



**HIS MAJESTY THE KING'S  
INTRODUCTORY WORD.**

Addarah has requested me to write a word about the martyr, my brother and King, Faisal bin Abdul-Aziz, may God's Grace cover him.

His Majesty King Faisal is in no need of identification. He was, may God bless him, a leader, a soldier and a shrewd politician, who led his country towards the climax of glory, and the summits of pride and prestige. The great deeds he has accomplished for his country and people adequately speak for him.

I wish the magazine all success, so that the Centre may realize its objectives, which His Majesty the Blessed King Faisal had planned; and the foundation of which had been laid by the man whose name the Centre — May God bless him!

I have full confidence in the sincerity of those who work in this magazine.

May God secure their success in achieving good work.

**KHALID BIN ABDUL-AZIZ AL SA'UD**

## OUR ROLE AFTER HIS DEPARTURE

by

**H.E. Sheikh Hassan Abdullah Al Sheikh**

I have not tried to write an elegy on our dear deceased King Faisal bin Abdul-Aziz, because the feelings of grief for his loss, and the agony of his parting are too great and grave to be expressed in words.

Whatever I might say to depict our disaster in his loss, or our shock caused by the deep voidness he left, my emotions are stronger and more intense.

The most sad cases are those that impose awful silence. May God bless him, forgive him, and may He extend to him his kindness among the martyrs.

But to all brother citizens, who by God's will have witnessed all the accomplishments which he had provided — to all of them I say that loyalty to Faisal should urge everybody to increase his efforts, strengthen his will, and do his best to shoulder his responsibility, whether on the individual, leading or public levels. Only by doing so, can we give Faisal his credit — I mean by working to realize more of his objectives and principles. It is God's trust in us to be loyal to the deceased and his successor, who wants everyone of us to be up to the standard of responsibility. By God's will, he will find that Faisal's people, who learnt from him to be loyal and sincere, will be more sincere and loyal still to his successor, and will make his mission more meaningful, with the purpose of fulfilling his objectives.





## **FAISAL: THE MARTYR**

by

**H.E. AHMED KHALID ABDUL-GABBAR**

I was choked with tears and the pangs of sadness and calamity. Oh, God ! When I wanted to fulfil my appointment with him, the late King had — as You God had decided and wished — met his fate. He went west ... to paradise.

Oh, God ! I have known him ... loved him .. and been sincere to him.

He was the symbol of love and sincerity. He was a strongwilled man, a wise administrator, strong, decisive, far-sighted, sensitive and an interesting speaker. His look was but an order. Perhaps he feared to explain lest he should hurt.

Faisal was King, man, teacher, guide, father, leader, politician, pioneer in good deeds, patient and daring.

He did not seek sovereignty or greatness, but both sought him. He is gone, passed and is now far away.

The memories of the near though distant yesterday are now gone for ever. Under the ashes, fire is burning alive.

In 1945, when I went with him to attend San Francisco Conference, he saw me working in my room, very late at night. He said that I was mad to work till such an hour, and added that he was angry for me, not with me.

When he saw that U.S.A. was unjust in supporting Israel, he asked the American Secretary for Foreign Affairs not to use pressure on other countries to vote with them for Israel. The Secretary promised him to do so, but President Truman laid heavy pressure on some countries, mostly of Latin America, to support the partition scheme of Palestine. When His Majesty reminded the Minister of his word of honour, his reply was that he was only a soldier. His Majesty decided not to visit U.S.A. as long as Mr. Truman was President.

But President Eisenhower proved with his attitude towards the tripartite aggression on Egypt in 1956 that the Jew votes were of no importance to an honest and serious President. The President had taken his attitude against Israel, England and France the same night of the election for presidency.

In 1957 the Martyr went to America for an operation. A crisis took place between America and Syria. Mr. Dullas showed him some translations of what Arabic papers wrote, attacking America, and wondered how he could improve American relations with the Arabs. His Majesty smiled saying, "If we had paid attention to what American papers wrote, we should have decided to cease dealing with America." Mr. Dullas laughed saying that he was completely right, and added that he was ready to meet, even to invite the Syrian Minister for Foreign Affairs. An invitation was sent, but the visit was not paid.

When the late King visited Egypt in 1952 and met the members of the Revolutionary Council, he said to them, "We are Farouk's friends, and the friends of all bosses of Arab countries. You have the right to decide your regime, and we shall support you. But we



are not going to give up helping Farouk, as a man, to relieve him, in his misfortune. I hope you understand our attitude.”

He sometimes was modest enough to jest with his men counselors. He was fond of hunting, history, literature, uoetry and music. He always recommended that our heritage should be recived.

Abroad, he always gave his care to everyone of his men to make sure that they all felt comfortable.

He never believed in guards and used to say that God was the guard of all. “When fate is due nothing can stop it.” But we were always concerned about his safety and health.

He was shaken deeply by the Palestinian crisis and the loss of Jerusalem.

He taught us the meaning of values and ideals, and that the desert was but a source of inspiration.

His love for his people, his country and family, was great. With his good deeds, he filled the hearts of his people and the desert with great appreciation for him.

Oh God ! Our Lord ! You have ordered .. given .. and taken. We beg you give him residence in your Paradise.

