



منتدى دراسات
Derasat Forum



دراسات
DERASAT

Qatar: Patron of Anarchy and Crisis in the Middle East

8th January, 2018



Welcome Remarks

It is a pleasure to present the program for the inaugural session of the annual DERASAT FORUM entitled, "Qatar: Patron of Anarchy and Crisis in the Middle East"

The annual forum is part of DERASAT's aim to build bridges between differing perspectives, create forums for open debate, use strategic insight to enhance understanding and to promote new thinking and independent thought that can generate creative solutions for our future peace, security and stability. We hope this forum will act as a platform for dialogue and exchange of ideas on common concerns that can contribute to addressing current challenges, and enhance the pursuit of shared values and aspirations.

The theme of this year's forum highlights common concerns surrounding Qatar's adoption of systematic policies that threaten the security of its neighbors and the Gulf region, and which undermine Arab national security. Qatar's strategies include intervention in the internal affairs of nation states as well as the support, financing and harboring of terrorism. Such policies are synonymous with certain other regional projects, whose purpose appears to be expansion and domination at the expense of the sovereignty and stability of Arab countries.

In response, a number of Arab states have taken an uncompromising decision towards what are seen as Qatar's irresponsible practices, as we cannot disregard those who are trying to harm our security and future. The security of the region is our responsibility, as stressed by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, the King of Bahrain, "We must decide our fate and our future, away from any plans imposed on us or interventions that affect us."



In conclusion, we would like to welcome our dear guests and wish them a good stay in the Kingdom of Bahrain. We look forward to fruitful debates and discussions, to deep insights and to constructive contributions and recommendations.

Thank you very much for your participation and to everyone who contributed to the preparation and organization of the Forum.

Abdulla Bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, Phd
Chairman

About the DERASAT Forum

The Bahrain Center for Strategic, International and Energy Studies (DERASAT) is pleased to introduce the establishment of the DERASAT Forum, an annual, international forum dedicated to enhancing the mechanisms of dialogue and understanding by providing a platform to share diverse opinions among leading officials, experts, thinkers, academics and media professionals. In light of the geopolitical transformations and security challenges facing the Gulf region, the Derasat Forum aspires to strengthen the partnership between strategic thinking and decision-making and to address challenges by encouraging new thinking and realistic approaches.

Objectives

- Formulate realistic policies and innovative strategies for regional developments.
- Deepen a real understanding of existing challenges and future trends and their security implications.
- Explore and establish fruitful cooperation in the areas of capacity-building and preventive security.
- Contribute to the development of a flexible and effective regional system capable of achieving peace, stability and prosperity.
- Contribute to the development of a crisis early warning system, based on the latest strategic estimates.
- Develop a comprehensive map of trends in international and regional events and situations.
- Review developments in the light of current changes.

The 2018 Forum, entitled, “Qatar: Patron of Anarchy and Crisis in the Middle East”, will focus on Qatar’s antagonistic policies towards the Kingdom of Bahrain, highlight examples of Qatari involvement in the Affairs of Arab countries and consider future scenarios:

Session 1:

Qatari threats to the Kingdom of Bahrain: past and present.

Session 2:

Examples of Qatari involvement in destabilization, and the call for the overthrow of national institutions in Arab countries.

Session 3:

Gulf security and future scenarios of current Qatari policies.

DERASAT Forum

Qatar: Patron of Anarchy and Crisis in the Middle East - Agenda

8th January, 2018

08:00 am	Registration
09:15 am	Welcome Remarks Dr. Sh. Abdulla Bin Ahmed Al Khalifa Chairman, Bahrain Center for Strategic, International & Energy Studies (DERASAT)
Session 1: Qatari threats to the Kingdom of Bahrain: past and present	
09:30 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Mr. Anwar Abdulrahman Editor-in-Chief, Akhbar Al Khaleej Newspaper▪ Mr. Yousif Albinkhalil Editor-in-Chief, Alwatan Newspaper▪ Dr. Mohammed Ahmed Abdullah Director, Bahrain Studies Center, University of Bahrain▪ Session Chair Dr. Mohamed Mubarak Juma Researcher in Political Affairs
11:00 am	Break

