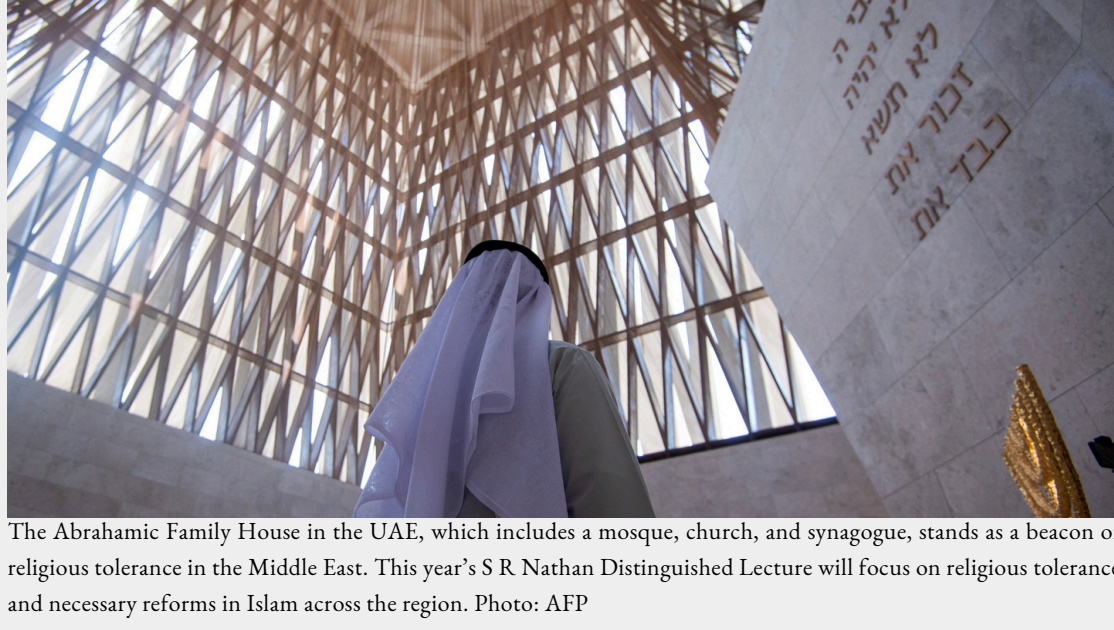


MEI Weekly.



The Abraham Family House in the UAE, which includes a mosque, church, and synagogue, stands as a beacon of religious tolerance in the Middle East. This year's S R Nathan Distinguished Lecture will focus on religious tolerance and necessary reforms in Islam across the region. Photo: AFP

WHAT'S HOT: MEI PUBLICATIONS, PODCASTS, & MORE

WATCH: In MEI's latest *Heard@theSouq*, RSIS Research Fellow Ghada Soliman argues that a weakened Hezbollah still poses a significant threat to Israel and the broader Middle East. Read the article [here](#).

WHAT'S NEWS: THE BIG HEADLINES THIS WEEK

S R Nathan Distinguished Lecture 2024

Guest speaker, UAE Federal National Councillor, Dr Ali Rashed Al Nuaimi, will touch on how Islam is undergoing needed reforms in the Middle East, and how such a move is also required in South-east Asia. The event will take place on 7 November 2024 at the St Regis Hotel and is now open for sign-ups.

Iran Strikes Israel, Netanyahu Vows to Retaliate

Tehran launched at least 180 ballistic missiles towards Israel on Tuesday evening, sharply escalating the conflict between the two nations. In response, Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu said that Iran would "pay for it" and "whoever attacks, we will attack them".



In a statement, Tehran said that the missile attack had been in retaliation for the assassinations of Hezbollah's leader, Hassan Nasrallah, Hamas's Ismail Haniyeh, and an Iranian commander. Photo: AFP

Gulf States Reassure Tehran of their Neutrality

Ministers from Gulf Arab states and Iran attending a meeting of Asian nations hosted by Qatar centred their conversations around de-escalation, sources said. Iran earlier warned that if "Israel supporters" intervene directly, their interests in the region would be targeted.

CALENDAR: MEI EVENTS

ME 101 Lecture Series 2024 #05: Renewable Energy Sources

The next session of the series will explore the Gulf states' ambitious plans to become global leaders in the renewable energy industry, and their motivations behind this transition. Furthermore, it will examine the diverse strategies employed to "transition away from fossil fuels", and the implications of these on the global energy outlook. This hybrid event will be held on 16 October 2024, from 6.30pm to 8pm (SGT). Sign up by clicking [here](#).



Countries such as Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Qatar are building some of the world's largest renewable power plants as they attempt to transition away from fossil fuels. Photo: Canva

LOOK AHEAD: WHAT TO KEEP A WATCH ON

Hezbollah's New Leader

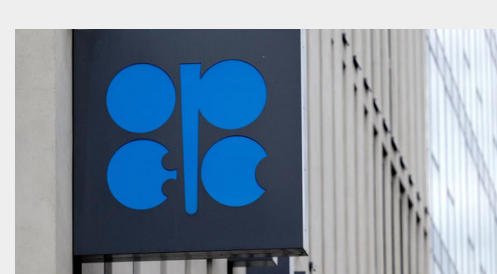
After Hezbollah's leader, Hassan Nasrallah, was killed in a massive Israeli air raid on the group's headquarters in the outskirts of southern Beirut on 27 September, experts widely believe that his successor will be his cousin, Hashem Safieddine (pictured).



Opponents described him as aggressive and "bloodthirsty". Photo: AFP

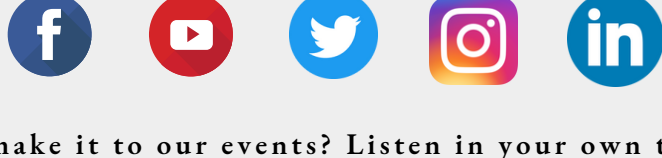
Oil Prices: One to Watch Amid Middle East Turmoil

Oil prices surged on Thursday as concerns mounted that a widening regional conflict in the region could disrupt global crude flows. "This is going to really test the mettle of the market because up until now the risk to supply has been downplayed, as there has been no disruption, so this could be a game changer", said experts.

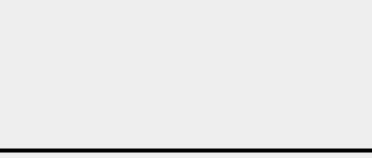


Market fears are rising over the possibility that Israel might target Iranian oil infrastructure, which could provoke retaliation. Photo: AFP

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