

PLUS | Exclusive interview with Prince Alwaleed

# The Middle East

MAY 2009

THE NEW  
SILK ROAD  
SHIFTING  
TRADE ROUTES

SYRIA'S  
ECONOMIC  
REFORMS

SAUDI ARABIA'S  
\$127 BILLION  
SPENDING SPREE

WEF 2009  
GLOBAL  
PROBLEMS  
LOCAL  
SOLUTIONS

THE MOST  
INFLUENTIAL  
PEOPLE IN THE  
REGION

# 50 TOP ARABS

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**Sheikha Mozah bint Nasser Al Missned (Qatar)**

Sheikha Mozah bint Nasser Al Missned has been actively engaged in education and social reforms in Qatar for many years, playing a major role in spearheading national and international development projects. She serves as the Chair of Qatar's Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development and as President of the Supreme Council for Family Affairs. In

2005, she was selected as a member of the high level group of the UN Alliance of Civilisations. In 2007, she was awarded the Chatham House Award in recognition of her commitment to progressive education and community welfare and advocacy of closer relations between Islamic countries and the West.



**Saif Al Islam Muammar Al Gaddafi (Libya)**

The son of Colonel Muammar Gaddafi and head of the Gaddafi International

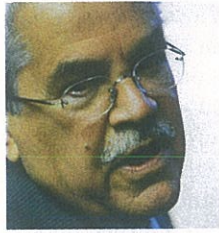
Foundation for Charity Associations. The Foundation has played a significant and beneficial role overseas, especially in conducting negotiations and ransom payments for the release of hostages. Saif Al Islam (Sword of Islam) is head of various organisations including Libya's National Consultancy and also chairs the National Anti-Drug Association of Libya.



**Naguib O. Sawiris (Egypt)**

He is Chairman and CEO of Orascom Telecom, one of Egypt's largest and most diversified conglomerates,

and Chairman of the Board of Wind Telecomunicazioni SpA and Mobinil. He is a member of the Advisory Committee to the New York Stock Exchange Board of Directors and holds membership of both the Board of Trustees and the Board of Directors of the Arab Thought Foundation and the Cancer Society of Egypt.



**Ali bin Ibrahim Al Naimi (Saudi Arabia)**

Al Naimi has held the position of Saudi Arabian Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources

since 1995. After completing his Masters degree in geology at Stanford University, he joined Saudi Aramco and began climbing the managerial ladder until he became President, the first Saudi to do so. His experience of the oil industry is highly regarded and he is always a popular participant at industry meetings, much valued for his wit and wisdom.



**Prince Turki Al Faisal (Saudi Arabia)**

Born in 1945, he served as the Ambassador to the UK (2003-2005) and the US (2005-

2007). From 1977 to 2001, the Prince was the Director General of the General Intelligence Directorate. He is one of the founders of the King Faisal Foundation and the Chairman of the King Faisal Centre for Research and Islamic Studies in Riyadh. He is also co-chair of the C100 Group, which has been affiliated with the WEF since 2003.



**Ibrahim Helal (Egypt)**

He has more than 18 years of experience in international journalism and joined *Al Jazeera English* from the

*BBC*, where he was Project Director for the Middle East, responsible for the training and development of Arab media organisations. Working for the *BBC Arabic Service* in London, he participated in the launch of its Arabic website and was chosen by the WEF to be one of the C100 council for dialogue between civilisations, and as one of the Young Global Leaders.



**Mohammad Dahmash (Dubai)**

Mohammad Dahmash is a partner and leader of Ernst & Young's Real Estate Transaction and Advisory

Services Group in the Middle East. Based in Dubai, he pioneered the firm's influential benchmark survey covering the Middle East's hotel sector. With his expertise Ernst & Young has won several prestigious awards for its real estate and other services in the Middle East, including citations from *Euromoney* and *Banker Middle East*.



**Muna AbuSulayman (Saudi Arabia)**

A leading media personality in the Middle East and founding co-host of one of *MBC TV*'s most popular

social programmes, she has become a celebrity, a regular contributor to the WEF and is often asked to contribute to issues relating to Arab society, media, and understanding between the East and the West. In 2005, she became the first woman in Saudi Arabia to be appointed by the UN Development Programme as Goodwill Ambassador.