

Political Terminology and Translation


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Political Terminology and Translation

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Introduction

The word "Politics" is usually used with a singular verb although there is "s" at the end of it. Grammatically speaking, it is similar to words such as "news", "linguistics", "phonetics", "pragmatics", etc. Politics can be considered as an art or as a science. Politicians usually say that it is a science, while some other people say that it is an art. Politics has been defined differently. In one sense it has been considered as the science of governing societies and in the other sense it has been considered as the art of cheating and manipulation. Politicians themselves disagree with each other concerning the appropriate definition of politics. In one of the dictionaries we read the following definition: Politics is "the art or the science of government or governing, especially the governing of a political entity, such as a nation, and the administration and control of its internal and external affairs". "The American Heritage® Dictionary"

Politics can have either a singular or a plural concord; i.e. it can be used with a plural verb or a singular verb to mean the activities or affairs engaged in by a government, politician, or political party. One can say "All politics is confusing", or "Politics have generated lots of

arguments and wars". Another meaning is related to the methods or tactics involved in managing a state or government. This can be explained in saying: The politics of our country were guiding us towards prosperity.

Politics can also be used with a singular or plural verb to indicate intrigue or maneuvering within a political unit or group in order to gain control or power or to refer to political attitudes and positions. For example, "His politics on that issue is his own business". "Your politics are clearly more liberal than mine".

Politics, although plural in form, takes a singular verb when used to refer to the art or science of governing or to political science: Politics has been a concern of philosophers since Plato. But in its other senses politics can take either a singular or plural verb. Many other nouns that end in –ics behave similarly.

Exercise:

- What is the people's role in making the politics of their own country? Does that differ from one country to another? Do you think that you have anything to do with politics?

What Is Politics

On hearing the word politics, what usually springs to mind are images of government, politicians and their policies or more negatively the idea of corruption and dirty tricks. The actual definition seems to have been obscured and almost lost by such representations and clichés that tend not to pinpoint the true essence, which defines this thing, called politics. In order to make an attempt at a definition of politics a systematic approach is required. To begin with, a brief historical overview will be considered to understand the origins of politics.

The word politics comes from the Greek word "polis", meaning the state or community as a whole. The concept of the "polis" was an ideal state and came from the writings of great political thinkers such as Plato and Aristotle. The word politics originally has connotations in the ways in which to create the ideal society. An ideal society is in practice a rather difficult aim and even an impossible aim to achieve. Politics implies measures which could and should, in the views of their devisor, be implemented in the hope to create a better society, than that which is already present. The very fact that Plato and Aristotle saw imperfections in the

societies in which they lived, prompted them to write their political philosophies. These philosophies provided the first written recognition of politics. In his writings his "The Politics", Aristotle states that "Man is by nature a political animal" in other words, it lies deep within the instinct of man. It is almost primal. Due to his nature man should consider and realise his role within the "polis". So according to Aristotle "Politics" is not a dreamt up concept, but rather an inherent feature of mankind.

Politics considers this view of man, in that on meeting others whose interests oppose his own, conflict is bound to occur. What could be the cause of this conflict in interest? The world has its limits; all material wealth within it is exhaustible. Who therefore, gets how large a share, of those resources, which are present on the earth in limited supply? If man were permitted to act on and pursue his own selfish interests, snatching that, which he desires, a society would quickly become under rule of violence. Politics is a way of combating the degradation of society into a violent and unstructured mess by reducing it to be governed by the primitive instincts of man in order to resolve conflict. Politics compromises all the activities of co-operation and conflict, within and between societies, whereby the human

species goes about organising the use, production and distribution of human, natural and other resources in the production and reproduction of its biological and social life.

In a company for example, a boss makes decisions and resolves conflict. In a tribe, a leader makes decisions to keep internal conflicts to a minimum and ultimately ensures the survival of his tribe. Thus politics is present in every community and is used to manage workings and disagreements that may occur within any co-habitation.

Politics is the means of creating a more organised and peaceful society, by providing methods to resolve conflict that naturally occurs between men, by means of civil discussion and rational compromise. It thus stems the need for violence in tense situations and ultimately looks to avoid the degradation of a community into utter chaos. Authority is the underlying feature of politics and ensures its enforceability. Without authority, politics simply is not feasible. The most visible and widely accepted example of politics is the workings of the governmental institutions. However, although at first glance one may not be aware of it, politics in its various forms is present wherever and whenever humans form a community. Referring back to the views of Aristotle, politics is an intrinsic feature of mankind.

Politics as an area of study

Politics as an area of study is concerned with developing a knowledge and understanding of government and society. The interaction of people, ideas and institutions provides the focus for understanding how values are allocated and resources distributed. Thus analyses of who gets what, when, how, why and where are central, as are concepts of power, justice, order, conflict, legitimacy, accountability, obligation, sovereignty and decision-making.

Throughout history, people have participated in politics on many different levels. They may have participated through a direct democracy, in which they directly governed, or they may have participated through a representative democracy, in which they participated by electing representatives. As citizens, people have participated in politics to attain the things they needed or wanted, the valued things. Participation in politics has been the way that people have a voice and change the things that directly affect their lives. Throughout the course of history, politics has been the competition of ideas; they decide who gets what, when, where and how.

Words related to politics:

(After reading and understanding the following terms, students are asked to translate them into Arabic, together with their definitions)

Power politics:

(used either with a singular or a plural verb). This term refers to international diplomacy in which each nation uses or threatens to use military or economic power to further its own interests.

Political economy:

Political economy: (as a noun) is the social science that deals with political science and economics as a unified subject; the study of the interrelationships between political and economic processes. Political economy (as an adjective) Is usually abbreviated as PC. In this context, it is used in the sense of supporting broad social, political, and educational change, especially to redress historical injustices in matters such as race, class, gender, and sexual orientation. Another use is being or perceived as being overconcerned with such change, often to the exclusion of other matters.

Political prisoner:

Political prisoner is a person who has been imprisoned for holding or advocating dissenting political views.

Political science

Political science is the study of the processes, principles, and structure of government and of political institutions.

Politician:

Politician can mean either someone who is actively involved in politics, especially party politics, or one who holds or seeks a political office. It also means one who seeks personal or partisan gain, often by scheming and maneuvering. A third possible meaning of politician is one who is skilled or experienced in the science or administration of government.

Politicize:

Politicize (As an intransitive verb) means to engage in or discuss politics. But when used as a transitive verb, it means to make political:

For example, One can politicize the department if given absolute authority.

Chapter One

Arabic Texts To Be Translated into English

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(I)

موسكو تعارض إحالة الملف الإيراني إلى مجلس الأمن

طهران–سانا–اف ب: أكدت موسكو معارضتها إحالة الملف النووي الإيراني إلى مجلس الأمن مشددة على تعزيز العلاقات الثنائية مع طهران. وقال سيرغي لافروف وزير الخارجية الروسي في مؤتمر صحافي مشترك عقده مع نظيره الإيراني كمال خرازي في طهران ان البدء في التفكير في أي سيناريو لا يكون بناء من وجهة نظرنا هو أمر سابق لأوانه ويمكن ان يكون غير مثمر. وكان لافروف يرد بذلك على سؤال حول ما إذا كانت روسيا ستستخدم حق النقض في مجلس الأمن في حال قررت الوكالة الدولية للطاقة الذرية إحالة الملف النووي الإيراني الى مجلس الأمن. وكان لافروف قد وصل أمس إلى طهران في زيارة تستغرق عدة أيام يبحث خلالها سبل تعزيز العلاقات الثنائية والقضايا ذات الاهتمام المشترك والتعاون الإقليمي في القوقاز وآسيا وقضايا بحر قزوين وآخر المستجدات الإقليمية والدولية والتنسيق لزيارة الرئيس الروسي فلاديمير بوتين الى إيران.

After reading the above text in Arabic, give a brief summary in English. The following terms may help you. Having done

this, you can start translating the whole text.

Note: The meanings provided are dictionary meanings; you are supposed to choose the meaning that best fits the context. There are some political terms which are not mentioned in the text but which are important to learn.

Translation of some terms:

إحالة: referral, relegation, sending, forwarding, submitting, transfer, conveyance, transmittance.

ملف: file, dossier, folder, portfolio

نووي: nuclear

تعزيز: Consolidation, Strengthening, reinforcement, fortification, enhancement

معارضة: objection , opposition, resistance, disagreement

مجلس الأمن: Security Council

العلاقات الثنائية Bilateral Relations

نظير: counterpart, equivalent, match, peer, dublicate

بناء: constructive, positive

نقض: veto

المستجدات: latest developments

وزير: minister, secretary, vizier

وزير (الشطرنج): queen

وزير الداخلية: Minister of the Interior, Home Secretary

وزير الخارجية Foreign Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Secretary of State

وزير دولة، وزير بلا وزارة: Minister of State, Minister without portfolio

وزير العدل: Minister of Justice, Lord Chancellor

وزير المال أو المالية: Finance Minister, Chancellor of the Exchequer

وزير مقيم: Minister Resident

وزير مفوض، وزير مطلق الصلاحية: Minister Plenipotentiary

الوزير الأول، رئيس الوزراء: Prime Minister, Premier

وكيل وزارة: Under Secretary of State

رئاسة الوزارة: Prime Ministry, Premiership

مجلس الوزراء: Council of Ministers, Cabinet

وزارة الإسكان: Ministery of Housing

وزارة الإرشاد القومي: Ministery of National Guidance

وزارة الأشغال العامة: Ministry of Public Works

وزارة الإعلام: Ministry of Information, Information Ministery

وزارة الإقتصاد الوطني: Ministry of National Economy

وزارة الأوقاف: Ministry of Waqfs, Ministry of (Religious) Endowments

وزارة التجارة: Ministry of Commerce, Board of Trade,

وزارة التربية أو المعارف: Ministry of Education

وزارة التصميم أو التخطيط: Ministry of Planning

وزارة الثقافة: Ministry of Culture

وزارة الحربية: Ministry of War

وزارة الخارجية: Foreign Ministry, Ministry of Foreign Affairs,

Foreign Office, State Department, Department of State

وزارة الداخلية: Ministry (or Department) of the Interior, Home

Office

وزارة الدفاع: Ministry of Defence

وزارة الزراعة: Ministry of Agriculture

وزارة السياحة: Ministry of Tourism

وزارة الشؤون الاجتماعية: Ministry of Social Affairs

وزارة الشؤون البلدية والقروية: Ministry of Municipal and Rural

Affairs

وزارة الصحة العامة: Ministry of Public Health

وزارة الصناعة: Ministry of Industry

وزارة العدل: Ministry of Justice, Department of Justice

وزارة العمل: Ministry of Labour

وزارة المالية: Ministry of Finance, Treasury Department

وزارة الموارد المائية والكهربائية: Ministry of Hydroelectric Resources

وزارة المواصلات: Ministry of Communication

مؤتمر صحافي Press Conference

مشترك joint

سيناريو Scenario

التعاون الاقليمي Regional Cooperation

دولي International

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(II)

مقتطفات من خطاب السيد الرئيس بشار الأسد في مؤتمر المغتربين السوريين الذي يعقد تحت عنوان: "مع المغتربين من أجل التنمية"

"... أرحب بكم كمواطنين في بلدان اخرى انتسبتم اليها فأخلصتم لها وأبدعتم في عطاءاتكم وعملكم ومهنكم دون ان تروا تناقضا على الاطلاق بين اعتزازكم بجذوركم التي لم تغادركم ووفائكم للبلدان التي قررتم الا تغادروها وفي هذاالمسلك ايضا كنتم اوفياء لقيم سورية التي ترى في التعايش ميزة وغنى وثروة للجميع وترى في التفاعل بين الأديان والثقافات والشعوب مصادر خلاقة للطاقة الانسانية والازدهار الحضاري بكافة جوانبه. ولعل مبادرتكم اليوم ومشاركتكم في هذا المؤتمر رغم كثرة انشغالاتكم تأتي تعبيرا عفويا عن ادراككم لاهمية دوركم في موطنكم الاصلي وفي الموطن الذي قررتم الانتساب اليه خاصة ان الحضارة الانسانية بحاجة اليوم لدور فئات من أمثالكم لديها القدرة على استيعاب الابعاد الثقافية والسياسية للمجتمعات المعاصرة. .. وإننا لفخورون جدا اننا حيثما توجهنا نرى ابناء سورية يجسدون هذه القيم ويتمتعون بسمعة طيبة هي محط اعتزاز لنا

جميعا ويتكيفون في المجتمعات التي اختاروها ويشكلون في كثير من هذه المجتمعات هبة ثمينة لها حيث لم يتكفنوا على ذواتهم بل تزاوجوا وتفاعلوا وعبروا عن محبة وتفان تجاه بلدانهم الجديدة واعتزازهم بالتراث الحضاري العربي الذي ينتمون اليه ومن خلال كل ذلك عبر ابناء سورية في كل مكان عن حقيقة هامة وجلية وهي انهم ينتمون الى بلد واحد اسمه العالم. هذه الصورة التي جسدتموها عبر تاريخ الاغتراب هي صورة مفعمة بالقيم الإنسانية وبالأخلاق وبكل تأكيد فان شعوبا وثقافات كثيرة في هذا العالم تشاركنا هذه القيم معبرة عن وحدة الحضارة الانسانية ومبينة ان الصراع لايكون بين حضارة وأخرى بل بين الحضارة واللاحضارة بين الأخلاق وانعدامها كما هو بين الخير والشر..."

After reading the above text in Arabic, give a brief summary in English. The following terms may help you. Having done this, you can start translating the whole text.

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Translation of some difficult words

مقتطف: selection, excerpt, extract

المغتربين Expatriates

خطاب Speech

مؤتمر conference

التنمية Development

مواطن citizen

تناقض: contradiction, inconsistency, incompitabilty, contrast, discrepancy, antithesis

وفاء Loyalty

التعايش Coexistence, living (peacefully) together

التفاعل Interaction

الأديان Religions

الثقافات Cultures

الشعوب Peoples

مصادر خلاقة Creative sources

مبادرة Initiative

عفوي: spontaneous, unprompted,

موطن أصلي native land

معاصرة Contemporary

يتكيف Adapt

يجسد: embody

تراث heritage

الصراع Conflict

الخير والشر Good and evil

"وهكذا فإننا نعيش اليوم حالة فوضى من المفاهيم الخاطئة والمصطلحات الكاذبة والتي تزيد الانقسام بين الثقافات وتهيئ للمزيد من الحروب وسفك الدماء بينما المؤسسات الدولية التي وجدت من اجل خير العالم وإرساء العدل والسلام فيه يجري تحويلها إلى أذرع لقوى كبرى على حساب مصالح الدول الأصغر ولتكون أدوات للتدخل في الشؤون الداخلية أو الثنائية لتلك الدول..."

Translation of some difficult words:

حالة فوضى a state of disorder

مفاهيم: concepts, notions

كاذب: dishonest, lying, untruthful, mendacious

الانقسام Division

سفك الدماء Bloodshed

المؤسسات الدولية International Institutions

إرساء: foundation, settling, establishment

العدل Justice

مصالح Interests

تدخل Intervention

" لذلك فإننا على قناعة بأن مسؤولية سورية تجاه لبنان ومسؤولية لبنان تجاه سورية ستبقى بالرغم من كل الظروف وبقوة التاريخ والجغرافيا وبإرادة الله وبمباركة الشعبين. وبما أننا ننطلق من التاريخ والجغرافيا فمن البديهي أن نتحدث عن

الحدود الشرقية عن العراق والذي تربطنا به روابط القربى والاخوة والتاريخ المشترك والذي يعرف جميع أبنائه أننا وقفنا بحزم ضد العدوان عليه ومازلنا نقف ضد احتلاله. ورأينا في حينها ان التحضير شن الحرب عليه هو دخول المنطقة والعالم في المجهول واتت أحداث العراق المتلاحقة وما تخلفه من قتل ودمار لتوضح حجم المأزق والجهل بكيفية الخروج منه وتثبت صحة وجهة نظرنا ولتؤكد الوصول الى عمق المجهول وهو مايفتح الابواب على مصراعيها لكافة الاحتمالات بحيث اصبح من الصعوبة بمكان توقع اي احتمال واقل ما يقال عن نتائج هذه الاوضاع هي انها كارثية. اننا نؤكد اليوم بأننا نعمل مافي وسعنا من اجل الحفاظ على وحدة العراق وتأمين استقراره بهدف استعادة سيادته كاملة غير منقوصة وهذا يتطلب اقرار دستور يعبر عن ارادة الشعب العراقي وتطلعاته وانسحاب القوات الاجنبية من اراضيه. .. اما فيما يتصل بعملية السلام في الشرق الأوسط فهي متوقفة كما تعلمون منذ سنوات عديدة نتيجة لرفض إسرائيل استئناف المفاوضات واستمرار احتلالها للأراضي العربية وعدوانها المستمر على الشعب الفلسطيني، ونتيجة لعدم وفاء القوى الدولية بالتزاماتها حيال عملية السلام وعدم جديتها في تطبيق قرارات الشرعية الدولية عندما يتعلق الأمر بإسرائيل."

