
From: aziza alahmadi [REDACTED]
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Subject: Opinion | Can the Saudis Break Up With Wahhabism? - The New York Times

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Ca= the Saudis Break Up With Wahhabism?

July 3, 2018

By Nabil Mouline

Mr. Mouline is a=historian of the Saudi clergy and monarchy.

Portraits of Crown Prince Moham=ed bin Salman, left, King Salman bin Abdulaziz and former Crown Prince Moha=med Bin Nayef on the wall of a restaurant in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.Jordan Pix/Getty=Images

The speed and magnitude of change in Saudi Arabia <<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/12/3/world/middleeast/saudi-arabia-photos-women-gender.html>> has a=celerated considerably after the consecration of Crown Prince Mohammed bin S=Iman. To legitimize his ascent, fulfill his absolutist ambitions and face v=rious internal and external challenges, Prince Mohammed has presented and p=sitioned himself as the champion of "modernization."

Several of the crown prince's statement= and initiatives

<<https://mobile.nytimes.com/2018/07/03/opinion/h=https://www.nytimes.com/2017/11/10/opinion/mohammed-bin-salman-saudi-arabia.html>> — calling for a moderate Islam, authorizing wo=en to drive, reopening cinemas — have been interpreted as his desir= to break the historic pact between the House of Saud and the Wahhabi relig=ous establishment.

In the mid-18th century= the Saud embraced Muhammad ibn Abd al-Wahhab, a revivalist preacher who ad=ocated a narrow reading of the Quran and the Hadith and attacked any deviat=ons from or accretions to the original practice. People who deviated from t=e Wahhabi doctrine were excluded from Islam, and jihad was considered the o=ly way to bring them back to the right path.

The compact with Wahhab and his disciples helped the Saud to legitimize a= expansionist policy and create a durable state in the early 20th century. T=e Saudi monarchy monopolized political and military action; the Wahhabi cle=ics took charge of the religious, legal and social spheres.

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Regards,
Aziza&n=sp;

Sent from my iPhone

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