المدريدة المنورة

روية تحقق

اللجنة التنفيذية لتطوير المنطقة المركزية
اللجنة التنفيذية لتطوير المنطقة المركزية في المدينة المنورة 1424 هـ

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الحمد لله رب العالمين، الصلاة وسلام على خاتم المرسلين وبعد:

فإن المشروعات العمرانية الضخمة في أي بلد هي مظهر من مظاهر تطور الحضاري؛ يجسد التقدم الذي حققه، ويسجل سطورًا يحفظها التاريخ، ويسجل لمن قام بها الذكر والذيناء.

التطوير العمراني للمدينة المنورة هاجس يحمله خادم الحرمين الشريفين وحكومته الرشيقة في تفويضهم، فالتغيرات التي أحدثها تطور المنازل والنمو السكاني والهجرة إلى المدينة، وعوامل أخرى جعلت الحاجة إلى ذلك التطور كبيرة، وكان سبيلهم في الوصول إلى الهدف المشود هو التخطيط الأمثل، فبعد مشروع توسع المسجد النبوي الشريف إلى مشروع رائد ليس له في تاريخ المدينة المنورة سابقة مماثلة، مشروع تطوير المنطقة المركزية المحيطة بالمسجد النبوي، لأستيعاب الزوار الذين تضافت أعدادهم بشكل فائق كل التوقعات السابقة، وتوفر حاجاتهم من المساكين والأسواق والشوارع والمباني العصرية، وتهيئة كل الظروف كي يؤدوا بع瑾اً هائلة مطلوبة.

وبذال العمل في المشروع، ووفقًا يحفظه الله كل الإمكانيات اللازمة لإنجازه، فرصد بليايين الريالات، وأوكل إلى الشركات الوطنية القيام به، وأنشأ اللجنة التنفيذية التي تشرف عليه، ودارت المجلة، وكانت السواعد، وعرضت الجماهير، و أمسى القطاع الخاص بدور حيوي في هذه الحركة بعد توفير الفرص الذهبية للإستثمار.

واليوم، وبعد مرور إثني عشر عامًا على بدأ العمل في هذا المشروع العملاق، بدأت ثماره تنتج، وأخذت عنصره العمرانية تتكامل، فتتكرف من مدينة بنينة وفق أحدث النظم وأرقى التقنيات في قلب المدينة المنورة، تتميز بأبراجها السكنية الضخمة، وأسواقها الكبيرة المنظمة، وشوارعها الجميلة المنضبطة، تقدم للزوار والمقيم ما يريده من السكن والتسوق والحركة الإيجابية مع المحافظة على هويتها الإسلامية.

ولا شك أن أفضل في هذا الإنجاز المتميز يعود بعد الله سبحانه وتعالى إلى التوجيهات السامية لخادم الحرمين الشريفين، وولي عهد الأمين، ثم إلى الجهود الحثيثة التي بدأها كل من ساهم في هذا المشروع؛ تخطيطه وإشرافه وتنفيذها، وقد زعم صدور هذا الكتاب قبل خادم الحرمين الشريفين لجائزة المدينة المنورة بأفراحها الثلاثة لعام 1432 هـ (البحث العلمي والخدمات العامة والبيئي والتفوق الدراسي) وهذا الكتاب يترجح بعضاً من إنجازاته التي قدمها هديه للإسلام والمسلمين.

وإن المملكة التي شرفت الله بالحرمين الشريفين تستدعي بأن تقدم هذه الخدمة للإسلام والمسلمين؛ إنطلاقاً من مبادئ العقدية الثانية، والتزاماً بمنهجها في التطور الحضاري المتميز.

والله ولي التوفيق

مقرن بن عبد العزيز آل سعود
أمير منطقة المدينة المنورة
رئيس اللجنة التنفيذية لتطوير المنطقة المركزية
Giant building projects are an exhibition of a country’s developing civilization, reflecting the progress achieved. History records success and recognizes the masterminds who pioneer it.

