



מרכז משה דיין ללימודי המזרח התיכון ואפריקה
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Middle East News & Views

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A weekly sample of news and opinions on current events from around the Middle East collected and brought to you by the Dayan Center.

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[The Terror Next Door / Mai Yamani](#)

In the wake of the Taliban's ouster in Afghanistan, bin Laden and his followers have come to regard Yemen, alongside Pakistan, as a haven. Indeed, Yemen is now a bubbling cauldron of jihadis who have flocked there because it, like Afghanistan and Pakistan, has weak, easily manipulated state institutions.

Source: [Project Syndicate](#), May 15, 2009

[Saudi Youth and Terrorism...When Will it End? / Tariq Alhomayed](#)



Today we are facing questions that have been asked since the events of 9/11; who is responsible for pushing our youth into destruction? Who is responsible for defaming the reputation of the Saudi citizen? Who is stoking the fire [of extremism] inside Saudi Arabia?

Source: [Al-Sharq Al-Awsat \(London\)](#), May 24, 2009

[Youth and Peace Are Key Arab Priorities / Rami G. Khouri](#)

The most striking aspect of this year's World Economic Forum (WEF) was the recurrence of two issues that intruded into virtually every single session: the need to focus more seriously on youth-related policies, and the importance of resolving the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Source: [The Daily Star \(Beirut\)](#), May 23, 2009

[An Inclusive US Policy Is Already Forcing Change / Ghassan Khatib](#)

Obama has created constructive momentum in the region and sparked a healthy debate, particularly on a settlement freeze among both Israelis and American supporters of Israel. This debate is exposing Israeli violations of the roadmap and other terms of reference for the peace process to growing criticism. That has the very useful effect of reversing the negative trends in Israeli public opinion and potentially paving the way for a political environment more conducive to successful political initiatives.

Source: [Bitterlemons-International](#), May 25, 2009

[Palestinian Factions and the Gap between Resistance and Politics / Ghazi Hamad](#)

Half a century has passed as Palestinian factions struggle. Half a century of tender sacrifice, martyrs, heroic operations and competition. What we need to ask the factions now, is have they succeeded? Did they get what they hoped for from their sacrifices; are they satisfied with always giving and not taking?

Source: [Ma'an News Agency \(Bethlehem\)](#), May 23, 2009

[Why Is It the Right Time to Solve the Kurdish Question? / İhsan Dağ](#)

It has become increasingly clear that the Kurdish question can neither be solved through the use of force by the Turkish state nor by the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK). This has been understood by all sides. The current state of affairs does not benefit anyone. The only way out of this "lose-lose" situation is a solution that is a joint settlement by the fighting sides, the PKK and the Turkish state.

Source: [Today's Zaman \(Istanbul\)](#), May 25, 2009

[Piety and Dishonesty? / Hasan Yousefi Ashkevari](#)

Although some of Ahmadinejad's supporters have called him the "third millennia's miracle," we must admit that Ahmadinejad truly is a unique "phenomenon"! The thoughts, behavior and personality that he has exhibited in the past four years are truly strange from some perspectives. One of Ahmadinejad's peculiar characteristics is dishonesty, which has brought unique fame to the president after four years

Source: [Rooz Online \(Paris\)](#), May 21, 2009