

# Georgia eases visa rules for GCC visitors

RIYADH: ABDUL HANNAN TAGO

Published — Friday 27 February 2015



George Janjgava, Georgia's first-ever ambassador to the Kingdom.

Georgia now allows Saudis and travelers from other Gulf Cooperation Council nations to enter the country for 90-day visits without visas.

This is according to George Janjgava, Georgia's first-ever ambassador to the Kingdom, who spoke to Arab News recently in Riyadh. "Now they only need their passports with them like other neighboring countries, the European community and the United States. These countries are important to us and their citizens do not need visas."

Janjgava, who arrived in September last year, said that Georgia is a tolerant country with a mix of ethnic and religious groups. It has a growing tourism industry with 6 million visiting annually. Last year, 6,000 Saudis made the trip.

"Politically, we enjoy very good relations with Saudi Arabia, which is a very important partner for us," the envoy said. "My mission here is to promote high-level two-way visits between the Kingdom and Georgia."

In terms of trade, he said Georgia seeks cooperation in agriculture, tourism and transport. In particular, the country has an abundance of spring mineral water for medicinal use.

On the global fight against terrorists, the envoy said: "We are with Saudi Arabia and the rest of the world in its fight against terrorism. We support global efforts to curb international terrorism, which is the biggest headache for everyone in the 21st century."

Georgia ranks ninth among countries in the ease of doing business index. In Forbes magazine's list of best countries for business, Georgia ranks 47th among 146 countries, determined by 11 factors including property rights, technology and innovation, taxes and corruption.

He said there is growing trade with the Kingdom. The country has now resumed importing sheep from Georgia, after veterinarians checked the animals for quality. The last shipment was 130,000 live sheep in 2009.

He said Georgia is the only country to be granted a substantive package of defensive measures at the NATO summit in Wales. The package will help Georgia strengthen its defense capabilities and advance plans to take up NATO membership.

Georgia signed on June 27, 2014, an association agreement with the European Union, which was ratified by the Georgian Parliament on July 18 last year. "We are a Caucasian nation and have our own alphabet, which is more than 1,700 years old. We are a European nation."

He said 9 percent of the country's population is Muslim and the rest mostly Christians. The downtown area has a mosque, synagogue and church close to each other, he said.

He said there had been a significant influence on Georgia by Arabs because the country has many scientific books written by Arab scholars. Many had been born in Georgia from the 8th to the 11th century, he said.

<http://www.arabnews.com/news/710766>

## Georgia opens embassy in Riyadh

RIYADH: GHAZANFAR ALI KHAN

Published — Thursday 15 January 2015

Georgia, a country located on the crossroads of western Asia and eastern Europe, has opened its embassy here in the Saudi capital to further promote bilateral relations.

The opening of the embassy will greatly contribute to the strengthening of Georgia's ties with the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC).

"Giorgi Janjgava has been appointed as the first ambassador of Georgia to Saudi Arabia, and was therefore present on the inauguration ceremony of the embassy on Wednesday," a press statement released by Georgian Foreign Minister Maya Pandzhikidze said.

Osama Nugali, spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs could not be reached for comments at this time.

Referring to the opening of the Georgian mission, the statement released by the Georgia Foreign Ministry said that "the opening of the embassy in Saudi Arabia was an important step toward developing relations and economic cooperation with the countries of the Arabian Peninsula."

The embassy and the Georgian ambassador based in Riyadh will be accredited to Oman, Bahrain and Yemen, it added.

The Kuwait-based Georgian Embassy's mandate was to serve Saudi Arabia too before

opening the mission here, said a diplomatic source.

As a young nation, Georgia declared its independence on April 9, 1991 shortly before the collapse of the Soviet Union. Muslims represent 10 percent of the total population of the country.

<http://www.arabnews.com/news/689726>

## ‘I like Saudis’ respect toward their traditions’

RIYADH: ARAB NEWS

Published — Tuesday 24 March 2015



Georgian Ambassador George Janjgava

Which particular aspect of Saudi Arabia you like the most?

Respect toward traditions.

What is your favorite and oft-repeated Arabic word?

Insha'Allah.