Session 2:

Examples of Qatari involvement in destabilization, and the call for the overthrow of national institutions in Arab countries

11:30 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Amb. Mohamed El Orabi Member, Committee on Arab Affairs, House of Representatives, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs▪ Prof. Mohamed A. Qubaty Former Yemeni Minister of Information▪ Dr. Al-Ajily Briny President of the Supreme Council of Libyan Tribes and Cities▪ Mrs. Leila Chettaoui Member of the Assembly of the Representatives of the People, Tunis, Rapporteur, Parliamentary Commission Investigating Circuits that Allowed Tunisian Youth to Travel to Hotbeds of Tension▪ Session Chair Mrs. Sawsan Al-Shaer Author and journalist
01:30 pm	Lunch Break

Session 3:

Gulf security and future scenarios of Qatari hostile policy

03:00 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Mr. Mohammed Yousef President, Emirates Journalists Association▪ Mr. Jameel Al-Theyabi Editor-in-Chief, Saudi Okaz Newspaper▪ Mr. Dherar Belhoul AlFalasi General Manager, Watani Al Emarat Foundation▪ Mr. Salman Al-Dossary Former Editor-in-Chief, Asharq Al-Awsat Newspaper▪ Session Chair Dr. Sh. Abdulla Bin Ahmed Al Khalifa Chairman, Bahrain Center for Strategic, International & Energy Studies (DERASAT)
05:00 pm	Close



Mr. Anwar Abdulrahman

**Editor-in-Chief,
Akhbar Al Khaleej Newspaper**

Anwar Abdulrahman began his business career at the age of 19 as a young salesman in Bahrain with M. A. Almoayyed, a leading Bahraini company. He was seconded to Al Hilal Bookshop, a subsidiary of M. A. Almoayyed and in 1970, together with the late Mr Ebrahim Almoayed, took over the bookshop.

In 1973 he established with two other directors, Al Hilal Corporation, a company specialising in the distribution of imported newspapers and magazines. In 1976, under the tutelage of the late Mahmoud Al Mardi, Mr. Abdulrahman spearheaded the launch of Bahrain's first Arabic daily newspaper, Akhbar Al Khaleej and two years later, the same group launched the Gulf Daily News.

In 1977, Mr. Abdulrahman established Al Hilal Publishing Group, an Anglo/Bahraini company, where he was elected Chairman of the Board. Al Hilal Group is a leading Publishing House in the Middle East, publishing a range of newspapers and magazines including Gulf Construction, Gulf Industry, Travel & Tourism News, Oil & Gas News, Arabian Knight, Gulf Weekly, The Gulf magazine. Al Hilal also owns and operates TradeArabia.com the leading business information portal in the Middle East. The company has offices in London, Dubai, Al Khobar and Riyadh.

Mr. Abdulrahman was born in 1942 and educated in Bahrain. He is fluent in Arabic, Persian and English. He was a member of the board of Bahrain University's School of Literature from 1988 until March 2000 and writes regular columns for both Akhbar Al Khaleej and the Gulf Daily News. He took over as Editor-in-Chief of Akhbar Al Khaleej towards the end of 2000.

Mr Abdulrahman is an avid reader and renowned public speaker of history, biography and politics, and travels extensively. His fluency in three languages has earned him a reputation as a respected publisher both within the Middle East Region and internationally.



Mr. Yousif Albinkhalil

Editor-in-Chief, Alwatan Newspaper

Yousif Al Binkhalil is a Bahraini journalist and media representative. He currently serves as the Editor-in-Chief of the local daily newspaper Al Watan since 2012 and is the Vice President of Zajil Press Company. He previously worked in the local Al Ayam newspaper.