The Custodian of the two Holy Mosques and his loyal government have been eager over the last two decades to build up the city of Madinah. The need for development was great following the tremendous changes in the means of transportation, the multiplication of population, plus the influx of people from the countryside to the cities.

After the expansion of the Holy Mosque was completed, King Fahad ordered the implementation of a huge project unprecedented in the history of Madinah, to develop the Central District surrounding the Holy Mosque. The number of visitors multiplied substantially, exceeding all former forecasts and facilities were needed for modern accommodations. Markets, streets and open squares provided comfortable and peaceful places for the worshippers.

The project started and the government offered all its facilities for successful implementation. With a budget of millions, national firms were assigned to carry out the projects and an executive committee was created for supervision. The private sector played an active role in the progress, working hand-in-hand tirelessly with the labourers.

Today, after twelve years, the results of the giant project are visible and the buildings are nearing completion. A very modern city incorporating the latest technologies has been built in the heart of Madinah, with giant accommodation towers, spacious organized markets, and neatly well-planned streets.

We are grateful to Allah the Almighty, to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques and the Crown Prince, for pioneering the project and to the huge endeavours of all those who participated in carrying out the planning, supervising and executing of this project.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, being honoured by Allah with the two Holy Mosques has the great pleasure of offering this service to both Islam and Muslims alike. By following the great principles of faith, Saudi Arabia is manifesting the realisation of its obligations towards developing a unique civilization.

Prince Mugren bin Abdul Aziz Al-Saud

Prince of Madinah Region
Chairman of the Executive Committee for
Development of the Central District
تمهيد

تشهد المدينة المنورة منذ عقدين فترات تمييزية، تفتح صفحة جديدة في تاريخها، وتواصل قواعد غير مسابقة في تطورها العمراني.

فعلى امتداد تاريخها الطويل كانت هناك تطورات عمرانية، بدءًا من بنزول الأوس والخروج في القرن الرابع قبل الهجرة، وصولًا إلى الهجرة. رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم إليها وبنى مسجده وقيام الدولة الإسلامية بجميع مؤسساتها، ودخول القطار في القرن الرابع عشر الهجري إلى أوج مبادئهما.

غير أن ما حدث في العقود الأخيرين هو مطرة عمرانية بكل المقاييس، وتطور حضارياً وصناعياً. وضعت خططه المدروسة مسبقاً، وتشرفت اللجنة التنفيذية بتطوير المنطقة المركزية بالسهر على تطبيق تلك الخطط، وعمل فيها جهود من المهندسين والفنّيين والعمال.

ومثلاً، كان المسجد النبوي حجر الأساس في عمران المدينة في العهد النبوي. وكان المنطقة الرئيسية لتطويرها العمراني الحديث، مؤكدًا على حقيقة زاهية في أن قلب المدينة المنورة دائماً، وسر نموها وتطورها.

ويقدم هذا الكتاب إطلالة - بالصور والكلمات الموجزة - على تلك اللحمة العمرانية الحديثة، التي بدأت بتوسيع خام الدرمين الشريفي، والعملية للمسجد النبوي، ثم تمتد لتضمن المنطقة المركزية حوله، ثم تغلقت في أحيا المدينة إلى أقصى امتداداتها. فحمل كل مبنى وطريق وحديقة أثرًا من أثارها بشكل أو بآخر.

وسوف يعرض الكتاب صفحاته المتواجدة مشاهد للتطور العمراني، على النحو الذي حدث، ويبذل ملاحظاته في الأحياء والمساجد والواقع التاريخي، ويبذل لقطات لأثاره في سائر الأنشطة التي تتصل بخدمة المدينة المنورة وزارتها في جميع الميادين، فالصور كالكلمة الصادقة شاهد عدل، ووثيقة عصر.

والله ولي التوفيق
Foreword

The progress of the city of Madinah has been distinguishably evident over the last two decades.

