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- ✧ Reliance Industries' [Mukesh Ambani](#) discussed uniting rich and poor India in a speech to the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry. He gave his thoughts on India's new budget in the [Economic Times](#).
- ✧ [Dominic Barton](#) of McKinsey's 'Capitalism for the Long Term' in the *Harvard Business Review*, arguing that business must reform or watch government seize control. He was interviewed by [Reuters](#) and cited in the [New York Times](#) and in [People Daily Online](#).
- ✧ [George Buckley](#) of 3M was featured in the *Wall Street Journal*, and in a [Barron's](#) profile of the company.
- ✧ TSMC's [Morris Chang](#) was featured in the *China Post* for his company's new approach to a shorter work week.
- ✧ [Jamshyd Godrej](#) of Godrej & Boyce co-authored an article for the *Economic Times* discussing clean energy options for India.
- ✧ Alibaba's [Jack Ma](#) was featured in *Forbes* for his views on incorporating values and trust into business operations.
- ✧ [Narayana Murthy](#) of Infosys discussed tax exemptions for IT companies in an interview with CNBC-TV18.
- ✧ [Lubna Olayan](#) of Olayan Financing was named the second-most powerful Arab woman in 2011 by *Arabian Business*.
- ✧ Transunion's [Penny Pritzker](#) received the Ernest C. Arbuckle Award for excellence in the field of management leadership from Stanford Business School.
- ✧ [Michael Smith](#) of ANZ authored an article in the *Australian* in which he discussed the shift in global currencies.
- ✧ CIMB's [Nazir Razak](#) shared his thoughts on the changing role of Asian banks in an interview with *McKinsey Quarterly*.
- ✧ Orient Overseas' [C.C. Tung](#) spoke about the importance of looking ahead in a speech at the Annual Trans-Pacific Maritime Conference.
- ✧ [Zhang Xin](#) of Soho China discussed the role of religion in her life in the *Wall Street Journal*.
- ✧ Ayala's [Jaime Augusto Zobel](#) received an honorary doctorate from Holy Angel University.

Spring Forum in Saudi Arabia

The Council's 2011 Spring Forum in Saudi Arabia was unforgettable. Thanks to the extraordinary hospitality of our hosts, Khalid Al-Falih and Lubna Olayan, we traveled from the capital of Riyadh to the Shaybah oil field (nestled among the red dunes of the Empty Quarter), the magnificent King Abdullah University of Science and Technology and the nearby Red Sea port of Jeddah.

More impressive than the country's stunning beauty are its people; we were fortunate to have some very impressive guest speakers. Everyone came away with a new understanding of and appreciation for this important country.

Forum materials and summaries soon will be on a members-only Web site.

Earthquake, Tsunami, and Revolt: A Month for the History Books

March saw one of the most powerful earthquakes in human history followed by a monstrous tsunami and a crippling nuclear accident on Japan's northeastern coast.

Our hearts go out to those who perished and to those they left behind. We applaud the courage of the survivors and the bravery of those struggling to tame the nuclear genie.

Far from the Japanese disaster, on the western edge of Asia and the northern shores of Africa, revolts are sweeping the Arab world.

We don't know the long-term strategic or economic implications of this uprising. But 2011 marks the end of the notion that Arabs are somehow exceptional, that they contentedly would be ruled forever by autocrats.

The months and years that follow undoubtedly will have their ugly phases. For the economy, at least, over time this could be good news. We are likely to see more middle- and lower-class spending, on everything from housing to consumption, as governments try to ensure popular support through more spending and higher wages.

From a geopolitical perspective, what's most important is that this should end the period in which too many in the West equated Islam and Arabs with terror and Al Qaeda.

A New Global Super-Cycle

The West is limping. But the developing world is booming. Standard Chartered says we are a decade into a generation-long global super-cycle driven by trade, investment, urbanization, and technological innovation. [A lengthy new report](#) says the global economy will grow to \$308 trillion (nominal) by 2030 from today's \$62 trillion. About two-thirds of the expected growth will come from emerging economies, amplifying the shift in economic and financial power from West to East.

Although significant near-term challenges remain, especially the West's debt overhang and the East's risks of asset bubbles, the next two decades should see powerful global growth.