

## Hafez Wahba and his role in regional relations 1922 – 1948 (Iraq as a model)

<sup>1</sup>Hisham Talal Matar, <sup>2</sup>Dr. Saddam Khalifa Obaid Hussein Al-Obaidi

<sup>1,2</sup>Tikrit University, College of Education for Humanities, Department of History, Modern History

Corresponding Author E-mail: [hishamtalal1979@gmail.com](mailto:hishamtalal1979@gmail.com)

Second Author Email: [dr.saddam78@tu.edu.iq](mailto:dr.saddam78@tu.edu.iq)

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### **Abstract**

*There were important political figures who had political influence on their country's affairs and also played a major role in strengthening their country's foreign relations. The most important of these figures was Sheikh Hafez Wahba, whose role was distinguished by strengthening the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's relations with neighboring countries, especially regional ones, including Iraq and Palestine.*

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### **INTRODUCTION**

Hafez Wahba played a major role in consolidating and strengthening the relations of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia with foreign countries, the most prominent of which are Iraq and Palestine, as Iraq is linked to it geographically, and in addition to that, both countries had political influence in the Arab world as a result of their positions supporting and opposing nationalist and patriotic positions. Hafez Wahba also played a role in the relations of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia with Palestine, as the latter is an occupied country and the Kingdom's position is supportive of Palestine, and this role was represented by Hafez Wahba and his statements.

#### **First: His role in Saudi-Iraqi relations 1922-1926**

The first thing that King Abdulaziz (1) faced at the beginning of his organization of his country's affairs was the problem of borders with neighboring countries, especially since the majority of those countries were under the yoke of colonialism. Therefore, in order to prove the borders and sovereignty of his country, he had to obtain international recognition, especially from Britain at that time. The border issue was considered one of the most important issues that posed a serious threat to King Abdulaziz, especially at the beginning of his rule. The borders between the two countries, Iraq and Saudi Arabia, were almost non-existent or complicated, as the problems between the two countries were immigration, grazing, customs, and frequent movement, and because of that, there were frequent incidents of aggression. It is well known that the origin of the Iraqi tribes was from the Arabian Peninsula, including the Shammar tribes (2).

King Abdul Aziz believed that the borders of his country extended to the Euphrates River, as the latter was the final region of the desert. King Abdul Aziz was not satisfied with the Muhammarah Agreement (4), which stipulated that no border posts and military installations (5) should be built between the two countries' borders. At the same time, the British High Commissioner in Iraq, Sir Henry Dobbs (6), emphasized the construction of border posts and installations between the two countries (7). At the same time, King Abdul Aziz considered this matter to be in contradiction with the Muhammarah Agreement (8).

Many incidents of aggression occurred between the two parties in March 1922 (9) between the Mutair tribe and the British administration responded by launching a large-scale attack through the British Air Force and bombing their positions, and thus war broke out between the two

countries (10). The Saudi tribes responded to that bombing by attacking the Iraqi and Kuwaiti borders and plundering all the tribal properties on those lands. Both King Abdul Aziz and Hafez Wahba realized that if the British attack continued, they were not responsible for the incidents and attacks that occurred on the borders (11).

Hafez Wahba's opinion on those events was that the British administration should send a delegation headed by Percy Cox in November 1922. It arrived in Al-Uqair, accompanied by the Minister of Transport and Public Works, Subaih Nashat (12), and Sheikh Fahd bin Hithal (13). Meetings were held and discussions were held on several matters, including border violations. It was an appendix to the Muhammarah Treaty and was known as the Al-Uqair Protocol on December 2, 1922 (14). Subaih Nashat was the representative of Iraq (15). King Abdulaziz emphasized the demand (16) not to build border posts. The protocol stipulated a group of points (17), some of which were in favor of King Abdulaziz. However, the situation did not continue. The Ikhwan and the tribes on the border between the two countries began raids led by Faisal Al-Duwaish, and they began to loot and plunder (18). However, Iraqi-Saudi relations continued their hostility due to the Al Saud control of the Hijaz in 1924, which was controlled by Sharif Hussein, the father of King Faisal I (19). Both sides began to demonstrate the legitimacy of their control of the Hijaz, and the hostility continued, especially after King Abdulaziz's control of the Hijaz, and that relationship deteriorated significantly.

