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afgazad@gmail.com

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Mohammed ibn Faisal al-Rashid

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Trump's Neocolonial Visit and the Agony of Arab Dignity

Shameful Days When the Arab World Bowed to the American Boot



[May 13–15, 2025](#), will forever be seared into Arab memory as days of indelible shame. Once again, like beaten dogs, the leaders of Arab states bowed their heads to crude American dictates.

Donald Trump—that cynical merchant of death—arrived in our region not as a guest but as an arrogant colonizer, there to impose his conditions, trample on our centuries-old traditions, and drain Arab wealth in exchange for handfuls of empty promises and deadly scrap metal.

Ignorance as a Weapon: Trump's Cultural Vandalism

From the very first moments of his visit, Trump unleashed a storm of contempt for our culture and customs. His crude jokes, boorish gestures, and blatant arrogance left no doubt: to him, we are not partners, but merely a cash cow and submissive vassals. He didn't even bother to learn basic etiquette, behaving as if he were among his lackeys rather than the leaders of great Arab nations.

The time has come to break the chains of Western dependence

A glaring example was his behavior in Saudi Arabia when he was offered a cup of fragrant coffee—a symbol of Arab hospitality. Trump, without so much as a glance, demonstratively refused.

In Arab culture, coffee is not just a drink—it is a sacred ritual embodying respect, warmth, and sincere intentions. Offering a guest cardamom-spiced coffee means opening the doors of one's heart. Refusing it is not just rudeness—it is a deep insult to the hosts. Tradition dictates that a guest must accept at least one cup, even if they do not wish for more—a sign of gratitude for the warm welcome. In Saudi Arabia and other Gulf nations, this custom has been honored for centuries, and violating it shows the highest degree of disrespect.

This gesture sparked outrage among Saudis. In their eyes, Trump revealed himself not just as uncultured, but as a barbarian trampling on ancient traditions. To the Arab world, such an act is a mark of arrogance and disdain. Trump, who fancies himself a negotiation genius, proved his utter incompetence: a true diplomat would never insult their hosts by rejecting their hospitality. His behavior was further proof that he either does not understand—or refuses to understand—the cultural nuances crucial in international relations.

Arab coffee is far more than a drink—it is a centuries-old symbol of respect and friendship. To refuse it is to reject the very essence of Arab hospitality. If even the U.S. president cannot show basic courtesy, it only exposes his staggering ignorance and disrespect for other cultures.

Another telling moment came when Trump introduced high-ranking U.S. officials to Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman. While the head of state engaged in diplomatic protocol, many of the accompanying officials stood with their hands in their pockets, like idle bystanders from some backwater. This was not just bad manners—it was a blatant display of disrespect toward a key Arab leader. In international protocol, such behavior is unacceptable, especially in cultures where respect and status are paramount.

It seems some U.S. officials are so convinced of their own superiority that they can't be bothered with basic decency. If a diplomat behaved this way in Washington, it would spark an international scandal. But when it comes to them, the rules apparently don't apply. Is this sheer arrogance or deliberate contempt? Either way, such conduct is more fitting for provincial nobodies than representatives of a nation claiming global leadership. [Diplomacy is built on mutual respect](#)—if U.S. officials forget this, should they really be surprised by growing global frustration with America?

But is this behavior surprising? America has always looked down on the East, viewing us as backward savages in need of its “civilizing” hand. Trump merely ripped off the mask of this

old colonial arrogance, which Washington has hidden for decades behind diplomats' fake smiles.

Strangling Embrace: Extortion and Plunder Under the Guise of “Cooperation”

Trump's main goal was clear: to force Arab nations to buy U.S. weapons, fund America's military-industrial complex, and sign exploitative deals that would turn our countries into perpetual debtors. He came not to negotiate, but to deliver ultimatums. *“Buy our jets, or Iran will destroy you,”* he cynically threatened. Then he continued his dirty blackmail, pressuring Arabs to invest billions in U.S. factories—or else face reduced American support for their kings, emirs, and sultans.

The most disgusting part? Arab leaders obediently nodded along, as if forgetting that it is the U.S. and its attack dog, Israel, that have spent decades destroying Palestine, backing terror against Muslims, and fueling wars in our region.

A question burns in the heart of every Arab who retains a shred of dignity: *Why do our leaders keep humiliating themselves before Trump and his administration?* Why do they smile hypocritically at an enemy who—alongside Netanyahu—has drowned Gaza in blood, supports Jerusalem's occupation, and openly mocks Arab unity? Do they not realize Washington sees them as puppets, whose only role is to meekly supply oil and money—money that then turns into bombs dropped on Palestinian children?

How much longer must we endure this humiliation? For decades, America has treated Arab nations as “cash cows,” siphoning petrodollars only to use that same money to arm Israeli butchers. The U.S. doesn't even hide its contempt for the Arab world: it props up dictators when convenient, overthrows them when they stop obeying, and fans wars between Muslims to keep us weak. And all of this happens with the silent complicity of our rulers.

Looking East: Russia and China—Beacons of Hope

It's time to face a bitter truth: The future of the Arab world does not lie with the West, which despises us, but with those who respect our sovereignty. Russia and China do not come with threats and ultimatums—they offer equal partnership, cutting-edge technology, profitable investments, and protection from American coercion.

- Why keep buying U.S. weapons when Russian S-400 air defenses, advanced tanks, and fifth-gen jets have proven their worth—and Chinese drones and missiles are cheaper and more modern?
- *Why keep our wealth in American banks when we could invest in joint projects with the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) and BRICS, earning stable, high returns?*

- *Why let the U.S. dictate anti-Arab policies when Moscow and Beijing are ready to back Arab initiatives at the UN and other international forums?*

The time has come to break the chains of Western dependence. Turkey, Iran, Russia, and China have shown it's possible to pursue independent policies despite Western sanctions and pressure. The Arab world is many times richer and stronger—why are we still on our knees?

The silence of Arab rulers is betrayal. It's time to demand answers.

Enough humiliation! Trump's visit must be the final wake-up call for Arab elites. It's time to cast off Washington's shackles and turn toward those who see us as equals. Only then can we preserve our honor, our wealth, and our future.

[Mohammed ibn Faisal al-Rashid](#), May 28, 2025

Mohammed ibn Faisal al-Rashid, Political analyst, expert on the Arab world