

**Saudi Arabia and its Efforts in Islamic Solidarity 1962-1995 the Continent of Asia as a Model****Maryam Ahmed Fadhil Hazeem\*<sup>1</sup> & Assist. Prof. Dr. Yousif Sami Farhan<sup>2</sup>***\*<sup>1&2</sup>University of Anbar, Education College For Women***ABSTRACT**

Asia is the most abundant continent in the world for Islamic minorities, as they live in separate countries, and these minorities have been subjected to suffering, persecution and wars that led to the destruction of their educational facilities and Islamic centers. Therefore, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has taken upon itself the task of protecting and defending Islam, and supporting Islamic minorities. In the continent of Asia, the efforts of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in support of Islamic minorities in the continent of Asia were numerous in various aspects; It provided funds and aid, established mosques and Islamic centers, provided its support to schools, institutes and universities, provided scholarships, and cared for the education of Muslim children; In addition to her interest in the Holy Qur'an, and its dissemination through the establishment of the King Fahd Complex for the Printing of the Holy Qur'an in 1986, which helped to spread the Qur'an in various languages, and other forms of support provided to Muslims in Asia.

**Keywords:** Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Islamic minorities, Asia, Islamic centers.

**I. INTRODUCTION**

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has made a remarkable effort in supporting Muslims and Islamic minorities in all continents of the Islamic world since the era of its first founder, King Abdulaziz Al Saud. It is the first Islamic country to be concerned with issues of Islamic solidarity. After King Abdulaziz Al Saud, his sons came to complete the march of calling for Islamic solidarity and serving Islam and Muslims in the world. The continent of Asia received all the support of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from 1962 until 1995.

This study focused on clarifying the efforts of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in supporting Islamic minorities in the Asian continent. The research was devoted to several axes. The first axis was concerned with the cultural support provided by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the countries of the Asian continent, through the construction of schools, institutes, universities and scholarships. As for the second axis; He presented the efforts made by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to build mosques and Islamic centers in the countries of the Asian continent, while the third axis dealt with the efforts of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in teaching the Noble Qur'an to the children of Muslims.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and its efforts in support of Islamic minorities, 1962-1995, the continent of Asia as a model.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia directed its efforts to support Islamic solidarity through its interest in supporting, defending and serving the issues of Islamic minorities in all parts of the Islamic world since the era of its first founder, King Abdulaziz Al Saud. Islamic in a non-Islamic center, and the continent of Asia was among the continents that received attention and support from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the protection and support of Muslims present in it in all respects .

The continent of Asia was one of the most abundant continents in the world for Islamic minorities. Their number reached approximately (216) million Muslims, most of them from China and India; The number of minorities in China constituted approximately (10%) of its population, while India constituted about (14%) of its population, and the location of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in the southwest of the Asian continent makes it the most informed country on the conditions of Muslims in that continent, and it is known that Its policy is based on supporting the Islamic religion, and standing by Muslims in the face of the challenges it faces.

**First: cultural support**

Many Muslims living in the continent of Asia were suffering from the problem of ignorance; Because of the lack of schools and educational centers; Therefore, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia extended its support to the countries of that continent, and established the so-called General Department for Da'wah abroad, and the General Department for Da'wah at home. And they proved their capabilities in that field, and thus preachers began to go to the countries of the continents and submitted their reports to the Kingdom, which included that these countries urgently need to establish

schools, institutes and universities; To educate Muslim children. Sheikh Abdulaziz bin Baz , who was general head of the Department of Scientific Research, Fatwas, Call and Guidance, adopted the idea of building these schools; He wrote to the sons of King Abdulaziz bin Saud Al Saud that these countries need schools to educate their Muslim brothers in other countries, and he has opened many offices in many countries of the world to supervise the affairs of da'wah outside the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia .

**Schools:**

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has taken care of the cultural aspect through its support to many schools, institutes and universities abroad; It provided its support to many schools in Asian countries, including the Republic of Indonesia; King Faisal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud provided support for the establishment of Islamic schools and provided these schools with Islamic books in 1969, and the costs to support these schools amounted to 39 thousand US dollars. educational institutions there; The Islamic minorities in some areas of the Philippines were suffering from ignorance. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia gave them some of its concerns by providing them with support; The Muslim World League established the experimental school for teaching Arabic; As well as secondary schools

In Burma, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia provided support to the Arab Al-Qasimiyah School, and provided it with some Islamic books, and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia provided its support to the secondary school in the Fiji Islands, which was established during the reign of King Khalid bin Abdulaziz Al Saud and other support to some schools found on those islands.

