



Policy Analysis /
Articles & Op-Eds

Boris Johnson Is a Literary Person, But No Churchill

by [Simon Henderson](#)

Mar 6, 2018

ABOUT THE AUTHORS



[Simon Henderson](#)

Simon Henderson is the Baker fellow and director of the Bernstein Program on Gulf and Energy Policy at The Washington Institute, specializing in energy matters and the conservative Arab states of the Persian Gulf.



Articles & Testimony

Ahead of a Saudi royal visit to London, British officials are taking a circumspect, historically curious approach in their comments about the kingdom.

Gary Oldman's Oscar for best actor in "Darkest Hour" means that Churchill's place in history is yet again reconfirmed, but what on earth was British Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson doing when he invoked the great man's name in op-eds in the Saudi media ahead of Crown Prince Muhammad bin Salman's arrival in London this Wednesday? Johnson started by saying: "It was 73 years ago that Winston Churchill traveled to Fayoum Oasis in Egypt for a meeting with the king of Saudi Arabia." Quoting Churchill, Johnson continued, "His own cup-bearer from Mecca offered me a glass of water from its sacred well, the most delicious I had ever tasted." Is the British foreign secretary having a private joke at Saudi expense?...

[Read the full article on the Hill website.](#) ❖

The Hill



[View/Print Page as PDF](#)

SHARE



EMAIL ALERTS



[Sign Up](#)



TO TOP

RECOMMENDED



BRIEF ANALYSIS

The Dubious Feasibility of a Planned Nuclear Reactor in Iraq

Jul 23, 2021

Mohanad Faris



ARTICLES & TESTIMONY

To Deter Iran, Give Israel a Big Bomb

Jul 23, 2021

Dennis Ross

BRIEF ANALYSIS

Profile: Al-Nujaba Satellite Television

Jul 22, 2021

Hamdi Malik

TOPICS

Gulf and Energy
Policy

REGIONS & COUNTRIES

Gulf States

STAY UP TO DATE



SIGN UP FOR EMAIL ALERTS



THE
WASHINGTON INSTITUTE
for Near East Policy

1111 19th Street NW - Suite 500
Washington D.C. 20036
Tel: 202-452-0650
Fax: 202-223-5364

[Contact](#)

[Press Room](#)

[Subscribe](#)

The Washington Institute seeks to advance a balanced and realistic understanding of American interests in the Middle East and to promote the policies that secure them.

The Institute is a 501(c)3 organization; all donations are tax-deductible.

[About TWI](#) /

[Support the Institute](#)



© 2021 All rights reserved.

[Employment](#) /

[Privacy Policy](#) /

[Rights & Permissions](#)