

MIDDLE EAST PRESS REVIEW

ANTI-SEMITISM AND OTHER TRENDS



January-June 2015

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Introduction

Anti-Semitism is widespread throughout the Arab and Muslim world, manifested in many segments of society. The Anti-Defamation League monitors and documents anti-Semitic cartoons and articles, which appear daily in the Arab media. This publication is the latest compilation of select anti-Semitic caricatures and themes, and includes examples from January-June 2015.

Newspapers across the Arab and Muslim world continue to feature anti-Semitic caricatures and themes, with demonic depictions of Jews that include big noses, black coats and hats. Many promote age-old global Jewish conspiracy theories, including control of international governments, obsession with money, blood libel, and the use of animal imagery – octopuses, dogs, snakes, crocodiles, vultures – and Nazi analogies to portray Israel and Jews as sinister predators.

An important theme highlighted in this compilation is cartoons accusing Jews of being behind, or in cahoots with, ISIS/Daesh, and responsible for their terrorist and genocidal activities in the Middle East. Another significant theme portrays Jews as responsible for the terrorist massacre at the Charlie Hebdo offices in Paris in early 2015.

You can view the previous edition of the Middle East Press Review (January-June 2014) here - <http://www.adl.org/assets/pdf/anti-semitism/arab-world/mepr/july-december-2014.pdf>

On the cover:

Right: *Ar Raya*, March 7, 2015 (Qatar)

Left: *Ad-Dustur*, March 25, 2015 (Jordan)

Center: *Fars*, January 18, 2015 (Iran)

Egypt



Al-Masri Al-Yawm, February 5, 2015
Written is the Arabic word for ISIS (“Da’esh”), and it is done using the Jewish Menorah as one of its letters.



Al-Ahram, February 18, 2015
Headline: “America after the slaughter of our sons.”¹



Al-Ahram Weekly, February 18, 2015



Al-Ahram Weekly, March 4, 2015²

¹ This cartoon refers to the ISIS beheading of Egyptian Copts in Libya, a video of which was released in February 2015.

² This cartoon refers to Israeli PM Netanyahu’s March 3rd speech to Congress, dedicated to dissuading it from endorsing the JCPOA agreement with Iran.



Al-Ahram Weekly, June 3, 2015

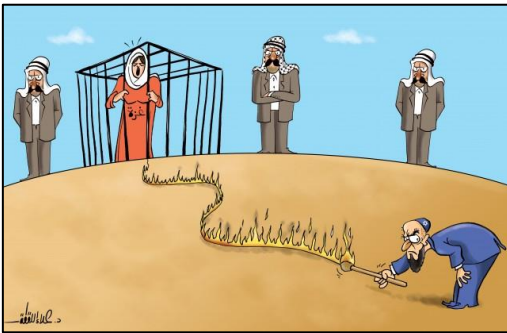


Al-Ahram Weekly, June 16, 2015

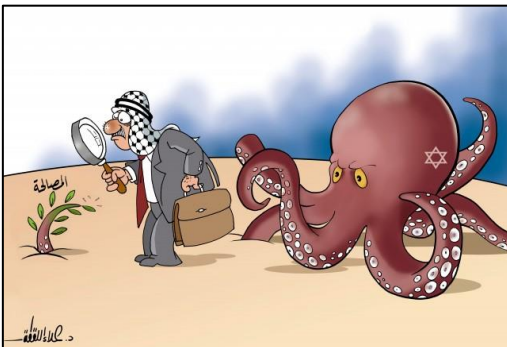
Gaza – Hamas



Filastin, January 16, 2015³
 Headline: "Freedom of speech in the West."
 On the right: "Anti-Semitism."
 On the left: "Anti-Islam."



Filastin, March 5, 2015⁴
 The woman represents Gaza.



Filastin, March 15, 2015
 In Arabic: "The reconciliation."⁵



Filastin, March 22, 2015

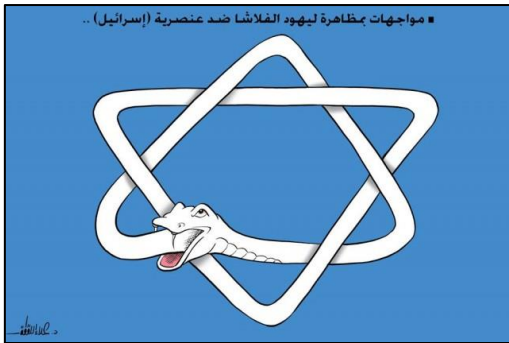
³ This cartoon refers to the January 2015 terror attack against Charlie Hebdo magazine in Paris, following the publication of cartoons of Islam's Prophet Mohammed.

