

My readings of the Iraqi author Ali Al Wardi made me think. Although Al Wardi published his books and articles in the 1950's, when you read his work, you feel that the writer is living among us today. Most of his analyses mirror current sectarianism and most importantly, the rise of terrorist movements, those who benefit from their existence, and how it can be eliminated. He mentions in *The Story of Nobles and Ibn Saud*, published in 1969, the establishment of the *Ikhwan*—"The Brethren;" a movement which he claims surprised many by its great courage in war and extreme bigotry during peace. The adviser of King Abdulaziz bin Saud, St. John Philby, says that Ibn Saud's creation of the Brethren movement in 1912 was a stroke of genius which compared only to his initiative to disband the same movement eighteen years later when he realized it acted as an obstacle to stability in an area that he built with his own patience and effort. Al Wardi continues that the movement which Ibn Saud founded would have destroyed him if he did not start destroying it first.

Of course, these are Al Wardi's words and not mine. As I'm not a historian, I cannot guarantee the authenticity of what he wrote. However, what urged me to write about this subject was the constant emergence of these movements which cover themselves in the name of Islam, but hide a darkness inside which manifests itself under different names and beliefs. Furthermore, Al Wardi mentions the founders of these new movements and who, once their mission was complete, destroyed them as the *Ikhwan* were destroyed.

Perhaps the author presented the answer at the end of his book, and I quote it here: "We have seen the Brethren of Najd committing hateful atrocities while they