On February 7, 1926, the Saudi government sent a memorandum to the British Resident in Iraq regarding the transgressions of the Najdi tribes against the Iraqi tribes (20). The Najdi government also confirmed to the Resident that it was necessary to hold a meeting for both parties to discuss the differences between the tribes of the two countries in order to achieve security, peace, and order between them (21). However, the only thing that connected them was their interest with Britain, and the latter worked to calm the situation by sending a delegation in 1926 led by Gilbert Clayton (22). King Abdul Aziz was afraid of him because Clayton had a close relationship with Sharif Hussein and his family, in addition to that because Clayton was a high commissioner in Baghdad (23). However, Hafez Wahba worked to calm him down and emphasized that the British are our friends and that what matters to them is their own interest above all else (24).

King Abdul Aziz was somewhat reassured by Hafez Wahba's words, and in October 1926 the British government sent a telegram to King Abdul Aziz stating that it was sending its representative, Mr. Gordon, accompanied by George Antonius (25), with the aim of negotiating a new treaty with the Iraqi government. However, Hafez Wahba had a different opinion, which was that those negotiations might cause the state to lose its prestige, and indeed Hafez Wahba's opinion was correct in that matter (26).

### **Second: His role in Saudi-Iraqi relations 1927-1937**

The negotiations continued for several years (1927-1930) between the Saudi and Iraqi sides, and Hafez Wahba played a major role in deepening the relationship between Saudi Arabia and Iraq, as he met with a group of figures, and he also participated in many meetings and conferences, the most important of which was the Lubben Conference in February 1930 (27). The reason for holding the conference was the surrender of Faisal al-Dawish, so both King Abdulaziz and King Faisal I entered (28). King Abdulaziz also suggested that a meeting be held with King Faisal, and that Britain be the mediator between them, for the purpose of ending the differences between the two parties, and they agreed that the meeting place would be on the British ship Lubben (29).

At the same time, Hafez Wahba supported King Abdulaziz's proposal to send him to meet King Faisal I for the purpose of finding solutions to the outstanding problems between the two

countries. Indeed, Hafez Wahba traveled to Iraq and arrived in Baghdad in early February 1930. He was welcomed by the Minister of the Interior, Naji Shawkat (30), and the two parties agreed to hold a conference on the ship Lubin (31). The two sides signed a friendship and good neighborliness agreement on February 22-23 (32). A draft agreement was also prepared stipulating the extradition of fugitives. After the meeting ended, King Abdulaziz returned with the accompanying delegation to Saudi Arabia after the success of the meeting and the conference together (33).

During the reign of King Ghazi (34), he sent a telegram in 1937 to the Saudi government in which he expressed his desire to meet Prince Saud. The latter welcomed the telegram and expressed his happiness at meeting King Ghazi. Indeed, Prince Saud traveled, accompanied by Hafez Wahba, in May of the same year. Hafez Wahba met with Nuri al-Said (35), and they expressed their desire to consolidate and strengthen the relationship between the two countries (36). However, the situation between the two countries did not continue, and relations between the two parties became tense due to the failure to find a solution to the outstanding problems between the two parties (37).

