

Shift in Economic Dependencies of Saudi Arabia

Rakhshanda Munir

rakhshandamunir31@gmail.com

Lecturer and Department head of Political Science Dhacss College for Women, Phase 8, Karachi

Corresponding Author: Rakhshanda Munir rakhshandamunir31@gmail.com

Received: 25-01-2026

Revised: 07-02-2026

Accepted: 23-02-2026

Published: 09-03-2026

ABSTRACT

The paper takes the opportunity to analyse the social and economic changes in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. It highlights the most popular movement of the kingdom i.e. the “Wahhabi Movement” and its impacts on the social structure and political scenario of Saudi Arabia. The transitional phase was witnessed in Saudi Arabia when King Abdallah showed flexibility regarding the matter of women. The females of the Saudi kingdom were given a chance to participate in the elections by voting. Economic changes were also witnessed during the governance of King Abdallah. Major changes were made in different cities of Saudi Arabia. After the arrival of Saudi King Mohammad Bin Salman in 2018 very quick changes were made in social and political domains of Saudi Arabia. These changes include economic, social and political. For the purpose of economic progress different projects have been introduced by the Saudi King. The paper will focus on the reactions of Saudi’s which will be discovered after the transitions are made in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Keywords: Wahhabi Movement, Persian Gulf, Umayyad, Rashidun, Fatimid, Abbasids, King Abdul Aziz, Abdul Al Wahhab, World Trade Organization, Rabigh, Hail, Yanbu, Jeddah, Dammam, Al-Ahser, Riyadh, King Muhammad Bin Salman & “VISION 2030”

INTRODUCTION:

Saudi Arabia, a land carrying abundance and privileges extends across most of the northern and central Arabian Peninsula. Hejaz, the cradle of Islam lies along the Red Sea in the Western highlands. The land is immensely rich with resources due to the holy places located in Mecca and Medina. The country is blessed with rich oil fields which are located in the east along the Persian Gulf. (1)

1. <https://www.britannica.com/place/Saudi-Arabia>

Before the spread of Islam, the land was occupied by different cultures and civilizations. The traces of the world’s second largest religion could be found on the land of Saudi Arabia. During the early years of the seventh century Prophet (P.B.U.H) united the Arabs with the strings of Islamic values under one Umbrella called Ummah. After the departure of our beloved Prophet in 632 A.D, his followers started to spread Islam beyond the Arabian boundaries. In this process, Muslims were able to conquer Iberian Peninsula, (in the west to parts of Central and South Asia in the east). During this time span different dynasties ruled Saudi Arabia which included; Rashidun (632-661), Umayyad (661-750), Abbasids (750-1517) and Fatimid (909-1171). Besides this other Muslim Dynasties ruled in different regions of Asia, Africa and Europe.



(2) https://www.google.com/search?q=old+day+saudi+arabia&tbm=isch&ved=2ahUKEwiOtp6ctoT2AhXObMAKHZdgCrgQ2-cCegQIABAA&oq=old+day+saudi+arabia&gs_lcp=CgNpbWcQDDoHCCMQ7wMQJzoGCAAQBxAeOgcIABCxAXBD0goIABCxAXCDARBD0gQIABBDOgUIABCABFDmB1j-VGDYcWgBcAB4AIABzgKIAbEakgEHMC45LjYuMZgBAKABAaoBC2d3cy13aXotaW1nwAEB&scIent=img&ei=zAgNYo6gM87ZgQaXwanACw&bih=625&biw=1366#imgrc=jyxOJo_J7EajhM

Modern day Saudi Arabia comprises of Hejaz, Najd, parts of Eastern Arabia (Al-Ahsa) and Western Arabia (Asir). The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia was founded by King Abdul Aziz in 1932. He amalgamated all the four regions into single state after a series conquests. The process of conquering different regions began in 1902 when Abdul Aziz captured Riyadh. Since then Saudi Arabia has practiced absolute monarchy. Riyadh was declared its capital. (3)

1. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saudi_Arabia



1. https://www.google.com/search?q=MODERN+day+saudi+arabia&hl=en&sxsrf=APq-WBtwM-EEr1q1okrQVuD-O4HcQivH1A:1645022623180&source=lnms&tbm=isch&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjQh-jouT2AhVWSfEDHfneDUQQ_AUoAXoECAEQAw&biw=1366&bih=625&dpr=1

Social and Cultural Structure of Saudi Arabia:

The residents of Saudi Arabia include nomads and the tribal people. Men wear turbans and thobe or thawb. On the other hand women wear abbayya. The King Faisal Library was established in Riyadh in 1968. The Society of Arts and Cultures was founded in 1972. In order to support the literary, educational and cultural programs King Faisal Foundation was formed in 1976. The National Museum was founded in 1978. (5)

1. <https://www.britannica.com/place/Saudi-Arabia/Daily-life-and-social-customs>

CENSORSHIP IN SAUDI ARABIA:

The Saudi government keeps a close check and balance on the electronic and print media. The government officials strictly monitor the material which is published in books and newspapers. As a matter of fact; the report of 2018 regarding Freedom of Press shows Saudi Arabia ranks 169th out of 180 countries. (6)

1. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Censorship_in_Saudi_Arabia

Wahabi Movement in Saudi Arabia:

Along with the increase of population near Oasis in Central Asia around 16th Century to the early 18th Century, the sophistication and number of Ulema also increased along with it. The Wahhabi Movement was led by Mohammad ibn Al Wahhab who was born to a religious family of judges in Uyaynah in 1703. Before initiating the principles of moral conduct in Uyaynah, he travelled to different regions of Middle East.