Oh God ! Our consolation lies in Khalid and Fahd, and in the sons of Abdul-Aziz and Faisal. They have carried the banner of the Call, and we shall follow.

To conclude, I pray God to ordain a bright future for us all.

## **AL-FAISAL IN SOCIAL LIFE**

by

**Chief Editor**

**Moh. Hussein Zeidan**

It is not easy for any person to write anything about the great deeds of the martyr King Faisal, for he abhorred praise. But I took this adventure because he was a hero whose people deserved to be acquainted with his heroism and greatness. That greatness gave his people confidence in his wise leadership and in the security of their nation. Through his firm attitude, planning and alertness, he protected his country from destructive ideas and alien thoughts.

His gentleness and tenderness never reduced his prestige for God had given him dignity that made his power.

We heard much about him, his deeds, character and feelings, when he came back with the result of the negotiations with the British authorities, to meet his father in Medina. His reverence, tender touch, discreet guidance and trust in his men are well known in Mecca and at Tayif.

I first met him at Kharj, speaking proudly about his great father. He said that since none of his people resemble him, he must have been unequalled elsewhere. His father was a legendary man.

From Faisal, we learnt how to listen and to be silent. His remarks were always gentle and modest, and revealed his great mastery of our language. He was a voluminous reader, and his sound criticisms point to the right path.

On my return from America, I met him in Rome when he was about to take command in the Yemen Warfare. He asked about our country, its people and their feelings. I said to him, "You are the

nope of all the nation", He always wanted to know everything before taking any decision.

Once, when some people of culture were his guests at dinner, he raised the question of democracy, its definition and its application. Most definitions were academic. At last I said, "Being here at your dinner, exchanging talks with you, is democracy. It is the tradition of Islam, its doctrines. It is the Arab traditions and manners. The Arabs have known it, practised it and followed it in their religion and conduct. We have learnt it and taught it to others, for it is inherent in us".

He never lent his ear to slander or evil talk. When he heard anything he investigated it, to find out the truth about it.

All this made me identify him with mo'awia, in regard of what Ibn Al-Khattab had described him, when he said that Mo'awia was able to smile at the time of anger .. and that nothing could be taken off his head unless he himself put it down.

His manners, politeness, tact and discretion were beyond description.

In his call for Islamic Solidarity he was quite tolerant. The Arabs are powerful with their faith, with their unity, with their hearts when they pray and say : "Allahu Akbar". He knew that and off his head unless he himself put it down.

He had a spiritual halo about him. How modest he was when he talked about his hopes embodied in his imagination ! So many people spoke of what they had seen in their dreams. Some of them saw the Prophet bringing good omens of victory to the King and asking him to be ready. We asked him about the preparations he had planned. The Canal crossing was the reply when he announced using oil as a weapon. He took the world by surprise with that weapon represented in the oil pouring out of his holy land. In my dream I saw him victorious. Others saw our Prophet with Abu Bakr and Omar welcome him and ask him to advance to the holy Shrine of Ibrahim. That was his place as the servant of the two Holy Harameen

A Word About the Great Deceased King Faisal May God Forgive Him, be Merciful on Him and Give Him Residence with the Righteous and Martyrs.

by

H.E. Abdul Rahman Al-Bassam

Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in Tunisia.

When the history of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is written, the late King Abdul Aziz and King Faisal, "May God bless Their Souls", undoubtedly constitute the history and the glory of this great country.

The former made its unity and ensured the lives and property of the Moslems all over the world.

The latter established its economy, glory and pride. This pride so hastened its pace towards progress and prosperity that it took its remarkable prestige among all nations of the world. He extended his assistance to the Arabs and Moslems wherever they were, and resisted unflinchingly all powers of injustice and aggression.

My first contact with late King Faisal, "May his soul rest in peace", was at the beginning of Al-Moharram, 1360 H., when I was appointed at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs after my graduation from the Faculty of Law. Through my job I contacted him daily, and that gave me the chance to know more about his great characteristics which are rarely felt in others. Last week the "Economist" wrote an article about him under this leading: "When an age is Shaken", saying that he, May God bless his soul", was a blend of piety, intelligence and natural composure. This is the least that can be said about him, for during my long acquaintance with him, I never remember a day when he hurt the feelings of anyone whatever his position might have been. He was an example of modesty, sympathy and patriotism.



The following are some examples of what I know of him:-

1) During the Second World War in Mecca in 1942, an arrested man came before the director of public security who was dreaded by all people, and the man kissed his feet. When Faisal heard of that, he was greatly troubled, and issued an order prohibiting kissing the hands, even of King Abdul-Aziz saying that man has his own dignity. This is how he valued man.

2) After the tripartite aggression on Egypt in 1956, when the Egyptian planes took refuge at Tayif, and at a time when Saudi Arabia had remitted all its available money to support Egypt, one of his guests said: "Your Highness, all our money has been remitted to Egypt, and the Riyal has lost its value. Our money is gone. Wasn't it enough for us to protect their planes?". His reply was: "My son, before oil, we had no cadilacs, refrigerators or palaces. We lived in mud houses and in tents. What prevents us from going back to that state, for the sake of our sister Egypt?".

