

THE LEGACY CONTINUES

Oman’s beloved His Majesty Sultan Qaboos has passed away.
His Majesty Sultan Haitham has said that the late ruler’s legacy will live on



His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said



His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq bin Taimour al Said

Muscat - The Defence Council on Saturday issued a statement reading as follows:
‘The Defence Council would like to bring to the attention of citizens that, in pursuance of the first statement, it called the Royal Family Council to convene to determine who will assume power.
‘The Defence Council received today (Saturday, the 15th of Jumada al Ula 1441 AH, January 11, 2020) a reply from the Royal Family Council in which it reported that it convened and decided to assign the Defence Council to open the will of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos and instate

the person that he had recommended.
‘This is in accordance with the provision of Article 6 of the Basic Law of the State and to undertake measures to induct the person recommended by His Majesty Sultan Qaboos in cooperation with the Royal Family Council, whose gesture reflects its gratitude and appreciation of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos’ well-known wisdom and farsighted vision.’
A ‘will-opening’ session was held on Saturday, the 15th of Jumada al Ula 1441 AH, January 11, 2020, in the presence of:
►Gen Sultan bin Mohammed al Nu’amani,

Minister of the Royal Office and Acting Chairman of the Defence Council
►Lt Gen Hassan bin Mohsen al Shuraiqi, Inspector General of Police and Customs
►Lt Gen Said bin Ali al Hilali, Head of the Internal Security Service
►Lt Gen Ahmed bin Harith al Nabhani, Chief of Staff of the Sultan’s Armed Forces
►Maj Gen Mattar bin Salim al Balushi, Commander of the Royal Army of Oman
►Air Vice Marshal Mattar bin Ali al Obaidani, Commander of the Royal Air Force of Oman
►Rear Admiral Abdullah bin Khamis al Ra’eesi,

Commander of the Royal Navy of Oman
►Maj Gen Khalifa bin Abdullah al Junaibi, Commander of the Royal Guard of Oman

The session was also attended by:
►Dr Yahya bin Mahfoudh al Manthri, Chairman of the State Council
►Khalid bin Hilal al Ma’awali, Chairman of Majlis A’Shura
►Sheikh Dr Is’haq bin Ahmed al Busaidi, Chairman of the Supreme Court
►Dr Saleh bin Hamad al Rashdi, Deputy Chairman of the Supreme Court

►Dr Khalifa bin Mohammed al Hadhrami, Deputy Chairman of the Supreme Court
‘The Defence Council was honoured to have members of the Royal Family as witnesses to the procedure. The Defence Council was also honoured to open the will, to read it out directly to the audience and to declare His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq bin Taimour al Said as the Sultan of Oman. May the Almighty Allah protect Oman and His Majesty the Sultan.’
ONA
See also pages 2, 3, 4, 5, 13, 25, 37, 49, 50, 52, 53, 54 and 55

His Majesty Sultan Haitham sworn in



Muscat - His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq bin Taimour was sworn in on Saturday, the 15th of Jumada al Ula 1441, January 11, 2020, at a joint session of the Council of Oman and the Defence Council in implementation of the provision of Article 7 of the Basic Law of the State.

Upon His Majesty the Sultan's arrival, he performed the oath reading as follows:
"I swear in the name of the Almighty Allah to respect the Basic Law of the State and the laws, to fully protect the interests of citizens and their liberties and safeguard the independence of the nation and the safety of its territories."

Then, His Majesty the Sultan gave a speech, reading as follows:
"In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious, Most Merciful, In the name of the Praiseworthy Allah, the Wise, Venerated One, the One Hallowed equally in contentment and distress; Glory Be to Him Whose judgment cannot be revoked; the One Who conducts all affairs with no intercessor acting beyond His will; to Him we resort in praise, foremost and finally - peace and blessings be upon His prophets, His messengers and their faithful disciples."

As for now:
"The will of the Almighty Allah on His beings is inevitable and to Him we shall all return. It was the Almighty Allah's will that we have lost the best of men, the forgiven one, God willing, Sultan Qaboos bin Said bin Taimour; a man who cannot be served right by such a speech, as no words can calculate what he had achieved and accomplished.
"He set up a modern state from scratch, a country that is now recognised by all, far and near. He established a deeply rooted renaissance whose features have crystallised in a schema of laws and legislations that fortify this country and channel the progress of its march towards the blossoming future that he wished.
"He set up an infrastructure that has become the centre of attraction of the world. He established an economic and social structure founded on grounds of justice, sustainable development, productivity and diversification of the income. The outcome of this is a steady rise in living standards of Omani citizens. He built sturdy and constant frameworks for education - at all its levels - and specialisations that are tapped by generations of citizens who relished knowledge and expertise.
"May Allah, the Almighty, reward him as fully as a truthful Sultan can be recompensed for serving his country and his nation. May Allah place him in the company of the righteous 'in the



(Photos: Mohammed Mustafa)

midst of Gardens and Rivers, in an Assembly of Truth in the Presence of a Sovereign Omnipotent' and may Allah grant Oman all causes of dignity, progress and power."

