

# Profiles of new ministers

## Prime Minister and Minister of Defence

Born on January 27, 1969, Khasawneh holds a PhD in law from the London School of Economics. He also worked as an adviser for policies to His Majesty King Abdullah as of August 18, 2020 and adviser to King Abdullah for communications and coordination between 2019 and 2020 and Jordan's permanent representative to UNESCO between 2018 and 2019. Khasawneh was also the Kingdom's ambassador to France between 2018 and 2019 and to Egypt between 2012 and 2016, when he also was Jordan's permanent representative to the Arab League in Cairo, in addition to serving as a



**Bisher Al Khasawneh**

minister of state for foreign affairs between 2016 and 2017, and minister of state for legal affairs between 2017 and 2018.

## Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Local Administration

Born in Maan in 1947, Kreishan obtained his BSc in accounting and business administration from the Arab University of Beirut in 1972. He was a deputy in Jordan's 12th Parliament (1993-1997). Kreishan served as minister of municipal and rural affairs and environment in 1994 and in 1997, and was appointed minister of state for parliamentary affairs in 2003.



**Tawfiq Kreishan**

## Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates

Safadi, who holds an MA in International Journalism from Baylor University in Texas and a BA in English Literature from Yarmouk University, has edited and written for a number of newspapers, including The Jordan Times and Al Ghad. Since September 2016, he has served as a member of the Senate until his appointment as a minister in Hani Mulki's Cabinet. Between 2008 and 2011, Safadi served as adviser to His Majesty King Abdullah and as deputy prime minister, minister of state and spokesperson for the government. He has also served as director of communications at the Royal Court and as press secretary to HRH Prince Hassan. He also served as director general of the Jordan Radio and Television Corporation. He also held the post of foreign minister in Omar Razzaz's government.



**Ayman Safadi**

## Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Economic Affairs

Born in Amman in 1946, Toukan obtained his bachelor's and master's degrees in business administration from the American University of Beirut, a post-graduate diploma in economic development from Oxford University and a PhD in Finance and Monetary Economy from Columbia University. Toukan served as Central Bank Governor for two consecutive terms between 2001 and 2010. He was also Jordan's ambassador to Belgium, Holland and Luxemburg and a senator



**Umayya Toukan**

## Minister of Agriculture

Born in 1947 in Al Ruwaished, Daoudiyeh served as the Kingdom's ambassador to Greece in 2005, and non-resident ambassador to Cyprus in 2006. He also assumed the post of Minister for Political Development and Parliamentary Affairs in 2003-2004. He also was Jordan's ambassador to Morocco, Portugal, Mauritania and Senegal. Daoudiyeh also served as minister of youth in 1996-1997, as well as a member of the 12th Parliament in 1993-1997.



**Mohammad Daoudiyeh**

## Minister of Education

Born in Irbid in 1955, Nueimi served as minister of education between 2007 and 2009. He holds a PhD degree in education psychology from the University of Pittsburgh, US, in 1986. He also worked at several universities in Jordan and abroad as assistant, associate and professor. Nueimi also served as minister of education in Omar Razzaz's government.



**Tayseer Nueimi**

## Minister of Political and Parliamentary Affairs

Born in Irbid in 1954, Maaytah earned a master's degree in telecom engineering from the University of Bucharest in 1981 and was president of the National Federation of Jordanian Students in Romania from 1976-1980. Maaytah is one of the founders of the Jordanian Democratic Socialist Party and was elected as a member of the party's political office during its first conference. He helped in the establishment of the United Democratic Party, which was later renamed the Jordanian Left Democratic Party, and was elected as its secretary general in 1996. He served as minister of political development in Samir Rifai's government and Minister of Political and Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in Omar Razzaz's government.



**Musa Maaytah**

## Minister of State for Media Affairs

Born in 1963, in Marka, Ayed obtained a bachelor's degree in law from the University of Jordan in 1985 and a master's degree in international law from the University of Edinburgh in 1988. He joined the Foreign Ministry in 1991 and served as the Kingdom's ambassador to Israel and charge d'affaires in the Jordanian embassy in Washington and Jordan's embassy in Tel Aviv. He was a member of the Jordanian delegation during the Kingdom's negotiations with Israel from 1992 to 1994. Ayed also served as minister of media affairs and communications in Samir Rifai's government.