⁴ This cartoon refers to the burning to death of captive Jordanian pilot Muath al-Kasasbeh by ISIS in January 2015.

⁵ This cartoon refers to one of the reconciliation agreements between Hamas and Fatah.



Filastin, March 24, 2015
Headline: "On the occasion of world water day: the occupation's theft of Palestinian water."



Filastin, May 6, 2015
Headline: "Confrontations during a demonstration of Ethiopian Jews against Israel's racism."

Iran



Fars, January 18, 2015⁶



Fars, January 18, 2015



Fars, January 26, 2015



Fars, January 31, 2015

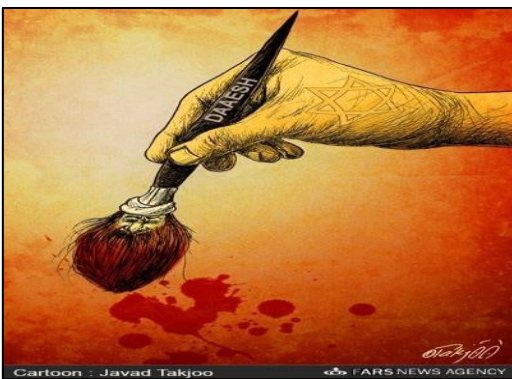
⁶ This cartoon refers to the January 2015 terror attack against Charlie Hebdo magazine in Paris, following the publication of cartoons of Islam's Prophet Mohammed.



Fars, February 7, 2015⁷



Fars, February 8, 2015⁸
 The rabbi is saying to Satan: "God, my Lord, bestow upon your servant a gift!!" Satan is saying: "Take this and enjoy it! He is like you, a bloodsucking aggressor!!"



Fars, February 10, 2015



Fars, March 6, 2015

⁷ This cartoon refers to the burning to death of captive Jordanian pilot Muath al-Kasasbeh by ISIS in January 2015.

⁸ This cartoon refers to reports whereby Israeli Rabbi Nir Ben Artzi said that through ISIS, God harms countries that wish to harm Israel and the Jewish people.



Fars, April 7, 2015⁹



Fars, April 15, 2015¹⁰



Fars, April 24, 2015¹¹
 Depicted as the devil, Netanyahu is saying: "There's nothing to be afraid of. Proceed, and I am behind you!"



Fars, May 3, 2015
 The Jewish figure is saying: "How magnificent, a five-star hotel!"

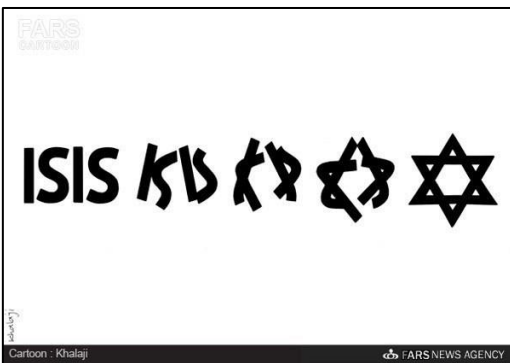
⁹ This cartoon refers to Saudi-led Operation Decisive Storm in Yemen, aimed at warding off Iranian-backed Houthi forces.
¹⁰ This cartoon refers to Saudi-led Operation Decisive Storm in Yemen, aimed at warding off Iranian-backed Houthi forces.
¹¹ This cartoon refers to Saudi-led Operation Decisive Storm in Yemen, aimed at warding off Iranian-backed Houthi forces.



Fars, May 12, 2015
The Jewish figure is sweeping under ISIS' beard ruins from Gaza.