Dear People of Oman:
"Words fall short of articulating a eulogy for a Sultan as great as him (Qaboos bin Said), or describe his good deeds and accomplishments. Our only relief - the best with which we can eternalise his achievements - is to pursue his rightful legacy and derive impetus for the brilliant steps that he treaded in full confidence and determination, to preserve the gains that he made and to build upon them.
"This is what we are resolved to execute, God willing. We shall march forward on this road so that Oman could attain and maintain its promi-

nent place in which His Majesty Sultan Qaboos wished to position it and for which he stayed on vigils to realise that goal, and he was granted success in his endeavours.
"In the foreign front, we shall trace the course of the late Sultan, reaffirming the fundamentals of our country's foreign policy based on peaceful co-existence with nations, good neighbourliness, non-interference in the internal affairs of others, respect for countries' sovereignty and international cooperation in various spheres. We will remain as the world had known us during the reign of the Forgiven one, God willing, His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said bin Taimour. We will call and contribute to resolving disputes by peaceful means, sparing no effort in finding satisfactory solutions in a spirit of harmony and understanding.

"We will continue contact with our brethren, leaders of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), to enhance our countries' march of collaboration to realise our peoples' aspirations and to push the GCC forward.
"In the Arab front, we will continue to support the Arab League and cooperate with our brethren, leaders of Arab states, to achieve the goals of the Arab League, promote our citizens' lives, distance this region from conflicts and work for economic integration that will serve our Arab people.
"Oman will maintain its role as an active member of the United Nations Organization, a member that respects the UN Charter and works with member states towards achieving international peace and security, as well as economic prosperity for all countries of the world.

We will build our relations with all world countries on the basis of the great heritage left behind for us by the late Sultan, God bless him, a heritage whose essence is based on commitment to relations of friendship and cooperation with all and respect for charters, laws and agreements signed with other countries and organisations."

Dear Citizens:
"Our country could not have achieved all this if it had not been for the charismatic leadership of the late Sultan Qaboos bin Said bin Taimour, as well as the solid principles on which he had set up the edifice of the modern state. It would not have been realised without your rallying around his leadership, your pride over what we have all achieved under his judicious leadership.
"It would not have been without established security, well-deployed across the terrain of this country. It would not have been realised without the existence of modern Armed Forces that are fully mobilised and highly qualified in all its branches and sectors. It would not have been realised without the existence of security services that secured the stability of this country and gained the respect of citizens. We appreciate the role of all in safeguarding the gains of the sultanate and reiterate our support to them all and our pride over their role."

People of Oman:
"The trust thrust on our shoulders and the resultant immense responsibilities require us all to work together for the sake of our country's magnificence, with a persistent resolve to promote it to the loftiest levels. This cannot be realised without your support and cooperation and combination of all efforts to achieve the desired supreme national goal. Your contribution to enrich all efforts of progress, development and prosperity will be highly appreciated.
"May the Almighty Allah protect you in His divine care and may He grant His mercy and forgiveness to the late Sultan Qaboos bin Said bin Taimour and reward him plentifully. May Allah grant us success in pursuing his course and accomplishing the objectives that he wished to be realised for this great nation."
After that, His Majesty Sultan Haitham received the best wishes of Royal Family members, ministers, advisors, military leaders and honourable members of the State Council and members of the Majlis A'Shura on the occasion of his induction as Sultan of Oman.
The Royal Anthem was played while the artillery fired a 21-gun salute to His Majesty the Sultan.
ONA



(Photos: Mohammed Mustafa)



Tears as His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said laid to rest

Our Correspondent
Muscat

With tears in their eyes and prayers on their lips people of all ages on Saturday bid adieu to His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said, who passed away on Friday leaving the whole country in mourning.

His Majesty Sultan Qaboos, the father of modern Oman, was laid to rest at the Royal Cemetery in Ghala in a simple ceremony. While thousands lined up on the roads from Bait al Baraka to the Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque to say a final goodbye to His Majesty Sultan Qaboos, others were glued to televisions to watch the burial procession.

After a prayer led by the Grand Mufti Ahmed bin

Hamad al Khalili at Grand Mosque, the remains of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos was taken in a military vehicle to the Royal Cemetery in Ghala.

The final prayer at the mosque was attended by His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq bin Taimour al Said who was declared as the Sultan of Oman as per the will of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos.

The body was then taken to the burial place by the family members and ministers led by His Majesty Sultan Haitham.

The funeral was attended by ministers, advisors, military commanders, honourable members of the State Council and members of Majlis A'Shura and senior state officials, civilians, sheikhs, dignitaries and citizens.



Diwan of Royal Court issues obituary

Muscat - The Diwan of Royal Court issued an obituary on Saturday reading as follows: 'To the righteous soul will be said, O (thou) soul, in (complete) rest and satisfaction! Come back thou to thy Lord - well pleased (thyself), and well-pleasing unto Him! Enter thou, then, among My devotees! Yea, enter thou My Heaven! (Holy Q'uran, Surt al Fajr)'.

"To the people of the beloved homeland in all its districts, to the Arab and Islamic nations and to the world at large.

"It is with hearts filled with faith in Allah and his Providence, and with great sorrow and deep sadness - yet with complete satisfaction and absolute submission to the will of the Almighty Allah, that the Diwan of Royal Court mourns His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said, who passed away on Friday, the 14th of Jumada al Ula, January 10, 2020, after establishing a comprehensive renaissance over the past 50 years since he assumed power on July 23, 1970, and after leading a prudent and triumphant

march, abundant with bounty that prevailed all over Oman, from corner to corner, and even spread over to the Arab world, Islamic nation and the rest of the world. This renaissance resulted in a balanced foreign policy that was saluted with solemn respect by the whole world."

