



*What does the Lord require of you but to do justice,
to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God –
Micah 6:8*

Registered: Micah Network.

Rt Hon Theresa May MP
10 Downing Street
London
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30th January 2018

Open Letter

Cancel Visit of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman of Saudi Arabia Stop Arms Trade with Saudi Arabia

We raise concern about the ongoing and deepening relationship that the United Kingdom has with Saudi Arabia, demonstrated through the visits that have recently been prioritised, and now the pending invitation for Prince Mohammed bin Salman to come to the United Kingdom.

Saudi Arabia has one of the worst human rights records in the world. Millions of children in Yemen are at risk from war, cholera and famine in a tragedy that UN Secretary-General has called the "biggest humanitarian crisis facing humanity". Saudi Arabia has blockaded Yemen and is destroying its infrastructure. The Saudi air force consists almost entirely of aircraft sold to it by the UK and USA.

Our shame is that British arms companies have been fuelling this war. The British government has approved billions of Pounds in export licenses over the past three years to a regime whose history of torture, arbitrary detention, suppression of religious minorities and exploitation of foreign labour has been amply documented.

We take note of the positive steps Prince Mohammed bin Salman has begun to take in his Vision 2030 and National Transformation Paper 2020, but the evidence of change is limited and remains tokenistic in comparison to the ongoing abuses.

We recognise that in your recent meetings with Saudi Arabia you have said you would raise these concerns, but when this is not backed up with clear action, they are simply words to assuage guilt. The price to act (loss of arms sales) may seem steep with the current economic uncertainty faced within the Brexit negotiations, however; the longer term consequences are much steeper.

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God honours those who protect the poor and vulnerable, and stand for justice and integrity. Those who seek economic gain at the price of these precious vulnerable people will face their own downfall.

If you truly stand for the British people, if you care for justice, then **we strongly advise you to cancel this visit and act decisively to stop the arms trade with Saudi Arabia.**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sheryl Haw", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Sheryl Haw
International Director
director@micahglobal.org

About Micah Global

Why does Micah Exist?

Micah exists to enable a united response to reducing poverty, addressing injustice and enabling reconciliation and conflict resolution.

Micah's Mandate: What does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. *Micah 6:8*

Micah's Vision: Communities living life in all its fullness free from extreme poverty, injustice and conflict.

Micah's Mission is: Rooted in the Gospel we become agents of change in our communities by being:

- A **network** providing a platform for shared learning, collective reflection and action, inspiration and mobilisation of Christian Ministries, and the demonstration of Integral Mission.
- A **movement** that advocates for poverty reduction, justice, equality, reconciliation and safety and wellbeing for all.
- **Catalysts** for transforming mission by promoting and living out **integral mission**.

To find out more about Micah Global: www.micahglobal.org

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