Fars, May 18, 2015

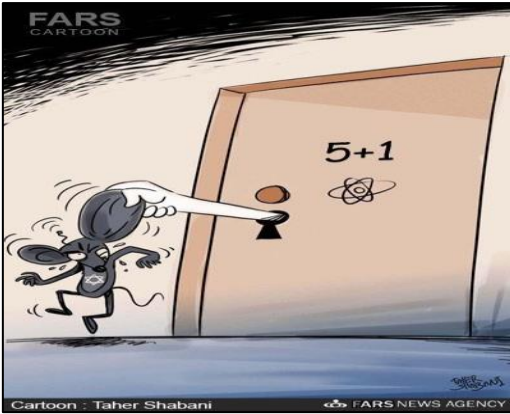


Fars, May 27, 2015

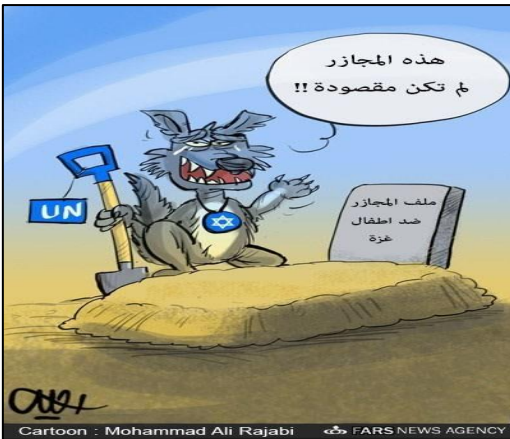


Fars, June 8, 2015¹²

¹² This cartoon refers to Saudi-led Operation Decisive Storm in Yemen, aimed at warding off Iranian-backed Houthi forces.



Fars, June 13, 2015¹³



Fars, June 17, 2015¹⁴
 The tombstone reads: "The Massacres against the Children of Gaza". The dog representing Israel is saying: "These massacres were unintentional!!"



Fars, June 17, 2015
 The figure in the center represents the Saudi royal family. On the right is Al-Qaeda, and on the left, the Jewish figure is getting "Al-Faida", which means "interest" in Arabic.



Fars, June 30, 2015

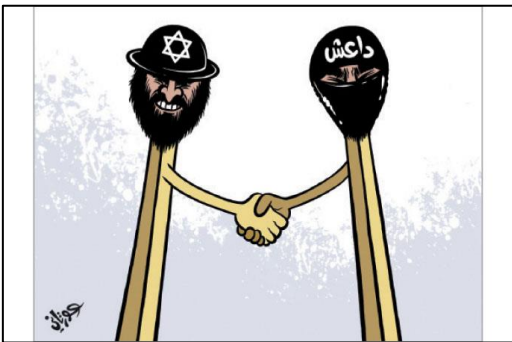
¹³ This cartoon relates to reports whereby Israel spied on the nuclear talks with Iran.

¹⁴ This cartoon refers to UNSC Ban Ki Moon's decision not to include Israel in the list of countries that kill or injure children in armed conflicts.

Jordan



Al-Ghad, February 28, 2015
The woman represents Jerusalem.



Ad-Dustur, March 5, 2015
The match on the right represents ISIS.



Ad-Dustur, March 10, 2015¹⁵
The cartoon's headline: "Lieberman Threatens to Behead the 1948 Arabs with an Axe".



Ad-Dustur, March 24, 2015¹⁶
The cartoon's headline: "The White House: We Will Re-evaluate Our Diplomatic Support of Israel."
The figure representing "the Zionist lobby" is saying to Obama: "What did you say, mama's boy?"

¹⁵ This cartoon refers to comments made by then-Israeli FM Avigdor Liberman in March 2015, whereby disloyal Israeli Arabs should be beheaded.

¹⁶ This cartoon refers to President Obama's statement whereby he will re-evaluate US policy on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, following remarks made by PM Netanyahu on the eve of the Israeli elections, negating the formation of a Palestinian state.



Ad-Dustur, March 25, 2015



Ad-Dustur, April 1, 2015
The cartoon's headline: "April Fool's Day."



Ar-Rai, April 5, 2015
The cartoon's headline: "World public opinion."



