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BODY

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[IMAGE]

Saudi Arabia Quick Read

Sunday, August 16, 2015

The Quick Read contains a partial translation or paraphrased summary of Arabic articles. Western media reports are generally original content. Social Media analysis directly quotes or translates Tweets or other postings.

Front Pages

Front Stories:

Security Authorities arrested terror suspects. (summary)

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The seventh relief plane arrived in Aden loaded with ten tons of medical supplies and materials.

Hamza bin Laden in the way to lead Al-Qaeda. (summary)

Educational satellite channels for students at Southern Border. (summary)

Regional news focuses on Yemen and Iran.

In social media, Saudi Twitter users are retweeting @Saud_Saifalnasr's tweets about the Royal family.

U.S.-Saudi News

Cops in Kansas Assure full Security to Saudis

Two suspects remain in custody at the Sedgwick County Jail in Wichita, Kansas on suspicion of first degree murder of 23-year-old Saudi student Rayan Ibrahim Baba. Baba died from multiple gunshot wounds sustained in the campus parking lot of Wichita State University last weekend. Dan Dillion of the District Attorney's office in Wichita said investigations are continuing and as of now there was no bail. (Saudi Gazette)

Saudi Patients in U.S. Exposed to Poisonous Drugs

Some U.S. doctors exploit Saudi patients by prescribing very expensive drugs; in some cases exceeding \$1000 per box. While these mainly unapproved drugs give Saudi patients some hope in treatment of different ailments, specialists warn patients of the dangers of using such drugs, as they not are subject to the supervision of official bodies, making them unsafe and prone to cause poisoning or health risks. (Makkah)

Local News

Security Authorities: 322 Saudi Terror Suspects Arrested

Security sources confirmed they have succeeded in arresting 413 terror suspects from 19 nationalities and confiscated documents and weapons which confirmed their involvement in Daesh. The security sources confirmed that the majority of those arrested were involved in communications on social network with accounts managed from outside the Kingdom. (Al-Jazirah)

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Heads of Islamic Centers Condemn the Criminal Bombing in Asir

Islamic figures from Australia, Mauritania, and Senegal sent King Salman letters condemning the bombings in Asir. The heads of Islamic centers explained that such terrorist actions will only make Saudi stronger. (Al Yaum)

Prayers as Usual in Abha Mosque

Hundreds of special emergency forces personnel and others were in attendance for Friday noon prayers at the renovated mosque in Asir region's capital Abha where a suicide bomber killed 15 people and injured several others earlier this month. (Saudi Gazette)

Hamza bin Laden May be on Path to Lead Al-Qaeda, Replacing Osama Bin Laden

Experts in matters of intelligence and countering terrorism guessed that Hamza, the son of Osama bin Laden, will play a prominent role in the leadership of Al-Qaeda. He will try to fill the void left by his father after his death in a raid by U.S. Special Forces near Islamabad. (Al-Hayat)

Local Charities Set to File Suits Against Twitter

A number of local charities are considering filing suits against Twitter via the U.S. judiciary for defamatory campaigns run by some social media companies. The legal office handling the case revealed there is an organized effort to undermine the image of some Saudi charities by publicly accusing them of being behind terrorist groups. (Al-Watan)

Hacker Hits 24 Sites to 'Alert' Govt

A national hacked more than 24 government websites Saturday morning in just two hours after those in charge of these websites ignored messages of a possible attack. Through his Twitter account, the hacker "Cyber of Emotion" said that after the government websites ignored his messages about a possible attack, his group announced that it was going to attack those websites lacking strong protection

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and security. (Arab News)

Oil Industry in Catch-22 Amid Stark Realities

Long-term crude prognosis is getting bleaker. Oil futures are reaching a scary point - approaching the lowest level since early 2009 - while the financial crisis was in full bloom, wreaking havoc on global markets. Worries about glut is overshadowing everything around. Despite the extra volume of post-nuclear deal push from Iran still not in the equation, yet the U.S. crude tumbled more than three percent to a 6-1/2-year low. Big rise in U.S. stockpiles intensified the worries of a growing global glut - making markets slip further. (Saudi Gazette)

Oil Prices set for Recovery through 2016

Energy equities offer value over the next 12 months, world's leading wealth manager UBS Wealth Management forecast. It predicted an end to the downside momentum of crude oil prices through to 2016. (Saudi Gazette)

Educational Satellite Channels for Students at Southern Border

The Ministry of Education is reportedly planning to launch 12 educational satellite channels as teaching options for students. Minister of Education Dr. Azzam Al-Dakhil said that this learning mode will be directed to students during emergencies at Southern border schools as a protective measure in the Southern region. (Okaz)

Municipal Elections Started in Makkah

The third session of Makkah municipal election started today after the General Committee of the municipal elections agreed to begin the elections one week earlier due to an expected influx of pilgrims from all over the world. (Al-Riyadh)

