer within the campaign and distribute pamphlets to the students. We can also be role models for other students by wearing the masks.

Bassam: I totally agree to participate in the campaign.
Khaled: I agree too.
Yazeed: Then we have to talk to the school principal about this matter.

Then Yazeed accompanied his friend to the school principal’s office. They expressed their willingness to participate in the educational campaign about corona virus.

The School Principal: Thank you my dear for this cooperative spirit. I will coordinate the matter with the officials at the ministry of health. But let me ask a question whose idea was that?
Bassam: It’s Yazeed
Khaled: Yes it’s Yazeed. We always benefit from his knowledge and intellect.
Yazeed: Thank you my dear friends; but it is my right to take care of my health.
Try to draw this girl in the frame below
Do it Yourself

• Get an old plastic cup.

• Stick the non-used coloured buttons to the cup.

• This way you get a cup for the pens to decorate your desk with.

• Get some non-used CDs.

• Draw animal parts on colourful cardboards.

• Stick the parts together.
Pedestrians’ Rights on the Road

Systems and regulations have secured pedestrians rights that allow them to cross the street safely and easily. They protect them from the damage that can be inflicted by cars. They have also provided signs to guide them where to cross the street. Thus, car drivers are supposed to notice the areas allocated for pedestrians and should not be violated. However, they park their cars there in the presence of traffic officers. Inevitably, pedestrians would sneak between cars risking their lives.

Certainly, the drivers are very well aware of the purpose of the white lines drawn on the road. Yet, they ignore it because they are indifferent of the pedestrians’ lives and are confident that they will not be held responsible although they are violating traffic and accordingly are penalized. The traffic officers should have punished these violators. The “Saher” system has been beneficial in this respect as it protected the pedestrians’ lot at traffic lights. It penalized the cars that step on it while the pedestrians’ green light is on. It considers it a traffic violation.

The question is now, what about the traffic lights that are not protected by the “Saher” system? As it is previously mentioned, pedestrians rights that are secured by law and Shari’a are not at all respected. Were Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) has ordered us to respect the rights of pedestrians. We were ordered to remove harm from the road and not to gaze at pedestrians. This behaviour secures the rights of pedestrians in walking safely.

The same should apply to pedestrians’ areas that a lot of drivers use as parking lots. On the other hand, pedestrians themselves are violators as they risk their lives by walking through car area. More surprisingly are pedestrians who does not use the bridges assigned for crossing the road and just walk below them across the street in a shocking scene.

Making people aware of pedestrians’ rights and maintaining them is a great responsibility that should be undertaken with great care, particularly that our country has huge public transportation projects that are still under construction; including roads and streets expansion. Traffic departments should track these violations and penalize them. Moreover, media shall advocate this awareness and introduce pedestrians’ rights until it become an inherent behaviour which we practice convincingly.
Treat with people as you would like to be treated

Do As You Would Be Done By

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