Translation of some terms:

قناعة Conviction

مسؤولية Responsibility

إرادة الله God Willing

مباركة: blessings, well-wishing,

حدود الشرقية Eastern Borders

روابط Ties/ Links

شن الحرب: wage war

التزامات Commitments

دمار Destruction

الجهل Ignorance

مأزق: impasse, deadlock, stalemate, dilemma, logjam, cul-de-sac, critical situation,

كارثي: catastrophic

وحدة Unity

استقرار Stability

دستور Constitution

انسحاب Withdrawal

عملية السلام Peace Process

استئناف Resume

المفاوضات Negotiation

لشرعية الدولية: International legitimacy

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" لقد أكدنا موقفنا الواضح في مناسبات مختلفة من عملية السلام أكدنا رغبتنا الجادة بالسلام العادل وفقا لقرارات الأمم المتحدة ومبدأ الأرض مقابل السلام، ولكن عوضا عن وعود السلام الذي تتطلع إليه شعوب المنطقة فإنها تعيش حالة من اليأس والاحتقان الاجتماعي نتيجة الهيمنة الإسرائيلية التي تمارسها على الشعب العربي دون رادع مستغلة في ذلك الموجة السائرة في هذه المرحلة لمكافحة الإرهاب لتصفية حساباتها مع القوى الحية والمدافعة عن حقوقها وكرامتها وذلك بممارسة إرهاب الدولة الذي يجرف الأرض ويقتلع الإنسان ويغتال شعبا اعزل بكامله وانه لما يدعو للأسف مرة أخرى ان تعجز المنظمة الدولية عن إصدار قرار يدين جرائم إسرائيل هذه بسبب الدعم الأميركي غير المحدود لها، أيضا في إطار عملية السلام طرح مؤخرا في الصحافة بشكل خاص بأن هناك مفاوضات سرية بين سورية وإسرائيل ...

Translation of some terms:

موقف: position, attitude, stand, stance

قرارات الأمم المتحدة United Nations Resolutions

مبدأ الأرض مقابل السلام . Land for peace principle

اليأس: Despair

احتقان: congestion

هيمنة: hegemony, upper hand, ascendancy, domination, control, authority, power

رادع: deterrent, inhibition, impediment

استغلة: exploiting, utilizing,

مكافحة الإرهاب Terrorism combating

يغتال assasinate

اعزل: unarmed, armless, defenseless

يدين condemn

الدعم الأميركي American Support

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(III)

واشنطن تعد لإحكام قبضتها على نتائج الانتخابات العراقية

بغداد – لندن – روما – نيويورك – ا ف ب – سانا: أكد مسؤول في تيار مقتدى الصدر بنود اتفاق مع الحكومة العراقية يتناول نزع أسلحة عناصر الصدر والإفراج عن المعتقلين ووقف العمليات العسكرية. وقال الشيخ عبد الزهراء السويعدي من مكتب الشهيد الصدر إن جماعة الصدر ستوقف جميع عملياتها ضد القوات العراقية والأمريكية وتم التوصل الى اتفاق للإفراج عن جميع الأسرى العراقيين وعدم ملاحقة أو توقيف عناصر من التيار الصدري.

الانتخابات Elections

اتفاق Agreement

تيار: movement, orientation, inclination

بند: clause, article, item, section, term, provision, stipulation

نزع السلاح: disarmament

إفراج: release, setting free, discharge,

أفرج عن الموقوف بكفالة: to bail out, release on bail

أسير: captive, arrested, captured, prisoner

أسير حرب: POW, prisoner of war, internee

وقال وسيط بين الحكومة العراقية وأنصار الصدر إن عناصر الصدر على استعداد لتسليم أسلحتها مقابل أموال. وقال كريم البخيتي اتفقنا على أن يسلم المسلحون أسلحتهم مقابل المال اعتباراً من الاثنين المقبل. ورغم تكرار مقولة إن الوضع الأمني يشكل تحدياً رئيسياً بالنسبة للانتخابات العامة، قال أحد أعضاء اللجنة الانتخابية إن اللجنة تستعد لتحديد آليات تسجيل الناخبين والمرشحين وبالنسبة للمواطن العادي تبدو عملية الاقتراع قبل ثلاثة أشهر من موعدها سراباً أكثر منها حقيقة.فيما كشفت وثائق لوزارة الخارجية الأمريكية أن إدارة بوش تخطط لتقديم نصائح استراتيجية وتدريب وبيانات لاستطلاعات الرأي للأحزاب السياسية العراقية التي تعتبرها معتدلة وديمقراطية والتي تقدم مرشحين لخوض الانتخابات القادمة وذلك بهدف مساعدة هذه الأحزاب للمنافسة وكسب التأييد من العراقيين فيما أعلن وزير الدفاع الأمريكي دونالد رامسفيلد أن الولايات المتحدة قد ترسل قوات إضافية الى العراق من أجل حماية سير الانتخابات.

Translation of some problematic terms:

وسيط: go , intercessor, intermediate, intermediary,mediator between

وسيط, سمسار: broker, middleman,agent

نصير: proponent, , advocator, advocate, backer,supporter patron

مسلح: gunman,armed

تحديا: challenge

لجنة: panel , board, commission,committee

ناخب: constituent, elector,voter

مرشح: nominated, nominee,candidate

الاقتراع: casting of votes, voting,ballot

سراب: phantom ,mirage

وثائق: documents

إدارة بوش: Bush adminisration

استطلاع الرأي: questionnaire, survey,poll

استطلاعات الرأي العام: public opinion ,public opinion surveys, polls

استطلاع صحفي: report,reportage

منافسة: competition

قوات إضافية: additional forces

Damascus University

Chapter Two

Some Political Terms defined in Arabic

Damascus University

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Translate the following defintions into English.
After reading each definition in Arabic, give a brief summary in English. Having done this, you can start translating the whole text.

الأصولية :هي التصرّف أو التكلم وفق الأصول المرعية دينياً أو علمياً أو اخلاقيا ً أو قانونياً أو وراثياً أو ما إلى ذلك، مع الالتزام بمقتضاها تماماً .

قد تعني الأصولية في وقتنا الحاضر الالتزام بالأصول الدينة أو المذهبية التزاماً تاماً عند التفكير في أمرٍ معاصر أو عند قراءة رأي حالي ، حتى و إن كان بالإمكان تحوير هذه الأصول إلى مبادئ متوافقة مع الظروف الراهنة ، إلا أن الأصوليين يلتزمون بمبدأ الثبات والاعتقاد بصلاحية هذه الأصول صلاحية مطلقة و بأنها مناسبة للاستخدام في كل زمانٍ و مكان . بغض النظر عن بعض الفروع التي شرعتها الديانة كبديل لاستخدام الأصول في بعض الحالات . أو كحلٍ يفك تعارضها مع التغييرات و التطورات الفكرية الإنسانية . مما جعل مصطلح " الأصولية " صفة لكل فكر رجعي و بالتالي صفة ملائمة للمنظمات الإرهابية الداعية و المستخدمة لأسلوب العنف .

الراديكالية : هي تعريب للكلمة الإنجليزية "Radicalism" والتي أصلها كلمة "Radical"وهي تعني باللغة العربية : أصل أو جذر ، وعلى هذا فالراديكالية كالأصولية تعني العودة إلى الأصول والتمسك بها والتصرف أو التكلم وفقها.

الليبرالية :مذهب فكري تقوم فلسفته على اعتبار أن الحرية هي المبدأ والمنتهى، الباعث والهدف، والأصل والنتيجة في حياة الإنسان، وهي المنظومة الفكرية الوحيدة التي لا تطمع في شيء سوى وصف النشاط البشري الحر وشرح أوجهه والتعليق عليه.

الدوغمائية : المنطق الثنائي في الحكم على الأشياء ، بمعنى أن كل شيء إما أن يكون صوابا أو خطأ ، وهذا التفكير الثنائي يمكن أن يكون صحيحاً في بعض الحالات كقولنا إن المصباح إما أن يكون مضاءً أو مطفئاً، ولكن في أغلب الأحيان فإن هذه الثنائيات ليست صحيحة تماما، فهي قد لا تعطينا كل الاحتمالات الممكنة.

البراجماتية : فلسفة المنفعة ، ويعرفها البعض بالدراية بما ينبغي عمله ، وتطلق عادة

على مسألة التصرف بالشكل الذي يحقق المنفعة بحسب مقتضى الحال .

و يعتقد البعض أن البراجماتية هي واحدة من أهم دعائم النظام الرأسمالي ، ويعتقدون بأن نظرية ميكيافيللي القائلة بأن الغاية تبرر الوسيلة تندرج تحت البراجماتية نظراً لكون فلسفتها الأساسية تدخل تحت ظل فلسفة المنفعة.

الإيديولوجيا :فن البحث في التصورات والأفكار. والإيديولوجية هي مجموعة الأفكار والتصورات التي يجمعها ويطرحها اتجاه ، أو حزب ، أو حتى مذهب عقدي ، كأن نقول : الإيديولوجيا التي يقوم عليها النظام الإسلامي كذا وكذا ..

الكوجيتو : مبدأ : (أنا أفكر ، إذن أنا موجود) صاحب هذه المبدأ هو الفيلسوف الفرنسي ديكارت ، والذي سبق بطرح نظريته المشهورة في الشك المذهبي والشك المنهجي ، قائلاً : أنا أشك بكل شيء ، أما عني فأنا أفكر إذن أنا موجود .

الميتافيزيقيا :علم الماورائيات أو علم ما وراء الطبيعة. وكان الفلاسفة اليونان يطلقون هذا اللفظ على كل ما لا يحيط به العقل البشري قدرة ، وذكرها علماء العربية من المتكلمة والمعتزلة على الغيب ، كما نقل ذلك الرازي وابن عربي

والحلاج وابن سينا ... ، والآن تطلق على الظواهر الغريبة والتي تلقب بما وراء الطبيعة أي مما يخرج عن نطاق الطبيعة البشرية .

الرأسمالية :هي نظام اقتصادي ذو فلسفة اجتماعية و سياسية و يقوم على أساس تنمية الملكية الفردية و المحافظة عليها بدعمٍ من التوسع في مفهوم الحرية، و يقوم مبدأ الرأسمالية على أساس حرية التملك، وتحقيق المنفعة الخاصة قبل العامة . المقصود بأن الرأسمالية مدعومة بالتوسع في مفهوم الحرية ، هو أن البحث عن الربح مشروع بشتى الطرق و الأساليب ، إلا ما تمنعه الدولة لضرر عام، كالمخدرات أو الاتجار بالسلاح مثلاً . كذلك تضمن الدولة عدم التدخل في الحياة الاقتصادية إلا بالقدر الذي يتطلبه النظام العام و توطيد الأمن في الدولة . و تقدس الرأسمالية مفهوم الملكية الخاصة.

الشيوعية : مذهب فكري يقوم على الإلحاد و أن المادة هي أساس كل شيء، و يفسر حوادث التاريخ بأنها ناتجة عن صراع الطبقات و عن العوامل الاقتصادية فقط.

الشيوعية نظرية اقتصادية سياسية أخذ اسمها من الشيوع و هو الانتشار و تعني بذلك انتشار الأموال ، و تطبيق كل ما يؤدي إلى ذلك بإلغاء الملكية الفردية و إلغاء الوراثة، و تقول الشيوعية بأن الفرد العامل هو أساس هذا النظام و نظراً لأن الإنتاج هو وليد العمل ، فهم ينادون بدكتاتورية الطبقة العاملة .

الاشتراكية :هي الملكية العامة لوسائل الإنتاج ، وعمل ما يكفل التوزيع المتساوي للثروة.

البيروقراطية :الروتين الإداري.

الانثروبولوجيا : هو علم الإنسان والشعوب وموروثاتها الثقافية والاجتماعية ، وما إلى ذلك من العادات والأفكار التي تطبع كل شعب بطبعة خاصة تميزه عن غيره.

الطوباوية : باختصار هي المثالية في كل شيء ، و إن كانت تطلق غالباً على المثالية الفكرية أو الكتابية .

الديموقراطية :التوزيع العادل للسلطة ، و حكم الشعب للشعب الديموقراطية قد لا يخفى معناها العام على الكثيرين منا ، و تعني كما جاء في تعريفها المختصر ، أن السلطة التشريعية للدولة يختارها الشعب بنفسه ، و تخضع لرقابته ، و ينبغي عليها الالتزام بكل ما يضمن للفرد حريته ، و في حال إخلالها بأي شرط من الشروط التي أخذت على عاتقها تطبيقها و العمل بها ، يكون بوسع الشعب الحكوم عزل هذه السلطة و انتخاب غيرها بكل سلاسة ، و من أهم مظاهر الديموقراطية الحديثة: انتخاب السلطة ، حرية الفكر و الرأي و إبداءهما ، حرية التجمع ، حرية التعبير ، حرية الإعلام ..

الدكتاتورية :تعريب للمصطلح الأجنبي "dictatorship" ومعناها : الحكم المطلق المُملي الاستبدادي ، حيث يمسك الفرد الحاكم أو الهيئة أو الحكومة المطلقة بزمام السلطة ، بشكل مطلق، ويعود هذا النوع من الحكم إلي روما القديمة، حيث كان مجلس الشيوخ الروماني يعين أفرادا لفترة مؤقتة يكون باستطاعتهم تسيير الحالات الوطنية الطارئة، دون موافقة الشعب أو مجلس الشيوخ.

البرلمان :هو مؤسسة حكومية أو سياسية رسمية يناط بها سن القوانين والتشريعات، وقد ظهر في أعقاب الثورات التي عاشتها أوربا في القرن الثامن عشر للحد من السلطة المطلقة للملوك.

قد يكون البرلمان من مجلس واحد أو مجلسين، بحسب مساحة الدولة وحجم سكانها ومدى تجانسهم ، ويتمتع عضو البرلمان بحصانة تكفل له أداء دوره بحرية ، ودون خوف من الوقوع تحت طائلة العقاب أو اللوم ، وإن كانت هذه الحصانة لا تمنع من مسائلته أو محاسبته من قبل البرلمان ذاته ، ويتم اختيار الأعضاء بالاقتراع السري المباشر . أما المجلس الآخر فيجوز اختيارهم بالانتخاب أو التعيين أو الوراثة. وللبرلمان مدة محددة كفصل تشريعي لرئيس الدولة حلّه قبل إتمام مدته، وفي بعض الأحيان يكون الحل بيد البرلمان نفسه. وجدير بالذكر أن الحل غالبا ما يحدث للمجلس الأدنى، أما المجلس الأعلى فيحظر حله في بعض الدول، وعلى السلطة التنفيذية الالتزام بالدعوة لتشكيل البرلمان مرة أخرى حسب ما يدعو إليه الدستور.

الديماغوجية :هي القدرة على كسب تأييد الناس ونصرتهم عن طريق استثارة

عواطفهم واللعب بأحاسيسهم ومشاعرهم، وليس عن طريق الحوار العقلاني معهم.

والديماغوجي: هو الشخص القادر على الوصول إلى السلطة السياسية مستخدما مهارته الخطابية، حيث يستطيع أن يتحكم في انفعالات المستمعين إليه وأن يدفعهم إلى التحرك في الاتجاه الذي يريده ، وهو دائما مهتم بالوصول إلى السلطة دون الاهتمام بمصالح الناس.

الديالكتيك :هو الجدل الدائم للحقيقة المطلقة المجردة مع ذاتها، فحسب التعبير اليوناني إن المطلق يثبت نفسه ثم ينفي نفسه بنفسه ثم يقوم بنفي نفيه السابق ، ومن خلال هذه العملية الجدلية تتوالد الأفكار والمواضيع إلى أن يتوالد منها الوجود المادي.

الباراسيكولوجي : علم ما فوق القدرات الحسية، ويتمثل غالبا في الظواهر التي تخرج عن الإدراك البشري العادي، ولكنها لا تخرج عن نطاق الطبيعة البشرية، فهي متعلقة بالإنسان ذاته.

وتعتبر الحاسة السادسة التي يتمتع بها البعض مثالا حيا على هذه الظواهر، كما أن هناك شواهد كثيرة تدل على تمتع البعض بقدرات حسية ومن ذلك أن تفكر في

شخص معين لم تره منذ مدة، وفجأة تجد أن هذا الشخص يتصل عليك، وغير ذلك كثير مما يدل على توارد الخواطر أو ترابط المشاعر وما إلى ذلك مما هو فوق القدرات الحسية الاعتيادية.