On this occasion, the Diwan of Royal Court has announced a state of mourning and the halt of official work in the public and private sectors for three days and the flying of flags at half-mast over the forthcoming 40 days. The Diwan of Royal Court prays to the Almighty Allah to recompense His Majesty Sultan Qaboos fully for his good deeds, to have mercy on his soul and to rest it in peace in paradise along with martyrs and the faithful. May the Almighty Allah grant us patience to bear this immense loss. 'Truly, to Allah we belong and truly, to Him we shall return.'

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His Majesty Sultan Haitham to receive mourners from today

Muscat - The Diwan of Royal Court on Saturday issued a statement, which reads as follows: 'The Diwan of Royal Court would like to inform that His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq bin Taimour al Said and the ruling family will receive mourners on the death of the Sultan Qaboos bin Said bin Taimour at Al Alam Palace for the next three days, starting from Sunday 16th of Jumada al Ula, January 12, 2020, from 9am to 12pm and 4-5.30pm.

'May the Almighty Allah rest the deceased soul in mercy and forgiveness, and reward His Majesty in the hereafter for the achievements and sacrifices for the sake of Oman and its people.'

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(Mohammed Mustafa/ONA)

Salute to Qaboos

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2020 | MUSCAT DAILY | 13

Omani citizen, the cornerstone of His Majesty the Sultan's vision



Muscat - In the 49 years of the Blessed Renaissance, the Omani citizen has been the cornerstone of the vision of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said.

In all stages of the sultanate's long-term development strategy, top priority has been accorded to the Omani citizen, regarded as the nation's most precious resource in the drive towards achieving sustainable development.

In his address before the Council of Oman in 2002, he said, "We have always affirmed, on various occasions, that human being is the ultimate goal of the development process, and its instrument and means at the same time.

"The more effective this instrument is, the

more capable it becomes of achieving targeted development.

"Thus, we always call for the development of human resources, their scientific capabilities, technical skills and technological expertise in order to meet society's urgent requirements and needs, and to provide opportunities for those resources to fully contribute to the Blessed Renaissance witnessed by Oman in all walks of life."

Before the opening of the annual session of the Council of Oman in 2006, His Majesty Sultan Qaboos had said, "You are aware of the importance we attach to the development of human resources and to creating more and better education, training and employment oppor-

tunities for our sons and daughters. This theme occurs in almost every one of the speeches we address to you, and through you to all the people of Oman. It is not surprising that this should be so, because human beings are the cornerstone of any civilisation and without them no civilisation can develop or continue to survive.

"We should therefore like to re-emphasise this point, which is such an important factor in the development and modernisation of society."

In his speech at the opening of the Council of Oman (Majlis Oman's) fifth term at Hisn al Shumukh in Manah, Dakhliyah on October 31, 2011, His Majesty Sultan Qaboos expressed total confidence in his countrymen and women

and urged them to work diligently, inspired by consciousness of their responsibilities and duties.

His Majesty Sultan Qaboos pointed out that the next phase in Oman's development would be a critical one, which will demand further sacrifices from all citizens.

His Majesty Sultan Qaboos' speech also touched on the consultation (Shura) process in Oman.

His Majesty Sultan Qaboos confirmed his intention to give top priority to the development of human resources and reiterated his belief that people are the cornerstone of any development process designed to promote human happiness,

decent living standards and security.

"The forthcoming stage will witness, with God's will, even greater focus on providing more opportunities for youth to enable them to expand their knowledge," he said.

"Education is the cornerstone of progress and development, and in order to produce a responsible, aware generation endowed with expertise, skills and aspirations, towards a higher level of knowledge, a comprehensive assessment of the country's educational progress needs to be carried out in order to ensure that those aspirations become realities and enable people to benefit from the available job opportunities in the public and private sectors."

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WE EXTEND OUR DEEPEST
CONDOLENCES
TO THE PEOPLE OF OMAN
ON THE DEMISE OF
HIS MAJESTY
SULTAN QABOOS BIN SAID

MAY HIS MAJESTY'S SOUL REST IN PEACE

Our heartfelt condolences and prayers from



Kempinski Hotel
Muscat

SULTANATE OF OMAN

Salute to Qaboos

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2020 | MUSCAT DAILY | 25

Tributes pour in for His Majesty Sultan Qaboos

Our Correspondent
Muscat

Oman woke up on Saturday morning to the heartbreaking news of the demise of its ruler His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said.

During his tenure of 50 years, His Majesty Sultan Qaboos was one of the most beloved rulers in the region. Known for his just reign as well as socio-economic developments in the country, he also facilitated harmony among conflicting sides.

People from all walks of life expressed their grief in personal meetings, on social media and other platforms remembering his peace-loving role and long-standing vision for his country.

Anselm Perera, a Sri Lankan expatriate and an ex-banker living in Oman for the last 45 years, said, "This is indeed a very emotional day for all of us. I have been in the country for over four decades since 1975 and my daughter was the first expatriate to be born in the Salalah hospital. I am the longest serving Sri Lankan in Oman and thus closely attached to the country. When I reached Oman, there were hardly any hospitals, roads or schools but in a short span, our beloved His Majesty the Sultan made developments in every sector including education, health and infrastructure.

