



*AUGUST 3, 2010*

## FOREIGN RELATIONS

### **King Abdullah visits Egypt, Syria, Lebanon and Jordan**

The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz undertook a four-nation tour last week in which he visited Egypt, Syria, Lebanon and Jordan. On July 28, the King arrived in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt where he held a meeting with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. The two leaders discussed bilateral relations and the latest developments in the Arab and Muslim worlds and focused on the plight of the Palestinian people and the derailed peace process. The talks also tackled the need for national reconciliation in Lebanon, Sudan and Somalia in order to achieve security and ensure the territorial integrity of those countries.

The following day, King Abdullah traveled to Damascus, where he was received by Syrian President Bashar Al-Assad. During their meeting, the discussion focused on a number of Arab and Islamic issues, specifically the Middle East Peace Process and the need to establish a Palestinian state based upon the Arab Peace Plan. The talks also covered the situations in Iraq and Lebanon and the urgent need to achieve national reconciliation.

On July 30, King Abdullah and President Al-Assad traveled together to Beirut, where they participated in a trilateral meeting with Lebanese President Michel Suleiman. The meeting was also attended by Lebanese Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri and Prime Minister Saad Al-Hariri. In a statement, President Suleiman noted that the talks are part of King Abdullah's initiative to achieve Arab reconciliation amid regional tensions.

Later that day, the Saudi monarch journeyed to Amman, where he held talks with Jordanian King Abdullah II. The two monarchs discussed bilateral cooperation, Arab solidarity and efforts to bring about peace and stability in the Middle East. In particular, they stressed the importance of reviving the Middle East Peace Process and creating a Palestinian state, as well as enhancing security, stability and national unity in Lebanon and Iraq. King Abdullah II also thanked Saudi Arabia for its generous support for a number of developmental and humanitarian programs in Jordan.

King Abdullah's official delegation during the tour included Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al-Faisal; Chief of General Intelligence Prince Miqren bin Abdulaziz; Education Minister Prince Faisal bin Abdullah bin Mohammed Al-Saud; Advisors to the King Prince Turki bin Abdullah bin Mohammed Al-Saud, Prince Abdulaziz bin

Abdullah bin Abdulaziz, Prince Mansour bin Nasser bin Abdulaziz, and Prince Bandar bin Salman bin Mohammed Al-Saud; Prince Mansour bin Abdullah bin Abdulaziz; Finance Minister Dr. Ibrahim Al-Assaf; and Minister of Culture and Information Dr. Abdulaziz Khoja.

## EMBASSY ACTIVITY

### **Ambassador Al-Jubeir holds reception for Saudi Boy Scouts**

Saudi Ambassador to the United States Adel bin Ahmed Al-Jubeir hosted a luncheon at the Embassy in Washington on July 28 for a group of visiting Saudi Boy Scouts. The scouts were in town to participate in the 2010 National Scout Jamboree, held from July 25 to August 3 at Fort A.P. Hill in Virginia. The Jamboree marked the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of the Boy Scouts of America.

## FOREIGN AID

### **Mauritania receives 200 tons of Saudi dates**

Saudi Ambassador to Mauritania Saud bin Abdulaziz Al-Jabri handed over 200 tons of dates to Mauritanian Food Security Commission officials in Nouakchott on July 27. The dates were presented as a gift from King Abdullah to the people of Mauritania. Commission member Mohammed Ould Mohamedou accepted the provisions and delivered a speech thanking the Kingdom for its generosity.

### **IIROSA has dug 5,745 wells in Asia and Africa**

Over the past several years, the Jeddah-based International Islamic Relief Organization of Saudi Arabia (IIROSA) has dug 5,745 wells in 37 countries in Asia and Africa, benefiting more than two million people in villages and rural areas. "Thanks to Allah Almighty, the fallow lands have been turned into green meadows, which produce various crops, and fresh water has been available for villagers who used to drink badly polluted water," said IIRO Secretary General Dr. Adnan Basha. He reported that the IIROSA has dug 4,014 wells in 15 Asian countries, including Azerbaijan, Afghanistan, Jordan, the Philippines, India, Yemen, Indonesia, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Thailand, Sri Lanka, Kurdistan, Kashmir and Lebanon. Furthermore, the organization has dug 1,731 wells in 22 African countries, including Ethiopia, Eritrea, Central African Republic, Senegal, Sudan, Somalia, Cameroon, Niger, Uganda, Burkina Faso, Chad, Tanzania, Gambia, Djibouti, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry, Kenya, Mali, Mauritania and Nigeria.