Days went by, and in September 1966, when he was on a visit to Tunisia, I gave a private banquet in his honour. Nobody but Saudis attended it. Conversation began about politics and Abdel Naser's speeches in which he attacked King Faisal severely. When I reminded him of what I had said in 1956 saying that that was unfortunately the reward, he replied saying: "By God Abdul Rahman, we have never been sorry for what we gave our sister Egypt. Even if Egypt needed us again, we would never delay extending our assistance to her". Less than a year after the defeat of 1967, it was strange that it was King Faisal himself who suggested, carried out and fulfilled his promises to Egypt and other confrontation countries. Everybody has appreciated the attitude he has taken in 1973.

This is only a glimpse of his patriotism, Arabism and the present Islamic Solidarity of which he is the hero. This bears evidence of his religious passion, May his soul rest in peace, and give him the best reward for his great deeds for the welfare of the Moslems.



This is the great man I never believed an evil hand would touch. This is Faisal whom I doubted anyone would dare do him any harm; for every Moslem is ready to sacrifice his money and soul for him. This is Faisal who met his God, doing his best for his people, his Moslem brothers all over the world without any distinction. He met his God in the same manner as Omar Ibn Alkhattab did when he was praying, as Osman did while reading the Koran, as Ali Ibn Abu Talib did while performing his prayers. He gave up his soul while he was working for the Moslems all over the world.

To Paradise ! O great martyr with the righteous and martyrs, the best of all companions.

## 1 — KING FAISAL, MAN OF THE YEAR, \*

Review by

**Mostafa Mohammed Ali**

### **Introduction:**

Time, the Weekly American Magazine, has selected in its issue of January 6th, 1975, His Majesty Late King Faisal to be the Man of the Year for 1974. Accordingly, the above mentioned issue has included, among other topics, written and pictorial material about H.M. Late King Faisal and his efforts on the national, Arab, international and Islamic levels, in addition to the developments which have been achieved during his ruling. Following is a quick review of this material:

### **First: Cover Story — Faisal And Oil, Driving Toward A New World Order:**

In every car and tractor, in every tank and plane-oil. Behind almost every lighted glass tower, giant industrial plant or little workshop, computer and moon rocket and television signal-oil. Behind fertilizers, drugs, chemicals, synthetic textiles and thousands of other products — the same substance that until recently was taken for granted as a seemingly inexhaustible and obedient treasure. Few noted the considerable historic irony that the world's most advanced civilization depended for this treasure on countries generally considered weak, compliant and disunited. Now all that has changed, and the result has been a major economic and political dislocation throughout the world.

The change became dramatically apparent in 1974, a pivotal year that saw the decline of old powers, old alliances, old philosophies, and the rise of new ones.. There was a marked erosion in the wealth, might and cohesiveness of North America, Europe and Japan. Meanwhile, a handful of resource-rich nations gravely com-

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\* Time, January 6th, 1975, Time Inc. New York.

pounded the problems and challenged the vital interests of the rest of the world by skilfully wielding a most potent weapon: the power of oil.

United in history's most efficient cartel, these nations exploited modern civilization's dependence on oil. Their power came from the uniqueness of oil, an exhaustible and not quickly replaceable resource that has long been shamefully wasted.

Again and again, the cartel formed by the OPEC raised the price of oil until it reached unprecedented and numbing heights.

The beneficiaries of this were a desparate group of oil-possessing Africans, Asians, Latin, Americans and most favored of all, Arabs who provided two-thirds of the petroleum exports and have more than three-fifths of the proven petroleum reserves in the non-communist world. One bleak, sparsely populated country is by far the world's greatest seller and reservoir of oil, and one dour, ascetic and shrewd man is its undisputed ruler. Both in his powerful and as a symbol of the other newly powerful potentates of oil, Saudi Arabia's King Faisal is the Man of the year.

Last year Faisal's Saudi Arabia earned £ 28,9 billion by selling nearly one-fifth of all the oil consumed by noncommunist countries. The King channelled part of these funds into a massive development program that aims at building factories, refineries, harbors, hospitals and schools. Faisal spent also about £ 2 billion on modern weapons. He granted another sum. to the " Confrontation States" in the battle against Israel. Last year he was the primary States" in the bankroller of the Egyptians, Syrians, Jordonians and outside bankroller of the Egyptians, Syrians, Jordonians and the P.L.O. He also made £ 1.2 billion in multilateral loans and grants and pledged to give some £ 200 million to poor countries outside the Arab World. But all the King's plans could not come close to using up Saudi Arabi's wealth, The new financial-giant of the world, Saudi Arabia in 1974 stood to accumulate a surplus of about£ 23 billion, a potentially unsettling force in global finance.

Moreover, Saudi Arabia's new wealth is simply the most spect-

acular symbol of the rising fortunes of the OPEC nations. King Faisal is not merely the richest of the OPEC leaders. He is also a spiritual leader of the world's 600 million Moslems because his Kingdom encompasses Islam's two holiest cities, Mecca and Medina. The King wants to pray within his lifetime in the third most holy city, in Jerusalem at the Dome of the Rock, and to walk there without setting foot on Israeli-held territory. Faisal hates Zionism with a cold passion and often argues despite the Soviet Union's pro Arab, anti-Israel policies, that Zionists and Communists are allied to control the world.