From 2004 to 2006, Mr. Al Binkhalil founded and edited a strategic studies journal in Bahrain that included works such as, "The UN and Gulf Security", "Gulf and Caucasus Security" and "The Gulf Without America: 25 Scenarios for the Future of the Arabian Gulf".

He received his academic degrees specializing in Political Science, Political Development and Organizational Media and Communications.



Dr. Mohammed Ahmed Abdullah

Director, Bahrain Studies Center,
University of Bahrain

Dr. Mohammed Ahmed is Director of the Bahrain Studies Center at the University of Bahrain. He previously held the position of Assistant Secretary-General for Cabinet Affairs and was also a member of the Board of Trustees of the Institute for Political Development, Acting Manager for the Isa Award for Service to Humanity, and a consultant to the United Nations Human Settlements Program.

Dr. Mohammed Ahmed is a member of several regional and international scientific societies, and is a member of the editorial boards of various academic journals. He has also arbitrated research studies and articles in the fields of geography and history and has published a number of scientific publications and research papers.

Dr. Mohammed Ahmed is PhD holder in Geopolitics from the University of Oxford, UK and was awarded Bahrain's First Class Excellence Award in December 2012.



Amb. Mohamed El Orabi

Member, Committee on Arab Affairs,
House of Representatives, Former
Minister of Foreign Affairs

Amb. Mohamed El Orabi currently serves as a member of the Egyptian Parliament and is a member of the Foreign Relations Committee since January 2016.

He has also served as Minister of Foreign Affairs from June to July 2011. From 2000 to 2011, Amb. El Orabi worked as the Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs for Multilateral Economic and International Cooperation, where he led advisory and policy-making responsibilities in the Economic Section of the Egyptian Foreign Ministry.

From October 2001 to August 2008, he served as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Germany, where he was a recipient of the Grand Cross of Merit of the Federal Order of the President of the Federal Republic of Germany. Amb. El Orabi has also served as Chief of the Cabinet of the Foreign Minister; as advisor at the Egyptian Embassy in the United States; as Spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; as Special Secretary to the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Dr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali; as Second Secretary at the Embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt in Kuwait; and Attaché at the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Amb. El Orabi authored the book "The Critical Factor in the Israeli Electoral Equation", published in 2001.



Professor Mohamed A. Qubaty

Former Yemeni Minister
of Information

Prof. Qubaty is the current Yemeni Minister of Tourism and Vice President of the Arab Tourism Organization. He is the former Minister of Information and a member of the British Royal College of Surgeons. He received his doctoral degree from London University and Master's Degree from King's College in Cambridge in the United Kingdom.

Prof. Qubaty previously worked as a Professor of Surgery in Sana'a University prior to beginning his political career as the Head of the Political and External Relations Department of the ruling party. From 2007 to 2011, he was the political advisor to three previous Yemeni Prime Ministers and was the Ambassador of Yemen to Lebanon and Cyprus from 2003 to 2007. Prof. Qubaty is a recipient of the Lebanese National Cedar Medal in 2007.



Dr. Al-Ajily Briny

**President of the Supreme Council
of Libyan Tribes and Cities**

Dr. Al-Agily Briny is President of the Supreme Council of Libyan Tribes and Cities and is a Former Minister of Economy and Finance and Former Ambassador of Libya to Spain. Previously he has held a number of positions including President and Director General of the Development Bank (2004 – 2009); Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Libya (1995 – 1999); Chairman of the Board of Director of the Development Bank and Governor of Al Zahra Municipality.

Dr. Briny has authored several research papers in banking and finance and holds a Master's Degree in Economics from the University of Oklahoma in the United States of America.



Mrs. Leila Chettaoui

Member of the Assembly of the
Representatives of the People, Tunis

Rapporteur, Parliamentary Commission Investigating Circuits that Allowed Tunisian Youth to Travel to Hotbeds of Tension

Leila Chettaoui is presently Member of the Tunisian Movement Project and an Executive Committee Member. She is also a Member of the Legislative Committee for Finance, Planning and Development; Rapporteur of the Special Committee for Security and Defense; Rapporteur to the Parliamentary Commission Investigating Circuits that Allowed Tunisian Youth to Travel to Hotbeds of Tension and Chairperson of the Women's Rights Committee in the European and Mediterranean Parliament.