Uthmaan Ibn Mu'ammār appreciated the doctrine of Mohammad Ibn Al Wahhab. The chief of Banu Khalid tribe threatened Uthmaan that he will wage war against him until and unless Abdul Al Wahhab is sentenced to death. Uthmaan was unable to put an end to the life of his guest. Therefore he decided to dismiss Abdul Al Wahhab from his region. Abdul Wahhab went to Al-Diriya which is 40 miles (65 kms). During the earlier wars, Uyaynah and parts of Al-Hasa were captured. The new movement impacted town of Riyadh; Oasis after 27 years as the region was occupied by stubborn rules. When Mohammad Ibn Saud died in 1765, only a few parts of Central and Eastern Arabia were invaded. (7)

1. <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Wahhabi>

After the death of Abdul Al Wahhab in 1792, the Wahhabi Movement was continued by Saud. In 1814, after his departure the movement was continued by his son Abd Allah. (8)

1. <http://countrystudies.us/saudi-arabia/7.htm>



(9)

1. https://www.google.com/search?q=wahabi+movement+in+saudi+arabia&sxsrf=APq-WBvGQtzcVfVmwom_rsMPsnkrPp1SwA:1645020479401&source=lnms&tbn=isch&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjnrsqsoT2AhWTuKQKHY_-DvgQ_AUoAnoECAEQBA&biw=1366&bih=625&dpr=1#imgrc=G1np2Pat81X2eM

Economy of Saudia Arabia

According to the index of 2021, Saudi Arabia is the 63rd freest economy of the world. The Saudi kingdom in ranked 5th, among the 14 countries of the Middle East and North African region. (10)

1. <https://www.heritage.org/index/country/saudiarabia>

Economy and World Trade:

The Saudi economy has undergone many changes. Petroleum is an integral part of Saudi Arabia's economy. It is the world's largest producer and exporter of oil. The government plays a vital role in the expansion of Saudi economy. The additional sectors which are neglected by Saudi government include; agriculture, transportation, communication and finance.

The private sector has started to participate in the development of the country's economy. It now contributes 48 percent to the GDP of Saudi Arabia.

In Dec 2005, Saudi Arabia joined the World Trade Organization so that it may have greater access the global market. (11)

1. <https://www.saudiembassy.net/economy-global-trade>

Historical Background:

During the 70's & 80's, the Saudi economy had been enriched by the revenues earned through the export of different petroleum products. Many economic developments had been made. The first two successive five year plans were made during (1970-1975 & 1976-1980). However, a stagnation was caused in the oil prices during 1990's worldwide which impacted the Saudi economy very badly. There was also a rapid increase in the population of Saudi Arabia the same year.

Agriculture:

The Saudi government also invested in the agriculture sector. The agricultural production was localized by the government. Many nomads raised camels, sheep and goat. Special attention was given to the domestic production. The agriculture sector contributes a small amount to Saudi GDP. (12)

1. <https://www.britannica.com/place/Saudi-Arabia/Economy>

Industrial Cities of Saudi Arabia:

At present, the hydrocarbon sector contributes 75 percent of the revenue, 50 percent to the Gross Domestic Product and 90 percent of export earnings. The private sector is contributing \$746 billion to the country's economy.

According to the Index of 2013 which was published by the UK Heritage Foundation think tank that economy of Saudi Arabia ranks 82nd and 8th among the 15 countries of Middle East and North Africa.

The industrial cities of Saudi Arabia include; Yanbu, Jeddah, Riyadh, Hail, Dammam, Al- Ahser & Rabigh. (13)

1. <https://www.meed.com/saudi-arabia-economic-zones>

Saudi City of Rabigh-Jeddah:

The city is located in the north of Jeddah. It is spread on an area of 168 million square miles. It is a city of 2 million residents which provides 1 million job opportunities. It makes an investment of \$ 27 billion.



(14)

1. https://www.google.com/search?q=RABIGH&tbm=isch&ved=2ahUKEwjs5PXVu4T2AhV3QUEAHUW7BJIQ2-cCegQIABAA&oq=RABIGH&gs_lcp=CgNpbWcQAzIFCAAQgAQyBAGAEEMyBQgAEIAEMgUIABCABDIECAAQQzIECAAQQzIFCAAQgAQ6BwgjEO8DECC6CggjEO8DEOoCECC6CAGAEIAEELEDOggIABCxAXCDAToECAAQAzOHCAAQsQMQQzoLCAAQgAQOsQMQgwFQjQZY0ilgpDdoAXAAeASAAakCiAH9FpIBBT AuMy45mAEAoAEBqgELZ3dzLXdpei1pbWewAQrAAQE&scient=img&ei=gw4NYqyXPPeChbIPxfaSkAk&bih=625&biw=1366&hl=en#imgrc=hXBbZpsDNnNyZM

Saudi City of Hail:

The city of Hail extends on an area of 156 million square miles. The investment size of this city is \$ 8 billion. It comprises of 80,000 inhabitants. The city provides an opportunity of 55,000 jobs. The people focus on agribusiness, logistics, minerals & construction material.