In 1974 Faisal used his political authority to aid the Secretary of State Henry Kissinger in moving toward an interim agreement in the Middle East.

One of the West's woes is that for too long it underestimated the will and power of Faisal and other rulers of Oil-Producing nations to act together.

Faisal, a conservative and a long time friend of the U.S., resisted at first rising the prices of oil, and then changed his mind because of U.S. political and military support of Israel.

Then, the article added that the move of King Faisal, and others in raising oil prices and in imposing a reduction in oil output and at last in oil embargo, and his success in all of these steps gave new pride and political power to all the Arabs, and brought King Faisal widespread respect in the Arab World.

The article has referred to the changes on the financial levels which have taken place in the Arab oil producing countries where flows of businessmen began to come. It also referred to the beginning of interest on the academic and cultural levels from the elite American Universities, such as Stanford, Chicago and Columbia into Arab Culture.

It also has covered the effects of Arab wealth stemming from oil in the political field and especially in defending their main cause, the Palestine cause.

### **Second: A Desert King Faces The Modern World.**

This article has covered the following points:

- A brief historical background of the Saudi Family and its struggle.
- the efforts of H.M. King Faisal to develop Saudi Arabia socially, economically and politically.
- the status of Faisal between the Royal Family and the Saudi people.
- Faisal's Arab and religious traditions.
- Some of Faisal's habits in clothing, eating, etc.
- Oil and its effects.
- The successor of Faisal.

### **— Third: Faial's Views at a Busy Majlis:**

This was an interview between H.M. King Faisal and the Time Correspondent Wilton Wynn. At this interview H.M. King Faisal expressed openly his views related to the Palestine cause, the future of Jerusalem, the Saudi - U.S. Relations and the recycling of oil money.

### **— Conclusion:**

The choice of H.M. late king Faisal to be the Man of the Year for 1974 did not come randomly by the Time. Its criterion for this choice was a clear one: the person who has most significantly affected-for good or ill-the course of events. Practically speaking, His Late Majesty was that person. So, he was worthy to be the Man of the Year.

## **Faisal the Martyr.**

From "Faisal" by Gerald De Gaury.

### **PRESENTED BY SHEHATA MAHFOUZ**

In 1945, the late King Abdul Aziz said to one of his advisers, with a tear in his eye, " I only wish I had three Faisals. ,,

#### **Faisal's Birth.**

In the autumn of 1905, the news came that a son had been born to Ibn Saud, his third, but the first to be born to him in Riyadh since he had retaken it for his father three years earlier. He was 25 years old then. The child's name was Faisal and his mother was Tarfa, a daughter of one of the Al - ash - Shaikh family, or in short "Bint ash - Shaikh.

The significance to the Arabs of the name of Faisal's mother , who bore no other sons, was that her father descended from the puritan preacher Muhammad ibn Abdul-Wahab, who had in alliance with the Saud chieftain, over a hundred years earlier brought about a great militay — religious revival that led to the Saudi domains becoming for a time wider than ever before or since.

Faisaal's father was often away on his military expeditions. Meanwhile, his mother falling ill and dying while he was very young, he had been taken into the care of his maternal grandmother and so, as he became elder, into that of the revered and learned head of the Al-ash-Shaikh, her husband. The Koran and the Traditions of the Prophet were his first learning by heart, almost before he could read fluently, but that was not far behind. Faisal made good progress from the beginning, encouraged by his grandfather.

Every now and then Ibn Saud would send for Faisal and play with him, as he did with all his sons when small. Later he would

take him out with him on some small excursions. He was too young then to go on military expeditions or to go into Camps in the spring.

Faisal began to pick up tips from his father of a different kind from those he learnt from other men. He learnt from being with him -self- possession, patience discretion and the Arab inward pride.

Faisal's daily instruction was at the hands of his maternal grand father and his learning of horsemanship, the handling of arms, and desert lore from elder boys and companions chosen for the purpose. His education, his behaviour and knowledge of politics, of handling men and of the principalities and tribes came from his father.

### **Boyhood**

Faisal , like his brothers was trained to walk barefoot, to rise two hours before dawn, to eat sparingly and to ride bareback.

Faisal's maternal grandfather, one of the most revered pillars of Islam in Riyadh, had been concerned in measures for the revival and the boy Faisal, then aged 7, living mostly with him, came to know much that was going on.

In 1918 ibn Saud attacked ibn Rashid. He made his base at Tarafiya and gave his son Turki command of the forward divisions. Faisal had been left at Tarafiya, though he saw something of the fighting when part of the baggage train and its escort were attacked near al Yatib and driven off with casualties, ten men killed, after a sharp action.

At Tarafiya Faisal and Fahad welcomed their father on his return with a customary kiss on both sides and on the top of his nose.

### **His First Journey to England**

When the next year Ibn Saud was invited to London to discuss outstanding questions, he himself felt unable to leave, named his son Faisal, aged 14, appointing one Ahmed al Thunaiyan al Saud to



advise him. With him there also went Abdulla al Qusaibi a Najdi merchant partly resident in Bahrain, who spoke English and was a travelled man, together with three retainers.

During the journey Ahmed al-Thunaiyan used to refer to Ibn Saud as "King of Najd " and no one guessed at that time that the Hijaz would fall to Ibn Saud, or that the 14-year-old boy on his way to England would rule it as his Viceroy for three decades.

