

Fast Facts

Audience	Weekly reach of 31 million people
Headquarters	Springfield, Va.
Language	Arabic
Outlets	Alhurra TV, Radio Sawa, RadioSawa.com and Alhurra.com
Staff	768 people



Mission

MBN's mission is to provide objective, accurate, and relevant news and information to the people of the Middle East about the region, the world, and the United States. MBN supports democratic values by expanding the spectrum of ideas, opinions, and perspectives available in the region's media

Overview

The Middle East Broadcasting Networks, Inc. (MBN) is a non-profit grantee of the Broadcasting Board of Governors that operates Alhurra Television and Radio Sawa. MBN is a multimedia organization that enables the U.S. to communicate to the Middle East via television, radio and the Internet.

MBN's Arabic-speaking editorial staff, working with correspondents throughout the Middle East, generates much of the news from facilities in Northern Virginia.

Alhurra Television broadcasts objective and accurate Arabic-language news and information to 22 countries throughout the Middle East on the Nilesat and Arabsat satellite systems. In addition to reporting on world events, Alhurra provides context and analysis to give viewers a broader understanding of the actions impacting the region. In 2009, Alhurra launched Al Youm (Arabic for Today), a live three-hour daily news magazine that originates simultaneously from five countries in three continents including Dubai, Beirut, Cairo, Jerusalem and Alhurra's headquarters in Springfield, Va.

MBN also broadcasts a second channel specifically for Iraq. Alhurra-Iraq is broadcast via satellite, as well as via terrestrial transmitters in six Iraqi cities. Alhurra-Iraq's news and current affairs programs concentrate on issues facing the Iraqi viewers as they move into a new era, rebuilding their country.





Launched in 2002, Radio Sawa effectively reaches a significant portion of the influential under-35 population of the Middle East. Broadcasting 24/7, mostly on FM, Radio Sawa provides its audience with reliable and objective up-to-date news, interesting information and an upbeat blend of mainstream Western and Arabic popular music. Radio Sawa broadcasts more than seven hours of news and information each day. Additionally, Radio Sawa's all news website provides the most up-to-date news and information in Arabic on the Web, as well as live broadcasts of Radio Sawa's regional streams.

Distribution

Alhurra and Alhurra-Iraq are distributed around-the-clock on Nilesat and Arabsat covering the entire Arabic-speaking world from the Atlantic Ocean to the Gulf. Additionally, Alhurra-Iraq is also available terrestrially in Baghdad, Al Hilla, Basra, Tekreet, Al Nasiriyah and Mosul. Live streaming can be found at www.alhurra.com

Radio Sawa broadcasts on FM in Jordan, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates, the Palestinian Territories, Qatar, Lebanon, Bahrain, Morocco, Sudan, Libya, Djibouti and Iraq. It's broadcast on medium wave (AM) from transmitters in Cyprus (covering Egypt, Lebanon, Syria, Gaza and the Eastern Mediterranean), in UAE (covering parts of Saudi Arabia), in Kuwait (covering Iraq) and in Djibouti (covering Sudan, Yemen and parts of Saudi Arabia). Radio Sawa is also available on Arabsat, Nilesat and Eutelsat Hotbird. Streaming audio is available on the Internet at www.radiosawa.com



Social Media

New media tools and social media platforms are an integral component of MBN's content distribution. Alhurra and Radio Sawa have more than 15 Facebook fan pages, including an Alhurra page and a Radio Sawa page, as well as fan pages of key programs. Both Alhurra and Radio Sawa have Twitter feeds. Alhurra also has a YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/alhurra

Bureaus and Production Centers

Baghdad / Jerusalem / Dubai / Beirut / Cairo / Washington, D.C