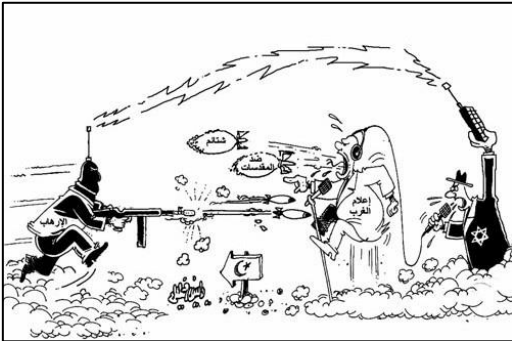
Ad-Dustur, April 25, 2015



As-Sabil, June 17, 2015¹⁷
Headline: “The freedom flotilla to break the siege.”

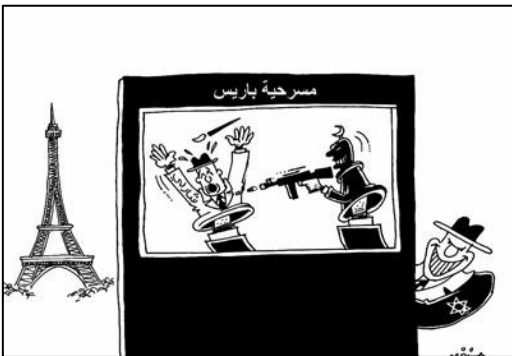
¹⁷ This cartoon refers to what is known as the Freedom Flotilla, which was aimed at breaking the naval blockade imposed by Israel on Gaza.

Oman



Al-Watan, January 13, 2015¹⁸

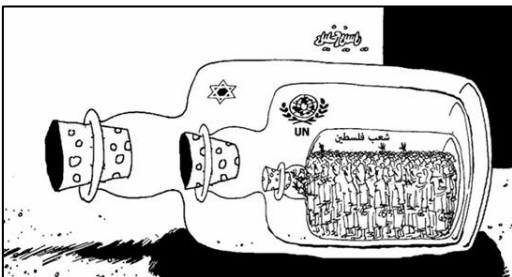
The Jewish figure controls both the figure on the left, which represents terrorism, and the figure on the right, which represents Western media and which fires “insults against holy things.”



Al-Watan, January 16, 2015

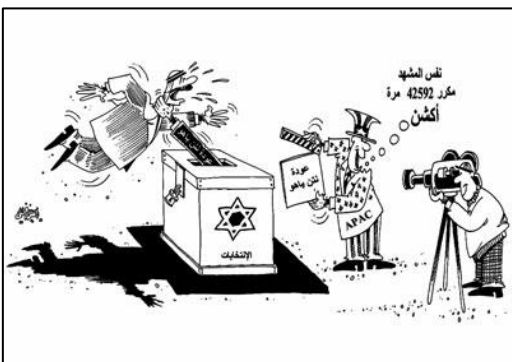
Headline: "The Paris stage play".

The Jewish figure's arms operate both Charlie Hebdo magazine on the left, and the terrorists who attacked it, on the right.



Al-Watan, February 15, 2015

The Palestinian people are shown bottled inside the UN, which in turn is bottled by Israel.



Al-Watan, March 19, 2015¹⁹

The figure in the middle is saying: "Same scene, take 42592, action". Written both on the take and on the arm grabbing the Arab figure: "Netanyahu's Return". Only that it is spelled "Natn-Yahu", and "Natn" means "stench" in Arabic.

¹⁸ This cartoon refers to the January 2015 terror attack against Charlie Hebdo magazine in Paris, following the publication of cartoons of Islam's Prophet Mohammed.

¹⁹ This cartoon refers to Israeli PM Netanyahu's re-election on March 17th.



Al-Watan, March 25, 2015²⁰
Written in Arabic: "Disagreements".



Oman, May 25, 2015
Looking upon the burning Middle East, the Jewish figure is saying to the figure representing weapon-selling countries: "The war needs to continue until you sell all the weapons."

²⁰ This cartoon refers to the rift in US-Israel relations around the time of the Israeli elections.

Palestinian Authority



Al-Ayyam, March 3, 2015²¹
Headline: "The Moment of Truth!"
Netanyahu is saying: "The House is ours...and Congress is ours."

²¹ This cartoon refers to Israeli PM Netanyahu's March 3rd speech to Congress, dedicated to dissuading it from endorsing the JCPOA agreement with Iran.

Qatar



Al-Jazeera, January 1, 2015



Al-Watan, January 2, 2015
The newspaper's headline: "The Palestinian Authority Joins the International Criminal Court".