(15)

1. https://www.google.com/search?q=hail+city+saudi+arabia+photos&tbm=isch&ved=2ahUKEwjQp8_MvYT2AhUGZhoKHKV-K-D_4Q2-cCegQIABAA&oq=H+SAUDI+CITY&gs_lcp=CgNpbWcQARgAMggIABAIEAcQHjIICAAQCBAHEB4yCAGAEAgQBxAeMggIABAIEAcQHjIICAAQCBAHEB4yCAGAEAgQBxAeMggIABAIEAcQHjIICAAQCBAHEB4yCAGAEAgQBxAeOgYIABAIEB46BggAEAcQHjoECAAQZoFCAAQgARQvA1Y_kFgtHZoAHAAeACAAAYsCiAHUC5IBBTauMS42mAEAoAEBqgELZ3dzLXdpei1pbWfAAOE&scient=img&ei=iRANYpC_FYbMadL8vvAP&bih=625&biw=1366&hl=en#imgcr=8dNBn2UygOdUmM

Saudi City of Medina:

The Saudi holy city of Medina is the most peaceful place as the Mosque of Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) is present there. The land area of this city is 4.8 million square miles. Its total investment is US\$ 7 Billion. The total population of Medina is 200,000 people. It provides 20,000 job opportunities.



(16)

1. [google.com/search?q=Medina+city+saudi+arabia+photos&tbm=isch&ved=2ahUKEwirys7OvoT2AhU7k_0HHS1WDsMQ2-cCegQIABAA&oq=Medina+city+saudi+arabia+photos&gs_lcp=CgNpbWcQAzoHCCMQ7wMQJzoGCAAQBxAeOgYIABAIEB5QIRZY_z1g7kpoAHAAeACAAcUCiAG6E5IBBjItMTAuMZgBAKABAAoBC2d3cy13aXotaW1nwAEB&sclient=img&ei=mRENYuuZO7um9u8Pray5mA&bih=625&biw=1366&hl=en#imgrc=K32SsEah0fkvlM](https://www.google.com/search?q=Medina+city+saudi+arabia+photos&tbm=isch&ved=2ahUKEwirys7OvoT2AhU7k_0HHS1WDsMQ2-cCegQIABAA&oq=Medina+city+saudi+arabia+photos&gs_lcp=CgNpbWcQAzoHCCMQ7wMQJzoGCAAQBxAeOgYIABAIEB5QIRZY_z1g7kpoAHAAeACAAcUCiAG6E5IBBjItMTAuMZgBAKABAAoBC2d3cy13aXotaW1nwAEB&sclient=img&ei=mRENYuuZO7um9u8Pray5mA&bih=625&biw=1366&hl=en#imgrc=K32SsEah0fkvlM)

Saudi City of Jazan:

The city of Jazan is located along the Red Sea in the South Western region of the Kingdom. The city mainly focusses on the energy and labor incentive industries. The city expands on area of 100 million square miles. The size of investments made by Jazan is US\$ 27 Billion. The total population of the city is 250, 000. It provides 500,000 job opportunities. (17)

1. <https://www.oecd.org/mena/competitiveness/38906206.pdf>



(18)

1. https://www.google.com/search?q=JAZAN+SAUDI+CITY&tbm=isch&ved=2ahUKEwiroZ2byYT2AhXK16QKHepyD0oQ2-cCegQIABAA&oq=JAZAN+SAUDI+CITY&gs_lcp=CgNpbWcQAzIGCAAQCBAeOggIABAI EAcQHjoECAAQQzoFCAAQgAQ6BggAEAcQHIC0B1jFI2DcJmgAcAB4AIAB9wGIAakSkg EFMC45LjOYAQCgAQGqAQtn3Mtd2l6LWltZ8ABAQ&sclient=img&ei=IRANYuuML8qvk wXq5b3QBA&bih=625&biw=1366&hl=en#imgrc=Ycr2z3_uMnXbnM

Saudia Arabia under the Assistance of King Abdallah:



From 2005 to 2015, King Abdallah completely modernized the Saudi Kingdom. The kingdom went through complete transition. The king made a number of economic and social reforms. These reforms included expansion of social and economic opportunities for women, attracting foreign investment, posing restrictions on businesses from hiring foreigners and opening doors for the private sector to contribute towards the economy.

The elections were introduced in Saudi Arabia in the years; 2005 and 2011, when Saudi municipal councilors were to be appointed. In 2015, the women were given an opportunity to cast their vote during elections. (19)

1. <https://www.economy.com/saudi-arabia/indicators>

Saudi Arabia under the Assistance of Mohammad Bin Salman:



Mohammad Bin Salman was born on 31st August 1985 to King Salman and Fahda Bint Salah Bin Sultan Al Hathalayn. (20)

1. <https://www.pinterest.com/pin/368098969524712218/>

He became the defense minister in 2015 and was crowned as the Saudi King in 2017.