**Ali Al Ayed**

## Minister of Planning and International Cooperation

Born in Irbid in 1967, Shraideh obtained his degrees in economics from Yarmouk University. He has served as environment minister in 2010-2011, secretary general of the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation in 2006, promoted from the post of director of the international cooperation department at the ministry. In 2016, he was appointed as the chief commissioner of the Aqaba Special Economic Zone Authority.



**Nasser Shraideh**

## Minister of Public Works and Housing

Born in Wadi Seer in 1949, Kisbi has a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Ankara University and a master's degree in construction management from George Washington University in the US. He joined the Ministry of Public Works and Housing as an engineer, and later served as assistant secretary general and minister in one of Abdullah Ensour's governments and one of Omar Razzaz's governments.



**Yahya Kisbi**

## Minister of Tourism and Antiquities

A graduate of Brigham Young University, Fayeze holds a bachelor's degree in political science and a master's degree in international relations. He started his professional career at the Royal Court serving as assistant chief of Royal Protocol for His Majesty the late King Hussein and for His Majesty King Abdullah. He also served as the director of HRH Prince Feisal's office and as the head of Her Majesty Queen Rania's Protocol. He served as tourism minister in the governments of Awn Khasawneh and Fayeze Tarawneh. He has also served as minister of tourism and environment in Abdullah Ensour's government in 2012.



**Nayef Al Fayeze**

## Minister of State for Prime Ministry Affairs

Born in Amman in 1966, Jazi holds a PhD in international law from the University of London. He also served as minister of state for legal affairs between 2011 and 2012 and minister of justice in 2012. Jazi is also an international lawyer in general international law and issues related to human rights, the environment law and the law of the sea, among others.



**Ibrahim Jazi**

## Minister of State for Legal Affairs

Born in 1950, Ziadat holds a PhD in law from the University of London. He served as minister of state for the Prime Ministry affairs in 2016. Ziadat worked as assistant professor at the University of Jordan between 1990 and 2003 and as associate professor in 2003.



**Ahmad Ziadat**

## Minister of Justice

Born in Amman in 1964, Talhouni, currently a senator, holds a PhD from the University of Edinburgh, UK. He has worked as a lawyer for more than 20 years and served as a legal adviser for several international organisations. He served as minister of justice in Omar Razzaz's government.



**Bassam Talhouni**

## Minister of Industry, Trade and Supply

Ali, who has been working at the Trade Ministry since 1998, was appointed as secretary general in 2010. She has a BSc in industrial engineering, a trade policy diploma from the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and an MBA from the German-Jordanian University/Talal Abu Ghazaleh Graduate School of Business. Ali has served as director of the foreign trade policy department and deputy economic counsellor at Jordan's mission to the UN. She also hosted the trade and investment pillar of the Deauville Partnership meeting in 2012, was a member of the negotiation team for Jordan's accession to the WTO and negotiation technical lead for the Kingdom's free trade agreements with the US, Singapore, Canada and Turkey.



**Maha Al Ali**

## Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources

Zawati worked as CEO of the Jordan Strategy Forum and served as adviser for energy affairs at Umniah, the King Abdullah II Fund for Development, the Ahli Bank and the Bank of Jordan. She also offered the Lower House with many consultations related to the energy sector. Zawati holds a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering.



**Hala Zawati**

## Minister of Finance

Born in Amman in 1977, Al-Ississ holds a PhD in economic development and general politics from Harvard University. He served as minister of planning and international cooperation and minister of state for economic affairs between 2018 and 2019. Ississ also served as special advisor for His Majesty at the Royal Court. In the November 2019 reshuffle of Omar Razzaz's Cabinet, the portfolio of Al-Ississ was changed from minister of planning and international cooperation and state minister for economic affairs to finance minister.



**Mohamad Al-Ississ**

## Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs

Born in Zarqa in 1967, Khalailah was granted a PhD degree in Islamic fiqh (Islamic jurisprudence) in 2009 from the World Islamic Sciences University. He served as the Kingdom's Grand Mufti from January 2017 until November 2019 and was the secretary general of the Iftaa Department. He also served at the Iftaa Department of the Jordan Armed Forces-Arab Army for 21 years. Khalailah served as Awqaf minister in Omar Razzaz's government.



**Mohammad Khalailah**

## Minister of Culture

Holding a PhD degree in media studies, Tweissi is currently dean of the Jordan Media Institute and before served as deputy director of the development studies centre at King Hussein University and adviser to the university president, as well as an assistant professor in the media and strategic studies department. He is a founding member for several local commissions and civil society organisations. Tweissi also served as culture minister in Omar Razzaz's government.