### **Third: His role in Saudi-Iraqi relations 1940-1948**

Clashes took place on the Iraqi-Saudi border in February 1940 due to the escape of the Shammar tribe (38) and their entry into Iraq. In order to remedy the situation, King Abdul Aziz sent Hafez Wahba in March 1940 with the aim of resolving the outstanding problems between the two countries, the most important of which was the border issue. He met with the Iraqi Prime Minister Nuri al-Said and held a meeting on the 30th of the same month. They discussed many matters, including the border issue and its police stations, as well as matters related to trade. Hafez Wahba presented a proposal to Nuri al-Said to travel with him to Riyadh and meet King Abdul Aziz (39). Indeed, after several attempts by Hafez Wahba, Nuri al-Said traveled after a British plane was prepared for him and met King Abdul Aziz in May 1940. Discussions took place between them about matters related to the two countries (40). Hafez Wahba was able to make that meeting a success and was rewarded by King Abdul Aziz with a gold watch, a dagger and a sword. In return, Hafez Wahba expressed his thanks and gratitude to the king for the gift that was given to him (41).

After that, the Iraqi government held a celebration to strengthen and reinforce the relationship between the two countries on October 3, 1943, at the headquarters of the Saudi Commission in Baghdad. The celebration was attended by Prince Faisal bin Saud, Prince Khalid bin Saud, Sheikh Hafez Wahba, and Iraqi, Arab, and foreign political figures (42). However, this did not happen after the tension in relations between the two countries on March 24, 1945, following an incident in which the Saudi government did not allow Iraqi pilgrims to perform some of their rituals (43). On September 20, 1948, Hafez Wahba presented a group of Iraqi politicians, when they wanted to perform the Hajj, with a meeting with King Abdulaziz, with the aim of strengthening relations between the two countries and resolving the most important problems, which were the tribal attacks on the borders (44). Hafez Wahba worked hard to find appropriate solutions to satisfy the parties, and Hafez Wahba praised King Faisal's efforts to crystallize the tension and conflicts with the Kingdom. On September 30, Hafez Wahba declared, saying: "I have not feared a man other than Faisal, and the Hashemite family will not produce anyone like him, and Iraq has no ruler after Faisal because its rulers are biased and driven by whims" (45).

### **conclusion**

- 1- At the beginning of consolidating his rule, King Abdulaziz faced many problems, including his foreign relations with neighboring countries, especially Iraq.

- 2- King Faisal I was the king of Iraq, and his father was Sharif Hussein, whose rule was undermined by King Faisal. Consequently, relations between the two countries became strained and reached a rupture, had it not been for Britain's intervention to end that tension.
- 3- King Abdulaziz appointed someone to represent him in consolidating his rule and relations, and the most important of these figures was Sheikh Hafez Wahba, who played a major role in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's foreign relations with neighboring countries.
- 4- Many problems arose between the two countries, the most important of which were the border checkpoints, the handover of fugitives, and the Brotherhood's attacks on Iraqi tribes. These issues were resolved through the conclusion of treaties and friendship agreements between the two countries. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia was represented by Sheikh Hafez Wahba, who, through his diplomacy in dialogue, strengthened the relationship between the two countries.