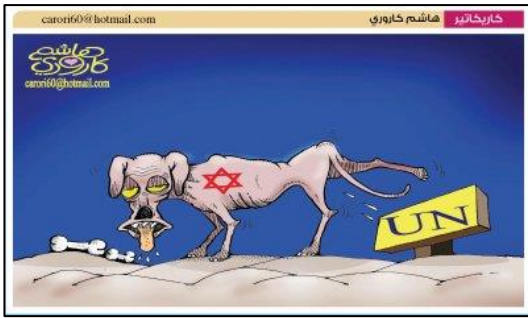


Al-Watan, January 5, 2015
Headline: "Israel freezes Palestinian tax funds and America threatens to cut aid (Money)." Under the red slogan "Palestinian Blood is Not for Sale", the Palestinian figure is using the ICC, represented by the club, to hit the US and Israel.



Al-Watan, January 25, 2015²²
Written in Arabic: "Lebanon."

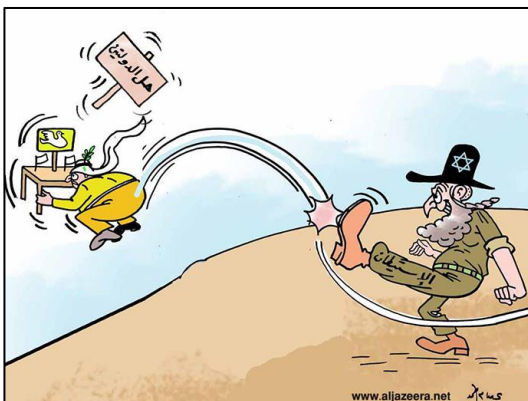
²² This cartoon refers to a suicide attack perpetrated by ISIS in the Lebanese city of Tripoli in January.



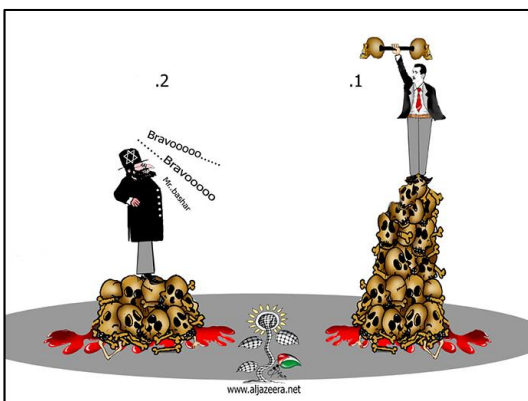
Al-Watan, January 28, 2015



Ar-Raya, March 7, 2015



Al-Jazeera, March 12, 2015
The Jewish figure represents the settlements and it is kicking the two-state solution.



Al-Jazeera, March 16, 2015



Al-Watan, April 9, 2015



Ar-Raya, April 16, 2015
Headline: "The Arab Spring."



Al-Watan, April 25, 2015
Written on the TV screen: "Arab solidarity."



Al-Watan, May 3, 2015



Al-Jazeera, May 13, 2015
 The Arab figure used as a hammock by the Jew is hanging from columns on which is written 1948 and 1967. Written on the sign: "Palestine."



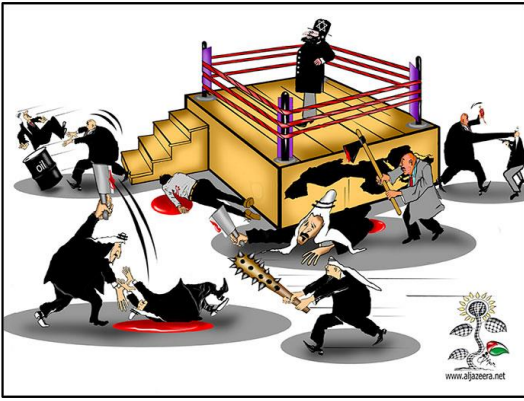
Ar-Raya, May 25, 2015



Al-Watan, May 29, 2015



Al-Watan, June 9, 2015



Al-Jazeera, June 14, 2015

Saudi Arabia



Al-Watan, January 4, 2015²³
The gun held by the US represents aid.