Opening a new era in its history, foundations of unprecedented urban development have been laid.

In the past, the development was incidental and from foreign sources. First the tribes of Al-Ous and Al-Khazraj developed their agricultural farms during the fourth century before Al-Hijrah (618 AD), and the migration of Mohammed (PBUH) and foundation of the Islamic State with all its capabilities.

Finally the introduction of the trade-train was amongst other fields of development in the fourteenth century of Al-Hijrah (20th century AD).

The recent development that took place in the last two decades, however, was never incidental or from foreign sources, but truly, well-planned national development program. The Executive Committee for Urban Development of Madinah’s Central Area was honoured to implement those plans and employed a huge number of engineers, technicians and labourers.

As the Prophet’s Mosque was the foundation stone for the building of Madinah during the Prophet’s time, it was the main landmark to start the recent building development. That ascertained the fact that the Holy Mosque is the heart of Madinah and will forever be its secret of growth and development.

This book offers a view, through photographs and words, of the recent composition of development, starting with King Fahad’s huge expansion of the Prophet’s Holy Mosque and followed by the Central Area development and then to the districts and quarters of Al-Madinah as now each building, road and garden affected directly and indirectly by such development.

This book exhibits the building development and the prosperity as it took place, highlighting the changes in the residential districts, the mosques and the historical sites. This book also reflects the impact of the development on all activities and services in Madinah and subsequently on its visitors. The pictures are like true words, witnessing facts and documenting time.
General view of Madinah from early photographs taken in 1889 showing the Prophet's Holy Mosque and the wall around Madinah.
Madinah in the year 1927; the Prophet’s Holy Mosque is the main landmark of visitors to Madinah.
المدينة المنورة

تجمع في المدينة المنورة صفات عدة تمنحها المكانة التي تحتلها في القلوب: الصفة الدينية التي تحرك المشاعر الإيمانية، وتستهوي الأشخاص لتشد الرحال إلى المسجد النبوي، والصفة التاريخية التي تهيها العراقة، وتجعل معالمها ينبض الوجدان المسلم، والصفة الطبيعية التي تزهو فيها خضرة المزارع والحدائق والشوارع الرئيسية المشرقة، والصفة الاجتماعية التي تتشابك فيها العلاقات الحميمة بين شرائح سكانها كافة، وبينهم وبين زائريها من كافة بقاع الأرض أيضا، وتألف هذه الصفات لتجعل معالمها ووجه الناس فيها: سكانا وزوارين، تنطلق بأثارها: جمالا وبشرا وطمأنينة.

City of Madinah

Madinah possesses many distinct features that inspire love of the city in our hearts. It is the religious feature that motivates the devoted and dedicated feelings of faith, making us desire to travel to the Holy Mosque. The historical features of great dignity are a treasure that inspires memories of Madinah’s historical position deep in the ideology of Muslims. The lush greenery of the farms, gardens and trees has been extended by the horticultural development in the streets and gives tranquillity and serenity everywhere. The special character of social life is shown by the close relationships that exist among all classes of people and honoured visitors. These qualities are reflected on the faces of both the residents and visitors alike, which appear beautiful, cheerful and peaceful.
Al-Manakhab market in the year 1907. This is where the first commercial market flourished in the time of the Prophet (PBUH).
Al-Ainiyah Street was the main market in Madinah before the expansion of the Holy Mosque.

Al-Ainiyah Street after the demolition of the stone archway for expansion in 1965.
External part of the Egyptian gate within the wall surrounding Madinah in 1927.
The southern side of Al-Sultania buildings that overlook the new Saha Street.
Baqie Al-Gharqad, cemetery of Madinah. In its soils are buried the Prophet’s family members and thousands of companions.
The Intersection of Taiba Palace square is the northern entrance to Madinah.
Several road projects were carried out over the last twenty years. This picture shows one of the Prince Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz road crossings (second ring road).
A high-rise building and elevated reservoir of Madinah, located south of Quba mosque.
A model clay pot; one of the architectural elements beautifying the streets of Madinah.
Agricultural farms in Madinah using modern irrigation technologies.
Madinah is famous for its date-palm farms and gardens, having fertile lands and an abundance of water.
Selling dates is a traditional profession in Madinah.