#### Footnotes

- 1- King Abdulaziz: King Abdulaziz was born in 1876 in Riyadh, to the Al Saud family. His father, Imam Abdul Rahman bin Faisal, was the last ruler of the Second Saudi State. In 1902, King Abdulaziz led a successful campaign to recapture Riyadh from the Al Rashid family. In 1904, 1912, 1915, 1921, 1924-1925, 1926, 1932, and 1933. He granted Standard Oil of California a concession to explore for oil in the east of the country. In 1938, oil was discovered in commercial quantities. In 1945, a historic meeting was held with US President Franklin Roosevelt on board the cruiser Quincy after the Yalta Conference. The king died in 1953. For more details, see: Abdullah Al-Saleh Al-Uthaymeen, History of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Al-Obeikan Library, Riyadh, 2002, Vol. 1, p. 53. Tariq Al-Rayyes, King Abdulaziz Al Saud, Founder of the Modern Saudi State, Al-Obeikan Library, Riyadh, 1999, p. 112; Khair Al-Din Al-Zarkali, The Peninsula in the Reign of King Abdulaziz, Dar Al-Ilm Lil-Malayin, Beirut, 1970, Vol. 1, p. 13.
- 2- Hafez Wahba, Fifty Years in the Arabian Peninsula, Al-Ahliya for Publishing and Distribution, Jordan, 1960, p. 117; Khaled Daif Allah Al-Sharari, King Abdulaziz Al Saud through the writings of Amin Al-Rihani, John Philby, and Hafez Wahba, unpublished doctoral dissertation, Faculty of Graduate Studies, University of Jordan, 2013, pp. 178-179.
- 3- D.K.W., Royal Court Files, File No. (5596/311)/3), Reports of the Iraqi Commission in Jeddah, Saudi-Iraqi Relations 1922, dated March 1922.
- 4- Hafez Wahba, the previous source, pp. 262-263.
- 5- Harry St. John Philby, The Arab Memory of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Al-Obeikan Library for Distribution and Publishing, Riyadh, 2003, p. 537; Amin Al-Rihani, The Modern History of Najd and its Dependencies, Scientific Press, Beirut, 1928, p. 307.
- 6- Henry Dobbs: Born in 1871, he was a British man who held several positions in India, Iran and Afghanistan before the First World War. He then came to Iraq during the war and became an import commissioner during the period (1915-1916). He then became a British High Commissioner in Iraq during the period (1923-1929). He died in 1934. For more details, see: Robert Olson, A History of the Kurdish National Struggle (1180-1925), translated by: Ahmed Al-Sibai, Al-Manahil Publishing and Distribution, Jordan, 2013, p. 259.
- 7- Hafez Wahba, Fifty Years, p. 118.
- 8- D.K.W., Royal Court Files, File No. (5596/311)/3), Reports of the Iraqi Commission in Jeddah, Saudi-Iraqi Relations 1922, dated March 1922; D.K.W., Royal Court Files, File No. (2567/341)/3), Iraqi Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Collection of Treaties and Agreements Concluded, dated 1958.
- 9- John Philby, the previous source, pp. 538 and 396; Amin al-Rihani, the previous source, p. 307.

- 10- John Philby, *op. cit.*, p. 538.
- 11- Subaih Nashat: Nashat bin Bakr bin Mahmoud Al-Arbili was born in 1882 in Samawah. He studied in Baghdad and went to Istanbul, graduating with the rank of second lieutenant in 1900. He joined the War Staff School, and graduated as a chief of staff in 1903. He was appointed director of the gendarmerie school in Izmir and promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel. He fought in the Balkan War in 1912, and was delegated as a member of the Turkish-Iranian border demarcation committee in 1913. He was entrusted with