

Boris Johnson Is a Literary Person, But No Churchill

by [Simon Henderson \(/experts/simon-henderson\)](/experts/simon-henderson)

Mar 6, 2018

ABOUT THE AUTHORS



[Simon Henderson \(/experts/simon-henderson\)](/experts/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. \(http://thehill.com/opinion/international/376738-boris-johnson-is-a-literary-person-but-no-churchill\)](http://thehill.com/opinion/international/376738-boris-johnson-is-a-literary-person-but-no-churchill) ❖

The Hill

RECOMMENDED

BRIEF ANALYSIS

[Unpacking the UAE F-35 Negotiations](#)

Feb 15, 2022

◆
Grant Rumley

(/policy-analysis/unpacking-uae-f-35-negotiations)



ARTICLES & TESTIMONY

[How to Make Russia Pay in Ukraine: Study Syria](#)

Feb 15, 2022

Anna Borshchevskaya

(/policy-analysis/how-make-russia-pay-ukraine-study-syria)



BRIEF ANALYSIS

[Bennett's Bahrain Visit Further Invigorates Israel-Gulf Diplomacy](#)

Feb 14, 2022

Simon Henderson

(/policy-analysis/bennetts-bahrain-visit-further-invigorates-israel-gulf-diplomacy)

TOPICS

[Gulf & Energy Policy \(/policy-analysis/gulf-energy-policy\)](#)

REGIONS & COUNTRIES

[Gulf States \(/policy-analysis/gulf-states\)](#)