Mrs. Chettaoui is also the Chair of 'Impact Coaching' (since 2009) and previously Professor at the Institute of Accounting and Enterprise Management in Manouba (2010-2012). Prior to this she has held the posts of Director General of the Tunisian Upholstery Industry Unit (2004-2007); Director of Management and Finance of the Galian Group of Companies (2002-2004) - 1999); Administrative and Financial Manager of Baladi Group of Companies (1995-1999) and Auditor at PricewaterhouseCoopers (1991-1995).

Mrs Chettaoui has a degree with honours in accounting (1992) and a Fellowship in accounting and management (1991).



Mr. Mohammed Yousef

President, Emirates Journalists Association

Mohammed Yousef is an Emirati writer and journalist. Since 2004, he has been voted in as the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the UAE Journalists Association.

Mr. Yousef is the Vice President of the Federation of Arab Journalists and also holds the position of Executive Committee President within the Federation.

Since 2016, he has written for the Emirati Al Bayyan newspaper and has contributed to many local publications including Al Youm, Akhbar Al Arab, Al-Ittihad and Al Wahda. Mr. Yousef has also written in the Egyptian daily Al Wafd since 2013.

He holds a Bachelor's of Law and Media from the Emirates University, specializing in publications and laws regulating media works.



Mr. Jameel Al-Theyabi

**Editor-in-Chief, Saudi Okaz
Newspaper**

Jameel Al-Theyabi is a Saudi national journalist and media representative. Since November 2015, he has been the editor-in-chief of the Saudi-based Okaz newspaper. He regularly contributes in opinion and editorial columns of Okaz, writing about regional and Saudi Arabian developments.

He previously worked as the editor-in-chief of the Al Hayat regional newspaper from 2010 to 2015. Mr. Al-Theyabi is a member of the British National Union of Journalists since 2002.

Mr. Al-Theyabi has made several appearances in other media networks including BBC Arabic, MBC and Al-Arabiya. He is an advisor and member of the Saudi Journalist Authority. He received his Master's degree in Diplomacy and Media from the University of Westminster and Bachelor's degree in International Relations from Reading University.



Mr. Dherar Belhoul AlFalasi

**General Manager, Watani Al
Emarat Foundation**

Since October 2012, Mr. Dherar Belhoul Al Falasi has been the General Director of the Watani Al Emarat Foundation, tasked with facilitating national identity through various events and activities in the UAE. From 2010 to 2012, he was appointed as the Managing Director of External Communications in the Communication Directive in the Government of Dubai.

Mr. Al Falasi previously worked as Managing Director of Culture at the Dubai Authority for Culture and Arts, where he formulated and launched strategies facilitating national objectives contributing to positive national citizenship.

Mr. Al Falasi is an avid writer, focusing on local Emirati affairs, often contributing to analytical reports and publications. He received his Master's Degree in social development management and participated in numerous leadership and training workshops throughout his professional career.



Mr. Salman Al Dossary

Former Editor-in-Chief,
Asharq Al-Awsat Newspaper

Salman Al Dossary works as a media representative and journalist, specializing in Middle Eastern and international affairs. He previously held the position of editor-in-chief of the London-based Asharq al-Awsat newspaper from 2014 to 2016. From 2011 to 2014, he worked as the editor-in-chief of the Saudi-based financial and economic newspaper Al Eqtisadiyah. Mr. Al Dossary has made several appearances on BBC Arabic, Al Arabiya and France 24 throughout his career.

In October 2014, the Saudi Cabinet of Ministers approved the appointment of Mr. Al Dossary among three other board members to represent the private sector in the National Charity Fund. He is also the founder and member of the managing board of a charitable society for collecting and upgrading used PCs to be distributed to social and educational institutes.