1. From a very young age, Mohammad Bin Salman took great interest in Politics. After receiving the Bachelor's degree in Law in 2007, the King initiated different organizations and non-profitable firms to entertain entrepreneurship in Saudi Arabia. In 2009, King Salman rendered his services as an advisor to His father who was the governor of Riyadh. (21)
<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/368098969524712218/>

Designations of Mohammad Bin Salman

In April 2015, Mohammad Bin Salman became the Deputy Crown Prince, second Deputy Prime Minister & the president of the Council of Economic & Development Affairs. As an economic planner he was applauded by different heads of states. Salman believed that there should be a diversification in Saudi Arabia's economic policies. Besides this he brought many changes at the social level. Salman removed restrictions from women especially driving cars.

Salman started to focus on options which may help in the growth of Saudi economy. For this purpose, he launched a plan named "VISION 2030".

In the first phase (2015-2020) the economy will receive a revenue of 600 Billion Riyal. Finally till 2030 Saudi Arabia will be able to earn 1 trillion Riyal.



(22)

1. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-40354415>

Launch of Vision 2030 By Mohammad Bin Salman:

On 25th April 2016, the Saudi crown Prince proudly announced “Vision 2030” for the greater economic satiability of the country. The prince showed His deepest concerns that the economy of state had been dependent only on the oil reservoirs since long. Salman wanted to transform Saudi Arabia which carries greater options and opportunities to build a prosperous economy. (23)

1. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saudi_Vision_2030

Projects Initiated Under “VISION 2030”:

Different plans were initiated under this Mega Project. These plans were to be completed until 2030 in different phases.

Infrastructure Investment:

Mohammad Bin Salman, highlighted that the major energy company of Saudi Arabia “ARAMCO”, will be investing 5 trillion riyals or \$1.3 trillion. The project also focusses on giving people a better standard of living. In this regard, housing facilities are provided to different people residing in the country. After the launch of this project, the percentage of people owning houses has increased from 47% to 60%. (24)

1. <https://www.thenationalnews.com/gulf/saudi-arabia/saudi-crown-prince-mohammed-bin-salman-explains-vision-2030-in-landmark-interview-1.1212017>

The local areas will receive a huge investment of 12 trillion Riyal i.e. \$3.2 trillion till 2030. The investments to the Gross Domestic Product will increase from 20% in 2019 to 30% in 2030. After all the goals are achieved till 2030, Saudi Arabia will stand tall among the 15 largest economies of the World. (25)

1. <https://english.alarabiya.net/News/gulf/2021/10/11/Saudi-Arabia-s-Crown-Prince-launches-National-Investment-Strategy>

Saudi Arabia Economy Data

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
<u>Population (million)</u>	31.1	31.8	32.6	33.4	3z4.1
<u>GDP per capita (USD)</u>	21,063	20,284	21,113	23,536	23,265
<u>GDP (USD bn)</u>	654	645	689	786	793
<u>Economic Growth (GDP, annual variation in %)</u>	4.1	1.7	-0.7	2.4	0.3
<u>Consumption (annual variation in %)</u>	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Investment (annual variation in %)</u>	3.7	-14.0	0.7	-2.1	4.0
<u>Industrial Production (annual variation in %)</u>	5.0	2.3	-2.4	2.7	-2.6
<u>Unemployment Rate</u>	5.7	5.6	5.9	6.0	5.6
<u>Fiscal Balance (% of GDP)</u>	-15.8	-12.9	-9.2	-5.9	-4.5
<u>Public Debt (% of GDP)</u>	5.8	13.1	17.2	19.0	22.8
<u>Money (annual variation in %)</u>	2.5	0.8	0.3	2.7	7.1
<u>Inflation Rate (CPI, annual variation in %, eop)</u>	1.2	1.0	-1.1	1.9	-0.2
<u>Inflation Rate (CPI, annual variation in %)</u>	1.2	2.1	-0.8	2.5	-2.1
<u>Policy Interest Rate (%)</u>	2.00	2.00	2.00	3.00	2.25
<u>Exchange Rate (vs USD)</u>	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
<u>Current Account (% of GDP)</u>	-8.7	-3.7	1.5	9.0	6.3
<u>Current Account Balance (USD bn)</u>	-56.7	-23.8	10.5	70.6	129
<u>Trade Balance (USD billion)</u>	44.3	55.8	98.5	169	262
<u>Exports (USD billion)</u>	204	184	222	294	132
<u>Imports (USD billion)</u>	159	128	123	126	-11.2

