
Editorial

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The Arab world has been a subject of many studies but it did not develop to be at the heart of events until lately with the Arab Spring making waves across the Middle East.

Many are not aware that the recent development in the Arab world is a result of long way of modernisation and development that went un-noticed for years, sometimes because these developments were slow and sometimes because there was no media focus on them. The modernisation cuts across all fields of life in the Arab world from very basic social structure till legal and industrialisation aspects.

This special issue of the journal discusses topics related to the modernisation activities that have been and still going through the Arab world. The papers presented reflect some of the research currently conducted by individuals and institutions in their respective countries.

The scope of the work covered by the papers listed below focuses on these main areas: post-colonial social changes, legal systems, industrialisation, politics, media, and economy.

We hope that these papers will shed some light on what is happening in this strategic part of the world and give better understanding for more global collaboration.

- 1 Al-Nsour, Al-Onizat and Kakish: 'The impact of lean production concept implementation on the competitive advantage of the Jordanian food manufactories specialised in FMCGs in Jordan'
- 2 Vadra: 'Knowledge-based development and knowledge-based economy – a case study of Dubai'
- 3 Al-Omran and Ansari: 'Establishment of judicial review and elements of its emergence in Egypt'
- 4 Ladjal and Bensaid: 'The French colonial occupation and the Algerian national identity: alienation or assimilation?'
- 5 Awad: 'The role of the daily newspaper 'Almasry Alyoum' in disseminating development news in the Egyptian villages'
- 6 Ra'ees: 'The Arab Spring: challenges to the US Middle East policy'
- 7 Al-Hawari and Ansari: 'The role of police in primary investigation of terrorism cases in Jordan'
- 8 Ben Mrad Douagi: 'From state to private ownership: performance of small listed Tunisian firms'
- 9 Alajmi and Temimi: 'Power distance and uncertainty avoidance differences between two Arabic countries within a same Hofstede cluster under Takaful Industry'.

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