A special market has been allocated to sell dates, where increasing numbers of visitors come to buy them.
Bargaining in the sheep market to get the best price.
Shepherds arrive daily at sunrise to the market with their sheep.
Transportation of camels to the auction market from meadows afar.
Madinah has been famous for its traditional markets for hundreds of years.
Many nationalities visit Madinah every year.

The markets surrounding the Holy Mosque are famous for their gold and jewellery.
A wide variety of quality goods are sold at low prices in traditional markets.

Traditional money exchanges in Madinah provide an essential service to visitors around the clock.
During the pilgrimage and Umrah seasons, people start shopping after prayers in a unique scene unlike anywhere else.
Children memorize the Holy Quran with determination in Quran school.
A child amongst 91 thousand boys and girls who receive their education in 327 schools in Madinah.
Girls start to dress conservatively at an early age.
Memorizing the Holy Quran is a traditional class given inside a mosque.
The Prophet’s Mosque

The second of the two Holy Mosques where Muslims from all over the world, with heart felt desire, pray in solemnity in the spacious premises. After almost 15 centuries, beautiful architecture blends ancient and modern elements. Incorporated are the latest technological advancements in lighting, air conditioning and public address systems. Making it possible to transmit the prayer proclamations and religious lectures to every corner of the Mosque; through live radio and TV broadcasting, to every part of the world. A constant supply of Zamzam drinking water is available and clean, modern washroom facilities and underground parking is provided.

The pictures in this chapter reveal these facilities, how they have impacted upon the Muslims who have arrived here and how peaceful worship is made possible for millions with comfort. With such a high degree of distinction, the Holy Mosque stands out as a great monument of the city of Madinah.
The Holy Mosque before the King Fahad expansion project.
مخطط توسعات المسجد النبوي الشريف

المسجد كما بناه الرسول صلى الله عليه وسلم عام 1 هجري.

The Holy Mosque as built by the Prophet (PBUH) in 622 AD.

توسعه المسجد عند الخروج الخبيث عام 7 هجري.

Expansion by the Prophet (PBUH) after the invasion of Khayber in 628 AD.

توسعه وثن عن نين الختام رضي الله عنه عام 17 هجري.

Expansion by Omar bin Al-Khattab in 635 AD.

توسعه وثن عن نين جنراني الله عنه عام 29 - 30 هجري.

Expansion by Othman bin Affan in 649 - 650 AD.

توسعه الدويل 접근 عبد الملك الأموي عام 88 – 91 هجري.

Expansion by Al-Waleed bin Abdul Malik in 706 - 709 AD.
The Holy Mosque under construction during the King Fahad expansion project.
King Fahad, the Custodian of the two Holy Mosques, thanks Allah during his visit to the Holy Mosque.
King Fahad, the Custodian of the two Holy Mosques, hails crowds of Muslims after Jumaa prayer in the Holy Mosque.
King Fahad, the Custodian of the two Holy Mosques, personally supervising the progress, design and execution of the expansion of the Holy Mosque.
HRH Prince Abdallah bin Abdul Aziz - the Crown Prince, Deputy Head of the Council and Head of the National Guard - whilst viewing the expansion project of the Holy Mosque.
Crowds of worshippers proceeding towards the courtyards of the Holy Mosque for prayer.
Visitors to Madinah on their way to pray and greet the Prophet (PBUH).
The Holy Mosque after the completion of the King Fahad expansion project.

The former two pages showing the Sacred Rawdah in the Holy Mosque.
The Holy Mosque, after the completion of its expansion, has 16 main entrances and 14 side entrances with 86 gates.
The shades, when they are open, cover the open yards.