The Constituent Assembly of the Muslim World League decided in 1976 to provide support to the Burmese Muslims; The Council decided to send a quantity of the Qur'an and Islamic books of jurisprudence, doctrine and history through embassies in Burma of Islamic countries, as well as providing Muslims with scholarships in Islamic universities; To be conversant with the Arabic language and preserve the teachings of the Islamic religion in order to spread the call in their countries, but these decisions were not implemented because they met opposition from the Parmaian government for the lack of aid to Muslims there

It also established a school on the island of Sri Lanka and provided it with all educational requirements, and took care of the students of knowledge there, and also contributed to the establishment of many Islamic schools for the Muslims of Korea through the Saudi delegation sent by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to South Korea, who suggested building Islamic schools there, and donated The Kingdom with (20) thousand dollars as an annual grant for them in addition to building schools, and this indicates the interest of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in Muslims and their support, and the Muslim World League provided in 1977 material support to some Islamic schools in northeastern India, including the Ayyubid School for Girls And Al-Rahmaniya University, which is an elementary and middle school, but the Indian Muslims call it the university because it brings together a number of sciences.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has paid attention to the Muslims of China through its support and establishment of schools in Islamic China there, and among those schools is the Arabic language school in Ge Dong Dian village, and another Islamic school in Chang Chi, which was founded in 1978 , and another secondary school for Muslims also in Tian Jin city; In addition to books, equipment and money for the establishment of these schools, which were provided by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and also sent a number of qualified teachers to those schools .

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia also adopted an Islamic primary school and a secondary school in Japan in 1978; In addition to financial support such as scholarships for Muslim students, and in India, the government did not provide its expenses to education because of poverty; So the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia took the initiative to support schools there, and established some of them in various cities of India to educate the Muslim children there and for the sake of da'wah. To one of the Holy Qur'an schools and sent a number of Holy Qur'an teachers to them .

In 1990, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia also provided support to some Islamic schools in Vietnam during a visit by a delegation of the Muslim World League, and was briefed on the schools. Among these schools are Koh Tpong School in Khan Village, Al-Azhar School in Fohen Village, Al-Mubarak School in Phuhi Bi Village and Dar Al-Salaam School In the Zhao area, the Noor al-Islam school also in the city of Lan', the Noor al-Ihsan school in the Xuanhong village, and the Muslim school in the village of Suawi Di, which represents Saudi support in high amounts in dollars to meet some of its needs .

**Institutes**

As for the institutes, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has taken care of them as one of the sources of spreading Islamic language and culture, including the King Faisal Institute, which was established in the city of Dhaka in Bangladesh in 1972 in order to encourage them to learn; As well as the continuous support to the institutes of Bangladesh, educational requirements and sending teachers .

He also established the Institute of Islamic Research in Islamabad in Pakistan, whose construction began in 1976 and was specialized in Islamic studies; The Kingdom sent him the most efficient teachers from the Kingdom who have high experience, and in 1980 King Khalid bin Abdulaziz Al Saud established the Institute of Islamic and Arabic Sciences in Indonesia, and another for teaching the Arabic language, and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia also provided support to religious schools and private schools. the house; As well as homework and scholarships for students.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia established an institute for teaching Arabic in Japan in 1980 and spent about (27) million Saudi riyals on its children. Introducing Islamic culture to those interested in it, and spreading the Arabic language. As for the institute's departments, they are the Research and Translation Department, the Linguistic

Preparation Department, and the Department for Teaching the Children of Islamic Communities .

In the Philippines, the Secretary-General of the Muslim World League, Dr. Abdullah Nassif, rose in 1985, during which he visited Islamic schools and institutes there, and was briefed on the conditions of Muslims and increased scholarships for them. The Kingdom also established through the Muslim World League the Mand Now Arab Institute, which includes Muslims and the Mawai Islamic Institute as well. ).

The efforts of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia were not limited to building institutes outside the Kingdom, but continued its efforts even at home. I established an institute known as the Institute for Muslim Minorities Affairs in Jeddah, which is concerned with the affairs of Muslim minorities in the world. As for the institute's goals, it focused on researching the social, political and economic situation of Muslim minorities, and printing a number of newspapers and periodicals that talk about the conditions and problems of minorities in the world, and establishing Seminars of their own, and hosting researchers and scientists in them .