Which book is by your bedside these days?

Nine Stories. By Jerome David Salinger.

Your favorite holiday destination?

Georgia.

What is your dream country where you would like to be posted after Saudi Arabia?

No country in particular.

Which country's people have you found to be the most friendly?

You can find friendly people everywhere.

How do you react to or deal with anger?

Through meditation.

What is your source of strength during tough times?

My family.

What was your first impression about the Kingdom?

King Abdul Aziz — founder of the Kingdom.

Which Saudi city fascinated you the most?

Riyadh.

Your favorite Saudi dish?

Jarish.

The one thing about the Kingdom that you will always remember?

Saudi culture.

If you were given only one option between Facebook and Twitter, what would that be?

Facebook.

If you had not become a diplomat, what would you be?

Businessman.

Is hiding truth acceptable in diplomacy?

"If you tell the truth, you don't have to remember anything." Mark Twain.

How do you keep yourself fit?

Through walking.

Your favorite restaurant?

Any restaurant offering Sushi.

Your favorite football club?

Dinamo Tbilisi

Who is your favorite actor/actress?

Omar Sharif

What is your favorite weekend activity?

Reading.

<http://www.arabnews.com/saudi-arabia/news/722441>

وكالة الأنباء السعودية  
Saudi Press Agency

Al-Zayani meets with new Georgian ambassador to the Kingdom

Riyadh, Safar 30, 1436, December 22, 2014, SPA -- Secretary General of the Riyadh-based Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)

Dr. Abdullah bin Rashed Al-Zayani met here today with the newly-appointed ambassador of Georgia to the Kingdom of

Saudi Arabia George Gangava who came to introduce himself to him.

At the outset of the meeting, Al-Zayani congratulated the ambassador on being appointed as new ambassador of his country to the Kingdom, wishing him a good stay and success.

The two sides also discussed cooperation relations between Georgia and the GCC, vowing to promote them for the benefit of the two.

The meeting was attended by Dr. Saad Al-Ammar, the GCC Assistant Secretary General for political affairs.

--SPA

<http://www.spa.gov.sa/pda/English/details.php?id=1308661&catid=>

## / سمو نائب وزير الخارجية يستقبل سفيري جورجيا وايرلندا المعينين لدى المملكة



الرياض 27 ذو القعدة 1435 هـ الموافق 22 سبتمبر 2014 م واس  
استقبل صاحب سمو الملكي الأمير عبد العزيز بن عبد الله بن عبد العزيز،  
نائب وزير الخارجية اليوم، سفير جمهورية جورجيا لدى المملكة جورج  
جانجافا، وسفير جمهورية ايرلندا لدى المملكة جوزيف انوني كوتر، اللذين  
سلما صورًا من أوراق اعتمادهما تمهيداً لتقديمها لخادم الحرمين الشريفين  
الملك عبد الله بن عبد العزيز آل سعود - حفظه الله - سفيرين لبلديهما لدى  
المملكة.

حضر اللقاءين مدير عام مكتب سمو نائب وزير الخارجية السفير دهام بن

عواد الدهام، ووكيل وزارة الخارجية لشؤون المراسم عزام بن عبد الكريم القين.

<http://www.spa.gov.sa/readsinglenews.php?id=1275821>

# Saudi Gazette

## Alwaleed Philanthropies donates \$300,000 to Georgia's floods victims

JEDDAH



**President of Georgia Giorgi Margvelashvili and Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal during a meeting at the Presidential Palace in Tbilisi, Georgia**

Alwaleed Philanthropies believes in providing vital relief to ease the suffering of victims when disaster strikes. Alwaleed Philanthropies, chaired by Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, contributed with \$300,000 to the Georgian government to support victims after the flood occurred in the Vere River valley in Tbilisi, the capital of Georgia, on the night of June 13 and 14, 2015.

The Vere River is characterized by periodic flash floods, which occurred previously in 1960, 1963, 1972, and 1995. The latest crisis took 19 human fatalities, 36 people were injured, more than 40 families were left homeless and 22,000 people were left without electricity. The Georgian government reported a preliminary estimated flood damage cost from \$18 million to \$45 million.