Twenty-one umbrellas, when open, cover the open yard. Each one shades a space of 3.6m and can be opened and closed automatically to protect the worshippers from sunrays and other weather conditions.
Rows of worshippers praying Al-Jumaa inside the Holy Mosque after the King Fahad expansion.
24 escalators were built within the expansion of the Holy Mosque for the worshippers to ascend to the roof.
Al-Salam gate overlooking the western courtyard of the Holy Mosque.
Illuminating lanterns made of gold plated brass and crystal.
Moving domes built within the expansion of the Holy Mosque facilitate the passing of light into the corridors of the Mosque during the daytime.
Relaxing whilst reading the Holy Quran in the mosque.
In those days the (Al-Aqsa Mosque) (properly) is named, you may disperse through the house, and seek the holiness of Allah (by waking, etc.) and remember Allah amidst the prayer that you may be successful.
The northern side of the Prophet’s room.
The courtyards surrounding the Holy Mosque are used for prayers during the peak hours.
The control room of the Holy Mosque’s public address system.
Electricity is supplied to the Holy Mosque from different sources; the electric company, as well as standby generators.
During the peak seasons, the eastern courtyard of the Mosque is designated for ladies.
Heat-reflecting marble is tiled in the courtyards of the Holy Mosque.
A pilgrim gives thanks to the Greatest Creator who made it possible for him to perform Hajj and Umrah and visit Madinah. He is honoured to greet the Prophet (PBUH) and to pray in his Mosque.
The surrounding courtyard of the Holy Mosque, which is illuminated by specific lighting units, are installed on top of 151 meters columns and covered with granite and artificial stone.
A type of illuminating lantern in the Holy Mosque.
Marble work in the Holy Mosque reflects the beauty of Islamic architecture.
The domes built by the Ottoman Sultan Abdul Majeed between 1848 - 1860.

Al-Baqi' gate in the southeast courtyard of the Holy Mosque.
The door leading to the tomb of the Prophet (PBUH) from the eastern side.
Turning to pray to Allah after greeting the Prophet (PBUH).
6 minarets were added in the expansion of the Holy Mosque, each 104 meters high.
Crowds of worshippers leaving the Holy Mosque during the peak hours.
The Holy Mosque with its roof and surrounding courtyards can accommodate around one million worshippers in the peak hours of the high seasons.
“Teach your children to pray at the age of 7.”
The Prophet’s saying (PBUH).
"O' Allah, I ask you for correctness of faith, and belief in good character, and success followed by righteousness, and mercy from you and health, and forgiveness from you and your consent."
The Central District

If the Prophet’s Mosque is the heart of Madinah, the Central District is like the ribs surrounding it.

Millions of Muslims who arrive here from near and far need basic services. Like nearby accommodations, the ability to go back and forth five times a day to the Holy Mosque, catering and shopping.

For the first time in the history of Madinah, the government started a project to provide those services. Huge residential towers were built to accommodate the increasing numbers of visitors, offering them modern and suitable accommodations in hotels and residential houses. Also available are clean restaurants and neat markets.

The Central District thrives like a self-contained city in respect to town planning, building, utilities and infrastructure, providing the highest standard of services to the visitors of the Holy Mosque and guests to the Prophet’s city.
Al-Aghawat district had a type of interweaving architecture that surrounded the Holy Mosque prior to the replanning of the Central District.
Interweaving architecture surrounding the Holy Mosque.
A forest of entangled tower cranes. This is how the Central District looked at the time of its rebuilding.
Facades of the modern buildings in the Central District overlooking the northern courtyard of the Holy Mosque.
Underground concrete box culverts have been constructed to lay networks of utilities. In addition to culverts of sewer network and storm drainage, arriving a total length of 50 Kilo meters at a cost of SR 780 million.
The cost of connecting utilities to the new buildings was SR 103 million.