The King, in the company of the Queen and Princess Mary, received the Central Arabian Party in the Throne Room at Buckingham Palace on the morning of the 30 th October. Faisal presented the two splendid swords he had brought for the purpose and a letter of compliments from his father, signed incidentally as Hakim (ruler) of Najd and al Hasa, al Qatif, and Jubail, its dependancies, and Chieftain of its tribes. He was given two signed photographs in return and H.M. assured him that the Ministers would discuss with the Mission matters of political concern. He took the opportunity to condole with him for the loss of three of ibn Saud's sons and numbers of his people in the influenza epidemic.

In London Faisal had met the English Ministers concerned with the East, Lord Curzon and Lord Montagu, and officials of the Foreign Office and India Office who dealt with Arabian affairs.

A letter signed by the King at the end of November had already been delivered to Faisal for taking to his father, together with the two signed photographs handed to him in the Palace during his audience. The King's letter spoke of his pleasure at receiving his son Faisal and Ahmed al Thunaiyan and said that it was his desire that the bonds of friendship should be strengthened and include all the the Arab States. He trusted now that the war had ended, all the chieftains and peoples might live together in freedom, peace and unity. The Government would support all ibn Saud's efforts to that end.

### **Faisal in Asir**

No sooner had Faisal returned from Europe than his father gave

him command of a force to operate in Asir. Ibn Saud's actions arose out of historic claims to Asir and because of what had taken place in Asir before and during the Great war. As a result a large force was put in the field under young Faisal, with Khalid ibn Luwai who had beaten the Hijazi forces at Khurma and Turaba a few months earlier as his Chief of Staff.

The Advance was along the Road of the Elephant via Bisha, in which Faisal camped for some days before moving on to Khamis Mushait where he was welcomed and joined by the Shahrani tribes. The local forces were routed at al Hijla and Abha was seized. The force swung northwards towards Qunfidah on the Red Sea.

In 1924 the Aidh rebelled against the Saudis but the revolt was swiftly and easily crushed by Faisal.

After his great success Faisal returned from the burning plains of Tihama and the frosty mountains of Asir. When Faisal, carrying a spear, came galloping up to the reviewing place where his grandfather, the 83-year-old Abdur-Rahman sat, he dismounted and received repeated embraces from his grandfather before remounting to lead the review which consisted of charges up and down a distance of about four hundred yards, with the shaking of spear or sword and the shouting of war-cries by the lkhwan.

Following Faisal's party came Ibn Saud himself, who had ridden out to meet him the night before and could not resist accompanying the returning troops, on their entry, in the role of a commander-in-chief meeting and joining his general. A camel corps came following the cavalry, with standards flying.

### **Faisal in Yemen.**

Ten years on, in 1934, Faisal was once more to take the field in command of an army marching through Ahir and into the Yemen. Ever since Ibn Saud had finally taken over the Idrisi's country of Asir in 1930, the Imam of the Yemen had persisted in regarding it as

a kind of no-man's land open to raiding by Yemeni tribes and partisans of the Idrisi. Ibn Saud protested. The inevitable result of the Imam's procrastination was war for which Ibn Saud established his headquarters at Taif.

In the last week of March his army was on the move in three columns, the first advancing along the coast under Faisal, aiming first for Haradh and then on to Hodaida, the second main army under Saud advancing upon Najran with a third centre column under Khalid Ibn Mohammad directed upon Sada. Too late the Imam pleaded for delay and for an interview between his adviser, Abdulla al-Wazir, and Ibn Saud at Taif. Ibn Saud refused unless the Imam unconditionally accepted the terms he had already announced.

By the 9th of April the outlying defensive posts protecting the fort of Haradh were turned and taken by Faisal. Maidi, a small port and landing place for consignments of slaves from the African coast fell after a four days' siege on 26 th. Reinforcements intended for Maidi were ambushed and defeated before reaching it, a reason for not pressing an attack upon it earlier. The most vulnerable part of the Yemen frontier was thus forced by Faisal. Haradh itself, held by a relative of the Imam of the Yemen, Abdur-Rahman Ibn Abbas, having been cut off, was captured on the 12th April.

By the end of May Faisal's column marching swiftly onwards reached and entered the large port of Hodaida. Faisal was welcomed by the people and he was preparing to advance upon Sana.

When the Imam heard of it he shut himself up in his palace and sent messages by underabout means asking for an armistice agreement from Ibn Saud at Taif.

Abdulla al wazir and Faisal initialled an armistice agreement, followed by a treaty initialled by Khalid ibn Abdul-Aziz and al Wazir on Ibn Saud's terms. There were to be no fortifications on the frontiers of occupied territories for twenty years, a surrender of all hostages and of the Idrisi family to Ibn Saud, reparations equal to the cost of the war, guarantee for the safety of all Yamenis who had joined or had inclined to loyalty to the Najdi forces during the war.

The Imam was so slow in complying with these terms that on 24 th May Ibn Saud threatened to resume hostilities, whereupon the Imam arrested and handed over the Idrisi family, chief cause of the delay, to Ibn Saud. A copy of this ratified treaty was sent by the Imam with Abdulla al Wazir to Faisal for the working out of details of its execution in Hodaida. By the end of June the war was over and no doubt Faisal's force had behaved admirably.