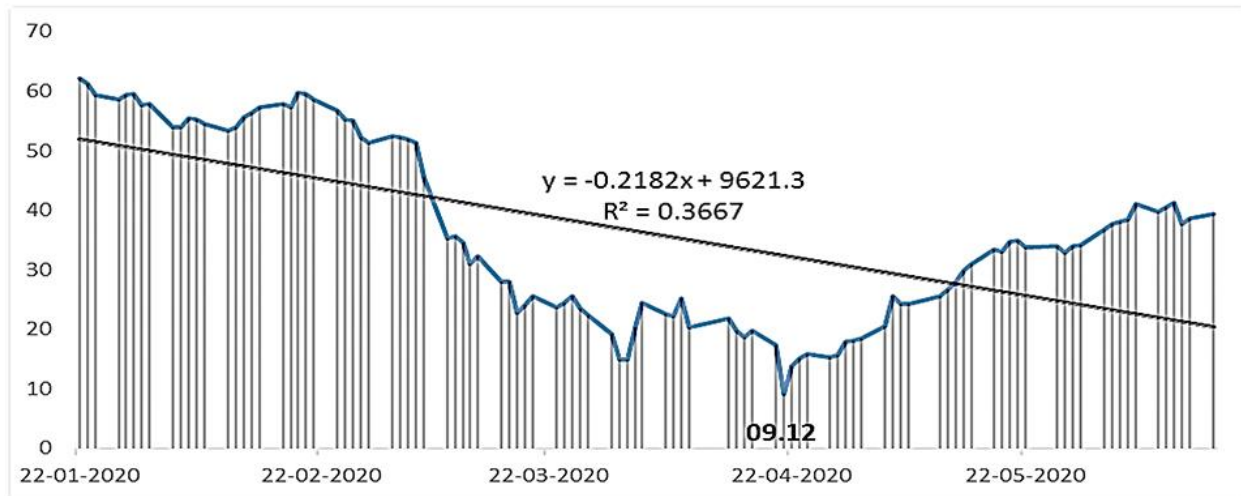
<u>Exports (annual variation in %)</u>	-40.6	-9.8	20.9	32.7	5.3
<u>Imports (annual variation in %)</u>	0.5	-19.8	-3.5	1.8	499
<u>International Reserves (USD)</u>	616	536	496	496	-
<u>External Debt (% of GDP)</u>	13.8	24.6	27.7	28.1	

(26)

1. <https://www.focus-economics.com/countries/saudi-arabia>

Impact Covid-19 on Oil Prices is Saudi Arabia

The oil prices on Saudi Arabia



(27)

1. <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fpubh.2021.620875/full>

Social & Religious Reforms:

The first major change was introduced when in the spring 2016 the Saudi police was empowered by the king. The police was granted the right to enforce laws and arrest the culprits in case of any violation. According to Kristin Smith Diwan, scholar at the Arab Gulf State Institute, it was the fundamental shift which was witnessed in Saudi Arabia. Another researcher Eman Alhussein stated that in the early years the Saudi's were maintaining double standards in their day-to-day life. For in-doors they adopted a relax lifestyle and on the other hand at the public places they were restricted. After the launch of "Vision 2030", a flexibility is clearly witnessed in the Saudi cities of Riyadh & Jeddah. In 2017, the King lifted the ban on movie theatre. (28)

1. <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fpubh.2021.620875/full>

In June 2018, the women were permitted to drive without any hesitation. In order to entertain the public in restaurants, music was allowed by the Saudi government. The Saudi government provided an opportunity to the jazz musicians, opera artists & rappers to entertain the residents of Riyadh & Jeddah. (29)

1. [Dawn News, 28th Feb 2018](#)

The women were provided with more liability in August 2019. They were given an opportunity to move freely without any permission and exercise complete control on the family matters. The other major development was providing the tourists visa in October 2019. The foreigners were permitted to rent rooms in hotels. (30)

1. <https://www.reuters.com/article/saudi-investment-reforms-idUKL5N2763K6>

The Wahhabi influence is fading away gradually from Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The citizens are not strictly ordered to say their prayers timely in the mosques. Some shops and Malls will remain open during the prayers. The Mosques are restricted not to carry religious processions for a longer period. The mosques should reduce the volume of their loud-speakers because it causes noise pollution. (31)

1. <https://www.dawn.com/news/1630509>

The societal changes were further captured on camera when the Valentine's Day was celebrated by the Saudi's in the on-going year- 2022. This celebration made evident that Saudi Arabia has aimed to move completely towards liberalism. (32)

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1674918>

NEOM Project:

NEOM is an advanced laboratory which is built on the Red Sea in the North West of Saudi Arabia. The major aim of constructing this site is to promote the entrepreneurship in the country. This laboratory will open new doors of progress for the business men which are residing in Saudi Arabia.



Objectives of NEOM Project:

1. To diversify the Saudi economy so that it may contribute more in the development of global economy.
2. To provide more opportunities for the foreigners in Saudi Arabia and to allow the residents to understand different cultures of the world.
3. It focusses in providing a friendly environment for the urban people, providing better health facilities and provides an insight to use modern technology for their personal growth as well as the growth of the country.
4. To bring all the communities of the world on a common platform which will entertain the promotion of economic growth of all and a place where the welfare of all will be prioritized. (33)

<https://www.vision2030.gov.sa/v2030/v2030-projects/neom/>

Red Sea Project:

The Red Sea Project extends on an area of 2800 sq. kms which covers the pristine lands, the waters, archipelago and 90 islands. The highlights of the project include mountain canyons, dormant volcanoes, ancient culture and heritage site. Under this grand project, leisure facilities, entertainment ventures, hotels & residential properties are provided.



Objectives:

1. Provides new opportunities for the foreign tourists. It also initiates to promote domestic & International tourism.
2. Opening doors for the residents and foreigners in different sectors which will help in the economic development both at national & international level.

3. The project entails better educational & economic opportunities for the youngsters so that they may realize their actual potential. (34)

1. <https://www.vision2030.gov.sa/v2030/v2030-projects/the-red-sea/>

Qiddiya Project:

The Qiddiya project is a remarkable step among the projects of “VISION 2030”. It contains five important aspects; Parks & Attractions, Sports & Wellness, Motion & Mobility, Arts & Culture and Nature & Environment. The project aims at the development of Resort Core, Qiddiya Village, Motion Zone, ECO Zone and Golf Community. The land area covered under this project is 334 sq. kms.