"He has been a role model for both locals and expatriates. I had a choice to go back to either Canada or Sri Lanka

but I chose to stay here."

Kanak Khimji, director at Khimji Ramdas, said, "The demise of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said marks a sad juncture in Oman's glorious era. He was a visionary leader, a statesman par excellence and a true son of the soil who lovingly built our nation. We ask Almighty to grant us strength in this difficult time and enable us to follow in his footsteps towards achieving his plans for our beloved nation. May Allah shower mercy on his soul and grant him *Jannatul Firdaus*."

The social media pages of people in the country are flooded with images, videos and GIFs of the ruler. People expressed their condolences and memories on their Facebook pages, Instagram stories and WhatsApp status. Many have also shared their personal stories including glimpses of His Majesty the Sultan during his visits in palaces and parades. One user by the name bader_muscat said, "May Allah Almighty give our beloved leader eternal peace. You will be missed."

Most of the users changed their WhatsApp status to either quotes by HM, images of his younger days, meetings with diplomats or videos of him.

Balakrishana M, a businessman who runs restaurants and has been in Muscat for over 40 years, said, "When I came to Oman, I saw people still walking to Muttrah from as far as Seeb. They used to take almost a day to commute. There were hardly any hotels or hospitals but the developments accel-

erated as soon as His Majesty the Sultan took over. He shall always be missed and this is a very sad day for all of us."

Dr Azad Moopen, founder chairman and managing director, Aster DM, Healthcare, said, "We are deeply saddened by the demise of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said. A real visionary leader, His Majesty Sultan Qaboos was responsible for the transformation of Oman into one of the leading countries in the Middle East and a very prominent member of the GCC. The longest reigning Arab leader, he was the darling of the masses for five decades and lifted the living conditions of millions of Omanis.

"He was not only responsible for modernising the country but has also transformed the sultanate's healthcare and education sectors. He was also a very astute statesman, respected all over the world."

A resident of Muscat, Saada al Naamani, said, "I can't believe that our leader who was equivalent to our father, mentor and guide is no more with us. I am saddened and in a state of severe grief. I pray for his soul to be in eternal peace.

"Over the decades, His Majesty Sultan Qaboos single-handedly took control of the country and developed every sector from health, education to roads. This is a big loss but I am confident our new ruler will work hard to take forward the eternal legacy that His Majesty Sultan Qaboos created for all of us."



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We extend
our deepest condolences
on the sad demise of
**His Majesty
Sultan Qaboos bin Said al Said**

Our heartfelt condolences
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MAY HIS MAJESTY'S SOUL REST IN PEACE

Salute to Qaboos

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2020 | MUSCAT DAILY | 37

GCC countries mourn death of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos

Our Correspondent
Muscat

Leaders of the GCC countries have mourned the death of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said and declared three days of mourning.

Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al Thani, Emir of Qatar, in a statement by the Amiri Diwan, said that His Majesty Sultan Qaboos was a great leader characterised by wisdom, moderation, and long-term vision. He added that the late sultan dedicated his life to serve his country and his 'Ummah', calling for dialogue and rejecting violence and extremism. He also ordered three days of mourning in Qatar.

In Kuwait, all government institutions will be shut and their flag will fly at half-mast for three days, according to a government statement read by Anas al Saleh, the Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Interior and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs.

Saleh eulogised His Majesty Sultan Qaboos as a great, kind and sagacious leader who had played a key role in making enormous achievements in his country, which played a pivotal role in maintaining the unity of the GCC states.

The Kuwaiti government, he added, recalled with deep admiration the brave stance of the sultanate rejecting the blatant aggression by the defunct Iraqi regime against the State of Kuwait.

In the UAE too, the leaders mourned the death of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos. UAE President Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed al Nahyan ordered a funeral prayer in absentia for the late His Majesty Sultan Qaboos across all the UAE mosques after Maghrib prayers on Saturday.

The UAE has also declared three days of mourning and flags to be flown half mast, according to the official news agency WAM.



In Bahrain, His Majesty Sultan Qaboos' death was mourned by the King of Bahrain, Hamad bin Isa al Khalifa and the island nation's Royal Court. A statement issued by the Bahrain News Agency, the state-run news agency of the king-

dom, said, "HM the King paid homage to late His Majesty Sultan Qaboos who spent a life full of achievements in serving his people as well as the Arab and Islamic nations."

Bahrain has also announced a three-day

mourning period, during which the flag of the country over its embassies, government buildings and diplomatic missions will fly at half-mast.

In Saudi Arabia, King Salman and the Crown

Prince expressed their sorrow over the death of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos, state news agency SPA said on Saturday. The Kingdom's Royals said, "Saudis share the sorrows of the Sultanate of Oman and its people."

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We extend
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Sultan Qaboos bin Said al Said**

Our heartfelt condolences
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MAY HIS MAJESTY'S SOUL REST IN PEACE

Salute to Qaboos

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2020 MUSCAT DAILY 49



This file photo shows His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said with Britain's Queen Elizabeth II in Muscat on November 25, 2010 (AFP)

World mourns

Our Correspondent Muscat

World leaders on Saturday mourned the demise of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said, the founder of modern Oman, who passed away in Muscat on Friday.

