

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 31, 2009

Abdullah bin Abd al-Aziz Al Saud
Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques
King of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Dear King Abdullah:

We have taken great interest in the Arab Peace Initiative and its evolution over the past few years. We have been encouraged by the possibility that this initiative has offered an important element in the effort toward peace in the Middle East.

In his address to the Muslim world in Cairo, President Barack Obama called on Arab states to live up to their responsibility and recognize Israeli legitimacy. We believe that the President's call to the Arab world to move in this direction represents an important request that can open a path to a better future.

We recall that prior successful negotiations leading toward peace between Israel and its Arab neighbors involved direct contact between the parties and a forswearing of war even before any actual movement on the ground. For example, Egypt's President Anwar Sadat visited Jerusalem in 1977 in a transformational event that forever changed the nature of Israel's perception of the Arab world. And Jordan's King Hussein opened direct ties with Israel well before the realization of the Israeli-Jordanian peace treaty.

We have been disappointed thus far to see the public reaction of your government to President Obama's request. Rather than expressing willingness to break down barriers between Arabs and Israelis, your foreign minister asserted that Saudi Arabia could not take any step toward normalization before the return of all Arab land.

We urge you to assert a strong leadership role and help lead the Middle East to a new era of peace and reconciliation by stepping forward with a dramatic gesture toward Israel akin to the steps taken earlier by the leaders of Egypt and Jordan. We believe that such a step on your part can help open the door to a better future and will reinforce the initiative undertaken by President Obama in Cairo.

Sincerely,





Howard S. Benson

Gary A. Ackerman

Phil Thompson

Danny H. Davis

Eliot L. Engel

Ben Fick

Samuel C. Fryer

Jerry Moran

Jo Banner

Mark Souder

Arnold Kallen

John Schaly

Vance B. Feltner

Shirley Ann

Di

Sheila Jackson Lee

Pat Ann

Paul Supak

Ken Calvert

John A. Wafman

John Haekstra

Steve Buyer

Steven A. Notman

Ben Chandler

Bill

Michael E. Caputo

Tim Ryan

John A. Baccin

John Cullberson

Jeanne A. Davis

Patrycja

Grace F. Napolitano

Dan Maffei

Galee Giffords

Michael Hub

Ann Van Vollen

Mike Dingler

Harry E. Mitchell

Anna Hunt

John Boozma

T. P. Allen

John Campbell

Nicki Angus

Trish M. White

D. Reichert

Darin Me

Russ Carnahan

Stacy Lange

Rodney Alexander

Jim + Jan

Michael E. Peterson

Alyson S. Sawcuty

Stephanie + Susan Gardlin

Stu + Ell

Karin Bradley

John Spadezza

Jim + Mary Brown

Ed + Beth

R. Parker Guffitt

John Sullivan

Ken Klein

Tim Munsy

Ronald E. Connolly

Jan Altmire

Joy M. Ny

Tim Zi

Paul + Mary

Doug Lambert

Shelley Berkley

Patrick O. Kennedy

Steve Seabrook

John + Mary

Lucas Lewis

Alan Kirk

Cynthia M. Hummer

Paul Ryan

Loetta Sanders

Don M. Beckwith

Hah Johnson

Walter Hahn

Rudolph Holt

Jim Allen

Cathy M. Horn-Rodgers

Robert

John Young

Judy Bryant

Chloe W. Dent

Blaise Guffy

Frank King

Greg C. Cots

Virginia Fox

John Kline

John Hall

David C. Cady

Robert J. Willman

Steve Chaffetz

Neil Lussan

Connie Mack

Ed Furlan

Michael C. Cini

Dr. Hansenberg

Scott Garrett

Bob & Bradley

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Candice S. Miller

Jim Woy

AT

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Lynn Jenkins

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Patrick McKeary

Gl Green

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John Fleming

Lee Terry
Chaka Fattal

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Alaed. Hastings

Shirley Ann

Janet Horn

Lamar Smith

John L. Bunch

~~Mike Row~~

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Don R

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Judy Chou

Barclay

Todd Tinkert

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Ging Brown-White

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Ji Jauh

Jim M. Hill

Moscan

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Adrian Smith

Bill Casady

Burt Bell

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Jenny Ralberg

Linda Lee

Jerry Costello

Pete Sessions

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Linda J. Deery

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Uma Snow

B. Market

J. H. Pika

J. H. Clark

Ed. J. ...

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Mary Allie

Joe Donnelly

Steve Austin

Alan Grayson

Daniel Lipinski

Pat Tiley

Doris O. Matsui

Anna Titus

Brian Higgins

Michael H. McDonald

Brian L. Gentry

Richard E. Neal

Elmer Gally

[Signature]

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Joe Courtney

John T. Solayan

Frank Patton Jr.

Jim O'Neil (M-1)

Carl Ramsey

Jim Mathis

Tom Latham

Frank D. Lucas

Rich Sizer

Cliff Stearns

Ch R

Bob Inglis

Joe Wilson

John P. Rubin

Charlie Malanco

Sue Camp

Marvin L. Dodge

Boet Gardner

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Ray Brunt

Cliff Williams

Paul P. Roe

Ed Foster

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Arthur Davis

Mark Jones

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Barney Frank

Daniel Lungren

Jerry Moran (KS)

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Mark Souder

Jerrold Nadler

Jan Schakowsky

Jim Costa

Michael Capuano

Tim Ryan

John Boccieri

John Culberson

Susan Davis

Patrick Murphy

Grace Napolitano

Dan Maffei

Gabriel Giffords

Mike Honda

Chris Van Hollen

Rodney Alexander

Zack Space

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F. James Sensenbrenner

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Blaine Luetkemeyer
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Chellic Pingree
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Artur Davis
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