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia also contributed to the establishment of some Islamic institutes in 1985 in China, including the Islamic Institute in Uro-Meji, and the People's Institute in Kashgar city, and the Kingdom did not stop in its support at that point, but rather provided support for the project of building a religious institute in the city of Beijing, the capital of China. And another religious institute in the city of Kunming, and another support was provided to the religious institute in the city of Yinchuan and another Islamic institute in the city of Zhengzhou (Tishanghitsu).

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia sent to India a set of curricula related to the world of hadith and jurisprudence, and a number of qualified religious scholars, and also contributed to the establishment of Islamic institutes and provided scholarships to Muslim students of knowledge, and thus the Kingdom was able to raise the level of education in India . The Muslim World League and the Islamic Relief Organization, through their offices in many countries of the Islamic world, provided scholarships to college students and provided textbooks to the island of Sri Lanka .

**Universities**

The Kingdom's interest in education did not stop there; It has established and contributed to building and assisting many universities in the continent of Asia, and among those universities, the Islamic University in Islamabad in Pakistan, which was founded by King Khalid bin Abdulaziz Al Saud in 1976, the Muhammadiyah University in the city of Ukara, and the Muhammadiyah University in the city of Kogra Nawaleh, University of Islam Education in Lahore, Saidia University in Khaniwal, Ibn Taymiyyah University in Lahore, Archaeological University in Pesharo, Dar al-Rashad University in New Saidabad, Abu Bakr Islamic University in Karachi, Al-Badr Islamic University in Seoul, and Archaeological Sciences University in ignorance, just as the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia established the Islamic University in Seoul, the capital of South Korea in 1976, and through it the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia provided the necessary assistance for the establishment of the university, and a special committee was formed from Imam Muhammad bin Saud University in order to provide aid; For the success of that university, which was completed in 1980 .

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia also established the Islamic University in the Philippines in 1976 to be affiliated with King Abdulaziz University in the city of Jeddah, and indeed that university was established in the city of Marauti, the capital of the Philippines. With funds to build the University of Muhammadiyah in the city of Malekaon, as well as the Imam al-Bukhari University in the city of Kashin King in India, and the Reform University in Penta; In addition, it has also donated funds to build the University of Dar es Salaam in Omarabad, Riyadh Al-Uloom University in Delhi, and Al-Athariah University in Hyderabad, and has also provided its support to the Islamic University in Bangladesh.

In 1983, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, through the Organization of the Islamic Conference, provided support to the Islamic University of Malaysia; It donated \$2,350,000 and received support from the Islamic Relief Organization and the World Assembly of Muslim Youth. In Nepal, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia provided support through scholarships to universities, and financial support to those universities .

The second axis: religious support mosques and Islamic centers

As for the efforts made by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to support Islamic centers and mosques in the world, based on the Almighty's verse: Mosques are one of the centers of call to God, so the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has taken care of its establishment in all parts of the Islamic world, and has made great efforts in the field of calling to God; It has established many Islamic centers in the world .

The kings of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia were interested in this aspect through a visit paid by King Faisal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud to Pakistan in 1966, and he was briefed on the situation there, and donated to build a large mosque there. He also visited the capital, Islamabad, and donated to build a mosque at his own expense, and that mosque was known as Faisal Mosque, and in Burma, King Faisal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud donated to a number of mosques there, including Cholia Mosque in Rangoon, and gave sums of money to some other mosques.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia decided to establish an Islamic body comprising senior scholars and sheikhs of the Kingdom to represent Muslims in the world, and its function is to supervise the construction of mosques in the world; In 1976, the Muslim World League issued a decision to establish the World Supreme Council of Mosques , to facilitate the performance of da'wah all over the world .

Saudi Arabia provided support to South Korean mosques in 1976; So the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia built a mosque in the city of Seoul with the help of the Federation of Korean Muslims, and it also built an Islamic center there. Khalid bin Abdulaziz Al Saud built a mosque in 1977, which was known as the King Faisal Mosque , and an Islamic center for Islamic studies was attached with the same name .

The Islamic Center was also established in Japan, specifically in the capital, Tokyo, and the land was a simple house that was purchased to be an Islamic center in 1977, and some organizations in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, including the Muslim World League and the Saudi House of Fatwa, as well as the Department of Scientific Research, Advocacy and Saudi Guidance drew attention To provide support for the establishment of that center, and it was actually established in 1977 .