the command of the Nazareth Division when the Great War broke out in 1914. He retired with the rank of lieutenant colonel in 1918. He practiced trade, and went to Berlin and Paris for his commercial work. He returned to Baghdad and was appointed Minister of Transport and Works in the second cabinet in 1922. He assumed the position of the first Secretary of the capital of Baghdad after the founding of the modern Iraqi state in 1923. He was elected as a representative of Erbil in the Constituent Assembly in 1924, and was granted the rank of colonel in He was a member of the Iraqi army and participated in the second Sadounian ministry as Minister of Defense in 1925, then Minister of Finance in 1926. He became the political representative of Iraq to the Turkish government and assumed his duties in 1928. He died on July 9, 1929. For more details, see: Muhammad Ali al-Suwairki Kurdi, *Dictionary of Kurdish Names: In Islamic History and the Modern Era in Kurdistan and Outside It*, Dar Erbil, Iraq, 2006, p. 80.
- 12- Fahd bin Hithal: Fahd bin Abdul Mohsen bin Hithal was born in 1840. He was an Iraqi politician, tribal sheikh, and one of the sheikhs of the Anazah tribe. He is considered one of the most famous sheikhs in Iraq, the Gulf Cooperation Council countries, the Arabian Peninsula, and the Levant. He was raised by his father, Prince Abdul Mohsen Al Hithal, the sheikh of the Anazah tribe. Sheikh Fahd is a sheikh of the Amarat clans, which is a well-known branch of the Wayel clan, and Wayel is a branch of the Anazah clan. In 1924, he was elected as a delegate for his tribe in the Constituent Assembly of the Kingdom of Iraq and died in 1927. For more details, see: Ahmed Al Ameri Al Nasiri, *Biography of Al Hithal, Sheikhs of the Anazah Tribe, Ikhwan Batla*, Dar Al Rafidain, Iraq, 2009, p. 143; Gertrude Lowthian Bell, *Murad to Murad*, Dar Al Akademion for Publishing and Distribution, Beirut, 2021, p. 138.
- 13- D.K.W., Royal Court Files, File No. (5596/311)/3), Reports of the Iraqi Commission in Jeddah, Saudi-Iraqi Relations 1922, dated March 1922; D.K.W., Royal Court Files, File No. (2567/341/3), Iraqi Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Collection of Treaties and Agreements Concluded, dated 1958.
- 14- Muhammad Ali Hilla, *The Saudi-Iraqi Treaty of 1936*, Arabic Books, Beirut, 2006, p. 34; Ali Al-Wardi, *Social Glimpses from the History of Modern Iraq*, Dar Al-Fikr Al-Arabi, Beirut, 1999, Vol. 6, p. 158.
- 15- Hafez Wahba, the previous source, p. 118; Amin Al-Rihani, the previous source, pp. 308-315.
- 16- The text of the protocol is as follows: The borders from the east begin from the point where Wadi Al-Awja joins Al-Batin, and from this point the borders of the Kingdom of Najd begin in a straight line to the well called (Al-Waqbah), leaving Al-Dulaimiyah and Al-Waqbah north of this line, and from Al-Waqbah it extends north and west to Bir Ansab. The two governments, each of them, pledge not to use the waters and wells located on the edges of the borders for any military purpose, such as placing fortresses on them, and not to station soldiers on their edges. For more details, see: Muhammad Saeed Ahmad, *Iraqi-Saudi Relations Between 1914-1953*, Dar Yafa Al-Ilmiyyah for Publishing and Distribution, Beirut, 2013, p. 155; Muhammad Nasr Mahna, *In Modernizing the Arabian Gulf*, University Library, Beirut, 2008, p. 185.
- 17- Amin Al-Rihani, the previous source, p. 319.