For the first time the Saudi forces were partly mechanized. Faisal's men made good use of motor vehicles, a simple kind of armoured car, in overtaking and cutting off retreating yemenis and had used trucks for supplies. Some of his men were embarked on small ships to land behind the enemy, a Surprise which was effective.

Faisal was very welcome on his return from the front and Ibn Saud went out a long way, to Ranya, to meet him.

### **Capture of The Hijaz.**

A year after his military triumph in Asir in 1924, Faisal had joined his father, with reinforcements from Najd, during his invasion of the Hijaz and was in command of an army during the year long siege of Jeddah, whose surrender marked the end of the war. He was then 21 years of age and was to remain as Viceroy of the Hijaz and was in command of an army during the year end of the war, and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to his father, resident in Meeca, for nearly thirty years.

Faisal was sent to besiege Jeddah and begin a desultory bombardment with no orders to assault it yet. Ibn Saud's instructions to Faisal not to assault were clear.

By the end of 1925 conditions were so bad and hope so low that Ali was persuaded to abdicate when it became known that Faisal was preparing to assault, By doing so he would prevent casualties and looting. The year long siege was over.

A fortnight after the surrender of Jeddah to Faisal, Ibn Saud himself came to it from Mecca and having met the notables and foreign consuls at the Medina Gate soon afterwards went quietly off to the Friday Mosque and was there acclaimed as the King of the Hijaz. Accepted would perhaps be a better word than acclaimed:

No trumpets sounded. No ceremonies were observed, for none by tradition existed.

### **The Viceroy.**

After the capture of the Hijaz, the King made Faisal his Viceroy and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Faisal resided in Mecca and did not often visit Jeddah, from where Christians were forbidden to leave for the interior or go more than five Kilometres beyond the walls except with special permission and escorts provided by the King.

The King took to sending Faisal abroad to make direct contact with foreign governments, partly because Faisal was not very well and seemed to need a change and also to represent his views now that he was King of the Hijaz. He sent Faisal on a tour of western Europe in the autumn of 1926

Before he went, a Consultative Council was formed in Mecca by the King's order with Faisal as President with a casting vote in case of need. it was designed to give the people of the Hijaz a means of participating in the Government, having eight appointed members and eight balloted members, their appointment subject to the King's approval. Finally it was to give way before the increasing responsibilities of the Council of Ministers, usually sitting in Riyadh, of which Faisal became the head as Prime Minister, but all the years while he was Viceroy in the Hijaz he was President of the Consultative Council .

### **The Second Visit to England**

The Journey began in August, 1926. Within a week of arriving at

Plymouth he was given a luncheon by His Majesty's Government at Claridges, and was meeting and talking with officials and politicians whose attitude to his father's regime had changed. The Sultan of Najd had become a King, Controlling Mecca, in formal relations with Britain which it was hoped to embody in a new treaty, head of state through the pilgrimage was influential and probably viable, and whose frontiers — which it was intended to settle in the new treaty — marched with those of the British mandatory territories of Iraq and the Trucial States with their special relations with Britain.

The official talks were broken off for such diversions as an air trip over London, a visit to the Crabbet Park Stud, to see the descendants of the Arab horses brought back from Hail by Lady Ann Blunt and her husband half a century earlier, The Saudis had removed to Riyadh the best of the horses remaining in Hail when they had taken it five years before, in 1921, as Faisal knew.

After a visit of under three weeks, Faisal left for Holland, where the Arabists of Leiden University and the officials dealing with Holland's Far-East Muslem territories were agog to meet him. Other visits abroad were to follow, in 1932 to Paris, then London for ten days' stay while en route for Poland, Russia and Turkey, in 1939 to London for the Palestine Conference; in all some thirteen long and official tours including five weeks in America in 1943 and one to the Far East, without counting some lesser journeys to nearby countries. On his journeys during and after the Second World War and as head of his delegation to U.N.O. he had discussions with President Roosevelt, Eisenhower, Truman and Kennedy and met President Johnson before he succeeded to the Presidency.

Apart from all the people he met abroad, there were more and more heads of state, rulers and visitors of standing to Riyadh. One-way and another Faisal has met, and remembered, a greater number and variety of his fellow men than anyone else alive,

### **Faisal's Visit to America**

In May 1942, during the visit of the Minister, Alexander Kirk, to Riyadh, the desire for a visit to America by Saud, the Crown Prince

then, was mentioned and a year later, following up the suggestion, an invitation was sent to the King, or alternatively to any member of his family he might name. In spite of war conditions Ibn Saud accepted, later naming his sons Faisal and Khalid (H.M. King Khalid) as his replacements.

The party arrived in Miami in the last week of September 1943, by way of Central Africa, Accra, Ascension Island and South America, being met on landing by a representative of the President.

They spent the night at the home of Mr. Charles Spruks, a State Department official, who afterwards wrote of it and showed his pleasure and some surprise at the naturalness and at the same time intelligent inquisitiveness of Prince Faisal. He wished to see all over the house, asked numerous questions and at supper helped himself. His adaptability was noticeable "When in Rome ....." but it seems to have astonished some Americans that though retaining his Arab dress Faisal, who had been visiting European countries since 1919, exhibited the always splendid manners and equanimity of his race, adapting himself with perfect ease to Western life.

