

Saudi-American Forum



SAF Item of Interest

August 6, 2004

"The Ambush"

A Poem By Nimah Ismail Nawwab

Editor's Note:

The Saudi-American Forum would like to thank Nimah Ismail Nawwab for permission to share her poem with our readers. Her poem has also been featured on the Aramco Expats Web site and will appear in her upcoming book, *The Unfurling*.

"The Ambush"

A Poem By Nimah Ismail Nawwab

He watched the old movie unfold
The headcovered man bashing his van into a building
Nodding his head: 'Yes another one, they are terrorists'
The calm way he uttered those words
The look in his young eyes,
Made me ache.

For they had won,
Hands down they had won,
Ultimately they had won,
Their hollow victory turning the world upon itself.

Those demented fanatics have implanted the bitter seeds
Our young believing that terror is to stay
Their questioning self identity constant
Their questioning elements of society a fact,
Could I really answer?
Did I even want to answer?
No justification, no excuse can wipe,
Needless deaths, destruction of innocents,
Not a single life lost could be justified.

The land turned into a big gated occupied territory
The once-peaceful kingdom rent with shootouts,
As the tolerance of our peaceful spiritual beliefs
Is hijacked, twisted, used.

Power-hungry zealots

Misguided by the need for vengeance,
Vengeance against perceived,
Unacceptable ways of life,
Those whose hearts have been wiped clean,
Clean of the basic tolerance for fellow man
A tolerance making the religion thrive,
A spirit attracting billions to the faith,
All dashed on the rocks
In the surging ravaging river of hatred for the other.

As the very essence of our faith now stands in danger
Of this ambush from within,
Turning back upon them,
Derailing their intentions
As their hate colors their vision of the truth
That we are all, all, all
Sons and daughters of Adam
That the three faiths, our stay, our guide
Are interlinked, bonded forever
Sealed by The One
To spread their message of peace for human kind.

May 4, 2004

Related Article:

Nimah Ismail Nawwab's United States' Book Tour
<http://www.aramcoexpats.com/ArticleDetail.asp?article=879>

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

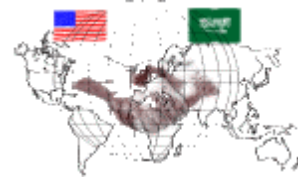
Nimah Ismail Nawwab was born in Malaysia. A writer, editor and poet as well as photographer, her interests have led her to venture in various fields and work on diverse projects.

Nimah's various poems have been published online and in print. She has compiled a collection of work in her upcoming book, *The Unfurling*. *The Unfurling* will be published by Salwa Press and will be available for purchase in late August through the Aramco Expats Web site.

Follow the link below to read more about Nimah Ismail Nawwab.
<http://www.aramcoexpats.com/ArticleDetail.asp?article=803>

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The Saudi-American Forum is an information service designed to provide you timely information -- background and current issues - - impacting the Saudi-U.S. relationship.



The Forum is a resource for Americans who value the relationship between the United States and Saudi Arabia and who want to act in response to erroneous and misleading depictions of the relationship in the media and elsewhere. The Forum is a vehicle for stakeholders in the Saudi-U.S. relationship to contribute their experiences and their ideas and opinions on the issues of the day.

The Saudi-American Forum is a FREE service provided to the public by the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations. The Forum consists of a web site and an email information service.

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Thank you for your support of the Saudi-U.S. relationship and the Saudi-American Forum.