Objectives:

1. The project aims at the development of Qiddiya as Global Tourism site that may provide economic diversification.
2. To create an attractive destination for the Saudi citizens and international visitors.
3. To create better job opportunities worldwide in the fields of tourism, hospitality and entertainment. (35)

<https://www.vision2030.gov.sa/v2030/v2030-projects/qiddiya/>

Roshn Project:

The project is especially chaired by the King Mohammad Bin Salman bin Abdul Aziz As Saud, Crown Prince, Deputy Prime Ministers and Chairman of Council of Economic Affairs. It aims at increasing 70% of the homeowner ship in next 10 years.



Objectives:

1. The project was launched in order to increase the standard of living of the citizens.
2. To extend & enhance the housing facilities in developing communities.
3. To increase the rate of Gross Domestic Product.
4. To provide market rate investment opportunities to the entrepreneurs. (36)

<https://www.vision2030.gov.sa/v2030/v2030-projects/roshn/#:~:text=ROSHN%2C%20a%20national%20community%20developer,increase%20homeownership%20across%20Saudi%20Arabia.>

Diriyah Project:

Diriya a place located in the northwest of Riyadh 20 minutes away from the city center. The project aims in formatting culture & heritage, education & hospitality. It aims at increasing the number of visitors to 27 million under Vision 2030.

OBJECTIVES:

1. The project initiates in Heritage Site designated These places include International sites to cultures of World
2. The project focusses in which will empower the providing better opportunities.



preserving the World under UNESCO. National & protect the different community.

providing a system residents by employment

3. To make this destination as a tourist spot which will help exchange cultures & help earn better foreign exchange.
4. To maintain financial stability without sacrificing the cultural norms. (37)

<https://www.vision2030.gov.sa/v2030/v2030-projects/diriyah-gate/>

AMATA Project:

The Amaala destination extends along the coastal area of Saudi Arabia in the North-West. It spreads on an area of 4155 sq. kms. The project includes the inauguration 25 hotels with 3000 rooms. The project aims to nurture the culture and art at the national & international level. It also focusses to purify the Red sea.



Objectives:

1. The project provides a platform to design & develop a site that can support recreational activities and integrated resorts.
2. To open doors of the natural site for members of different community.
3. To ensure developments with in Saudi Arabia and other places of the world. (38)

<https://www.vision2030.gov.sa/v2030/v2030-projects/amaala/>

King Salman Park Project:

The project of king Salman Park was launched by King Salman on 19th March 2019. The park expands on a large area of 16 sq. kms. The park will be equipped with open green spaces which will cover an area of 11.6 sq. kms, one million trees, the Royal Arts Complex, the National Theatre, 7.2 walkaway loops for pedestrians and a valley area with the features of art and water. (39)

<https://kingsalmanpark.sa/en/>



Soudah Development:

In the Asir region, the destination of Soudah is located 3,015 meters above sea-level. It is an attractive place for domestic tourism.



Objectives:

1. To preserve Soudah's environmental integrity and protect natural resources.
 2. To attract 2 million people till 2030.
 3. To empower and stimulate SME's from the local community. (40)
1. <https://www.vision2030.gov.sa/v2030/v2030-projects/soudah-development/>

Sakaka Solor Power Plant Project:

The Sakaka Solar power plant project in the Al-Jawf which comes under the Ministry of Energy. This plant utilizes solar energy through the photovoltaic technology to generate electricity. This solar power plant comprises of 1.2 million solar panels which are organized on an area of 6.2 sq. kms.



Objectives:

1. To reduce the emission of greenhouse gases in order to protect the environment.
2. To contribute towards the Liquid Fuel Displacement Program.
3. To contribute towards the discovery of optimal energy mix for the needs of the Kingdom.
4. To make efforts for formalizing the core features of the circular carbon energy. (41)

<https://www.vision2030.gov.sa/v2030/v2030-projects/sakaka-solar-power-plant/>

Composite Aerostructure Factory:

The project is launched to develop the aerospace and aviation sector in Saudi Arabia and Middle East. The project will help to localize 50% of military. It also aims at both the development of the country and to empower the residents of Saudi Arabia.



Objectives:

1. The project initiates to use the advanced technology and to train people to make them skilled laborers.

2. To become technological expert in its field and to become a preferred individual for the industry, as well as helping to lead the transformation of the Aviation Sector in Saudi Arabia.
3. The project also offers a wide range of packages which include product research and development centres. (42)
1. <https://www.vision2030.gov.sa/v2030/v2030-projects/composite-aerostructure-factory/>

Riyadh Sports Boulevard:

The project was launched by the Saudi King Mohammad Bin Salman on 19th March 2019. This project falls under the category of Mega Projects which will develop the sports activities in the country. The Riyadh Sports Boulevard comprises of green pedestrian pathways, horse riding routes spread on an area of 123 sq. kms and two core cycling routes which extend on areas of 135 sq. kms and 90 sq. kms respectively.

The project captures nine major sites which include; Hanifah Valley Zone, Art Zone, Al-Yasen Zone, Recreational Zone, Sports Zone, Sports Tower, Environmental Zone, Al Sulai Valley one and Sand Dunes Park Zone.