Makkah Chamber Helps Women with Special Needs Find Jobs

Dr. Abdullah bin Shaki Al-Ghalib Al-Shareef, chief of the Makkah

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Chamber of Commerce and Industry, has said that the chamber was making all efforts to create suitable jobs for national manpower as its contribution to provide job opportunities for those who are interested in working in the private sector. He was speaking at a ceremony where 39 agreements were signed with various companies to recruit ladies with special needs in the private sector. The ceremony was held at the Makkah Chamber of Commerce and Industry. (Arab News)

Bid to Create 20,000 Jobs in Health Sector

The Ministry of Health has decided to award scholarships to Saudi students in an attempt to provide approximately 20,000 jobs in the health sector, which is in high demand. The Health Ministry has clearly identified the areas of specialization that require fulfilling and intends to use the scholarships as an incentive to attract Saudi students to the field. (Arab News)

The End of the Grace Period for Yemenis to Correct their Residency

The passport office will start taking action against violators of KSA residency law after correcting the paperwork of over 21,788 Yemenis. (Al Sharq)

New Markets for Islamic Finance Emerging: Study

New markets for Islamic finance are emerging, with African countries launching debut sovereign sukuk and East Asian countries enabling their domestic markets to tap into Islamic financing, a glimpse of the 2015-2016 edition of the 'State of the Global Islamic Economy' said ahead of the Global Islamic Economy Summit that will run in Dubai on Oct. 5-6, 2015 said. The Islamic Development Bank and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation have formally launched a \$500 million grant facility to address poverty and diseases in IDB member countries. (Saudi Gazette)

Riyad Bank Joins Fight against Drug Abuse

Riyad Bank is participating in the national project for drugs prevention "Nebras", supervised by The National Committee for Narcotics Control. The bank contributed in the project by distributing pamphlets and brochures through its huge network of

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branches across the Kingdom to raise awareness of the effect of drug abuse. (Saudi Gazette)

Apple After-Sales Services Available at Axiom Centers

Apple customers in KSA can now avail enhanced Apple after-sales services at axiom centers and collection points located across the Kingdom. The region's leading mobile reseller is now recognized as an official Apple Authorized iOS Service Provider in KSA through its partnership with Apple authorized distributor, Arab Computers. (Saudi Gazette)

Regional News

U.S. Led Coalition Conducts 23 Airstrikes in Iraq

The U.S.-led coalition conducted 23 airstrikes against ISIS in Iraq on Thursday, the Combined Joint Task Force said in a statement on Friday. The statement said that the airstrikes against ISIS were concentrated on strategic targets near Ramadi city. (SPA)

Prevent U.S. Companies from Cooperating with Iran until Completion of Nuclear Deal

The U.S. administration prevented U.S. companies from cooperating with Iran until the completion of nuclear deal terms. A member of the Tehran Chamber of Commerce indicates the desire of the American companies to enter the Iranian market and said that Iran's trade relations with the U.S. were cut off completely for eight years, and these relations will start again whenever Congress approves the agreement. (Al-Riyadh)

GCC-Iran Talks Report Unfounded

The six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council has denied reports of a planned meeting between the bloc and Iran on Sept. 22. The denial came on Saturday after some misleading reports about a scheduled Tehran-GCC meeting appeared in a section of Gulf and Iranian press. (Arab News)

446,000 Yemenis correct residency status

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A total of 446,000 Yemenis who had arrived in the Kingdom before April 9 and were living illegally in various regions of the country have corrected their residency status so far, the Directorate General of Passports said on Thursday. The grace period granted by Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman to illegal Yemeni residents was terminated on Saturday. (Saudi Gazette)

German Military: ISIS Using Chemical Weapons in Iraq

The terrorist group ISIS fighters may have used chlorine gas shells in an attack on Kurdish forces in northern Iraq, the German army reported. It said the chemical weapons were 'apparently' deployed Wednesday in an attack on Makhmur, where both Arabs and Kurds live, and 60 Kurdish fighters were injured. The German intelligence unit obtained accounts of the attack from a meeting with tribal leaders. (SPA)

Opinion

Editorial: The U.S.-Cuba Thaw

Secretary of State John Kerry had the honor of reopening the U.S. embassy in Cuba 54 years after it was closed. But it was the pair of presidents, Barack Obama and Raul Castro, who made it happen, and each in his own way. Obama's explanation for the thaw in relations was that the old policy of isolating Cuba had not worked and that when something does not work for 50 years, it's time to try something new. (Saudi Gazette)

Op-Ed: U.S. Good at Denying Instead of Denouncing

Amnesty International declared last week that the bombing of 163,000 civilians trapped in Syria's Eastern Ghouta area should be regarded as a war crime. Certainly the U.S. is no longer in a position to condemn as it denies engagement instead! The U.S. denied Turkey's announcement of an agreement to impose a safe area to restrict Syrian warplanes flying over this area. A State Department spokesperson promptly denied the announcement, saying that the agreement was limited to use of U.S. aircraft at Incirlik airbase for bombing ISIL

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forces. Why does the U.S. insist on giving a green light to this fascist criminal regime continuing to commit daily genocide? (Salim A. Sahab; Al-Madinah)

Online

Ministry of Labor to Restrict Nineteen Professions for Saudis

The MoL has decided to limit some careers to Saudis only and to prevent the issuance of visas for expatriates in the fields of human resources, personnel management administration, labor affairs, and staff affairs. (Akhbaar24, An7a)

Asir Grants Visitor IDs for Yemenis

The Asir Region Passport Department issued 57,000 visitor IDs for Yemeni expats, authorizing them to work and move freely after correcting their residency status. The ID is valid for six months, according to the Department. (Sabq)

Social Media

Prince Saud Saifalnasr Tweets about the Royal Family

I've preferred to stop tweeting in the past few weeks after observing the changing direction of the al-Saud's family approach to reform.

