



KUNA photo  
Sheikh Fahad receiving the Kayak4Kuwait team at the airport.

### Kayak4Kuwait team praised

Head of the interim committee tasked with managing the Kuwaiti Olympic Committee Sheikh Fahad Jaber Al-Ali Al-Sabah on Sunday lauded efforts of Kayak4Kuwait.

Success of the team came to complement the nation's national celebrations, Sheikh Fahad said in a statement after receiving team members at Kuwait International Airport.

The team kicked off their journey in Kuwait on Nov 10, as they covered all the six GCC member states, with stops at a number of Arabian Gulf islands, coral reefs, and other marine environments.

On her part, Sheikha Al-Zain Al-Sabah, undersecretary for the state ministry of youth affairs, said the team's environment-based journey was what the country needed in order to raise awareness on many levels.

The expedition chiefly aimed to raise awareness on environmental threats to the Arabian Gulf, by

speaking to government officials and community members in each country on enforcing existing environmental legislations, incorporating sustainable practices and measures, and providing environmental education at schools.

On his part, Environment Public Authority's (EPA) Director General Sheikh Abdullah Ahmad Al-Humoud Al-Sabah lauded team members Bashar Al-Hunaidi and Mansour Al-Safran, as he reiterated EPA keenness on supporting these campaigns, which will serve the society and maintain clean marine environment.

Bashar Al-Hunaidi, head of Kayak4Kuwait team, said the 2,000-km-long journey lasted 90 days, and aimed at urging citizens in the Gulf countries to protect marine life and sailed off the northern shores of Kuwait, and had gone through, and made stops, in Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, UAE and Oman. (KUNA)



Sheikh Mohammad Bin Rashid Al-Maktoum (center), Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, accompanied by George Atalla (right), Partner and Global Leader, Government and Public Sector at EY, presents the Best Minister's Award 2017 to Awa Marie Coll Seck, Senegalese Minister of Health and Social Action during the World Government Summit 2017, in Dubai's Madinat Jumeirah on Feb 12. (AFP)

### 'We have failures that need to be addressed'

## Future key for reviving Arab civilization, says Dubai ruler

DUBAI, Feb 13, (KUNA): In order for the Arab civilisation to regain its past glories, the Arab world should begin by comprehending the indicators for the future, said Vice President, Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai, Sheikh Mohammad bin Rashid Al Maktoum.

In statements made while addressing a panel of the World Government Summit and carried by the UAE news agency (WAM), Sheikh Mohammad referred to a "clear message" he made to the Arab governments 12 years ago that "you must change, or you will be changed." "As we talk about reviving civilisation, we need hope. I am optimistic because it is the man who makes civilisation, economy and prosperity. If the Arab and Muslim man succeeded in building a civilisation in the past, they are capable of resuming it," he added.

He added that the Arab world possesses all potential, including human resources, education, fertile lands and will power.

"The only thing missing is the management. The management of governments, economy, resources, infrastructure and even management of sports. We are 300 million, almost equal to the population of the United States, but

look how many medals they win in the Olympic Games. We have failures in certain areas that need to be addressed." Sheikh Mohammad said the UAE has no recipe for success, but to endeavor, learn, gain expertise and importantly, appreciate the value of time.

"We do not boast perfection. We still learn every day and we waste no time because for us, time is like a running river. The experiment of the UAE speaks for itself for whoever wants to emulate it. All I can say is that we have advanced qualities in leadership and management," he said.

He applauded the progress of the Gulf Cooperation Council under the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdul Aziz and other leaders. He, however called for not pursuing the dream of 'Arab Common Market.' "It is an old dream. The (Arab) commerce ministers are still dreaming of the Arab Common Market. The world has changed and became a Common Global Market. I tell them, it is time to leave that 70s rhetoric behind you and open to the world. Why should I open to neighbours in the time of cross-border trade." He gave the UAE national carriers as example by saying:

### News in Brief

#### Bahrain king meets Erdogan:

Bahraini King Hamad bin Isa Al-Khalifa and visiting Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan held summit talks Sunday on bilateral relations, regional and international developments.

King Hamad asserted that the two countries have a common will to expand multi-faceted cooperation, official BNA news agency reported.