اليسار واليمين : اليسار أو الجناح اليساري وكذلك اليمين أو الجناح اليميني ، من المصطلحات التي أصبحت مرتبطة بنظم الحكم وبالمذاهب والأحزاب السياسية المعاصرة ، نشأ اللفظ أصلا مع قيام الجمعية الوطنية الفرنسية عام **1789** م ، حيث كان الأشراف من أعضائها يجلسون على يمين رئيس المجلس، بينما كان ممثلو الشعب يجلسون على يساره.

توسع استخدام هذه المصطلحات بقيام الأحزاب السياسية، حيث أصبح المؤيدون للحكومة القائمة يعرفون باليمين، أما المعارضون يعرفون باليسار، كما أصبح الحزب السياسي الواحد مقسما إلى جناحين : يميني محافظ ويساري راديكالي ، بينما يمثل الوسط العناصر المحايدة، فإذا انحاز جانب منها إلى أحد الجناحين عرف بالوسط اليميني أو الوسط اليساري أو اليسار الوسط تمييزا له عن اليسار المتطرف.

الاستشراق : تيار فكري يتمثل في الدراسات المختلفة عن الشرق ، وتشمل هذه

الدراسات حضاراته و أديانه و آدابه و لغاته و ثقافته .

القومية : حركة سياسية فكرية ، تدعو إلى تمجيد عرقٍ معين و إقامة دولة واحدة لهذا العرق على أساس رابطة الدم و القربى و اللغة والتاريخ ، دون النظر إلى تعددية الأديان أو المذاهب أو الدول.

أول من نادى بها عربياً هو ساطع الحصري (**1880 – 1968** م) ، ويعتبر رائد القومية العربية و أهم مفكريها و أشهر دعاتها ، و له مؤلفات كثيرة تعد الأساس الذي تقوم عليه فكرة القومية العربية .

البيريسترويكا : هي كلمة روسية تعني لغةً : إعادة البناء . استخدمها الرئيس الروسي غورباتشوف لمفهوم لا يقف عند حد المعنى اللغوي لها بل يضيف إليه معنى آخر هو : عملية تجديد متعددة الجوانب متنوعة الأهداف . و إنطلاقاً من اعتبار الإنسان هو الوجه الرئيسي الفاعل في التاريخ فإن مهمة (البيريسترويكا) الأولى و شرطها الضروري ومكمن نجاحها يقوم على : إيقاظ الإنسان و دفعه ليكون ناشطاً و ذا مصلحة حقيقية و الوصول إلى أن يشعر كل فرد أنه مالك البلاد و أن مكان عمله و مصنعه و معمله هي جميعاً مؤسسات يملكها هو.

الهدنة هي توقيف دائم أو مؤقت للعمليات الحربية بواسطة اتفاق وبصفة تعاقدية

يتم بين مفوضين عن الدولتين المتحاربتين، وتخضع الهدنة لأحكام القانون الدولي، فقد نظمتها لائحة الحرب البرية المرفقة بمعاهدة لاهاي الرابعة لعام **1907** وبالتالي فإن هناك التزامات دولية تقع على عاتق الطرفين الموقعين على اتفاقية الهدنة.

والاخلال بشروط الهدنة من قبل أي من الطرفين يعطي الطرف الآخر حق نقضها، وإذا كان هذا الاخلال فرديا فللطرف الآخر ان يطلب معاقبة المسئولين عن هذا الخرق ودفع التعويضات عن الاضرار التي نتجت عنه.

ورقة الاقتراع

الورقة التي تسلم للناخب لكي يكتب فيها اسم المرشح الذي يختاره لتمثيله، وقد تأخذ هذه الورقة شكل كشف يتضمن اسماء جميع المرشحين في الدائرة الانتخابية ويقوم الناخب بوضع علامة معينة أمام الاسم أو الاسماء التي يختارها ويوافق عليها.


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Chapter Three

English Texts to be translated into Arabic

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Most of these texts are taken from the internet:

http://www.teshreen.com/syriatimes/first.asp

After reading each text, give a brief summary in English. Having done this, you can start translating the whole text.

(I)

Cook quits over Iraq crisis

Robin Cook has resigned from Tony Blair's cabinet as the build-up to war with Iraq gathers pace.

The decision by the House of Commons leader, one of the highest profile figures in the Labour Party, came as the Cabinet held an emergency meeting in Downing Street.

The UK, US and Spain have effectively abandoned their efforts to find a diplomatic solution to the stand-off.

They are not putting their draft resolution to a vote in the UN Security Council - citing French intransigence.

Deputy Prime Minister John Prescott said: "There are only two options left - either Saddam goes into exile or he is disarmed by force."

Foreign Secretary Jack Straw is set to make a Commons statement about the crisis at about 2200 GMT on Monday.

Amid growing disquiet among his backbenchers, Mr Blair

will address the Parliamentary Labour Party ahead of a Commons debate on Tuesday.

A vote will then follow on the government's stance.

Mr Prescott said the prime minister would ask for support if the "last resort" of war was needed, and would be setting out the humanitarian effort to rebuild Iraq.

MPs will also hear on Monday evening a personal statement from former Foreign Secretary Mr Cook.

As he left the government ranks, Mr Cook, who saw Mr Blair before the cabinet, said: "It is with regret I have today resigned from the cabinet.

"I can't accept collective responsibility for the decision to commit Britain now to military action in Iraq without international agreement or domestic support."

Damascus University

(II)

Al-Shara, Straw hold good, constructive talks on developments ties

The British Foreign Office witnessed yesterday afternoon the holding of official talks between the Syrian and British sides, which were co-chaired by Foreign Minister Farouk al-Shara and Secretary of Foreign Office Jack Straw.

SyriaTimes

19 -10-2004

The talks reviewed developments in the Middle East region especially in Iraq and the occupied Palestinian territories, and issues on the agenda of the UN Security Council in light of the British Presidency of the Council this month. The talks also dealt with bilateral relations between Syria on the one hand, and British and the European Union on the other.

The two sides expressed desire to strengthen these relations in the different domains, and their views were in agreement that signing the association agreement between Syria and the

European Union will open wide horizons of cooperation between the two sides.

Following the talks, Messrs al-Shara' and Straw held a press conference, where they answered questions raised by reporters.

At the beginning of the press conference, Mr. Straw described his talks with Mr. al-Shara as good and constructive, where they concentrated on the situation in Iraq and the international conference which will be held next month with the participation of neighbouring countries and the 8 industrial states. The talks also dealt with developments in the Middle East, especially in the occupied Arab territories, as well as with bilateral Syrian-British relations, and association between Syria and the European Union.

Mr. Straw expressed his satisfaction at achieving the Syrian-European association agreement, due to be signed today in Brussels.

For his part, Mr. al-Shara' thanked Mr. Straw for inviting him to visit Britain, adding the talks concentrated on the current developments in Iraq. He indicated that we stressed the necessity that the elections be comprehensive in a way

that covers all the Iraqi areas and doesnot exclude any group of the Iraqi people in order to gain its legitimacy desired by the Iraqi people.

Damascus University

(III)

Israel wrecks Iraqs infrastructure, says paper

The Iranian daily Jumhouri Islami yesterday strongly denounced the operations of bombardment, devastation, demolition of houses and organized assassination perpetrated by Israel against the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories, and the unlimited US support for Israel.

SyriaTimes

19 -10-2004

The daily argued in a commentary, that Israel has been adopting a policy of deception to divert the attention of international public opinion from its aggressive practices of killing, destruction and violation of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

The daily called on international commissions and organizations and peace advocates in the world to take rapid measures to end the massacres and genocidal war launched by

the Israeli troops against the Palestinians.

In another article, the paper said Israel and its security authorities were responsible for the destruction of the infrastructure in Iraq.

The paper also referred to the vital role played by Israel in convincing the US to launch its aggressive war on Iraq

Damascus University

(IV)

Iraq bomb blasts kill 13, government to widen arms amnesty

Thirteen Iraqis were killed in bomb blasts around the country, officials said Monday.

SyriaTimes

19 -10-2004

Hopes rose for fresh peace talks to end a military stand-off around Iraq`s stronghold of Fallujah after the US military freed a key negotiator, although troops were encircling the city for a fourth straight day.

Minister Iyad Allawi has warned Fallajuh that it could face an invasion if it does not hand over Abu Mussab al-Zarqawi.

But violence continued to shake Iraq, with 13 people killed in a string of car bombings across the country over the past 24 hours as Muslims mark the holy fasting month of Ramadan.

At least six people, three of them Iraqi policemen, were killed

when car packed with half a tonne of explosives exploded late Sunday as a police convoy drove past a coffee shop, the Interior Ministry said.

Another 26 people were wounded, among them policemen.

Another five Iraqi civilians were killed and 15 wounded when a car bomb exploded on Sunday on a bridge in the nothern Iraqi city of Mosul, the US military said on Monday.

And on Monday, another two Iraqis died in separate roadside bomb blasts around the Iraqi capital, police said, while overnight seven policemen, a woman and her three-year-old child were hurt in a gunfight between police and militants in Baquba.

Meanwhile, Iraq`s interim government will declare a nationwide arms amnesty next week, but insists the city of Falluja must turn in militants or face assault, National Security Adviser Kassim Daoud said on Monday.

Daoud would not be drawn on the timing of a Falluja offensive if the city did not hand over militants led by al-Zarqawi. "We have a timetable and we will stick to it," he told Reuters.

U.S. forces released overnight Falluja`s chief negotiator, whom they detained on Friday, after day-long battles and air strikes on the outskirts of the Muslim stronghold west of Baghdad.

"Next week, we will announce a nationwide arms collection drive," said Daoud, but gave few details of the arms amnesty. Previous gun amnesties since last year`s U.S.-led invasion of Iraq have involved heavier weapons.

Daoud said a cash-for-weapons scheme already under way in Baghdad`s Sadr City district had been extended to Thursday.

Loyalists of fiery cleric Moqtada al-Sadr had been fighting U.S. troops in Sadr City before the arms handover was agreed.

Falluja, a hotbed of "insurgency", is an even tougher challenge for the interim government and its U.S. backers.

"I think the residents of Falluja don`t want this sort of peace. They want real peace, not a peace that stabs in the back and strikes and destroys homes and kills women," Falluja representative Khaled al-Jumaili said after his release.

Falluja residents, enraged by U.S. air strikes that kill civilians,

deny knowledge of Zarqawi`s network.

Jumaili said the hunt for Zarqawi was a pretext to attack Falluja, comparing it to U.S. assertions that Saddam Hussein had weapons of mass destruction before last year`s invasion

Damascus University

(V)

Troops kill five Palestinians: Israel accused by US rights group

Palestinians were killed by Israeli troops in separate incidents Monday, including a pair of Hamas fighters who were preparing to attack a kibbutz after breaking out of the Gaza Strip.

SyriaTimes

19 -10-2004

The Hamas duo broke through a barrier separating Israel from the Gaza Strip and were trying to attack the Holit kibbutz, when they were spotted and shot dead by troops.

Hamas announced in a statement that two of its activists had been martyred during a heroic operation near a terminal crossing into Israel.

The two were named as Abdelaziz al-Jazzar and Abdelsattar al-Jaafari, both members of Hamas`s armed wing, the

Ezzedine al-Qassam Brigades.

Palestinian security sources also confirmed that two members of another resistance group, Islamic Jihad, had been killed in the Rafah region of southern Gaza.

The two men, named as Saadi Abu Eisheh and Mohammed Ashur, were shot dead by troops manning a position near Rafah, close to the border between Gaza and Egypt, they said.

The latest deaths bring the overall toll since the September 2000 start of the Palestinian Intifada to 4,498, including 3,470 Palestinians and 954 Israelis, according to an Agencies count.

Meanwhile, military sources said two other activists had been shot near the Kissufim crossing between Gaza and Israel after a group of Palestinians had opened fire at an Israeli military vehicle, wounding an officer.

An Israeli source said that at least two Palestinians were "apparently killed" when troops returned fire but no bodies had been recovered.

More than 130 Palestinians were killed in a near three-week Israeli army offensive in northern Gaza.

In occupied Jerusalem on the other hand, a U.S. human rights watchdog accused Israel on Monday of exaggerating the threat posed by what are called Palestinian arms-smuggling tunnels to justify a military thrust into a Gaza refugee camp that has left thousands homeless.

Human Rights Watch said Israeli forces had trampled on international law by razing swathes of Rafah to broaden a buffer zone along Gaza's border with Egypt and by carrying out raids that had killed many civilians as well as activists.

"Expansion of the patrol corridor has brought Israeli army fortifications closer to the camp, exposing them to risks subsequently invoked to justify further demolitions," the group said in a study released at a news conference.

Damascus University

(VI)

Iran criticises US troops over Iraqi security

Secretary of the Higher Council of the Iranian National Security Hasan Rohani said he hold the American occupation troops responsible for the failure of security and stability in Iraq.

SyriaTimes

19 -10-2004

Upon receiving the Advisor of the Indian National Security G. N. Dikshit yesterday, Rohani said that Iran has a legitimate right to benefit from nuclear power for peaceful purposes and that Iran has cooperated with transperacy with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and a solution must be found for its nuclear file by the IAEA Arbitration Council.

Rohani referred to the need for combatting terrorism at the regional and international levels.

For his part, Dikshit stressed Iran's right to possess nuclear technology for peaceful purposes.

He expressed his country's readiness to cooperate with Iran in efforts to restore security and stability and to re-build Iraq. He pointed out that India and Iran's view points on terrorism and fighting narcotics were identical.

Meantime, spokesman for the Iranian government, Abdulla Zada stressed once again his country's adherence to its right to benefit from nuclear power for peaceful purposes.

In a press conference, he said: We assure the international community that we are not going to produce nuclear weapons and we apply the international treaties and shall not give up the continent of the Non-proliferation Treaty

Damascus University

(VII)

Gaza withdrawal first step on Road Map

French Foreign Minister Michael Parnie has stressed the need to apply the Road Map plan with the aim of reaching a settlement between the Palestinians and the Israelis, indicating that the Israeli withdrawal from Gaza must be a first step to applying this plan.

SyriaTimes

19-10-2004

In a press conference he held with the Israeli Foreign Minister Silvan Shalom yesterday, he said that the EU is ready to play a complete role to make this withdrawal a success.

Parnie expressed worry over the cycle of violence, saying: Failure of security and stability here is a failure of security and stability for the Europeans.

Meantime, the higher representative of foreign policy at the EU, Javier Solana declared that the EU is working on a program to set up a core Palestinian state as of next November

based on the Road Map presented by the international Quartet.

In a statement he made to Spanish National Broadcasting yesterday, Solana said that the EU will support the Palestinians in establishing their state through securing funding for its development.

Solana also expressed concern over the holding of the elections in Iraq next January.

The Middle East region is a strategic area. It is close to US in Europe. Therefore, we have to work for finding solutions to its problems, he concluded.

Damascus University

(VIII)

Tuesday morning, 11 September 2001, at 08:48AM, a hijacked commercial jet airliner crashes into the upper part of the north tower of the 110 story New York City World Trade Center. At 09:07AM, another hijacked commercial airliner crashes into the south tower. At 09:58AM, the south tower collapses. At 10:28AM, the north tower collapses.

In Washington, D.C., at 09:45AM, a third hijacked commercial airliner crashes into the U.S. military headquarters building ("The Pentagon").

Passengers on a fourth hijacked jetliner appear to have fought their hijackers, forcing their plane to crash at 10:10AM in an unpopulated rural area 80 miles southeast of Pittsburgh, PA -- instead of hitting whatever was the hijackers' intended target.

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وقل رب زدني علما
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Chapter Four

Definitions of some political terms

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وقل رب زدني علما
جامعة دمشق
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Definitions of some political terms:

(Most of these definitions are taken from the internet: http://education.yahoo.com/reference/encyclopedia/entry?id=11201 with some modifications).

Students are required to do three things:

- Read the whole definition and try to understand it by looking up the new words in a dictionary. (It is preferred to use an English- English dictionary first)
- Translate the terms in bold type into Arabic.
- Translate the italicized sentences into Arabic.

Exile, in politics and government:

Removal of a national from his or her country, or the civilized parts of it, for a long period of time or for life. *Exile may be a forceful expulsion by the government or a voluntary removal by the citizen, sometimes in order to escape punishment.* The concept of "government in exile" –one person or a group of persons living outside their state and claiming to be the rightful government–has become accepted in international law during the 20th century.

Deportation

The term "deportation" means *the expulsion of an alien from a country by an act of its government.*

The term is not applied ordinarily to sending a national into exile or to committing one convicted of crime to an overseas penal colony (historically called transportation). In international law the right to send an alien to the country to which he or she owes allegiance (or to any country that will accept him or her) derives from a government's sovereignty.

Alien

In law, an alien is any person residing in one political community while owing allegiance to another. A state distinguishes between aliens who are merely traveling or living there temporarily and those who have come to stay or work; wider powers are assumed over the second group.

Immigration

Entrance of a person (an alien) into a new country for the purpose of establishing permanent residence. Motives for immigration, like those for migration generally, are often economic, although religious or political factors may be very important.

