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GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PUBLIC AUTHORITIES OF THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

High authorities include the head of state hereditary prince, the Council of Ministers, the Advisory Council, the High Council of Justice. However, the actual structure of the monarchy of Saudi Arabia is slightly different from the way it presented in theory. To a large extent the power of the King has Al Saud family, which consists of more than five thousand people that are the basis of the monarchy in the country. King in the exercise of management based on the advice of leading members of the family, including his brothers. On the same basis it built relationships with leading religious leaders. Equally important is to maintain the stability of noble families and religious families that collateral branch of the dynasty Saudidiv.

The President and the country's religious leader (imam) of two holy

mosques attendant, while the prime minister, chief of the armed forces and the Chief Justice. The President has full executive, legislative and judiciary. His powers theoretically limited only by the rules of Shariah and Saudi traditions. King aims to maintain the unity of the royal family, religious leaders (ulema), and other members of the Saudi community.

The mechanism of succession formally established only in 1992, heir to the throne, appointed for life by the king, followed the approval of the Ulema. According to ancient traditions in Saudi Arabia, there is no clear system of succession. The government usually passes to the eldest in the family, the most suitable to serve the ruler.

Council of Ministers combines both executive and legislative functions.