Al-Jazira, January 6, 2015



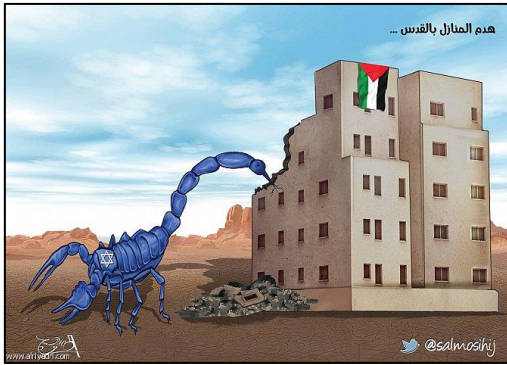
Al-Madina, January 19, 2015²⁴
Headline: “Washington condemns the ICC’s decision to launch an investigation into Israel’s crimes...”



Al-Watan, February 22, 2015
Headline: “Washington warns of the Palestinian Authority’s collapse due to bankruptcy.” The Palestinian figure is being pressured both by the US withholding its aid money and by Israel withholding Palestinian tax funds.

²³ This cartoon refers to calls in Congress to freeze aid money to the Palestinian authority, especially in the backdrop of its attempts to join the International Criminal Court. It was accepted as an ICC member in April 2015.

²⁴ This cartoon refers to January 16th decision by ICC Prosecutor Fatou Bensouda to open “a preliminary examination into the situation in Palestine”.



Ar-Riyadh, March 13, 2015
 Headline: "Home demolitions in Jerusalem."



Al-Watan, March 25, 2015²⁵
 While President Obama is saying "We will re-evaluate our ties with Israel", the Jewish figure representing "the Zionist lobby" is saying "Hmm Hmm..."

²⁵ This cartoon refers to President Obama's statement whereby he will re-evaluate US policy on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, following remarks made by PM Netanyahu on the eve of the Israeli elections, negating the formation of a Palestinian state.

United Arab Emirates



Al-Bayan, January 6, 2015
The Jew is replacing the sign “Jerusalem: Israel’s eternal capital” with one that reads “Washington: Israel’s eternal capital.”



Al-Khalij, January 26, 2015



Al-Bayan, March 8, 2015
Written on the sign: “The State of Palestine.”



Al-Bayan, March 17, 2015
Written in Arabic: “The peace process”.



Al-Bayan, March 19, 2015
 Headline: "Elections."
 Standing between the figures representing the Israeli political left and right wings, the Palestinian figure represents the center.



Al-Khalij, March 20, 2015
 The octopus represents the settlements.



Al-Ittihad, March 22, 2015



Al-Bayan, May 13, 2015



Al-Bayan, May 22, 2015
The Arab figure represents the
internal Palestinian disputes.

United Kingdom-Based Newspapers



Al-Arab, January 2, 2015



Al-Quds Al-Arabi, May 11, 2015
Written in Arabic: "Settlement building."



Al-Arab, June 26, 2015
Strangled between signs representing the West Bank and the Gaza Strip is the dove representing the two-state solution.

Select List of Arab Media Outlets

Ad-Dustur (Jordan) — first issued on March 28, 1967, this government-owned daily expresses pro-Palestinian and anti-Israeli views. Editor in chief: Muhammad Hasan At-Tal.

Al-Ahram (Egypt) — an Egyptian daily controlled by the Egyptian government: the president appoints the editor. The editor (and the editors of the other government owned dailies, *Al-Gumhuriyya* and *Al-Akhabar*) is given substantial leeway in his editorial practices, assuming he avoids certain “taboos.” *Al-Ahram* is the largest Arabic paper in the world and has established the *Al-Ahram* Regional Press Institute. It was founded in 1875.

Al-Ahram Al-'Arabi (Egypt) — a weekly published by the Dar Al-Ahram publishing house. The editor-in-chief of the newspaper is Dr. 'Abd Al-'Ati Muhammad, and the chairman of the publishing house is Ibrahim Nafi, who is *Al-Ahram's* editor in chief. Although both newspapers are published by the same publishing house, *Al-Ahram* and *Al-Ahram Al-Arabi* are different. The editorials in *Al-Ahram* are always supportive of government positions, while the editorials in *Al-Ahram al-Arabi* are critical of the government and also other countries. The paper publishes very strong anti-Israeli views.