Naturalization

Naturalization is an official act by which a person is made a national of a country other than his or her native one. In some countries naturalized persons do not necessarily

become citizens but may merely acquire a new nationality.

Expatriation

Expatriation is the loss of nationality. Such loss is usually, although not necessarily, voluntary. Generally it applies to those persons who have renounced nationality and citizenship in one country to become citizens or subjects of another.

Nationality

Nationality, in political theory, is the quality of belonging to a nation, in the sense of a group united by various strong ties. Among the usual ties are membership in the same general community, common customs, culture, tradition, history, and language. While no one of these factors is essential, some must be present for cohesion to be strong enough to justify the term nationality. Used in this sense, nationality does not necessarily denote membership within a specific political state. *There are many examples of nations divided between several states and of states composed of several nations and parts of nations.*

Allegiance

Allegiance, in political terms, is the tie that binds an individual to another individual or institution. *The term*

usually refers to a person's legal obligation of obedience to a government in return for the protection of that government, although it may have reference to any institution that one is bound to support. Individuals develop allegiances to social groups, such as family, school, club, and religion, through processes of socialization; recent scholars have examined the connection of these more intimate processes to the maintenance or shift of political allegiances.

Citizen

A citizen is a member of a state, native or naturalized, who owes allegiance to the government of the state and is entitled to certain rights. *Citizens may be said to enjoy the most privileged form of nationality; they are at the furthest extreme from nonnational residents of a state, but they may also be distinguished from nationals with subject or servile status (e.g., slaves or serfs; see serf, slavery).* (It should be noted, however, that in Great Britain and some other constitutional monarchies a citizen is called a subject.)

Extradition

Extradition is the delivery of a person, suspected or convicted of a crime, by the state where he has taken refuge to the state that asserts jurisdiction over him. Its purpose is to

prevent criminals who flee a country from escaping punishment. Extradition first became a common policy in the 19th cent. International law does not recognize extradition as an obligation in the absence of a treaty, and although a state may, as a matter of courtesy, refuse asylum to a fugitive and honor a request for extradition, virtually all extradition takes place under the authority of bilateral treaties. The provisions of each nation's treaties may differ greatly from those of another, and it should be noted that some treaties are formulated so that a nation is not obligated to extradite.

Asylum

Asylum is the extension of hospitality and protection to a fugitive and the place where such protection is offered. The use of temples and churches for this purpose in ancient and medieval times was known as sanctuary. *In modern international law, the granting of asylum to refugees from other lands is the right of a state by virtue of its territorial sovereignty. A fugitive, however, has no right to demand asylum from the state to which he flees;* that state makes its own determination in each case. Between most nations there are treaties of extradition providing for the mutual surrender of fugitives from justice, and there is a tendency to confine the

granting of asylum to political refugees and victims of apparent discrimination and intolerance.

Feudalism

Feudalism is a form of political and social organization typical of Western Europe from the dissolution of Charlemagne's empire to the rise of the absolute monarchies. The term feudalism is derived from the Latin feodum, for "fief," and ultimately from a Germanic word meaning "cow," generalized to denote valuable movable property. Although analogous social systems have appeared in other civilizations, the feudalism of Europe in the Middle Ages remains the common model of feudal society.

Military Service

The feudal system rested on the unsettled conditions of the times and thus on the need of the lord for armed warriors and the need of the vassal for protection. *The nobility was essentially a military class, with the knight as the typical warrior. Since equipping mounted fighters was expensive, the lord could not create his armed force without the obligation of the vassal to supply a stipulated number of armed men, a number that varied from the service of the vassal himself to the service of hundreds in private armies.* The gradations of

nobility were, therefore, based on both military service and landholding. At the bottom of the social scale was the squire, originally the servant of the knight. Above the knight were classes that varied in different countries–counts, dukes, earls, barons, and other nobles.

Slavery

Slavery is an institution based on a relationship of dominance and submission, whereby one person owns another and can exact from that person labor or other services. Slavery has been found among many groups of low material culture, as in the Malay Peninsula and among some Native Americans. Some ascribe the beginnings of slavery to war and the consequent subjection of one group by another. *Slavery as a result of debt, however, existed in very early times, and some African peoples have had the custom of putting up wives and children as hostages for an obligation; if the obligation was unfulfilled, the hostages became permanent slaves.*

The Balfour Declaration and Settlement in Palestine

After Herzl's death, the Zionist movement came under the leadership of Chaim Weizmann, who sought to reconcile the "practical" wing of the movement, which sought

to further Jewish settlement in Palestine, and its "political" wing, which stressed the establishment of a Jewish state. Weizmann obtained few concessions from the Turkish sultan, who ruled Palestine; *however, in 1917, Great Britain, then at war with Turkey, issued the Balfour Declaration which promised to help establish a national home for the Jewish people in Palestine. Great Britain was given a mandate of Palestine in 1920 by the League of Nations, in part to implement the Balfour Declaration.*

Jewish colonization vastly increased in the early years of the mandate, but soon the British limited their interpretation of the declaration in the face of Arab pressure. There were disputes in the Zionist movement on how to counter the British position.

Balfour Declaration 1917

November 2nd, 1917

Dear Lord Rothschild,

I have much pleasure in conveying to you, on behalf of His Majesty's Government, the following declaration of sympathy with Jewish Zionist aspirations which has been submitted to, and approved by, the Cabinet.

"His Majesty's Government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country."

I should be grateful if you would bring this declaration to the knowledge of the Zionist Federation.

Yours sincerely,

Arthur James Balfour

Feminism

feminism, movement for the political, social, and educational equality of women with men; the movement has occurred mainly in Europe and the United States. It has its roots in the humanism of the 18th cent. and in the Industrial Revolution. *Feminist issues range from access to employment, education, child care, contraception, and abortion, to equality in the workplace, changing family roles, redress for sexual harassment in the workplace, and the need for equal political representation.*

Hunger strike

Hunger strike is the process of refusal to eat as a protest against existing conditions. Although most often used by prisoners, others have also employed it. For example, Mohandas Gandhi in India and Cesar Chavez in California **fasted** as religious penance during otherwise political or economic disputes. The passage of the so-called Cat-and-Mouse Act in 1913, by which the prisoners in ill health due to fasting could be temporarily discharged, ended the forced feeding to which the authorities had resorted. The Franchise Act of 1918 ended the suffragist hunger strikes in England.

Minority

Minority, in international law, is population group with a characteristic culture and sense of identity occupying a subordinate political status. **Religious minorities** were known from ancient times, but ethnic minorities did not become an issue in European politics until the rise of **nationalism** in the 19th century. The **potential conflict** arose from nationalism's equation of the nation with the identity of the dominant cultural group, with an attempt to eradicate separate identities through conformity. The minority group sought to establish its own culture as a national identity, either

by incorporating with a nearby country that shared its identity or, if none existed, by seceding and forming its own nation.

Genocide

Genocide, in international law, is the intentional and systematic destruction, wholly or in part, by a government of a national, racial, religious, or ethnic group. Although the term genocide was first coined in 1944, the crime itself has been committed often in history.

European Union

European Union (EU), is the name given since the ratification (November, 1993) of the Treaty of European Union, or Maastricht Treaty, to the European Community (EC), an economic and political confederation of European nations, and other organizations (with the same member nations) that are responsible for a common foreign and security policy and for cooperation on justice and home affairs. Fifteen countries–Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany (originally West Germany), Great Britain, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, and Sweden–are full members of the organizations of the EU.

Organizational Structure

The **EC**, which is the core of the EU, originally referred to the group of **Western European nations** that belonged to each of three treaty organizations–the **European Coal and Steel Community** (ECSC), **the European Economic Community** (EEC), and the **European Atomic Energy Community** (Euratom). *In 1967 these organizations were consolidated under a comprehensive governing body composed of representatives from the member nations and divided into four main branches–the European Commission (formerly the Commission of the European Communities), the Council of the European Union (formerly the Council of Ministers of the European Communities), the European Parliament, and the European Court of Justice.*

European Commission

European Commission, branch of the governing body of the European Union (EU) invested with executive and some legislative powers. *Located in Brussels, Belgium, it was founded in 1967 when the three treaty organizations comprising what was then the European Community (EC) were officially merged;* previously, each organization was governed by a separate commission. The commission is

composed of 20 members—two from each of the five largest EU nations and one from each of the others. *Members are appointed by agreement among the member nations and serve four-year terms. One member serves as president and six serve as vice presidents.* A large administrative staff, numbering more than 10,000, is divided among many committees and administrative agencies. *The commission implements the provisions of the EU's founding treaties and carries out rules issued by the Council of the European Union.*

Food and Agriculture Organization

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), is a specialized agency of the United Nations, established in 1945. *The organization is governed by a conference composed of the entire membership (180 nations plus the European Union), which meets at least once biennially, and by a council of 49 members.* Each region is allocated a fixed number of seats, 33 of which are from **Third World areas**. *It reports to the Economic and Social Council annually. Managed by a director-general, it carries out about one third of the programs of other UN development agencies.* The objective of the FAO is to contribute to an expanding world economy by

promoting sustainable rural development with emphasis on the poorest farmers, promoting food production and self-reliance, and raising the level of nutrition. *The FAO has no mandatory powers but seeks to accomplish its purposes by making investigations, publishing reports, and organizing conferences; it offers technical aid, improves seeds, develops serums and vaccines, and aids in increasing forestry yields.*

North Atlantic Treaty Organization

(NATO), established under the North Atlantic Treaty (Apr. 4, 1949) by Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Great Britain, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, and the United States. *Greece and Turkey entered the alliance in 1952, West Germany (now Germany) entered in 1955, and Spain joined in 1982. In 1999, the Czech Republic, Hungary, and Poland joined, bringing the membership to 19.* NATO maintains headquarters in Brussels, Belgium.

The treaty, one of the major Western countermeasures in the cold war against the threat of aggression by the Soviet Union, was aimed at safeguarding the freedom of the Atlantic community. *Considering an armed attack on any member an attack against all, the treaty*

provided for collective self-defense in accordance with Article 51 of the United Nations Charter. The treaty was also designed to encourage political, economic, and social cooperation. The organization was reorganized and centralized in 1952.

In the 1990s, with the collapse of the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact, NATO's role in world affairs has changed, and U.S. forces in Europe have been halved. Many East European nations sought NATO membership as a counterbalance to Russian power, but they, along with other European and Asian nations (including Russia), were offered instead membership in the more limited Partnership for Peace, formed in 1994.

Cold War

Cold war is a term used to describe the shifting struggle for power and prestige between the Western powers and the Communist bloc from the end of World War II until 1989. Of worldwide proportions, the conflict was tacit in the ideological differences between communism and capitalist democracy.

Berlin Wall

1961 -89, a barrier first erected in August, 1961, by the East German government along the border between East and West Berlin, and later extended along the entire border between East Germany and West Germany. It was built to halt large numbers of defections and to prevent E. Berliners commuting to the West. Erected at a time of growing tension between East and West, the **barbed wire** was eventually replaced by concrete topped with wire. In 1989, after hundreds of thousands of East Germans had fled westward via Hungary and Czechoslovakia, on November 9, the beleaguered East German regime lifted travel restrictions, and days later dismantling of the wall began. *Built to keep people in, the wall was dismantled in a failed gamble by the Communists to keep power.*

United Nations

(UN), is an international organization established immediately after World War II. *It replaced the League of Nations. In 1945, when the UN was founded, there were 51 members; 191 nations are now members of the organization.*

Organization and Principles

The Charter of the United Nations comprises a preamble and 19 chapters divided into 111 articles. The charter sets forth the purposes of the UN as: the maintenance of international peace and security; the development of friendly relations among states; and the achievement of cooperation in solving international economic, social, cultural, and humanitarian problems. It expresses a strong hope for the equality of all people and the expansion of basic freedoms.

The principal organs of the UN, as specified in the charter, are the **General Assembly**, the **Security Council**, the **Economic and Social Council, the Trusteeship Council, the International Court of Justice, and the Secretariat**. Other bodies that function as specialized agencies of the UN but are not specifically provided for in the charter are the Food and Agriculture Organization, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the associated International Finance Corporation and International Development Association, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the International Labor Organization, the International Maritime Organization, the International

Monetary Fund, the International Telecommunication Union, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization, the Universal Postal Union, the World Health Organization, the World Intellectual Property Organization, and the World Meteorological Organization. Temporary agencies have included the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, the International Refugee Organization (whose responsibilities were later assumed by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees), and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, which is still in existence.

The official languages of the UN are Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish. The working languages of the General Assembly are English, French, and Spanish (in the Security Council only English and French are working languages).

The General Assembly

The only UN body provided by the **charter** in which all member states are represented is the General Assembly. *The General Assembly was designed to be a deliberative body dealing chiefly with general questions of a political, social, or*

economic character. It meets in a regular annual session beginning the third Tuesday in September; special sessions are sometimes held. It has seven main committees set up to deal with specific matters designated as:

(1) political and security, (2) economic and financial, (3) social, humanitarian, and cultural, (4) trusteeship, (5) administrative and budgetary, (6) legal, and (7) special political. It also has procedural, standing, and many ad hoc committees. *The assembly passes on the budget and sets the assessments of the member countries. It may conduct studies and make recommendations but may not advise on matters under Security Council consideration, unless by Security Council request.* In the assembly, decisions on routine matters are taken by a simple majority of members voting; a two-thirds majority is required for matters of importance, such as the admission of new members, the revision of the charter, and budgetary and trusteeship questions.

The Security Council

The Security Council was constructed as an organ with primary responsibility for preserving peace. Unlike the General Assembly, it was given power to enforce measures and was organized as a compact executive organ. Also unlike

the assembly, the Security Council in theory functions continuously at the seat of the UN.

The council has 15 members. Five--China (until 1971 the Republic of China [Taiwan]; since then the People's Republic of China), France, Great Britain, the United States, and Russia (until 1991 the USSR)--are permanent. The 10 (originally six) nonpermanent members are elected for two-year terms by the General Assembly; equitable geographic distribution is required. *Customarily there are five nonpermanent members from African and Asian states, one from Eastern Europe, two from Latin America, and two from Western Europe and elsewhere. In the council the presidency is occupied for one-month terms in the alphabetical order of the members' names in English.* In 1997 a UN **commission** proposed changes to the council, including adding five new permanent members without **veto** powers, adding four additional nonpermanent members, and placing **restrictions** on the use of the veto. The proposed changes were regarded by many nations as a groundwork for negotiations on the eventual restructuring of the council.

Third World

The Third World is the technologically less

advanced, or developing, nations of Asia, Africa, and Latin America, generally characterized as poor, having economies distorted by their dependence on the export of primary products to the developed countries in return for finished products. These nations also tend to have high rates of illiteracy, disease, and population growth and unstable governments. The term Third World was originally intended to distinguish the nonaligned nations that gained independence from colonial rule beginning after World War II from the Western nations and from those that formed the former Eastern bloc, and sometimes more specifically from the United States and from the former Soviet Union (the first and second worlds, respectively). *For the most part the term has not included China. Politically, the Third World emerged at the Bandung Conference (1955), which resulted in the establishment of the Nonaligned Movement. Numerically, the Third World dominates the United Nations, but the group is diverse culturally and increasingly economically, and its unity is only hypothetical.* The oil-rich nations, such as Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and Libya, and the newly emerged industrial states, such as Taiwan, South Korea, and Singapore, have little in common with desperately poor nations, such as Haiti, Chad, and Afghanistan.

United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

(UNRWA)is an agency of the United Nations, with headquarters in Amman, Jordan. Established in 1949, it replaced the United Nations Relief for Palestine Refugees in 1950 as the major UN agency dealing with Palestine refugees. In 1999 close to 3.6 million refugees who had been **displaced** by the various Arab-Israeli Wars were registered with UNRWA, 1.1 million of them in UNWRA refugee camps. *Originally the agency was charged with the care of these refugees until they could be repatriated, compensated, or resettled; UNRWA has, in fact, found itself faced with the job of housing, feeding, and educating people for long periods of time in Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, the West Bank, and the Gaza Strip.* During this period, it has had the difficult task of dealing with the competing interests of Israel, the Arab states, and the Palestinian movement.

International Monetary Fund

(IMF) is a specialized agency of the United Nations, established in 1945. It was planned at the Bretton Woods Conference (1944), and its headquarters are in Washington,

D.C. (district of Columbia). There is close collaboration between it and **the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.** The organization, using a fund subscribed by the member nations, purchases **foreign currencies** on application from its members so as to discharge international indebtedness and stabilize exchange rates. The IMF currency reserve units are called Special Drawing Rights (SDRs); from 1974 to 1980 the value of SDRs was based on the currencies of 16 leading trading nations. *Since 1980 it has been reevaluated every five years, based on the currencies of the five largest exporting nations* (from 1990 to 2000, France, Germany, Great Britain, Japan, and the United States). *To facilitate international trade and reduce inequities in exchange, the fund has limited power to set the par value of currencies.* Members are provided with technical assistance in making monetary transactions. In 1995 the fund moved to increase disclosure requirements of countries borrowing money and at the same time created an emergency bailout fund for countries in financial crisis.