The world's one of the tallest leaders, the Late Sultan made his country a vital mediator through non-partisan approach - one of the greatest achievements being a successful mediation between the regional power Iran and the western world.

Iran's Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif on Saturday said the death of the Late Sultan Qaboos was a 'loss for the region' and expressed hopes that relations between the two nations will grow under his successor, His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq bin Taimour al Said.

'We offer our dear neighbour Oman our condolences... (and) we congratulate it for its selection of His Majesty Haitham bin Tariq as sultan, hoping our relations grow as they have before and that the future draws inspiration from the past', Zarif tweeted in Arabic.

'I had the pleasure of meeting His Majesty Sultan Qaboos and was struck by his commitment to peace and understanding between nations and between faiths', British Prime Minister Boris Johnson said, while extending his condolences to the people of Oman, following the demise of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos.

'I am deeply saddened to hear of the death of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said al Said, Sultan of Oman', said Johnson. 'He was an exceptionally wise and respected leader who will be missed enormously. He will be remembered for his devotion to the development of Oman into a stable and prosperous nation, and as the father of the nation who sought to improve the lives of the Omani people.'

'He leaves a profound legacy, not only in Oman but across the region too', added Johnson. 'The UK is a proud friend and enduring partner of Oman, and our thoughts

and prayers are with the Omani people'.

Former US president George W Bush also remembered the Late Sultan as a 'stable force in the Middle East and a strong US ally'.

'Laura and I are saddened by the death of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said al Said, the Sultan of Oman. He was a stable force in the Middle East and a strong U.S. Ally', he said in a statement.

'His Majesty had a vision for a modern, prosperous, and peaceful Oman, and he willed that vision into reality'.

The former US president and his wife Laura Bush were on a three day visit to Oman from October 27 last year.

In his condolence statement, Bush wrote, 'Laura and I are fortunate to have visited him in Muscat last fall. We enjoyed his grand hospitality, and we saw how his able leadership improved education, healthcare, and the arts throughout the beautiful country of Oman. We send our sincere condolences to the Omani people on this mournful day'.

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who was among the first global leaders to condole the death of the stalwart, called the Late Sultan a 'true friend of India'.

'Sultan Qaboos was a true friend of India and provided strong leadership for developing a vibrant strategic partnership between India and Oman. I will always cherish the warmth and affection I received from him. May his soul rest in peace', Modi said.

Calling him a 'beacon of peace for our region and the world', Modi, tweeted, 'I am deeply saddened to learn about the passing away of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said al Said. He was a visionary leader and statesman who transformed Oman into a modern and prosperous nation'.

Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan also extended 'deepest condolences to people of Oman' on the demise of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos. 'He was a visionary & transformed Oman into a vibrant, modern state. Oman has lost a beloved leader & Pakistan a close, trusted friend. May his soul rest in eternal peace', Khan tweeted.



With the then US President Bill Clinton in Muscat on March 25, 2000



With S Africa's then President Nelson Mandela on April 6, 1999 (AFP)



With the then US Vice President Dick Cheney in Muscat on March 19, 2008 (AFP)





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TO THE PEOPLE OF OMAN ON THE DEMISE OF

HIS MAJESTY

SULTAN QABOOS BIN SAID

Heartfelt condolences and prayers from
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Oman, Egypt relations got a boost under HM



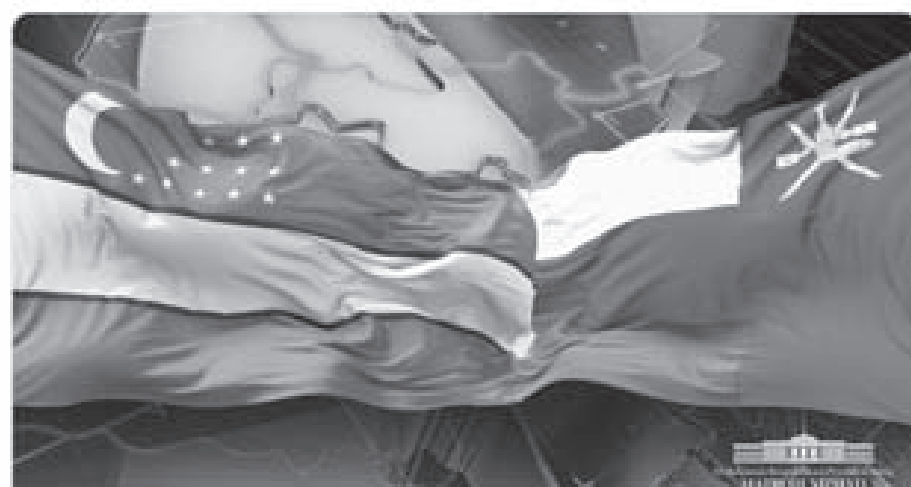
Sultan Qaboos bin Said with the then President of Egypt Hosni Mubarak in Nueiba, Egypt on April 25, 1985. Oman was one of the only three Arab nations that maintained close ties with Egypt after it signed a peace treaty with Israel (AFP)



Shavkat Mirziyoyev's Press-ser...
@president_uz

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President Shavkat Mirziyoyev sends a
condolence letter to Sultan Haitham bin
Tariq Al Said of Oman on the death of Sultan
Qaboos bin Said.



