

英語試験問題

注意

1. 問題用紙は3枚（この用紙を含む）、解答用紙は1枚です。
2. 英英辞書、英和辞書及び電子辞書の使用を許可します。
3. 解答には、所定の解答用紙を用いること。
4. 解答を記述する前に、解答用紙の冒頭に、問題番号を記入すること。
5. メモ用紙は自由に使ってよい。

次のページから始まるサウジアラビア国王の中国、インド訪問に関するニュースの分析記事を読み、以下の設問に答えなさい。

1. この記事に見出しを見つけなさい。
2. 下線の部分を訳しなさい。
3. サウジアラビア国王の中国、インド訪問の意図を外部の人々は
どう見ているか、この記事に現れた見方をすべて書きなさい。
4. 中国とインドは、サウジアラビアとの取引でどのような利益を
うることができるか。
5. この取引の結果、米国はどうすべきか。

MUMBAI: A tour of China and India this week by Saudi Arabia's new monarch presages a new era of reduced influence for the United States in Riyadh and of Saudi friendship with a widening spectrum of nations, according to some Saudi watchers and current and former officials in the United States, the Gulf and Asia.

King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz al-Saud used his first trip outside the Middle East since taking the crown in August to visit the countries, where booming economies need new supplies of oil to lubricate their growth.

It was the first visit by a Saudi king to China since 1990, and the first such visit to India since 1955, when this was a less crowded republic of 400 million.

In the past, relations were strained by Marxism's sway in China and India, and by India's claims over mostly Muslim Kashmir.

But a rapprochement is in the works, and it is being fueled by oil. In Beijing on Monday, Saudi and Chinese officials signed an agreement expected to increase joint investments in extraction in Saudi Arabia and in refining in China.

The Saudis were evaluating similar proposals for India, said an Indian official who spoke on condition of anonymity since he was not authorized to speak on the record.

Abdullah was the chief guest at India's Republic Day festivities Thursday, inspecting a parade that showed off both India's diverse traditions and its nuclear-capable missiles.

Refining and extraction investments effectively create captive pools of Saudi oil just for India and China, giving them an alternative to buying on the open market at times of high prices.

Saudi Arabia, meanwhile, has its own motives in reaching out to Asia's emerging giants.

"One fundamental driver seems to be a Saudi desire to move away from a monocultural situation, where they have one big friend, one big product, and they are based on one big idea, the Islamic idea," said the Indian official, referring to America, the friend, and oil, the product. "They are looking at broad-basing their diplomacy."

But Arab and American experts say India and China have additional significance for the kingdom: They are low-maintenance customers that buy its oil without meddling — as does Washington — in Saudi affairs, whether regarding its curbs on women or lack of elections. What Riyadh calls a "look-East policy" is, observers say, a clear attempt to diversify.

"It's a very important visit," said Chas Freeman, the U.S. ambassador to Saudi Arabia during the first Gulf War and a career diplomat who also served in India and China. "The important thing is that monogamy is not enough for the Saudis anymore. They've decided to take a couple of other wives," he said. "This is a logical move by the Saudis, not one against the United States, but a step away from overdependence on America."

"The relative monopoly of the United States," he said, "is in the process of being broken."

The Arab media, whose writing often reflects the views of those in power, have billed the Asia visit as history-making. The Khaleej Times, an English-language daily in Dubai, labeled Abdullah's visit "a strategic shift in the foreign policy of the country." The Arab News, an English-language daily in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, said the visit "heralds a new era."

Clovis Maksoud, a former Arab League ambassador to the United Nations, United States and India, said by telephone from Washington "America will be more deferential to the Saudi and Arab priorities in the future, because they will realize the traditional bilateral relations between Saudi Arabia and the United States, though sustainable, is no longer exclusive."

India and China are the newest entrants to the big leagues of global oil consumption. China had no need of oil imports until 1993, but within 13 years has become the world's second-largest oil consumer. India, with its middle class also growing, now imports 70 percent of its oil, with one-quarter of those imports from Saudi Arabia. The desert kingdom supplies 14 percent of China's oil imports.

China and India have both reshaped their diplomacy to serve their energy needs. They have both bid for access to oil fields in places like Sudan, Iran and Kazakhstan, and recently signed a deal to cooperate in their bidding for fields.

Sometime around 2015, global oil supply will peak and begin waning, and new consumers like India and China will vie with old ones in the West for ever scarcer barrels, said Saad Rahim, an energy analyst at PFC Energy in Washington. "For the next 10 years, it's non-zero sum," he said. "After that, you do start to hit some very real constraints."

For the Saudis, partnership with China and India has advantages.

Although oil is bought and sold on the market, it comes in its crude form in many varieties, and countries often lack the refineries to process particular forms. Saudi investment in Indian and Chinese refineries will make the countries captive consumers for Saudi crude.

James Woolsey, a former CIA director, said in an e-mail that Abdullah's Asia visit offered evidence of "the growing economic importance of China and India and portends the substantial effect their growth will have on oil demand."

So drastic will be the effect on global oil prices of such partnerships, he said, that the United States must turn to "vigorously pursuing both alternatives to conventional oil and vehicle efficiency at a much faster pace."

No one expects Saudi ties with Washington to crumble. But, increasingly, Riyadh's Washington connection will vie for attention with the kingdom's other friends, which will project none of the conventional military power that

Washington wields in the region, but which will be low-maintenance allies willing to pay for ever more oil.

Diversifying Saudi Arabia's portfolio of friendships could help to stabilize the kingdom, some believe, giving it a more balanced portfolio of friends.

Yet Riyadh's overtures in Asia are designed, analysts say, to engage with rising powers that are far less interested than Washington in what Riyadh does within its kingdom. In an ironic reversal of history, India and China are agnostic about Saudi internal affairs in the way that the United States was criticized for being until the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

Until recently, America wanted Saudi oil, offered the kingdom protection in return and asked little else.

In more recent times, "the simplicity of this bargain became embarnacled with all sorts of other agendas, including women's rights, human rights, religious freedom and other issues that Saudis either find irksome or difficult to address," said Freeman, the former U.S. ambassador.

"None of these issues arise with the Chinese or India."

Abdulaziz Sager, chairman of the Gulf Research Center in Dubai, argued in a recent article that China's — like India's — agnosticism on the internal affairs of the countries from which it buys oil is an attraction to the kingdom.

"Since one of the commonalities between the two sides is the preference for a faster pace of economic reform compared to political change," he wrote, "and because China has criticized the U.S.'s anti-terror campaign and democracy plans — which too go well with the region's beliefs — scope for better ties between the two sides remains unlimited."

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presage 前兆となる

lubricate 滑らかにする

vie 競争する

agnostic 寛容な