Forbes has released its much awaited billionaire ranking, profiling the richest people on the planet.

Nassef Sawiris is the world’s richest Arab for a second year running. The list once again did not include Saudi billionaires.

The number of Arab Billionaires stood at 25 this year—four less from last year. Fawzi Al Kharafi, Mohannad Al Kharafi and Bassam Alghanim from Kuwait, and Lebanese prime minister, Saad Hariri, all dropped out of the list.

The drop offs mean that the wealth of this year’s Arab billionaires is $59.8 billion—$19.1 billion lower than last year. There were no new Arab additions.

This year’s 25 Arab billionaires saw their fortunes declining in total by $8.9 billion. UAE billionaire Majid Al Futtaim was the largest gainer—his net worth increased by half a billion to $5.1 billion.

The UAE, with seven billionaires, was the highest represented Arab country on the list. Lebanon and Egypt came in second place with six each.

1- Nassef Sawiris
Net worth: $6.4 B
Age: 58
Source: Construction- Chemicals
Country: Egypt
Nassef Sawiris is a scion of Egypt's wealthiest family. His brother Naguib is also a billionaire.

Sawiris split Orascom Construction Industries into two entities in 2015: OCI and Orascom Construction.

He runs OCI- one of the world's largest nitrogen fertilizer producers- with plants in Texas and Iowa; it trades on the Euronext Amsterdam exchange.

Orascom Construction- an engineering and building firm- trades on the Cairo exchange and Nasdaq Dubai.

His holdings include stakes in cement giant Lafarge Holcim and Adidas; he sits on the supervisory board of Adidas.

2- Majid Al Futtaim & family
Net worth: $5.1 B
Sector: Real estate- retail

MAF owns and operates 12 hotels and 22 malls- including Mall of the Emirates in Dubai and the Mall of Egypt in Cairo.

It also has the exclusive license to operate hypermarkets for French company Carrefour across the Middle East- North Africa and Central Asia.

His son Tariq sits on the board while non-family members manage the conglomerate-which publishes its revenues and profits annually.

The group had $8.8 billion in revenues and $600 million in profits in 2017.

3- M.A. Yysuff Ali
**Net worth:** $4.7 B
**Sector:** Retail
**Country:** United Arab Emirates
Middle East retail king M.A. Yusuff Ali presides over $8.1 billion (revenue) LuLu Group, with 152 stores in the Gulf region and elsewhere.

Hailing from a village in Kerala state in south India, Yusuff Ali left for Abu Dhabi in 1973 to join his uncle's small distribution business.

The group's hospitality arm's assets include the Caledonian, a former Victorian railway hotel, overlooking Edinburgh Castle.

Yusuff Ali is investing back home in a big way, earmarking more than $2 billion to build hotels, malls and convention centers, among much else.

After floods hit his native Kerala state in August 2018, he donated $2.6 million towards rehabilitation.

4- Abdulla bin Ahmed Al Ghurair & family
Net worth: $4.6 B
Sector: Diversified
Country: United Arab Emirates
Abdulla Al Ghurair founded Mashreqbank in 1967- one of the U.A.E.'s leading banks. He remains chairman and his son Abdul Aziz is CEO.

His eponymous holding company has interests in food- construction and real estate; non-family members are part of the leadership team.

Al Ghurair Foods claims to have the biggest pasta factory in the Middle East. Its pasta products are sold under the Jenan brand.

His construction company did the exterior cladding of Burj Khalifa- the world's tallest building- and helped build the Dubai Metro.

His brother Saif Al Ghurair is also a billionaire”.

5- Micky Jagtiani  
**Net worth:** $4.1 B  
**Age:** 67  
**Sector:** Food- Self Made  
**Country:** India
Middle East retail magnate Micky Jagtiani drove a taxi in London before moving to Bahrain and starting a baby products shop in 1973.

He built it into the Dubai-headquartered Landmark Group, which his wife Renuka runs today as chairman and CEO.

With estimated annual revenue of $6 billion, Landmark has 2,300 stores spread across 22 countries in the Middle East, Africa and India.

6- Ravi Pillai
Net worth: $3.9 B
Age: 65
Sector: Construction
Country: India
Indian-born farmer’s son, Ravi Pillai migrated to Saudi Arabia after his small construction business in his native Kerala state went bust.

With help from a well-connected local partner, he started over in 1978 and built his RP Group into a $6.8 billion (revenue) construction heavyweight.

The construction magnate has used his Gulf riches to invest back home, picking up stakes in banks, hotels, real estate.

7- Issad Rebrab & family
Net worth: $3.7 B
Age: 75
Sector: Retail
Country: Algeria
Issad Rebrab is the founder and CEO of Cevital- Algeria's biggest privately-held company.

Cevital owns one of the largest sugar refineries in the world- with the capacity to produce 2 million tons a year.

Cevital owns European companies- including French home appliances maker Groupe Brandt- an Italian steel mill and a German water purification company.

Rebrab has plans to build a steel mill in Brazil to produce train tracks and improve transportation logistics for sugar- corn and soy flour exports.

His five children work at Cevital.

**8- Suhail Bahwan**  
**Net worth:** $3.2 B  
**Age:** 80  
**Sector:** Diversified- Self Made  
**Country:** Oman
Suhail Bahwan is the founder and chairman of Suhail Bahwan Group- one of the largest conglomerates in Oman.

It is a major producer of fertilizers- generating 1.3 million tons of urea annually. It also owns Nissan and BWM dealerships.

He first went into business with his brother Saud in 1965- selling fishing nets and building materials- before scoring the Toyota dealership in 1975.

In 2002- he split with his brother- who kept the Toyota dealership and passed it along after his death to his son Mohammed."

9- Naguib Sawiris
Net worth: $2.9 B
Age: 64
Sector: Telecom
Country: Egypt
Naguib Sawiris is a scion of Egypt's wealthiest family. His brother Nassef is also a billionaire. He built a fortune in telecom- selling Orascom Telecom in 2011 to Russian telecom firm VimpelCom (now Veon) in a multibillion-dollar transaction.

He's chairman of Orascom Telecom Media & Technology--renamed Orascom Investment Holding to reflect investments in other sectors.

Family holding La Mancha has stakes in Evolution Mining- Endeavour Mining and Golden Star Resources- which operate gold mines in Africa and Australia.

In 2017- he shifted ownership of La Mancha to his mother- Yousriya Loza-Sawiris- for estate planning purposes.

10 - B.R.Shetty
Net worth: $2.9 B
Age: 77
Sector: Healthcare
Country: India
Former pharma salesman B.R. Shetty immigrated from Karnataka in south India to Abu Dhabi in 1973 to set up a healthcare empire.

His biggest asset is London-listed NMC Health, one of the UAE's largest hospital chains.

Shetty has brought his money remittance firms UAE Exchange and Travelex Group under a new holding firm called Finablr.

Shetty also owns healthcare firm BR Life, which has a presence in India, Nepal, Africa and the Gulf region.

In May 2018, Shetty signed the Giving Pledge.