

# *SAUDI ARABIA IN FOCUS*

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## **TERRORISM**

### **KING FAHD OFFERS LAST CHANCE FOR TERRORISTS TO SURRENDER**

In a televised address read by Crown Prince Abdullah on June 23, King Fahd offered a one-month grace period for terrorists, saying any who repent and surrender will be treated in accordance with Shariah [Islamic Law] in relation to the violated rights of third parties. Anyone who is obstinate, however, will face a resolute force.

Within hours, Sa'aban Al-Shihri, who has been wanted for two years, gave himself up to police; and on Monday, June 28, Osman Hadi Alomary, prominent on the wanted list of 26 published last December.

Crown Prince Abdullah confirmed on June 26 that anyone of the deviant group who voluntarily surrenders will experience the mercy of Shariah [Islamic Law], which nevertheless provides for punishment for those who have committed crimes; anyone who continues on the path of evil, however, will face the government's full force.

### **PRINCE SAUD ASSURES FOREIGN RESIDENTS OF THEIR SAFETY**

In his press briefing on June 23, Minister of Foreign Affairs Prince Saud Al-Faisal denounced the brutal killing of an innocent American citizen, but denied that foreign residents are leaving the Kingdom en masse, pointing out that there are usually departures at this time of year, for summer vacation. Declaring that the best way to wipe out terrorists is to confront them, he urged greater international cooperation in the fight against terrorism, pointing out that U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell's call for American citizens in Saudi Arabia to stay is the rational approach.

On June 27, Prince Saud met with representatives of foreign communities in the Kingdom and assured them of Saudi Arabia's commitment to the security and safety of resident foreigners. Pointing out that religion, heritage and tradition call for protecting non-Muslims who are under agreement with Muslims, he declared that all Saudi citizens are shocked at what is happening in the Kingdom, since these acts are alien to them and contrary to the principles of Islam. Notably, most of the questions that followed his address dealt with issues of foreigners staying in the country, not departing.

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