

International Indian School, Buraidah

Class: 8th

Subject: Saudi Arabian Culture

Worksheet 1: The Saudi States

1. Explain the rise and expansion of the First Saudi State.

Ans. The First Saudi State was founded by Muhammad bin Saud in Dir'iyyah. After his death, Abdul Aziz bin Muhammad expanded the state through military campaigns. Later, Saud bin Abdul Aziz further enlarged its territories, making it one of the strongest states in Arabia. The state promoted political stability and spread its influence across much of the Arabian Peninsula. It continued to grow until it was attacked by Ottoman-Egyptian forces.

2. Discuss the reasons for the decline of the Second Saudi State.

Ans. The Second Saudi State faced internal conflicts among members of the ruling family. These disputes weakened the government and reduced its ability to maintain control. The Al Rashid rulers of Ha'il took advantage of the situation and challenged Saudi authority. Continuous political instability and military defeats finally led to the collapse of the Second Saudi State in 1891 AD.

3. Describe the legendary event that helped Abdul Aziz recapture Riyadh.

Ans. In 1902 AD, Abdul Aziz led a small group of followers (63 followers) on a daring mission to recapture Riyadh. They secretly entered the city and hid near the Masmak Fort. Abdul Aziz and his men launched a surprise attack on the fort, defeated Ibn Rashid's governor, and took control of Riyadh. This courageous operation marked the beginning of the Third Saudi State and is remembered as a legendary event in Saudi history for paving the way for the unification of Saudi Arabia.

4. Explain how Abdul Aziz unified Saudi Arabia and established the modern kingdom.

Ans. Abdul Aziz recaptured Riyadh in 1902 AD and began a campaign to unite the Arabian Peninsula. He brought regions such as Najd, Al-Ahsa, Asir, and Hijaz under his control through diplomacy and military efforts. He established a stable government and strengthened administration throughout the territory. On 23 September 1932 AD, he officially proclaimed the unified nation as the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, becoming its first king.

5. Describe the government system of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Ans. Saudi Arabia is a monarchy headed by the King. The country's constitution is based on the Holy Qur'an and the Sunnah of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). The King serves as the head of state and government and is assisted by the Council of Ministers. The Council helps in formulating and implementing national policies. Saudi Arabia follows Islamic law (Shari'ah) in its legal and judicial systems. This system ensures that governance is carried out according to Islamic principles and traditions.

6. What were the contributions of Turki bin Abdullah?

Ans. Turki bin Abdullah made several important contributions to Saudi history:

- i. He expelled Egyptian forces from Riyadh.
- ii. He restored Saudi rule in central Arabia.
- iii. He founded the Second Saudi State and made Riyadh its capital.

7. What role did Mubarak Al-Sabah play in Abdul Aziz's life?

Ans. Mubarak Al-Sabah, the Amir of Kuwait, provided refuge to Abdul Aziz and his family during their exile. Abdul Aziz gained valuable political knowledge and experience while living in Kuwait.

Fill in the blanks:

1. Muhammad bin Saud was the first Imam of the First Saudi State.
2. Dir'iyah was the first Saudi capital.
3. Turki Bin Abdullah was the most important ruler of the Saudis' second reign.
4. Abdul Rahman bin Faisal and his family lived in Kuwait.
5. King Abdul Aziz, commonly known as bin Saud (son of Saud).
6. King Abdul Aziz retake Riyadh in 1902 AD.
7. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia was established on September 23rd, 1932 AD.
8. King Abdul Aziz died in 1953.

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