But it seems clear that the situation is worsening within the family.

The most dangerous thing is that the whole country is being run by a fool (MbS).

I assure by my name and the name of many members of the family that we only pledge allegiance to the Custodian of the two holy Mosques.

I also affirm that the legitimate Crown Prince is his Royal Highness Prince Ahmed bin Abdulaziz.

Saudis Pour Scorn on Pro-Drug Fatwa

Saudi social media users have poured scorn on a fatwa that allowed young men married to ugly women to take drugs before intimate

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relations in order to have the delusion they are as beautiful as houris [virgin companions in Paradise]. The fatwa said that hallucinogenic drugs can be taken for 30 minutes during sexual intercourse and only by men who are less than 40 years old. The drugs

can be used only in the evening, it added. (Gulf News)

Instead Of Getting Neighbor's Wife... Boss Gets Severe Fractures

A Saudi man liked his neighbor's wife. The neighbor was also an employee officer under him at work. Neighbors for almost five years,

the Saudi boss had his eyes on his officer's wife. According to the report that broke on social media, he tried to get into a relationship with the wife, who refused. (Emirates247)

Global News

Saudi Websites Hacked By 'Well-Intentioned' Group

More than 24 Saudi government websites have been briefly hacked, despite warnings from the hackers themselves that they would be making the attacks. (AlJazeera)

Saudi Arabia to Use Space Technology to Prevent Ebola

A Saudi born Assistant Professor, Dr. Farhan M. Asrar at the University of Toronto in Canada, has disclosed that his country has expressed readiness to use space technology to prevent Ebola disease

in his country. (Eagle Reporters)

Prices for Saudi Haj Packages Expected To Drop

The launch of the online portal for local pilgrims by the Saudi Ministry of Haj has led to local operators reworking their packages, a report said. (Trade Arabia)

Saudi Arabia's King Salman Backs Israel over Iran Nuclear Deal Concerns

Mr. Carter, on a project to promote the July 14 accord to the United States' Center Japanese allies, stated the Saudi monarch had expressed reservations even whilst ostensibly welcoming it once they

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met within the Purple Sea port of Jeddah. (Suffield Times)

Press TV: Saudi Arabia Only After Destroying Yemen: Analyst

Press TV has interviewed Hussein al-Bukhaiti, a Yemeni activist and political commentator in Sana'a, to discuss the outcome of the peace talks underway in neighboring Oman on Yemen's crisis. (Press TV)

Yemen Loyalists Take Back another Province from Rebels

Forces loyal to Yemen's exiled government retook a fifth southern province Saturday, extending recent gains against Iran-backed Shiite rebels who still control the capital. (Yahoo)

Kayla Mueller: Why US Hostage Raped By ISIL Leader Refused To Escape

Abu Bakr-al Baghdadi, the leader of the self-proclaimed ISIL, had repeatedly raped American hostage Kayla Mueller during her 1.5 years in captivity, US intelligence officials told her family in June. (New Yorker; Yahoo)

US Reportedly Sees Possible Pattern in ISIL Chemical Weapons Attacks

U.S. intelligence agencies reportedly believe ISIL used chemical weapons in Syria on Kurdish forces at least two weeks before the group may have used it in Iraq, U.S. officials said. (Fox)

The Fight to Document the ISIL Massacre Of the Yazidis

The remains of 67 people found in mass graves in northern Iraq were finally laid to rest this week, Kurdish media reported. They were members of Iraq's Yazidi minority, killed by the ISIL as it rampaged through the community's homelands near Mount Sinjar one year ago. (Huffington Post)

Syria Crisis: What's Behind The Fresh Diplomatic Push?

The multi-faceted civil war has lasted over four years, killed more than a quarter of a million people and dislodged upwards of 10 million, in what is being seen as the worst refugee crisis for half

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a
century. (BBC)

Cartoons

[IMAGE]

The Box: The American Policy

The three eggs: Houthis, Al-Qaeda, Daesh (Al-Jazirah)

[IMAGE]

Terrorism (Al-Watan)

[IMAGE]

(Makkah)

[IMAGE]

No for Extremism (Makkah)

[IMAGE]

Paid Media (Al-Jazirah)

Saudi Newspapers and Electronic Journals:

Liberal: Elaph

Conservative: Al-Riyadh, Al-Madina, Makkah, Alwifaq, Al Saha
(blog)

Moderate: Al-Jazirah, Aleqtisadiyah, Al-Watan, Okaz, Al-Youm, Arab
News, Saudi Gazette, ASharq Al-Awsat, Al-Hayat, Sabq (blog),
Al-Marsad (blog)

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