- 18- King Faisal I: Born in 1883, he was elected as a representative of Jeddah in the Ottoman Parliament in 1913. He entered Syria in 1918 after the Turkish withdrawal, and was received as a savior. He then announced the establishment of an Arab government in Damascus. Faisal laid the foundations of the modern Syrian state. Then, in 1919, Sharif Hussein sent him to participate in the Peace Conference in Paris as a representative of the Arabs. In 1921, he became King of Iraq and died in 1933. For more details, see: Abdul Razzaq al-Hasani, History of Iraqi Ministries, Dar al-Salam, Baghdad, 1990, Vol. 1, p. 12.
- 19- D.K.W., Royal Court Files, File No. (2567/341/3), Iraqi Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Collection of Treaties and Agreements Concluded, Dated 1958.
- 20- Dr. K.W., Royal Court Files, File No. (866/311/3), Reports of the Iraqi Commission in Saudi Arabia, addressed to the Iraqi Ministry of Foreign Affairs, dated May 24, 2010.
- 21- George Antonius, The Arabs' Awakening, translated by Nasser Al-Din, Dar Al-Ilm Lil-Malayin, Beirut, 1962, p. 182; Hafez Wahba, Fifty Years, pp. 84-86.
- 22- Samira Ahmed Omar Sonbol, The Role of Hafez Wahba in Formulating the Foreign Policy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia during the Reign of King Abdulaziz, Journal of the Faculty of Education, Port Said University, Issue 9, 2011, p. 70.
- 23- George Antonius: Born in Lebanon in 1891, he received his primary and secondary education at Victoria College in Alexandria (1902-1910) and then continued his education at King's College (King's) - Cambridge University in Britain (1910-1913) and obtained an engineering degree in 1913. He then returned to Alexandria and worked in its municipality in the Public Works Department until the outbreak of World War I. Between 1914 and 1916, he worked as a newspaper correspondent with the British forces in Egypt. In 1921, he was appointed to the Department of Education in Palestine as an assistant to the British Director of Education. In 1931, he became an unofficial advisor to the British High Commissioner in Palestine. In 1935, he gave a number of lectures in the United States and Canada. He died in 1942. For more details, see: Maha Muhammad bin Saud Rashid, The Palestinian National Movement During World War II, 1358-1364 AH/1939-1945 AD, Dar Al-Munir, Beirut, 2003, p. 168.
- 24- Umm Al-Qura Newspaper, Riyadh, Issue 126, May 10, 1926.
- 25- D.K.W., Royal Court Files, File No. (2567/341/3), Iraqi Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Collection of Treaties and Agreements Concluded, Dated 1958.
- 26- Dr. K.W., Royal Court Files, File No. (822/311/2), Reports of the Iraqi Embassy in Saudi Arabia, the Iraqi-Najdi Agreement of 1930, dated May 26, 2010.
- 27- Abdul Hamid Al-Khatib, The Just Imam Abdul Aziz bin Abdul Rahman Al Saud, Mustafa Al-Babi Al-Halabi Press, Egypt, 1951, p. 187; Ibrahim bin Ubaid Al-Abd Al-Muhsin, A Reminder for the People of Understanding and Gnosticism about the Days of God, the One and Only Judge, and a Remembrance of the Incidents of Time, Al-Ubaikan Library for Publishing and Distribution, Riyadh, 2007, p. 246.
- 28- Naji Shawkat: Born in 1891, he was an Iraqi politician who served as Prime Minister of Iraq during the monarchy and as Minister of the Interior. He was first appointed as Deputy Public Prosecutor in the Hillah District Court in 1914. King Faisal I commissioned him to form an Iraqi ministry to succeed Nuri al-Said's ministry in September 1932. His ministry continued until March 1933, and he died in 1980. For more details, see: Bashar Fathi Jassim al-Aqidi, The Struggle for British-American Influence in Iraq 1939-1958, Dar al-Rasheed, Iraq, 2011, p. 92.
- 29- Sadiq Hassan Al-Sudani, Iraqi-Saudi Relations: A Study of Political Relations, Dar Al-Jahiz, Baghdad, 1975, p. 334.
- 30- Dr. K.W., Royal Court Files, File No. (822/311/2), Reports of the Iraqi Embassy in Saudi Arabia, the Iraqi-Najdi Agreement of 1930, dated May 26, 2010.