United Nations Children's Fund

(UNICEF) is an affiliated agency of the United Nations. It was established in 1946 as the United Nations

International Children's Emergency Fund. UNICEF is concerned with assisting children and adolescents throughout the world, particularly in devastated areas and developing countries. Unlike most United Nations agencies, UNICEF is financed through voluntary contributions from governments and individuals, rather than by regular assessments. National UNICEF committees collaborate with UNICEF in various projects. UNICEF was awarded the **Nobel Peace Prize** in 1965.

World Health Organization

(WHO), specialized agency of the United Nations, established in 1948, with its headquarters at Geneva. WHO admits all sovereign states (including those not belonging to the United Nations) to full membership, and it admits territories that are not self-governing to associate membership. There are 191 member nations. *WHO is governed by the World Health Assembly, consisting of representatives of the entire membership, which meets at least once a year; an executive board elected by the World Health Assembly; and a secretariat headed by a director-general.* There are regional organizations in Africa, the E Mediterranean, SE Asia,

Europe, the W Pacific, and the Americas. WHO worked to **eradicate smallpox**, has made notable strides in checking **polio**, **leprosy**, **cholera**, **malaria**, and **tuberculosis**, and sponsors medical research on tropical and other diseases. *WHO has drafted conventions for preventing the international spread of disease, such as sanitary and quarantine requirements, and has given attention to the problems of environmental pollution.*

International Court of Justice

The international Court of Justice is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, established by **chapter** 14 of the UN **Charter**. *It superseded the Permanent Court of International Justice, and its statute for the most part repeats that of the former tribunal. The court consists of 15 judges chosen by the General Assembly and the Security Council, voting independently, from a list of candidates nominated by government-appointed national groups of international-law experts. No two judges may be from the same country.* Nine judges constitute a **quorum**, and questions are decided by a majority of the judges present. The permanent seat of the

court is at The Hague, the Netherlands, but it may hold hearings elsewhere. *All members of the United Nations are ipso facto members of the court; other states may adhere to the statute. If a member of the United Nations fails to comply with a judgment of the court, an appeal for assistance may be made to the Security Council.* The court may render judgment in certain disputes between states, and with the authorization of the General Assembly, it may deliver advisory opinions to any organ of the United Nations and its agencies.

United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization

(UNESCO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations, with headquarters in Paris. Its counterpart in the League of Nations was the International Committee for Intellectual Cooperation. UNESCO was founded in 1945 and became an agency of the United Nations in 1946. It has 188 members. The organization's policies are decided by the general conference, which meets every two years; it consists of one representative for each member. The executive board, with 34 members elected for three-year terms, and a secretariat, headed by a director-general, carry out the program. National commissions or cooperating bodies of

member states act as liaisons between UNESCO and national educational, scientific, and cultural organizations. *UNESCO seeks to further world peace by encouraging free interchange of ideas and of cultural and scientific achievements and by improving education.*

After World War II, UNESCO worked for the physical reconstruction of the educational facilities of war-devastated countries by building up library and museum collections. Since 1950 it has organized projects for primary education in Latin America, Asia, and Africa; it has also encouraged cultural exchanges between East and West, undertaking translations of important writings and organizing personal exchanges. A most important long-range UNESCO program concerns the problem of "fundamental education" – teaching people to read and write and to meet the problems of their environment. Centers to train educators have been established in Cambodia, India, South Korea, Liberia, Thailand, and Turkey, and fundamental-education centers have been set up in Latin America and in the Middle East.

Democracy

Originating in ancient Greece, democracy

designated a government where the people share in directing the activities of the state, as distinct from governments controlled by a single class, select group, or autocrat. *The definition of democracy has been expanded, however, to describe a philosophy that insists on the right and the capacity of a people, acting either directly or through representatives, to control their institutions for their own purposes. Such a philosophy places a high value on the equality of individuals and would free people as far as possible from restraints not self-imposed. It insists that necessary restraints be imposed only by the consent of the majority and that they conform to the principle of equality.*

Communism

Communism, fundamentally, is a system of social organization in which property (especially real property and the means of production) is held in common.

In modern usage, the term Communism (written with a capital C) is applied to the movement that aims to overthrow the capitalist order by revolutionary means and to establish a classless society in which all goods will be socially owned.

Chapter Five
Political Glossary
(Exercises)

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Below are some political terms explained in English. Try to give their Arabic translation. Having done this, put each term in a sentence.

absentee voting:

Absentee voting is where provision is made for voting by electors at polling booths away from their home electorates.

absolute majority:

One-half plus one of the total valid votes cast in an election.

autocracy:

Autocracy is rule by a person with virtually unlimited authority.

ballot paper:

A ballot paper is a sheet of paper, normally printed, on which a voter will mark his or her vote.

bi-cameral:

A bi-cameral system is a legislature or parliament with two houses.

bill of rights:

A bill of rights is a part of a nation's constitution

which provides for particular individual freedoms, such as freedom of religion or of association.

cabinet:

The cabinet is an executive and policy-making body consisting of senior government ministers.

caucus:

A caucus is a meeting of parliamentarians from the one political party who meet to elect leaders and determine policy or tactics.

coalition:

A coalition is an alliance formed between separate political parties.

confederation:

A confederation is normally a looser union of states formed for a common purpose. Each part of a confederation (or confederal state) is normally free to leave, as in case of the constituent republics.

conservative:

A conservative is a person who in general opposes social change.

constitution:

A constitution is the basic law or fundamental governing principles of a state or nation.

Democracy:

Democracy is a principle whereby people in a country freely elect representatives who make laws and govern with popular support. A democratic government also implies that the people can change a government if they are dissatisfied with it.

division (or separation) of powers:

The above concept refers to the idea that each of the three branches of government (legislative, executive and judicial) are divided from one another to act as a check and balance on political power.

donkey-vote:

A donkey vote is where the names of the candidates are marked irrationally on a ballot paper from top to bottom without regards to the merits of the various candidates.

Droop quota:

The Droop quota calculation is generally used in the quota-preferential voting system. It is calculated by dividing

the number of valid votes by one more than the number of vacancies, and adding one vote to the figure so obtained.

Electoral college:

The electoral college formally elects the President of the United States. American voters do not vote directly for the President, but for members of the electoral college. The people in each state and the District of Columbia vote for a minimum of three such electors. This part of the process is called the popular vote. Normally electors are pledged to vote for a particular presidential candidate. The person elected President will almost always be known as soon as the popular vote has been counted.

Electoral system:

The electoral system is the way in which the representative institutions of a country operate. The number of members to be elected, the size of electorates, and the term of office of elected members are all features of an electoral system.

electorate:

An electorate refers collectively to all persons entitled to vote.

Executive:

The executive is the branch of government responsible for the administration or carrying-out (implementation) of laws.

Executive Council:

The Executive Council is a body consisting of the Queen's representative (the Governor-General or, in the case of the states, the Governor) and certain government ministers. The Executive Council formally approves decisions made previously by Cabinet.

Faction:

A faction is an organised group operating within a political party that seeks to influence party policy-making or ensure that certain of its members are elected to party office. Factions are sometimes called a 'party within a party'.

Federal:

Federal is a term which refers to a nation state where power is divided between a national government and several regional governments, normally called states or provinces. A federation, unlike a confederation, normally makes no provision for its dissolution.

first-past-the-post:

The above is a voting system in which the candidate with the largest number of votes is declared elected. The candidate so elected need not necessarily secure an absolute majority of the total votes cast.

Franchise:

A franchise is the right to vote.

Gerrymander:

A gerrymander is a deliberate arrangement of electoral boundaries to favour a particular political party.

house of review:

Theoretically, the upper house of parliament acts as a house of review. The upper house of parliament will review Bills passed by the lower house, and act as a protection against hasty, ill-considered, or bad legislation. Where one party controls both houses of parliament, the upper house will rarely act as a house of review.

International Labour Organisation (ILO):

This organization comprises conventions which seek to protect working conditions for employees.

Impeachment:

An impeachment is a trial by the legislature of a public official. In the United States a President can be removed from office by impeachment.

informal vote:

An informal vote is a ballot paper which is not included in the count towards the election of the successful candidate because of some irregularity.

Judiciary:

The judiciary are the members of a court of law who are concerned with the enforcement and interpretation of laws.

left-wing:

The above term describes a political party or one of its members who advocates social change. A left-wing party will normally advocate greater public ownership of the means of production and an extensive system of social security.

legislature:

A legislature is a law-making body such as parliament.

liberal:

A liberal is a person who supports moderate social

progress and reform.

Loans Council:

The Loans Council is a body which regulates borrowing of money by the federal government and the states.

malapportionment:

Malapportionment literally means a bad apportionment of electoral boundaries, where great differences exist in the size of electorates. It generally occurs through neglect, where electoral boundaries have not been changed to reflect population movements. Malapportionment is rarely deliberate, and is often neutral in its affect on the representation of particular political parties.

multi-member electorates:

Multi-member electorates have more than one member. The proportional representation voting system requires multi-member electorates.

Nationalism:

Nationalism refers to patriotism and loyalty to a person's own country or nation.

Plebiscite:

A plebiscite is a vote on a particular question or issue

which is not necessarily binding.

Plurality:

Plurality means a simple majority. In addition it means more votes than any other candidate but not necessarily an absolute majority.

Popular vote:

A popular vote is a vote by the general electorate.

postal voting:

Postal voting is a facility where aged or infirm electors, or electors who are unable to attend at a polling booth, can cast their vote at an election by post.

Preferential voting:

Preferential voting means a system in which electors mark their ballot papers with consecutive preferences, and in order to be elected the successful candidate must secure an absolute majority of votes on first preferences. Where no candidate does this, candidates with the fewest primary votes are eliminated and their preferences are distributed among the remaining candidates until one candidate secures an absolute majority.

Proportional voting:

Proportional voting is a system under which each

political party is represented in parliament with a proportion of seats that is approximately equal to its proportion of the popular vote.

Pre-poll voting:

Pre-poll voting applies in local government elections in Victoria where voters may vote at a central polling station before the day on which the election is being held. This facility allows voters who will be absent from their municipality on polling day to record their vote in person rather than rely on a postal vote.

Proscribing:

Proscribing is a rule or condition of membership that declares that members of a political party may not, in order to retain membership, belong to another (proscribed) organisation.

Privatisation:

Privatisation means the sale of shares in government of publicly-owned business organisations. The Commonwealth Bank, for example, has been part-privatised with the sale of up to fifty per cent of its capital to private individuals. The Kennett Govern ment in Victoria plans to privatise many services at present conducted by local

government.

Precedent:

A precedent is a previous decision used as a justification for deciding a subsequent case in the same way.

Quota:

A quota in proportional representation voting systems is the number of votes needed to secure election. The Droop quota is the most commonly used method.

Quota preferential:

Quota preferential is another term for the single-transferable vote system of proportional representation. The voter is required to mark his or her ballot paper with consecutive candidates for some or all of the candidates. To be successful a candidat e must obtain a quota of votes.

Referendum:

A referendum is a vote on a particular question which has a binding result.

Representative government:

Representative government is where the people elect representatives to the national legislature, but the executive government is not responsible, for its continuance in office, to

the support of the legislature.

Republic:

A republic is a nation or country where the head of state is generally elected and is not a hereditary monarch.

Responsible government:

The above term describes where the executive government is responsible, for its continuation in office by relying on the support of the lower house of parliament. If defeated on a motion of no-confidence in, or at an election for, the lower house of parliament, the government must resign.

Right-wing:

The above term refers to a political party or its supporters who would generally oppose political change or reform. A right-wing party generally opposes large-scale government ownership of business activities.

Royal Assent:

Royal Assent is the signing of a Bill by the Queen's representative which then becomes an Act. Legislation cannot have legal effect without the Royal Assent.

Run-off poll:

A run-off poll occurs where no candidate has an

absolute majority. A run-off poll is held at a later date. Normally a run-off poll is restricted to the top two candidates at the first (or original) ballot.

Single-member electorate:

A single-member electorate is a district represented in a legislature by only one member. The House of Representatives in Australia and the Victorian Parliament use a single-member electoral system.

Social democracy:

Social democracy is a political system which places stress on equality and the provision of services by the state which are accessible to all its citizens, and particularly by the less-well off. A distinction is sometimes made between a social democracy, with a large private sector, and a socialist society where the private sector is minimal.

Supply bill:

A supply bill is a bill presented to parliament to provide for the appropriation of the government's ordinary expenses. Public servants cannot be paid unless a supply bill is passed by parliament.

Tri-cameral:

A tri-cameral system is a parliament of three houses. South Africa before 1994 had a three-house parliament based on racial representation. The South African model is the only known example of a three-house legislature.

Unitary system:

A unitary system is where a national parliament can make laws for the entire country. There is no division of powers between the national and regional governments. In unitary systems (such as New Zealand) much power can nevertheless be devolved from the national government to local government.

Westminster-type governments:

The Westminster-type of parliamentary government operates largely according to the conventions followed by the United Kingdom Parliament at Westminster in London. The most important convention followed in such a system is certainly that of responsible government.

Some political posts are different according to the country. Compare the following:

1. Syria:

President of the council of ministers. Prime Minister

Defense Minister

Foreign Minister

Expatriates Minister

Health Minister

Agriculture Minister

Electricity Minister

Oil Minister

Irrigation Minister

Culture Minister

Information Minister

Awkaf Minister (Endowment Minister)

Transport Minister

Justice Minister

Industry Minister

Interior Minister

Communications and Technology Minister

Social Affairs and Labor Minister

Housing and Building up Minister

Local Administration and Environment

Education Minister

Finance Minister

Trade Minister

Tourism Minister

Higher Education Minister

Presidential Affairs Minister

2. America

Secretary of Agriculture

Secretary of Commerce

Secretary of the Interior

Department of Justice

Secretary of Defense

Secretary of Labor

Secretary of Education

Secretary of State

Secretary of Energy

Secretary of Transportation

Secretary of Health and Human Services

Secretary of the Treasury

Department of Homeland Security

3. The United Kingdom

Secretary of Veterans Affairs

Secretary of Housing and Urban Development

The Cabinet in the UK

Prime Minister, First Lord of the Treasury and Minister for the Civil Service

Deputy Prime Minister and First Secretary of State

State for Wales

Secretary of State for Constitutional Affairs

Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs

Secretary of State for the Home Department

Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Secretary of State for International Development

Secretary of State for Work and Pensions

Secretary of State for Transport and Scotland

Secretary of State for Health

Secretary of State for Northern Ireland

Secretary of State for Defence

Chief Secretary to the Treasury

Leader of the House of Lords and Lord President of the Council

Secretary of State for Trade and Industry

Secretary of State for Education and Skills

Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport

Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasury (Chief Whip)

Minister without Portfolio and Party Chair

Departments of State and Ministers

Cabinet Office

Department for Constitutional Affairs

Department for Culture, Media & Sport

Ministry of Defence

Office of the Deputy Prime Minister

Department for Education and Skills

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Foreign & Commonwealth Office

Department of Health

Home Office

House of Commons

Department for International Development

Law Officers' Department

Northern Ireland Office

Privy Council Office

Department of Trade and Industry

Department for Transport

Chapter Six

Exercises

Political Texts to be translated into English

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(I)

نقاشات مجلس الأمن وسقوط المراهنة على التدخل الخارجي

دمشق صحيفة تشرين سياسة

الاثنين 25 تشرين أول 2004

حسن حردان

انتظر البعض ان يخرج مجلس الامن بقرار جديد اقوى من القرار الاول فيماخص طريقة وآلية تنفيذ الـ1559 منطلقا من تقرير كوفي انان امين عام الامم المتحدة والضغوط الاميركية الفرنسية التي بلغت ذروتها عشية صدور التقرير ونقاشات مجلس الامن، والتي تجلت في مطالبة وزير الخارجية الاميركي كولن باول بان يكون تقرير انان قويا ويقترح فيه اليات للمتابعة تحدد باجراءات ضد سورية ولبنان إذا لم ينفذ القرار.

غير ان ما رشح من نقاشات وسجالات بشأن مسودة بيان رئاسي يرحب بتقرير انان ويحث سورية على التطبيق الكامل لجميع بنود القرار 1559 ويطلب ان يستمر الامين العام في مراقبة تطبيق القرار، وان يقدم تقريرا حول ذلك الى مجلس الامن

خلال شهرين وبعد ذلك كل ثلاثة اشهر، جاء معاكسا لرغبات الولايات المتحدة وفرنسا وبعض الاطراف المحلية اللبنانية التي تراهن على الضغوط الخارجية، حيث رفضت معظم دول المجلس: روسيا والصين وباكستان والجزائر والفلبين والبرازيل، ذكر اسم سورية في القرار أو اصدار تقارير دورية حول تطبيق القرار.