Al-'Arab Online (United Kingdom) – Arab daily newspaper. Its editor-in-chief is Mohamed Ahmed El-Houni.

Al-Ayyam (West Bank) – Palestinian daily based in Ramallah. Editor-in-chief is Akram Haniyyeh.

Al-Bayan (United Arab Emirates) — owned by the Al-Bayan Foundation for Press, Printing and Publication. The newspaper was founded in 1980 and the editor is Hasher Al-Mektom, a member of the royal family.

Al-Ghad (Jordan) — an independent and privately sponsored mainstream daily. Today the paper is less anti-Israel than it used to be.

Al-Ittihad (United Arab Emirates) — it was first issued on October 20, 1969. The editor-in-chief is Rashid Salih Al-'Arimi. It is a government daily, which emphasizes the government's policy and its achievements in domestic and foreign affairs. The paper publishes all kinds of news related to the Arab and Muslim arena. It has a wide network of correspondents in Arab countries and the west. The paper is being published by Emirates Media (www.emi.ae).

Al-Jazeera TV (Qatar) - A popular Qatari news channel accessible throughout the Arab world, launched in 1996, and headed by Sheikh Hamad bin Thamer bin Mohammed bin Thani Al-Thani. It broadly covered the uprisings in the Arab world. The cartoons were posted on Al-Jazeera's website.

Al-Jazira (Saudi Arabia) — very conservative, pro-Islamic. The paper has a limited circulation and is not widespread in relation to the other Saudi papers. It was established in 1960. The editor-in-chief is Khalid Bin Hamd Al-Malik.

Al-Khalij (United Arab Emirates) — The country's largest Arabic language newspaper; it is privately-owned. It was founded in 1970.

Al-Madia (Saudi Arabia) - Saudi daily based in Jeddah. It was established in 1937 and the editor-in-chief is Fahd Hasan Aal Uqran.

Al-Quds Al-Arabi (UK) - UK-based leading pan-Arab daily established in 1989. Editor-in-chief is Sina Alul.

Al-Masri Al-Yawm (Egypt) – Egyptian daily established in 2004 and based in Cairo. Its “sister publication” is the Egypt Independent, launched in 2009.

Al-Watan (Oman) — the only privately owned daily — owned by a business group. It was established in 1971, the editor-in-chief is Muhammad Ibn Sulaiman At-Tani. It enjoys high popularity and has a circulation of 40,000. Although the daily is privately owned, the government has a right (by law) to censor materials.

Al-Watan (Qatar) — *Al-Watan* is one of the five Qatari dailies. *Al-Watan's* chairman is Hamad bin Sahim Al Thani, a member of the royal family (all of the papers are owned by different branches of the royal family). The Foreign Minister, Hamad Bin Jasim Bin Jabir Al Thani, owns half of the newspaper. It was founded in 1995.

Al-Watan (Saudi Arabia) — a daily owned by the governor of the Asir district.

Ar-Rai (Jordan) — first issued in 1971, it is a government daily which expresses the approaches of the Jordanian regime. The editor-in-chief is 'Abd Al-Wahab Zaghilat.

Ar-Raya (Qatar) — a government-sponsored daily edited by Yusuf Muhammad Darwish and published through the Gulf Company, which belongs to the royal family.

Ar-Riyadh (Saudi Arabia) — A Saudi daily, one of the four principal Saudi papers (the three others are: *Al-Madina*, *Al-Jazira* and *Al-Watan*). The paper presents a relatively conservative attitude, while emphasizing (as most of the Saudi papers) its praise of the Royal family. Generally, the Saudi government lays severe limitations on the freedom of press and has a strict censorship, even on the foreign press that enters Saudi Arabia. Since the Saudi press is government-oriented, it concentrates on praising the Saudi Royal Family. Of course, opposition or independent newspapers do not exist in Saudi Arabia. However, the London based Saudi press has more independent features.

As-Sabil (Jordan) – Newspaper published since 1993, that became a daily in 2009.

Fars (Iran) – Iranian news agency founded in 2003, which operates in English, Farsi, Arabic and Turkish.

Filastin (Gaza) — Affiliated with Hamas. It was first issued in May 2007.

Oman (Oman) — first issued in November 1972, it is a government affiliated paper. The editor-in-chief is 'Abdallah Bin Nasir Ar-Rahabi.



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