“Alwaleed Philanthropies worked for 35 years to supports and initiates projects in 94 countries, regardless of gender, race or religion.

We collaborate with a range of philanthropic, government and educational organizations to combat poverty, empower women and youth, develop communities, provide disaster relief and create cultural understanding through education. We believe that together, we can build bridges for a more compassionate, tolerant and accepting world,” Alwaleed Philanthropies said in a statement Tuesday. – SG

<http://anax1ep.pressmart.com/saudigazette/publications/saudigazette/sau/2015/07/08/articlehtmls/alwaleed-philanthropies-donates-300000-to-georgias-floods-victims-08072015013001.shtml>

## رئيس جورجيا يجتمع مع الأمير الوليد



الأمير الوليد بن طلال يجتمع مع رئيس جورجيا

زار صاحب السمو الملكي الأمير الوليد بن طلال رئيس مجلس إدارة شركة المملكة القابضة والوفد المرافق مدينة تبليسي في جمهورية جورجيا يوم الأربعاء، 23 1436 10 يونيو 2015 . مطار تبليسي الدولي الأستاذ جيورجي كفيركاشفيلي، نائب رئيس وزراء جورجيا.

وتضمن الوفد كلا من الأستاذة حسناء التركي، المديرية التنفيذية للعلاقات الدولية لسمو رئيس مجلس الإدارة، والأستاذ هاني آغا، رئيس قسم السفريات والتنسيق الخارجي، والأستاذ أحمد الطيبشي، المساعد التنفيذي لسمو رئيس مجلس . وخلال الزيارة استقبل فخامة رئيس جورجيا جيورجي مارغفيليا شقيلي الأمير الوليد في القصر الرئاسي في العاصمة تبليسي. وتناول فخامة الرئيس والأمير الوليد بعض المواضيع العامة ذات الاهتمام المشترك بين البلدين. تناولوا الأحاديث الودية وتناقشا في العديد من المواضيع المحلية والإقليمية بالإضافة إلى الوضع الاقتصادي العالمي. تناول الطرفان عدة مواضيع عامة شملت استثمارات سموه عن طريق شركة المملكة القابضة العالمية.

وأيضاً خلال الزيارة، التقى الأمير الوليد بدولة رئيس وزراء جورجيا السيد ايركلي غاريباشفيلي.

من المواضيع الاقتصادية والاجتماعية، كما قدم دولة رئيس الوزراء دعوة للأمير الوليد للاستثمار في بلاده. ومن ثم أقيم حفل تكريم للأمير الوليد حيث منحت دولة رئيس وزراء جورجيا السيد ايراکلي غاريباشفيلي مواطنة فخرية مع شهادة وجواز سفر رمزي للأمير الوليد.

<http://www.alriyadh.com/1057048>

ქართული ტელევიზია:

<http://www.imeri.ge/index.php?pg=nws&id=50775>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3eHYPoGItY4>

ქართული გაზეთები და საიტები:

<http://www.newspress.ge/ekonomika/70386-saudis-arabethshi-saqarthvelos-biznes-shesadzleblobebis-shesakheb-prezentacia-gaimartha.html>

<https://ici.ge/news/saudis-arabetsi-saqartvelos-biznes-sesazleblobebis-sesaxeb-prezentacia-gaimarta.html>

<http://www.interpressnews.ge/ge/politika/338799-saudis-arabethshi-saqarthvelos-biznes-shesadzleblobebis-shesakheb-prezentacia-gaimartha.html?ar=A>

[http://old.bpi.ge/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=19209:2013-11-05-08-05-39&catid=49:2011-11-06-16-56-03](http://old.bpi.ge/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=19209:2013-11-05-08-05-39&catid=49:2011-11-06-16-56-03)

<http://www.newspress.ge/interviu/68759-giorgi-janjghava-saudis-arabethis-princis-vizitibevri-potenciuri-investoristhvis-seriozuli-signalia.html>

<http://news.abkhazia.gov.ge/?p=8431>

<http://reportiori.ge/?menuid=2&id=56206>

<http://reportiori.ge/?menuid=3&id=62680>

<http://reportiori.ge/?menuid=2&id=61138>