ومثل هذا الاعتراض لم يكن مفاجئا لان هذه الدول اصلا لم تصوت على القرار وهي، عدا عن ذلك، حالت دون ان يتضمن القرار، قبيل صدوره، ذكر اسم سورية حيث جرى الحديث عن قوات اجنبية في حين شطبت فقرة التهديد باجراءات عقابية ضدها اذا لم تنفذ القرار، وقد اضطرت واشنطن وباريس للقبول باصدار قرار لا يحتوي هاتين النقطتين، مما اعتبر في حينه نصف انتصار للدبلوماسية السورية.

وبالتالي كان من الطبيعي ان من اعترض في البداية على امور جوهرية ان يستمر في رفضه لكن البعض كان لايريد ان يرى ذلك وذهب حد التصديق بان سورية ولبنان قد وضعتا نفسيهما في مواجهة الشرعية الدولية وما عليهما سوى تنفيذ القرار لتجنب الاسوأ، وهناك من بلغ به الامر حد الحديث عن ان القرار الجديد سوف يكون مصحوبا بالتهديد باستخدام القوة لتطبيقه.

ان مثل هذه النتيجة من الفشل التي افضت اليها الضغوط الاميركية الفرنسية تعود الى

عدة امور:

الامر الاول: رفض سورية ولبنان مضمون القرار لانه يشكل تدخلا بشؤون داخلية لدول ذات سيادة، ويخالف ميثاق الامم المتحدة، وسيادة مناخ لدى دول عديدة ومؤثرة تؤيد وجهة النظر السورية اللبنانية.

الامر الثاني: فشل المراهنة في ان يؤدي القرار الى اثارة القلاقل والاضطرابات في لبنان او في ان يخلق موازين قوى داخلية لصالحه، حيث اظهرت الوقائع والمعطيات ان اغلبية اعضاء البرلمان اللبناني صوتت مع تعديل الدستور وبالتالي التمديد للرئيس اميل لحود، فيمامعظم القوى السياسية ايدت هذا الخيار ورفضت القرار 1559 ورأت فيه سابقة دولية خطيرة، وقد انعكس ذلك في زيادة القناعة لدى الجهات المقررة في مجلس الامن بانه من غير الممكن تبديل هذه الصورة في لبنان.

الامر الثالث: ان الولايات المتحدة التي ارادت من القرار اصلا استخدامه وسيلة للضغط على سورية كي تتعاون معها في العراق، ادركت ان التصعيد مع سورية لايحقق اي نتيجة وان سورية لاترضخ للتهديد، وان الحوار معها هو الوسيلة الفضلى في وقت ليس من مصلحة الادارة الاميركية دفع الامور الى التصعيد والقوات الاميركية غارقة في حرب استنزاف في العراق.

هذه التطورات تعني فشل محاولة النيل من العلاقات السورية اللبنانية التي تشكل نموذجا في العلاقات العربية العربية، ازعجت «إسرائيل» واميركا، وبالتالي سقوط المراهنة على الفتنة وتفجير الوضع الداخلي اللبناني في وجه سورية والمقاومة على غرار ما حصل عام 1975 او في محاولة اخافة لبنان وسورية عبرالتهويل عليهما بقرار مجلس الامن.

انطلاقا مماتقدم فان هذه النتيجة التي اسفرت عنها نقاشات مجلس الامن، وبالتالي اخفاق جهود واشنطن وباريس في خلق مناخ دولي مساند لهما، لابد ان تنعكس على الداخلي اللبناني في عدة مستويات:

المستوى الاول: اصابة الفريق، الذي راهن على اوهام التدخل الخارجي، بتفجير المعادلة الداخلية، بالاحباط والخيبة، لانه لم يقرأ الواقع في المنطقة والعالم جيدا عدا عن انه لم يستفد من دروس الماضي وعقم المراهنة على الاستقواء بالاجنبي.

المستوى الثاني: اما من انخرط في الحملة الدولية ضد التمديد انطلاقا من حسابات مصلحية ضيقة، فانه من المؤكد سوف يدفع ثمن هذا الخطأ الكبير وسيعمد الى التكييف مع الواقع الجديد لتقليل الاضرار التي ستصيبه نتيجة ذلك.

المستوى الثالث: تراجع حدة التوتر الداخلي وبالتالي تعزيز المناخات التي توفر امكانية

كبيرة من اجل الالتفات الى الشأن الداخلي ولاسيما الازمة المستفحلة على الصعد الاقتصادية والاجتماعية واعداد قانون للانتخابات بمايؤدي الى احداث تغيير ايجابي يطلق مسيرة الاصلاح ومكافحة الفساد التي تعثرت طويلا وبات من الصعب القفز فوقها لان الازمة بلغت مرحلة نوعية وتحتاج الى علاجات جذرية.

ويجب ألا يغيب عن بال احد ان سورية ولبنان قد واجها في الماضي ضغوطا اكبر بكثير من الضغوط الراهنة وتمكنا من الصمود في مواجهتها ولم يرضخا للعواصف الدولية والتهديدات والاعتداءات، وليس صحيحا ان الظروف الحالية كانت اسوأ من العام 1996 حيث جمعت واشنطن ستين دولة في قمة عقدت في شرم الشيخ في مصر اطلقت العنان لعدوان عناقيد الغضب الذي نفذته «إسرائيل» ضد لبنان من اجل القضاء على المقاومة والضغط على سورية لنزع سلاحها وابعاد قيادات المقاومة الفلسطينية عن دمشق، وقد حصل ذلك بعد انهيار الاتحاد السوفييتي السابق وفي ظل قيادة بوريس يلتسين وبعد حرب الخليج الثانية واستجلاب القوات الاميركية الى المنطقة وبالتالي تسيد اميركا على العالم وفرض اتفاقات استسلامية (اوسلو ووادي عربة) ومع ذلك انتصر لبنان وسورية في مواجهة العدوان والضغوط واضطرت يومها ((إسرائيل)) واميركا الى الاعتراف بحق المقاومة بمقاتلة قوات الاحتلال بموجب تفاهم

نيسان.

ولذلك كان من الطبيعي ان تفشل الضغوط على سورية ولبنان من جديد في ظل ظروف افضل بالنسبة لهما حيث «إسرائيل» تواجه مقاومة فلسطينية تستنزفها واميركا فشلت في السيطرة على الوضع في العراق وتحويله الى منصة لتطويع سورية ولبنان وايران خدمة لـ«إسرائيل» التي هزمت في لبنان وتسعى الى الثأر من المقاومة التي دشنت اول انتصار على جيش الاحتلال الصهيوني.

واليوم تأتي فشل الضغوط نتيجة لهذه التحولات المعززة بالانقسام الدولي وتبلور عالم متعدد الاقطاب مما جعل الادارة الاميركية غير قادرة على تمرير ماتريده في مجلس الامن كما حصل عشية الحرب على العراق وبعدها وكما حصل بالامس خلال المناقشات بشان القرار 1559.

(II)

القاهرة: اجتماعان تمهيديان للمؤتمر الدولي العراقي

القاهرة

صحيفة تشرين

سياسة

الاثنين 25 تشرين أول 2004

ذكرت وكالة انباء الشرق الاوسط المصرية ان اجتماعين عقدا امس في مقر وزارة الخارجية المصرية لمناقشة الاراء والافكار التي سيتم عرضها في اجتماع دول الجوار للعراق على مستوى وزراء الخارجية بمدينة شرم الشيخ يوم 23 من الشهر القادم.

ونقلت الوكالة عن مصدر دبلوماسي مصري قوله: انه تم خلال الاجتماع الذي حضره ممثلو سفارات الدول والمنظمات الاقليمية والدولية المدعوة للمشاركة في الاجتماع تسليم الدعوات الرسمية الموجهة للمشاركين في الاجتماع الى جانب بحث الترتيبات التنظيمية الخاصة بعقد هذا الاجتماع، وأضاف: ان مصر ستبدأ في تلقي

الافكار والصياغات المقترحة من الدول والاطراف التي ستشارك في الاجتماع لتضمينها في الصياغة المعدلة لمشروع البيان الختامي للاجتماع بعد الوصول الى توافق كامل بشأن هذه الافكار.

يذكر ان الدول التي ستشارك في المؤتمر هي دول الجوار للعراق ومصر ومجموعة الدول الثماني الصناعية الكبرى وتونس الرئيس الحالي للقمة العربية والصين والاتحاد الاوروبي والجامعة العربية والامم المتحدة ومنظمة المؤتمر الاسلامي.

(III)

موريتانيا ستسمح لمحامي الدفاع بزيارة موكليهم المعتقلين بتهم محاولة قلب النظام

دمشق

صحيفة تشرين

سياسة

الاثنين 25 تشرين أول 2004

أعلنت السلطات الموريتانية أنها ستسمح لهيئات الدفاع بزيارة موكليهم من العسكريين المعتقلين، وانه بامكان أهاليهم أن يزوروهم أيضاً.

وأوضحت مصادر من الهيئة الوطنية للمحامين أن وزير العدل محمد محمود ولد جعفر أبلغهم بقرار الحكومة السماح للمحامين بلقاء موكليهم العسكريين المسجونين على خلفية الاتهام بالتورط في عدة محاولات لقلب النظام.

وتوجه لهؤلاء المعتقلين تهم الاعتداء بالقتل وتغيير النظام بالسلاح والاستيلاء على

قيادة الجيش والعصيان والتمرد، وقد تصدر السلطات القضائية في وقت لاحق مذكرات اعتقال بحق مجموعة من المدنيين والعسكريين مازالت السلطات تبحث عنهم.

تأتي هذه التطورات في ظل دعوات للحكومة بضرورة فتح حوار مع المعارضة، حيث دعا الاتحاد الأوروبي لايجاد جو من التفاهم والانسجام بين الحكومة والمعارضة عن طريق الحوار الذي يساعد على توفير الأمن والسلم في موريتانيا.

(IV)

للتباحث في مقترح اسبانيا إقامة تحالف حضارات..

موسى يدعو موراتينوس لزيارة الجامعة

القاهرة

صحيفة تشرين

سياسة

الاثنين 25 تشرين أول 2004

دعا الامين العام لجامعة الدول العربية عمرو موسى وزير الخارجية الاسباني ميغيل انخل موراتينوس الى زيارة الجامعة العربية في رسالة وجهها إليه لعرض مقترح بلاده بشأن اقامة تحالف للحضارات.

وأوضح الناطق باسم الجامعة المستشار حسام زكي في تصريح امس ان الاهتمام الذي يبديه موسى بالاقتراح الاسباني يستند الى إدراكه لاهمية تشجيع قوى الاعتدال في مختلف الحضارات للتحاور فيما بينها بهدف زيادة مساحة الاتفاق وتقليص نقاط

الاختلاف بما يفوت الفرصة على دعاة المغالاة والتطرف.

وذكر زكي ان اقتراح اقامة تحالف الحضارات كان قد اعلن عنه رئيس الوزراء الاسباني خوسيه لويس ثاباتيرو في كلمته امام الجمعية العامة للامم المتحدة في الشهر الماضي

Damascus University

Chapter Seven

Exercises

Political Texts to be translated into Arabic

Damascus University

وقل رب زدني علما
جامعة دمشق
Damascus University

(I)

One fifth of Palestinians killed are children, report says

The Palestinian statistics bureau has reported that 90% of Palestinian children have been exposed to Israeli terrorism during the Aqsa Intifada, saying that this category constitutes more than half of Palestinian society.

SyriaTimes

24 -10-2004

In its annual report, which was published by the Jordanian paper, Al-Dostor, the bureau said that Palestinian children have been exposed to Israeli terrorist practices that have caused a shock in their life.

As a result a negative effect is built up in Palestinian society.

The report stated that 472 Palestinian boys and girls were martyred during the Intifada. In other words, one fifth of the total martyrs. The number of wounded children in the same period reached 3354. The report indicated that 4.4% of Palestinian children live with only one parent, and that 42% of

children live below the poverty line.

Meantime, a Palestinian citizen was wounded evening by Israeli gunfire in Nablus city in the West Bank.

The Palestinian resistance men hurled six explosive charges at an Israeli military patrol in Nablus. No casualties were reported, Israeli radio said.

Damascus University

(II)

Spain ready for alliance combatting terrorism

Spanish Foreign Minister Miguel Angel Moratinos has expressed readiness to respond to Arab League Secretary General Amre Moussa's invitation to discuss the idea of establishing an alliance of civilizations to combat terrorism.

SyriaTimes
21 -10-2004

Moratinos was quoted as saying yesterday at a Spanish Senate session in Madrid that no date was set for his visit to Cairo.

Moratinos indicated that the idea of the alliance was originally proposed by Spanish Premier Zapatero at the United Nations last September to establish an alliance between the Western World and the Arab and Islamic countries, and was welcomed by the UN Secretary General Kofi Annan.

He added that some of the European countries and 22 Arab countries responded positively to the Spanish initiative, and Iranian President, Mohammed Khatami expressed readiness to participate actively in the initiative.

(III)

AL-Shara: New era in relations with EU

Foreign Minister Farouk al-Shara yesterday concluded his European meetings in Brussels by holding a meeting with the Speaker of the European Parliament Joseph Fontes.

SyriaTimes

21 -10-2004

Al-Shara and Fontes exchanged congratulations on the initialling of the Syrian-European Association Agreement.

They stressed that this event inaugurates a new era of relations between Syria and Europe, and opens wide spheres for joint cooperation.

Al-Shara stressed the important role that can be played by European parliamentarians in consolidating the Syrian-EU cooperation and understanding. The meeting was attended by Deputy Foreign Minister Walid al-Mu'alem, Syria's Ambassador in Belgium and to the European Commission, Dr. Tawfiq Salloum, Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee of the European Parliament Alma Brook, and several European parliamentarians who represent different political parties in the European Parliament.

(IV)

Lebanon seeks government after Hariri resigns

Lebanons Prime Minister Rafik al-Hariri yesterday presented his resignation to President Emile Lahoud.

SyriaTimes

21 -10-2004

The Lebanese National Information Agency said that President Lahoud accepted Hariri's resignation, but asked the government to continue its work until a new government is formed.

President Lahoud will launch parliamentary consultations to name the new Lebanese Prime Minister from today.

Earlier, Mr. al-Hariri had issued a statement in which he said that following discussions with President Lahoud and the Parliament Speaker, he had decided that his government should resign and that he would not nominate himself to form a new government.

Hariri said he hoped that the parliamentary consultations would result in the naming of a new prime minister to form a government that embodies the aspirations of the Lebanese people.

In his statement, Hariri said that no two persons can argue about the volume of the internal and external challenges threatening Lebanon and the Arab nation, but the main challenge before us all is connected with how can we deal with these challenges and with the national and pan-Arab factors required to repel the dangers away from Lebanon and the Arab nation.

He stressed that dealing with these challenges can only come through a unified internal front that can meet the aspirations, will and confidence of the Lebanese people in their government.

Hariri pointed out that the aims of his government, which stressed commitment to the national and pan-Arab principled stances, faced well known political realities following discussions with President of the Republic and speaker of parliament. And so Hariri said he found the time proper for the resignation of his government and to decline to head the next government.

(V)

Israel kills two Gazans

Two Palestinians were killed by Israeli fire in the southern Gaza Strip Wednesday, sources on both sides said.

SyriaTimes
21 -10-2004
The Islamic Jihad group said one of its activists had been shot dead by occupation troops as he and other activists prepared to attack an army position near Rafah on the Gaza Strip's border with Egypt.
Jihad Hassanein, 21, was killed while his fellow men managed to escape, the group said.
Occupation sources said soldiers had "opened fire Wednesday at dawn at three suspects who were approaching their position in a restricted area near Rafah.
"The soldiers apparently hit two of the suspects while the third one fled," they added.
Also in Rafah, Palestinian man Ahmed Breika, 29, was killed inside his home by a volley of automatic fire from an Israeli

tank, medics said.

Meanwhile in the southern West Bank, Israeli troops arrested a 29-year-old Palestinian woman who was planning to carry out an attack, Israeli public radio said.

The woman`s husband and brother were killed by the army in April 2003.

Ahlam Jawarish was arrested at her father`s home near Beit Jala, not far from Bethlehem, Palestinian security sources indicated.

Israeli military sources confirmed the arrest.

On the other hand, Israeli troops shot dead a Palestinian man on his way to a mosque for prayers in the refugee camp of Rafah on Wednesday, Palestinian witnesses said.

Israeli sources said soldiers at an occupation army outpost in a buffer zone separating Rafah from the border with Egypt shot two men approaching them in apparent preparation for an attack. It was not immediately known if they were dead, they said.

Palestinian residents said the 25-year-old man they reported shot was unarmed and his body was immediately recovered for burial, so he could not have been inside the "buffer zone".

The Israeli sources said one of the two Palestinians was carrying a backpack that soldiers believed contained

a bomb.