Box-culverts of utilities after laying networks of electricity, telephone lines and water pipelines.
HRH Prince Abdallah bin Abdul Aziz, accompanied by HRH Prince Sultan, HRH Prince Naif and HRH Prince Abdul Majeed, while proceeding to attend the opening ceremony of the Central District project in 1999.
HRH Prince Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz, other members of royalty and ministers whilst watching the opening ceremony of the Central District project.
HRH Prince Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz and other members of royalty visiting sites of the Central District project.
HRH Prince Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz meeting with the sons of citizens while visiting the sites of the development projects in the Central District.
HRH Prince Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz farewelling the Citizens of Madinah at the end of the inauguration of central area projects.
Each and every building has an individual look but together it creates a look of totally integrated architecture.
The Central District consists of five residential and commercial areas that surround the Holy Mosque. Identical in area dimensions, they are divided by main streets and surrounded by King Faisal Road, the first ring road.
Examples of modern buildings incorporating ancient Madinah architecture.
Implementing traditional architecture in modern buildings around the Holy Mosque.
Aerial view showing sections of the northern courtyard of the Holy Mosque and Badaa area; some buildings are under construction.
Reception halls of hotel in the Central District are luxurious and spacious to accommodate the great number of guests.
King Fahad Road, one of the main entrances connecting the Holy Mosque to the city of Madinah.

Lobby of a commercial center built in the Central District.
Hotel entrances are spacious in order to facilitate the increasing number of visitors to the Central District.
An excellent standard of hotel services are provided to both residents and visitors.
A variety of hotel restaurants offering excellent services to visitors.
Different types of architecture to satisfy the tastes of all nationalities.
The designs of the rooms show the hotel's uniqueness.
Efficiently designed to satisfy the needs of visitors to Madinah.
Luxurious interior decor as seen in the suites of the Central District hotels.
Historical Mosques

There are sacred mosques of historical background that Muslims visit frequently in Madinah. Their names, bearing accounts from the Prophet’s time, refresh our memories of that glorious era.

For instance, here is where the Prophet (PBUH) laid the foundation stones for the first mosque in Islam. It was here that the Noble Companions were told, by order of Allah, to change the direction of the Qibla towards the Holy Mosque in Makkah; the place allocated by the Prophet (PBUH) to start the journey of Hajj and Umrah.

The government has converted buildings with limited capacity into spacious mosques with beautiful architecture, creating an environment for peaceful worshipping.
The western side of Quba Mosque in 1931.
The interior of Quba Mosque after its expansion and rebuilding.
Quba Mosque at night.
Quba Mosque after the development of its surrounding areas, facilities and car parks.
188. Never stand you therein. Verily, the mosque whose foundations you had from the first day is prouder: but you stand therein for a little. It is a rare unbelief to clean and to purify themselves. And Allah loves those who make themselves clean and pure (i.e. who clean their private parts with water (which has the proportion of two) and water from one and stools, after answering the call of nature).
The Qibletain Mosque was 425 square meters. After its expansion and rebuilding, it now has an area of 3920 square meters.
The Qiblatien Mosque is an example of Islamic architecture built with red clay bricks made from maddy soil of the Al-Aqoul.
Interior of the Qiblatein Mosque showing the niche and the tribune.
The Qiblatain Mosque is one of the mosques where the Prophet's companions used to pray towards Jerusalem. Allah ordered the change of direction in prayer towards the Holy Mosque in Makkah and they turned their direction instantly whilst bowing.
Qiblatein Mosque, one of the most unique examples of Islamic architecture.
"O' Allah please render my soul its piety and purify it. You are the only One who can purify it. You are its Guardian and You are its Lord."

Miqat Mosque after its expansion and rebuilding. The space is now 2970 square meters, accommodating 5000 persons for prayer.
Different are the languages, colours, cultures and social traditions, but the belief in one God gathers them together.

