



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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[Israeli-Arabs Have Been Living with Jews in Relative Peace: Why Reverse the Process? / Ghassan Michel Rubeiz](#)

As Arab-Jewish ties in Israel fluctuate they mirror larger regional tensions. The raid on the Gaza flotilla may impact Israel's external relations with Turkey but they are also likely to introduce new significant unknowns into the already complicated relations between Jews and Arabs within Israel.

Source: **Common Ground News Service (Washington), June 3, 2010**

[Lessons from the Gaza Fleet Raid / Mishaal Al Gergawi](#)

I still find myself wondering why not a single state in the Arab world has been able to be as effectively critical of Israel as Turkey is. I also find the contrast between Turkey's success and what I consider to be Qatar's mixed result in executing a multi-directional foreign policy curious to say the least. Where do the Arabs go from here, and what can they learn from Turkey?

Source: **Gulf News (Dubai), June 6, 2010**

[The Hidden Victim of Israeli Piracy / Osman Mirghani](#)

In addition to the 9 victims who were killed by Israeli bullets in the attack on the Freedom Flotilla there was also a tenth victim who was buried in silence. The Israeli commando forces attack thwarted the Obama administration's efforts to lay down new principles for pushing Palestinian-Israeli negotiations forward and to use Netanyahu's visit to Washington to put more pressure on Israel and to follow the path laid out in President Obama's speech in Cairo just a year ago.

Source: **Al-Sharq Al-Awsat (London), June 10, 2010**

[Turkish Government Goes Beyond Mere Rhetoric / Amr el-Shobaki](#)

Many people attribute the strong statements made by Turkish PM Recep Tayyip Erdogan, following Israel's attack on the Gaza aid flotilla, solely to the man's courage. We still seem to think that chanting slogans and expressing good intentions is the road to democracy, progress and confronting Israel. Turkey, on the other hand, has realized that being a strong nation, both economically and politically, is the way to gain respect around the world and face up to enemies.

Source: **Al-Masry Al-Youm (Cairo), June 6, 2010**

[Searching for Egypt's Identity / Abdel-Moneim Said](#)

I have just had the opportunity to attend a conference on "The Egyptian Character in a Changing World". Of particular interest to me was the closing session, entitled "A Future Vision for the Egyptian Character". The task taken by the organizers is a tough one. Future projections seem to involve more risk than wisdom, more fancy than certainty, more hit-and-miss than precision with a concept as ambiguous as "the Egyptian character".

Source: **Al-Ahram Weekly (Cairo), Issue No 1001, 3 - 9 June 2010**

[Is ElBaradei a Serious Alternative? / Ahmed El-Sawi](#)

We thought ElBaradei was going to freshly lead us forward, as someone who has come from a more organized political environment. To our disappointment, however, ElBaradei is using obsolete progressive techniques. We were under the false impression that the man was going to develop our methods of opposition, but were surprised to find him being led by our traditional opposition. So my question is: Who is taking the lead, ElBaradei or those around him?

Source: **Al-Masry Al-Youm (Cairo), June 7, 2010**

[Peace Needs More Courage / Ayşe Karabat](#)

In Turkish culture, like that of the other Middle Eastern countries, including Palestine and Israel, pacifist resistance is a misunderstood concept. It most certainly does not mean surrendering, but just the opposite: never losing the cause's moral high ground. The Middle East always tries to teach all involved parties the most essential lesson in the world. But so far no one has been able to understand this lesson - to have peace requires far more courage than to have war.

Source: **Today's Zaman (Istanbul), June 6, 2010**