In Washington they were received by President Roosevelt and Mr. Cardell Hall and put up as state visitors at Blair House. Faisal brought with him, for presentation to the President from his father, an exceptionally fine Arab sword, its blade damascened, its hilt jewelled and the scabbard mounted in gold.

On the very first evening in Washington the President gave a dinner of forty covers in honour of Faisal and Khalid. The guests, led by the Vice-President, included the leading members of the Cabinet, the Senate and Congress, with the senior officers of the services in Washington.

It was arranged that there would be another meeting of Faisal with the President, by whom the Prince was much impressed, on November 9th, the day before his departure.

From Washington the party went to New York for six days, accompanied by Mr. Carry Owen of Aramco, who remained with the party until it left.

From New York they went by private rail-road car to Los Angeles and San Francisco, spending a week in each of them. Tours from them were arranged by the Texas and Standard Oil Companies, then the two partners in Aramco, which took a large part in arranging the visit. Visits were made to such institutions as a sheep-breeding station near Gallop in New Mexico, a petrified forest in Arizona.

They were taken to see a date-farm, the Kellogg horse ranch, the Standard Oil Company's refinery, motion picture studios in Holly Wood, Princeton, where they met the Arabist Professor Hitti, and to visit various irrigation schemes, dams, and water-powered works. Returning to the west by Denver and Detroit Faisal met in Washington Mr. Stettinius, acting for the Secretary of State from whom he was taking over and Assistant Secretary Adolf A. Berle, Jr. During their lengthy talks covering the policies in the Middle East, requirements under Lend-Lease and provision of silver currency the Prince was given a memorandum mentioning the favourable view the United States Government would have of building of a refinery by the California Arabian Standard Oil Company at Dhahran.

From Washington, after taking farewell of the President, Faisal returned for a few days in New York. He visited the Naval Academy, Baltimore, on 7th November and left three days later by British Overseas Airways clipper, pausing at the Bermudas, en route for England.

### **England in Wartime.**

The party arrived in England on the 17th November (1943) and was put up in the Dorchester Hotel.

They went to a number of army units and saw the latest armour manoeuvring. The Navy showed them over a submarine which had sunk a large number of enemy ships.

The Air Force arranged for them to see and enter bombers about to leave for Berlin, the pilots and crew giving matter of fact



accounts of their role and how the bombs were to be released in another hour or so on the enemy capital. The Princes were asked not to wish the crews good luck or safe return, it was felt unlucky to do so. They asked the station commander, nevertheless, if they might know whether the aircraft they had entered did, in fact, return safely and by the time they returned to their hotel found an arranged message conveying that it had in fact done so. It was a long time before they reached London owing to increasing fog. On their way, there was a noise of bombs falling not far away and, when one exploded much nearer, the despatch riders halted and came to say that there was a shelter they believed not far off. Should they guide the car to it, they asked? Both Princes in one voice said that they preferred to go on and put their trust in God above ground.

The two Princes went to 10 Downing Street to present an Arab sabre, with a jewelled hilt and gold encrusted scabbard, to Winston Churchill from their father. In the absence, of the Prime Minister from London they were received by Mrs. Winston Churchill on his behalf and it was decided that she would do so in the Cabinet Room, where fateful wartime decisions had been taken.

Before leaving they went to Buckingham Palace to see the King. The Palace itself was bombed during the war. It was the King's second war, for as he said to Faisal at another visit two years later, "I was in the Navy in the first war, you know, and in the Second one I had quite a bit to do." using the kind of modest phrasing which Faisal himself employs.

The party flew back to Arabia via Gibraltar to Algiers, where the Prince met General de Gaulle, Tunis to spend the night with the Bey, Tripoli for one night and a few days in Egypt. He had had three months of unforgettable experiences.

## U. N. O

In 1945 Faisal was head of the Saudi Arabian delegation at the San Francisco meeting of U.N.O. and made a speech which showed that he believed in its role for the good of the world, speaking real-

istically about it and not forgetting to recall the former President of the United States and his work in initiating the conference in which they were taking part. It was an excellent and wellreceived speech and Faisal has continued to give U.N.O. his support in spite of a setback in 1947 and the inefficacy of U.N.O.'s mission in the Yemen in 1963 As head of his delegation in New York in 1947 he was accepted, because of his long interest in the chief matter in question, the Palestine problem and his qualities of leadership, as spokesman for the Arab delegations.

### **Faisal the Prime Minister**

During the crisis that had taken place in Saudi Arabia, a decree was issued transferring full power to Prince Faisal and he became the Prime Minister. Faisal lost no time in undertaking his task.

The most pressing matters were Finance and Foreign Relations. Three weeks later, on the 18th April, he issued a communique on the radio to explain the concerns of his Government in its foreign relations. As was to be expected the first part dealt with relations with the United Arab Republic and referred to a desire for friendship with every State which is not hostile to the Saudi Arabian Government which believed in positive neutrality and itself had not entered into foreign alliances. There were references to the principles of U.N.O. and the Islamic Code.