The Miqat Mosque, after its expansion, has 64 clean and air conditioned halls to put on Al-Ihram.
Reaching these holy places remains a dear wish of all Muslims and when achieved, deserves thanks to Allah.
The minaret of the Miqat Mosque is 64 meters high and has a unique architecture of its own.
The Miqat Mosque has what all Muslims attired in Al-Ihram need before they start their journey to Makkah.

The Miqat Mosque is built in the place of a tree where the Prophet (P.B.H.) used to rest before continuing his journey for Hajj and Umrah.
Al-Ghamamah Mosque is where the Prophet (P.B.H.) used to pray for rain. Prior to his descending from the tribune, it used to start raining, and would continue from Friday to Friday.

Al-Mustarah Mosque is where the Prophet (P.B.H.) prayed and relaxed after the invasion of Ohod.
Al-Jumaa Mosque is where the Prophet (PBUH) offered the first Friday prayer on the 16th Rabie Al-Awal of the first year of Al-Hijrah (622 AD).
Review and scrutinizing the pages of the Holy Quran after printing.

Checking the manuscript of the Holy Quran to check its total accuracy.
Each page of the Holy Quran is hand-written on paper of dimensions 70 cm x 100 cm.
The Printing Assembly issues the Holy Quran in 30 different shapes and sizes, with its translations into 17 widely spoken languages.
The Month of Ramadan

The month of Ramadan in Madinah has a unique feeling known to everybody who happens to spend even a single day here. Many Muslims strongly desire to combine together the holiness of the month with the holiness of the place, hence the huge crowds gather in the Holy Mosque. The corridors, roof and the outer courtyards are all fully occupied especially at sunset when Muslims love to finish the day of fasting by solemn reading of the Quran and praying. Some of them take the initiative to gain the reward of feeding a fasting person.

The food is spread on the grounds of the Mosque and people eagerly ask strangers to join them in ending their fast with food, beverages and quiet soulful prayers. The many hosts are generous following the nature of the Prophet (PBUH), who was the most generous during the month of Ramadan.

The Holy Mosque becomes like a hive, particularly during the times of Maghreb, Eisha, Tarawih and Qiyam prayers. It’s nothing to accommodate nearly a million people at those times and a great number of those people who seclude themselves for worshipping, spending most of their time without speaking in strong, quiet supplications inside the Mosque.

The peak time is the last ten days of Ramadan when many people from all over the kingdom and all over the world, arrive to focus only on strengthening their connection with their Creator. They renew and exhibit the love of his creations. They bask in the serenity of faith, prayers, and kind deeds to strangers. They thank Allah and ask for the years and prosperity to continue so that they may return once again to Madinah during this holy month.
The residents of Madinah prepare food at sunset for visitors to break their fast with, throughout the holy month of Ramadan.
Waiting for the proclamation of Al-Maghreb prayer, though fasting is not obligatory for him.

Pilgrims travel thousands of kilometres to gain the opportunity of fasting a few days during Ramadan in Madinah and Makkah.

"The fasting person, while breaking his fast, has a wish that can not be turned down." Prophet’s saying.
موسم الحج

من عطاءات الإسلام للمدينة المنورة ما يشهده موسم الحج كل عام من حيوية وتفوق: فالواصلون الذين وافدون الله لإداء فريضة الحج يجدون رحلتهم فرصة ذهبية لشد الرحال إلى المسجد النبوي للصلاة فيه، وسلم على الحبيب الأعظم رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم، ويتركون أياماً قبل الحج أو بعده للسفر إلى المدينة المنورة، وتزخر على امتداد شهرين بزوارهم المتواجدين، وبحضورهم المسجد النبوي في رحابه وساحاته، وتزداد بهم مواقع الزيارة المشروعة، والمعالم التاريخية التي يستمرون فيها أفراداً من السيرة النبوية وأخبار الصحابة الكرام، وتنويع المشاور الإيمانية، وتشتهر الوجوه الشرقية، والأكف المرفوعة، والمسجات الخشنة، والدعوات الصادقة أن يرافقهم الله العودة مرات ومرات.

