

ISLAM AND NATIONALISM IN SAUDI ARABIA

42423 MES 323K

44643 RS 353

42292 ISL 372

40171 HIS 364G

Seminar, Fall 2009, Mon. Wed. Fri. 1-2pm, JES A217A

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Office hours: M W 10-11 am

The seminar examines the interrelations between State and religion in Saudi Arabia since the alliance between the House of Saud and the Wahhabi Islam. It follows those relations throughout the 20th century and focuses on the impact of domestic constraints, oil, regional developments and the 'special relations' with the United States, on the shaping of their present mode.

Required Reading

1. Madawi al-Rashid, A History of Saudi Arabia (Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2002).
2. Tim Niblock, Saudi Arabia, Power Legitimacy and Survival (The Contemporary Middle East Series, Routledge, London and New York, 2006).
3. Mai Yamani, Changed Identities: The Challenge of the New Generation in Saudi Arabia (Royal Institute of International Affairs, London, 2000).

(All available on Amazon)

Course Requirements and grading

1. Attendance of classes and participation in discussions.
2. Reading assignments as indicated on syllabus (1+2: 20%).
3. Mid-term Exam #1: 30 September (15%).
4. Mid-term Exam #2: 31 October (15%).
5. A 12-15 pages seminar paper (topics to be selected from a list that would be given on the first seminar meeting, 26 August), to be submitted on the last day of classes (December 4) (25%).
6. Final Exam (25%).

OUTLINE

August 26; Introduction. A short geographical and historical background.

August 28, August 30; Wahhabism, the house of Saud: The first Wahhabi-Saudi state

Reading

"Wahhbiya" in P. J. Bearman et al. (eds.), *Encyclopaedia of Islam*, (New Edition), Brill, Leiden, 2002, Vol. XI, pp. 39-47.

Madawi al-Rashid, *A History of Saudi Arabia*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2002, pp. 14-23.

September 2, September 4; The 19th Century: The rise and fall of the second Saudi-Wahhabi state.

Reading

Leslie McLoughlin, *Ibn Saud: Founder of a Kingdom*, MacMillan, Basingstoke, 1993, pp. 9-22.

September 7: Labor Day.

September 9; The Hijaz : A historical and political challenge.

Reading

Joshua Teitelbaum, *The Rise and the Fall of the Hashemite Kingdom Of Arabia*, Hurst, London, 2001, pp. 11-36.

Mai Yamani, *Cradle of Islam: The Hijaz and the Quest for Arabian Identity*, I.B. Tauris, London, 2004, pp. 1-19.

September 11, September 14; Abd al-Aziz Ibn Saud and the emergence of the third Saudi state.

Reading

McLoughlin, pp. 23-37, 40-60.

Haifa Alangari, *The Struggle for Power in Arabia*, Ithaca Press, Reading, 1998, pp. 3-41.

September 16, September 18; First clash between Islam and the state: The *Ikhwan*.

Reading

Rashid, pp. 49-71.

Joseph Kostiner "On Instruments and their Designers: The Ikhwan of Najd and the Emergence of the Saudi State" *Middle Eastern Studies* Vol. 23 (1987), pp. 298-323.

September 21, September 23; Oil, World War and the Beginning of US involvement.

Reading

McLoughlin, pp. 145-158.

David Holden & Richard Johns, *The House of Saud*, Pan Books, London and Sydney, 1981, pp. 123-140.

Aaron David Miller, *Search for Security: Saudi Arabian Oil and American Foreign Policy*, University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill, 1980, pp. 62-91, 122-148.

September 25; Ibn Saud's last years; The 1950s Saudi nationalism.

Reading

Rashid, 93-105

Holden-Johns, pp. 141-175.

September 28; Yom Kippur

September 30; Mid-Term exam #1

October 2; The impact of oil on Saudi society and economy.

Reading

Helen Leckner, *A House Built on Sand, A Political Economy of Saudi Arabia*, Ithaca Press, London, 1978, pp. 32-56.

Robert Lacey, *The Kingdom*, Fontana/Collins, London, 1982, pp. 276-298, 328-334.

October 5, October 7; The Second Generation: Saud Vs. Faisal.

Reading

Lacey, pp. 299-334

Sarah Yizraeli, *The Remaking of Saudi Arabia*, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, pp. 49-60, 75-82.

Rashid, pp. 106-114.

October 9, October 12; King Faisal, modernization and the religious establishment.

Reading

Leckner, pp. 64-71, 74-88.

Lacey, pp. 358-382.

Tim Niblock. *Saudi Arabia: Power, Legitimacy and Survival*, Routledge, London and New York, 2006, pp. 47-67.

October 14, October 16; King Faisal: between Islam, Arabism and World Affairs.

Reading

Nadav Safran, *Saudi Arabia: The Ceaseless Quest for Security*, The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press Cambridge, Mass. and London, 1985, pp. 117-150.

Holden-Johns, pp. 287-307.

Rashid, pp. 128-134.

October 19, October 21; The Arab-Israeli October 1973 war and the energy crunch.

Reading

Safran, pp. 151-179.