**Basim Tweissi**

## Minister of Environment

Masarweh served as the Kingdom's ambassador to Lebanon. He joined the Foreign Ministry in 1977 as an attaché. He holds a bachelor's degree in political science and public administration from the University of Jordan.



**Nabil Masarweh**

## Minister of Social Development

Mufleh served as secretary general of the Jordanian Hashemite Charity Organisation and a governor at the Interior Ministry.



**Ayman Mufleh**

## Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research

A US graduate and a professor in mechanical engineering, Abu Qudais held the position of president of the Arab Open University as well as president of Yarmouk University. He also held posts of secretary general of the Ministry of Higher Education and vice president of the Hashemite University.



**Mohammad Khair Abu Qudais**

## Minister of State

A member of Parliament, Kharabsheh is a practising lawyer who served as director of the General Intelligence Department (1974-1991) and chairman of the Board of Directors of Al Diyar Newspaper. He received the orders of Independence, Loyalty and Al Hussein Bin Ali and the Golden Jubilee Medal.



**Mahmoud Kharabsheh**

## Minister of State for Follow-up and Government Coordination

Born in 1974 in Amman, Tall holds a PhD in political science and a master's degree in international law from the UK University of Exeter. He was ambassador extraordinary of the Kingdom to the Netherlands and non-resident ambassador to Estonia and Latvia in 2018-2020.



**Nawaf Wasfi Tall**

## Minister of Interior

Born in 1955 in Karak, Halalmeh enrolled at the Royal Military College as a cadet in 1977. He served as commander of the special police in 1999. In 2008, a Royal decree was issued to form the Gendarmerie department, and Halalmeh was named its director general.



**Tawfiq Halalmeh**

## Minister of Health

A consultant physician in respiratory, sleep and intensive care medicine since 2001, Obeidat served as spokesperson of the National Epidemiological Committee. He also assumed academic posts, notably as an associate professor in the department of internal medicine, respiratory and sleep medicine.



**Nathir Obeidat**

## Minister of Transport

Born in 1952, Khitan holds a master's degree in transport engineering. He is a board member in the Integrated Transport Company, former general manager of the Integrated Multi-Transport Company, and former director general of the Public Transport Corporation.



**Marwan Khitan**

## Minister of Water and Irrigation

Saidan assumed several academic and administrative posts, including professor of Chemical Engineering at the University of Jordan since September 2019. He also served as director of the Centre of Water, Energy and Environment at the University of Jordan, CEO of the Royal Scientific Society (RSS), director of the USAID and RSS' Clean Technologies Programme for Research and Development.



**Motasem Saidan**

## Minister of Youth

Nabulsi holds a master's degree in Development Studies from the University of London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). He also has a bachelor's degree in political science from the American University of Beirut (AUB). Nabulsi served as secretary-general of the Economic and Social Council and coordinator of the Euro-Mediterranean Studies department at the Centre for Strategic Studies at the University of Jordan and director of the department of European Union Affairs at the Foreign Ministry.



**Mohammad Salameh Al Nabulsi**

## Minister of State for Institutional Performance Development

As director general of the Institute of Public Administration, Ajarmeh has 31 years of experience, including 13 years in leadership and supervisory positions in the public sector and USAID projects in the fields of policy development, legislation and planning strategies. Ajarmeh also served as director of the Institutional Development Hub with the former Ministry of Public Sector Development, the Ministry of Environment, as well as director of institutional performance development at the Jordan Standards and Metrology Organisation.



**Rabaah Ajarmeh**

## Minister of Labour and Minister of State for Investment Affairs

Qatamin holds a PhD in investment from the University of Warwick, a master's degree in finance from the University of Nottingham and a bachelor's degree in business administration and political sciences from the University of Jordan. He held several academic and administrative posts, including director of the Special Office of former Prime Minister Abdullah Ensour and dean of the business administration faculty at Dubai University.



**Maen Qatamin**

## Minister of Digital Economy and Entrepreneurship

Holding a bachelor's degree in finance and banking from Yarmouk University, Hanandeh served as CEO of Zain Jordan from 2011, as well as General Manager of Busta Plus for four years. Hanandeh received several awards, including 2017 Telecom Worlds Middle East Award and 2016 Markets MEA Award and was nominated "CEO of the Year", in addition to "2016 Man of Change Award", and "2014 Best Telecom Leaders award from Telecom Review magazine. He also was awarded the 2014 Socrates International Award for Best CEO.



**Ahmad Hanandeh**