



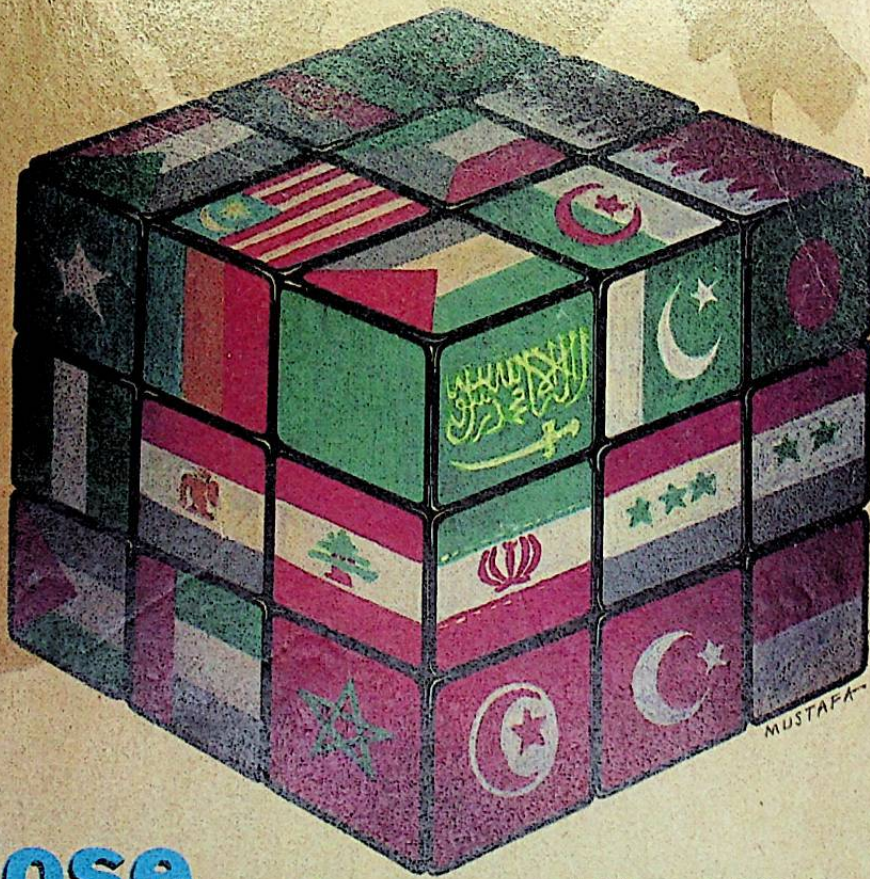
40 YEARS ON
How United are the Nations?

VOL 5, No 53, JANUARY 1986/RABI AL THANI 1406

Arabia

The Islamic World Review

MUSLIM WORLD '85



Whose Game Is It?

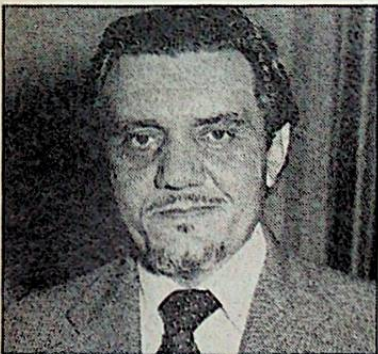
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Letter from the publishers

The main objective of *Arabia* has always been to be the strong voice of the umma in the world, and to afford the diverse currents of opinion a platform on which to interact. The two functions are closely interrelated. We cannot be a strong voice if we are not accepted by the overwhelming majority of the umma as representative.

But however impartial and objective a committed magazine may claim to be, it cannot subscribe to every point of view which is expressed by a Muslim thinker. So if we allow all views to be expressed without criticism, which we have tended to do, we lay ourselves open to criticism as either partial, or as encouraging confusion.

It is to further our original objective while avoiding such charges that we have introduced, starting from this issue, our Forum section. This is a totally free platform over which we have absolutely no control, and in which all genuine Muslim thinkers are allowed to express any point of view on any issue of vital concern to the umma.

We were overwhelmed by the response that we received for our initial call for contributions to this platform. And if things continue to develop this way, this section may soon extend to take over most of the magazine. And that will not make us at all unhappy.

We take this opportunity of launching this section to say again that all Muslims are welcome to contribute any point of view they wish, and to assure those who already responded not to despair if it takes time before their contributions are published. For they will be, inshallah, eventually.

Arabia

The Islamic World Review

Volume 5, Number 53

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Circulation and Subscription
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Sole advertising representative
Makkah Advertising

Published by
the Islamic Press Agency Ltd.

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East Burnham, nr. Slough,
Bucks. SL2 3SG.

Tel. Farnham Common (02814) 5177
(Facsimile 02814 4155)
Telex: 847031 Arabia G
848396 Transh G

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- Sudan: Islamic Press Agency, P.O. Box 1061, Khartoum, Sudan. TEL: 78753. TELEX: 22004 ASFAR.
- East Africa: Islamic Press Agency, Mfangano St., P.O. Box 30611, Nairobi, Kenya. TEL: 27720-330427.
- Japan and South Korea: Islamic Press Agency, Hibiya Chunichi Bldg, 2-1-4 Uchisaiwaicho, Chiyodaku, Tokyo 100, Japan. TEL: (03) 501 2510, TELEX: 2228502 ARACON J.
- South-east Asia: Islamic Press Agency, 3402, Jalan Ampang Hilir 2, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. TEL: (03) 475396. TELEX: 33298 WAMY MA.
- Spain and South America: P.O. Box 562, 18080 Granada. TEL: (958) 22 41 15. TELEX: 78524 DAWA E.

ARABIA: The Islamic World Review (ISSN 0260-4272) is published monthly for US\$30.00 per year. Application to mail at 2nd class postage rate is pending at Ann Arbor MI 48106 USA. POST MASTER: Send address changes to the Islamic Press Agency, P.O. Box 8139, Ann Arbor, MI 48107 USA.

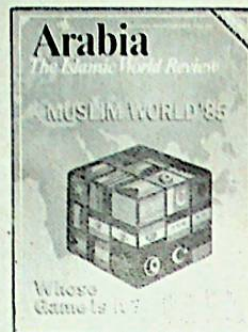
PRINTED IN THE U.K.

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