Holden-Johns, pp. 326-356.

Rashid, pp. 135-148.

Jeffrey Robinson, *Yamani, the Inside Story*, The Atlantic

Press, 1989, pp. 72-113.

October 23; King Khalid's reign: The emergence of radical Islam

Reading

Rashid, pp. 143-149.

William Ochsenwald, "Saudi Arabia and the Islamic Revival "

International Journal of Middle East Studies, Vol. 13 (1981), pp. 271-286.

Mordechai Abir, *Saudi Arabia in the Oil Era*, Croom Helm, London and Sydney, 1988, 25-31, 135-160.

October 26, October 28; Saudi Arabia in the 1980s: King Fahd, energy, development and opposition.

Reading

Rashid, pp. 149-162.

Rodney Wilson, *Economic Developments in Saudi Arabia*, Routledge Curzon, New York, 2004, pp. 39-55.

Niblock, pp. 77-85.

Abir, pp. 178-197.

October 31; Mid-Term exam #2

November 2; Saudi Arabia and world economy (the 'riyal politique'): image and reality.

Reading

Arthur N. young, *Saudi Arabia, The Making of a Financial Giant*, New York University Press, New York, 1983, pp. 111-122.

Peter W. Wilson & Douglas F. Graham, *Saudi Arabia, the Coming Storm*, M.E. Sharp, Armonk, NY, 1994, pp. 94-108, 171-187.

Niblock, pp. 68-75, 114-124.

November 4, November 6; Iraq invasion of Kuwait (the Gulf War) and after: The impact on Saudi Arabia.

Reading

Rashid, pp. 163-187.

Joshua Teitelbaum, *Holier than Tough: Saudi Arabia's Islamic Opposition*, Washington Institute for Near Eastern Policy, Washington, 2000, pp. 25-56

November 9; Saudi-Arabia "special relationship" with the US.

Reading

Niblock, pp. 143-163.

Safran, pp. 295-308.

Wilson & Graham, pp. 88-101.

November 11, November 13; Socio-economic issues: Education, employment and guest workers.

Reading

Wilson & Graham, pp. 254-262.

Mai Yamani, *Changed Identity, The Challenge of the New Generation in Saudi Arabia*, The Royal Institute of International Affairs, London, 2000, pp. 70-90.

Rodney Wilson, pp. 94-110.
Niblock, pp. 68-77.

November 16, The 1990s: Terror comes to Saudi Arabia.

Reading

Tietelbaum, Holier, pp. 73-94.
Rashid, pp. 176-187.

November 18; September 11 and its impact on Saudi Arabia: Relations with the US, terror and war on terror.

Reading

Niblock, pp. 163-170.
Daryl Champion, *The Paradoxical Kingdom: Saudi Arabia and the Momentum of Reforms*, Columbia University Press, New York, 2003, pp. 237-248.
Thomas Lippman, *Inside the Mirage: America's Fragile Relations with Saudi Arabia*, Westview Press, Boulder, 2004, 325-347.

November 20; September 11 and its impact on Saudi Arabia: intensified religious-liberal struggle.

Reading

Joshua Teitelbaum, "Terrorist Challenges to Saudi Arabian Internal Security", *Middle East Review of International Affairs*, Vol. 3 No. 3 September 1st, 2005, <http://MERIA.idc.ac.il>
"Educational Reforms in Saudi Arabia: We are Trying Hard to Change" Saudi-US Relations Information Service, June 2006
<http://www.saudi-us-relations.org/articles/2006/loi/060608-saudi-textbooks.html>

November 23; The change in women's role in Saudi Arabia.

Reading

Eleanor Abdella Doumato, "Education in Saudi Arabia: Gender Jobs and the Price of Religion" in Eleanor Abdella Doumato and Marsha Pripstein (eds.), *Women and Globalization in the Arab Middle East: Gender, Economy and Society*, Lynne Rienner Publishers, Boulder and London, 2003, pp. 239-256.
Mai Yamani, *Changed Identity*, pp. 91-114.
Joseph Nevo "Women in Saudi Arabia: the Next Hot Thing" 3 August 2005 <http://gulfc.haifa.ac.il> (publications/policy papers)
Wilson & Graham, pp. 239-250.

November 25; Saudi Nationalism in the beginning of the 21st century.

Reading

Rashid, pp. 188-217.
Joseph Nevo "Religion and National Identity in Saudi Arabia" *Middle Eastern Studies*, Vol. 34 No. 3 (July 1998), pp. 34-53.
Mai Yamani, *Changed Identities*, pp. 10-48.
Mai Yamani, *Cradle of Islam*, 163-176.

November 27, Thanksgiving

November 30, December 2; King Abdullah succeeds King Fahd.
Succession in Saudi Arabia: the Second Vs. the third generation.

Reading

Joseph Kechichian, *Succession in Saudi Arabia*, Palgrave, New York, 2001, pp. 71-90, 141-151.

Joseph Nevo, "The Saudi Royal Family: The Third Generation", *The Jerusalem Quarterly*, No. 31, Spring 1984, pp. 78-90.

December 4; Conclusion