The Pilgrimage Season

The religion of Islam offers a lot from the city of Madinah. Life here is full of activities, one being the rush of Muslims during the pilgrimage season. The visitors who successfully perform Hajj grab the golden opportunity to travel to Madinah to pray in the Prophet’s Holy Mosque and to greet the dearest person to Allah. They appoint certain days before or after Hajj for this journey. Their caravans successively continue for two months and the Holy Mosque and the residents of Madinah welcome them. The crowds of worshippers remember historical sites, where important events in the life of the Prophet (PBUH) and the Noble Companions occurred. The spiritual feelings of faith are clearly visible in their radiant faces, raised palms and in the solemn prostrations of the worshippers to their Creator. They pray to Allah asking for patience, guidance and consistency, hopeful to return again to Madinah.
Buses transfer the visitors of Madinah on Hajj to the historical sites.
The sacred cemetery where Saiyed Al-Shohada, Hamza bin Abdul Mottaleb and the Martyrs of Ohod are buried; may Allah be gracious to all of them.
The supplication of the Prophet and the Companions before starting their journey to Makkah.
Old age cannot overcome the strong desire to visit the holy places.
"Who performed Hajj and did not commit any offence or sin during the Hajj will return free of all his guilt as if he was born that day."

The Prophet's saying (unanimously agreed)
At dawn of every new day the pilgrims proceed to visit the Martyrs of Ohod, may Allah be gracious to all of them.

Chinese pilgrims praying to Allah after returning from the holy places.
Raising palms to pray to Allah in the holy places was a dream realized at last.

Group of pilgrims standing on the archers mountain where the Companions, may Allah be gracious to them, stood during the invasion of Ohod.
One of the mosques built at the campsite during the invasion of Al-Khandaq.
During the Hajj season men wear the Ihram. From the rich to the poor, there is no distinguishing ones position. This creates a happy peace and sense of belonging.
Pilgrims start their journey to Makkah from Zu-\nAl Halifah, which is the Miqat (allocated place)\nfor Madinah residents.
Praying in Al-Ibrah in the Miqat Mosque before starting the journey to Makkah to perform Hajj.
These two pilgrims seem only too happy and content, having found all they need.

The Saudi Arabian government has created a spiritual atmosphere that is suitable and comfortable to Muslims so that they can concentrate on worshipping.
The surrounding courtyards are all fully occupied during the Hajj season.
Archers Mountain in the Sa'iyed Al-Shohada area where the Muslim archers were posted during the invasion of Ohod in 624 AD.
The invasion of Ohod that took place in 624 AD.
The arrival of the pilgrims to their places of accommodation is a constantly repeated scene all year round.
Ladies are usually seen in conservative attire in Madinah.
Worshippers leaving the Holy Mosque after praying Al-Eisha.
The passengers of this bus travelled 5000 km from Daghistan to perform Hajj.

An entire family came to perform Hajj and visited Madinah.
A pilgrim from Uzbekistan was at last able to visit the holy places and perform Hajj.

His old age and limited resources did not prevent him from fulfilling his longing desire to perform Hajj and visit Madinah.
The visitors to Madinah, either pilgrims or Umrah performers, enjoy the opportunity to go around the markets to buy gifts and souvenirs.
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By: Ali Kazuyoshi Nomachi
Source: Mostafa M. Al-Mehdar

The Mountains surrounding Al-Madinah
By: Ali Kazuyoshi Nomachi
Source: Mostafa M. Al-Mehdar

Ariel View of one of the palm trees / farms in Al-Madinah
By: Ali Kazuyoshi Nomachi
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The Land Park in Al-Bayda Area - North of Al-Madinah
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One of the Waterfalls Constructed in various areas of Al-Madinah
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