Uzbekistan President Shavkat Mirziyoyev has condoled the death of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said

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We extend
our deepest condolences
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**His Majesty
Sultan Qaboos bin Said al Said**

Our heartfelt condolences
and prayers from



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MAY HIS MAJESTY'S SOUL REST IN PEACE

World leaders pay tributes

‘His Majesty’s vision steered a foreign policy that placed Oman among the EU’s closest partners’



Flags on royal and government buildings were flown at half-mast in United Kingdom to mourn the death of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said (ONA)

Canada’s Trudeau hails Sultan’s efforts

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau issued the following statement on the death of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said: ‘Canada offers its deepest sympathies and heartfelt condolences to the people of Oman and the royal family at the news of Sultan Qaboos’s passing’. ‘Having been in power since 1970, Sultan Qaboos was the longest serving leader in the Arab world. We recognise his efforts to modernise Oman, including the building of extensive infrastructure and the establishment of the Omani rial, the national currency of Oman. We also acknowledge his steadfast role as a mediator in the region, including his efforts to successfully conclude the Joint Compre-



hensive Plan of Action between Iran as well as the permanent members of the UN Security Council (China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States) and Germany’. ‘The Sultan’s work will continue to be felt both at home in Oman as well as through the wider region’.



Vision and pragmatism: EU

A joint European Commission-European Union statement praised Qaboos’s ‘sense of pragmatism and his unparalleled savoir-faire’.

Under his leadership, ‘Oman embarked on an unprecedented era of reforms that improved the living standards for the Omani people’, the statement said.

‘His vision steered a foreign policy that placed Oman among the European Union’s closest partners, in a region mired in conflict and gripped by tensions’.

Moderation and wisdom: Iraq



His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq bin Taimour al Said has received a

cable of condolences from President Barham Saleh of the Republic of Iraq on the death of the Late His Majesty Sultan Qaboos Bin Said.

In his cable, the Iraqi President expressed his heartfelt condolences over the great loss. He hailed the leadership of Sultan Qaboos bin Said who succeeded in establishing a modern state of which Omanis are proud of. Sultan Qaboos has managed to place the Sultanate in wise, balanced, and moderate position during various stages of conflicts, wars and divisions that prevailed over the region.

Man of dialogue: Lebanon

‘With the loss of Sultan Qaboos, the Arab world loses a man of dialogue, wisdom and peace’, Lebanon’s President Michel Aoun wrote on Twitter, paying tribute to ‘a brother and a friend to Lebanon’.

Qaboos ‘always worked towards Arab unity and the strengthening of (Arab) solidarity - in the face of the challenges that threaten our countries and peoples’.

Great wisdom: Syria



His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said led Oman ‘on a path of progress and advancement and managed

with great wisdom and sophistication to create a distinguished place for the country among Arab states’ said Syria’s President Bashar Assad.

Oman is the only Gulf Cooperation Council member state to have maintained diplomatic relations with Damascus since the start of the war.

A wise leader: Jordan

‘We have lost a wise leader in my brother His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said of Oman’, said a statement from King Abdullah

II of Jordan on Twitter.

He paid tribute to Qaboos’s role in ‘defending Arab and Islamic causes’.

Pioneer: Egypt

His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said was ‘a constant supporter of Arab and Islamic issues in various situations, and the pioneer of Oman’s renaissance’, wrote Egypt’s President Abdel Fattah el Sisi.

Wisdom and balance: Abbas

‘Our Arab and Islamic nation lost today, a leader and leader of its finest men’, said Palestinian President Mahmud Abbas.

His Majesty Sultan Qaboos Qaboos ‘devoted his life to serving his country and people and the issues of the Arab and Islamic nations with wisdom and balance’, he added.

With AFP inputs

‘An important figure’



His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said with Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan in Muscat on September 27, 2005 (AFP)

His Majesty Sultan Qaboos Bin Said ‘made great efforts for the welfare and development of Oman as well as being

an important figure in the politics of the region’, Turkey’s President Recep Tayyip Erdogan tweeted.

Deepest condolences to the people of Oman and the Sultanate from the Directors, Management and the Staff of Al Anwar Ceramic Tiles Co. SAOG on the loss of our visionary leader

His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said.
May God have mercy on his departed soul.



AL ANWAR CERAMIC TILES CO. SAOG

Salute to Qaboos

‘Earned the respect of the world’



His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq bin Taimour al Said has received a cable of condolences from Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan on the death of Late His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said.

In his cable, Abe expressed his deep sadness and sincere condolences and sympathy to His Majesty, the Government and the Omani people. He affirmed that His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said has managed, since taking over reins of power, to build up a nation that combines between preserving customs, traditions and modernity. His Majesty Sultan Qaboos has contributed in achieving a sustainable development for the Sultanate. He has also remarkably contributed in realising peace and stability in the Middle East, and he was a leader who earned respect of the whole world.

“The death of Sultan Qaboos bin Said, who was a great leader enjoying wisdom and far-sighted vision, represents a great loss not only for the Omani people, but also for the whole international community. I would like to express solidarity of Japan with the Omani people to overcome these very sad moments,” the Japanese leader added.

