

Saudi King Salman Funded Islamists and Anti-Semitic Clerics



King Salman of Saudi Arabia

Source AP

President Obama cancelled a day of sightseeing in India with Michelle to travel to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia to pay a condolence call on the half brother successor to the late 'reformer' King Abdullah, King Salman. Through the diligence of David Weinberg at the Washington, DC-based Foundation for Defense of Democracies (FDD) we now know the extent to which Salman funded the Mujahideen in the Afghan secret wars of the 1980's, contributed to a questionable Islamic charity with terrorist ties and praised anti-Semitic clerics, one of whom was a mentor to the late Osama bin Laden. We wonder if the West Wing and State Department did its due diligence upon the announcement of Salman's designation as successor to the late Abdullah? If they did, they kept it quiet. We also wonder what views Salman may have on the reform of the Kingdom's medieval punishment practices, decapitation, lashes for criticism of the Wahhabist extremist ideology, oppression of women and gays, if the later even deign to come out? All of this is spelled out in Adam Kredo's article in today's *Washington Free Beacon*, ["Saudi Arabia's New King Helped Fund Radical Terrorist Groups."](#)

Here are some of the revelations from Weinberg at FDD, former CIA officers Bob Baer and Bruce Riedel.

However, throughout his public career in government, Salman has embraced radical Muslim clerics and has been tied to the funding of radical groups in Afghanistan, as well as an organization found to be plotting attacks against America, according to various reports and information provided by [Dore Gold](#), an Israeli diplomat, and [further accused](#) by Baer of having “personally approved all important appointments and spending” at the International Islamic Relief Organization (IIRO), a controversial Saudi charity that was hit with sanctions following the attacks of September 11, 2001, for purportedly providing material support to al Qaeda.

Salman also has been reported to be responsible for sending millions of dollars to the radical mujahedeen that waged jihad in Afghanistan in the 1980s, [in the war](#) with Serbia.”

Salman also has embraced radical Saudi clerics known for their hateful rhetoric against Israel and Jews.

Salman has worked closely with Saleh al-Moghamsy, who tweeted in August 2014 that “Allah only gathered Jews in the land of Palestine to destroy them.”

Al-Moghamsy also [also claimed](#) in 2012 that Osama bin Laden had died with more “sanctity and honor” than any infidel, or non-Muslim.

Despite this rhetoric, Salman has maintained close ties to al-Moghamsy.

Salman [sponsored](#) the cleric’s public events, including a 2013 festival. Salman and al-Moghamsy [pictured times](#) together at that event, according to regional reports.

Al-Moghamsy also [an selfie](#) with the cleric in July.

Salman also has reached out to other hardline preachers, including Safar Hawali, a one-time mentor of Osama bin

Laden who has called for non-Muslims to be expelled from Saudi Arabia.

In 2005, Salman [praised him](#) upon the release of a book.

While crown prince, Salman also made a point of [called](#) Israelis “the brothers of apes and pigs.”

Additionally, Salman, in his role as crown prince, has recently visited Saudi Arabia’s grand mufti, the nation’s highest religious authority, who has