

of Iraq, SARS, the Arar case, the withdrawal of Zimbabwe from the Commonwealth, same sex-marriages and the prospective Islamic court in Canada. Amnesty International Canada was harshly criticized in *Islam Web* along with Amnesty International.

The *Al-Muhayed* weekly journal described the relationship between America and the Islamic world as a relationship of “animosity and hidden agenda.” It mentioned Canada among the major industrialized nations that resort to concluding bilateral and regional agreements with developing nations in order to control the economies of those nations through the mechanisms of the IMF, the World Bank and the WTO in order to achieve hegemony over the world economy.<sup>20</sup>

*Al-Jazeera*’s coverage of Canada was neutral to a certain extent, and reported on the differences between Canada and the US over mad cow disease and the Maher Arar case. Canada was also referenced in several *Al-Jazeera* articles on Israel’s accusations of Canadian citizen Jamal Aql and Canada’s backing off claims that the 21 men “pose a security threat”. There were articles on Paul Martin’s desire to combat corruption and introduce sweeping reforms and an article stating that bilingualism in Canada is working. Other references to Canada were covered within the following topics: the prospective Islamic tribunal, SARS, Afghanistan, Palestinian refugees, the death penalty in Vietnam, the Commonwealth split, same-sex marriages, US’s turn to Canada for cheap drugs, and free trade agreements.

Arab and Muslim wire services, major Islamic web-sites, and news outlets in Arabic or English focussed on Canada’s security related policies and the “plight” of Muslim immigrants in North America. They rarely covered scientific, sporting, business or entertainment news. The theme of unjust treatment of Muslims living in Canada recurred in many of the sources. Many sources shared the trend of anti-Americanism, but there appeared to be no overt animosity towards Canada except in some editorials published in *Al-Muhayed*.

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<sup>20</sup> *Al-Muhayed*, 27 September 2003