ONA



A good friend: Germany

Continued from Page 52

Sultan Qaboos’s death meant ‘the loss of a good friend for Germany’, a statement from President Frank-Walter Steinmeier said. ‘Sultan Qaboos was a responsible actor for mutual understanding and compromise in the Middle East and Gulf region. His word was widely heeded’.

The German Embassy in Oman in a tweet said, ‘We are deeply saddened by the death of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos. Our deepest condolences go to the family and people of Oman’.

ANNOUNCEMENT

SULTANATE OF OMAN
MINISTRY OF MANPOWER

TENDER NOTICE

Internal Tender Committee, Ministry of Manpower
invites the following tenders:

Tender No.	Tender Description	Establishments entitled to participate and are registered with the board of tenders	Last date for electronic purchasing	Date of tender submission	Price per copy (R.O.)
2/2020	Students insurance in Technology Colleges and Vocational Colleges for Marine Sciences	First / Excellent			R.O. 25/-
3/2020	Providing maintenance services at Ibt College of Technology	Fourth	Thursday 16/01/2020 at 02:30 pm	Thursday 23/01/2020 at 10:00 am	R.O. 25/-
4/2020	Providing gardening and cleaning services at Vocational College for Marine Sciences, Al Khaboura	-----			R.O. 25/-
5/2020	Providing maintenance services at Vocational College for Marine Sciences, Al Khaboura	Second			R.O. 25/-

Specialized establishments can obtain electronic documents from this link below starting from Thursday 09/01/2020.

<https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om/>

Each bid is to be attached with a bank guarantee or a certified cheque from one of the banks operating in the Sultanate of (1%) of the value of the tender for the Ministry of Manpower, valid for a period of (90) days from the date of submission of the tender.

Each electronic bid is to be attached with a copy of the bank guarantee and the original bank guarantee must be submitted at Internal Tender Committee, ground floor at the Ministry's Building at Airport Heights, no later than the date of submission.

Tenders envelopes will be opened at 11:00am on the same day.

(The ministry is not bound to accept the lowest price of or any tender)

www.manpower.gov.om

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CONDOLENCES

We extend
our deepest condolences to the
people of Oman on the passing of

HIS MAJESTY
SULTAN QABOOS BIN SAID

MAY HIS SOUL REST IN PEACE

Heartfelt condolences and prayers from
Management and Staff of
Jalil Al Asfoor Trading LLC
Kargeen

KARGEEN كرجين

CONDOLENCES

We extend
our deepest condolences
on the sad demise of
**His Majesty
Sultan Qaboos bin Said al Said**

Our heartfelt condolences
and prayers from
DANUBE
No.1 building material company
DANUBE HOME

MAY HIS MAJESTY’S SOUL REST IN PEACE

The great leader who shielded Oman from the Middle East turmoil

Muscat, Oman - Oman's Sultan Qaboos, who died on Friday aged 79, transformed the former Arabian Peninsula backwater into a modern state and sought-after mediator while shielding the sultanate from a region in turmoil.

The intensely private sultan - the longest-reigning ruler in the modern Arab world - left no apparent heir and the royal family was charged with selecting a successor.

Instead however they opted for the Sultan's own choice, his cousin Haitham bin Tariq bin Taimour al Said, who was named in a sealed letter that Qaboos had prepared in case of a deadlock.

His Majesty Sultan Qaboos was born on November 18, 1940, into the centuries-old Al-Said dynasty in the southern provincial capital of Salalah, in an isolated country on the margins of the modern world.

Older Omanis recall the capital Muscat had no electricity or running water and the gates of the medieval city were locked at dusk.

The young Qaboos was sent abroad for his education to Britain, attending the elite Sandhurst Royal Military Academy from where he graduated in 1962.

He went on to join a British infantry battalion in Germany, returning home to bide his time under the close watch of his father, Sultan Said bin Taymur.

On July 23, 1970, young Qaboos took charge of the country pledging 'a new era'.

Muscat served as the back channel for talks between the US and Iran in the lead-up to the 2015 nuclear deal



This file photo shows Saudi Arabia's King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz (right) welcoming His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said at the start of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) summit meeting in Riyadh on December 19, 2011 (AFP)

Guardian of the Strait
Oman is strategically located on the Strait of Hormuz - the narrow seaway through which much of the world's oil supply passes - and between regional rivals Iran and Saudi Arabia.

The Late Sultan maintained good ties with both nations, a balancing act that made his capital a must-stop for Western and Arab diplomats as well as military chiefs alike.

His Majesty Sultan's first foreign trip was to Iran, whose shah - along with the British - helped him quell the Marxist insurgency in the restive Dhofar region.

Those ties endured through Iran's 1979 Islamic revolution.

Muscat would serve as the back channel for talks between the United States and Iran in the lead-up to a landmark 2015 nuclear deal.

The Late Qaboos also worked to preserve ties with Saudi Arabia and the rest of the wealthy six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council to which Oman belongs, but stuck to his principle of non-interference.