Objectives:

1. To help the residents improve their health by providing them exercise routes that encourage physical activity.
2. To encourage the participation of Saudi's in sports activities.
3. To make Riyadh among the ten largest economies of the world. (43)

<https://www.vision2030.gov.sa/v2030/v2030-projects/riyadh-sports-boulevard/>

Mohammad Bin Salman's Project for Developing Historical Mosques:

The project was announced in 2018 by king Mohammad Bin Salman. Under this project 130 Mosques will be renovated. In the first phase 30 mosques will be developed.



Objectives:

1. To enhance the cultural and religious status of the mosques.
 2. To restore historical mosques for worship.
 3. To preserve the original features of the mosques.
 4. To highlight Saudi Arabia's rich culture. (44)
1. <https://www.vision2030.gov.sa/v2030/v2030-projects/mohammed-bin-salman-project-for-developing-historical-mosques/#:~:text=Developing%20Historical%20Mosques-Mohammed%20bin%20Salman%20Project%20for%20Developing%20Historical%20Mosques,mosques%20situated%20throughout%20the%20Kingdom>

Low Power Research Reactor:



The project contributes to design and develop nuclear reactor industry in the country. To build human capacity to build nuclear reactors in Saudi Arabia and to increase renewable products.

Objectives:

1. To transfer the technologies for construction and operation of nuclear energy.
 2. To enable scientific research and technology development techniques for adjacent sciences. (45)
1. <https://www.vision2030.gov.sa/v2030/v2030-projects/low-power-research-reactor-lpr/>

<https://forms.gle/qmJFUBe5RzLnn1Xo6>

CONCLUSION:

The Saudi government initiated different projects that the economy of the kingdom can be diversified. These changes are accepted by the residents with open arms. In the present times, it important to have different options through which a country's economy can flourish. According to the survey report, most people have a strong believe that these changes will have a positive and progressive impact on Saudi Arabia. May be these changes will help the Saudi Kingdom to strengthen its economy and stand among the strongest economies of the World but the basic ideology may fade away from the Saudi territory on which the Holy Ka'aba and Masjid e Nabwi are present.

REFERENCES:

1. <https://www.britannica.com/place/Saudi-Arabia>
2. https://www.google.com/search?q=old+day+saudi+arabia&tbm=isch&ved=2ahUKEwiOtp6ctoT2AhXObMAKHZdgCrgQ2-cCegQIABAA&oq=old+day+saudi+arabia&gs_lcp=CgNpbWcQDDoHCCMQ7wMQJzoGCAAQBxAeOgcIABCxAxBDOgoIABCxAxCDARBDogQIABBDOgUIABCABFDmB1j-VGDYcWgBcAB4AIABzgKIAbEakgEHMC45LjYuMZgBAKABAaoBC2d3cy13aXotaW1nwAEB&sclient=img&ei=zAgNYo6gM87ZgQaXwanACw&bih=625&biw=1366#imgrc=jyxOJo_J7EajhM
3. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saudi_Arabia
4. https://www.google.com/search?q=MODERN+day+saudi+arabia&hl=en&sxsrf=APq-WBtwM-EEr1q1okrQVuD-O4HcQivH1A:1645022623180&source=lnms&tbm=isch&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjQh-jouT2AhVWSfEDHfneDUQQ_AUoAXoECAEQAw&biw=1366&bih=625&dpr=1
5. <https://www.britannica.com/place/Saudi-Arabia/Daily-life-and-social-customs>
6. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Censorship_in_Saudi_Arabia
7. <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Wahhabi>
8. <http://countrystudies.us/saudi-arabia/7.htm>
9. https://www.google.com/search?q=wahabi+movement+in+saudi+arabia&sxsrf=APq-WBvGQtzcVfVmwom_rsMPsnkrPp1SwA:1645020479401&source=lnms&tbm=isch&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjqnsrqsoT2AhWTuKQKH -DvgQ_AUoAnoECAEQBA&biw=1366&bih=625&dpr=1#imgrc=G1np2Pat81X2eM
10. <https://www.heritage.org/index/country/saudiarabia>
11. <https://www.saudiembassy.net/economy-global-trade>
12. <https://www.britannica.com/place/Saudi-Arabia/Economy>

