

4. 'Utba ibn Rabi'a al-Qurashi (d. 624) – a prominent representative of the Quraysh tribe who expressed doubt about Muhammad's prophetic mission. Killed at the Battle of Badr.
5. Taqiyya – prudent concealment of faith. A practice accepted in Shiism allowing one to refrain from following the principles of their faith when life is in danger.
6. Fatwa – a religious document explaining the application of Sharia norms.
7. Ibn Taymiyya (1263–1328) – Muslim preacher, jurist, and critic of bid'ah (innovations) in Islam.
8. Muhammad Hajj Amin al-Husseini (1895–1974) – Grand Mufti of Jerusalem, leader of Palestinian nationalists, follower of Hitler during the war years, uncle of Yasser Arafat.
9. Musa al-Sadr (1928–1978) – Iranian-Lebanese Shiite theologian and philosopher.
10. At that time, the predecessor of the organization "Hayat Tahrir al-Sham" (Levant Liberation Committee) – "Jabhat al-Nusra" (Victory Front) – was the Syrian branch of al-Qaeda. Both organizations are banned in the Russian Federation.

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VASILY OSTANIN-GOLOVNIA. DEMOGRAPHIC FACTOR OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF SAUDI ARABIA AT THE PRESENT STAGE

Keywords: Saudi Arabia; demography; demographic factor; social and economic development; Saudi Arabia census 2022; Vision 2030; Saudization.

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Abstract. The article examines key demographic trends such as urbanization, demographic transition, and Saudization, and their impact on social and economic development of Saudi Arabia. Over the past decade, the Kingdom's leadership has been implementing large-scale reforms under Vision 2030, aimed at changing the country's social and economic landscape and reducing its reliance on oil. However, the implementation of these ambitious plans faces a number of challenges related to the economy's high dependence on the oil and gas sector, a shortage of skilled labour in the country, and high youth unemployment. In addition, there is a significant gender disparity in the labour market.

Demography is one of the most important factors that have a direct impact on political, economic and social processes. The demographic factor is of particular interest when it comes to countries with economies in transition and rapid development, which, in particular, include Saudi Arabia. Over the past ten years, the KSA, being one of the leading states of the Arab East, is at the next stage of large-scale reforms, which, according to the Vision: 2030 program, should "completely change the socio-economic landscape of the country," thereby opening a "new era of development and prosperity of the kingdom" [1].

However, on the way to implementing the ambitious reform program proposed by Crown Prince Muhammad ibn Salman in April 2016, there are a number of problems that are rarely covered in the official information resources of the kingdom. At a minimum, Saudi Arabia, being one of the world's largest oil exporters, still receives, according to various estimates, from 30 per cent to 40 per cent of its real GDP due to Saudi Aramco's income in the form of rent [2]. For this reason, the rental economy of the kingdom is fundamentally based on government spending, which transforms the fiscal role of the state apparatus: it turns into an agent for the allocation of resources.

Not in vain, the founder of the KSA, Abd al-Aziz ibn Abd al-Rahman, described his monarchy as "a huge confederation of tribes united through incredible efforts: military victories, marriage or bribery" [3, p. 85]. Of course, at the present stage, we are talking about "bribery" only in cases of corruption, but the