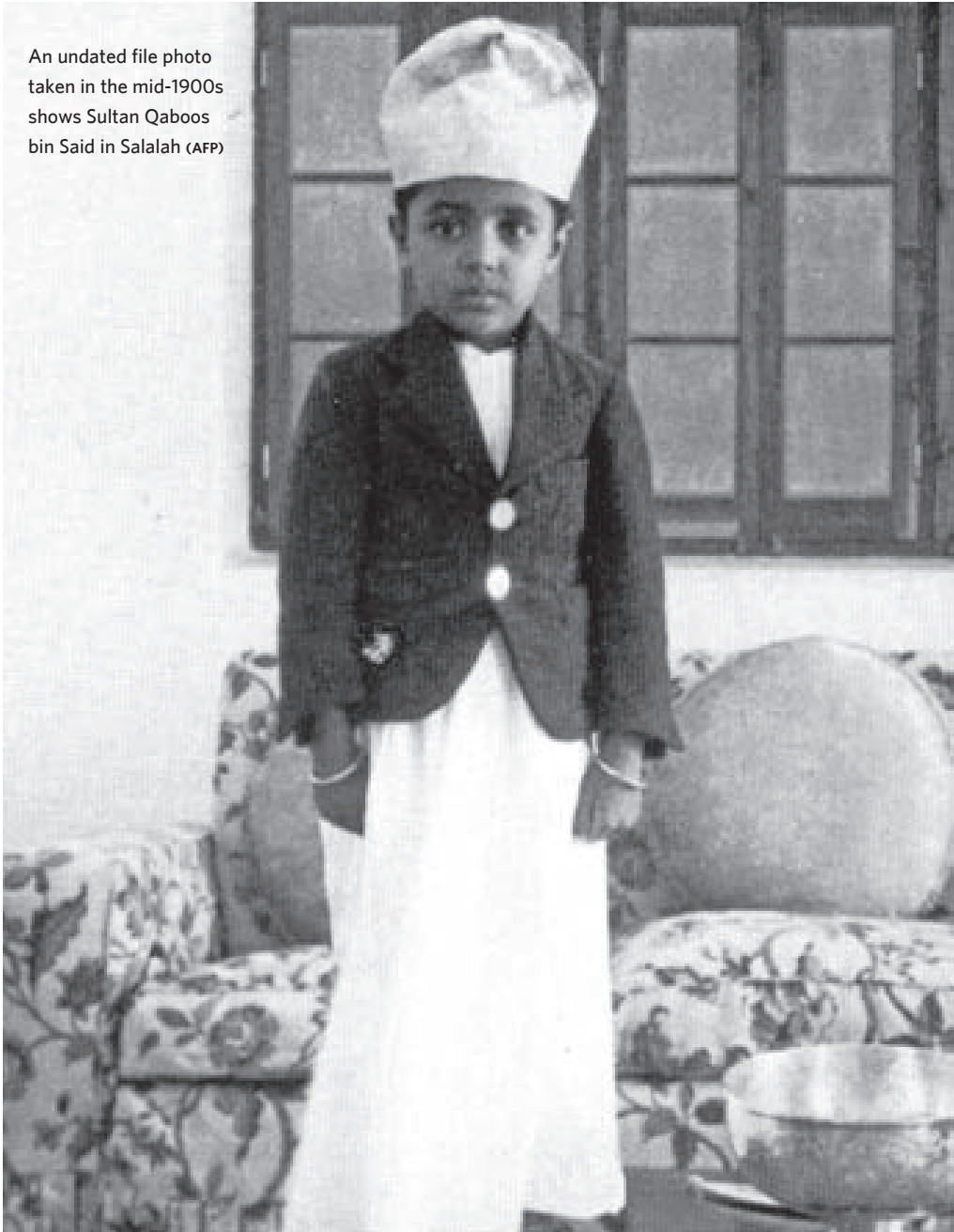
In 2015, Oman was the only GCC country not to join a Saudi-led military coalition against Iran-backed Shiite Huthi rebels in Yemen. It leveraged this neutrality to mediate the release of multiple foreign hostages captured by Yemen's warring factions.

Muscat also maintained close military and economic ties with Britain and the US.

Unlike other Arab states, Qaboos did not contest Egypt's 1979



Young Sultan Qaboos on his father's lap in Oman (AFP)



An undated file photo taken in the mid-1900s shows Sultan Qaboos bin Said in Salalah (AFP)

peace treaty with Israel, opening a trade office in Tel Aviv in the mid-1990s - shuttered in 2000 during a Palestinian uprising.

The Sultan assumed power as

an unknown and spent his first years cultivating the respect of his countrymen, from the mountainous interior to the coast.

"In the early years, he went

village to village and he had a weekly radio address - that was the only way to reach the entire population at the time," said Muscat-based public policy ana-

lyst Ahmed al Mukhaini.

Qaboos channelled revenues from fledgling oil exports into infrastructure, taking the country from having just a handful of pri-

mary schools and some eight kilometres of paved roads to a modern state with well over 1,000 schools and a massive highway network. The Sultan

also commissioned an opera house for Muscat, its packed calendar a testament to his support for the arts.

AFP



His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said with Gulf Cooperation Council leaders in Riyadh on December 19, 2011 (AFP)



With the then French President Nicolas Sarkozy in Muscat on February 10, 2009 (AFP)



With Iran's Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif in Muscat



With Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in Muscat on October 26, 2018 (AFP)

THE GREAT MEDIATOR

As the longest-serving ruler in the Middle East, the Late Sultan Qaboos earned enormous respect for his ability to bring rivals to negotiating tables



With Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat in Muscat on January 6, 2001 (AFP)



With Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands in Muscat on January 10, 2012 (AFP)