A spokesman for the Israeli occupation army said it was checking the Palestinian account. It was not clear if the two reported incidents were connected.

Israel on Saturday ended a 17-day offensive in north Gaza against activists. More than 140 Palestinians were killed during the fighting.

Damascus University

(VI)

US planes hit Falluja, six troops wounded in Baghdad

U.S. warplanes bombed targets in Iraq`s city of Falluja overnight, killing two people and wounding three, and the U.S. military alleged it had captured a wanted militant on Saturday.

SyriaTimes

24 -10-2004

Hospital staff said they had received the casualties after an air strike on the southern edge of Falluja at about midnight (2100 Gmt Friday). Residents said U.S. forces detained at least 17 people in outlying areas of the city in raids before dawn.

A U.S. military statement alleged that a lieutenant of Jordanian militant Abu Musab al-Zarqawi had been captured in a raid at 1:30 a.m. (2230 Gmt) Friday) on what it called a safe haven of Zarqawi`s network in southern Falluja.

Later in Baghdad, a roadside bomb blew up near a U.S. military patrol in Baghdad on Saturday morning, wounding six soldiers, the military said in a statement.

It said the attack occurred in western Baghdad at about 7:15 a.m. (0415 Gmt) and gave no other details.

Reuters television footage showed flames and smoke pouring from a U.S. Bradley fighting vehicle in the southwestern Baya district on a highway leading to Baghdad international airport.

Witnesses said guerrillas had hit the vehicle with grenades.

Anti-U.S. fighters often follow up roadside bomb attacks with small arms and rocket-propelled grenade fire.

The airport road, heavily used by the U.S. military, is a favourite target for insurgents trying to force foreign troops out of Iraq and militants the U.S.-backed interim government.

Meanwhile, a suicide car bomb exploded near a U.S. marine base in western Iraq, killing 16 Iraqi police and wounding up to 40, hospital officials said.

U.S. Marine Lieutenant Lyle Gilbert said the blast occurred about 7 a.m. (0400 GMT) at an Iraqi police post near Al Asad camp, about 180 km (112 miles) northwest of Baghdad, between the towns of Hit and Haditha. He alleged there were no U.S. casualties.

About 10 people died at the scene and hospital officials in Haditha said six more died later.

Officials at the Interior and Defence Ministries said they were checking for details of the attack.

In Samarra, a suicide bomber blew up his vehicle near a checkpoint manned by north of Baghdad, killing four guards, an Iraqi National Guard officer said.

He said six guards were also wounded when the bomb exploded in the village of Ishaqi, near the city of Samarra, 100 km (62 miles) north of Baghdad.

Militants have clashed with U.S. and Iraqi forces in the Ishaqi area in the last few days.

In Baquba on the other hand, Saboteurs bombed an Iraqi oil pipeline transporting crude from the northeast to Baghdad`s Dora refinery, an Iraqi National Guard officer said.

Major Ali Mahmoud said National Guard forces were trying to extinguish a fire which damaged 150 metres of the Khana pipeline. He said another bomb was found along the line and was defused. In Mousul, two Turkish truck drivers were killed and two wounded near the northern Iraq Mosul, police and hospital officials said. One of the wounded drivers told Reuters they came under fire from gunmen while they were transporting "canned juice" to the U.S. military in Mosul.

Many Turkish truck drivers have been attacked or kidnapped along the highway from Turkey to Iraq

(VII)

Kerry has "election amnesia" Bush says

President George W. Bush said on Saturday that Sen. John Kerry has a case of "election amnesia" that led him to shift his stance on Iraq, painting his Democratic rival as a waverer unfit to lead America in threatening times.

SyriaTimes

24 -10-2004

Campaigning in the pivotal state of Florida with 10 days left before Election Day, Bush lambasted Kerry for criticizing the Iraq invasion despite his prewar vote to authorize force there and his warnings about the "danger" of former Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein.

"The senator used to recognize that Saddam Hussein was a gathering threat who hated America," Bush told thousands of supporters at a baseball park here. But he said Kerry "seems to have forgotten all that" and suggested the Massachusetts Senator had adapted his views for political gain.

"As his position has evolved during the course of the campaign, you might call it election amnesia," the President

said.

Kerry has insisted his views on Iraq have been consistent and he has faulted the President for alienating allies in the way he went to war and the timing of it.

Bush launched the invasion of Iraq pledging to rid it of stockpiles of weapons of mass destruction but a government panel has since concluded that such stockpiles were not there and that Iraq had not manufactured any in over a decade.

The mounting U.S. death toll has put Bush on the defensive about Iraq but he has worked to neutralize Kerry`s criticisms over it by calling him a flip-flopper.

Aiming to highlight the topic of national security, which polls show is his strongest issue, Bush warned that Americans remained vulnerable to militants who are "still dangerous and determined to strike us again." Such times call for steady leadership, he said, adding that, he, not Kerry, was the best man to keep America safe.

The race for Florida has revved up to a fever pitch as the candidates seek to make up for time lost in September when the cleanup from four hurricanes waylaid most barnstorming trips.

(VIII)

Trade with Turkey could triple says minister

A meeting was yesterday held between the Syrian Minister of Industry and his Turkish counterpart to discuss furthering commercial exchange and to review the implementation of previously approved agreements.

SyriaTimes

24 -10-2004

The Syrian Industry Minister Mohammad Ghassan Tayara highlighted the strong relations between Syria and Turkey, especially in the fields of economy, trade and industry. Mr. Tayara stressed the need to establish joint governmental companies, joint-stock companies, and joint private companies between the two sides.

For his part, the Turkish Minister of Industry and Commerce Mr. Ali Joushkin underlined the developing Syrian-Turkish relations. Turkey has realized development in the fields of industry and technology. Now, it is ready to share expertise with its Syrian counterpart, Mr. Joushkin said.

Afterwards, the council of Syrian-Turkish businessmen held a session in the Damascus Meridien Hotel.

The two ministers stressed the importance of businessmen to determining the level of commercial and industrial exchange. The amount of commercial exchange between the two countries, that stands at some US$ one billion, doesn't reflect the amount of available capabilities.

The commercial exchange could be raised into US$ three billion if the capabilities and the available facilitations are positively invested, the two ministers added.

The two sides agreed to put forward a time-table to implement the recently approved agreements.

The Turkish minister arrived here on Saturday on a three-day visit. The Syrian Minister of Industry and his Deputy and a number of officials received him at the Damascus International Airport.

Damascus University

(IX)

U.S. diplomat killed in Baghdad mortar attack

A U.S. diplomat was killed in a mortar attack near the Baghdad airport early on Sunday, Secretary of State Colin Powell said in a statement.

SyriaTimes

25 -10-2004

"I mourn the loss of one of our own today in Baghdad. Assistant Regional Security Officer Ed Seitz was killed in a mortar attack on Camp Victory". Powell said in the statement issued while he was flying to China from Japan.

A U.S. soldier was also wounded in the attack, State Department spokesman Richard Boucher told reporters.

It was not immediately clear if Seitz was the first U.S. diplomat to be killed in Iraq, U.S. officials said.

Meanwhile in Falluja, U.S. warplanes pounded suspected guerrilla positions in the western Iraqi town of Falluja, killing five people, witnesses said.

Hospital officials and witnesses said the dead were civilians. Witnesses said the strike hit the main road leading out of north Falluja.

In Samarra, an Iraqi 17-year-old girl and an 11-year-old boy were killed and four people were wounded in clashes between U.S. troops and militants, north of Baghdad, police said.

Police said the two were killed on the northern outskirts of the city, 100 km (62 miles) from the Iraqi capital, in the fighting on Saturday evening.

Witnesses said a U.S. military Humvee vehicle also damaged.

U.S. troops and Iraqi National Guards have maintained a strong presence in most parts of the Muslim city since an assault early this month that drove militants off the streets.

The Iraqi government said Samarra had been pacified in that assault, part of a plan to retake all areas by political or military means before elections planned for January.

But residents say U.S. troops and militants skirmish daily in the city, which remains under curfew at night.

In Baquba, guerrillas killed 49 army recruits in one of the bloodiest attacks on Iraq's fledgling security forces.

Police said guerrillas disguised as police had set up a checkpoint on a road northeast of Baghdad and stopped three minibuses carrying the recruits, forcing them to

leave the vehicles and lie face down on the tarmac before shooting them.

A dozen recruits tried to flee but were also shot.

The bodies were taken in the back of trucks to a National Guard base in the town of Mandali, near the Iranian border, where they were laid out in rows.

The attack was another blow to the U.S.-backed interim government`s efforts to build up Iraqi security forces to tackle a raging "insurgency" along with U.S.-led forces.

The recruits, based at Kirkush, some 90 km (55 miles) northeast of Baghdad, had been heading for home leave when they were ambushed late on Saturday.

In Sofia on the other hand, a Bulgarian soldier died and three others were wounded on Sunday when a car bomb exploded near their military convoy in the southern Iraqi city of Kerbala, government and military officials said.

Government spokesman Dimitar Tsonev confirmed the soldier`s death and said three others had been wounded in the attack, which occurred on Sunday afternoon.

Earlier in the day, the defence ministry had said only two soldiers had been wounded. Tsonev said the three would be released from hospital on Monday.

وقل رب زدني علما
جامعة دمشق
Damascus University

Chapter Eight
Political Questions for discussion

Damascus University


وقل رب زدني علما
جامعة دمشق
Damascus University

1. Isn't it time we acknowledged that, when people commit terrorist acts, it's because they feel they have a serious grievance, and that simply trying to prevent the people from committing any more terrorist acts without addressing the root causes of their grievances is repression pure and simple? Whatever we may think of the people who commit these violent acts, as Sigmund Freud showed, what is repressed often returns in irrational forms.
2. What is politics? Where does the word politics come from? (i.e. what is the origin of the word "politics"?) Mention as many definitions as you can. Try to include political terms in your definitions. Does the word "politics" take a
3. singular verb or a plural one? What is the difference in the meaning when either of them is used? How many political terms can you remember? Translate the terms your colleagues provide into Arabic.

After translating the following terms into Arabic,

define them and then put them in sentences of your own:

(All of these terms were explained above; this is a good chance to check your memory)

- Power politics
- Political economy
- Political prisoner
- Political science
- Politician
- Politicize
- Deportation
- Alien
- Exile
- Immigration
- Naturalization
- Expatriation
- Nationality
- Allegiance
- Citizen
- Extradition
- Asylum
- Feudalism
- Military Service

- Slavery
- The Balfour Declaration and Settlement in Palestine
- Feminism
- Hunger strike
- Minority
- Genocide
- European Union
- Organizational Structure
- European Commission
- Food and Agriculture Organization
- North Atlantic Treaty Organization
- Cold War
- Berlin Wall
- United Nations
- The General Assembly
- The Security Council
- Third World
- United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
- International Monetary Fund
- United Nations Children's Fund
- World Health Organization
- International Court of Justice

- United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization
- Democracy
- Communism
- absentee voting
- absolute majority
- autocracy
- ballot paper
- bi-cameral
- bill of rights
- cabinet
- caucus
- coalition
- confederation
- conservative
- constitution
- Democracy
- division (or separation) of powers
- donkey-vote
- Droop quota
- Electoral college
- Electoral system
- electorate

- Executive
- Executive Council
- Faction
- Federal
- first-past-the-post
- Franchise
- gerrymander
- house of review
- International Labour Organisation
- impeachment
- informal vote
- Judiciary
- left-wing
- legislature
- liberal
- Loans Council
- malapportionment
- multi-member electorates
- Nationalism
- Plebiscite
- Plurality
- Popular vote
- Preferential voting

- Proportional voting
- Pre-poll voting
- Proscribing
- Privatisation
- Precedent
- Quota
- Quota preferential
- Referendum
- Representative government
- Republic
- Responsible government
- Right-wing
- Royal Assent
- Run-off poll
- Single-member electorate
- Social democracy
- Supply bill
- Tri-cameral
- Unitary system

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Supplemantary Materials for Further Reading

Damascus University

وقل رب زدني علما
جامعة دمشق
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Following are some political texts full of political expressions and words. They are put here to be done as self reading by students. All these texts are taken from the internet:

http://www.teshreen.com/syriatimes/first.asp

The internet is a good source for pages loaded with political terms and expressions; students can write a key word related to politics and they will find hundreds of pages about political terminology. Alternatively, students can write the name of a newspaper or a magazine that is usually published in English and they can read different political articles. It is not always necessary to translate the articles; reading only will be fine.

(1)

Car bombs, clashes kill 33 Iraqis, wound 20 US soldiers

At least 33 Iraqis died in car bomb attacks and clashes in a restive town north of Baghdad on Saturday, undermining efforts to crush Iraq's insurgency as US troops geared up for a possible assault on Fallujah.

SyriaTimes

7-11-2004

Twenty US soldiers were also wounded in action in Ramadi, another stronghold down the road from Fallujah west of the Iraqi capital.

Iraqi Prime Minister Iyad Allawi has told insurgents in Fallujah that time is running out for them as thousands of US and Iraqi troops prepare for offensive.

Out-gunned but determined to fight on, militants unleashed a double car bomb attack outside a local government building in Samarra, police and medics said.

That was followed by another in front of a teachers' college in the city, while a fourth then exploded in the south of Samarra, with the final blast killing 10.

Gunmen also attacked three police stations and clashed with US and Iraqi troops in the city, 125 kilometres (80 miles) north of Baghdad, Iraqi officials said.

"We have received 33 killed and 48 wounded," said Doctor Nawfal Mohammed at Samarra's general hospital.

The dead, a mix of Iraqi police, soldiers and civilians, included Brigadier General Abdul Razak Mohammed al-Jarmani, a local police chief.

For its part, the US military in the area said a US-Iraqi patrol found a stolen police truck laden with explosives in Samarra

at about 9:30 am and destroyed it, but one Iraqi soldier and four civilians were wounded.

The mayor imposed a curfew in the city from 2:00 p.m, a military statement said, alleging that no US soldiers had been injured in the mayhem.

US and Iraqi troops stormed Samarra, 125 kilometres (80 miles) north of Baghdad, at the start of October to wrest control of the city from rebels.

The battle marked the first major offensive to reclaim a flashpoint ahead of national elections in January, but a US military commander admitted after the operation that many rebel leaders simply went to ground.

Eager to stamp out pockets of resistance ahead of the elections, US and Iraqi troops prepared for an anticipated double-pronged assault on Iraq's nerve centres of Fallujah and Ramadi.

Twenty US troops, however, were wounded in action while "conducting increased security operations" in Ramadi, a US military spokesman said, without giving further details.

Inhabitants of the city, 100 kilometres (60 miles) west of Baghdad, said a suicide car bomb exploded outside a US military base on a main road just outside Ramadi, leaving the

lifeless bodies of Iraqis caught in the attack scattered on the road.

The bloodshed followed a night of air raids over Fallujah and Ramadi, while earlier in the morning artillery fire erupted in Fallujah after several mortar shells fell on Camp Fallujah.

Many of the city's 300,000 inhabitants have already fled to makeshift camps to the west or sought refuge in Baghdad, and US planes have been dropping leaflets urging those remaining to leave.

By Saturday, US troops had blocked all routes into the city, only permitting families to leave, residents said. Police in Ramadi, meanwhile, said US forces had blocked access to that city as well.

A newly-built hospital, which was about to be inaugurated, was destroyed by two missiles in Fallujah, its director said.

A delegation from the interim parliament has attempted to find a peaceful solution to the crisis by talking to leaders from Fallujah, but hopes of a breakthrough are fading fast.

Allawi has insisted that the city deliver fighters, including militant Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, and his followers.

Fallujah civil leaders have consistently denied that Zarqawi is in the city.

Allawi also wants all rebels to lay down their weapons.

The ominous military activity flared as news broke that the UN Secretary General Kofi Annan had written to the United States, Britain and Iraq to warn them that an assault on Fallujah could undermine the elections.

In simmering unrest, a Turkish truck driver was killed and two fuel trucks destroyed when a convoy guarded by the US military was ambushed in northern Iraq.

Back in Baghdad, three US soldiers and one Iraqi civilian were wounded when a suicide car bomb exploded along the main road to the airport, the military said.

Two mortar rounds were also fired on Iraq's Interior Ministry building, slightly wounding two people, local officials said

Damascus University

(2)

Israel not interested in talks on Golan

The Israeli Haaretz newspaper has said successive Israeli governments are responsible for halting the peace process with Syria. Israel has always refused to pull back from the occupied Golan to the June 1967 lines and has always attempted to move the border eastward to the surroundings of the Tiberia Lake, the paper said.

SyriaTimes

7-11-2004

In an article published yesterday the paper said: Israels security sources have asserted that peace talks on the Syrian track have long been blocked by Israels indifference, based on the Israeli governments stand that alleges the incapability of running simultaneous negotiations on the Syrian and Palestinian tracks.