13. <https://www.meed.com/saudi-arabia-economic-zones>
14. https://www.google.com/search?q=RABIGH&tbm=isch&ved=2ahUKEwjs5PXVu4T2AhV3QU EAHUW7BJIQ2-cCegQIABAA&oq=RABIGH&gs_lcp=CgNpbWcQAzIFCAAQgAQyBAGAEEMyBQgAEIAE M gUIABCABDIFCAAQgAQyBQgAEIAEMgUIABCABDIECAAQQzIECAAQQzIFCAAQgAQ Q6BwgjEO8DECC6CggjEO8DEOoCECC6CAGAEIAEELEDOggIABCxAXCDAToECAAQAzo HCAAQsQMQQzoLCAAQgAQQsQMQgwFQjQZY0ilgpDdoAXAAeASAAakCiAH9FpIBBT AuMy45mAEAoAEBqgELZ3dzLXdpei1pbWewAQrAAQE&scient=img&ei=gw4NYqyXPPeC hbIPxfaSkAk&bih=625&biw=1366&hl=en#imgcr=hXBbZpsDNnNyZM
15. https://www.google.com/search?q=hail+city+saudi+arabia+photos&tbm=isch&ved=2ahUKEwjQ p8_MvYT2AhUGZhoKHKV-D_4Q2-cCegQIABAA&oq=H+SAUDI+CITY&gs_lcp=CgNpbWcQARgAMggIABAIEAcQHjIICAAQ CBAHEB4yCAGAEAgQBxAeMggIABAIEAcQHjIICAAQCBAHEB4yCAGAEAgQBxAeMggI ABAIEAcQHjIICAAQCBAHEB4yCAGAEAgQBxAeOgYIABAIEB46BggAEAcQHjoECAAQ QzoFCAAQgARQvA1Y_kFgtHZoAHAAeACAAAYsCiAHUC5IBBT AuMS42mAEAoAEBqgE LZ3dzLXdpei1pbWfAAQE&scient=img&ei=iRANYpC_FYbMadL8vvAP&bih=625&biw=136 6&hl=en#imgcr=8dNBn2UygOdUmM
16. https://www.google.com/search?q=Medina+city+saudi+arabia+photos&tbm=isch&ved=2ahUKEwirys7OvoT 2AhU7k_0HHS1WDsMQ2-cCegQIABAA&oq=Medina+city+saudi+arabia+photos&gs_lcp=CgNpbWcQAzoHCCMQ7wM QJzoGCAAQBxAeOgYIABAIEB5QIRZY_z1g7kpoAHAAeACAACUCiAG6E5IBBjItMT AuM ZgBAKABAaoBC2d3cy13aXotaW1nwAEB&scient=img&ei=mRENYuuZO7um9u8Pray5mA w&bih=625&biw=1366&hl=en#imgcr=K32SsEah0fkvIM
17. <https://www.oecd.org/mena/competitiveness/38906206.pdf>
18. https://www.google.com/search?q=JAZAN+SAUDI+CITY&tbm=isch&ved=2ahUKEwiroZ2bv YT2AhXK16QKHepyD0oQ2-cCegQIABAA&oq=JAZAN+SAUDI+CITY&gs_lcp=CgNpbWcQAzIGCAAQCBAeOggIABA I EAcQHjoECAAQQzoFCAAQgAQ6BggAEAcQHIC0B1jFI2DcJmgAcAB4AIAB9wGIAakSkg EFMC45LjOYAQCgAQGqAQotnd3Mtd2l6LWltZ8ABAQ&scient=img&ei=IRANYuuML8qvk wXq5b3QBA&bih=625&biw=1366&hl=en#imgcr=Ycr2z3_uMnXbnM
19. <https://www.economy.com/saudi-arabia/indicators>
20. <https://www.pinterest.com/pin/368098969524712218/>
21. <https://www.pinterest.com/pin/368098969524712218/>
22. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-40354415>
23. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saudi_Vision_2030
24. <https://www.thenationalnews.com/gulf/saudi-arabia/saudi-crown-prince-mohammed-bin-salman-explains-vision-2030-in-landmark-interview-1.1212017>

25. <https://english.alarabiya.net/News/gulf/2021/10/11/Saudi-Arabia-s-Crown-Prince-launches-National-Investment-Strategy>
26. <https://www.focus-economics.com/countries/saudi-arabia>
27. <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fpubh.2021.620875/full>
28. <https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/article/the-paradox-of-saudi-arabias-social-reforms/>
29. [Dawn News, 28th Feb 2018](#)
30. <https://www.reuters.com/article/saudi-investment-reforms-idUKL5N2763K6>
31. <https://www.dawn.com/news/1630509>
32. <https://www.dawn.com/news/1674918>
33. <https://www.vision2030.gov.sa/v2030/v2030-projects/neom/>
34. <https://www.vision2030.gov.sa/v2030/v2030-projects/the-red-sea/>
35. <https://www.vision2030.gov.sa/v2030/v2030-projects/qiddiya/>
36. <https://www.vision2030.gov.sa/v2030/v2030-projects/roshn/#:~:text=ROSHN%2C%20a%20national%20community%20developer,increased%20homeownership%20across%20Saudi%20Arabia.>
37. <https://www.vision2030.gov.sa/v2030/v2030-projects/diriyah-gate/>
38. <https://www.vision2030.gov.sa/v2030/v2030-projects/amaala/>
39. <https://kingsalmanpark.sa/en/>
40. <https://www.vision2030.gov.sa/v2030/v2030-projects/soudah-development/>
41. <https://www.vision2030.gov.sa/v2030/v2030-projects/sakaka-solar-power-plant/>
42. <https://www.vision2030.gov.sa/v2030/v2030-projects/composite-aerostructure-factory/>
43. <https://www.vision2030.gov.sa/v2030/v2030-projects/riyadh-sports-boulevard/>
44. <https://www.vision2030.gov.sa/v2030/v2030-projects/mohammed-bin-salman-project-for-developing-historical-mosques/#:~:text=Developing%20Historical%20Mosques-,Mohammed%20bin%20Salman%20Project%20for%20Developing%20Historical%20Mosques,mosques%20situated%20throughout%20the%20Kingdom.>
45. <https://www.vision2030.gov.sa/v2030/v2030-projects/low-power-research-reactor-lpr/>