It then went to speak of its relations with Great Britain, mentioning at once the question of Buraimi and foreshadowed a renewal of diplomatic relations cut off after Suez, as soon as this outstanding problem was settled.

Relations with France had suffered owing to the sabotage of electrical plant in the factory at al Kharj following the question of a restitution of monies owed in consequence of export of arms, already paid for, having been stopped by the French Government at the time of the Suez affair. When these matters were settled there was no reason why relations should not be renewed, provided that Algeria were granted her liberty and independence.

With regard to relations with the United States, it referred to the position in the Gulf of Akaba and Israel's activities there already dealt with in letters to the President. It touched upon the nature of the agreement over the airport at Dhahran and took the opportunity to say that there was no American base there. "All the American Government has there is the right of passage for certain aircraft and for the supply of oil. It is not the seat of any military force, nor is it a store for military arms. The passage of arms and warlike material is not permitted "

The lengthy communiqué ended, 'H. M.'s Government expresses its sorrow at the storm which is blowing over a group of Arab States, bringing about what is against the interests of the Arabs and contrary to their honour ..... H.M.'s Government will do its best to restore a state of calm, quietening the wind of this tempest. When it finds reciprocity in its efforts it will work with Zeal to further peacefulness between all the Arab States "

### **The Financial Problem**

Faisal's other problem, his own national finances, received his attention at once. It was not a moment too early. The Treasury was empty. The flight of capital was continuing. The Government was in debt. Some 400,000,000 Riyals, or 100,000,000 dollars, was owed to banks and local merchants and one of the local banks was on the point of becoming insolvent so that it had to receive a promise of Government backing for the sake of its despositors and merge with another bank. The Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency founded in April 1952, which had hitherto been able to do little more than observe and deplore the plight of the currency, was given proper authority and was able to issue its first balanced budget and with other measures taken bring the Saudi Riyal to 4.50 to the U.S.Dollar. It had been as low as 7 Riyals to the dollar.

Commercial banks were obliged to maintain 15 per cent of their total deposit as statutory reserves with the Monetary Agency and since 1960, the Agency's reserve holdings have substantially exceeded the Note Issue . By the end of 1958 a surplus for debt retirement

was realized. The Privy Purse's expenditure was progressively reduced over the next six years by two thirds, one visible effect of which can be seen in Riyadh, where a number of palatial houses were abandoned in various stages of building. The greatest increase in government expenditure was on Public Instruction, the next on health. A large part of the income from oil and a sum from a settlement made with the oil company was devoted to worthwhile projects, in mineral, communications and industrial development.

Within five years from being upon the brink of disaster, Faisal's policy brought the country to a state when the head of the Monetary Agency was able to write, "Under the leadership of King Faisal, Saudi Arabia is entering a fresh era of prosperity and rapid social change. His Majesty has an acute awareness of the problems which so naturally arise in a rapidly growing economy. He has shown great determination to face the challenge of economic development and is giving his wholehearted attention to it, I therefore remain most optimistic about the prospects of Saudi Arabia. Oil revenue which is the backbone of the Government incomes at present, will probably double within the next ten years ..... the economic future of the Kingdom appears to be very bright indeed.

### **Faisal the Man**

Faisal took care to show a personal example in various ways. His own expenditure became less. His way of life had always been very simple. He often drove himself even in the capital, and without the escort of car-loads of soldiers, motorcyclists and bodyguards hanging on to rails on the side of the car. He continued to live in the same house, both then and later, driving every morning to the Council of Ministers' office, for the meetings of the Council and the study and issuing of the Royal Decrees, for the reception of visitors, always numerous and including, apart from Saudi Arabs, a stream of foreigners, rulers great and small, Islamic notables, oil magnates, politicians, scientists and experts. The Saudi Arabs included a variety of persons who by Arabian and patriarchal tradition have to be seen, if not in the office, then later, for a meal or coffee-drinking — the more important Emirs of provinces and districts, the Sheikhs of

provinces and districts, the Sheikhs of great tribes, leading Ulema, members of the Saudi clan and his near though numerous relatives.

All this is undertaken by him with patient understanding, without the pomp which might be seen in other countries with the aid of chamberlains, secretaries and henchmen - clerks with very good manners and a flair for knowing who is who without asking. So smoothly is it all managed that even those kept waiting a little hardly notice it, what with coffee drinking, the comings and goings of picturesque visitors, of oriental celebrities and mysterious strangers, the whispered consultations and polite exchanges, the move from a Chamberlain's office to the Royal ante-room adroitly done.

### **Farewell**

Suddenly, on the 13th of Rabi' Al-Awal 1395, at a time when the Arab world was in great need of his wisdom and discretion, King Faisal, the Martyr, gave up his soul and departed this life to take his place in Paradise. His death wrung our hearts. His death caused a great shock, not only to the Arab or Islamic world but to the whole world. He was our leader and our King. No doubt he recorded a page of glory in the History of the Arab world.

At those difficult moments, His Majesty King Khalid ibn Abdul Aziz succeeded and beside him stood His Highness Prince Fahd ibn Abdul Aziz the Crown Prince. This has been our only consolation. All Arabs hurried from far and wide to console them for the great loss and to take the oath of allegiance to them.

Indeed, Saudi Arabia is the maker of men.

ملخص الأبحاث  
بالإنجليزية