Israels Prime Minister Ariel Sharon refuses to put Golans issue on the top of the agenda, the paper added.

(3)

Moussa calls for Palestinian unity

Arab League (AL) Secretary General Amre Mousa has stressed that the Israeli occupation is responsible for the Palestinian peoples suffering.

SyriaTimes

7-11-2004

In a statement to the al-Arabia satellite channel, Mousa said he held Israel responsible for the suffering of the Palestinian people, and expressed hope that the Palestinians would be able to maintain their unity, and rights particularly under the current circumstances

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(4)

Top Bush adviser on Iraq to resign

Robert Blackwill, one of President George W. Bush's top advisers on Iraq, soon will resign, US media reported Saturday.

SyriaTimes

7-11-2004

Blackwill, 64, considered a seasoned diplomat with expertise in the Middle East and Asia, has worked with the National Security Council under Condoleezza Rice since mid-2003.

According to The Washington Post and The New York Times, Blackwill told Rice months ago that he did not plan to remain in the US administration after the November 2 presidential vote if Bush won re-election.

The White House did not immediately confirm the reports.

It would mark the second planned resignation in two days of a senior official in charge of Iraq or anti-terror policy in the Bush administration. The State Department announced Friday that its lead anti-terror official, Cofer Black, was resigning, saying it was time to do something else

(5)

Iran, EU sticking to positions in nuclear talks: Rowhani

Iran and European Union officials are sticking to their positions on key questions in negotiations on the Islamic republic's nuclear programme which were underway on Saturday in Paris, a top Iranian official said.

SyriaTimes

7-11-2004

"The two sides are sticking to their positions on the fundamental questions," Hassan Rowhani, the secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council and top nuclear negotiator, told state television.

He described the talks in Paris, which began Friday, as "very complicated and difficult."

The official reiterated Iran's refusal to give up its right to master the sensitive nuclear fuel cycle including enrichment.

The three main EU powers -- Britain, France and Germany -- are trying to get Tehran to suspend uranium enrichment in order to avoid UN sanctions.

The negotiations, which began on Friday, were said to have remained deadlocked over the duration of a suspension as well as the timing or scope of incentives that the European Union could offer Iran.

"We will not accept any constraint. It is us who will decide on the duration (of a suspension of enrichment) and we will keep it in place for as long as we want," Rowhani said.

The United States wants the UN watchdog International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to take Iran before the UN Security Council when the IAEA meets in Vienna on November 25.

Iran denies it has a secret weapons programme, and insists it only wants to become self-sufficient in fuelling an atomic energy programme that would in turn free up its oil and gas resources for export.

A close aide to Rowhani engaged in the Paris talks, Hossein Moussavian, told state television here that Iran wanted the Europeans to define a rapid timetable for talks in the near future in return for the continuation of an enrichment suspension.

Meanwhile, China said it would be better to resolve Iran's nuclear case without sending it to the U.N., where Beijing holds the option of vetoing any sanctions against Tehran.

Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing, on a two-day visit to Iran, said he had discussed Iran's nuclear case with U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell and British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw in recent days.

"I told all my colleagues that China supports a solution to this issue within the framework of the IAEA", he told a news conference in Tehran.

"I really don't quite know if it will be brought to the Security Council. It would only make the issue more complicated and difficult to work out," he added

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(6)

French press analyse Sharons position

Frances daily Liberation yesterday said that Israels Prime Minister Ariel Sharon "is under two kinds of pressure, namely the internal pressures from the Israeli settlers to stop the unilateral withdrawal from Gaza Strip, and the foreign pressures from the international community, Europe and the U.S. to establish Israeli and Palestinian states.

Syria Times

7-11-2004

The paper referred to U.S. President George W. Bush's statement in which he asserted the necessity to achieve peace in the Middle East. The paper added that observers thought that Bush would force Sharon to reduce his aggression against the Palestinian people, if America wants to achieve stability and security in Iraq

(7)

Kharazi: Iran is playing positive role in Iraq

Iranian Foreign Minister Kamal Kharazi dismissed on Saturday allegations of interference in neighbouring Iraq, asserting that the Islamic republic was playing a positive role and not fuelling unrest.

SyriaTimes

7-11-2004

"Iran is playing a positive role in Iraq, and if anyone thinks that Iran is interfering in Iraq's internal affairs they had better show their evidence,"

Kharazi said in a joint press conference with his Chinese counterpart Li Zhaoxing.

Kharazi said Tehran had close relations with both the Iraqi people and the government, and said Iran was hoping "the interim government of Iraq will succeed in holding elections on time".

Kharazi's comments came after Iraqi Interim Prime Minister Iyad Allawi urged the European Union Friday to use its influence to stop some parties from "fuelling violence" in his country.

"We need your help in persuading Iraq's neighbours that fuelling violence in Iraq will only damage their own security in the long term," he told EU leaders in a speech made available to the press.

Iran has denied all allegations of interfering.

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(8)

Jordan and Iraq agree on border controls

Jordan and Iraq have reached a final decision regarding the land transportation of people and goods between the two countries, Secretary General of Jordanian Transport Ministry Alaa al-Battaina said.

SyriaTimes

7-11-2004

Meanwhile, an official source at the Jordanian Foreign Ministry has said that the Ministry is urgently following up the case of the three Jordanians kidnapped in Iraq.

In a statement to Petra News Agency yesterday, the source said that immediately after confirming the news, the ministry made contact with all concerned Iraqi bodies in order to take the necessary procedures.

The source added that the Embassy is following up on a separate case of three Jordanian drivers who came under fire on two separate occasions.

(9)

Karami stresses Taef accord, fraternity treaty with Syria

Lebanese Prime Minister Omar Karami has pleaded that his government will be committed to international legitimacy, that relationship between Syria and Lebanon is governed by the Taef Agreement and the Fraternity, Cooperation and Coordination Treaty between the two countries, and that based on the above, the government will adopt dialogue in dealing with the world, the United Nations and Security Council Resolution 1559.

SyriaTimes

7-11-2004

At the conclusion of discussing the government ministerial statement at the Parliament yesterday, Mr. Karami stressed that national unity is the fortress of the homeland, asserting that the government is careful to make its words and deeds away from rhetoric and personal interests because the destiny of the country is in danger.

He pledged to fight corruption and that there will not be an interference by politics in jurisdiction. He also pointed out

that the government will [sic] address the issue of electricity by decreasing the high prices and handling electricity generation.

Premier Karami asserted that his government will work on issuing a just and balanced electoral law, through which citizens can get their true representatives to the parliament.

Following Karamis speech, the confidence vote was conducted, in which the government gained confidence with the support of 59 parliamentarians, 25 abstained and 24 against.

Of 128 parliamentarians, 108 attended the session yesterday.

Following the session, Karami indicated that the governments work will [sic] gain the confidence of public opinion and Lebanese citizens. For his part, Lebanese Interior Minister Suleiman Franjiyeh stressed the importance of the distinguished relationship between Syria and Lebanon, saying that "we will not change our conviction".

In a statement made following the Parliaments session, Franjiyeh rejected foreign interference in the internal affairs of Lebanon and Arab countries. For the first time the Security Council takes a resolution which is a flagrant interference in the internal affairs of a UN member state without an official request by it, he added.

Lebanese member of Parliament Abbass Hashem stressed the importance of the distinguished relations between Syria and Lebanon and complete cooperation between the two countries to counter external pressures and threats.

During the parliaments session held yesterday, he called for consolidating the Lebanese national unity.

For his part, the Deputy Usama Saad, head of the Peoples Nasserite Organization, called for perpetuating the Syrian-Lebanese relations and to upgrade coordination between the two countries in all fields in application of the Treaty of Fraternity, Cooperation and Coordination between the two countries.

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(10)

Qorei urges Palestinians to unite

Prime Minister Ahmed Qorei urged Palestinians on Saturday not to allow themselves to be dragged into disputes amid fears of an outbreak of violence in the event of the death of veteran leader Yasser Arafat.

SyriaTimes

7-11-2004

"Taking up arms is not a solution," Qorei told a news conference after meeting with representatives of the main Palestinian armed groups in Gaza.

"Any domestic problem must be solved by national dialogue. This is the only way."

The two-hour meeting brought together Qorei, Hamas, Islamic Jihad, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) and Fatah, as well as Foreign Minister Nabil Shaath and Parliament Speaker Rawhi Fattuh.

"This was a very important meeting because it was the first joint session between all the security services, the groups and me," Qorei added.

While Arafat fights for life at a French military hospital, officials from his Palestinian Authority and rival groups have appealed for unity and calm.

"We discussed all the issues (politics, security and safety) and we are praying for president Arafat to get better and continue on his path," Qorei said.

Earlier Hamas Spokesman Sami Abu Zuhri said: "It is a very sensitive time ... We will ask the leaders of the security services to do everything to protect the Palestinian people and the Palestinian areas."

Khalid el-Batsh, a leader of Islamic Jihad, had also called on Qorei and the security services to "protect security and put an end to all differences".

"We will ask Qorei and brother Abu Mazen (acting Palestine Liberation Organisation leader Mahmud Abbas) to face this crisis by ensuring that the Palestinian leadership is united," he said.

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(11)

British press mull attack on Falluja

British newspapers yesterday discussed the expected storming of Falluja by American troops and the re-deployment of the British Forces from Basra to Baghdad. The Gaurdian said that "the American forces in Iraq are waiting for their final orders for an attack on Falluja".

SyriaTimes

7-11-2004

"This attack will be the most bloody since Iraqs invasion", the daily said, warning of increasing civilian victims as the American forces launched air raids on the city, and cut the roads.

The thousands of soldiers are ready to attack Falluja, and this attack will be the first step of the plan targeting the resistants across Iraq, the British Independent quoted the diplomatic affairs correspondent for Channel 4 as saying.

A dispute has erupted between the British government and its critics on the real motives for redeploying British forces to outside Baghdad after the killing of three soldiers on Thursday, the paper reported.

The relatives of the soldiers killed in Iraq attacked the governments resolution concerning the redeployment of the British forces to outside Baghdad, which is considered a dangerous region, the daily added.

The dead soldiers relatives also condemned British Prime Minister Tony Blair and U.S. President George Bush, calling for withdrawing the rest of the soldiers immediately, the paper said.

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(12)

Spain looks to better relations with US

Spain has no intention to renew its military interference in Iraq, the Spanish Prime Minister Jose Louis Zapathero has said. In a statement published by the German weekly magazine Der Spiegel, Zapathero said that he expects a new stage of cooperation and coordination between the Atlantic countries after President George Bush's re-election. He also underlined his country's full readiness to exert all efforts with Germany and France to form a unified group in the European Union, and called for efforts to rejuvenate the European economy.

SyriaTimes
7-11-2004

Zapathero also said he hoped that Europe would be the first international force in the world.

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(13)

Yemen demands changes in Bush policy

Yemen's Foreign Minister Abou Baker al-Qurabi yesterday called on the American administration of George Bush's second presidential term to reconsider its policies towards the Arab region and to adopt a new vision to deal with the critical situation in Palestine and Iraq.

SyriaTimes

7-11-2004

In statement to the Lebanese Al-Safeer daily published yesterday al-Qurabi said "Bush has to realise that the Arab homeland has several causes with which Bush should deal with free from a policy of bias, particularly a bias regarding the Palestinian causes".

He stressed that Bush must let the regions countries choose their own future.

Al-Qurabi expressed his worry over the situation in Iraq, and the impacts of Iraqi event on neighbouring countries and the region as a whole.

He said that "stability can never be attained in Iraq unless the Iraqi people restore their sovereignty, and unless the occupation forces withdraw from Iraq".

Al-Qurabi also said that "Yemen has presented a request to the Arab League's Secretary General to establish an Arab fund to reconstruct Somalia and help the Somalese people to overcome the wide destruction caused by years of civil wars and armed conflicts in the country

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(14)

ON SYRIAN IRAQI BORDER VILLAGERS FEAR SHELLING AT SUNSET

As the sun begins to set over the Euphrates the people of the tiny village of El Herri, just outside Abu Kamal, one of three key crossing points from Syria into Iraq, should be preparing food and gathering in their gardens to celebrate the end of another day of Ramadan fasting. Instead they cower indoors, terrified of when the next mortar round might land.

SyriaTimes

7-11-2004

"We have grown accustomed to the sound of bullets and explosions," said Fayer Khlait Hussein, jostling with some of his nine children as they stood over the mortar round that was fired into the family's front yard from the Iraqi side of the border on the first day of Ramadan last month.

"I don't like to look at this shell because I am afraid of it. We watch the American soldiers and we stay most of the time in our house," said Watfah, his seventy year old mother, her henna-lined face creasing with anxiety.

Across fifty meters of littered wasteland stands the source of their woes. The US military base built to house American marines struggling to control Iraq's westernmost city of Qaim now comes under daily attack at sundown from insurgents. And the violence has spilled over the border into Syria.

Yet these are the very marines that US commanders at Qaim have claimed that Syria is not doing enough to protect from shells fired from its side of the border.

"These accusations are totally false because they know our forces here are doing their job and preventing the bombings on their base," said Ali Ahmed Shammari, head of immigration at Abu Kamal, before turning to display the hole in the window behind his desk.

"Look, this was more shrapnel," he said. "Once they are attacked the Americans just start shooting in all directions."

Syria has responded to Washington's demands for increased security along the Iraq border by doubling nightly patrols, increasing the number of checkpoints to every mile and a half and clamping down on visas.

Since January, Mr. Shammari said, no Syrian man under forty could travel to Iraq without special permission and just thirty people a day now make their way across the border for trade or to visit their families.

Syria is also reconstructing a 2-meter-high sand berm along the border, topped with barbed wire for extra security around the border towns.

In Deir Ez-Zor, 220km of the bank has been finished and there are plans to extend it along the entire 600km border.

The US State Department said it would judge Syria's attempts to secure its border by the "concrete steps" it took.

At the end of last month State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said "some steps" had been taken, but Brian O'Rourke, the spokesman for the United States Embassy in Damascus, said the official line remains that of Donald Rumsfeld, who said it was "too early to say there's been any progress at all."

The Americans are keeping a careful eye on things, however. A team from the US embassy in Damascus arrived back from the border two weeks ago. *(22nd October).*

For the people of El-Herri, however, America's own failure to achieve security, even in the most remote tip of western Iraq, is an all too immediate and real threat.

The mortar that landed in the Hussein's garden never exploded and nobody in the family was hurt.

Their neighbours were not so lucky. On the same day, Mohammed Rafach Oubied was walking in from his garden at sunset to bring out food for the family's first meal of the day.

"Suddenly we heard an explosion and we ran," said the young man lying prone in his bed.

"Then I looked backwards and felt a strong gust of wind and pain in my shoulder and chest and I realised I had been hit by shrapnel."

"We would normally eat out on the veranda but now we are too scared to even go onto the roof of the house," said his brother Ahmed.

And with good reason. Five months previously Moae Khabur Hassan, an 18-year-old shepherd from the village had been on his roof when the bullets started flying.

He was shot in the head by a high caliber rifle, fired, the villagers say, from the American base.

"I did not expect the war would reach here," said Rafaeh Awad Oubeid standing over his son's bed as the sun began to fall again over El Herri, and the shadows lengthened in the room.

"But now it has. If we could we would take our revenge, but we cannot, and there is nothing we can do about it."

(15)

British Black Watch commander feared for Iraq troop security

The commander of Britain's Black Watch regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel James Cowan, expressed fears about the security of his troops before they were transferred to take over from US soldiers south of Baghdad, British daily the Daily Telegraph said on Saturday.

SyriaTimes

7-11-2004

In extracts from emails published by the newspaper two days after three British soldiers from the regiment were killed in a suicide bombing, Cowan said he feared: "every lunatic militant from miles around to descend on us like bees to honey" after the transfer.

The regiment, previously based in the more peaceful southern city of Basra, took over the region from US soldiers who are preparing to fight insurgents in the city of Fallujah.

The redeployment has been hugely controversial in Britain, with Prime Minister Tony Blair's critics accusing him of

sending troops into harm's way largely as a symbolic gesture to show that the United States is not fighting alone in Iraq.

In another email published by the Daily Telegraph on Saturday Cowan said:

"I hope that the government knows what it has got itself into. I'm not sure they fully appreciate the risks."

"The marines we have taken over from have taken nine dead and 197 wounded since July. I hope we do better."

In London the Ministry of Defence declined to comment on the report, saying that "we do not comment on leaked documents or emails."

Blair has insisted the decision was military, not political.

A trio from the Scottish-based regiment died on Thursday afternoon when a vehicle-borne suicide bomb exploded at a checkpoint they were manning by the Euphrates River south of Baghdad.

In a statement on the internet the attack was claimed by the group of militant, Abu Musab al-Zarqawi.

Britain has around 8,500 military personnel in Iraq, as against around 138,000 US troops. It has suffered 73 military deaths since US-led troops invaded Iraq in March 2003.


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