

# Venture

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## THE POWER LIST: WHERE WEALTH AND INFLUENCE LIE IN JORDAN'S BUSINESS WORLD



**SALWARD**  
TURNING A TURNAROUND  
JORDAN'S GAMING  
INDUSTRY

**POTASH COMPANY**  
PRIVATEZATION WORK?

**INTERVIEWS**

**OASIS 500**  
NEW BOSS, NEW  
OUTLOOK

**BUILDING A BASIS  
FOR BITCOIN IN  
JORDAN**

**TO READ** DEALING WITH DISASTER, BIG DATA, CURRENCY CRISIS AHEAD. IKEA COMES TO TOWN. AND MORE...



FOR HIS PIONEERING ROLE IN  
LAYING THE FOUNDATION FOR  
IP IN THE ARAB WORLD, ABU-  
GHAZALEH HAS BEEN DUBBED  
THE FATHER OF INTELLECTUAL  
PROPERTY



# TALAL ABU-GHAZALEH

## CURRENT POSITION:

Talal Abu-Ghazaleh, Chairman of Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Organization

## MAIN SECTORS:

Education, IP, IT, accounting

## WHY HE MATTERS:

Talal Abu-Ghazaleh is the region's champion of intellectual property

Talal Abu-Ghazaleh was born in 1938 in Jaffa. He studied at the American University of Beirut, after which he started working for an auditing company. But he only ventured into intellectual property after attending an event in the United States that addressed this particular issue. He then established Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Company (TAGCO) and Abu-Ghazaleh Intellectual property (AGIP) in 1972. Over the years, Abu-Ghazaleh has expanded the scope of his work by establishing over a dozen companies that specialize in accounting, consulting, management, IT, and legal services.

For his pioneering role in laying the foundation for IP in the Arab world, Abu-Ghazaleh has been dubbed the father of intellectual property in the region. He's also a staunch advocate of education; he founded the Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Graduate School of

Business, the Confucius Institute, which teaches Chinese language courses, and a Professional Training Group that trains individuals in management, finance, economy, law, and e-learning.

His Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Organization (TAG-Org) is the umbrella for a number of firms operating across different sectors. AGIP was established in Kuwait and helped lay the foundations for the uptake of IP practices in the region. Since its establishment, the company assisted Arab governments and decision makers in drafting IP rights, laws, and regulations. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Legal was founded in 1998 and specializes in providing legal services and solutions. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh and Co. International is a consulting firm that provides ICT-related consulting services and business solutions.

## THE NEXT WAVE

**Talal Abu-Ghazaleh saw the importance of IP years before anyone in the region, so what's his next prediction?**

"I think digital education is the way to the future. There's a study that predicts that in 2020, 80 percent of US universities will be virtual and all education will be online. The world is moving so fast and we are now in a transition period, which is why some countries like Jordan are still dragging their feet about accrediting online education. Technology only moves forward and this particular technology of interaction is going to be perfected as days go by."

*Venture Magazine interview, September, 2013*