



JANUARY 1, 2008

FOREIGN POLICY

King Abdullah condemns murder of Benazir Bhutto

King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz sent a cable of condolence to Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf December 27 to express his great sorrow at the murder of former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto.

"Through Your Excellency, we address an appeal to the brotherly people of Pakistan in which we, along with the Saudi people, condemn this heinous crime committed by evil killers who have distanced themselves from Islam, values, and morality, and have turned themselves into monsters shedding innocent blood and trying to impose the law of jungle," King Abdullah said in his message.

King Abdullah also called on the Pakistani people to unite and expressed confidence in their ability to overcome any attempt to infringe on their security and stability.

"They shall, with their strong will, overcome any opportunity that might be exploited by the enemies of Pakistan and the Islamic nation. This crime will not bring criminals nearer to their evil and wicked goals," King Abdullah said.

Saudi Arabia requests Arab meeting on Lebanon, peace process

Saudi Arabia has requested an extraordinary meeting of the Council of Arab Foreign Ministers, Arab League Secretary-General Amr Moussa said December 30.

The January 6 meeting will address the situation in Lebanon, which announced December 28 that it would postpone holding presidential elections until January 12. The foreign ministers will also discuss the Middle East peace process and the situation in Palestine.