- 31- Al-Fath Magazine, Riyadh, Year 4, Issue 5, 18 Shawwal 1348 AH, p. 13; Khair al-Din al-Zarkali, In the Reign of King Abdul Aziz, Dar al-Ilm Lil-Malayin, Beirut, Vol. 1, 1999, pp. 511-512; Iraqi Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Exchanged Letters on the Extradition Treaty between the Kingdom of Iraq and the Kingdom of Hejaz and Nejd and its Dependencies, Government Press, Baghdad, 1931, pp. 1-8.
- 32- King Ghazi: Born in 1912, he briefly served as Crown Prince of the Kingdom of Syria in 1920 and as the second king of the Kingdom of Iraq. He assumed power in 1933 and was the only son of Faisal I. He died in a car accident in 1939. For more details, see: Ali Al-Wardi, the previous source, Vol. 4, p. 14.
- 33- Nuri al-Said: Born in 1888, he was an Iraqi politician who served as Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Iraq 14 times from 1930 to 1958. He died in 1958. For more details, see: Ya'rub Abdul Abbas Shaker Shamri, Nuri al-Said: His Comprehensive History and Pioneering Political Role in Iraq, Dar al-Salam, Baghdad, 2022, pp. 12-20.
- 34- D.K.W., Royal Court Files, File No. (2567/341/3), Iraqi Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Collection of Treaties and Agreements Concluded, Dated 1958.
- 35- Mamdouh Arif Al-Rousan, Saudi-Iraqi Relations, Mars Publishing, Riyadh, n.d., p. 34.
- 36- Shammar Tribe: The lineage of this tribe goes back to Hail in Najd. The tribe is also spread in several countries such as Kuwait, Iraq, Syria, Jordan, the Sultanate of Oman, Qatar and the Emirates. The Shammar tribe was formed five centuries ago from the consolidation of its clans, namely: the tribes of Zubaa (Sinjara), Al-Aslam and Abda of Tayy. The tribe descends from Tayy who inhabited Hail, while the Tayy tribe present in Iraq and Syria is an independent tribe from Shammar and the link is only lineage. For more details, see: Abdullah bin Muhammad bin Ayed Zahrani, History of the Judiciary and Judges in the Saudi Era, 1344 AH - 1462 AH, Dar Al-Fikr Al-Arabi, Beirut, p. 338.
- 37- Hafez Wahba, the previous source, p. 121; Ahmed Abdel Ghafour Attar, Falcon of the Peninsula, Al-Obeikan Library for Publishing, Riyadh, n.d., p. 109.
- 38- D.K.W., Royal Court Files, File No. (893/311/2), Reports of the Iraqi Embassy in Saudi Arabia 1941, dated 1941.
- 39- Hafez Wahba, the previous source, pp. 93-94.
- (38) Hope Ridings Miller: Of Washington and the Royal Arabian Knights, ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Washington Post Oct 3, 1943.
- 39- D.K.W., Royal Court Files, File No. (2567/341/3), Iraqi Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Collection of Treaties and Agreements Concluded, Dated 1958.
- 40- Hafez Wahba, the previous source, p. 121.
- 41- Ismail Ahmed Yaghi, Saudi-Iraqi Relations 1920-1958, Journal of the College of Social Sciences, Riyadh, Issue 2, 1978, p. 379.
- 42- Muhammad Adnan, Saudi Arabia and the Concerns of the Arabs During Half a Century 1932-1978, Publications of the International Office, Beirut, 1978, p. 57.
- 43- Arthur Balfour: Arthur James Balfour was born in 1848 in Scotland, to a wealthy aristocratic family. His father was a parliamentarian in Scotland, and his uncle was a lord in England. He was deeply interested in scientific and philosophical issues throughout his life. He studied at Cambridge University and graduated in 1869. In 1855, he became Minister of Scotland. In 1902, he assumed the position of Prime Minister in Britain. In 1917, he issued the Balfour Declaration, which was an international declaration of the establishment of "Israel" by a decision of the victorious colonial powers in World War I. He died in 1930. For more details, see: Muhammad Mahmoud Hamad Al-Doudani, Echoes of Arthur James Balfour's Visit to Palestine and Syria 1925, Egyptian Journal of Historical and Civilizational Studies, Issue 10, Vol. 2, 2021, p. 449.
- 44- Naguib Sadfa, The Palestine Issue, Dar Al-Kitab Al-Arabi, Beirut, 1946, p. 168.

45- The Taif Treaty: It was concluded during May 18-19, 1934 between the Mutawakkilite Kingdom of Yemen and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. It stipulated that each party recognize the independence of the other and its king, in addition to defining the borders between the two countries, and the Imam of Yemen would stop attacking Saudi lands. Saudi Arabia and Yemen also pledged in the Taif Treaty that each of them would prevent the use of its country as a base or launching pad for any aggression directed against the other, in addition to rejecting anyone who flees from the obedience of its state, whether an individual or a group, and that each party would recognize the right of the other to the lands under its control. For more details, see: Ghaithan bin Jaris, Taif as I Heard About It and Saw It, Research and Studies, Riyadh, n.d., p. 119.

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- 11- The Peninsula in the Reign of King Abdulaziz, Dar Al-Ilm Lil-Malayin, Beirut, 1970, Vol. 1.
- 12- Abdul Razzaq Al-Hasani, History of Iraqi Ministries, Dar Al-Salam, Baghdad, 1990, Vol. 1.
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