As for China, mosques were subjected to ruin and destruction as a result of some of the revolutions that took place in China; The Muslims there carried out the reconstruction through the contributions made by the Muslim World League and the Islamic Development Bank, and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, during the reign of King Khalid bin Abdulaziz Al Saud in 1980, contributed to building three mosques in China, and then provided support to two mosques in the cities of Najjun and Kaohsiung. Contributions of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to China in that year (3,269,000) million Saudi riyals .

During a visit paid by the President of the Republic of the Philippines, Ferdinand Marcos to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in 1980, and he met the Secretary General of the Muslim World League, Muhammad bin Ali Al-Harkan, he requested the League's visit to the Philippines and inspect the conditions of Muslims there; The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia sent a delegation consisting of three persons: the Secretary-General of the League, Muhammad bin Ali Al-Harkan, the Secretary-General of the Assistant Muhammad bin Nasser Al-Aboudi and Ambassador Abbas Faeq

Ghazzawi representing the Saudi Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Muslim World League provided support to the Islamic center in that region , and provided support to the Islamic Center in Kuna Banu, and the President of the Philippine Republic gave land to set up an office for the Muslim World League to set up an office for the League there , and also established the King Faisal Center for Islamic Studies in 1980 in the Philippines.

The Muslim World League also provided support to many mosques in China during a visit by the Muslim World League to China in 1983, and he visited the Huaxi Mosque in Beijing, which is one of the mosques that suffered damage from the communists during the Cultural Revolution, and it was in need of restoration and repair; The Muslim World League allocated assistance to restore the mosque and even the rest of the mosques in China that need to be restored, and supported the rest of the other Islamic projects. The Muslim World League also provided material support and the Qur'an to the Beijing Mosque.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia provided support for the restoration and construction of ten mosques in Pakistan and in India, it provided great financial support to support its twenty mosques and provided them with the Qur'an. It also purchased land in Tokyo and built a mosque on it , and worked to support the Islamic Center in Singapore and spent huge sums on it , In Vietnam, the Muslim World League provided support to mosques after it conducted a comprehensive survey of the needs of their mosques and Islamic centers in order to work on supporting and restoring them and providing all their needs. The number of mosques in Ho Chi City was 14 with the establishment of Islamic centers attached to it in 1984. It also allocated a monthly interest to the imams of mosques and teachers of the Islamic religion, and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia invited the imams of mosques to perform Umrah at the expense of the Islamic Association .

The third axis: Support for the Holy Quran

The assistance provided by the Kingdom was not limited to education and building mosques; King Fahd bin Abdulaziz Al Saud inaugurated the King Fahd Complex for the Printing of the Holy Qur'an in 1989. He undertakes the task of interpreting and translating the Holy Qur'an into multiple languages, recording the Qur'an on tapes and distributing it to all countries of the Islamic world , and among those countries was China. He visited A delegation from the Muslim World League in China found some of them in dire need of translating the Qur'an into their Chinese language; He took charge of translating the Noble Qur'an, Sheikh Muhammad Makin , and King Fahd bin Abdulaziz ordered it to be translated into many foreign languages and distributed to various Islamic countries .

The Kingdom has also provided support to refugees in Asia through its Islamic organizations. The Islamic Relief Organization has provided support to many Asian countries by establishing shelters and orphanages and the needy. It has also provided support to the Muslims of the Republic of Burma, most of whom resided inside the Kingdom as a result of the wars and ethnic persecution they were subjected to after If the Kingdom allowed them to reside in it, and 24 Asian countries obtained an amount of (41) million US dollars provided by the Islamic Development Bank.

We found that the efforts made by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the countries of the Asian continent and its adoption of the issues of Islamic minorities, and its contribution to cultural and religious support through the establishment of schools, mosques and religious centers in the service of Muslims all over the world first and the dissemination of the teachings of the Islamic religion secondly.

## **II. CONCLUSION**

Among the most important conclusions reached through this study:

- 1- The interest of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from an early age in the affairs of Islamic minorities that need support; The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia was at the forefront of countries that supported Islamic minorities, especially in the Asian continent.
- 2- The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia maintains the unity of Islamic solidarity; The kings of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia did not skimp on providing material or moral support to minorities.
- 3- Establishing cultural projects that serve Islamic minorities and contribute to raising the level of education, especially in countries that suffer from ignorance.
- 4- The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia preserves the houses of God and the holy places by providing its support to mosques and building many of them in the countries of the Asian continent.



- 5- An attempt to spread the Arabic language, the language of the Noble Qur'an, and encourage reading and memorizing the Qur'an through Qur'anic competitions held by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in many Asian countries.

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