He said the meeting with Erdogan was an opportunity to exchange views over regional and international affairs, and importance of boosting security and stability in the area. (KUNA)

#### Bahrain celebrates NAC:

The Kingdom of Bahrain celebrates on Monday the 16th anniversary of the National Action Charter (NAC), enabling a major move toward reforms.

Up to 98 Bahrainis voted in favor of the national covenant in a public referendum, held in 2001, thus restoring parliamentary life

and paving way for greater political participation in politics from various segments of the social spectrum, and at diverse levels. It also envisaged start of a democratic process, modernizing the country's political and economic institutions, on basis of popular participation. (KUNA)

Saudis back environment: Saudi Arabia has approved financial support for the environment, water and agriculture sectors worth 92 billion riyals (\$24.5 billion) to help them meet their goals under the government's 2030 economic plan, the minister handling the sectors said on Sunday.

Abdulrahman al-Fadhli, minister for environment, water and agriculture said in a speech at an industry conference his ministry had received "support" from the government to achieve 16 strategic goals which are in line with the economic transformation programme Vision 2030. (RTRS)

# Govts advised about 'antidotes' to radicalization at Dubai WGS Summit

Anthropologist explains how revenge has been mapped in human brain

DUBAI, Feb 13: Leading anthropologist Scott Atran attempted to explain the minds of radicals and offer suggestions on how to combat the situation at the World Government Summit Breakout Session today.

Atran holds a PhD in anthropology from Columbia University, and is currently Research Director at ARTIS International, and Visiting Professor of Public Policy and Psychology at the University of Michigan.

His talk, entitled Antidotes to Radicalization, offered governments real insight into the minds of terrorists and potential radicals, with recent studies showing how extremism stems from a lack of ambition, combined with the thirst for creating a purpose in life.

Highlighting the current war against ISIS, he said: "Just seven percent of wars in history have been religiously motivated. But these wars are known to last a long time."

Atran highlighted a quote by former US President Barack Obama who said that the biggest mistake had been "underestimating the willingness of ISIS to fight, and overestimating the Iraq army's willingness to fight".

### Fight

He then explained why individuals might choose to fight for a cause. Talking about 'sacred values', he explained: "Sacred values act in ways different to standard decisions. To most of us, things such as family and the immediate are much more valuable. With sacred values, there is no exit strategy, and it is perceived as the right thing."

Atran highlighted studies carried out on a number of different individuals, representing the ISIS, the left-wing Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) and Al Qaeda, which showed how sacred values are 'real beliefs', with evidence that feelings such as revenge and joy come from the same centers.

Explaining the advantage that the extremists have over regular forces, he said: "Standard police or armies operate on a material basis but those with sacred values operate on beliefs."

Atran highlighted how IS is currently works on the classic 'revolution' model, with well-educated leaders that can attract the masses, followed by a state-building period in which women become very important.

He added: "It is not about brain washing. It is not just criminals or marginal, these are people. ISIS is offering something, however misguided, and so is the populist wave of Europe."

Offering a suggestion on how to target potential recruits he said: "We find them clustered in towns and neighborhoods and three out of every four is recruited because of a friend, not a recruiter."

He said that problem was that: "ISIS will talk for thousands of hours to recruit one individual and we have to engage like that on a global scale."

The World Government Summit (WGS) 2017 has drawn the participation of more than 4,000 personalities from 139 countries around the world, reflecting the leading stature of the summit on regional and international levels and the high interest from governments, global organizations, private and public sector entities, decision makers, entrepreneurs, academics and university students as well as scientists and innovators. WGS 2017 features 150 speakers across 114 sessions that highlight the world's most pressing challenges and showcase best practices and cutting-edge solutions to deal with them.

### Trump sons guests of honour in Dubai

DUBAI, Feb 13, (RTRS): US President Donald Trump's sons Donald Trump Jr and Eric Trump are expected to visit Dubai this week to open a Trump-branded golf complex.

Trump's sons will be the guests of honour for the opening of the Trump International Golf Club Dubai on Feb 18, according to an invitation sent to guests by Dubai-listed developer DAMAC Properties.

DAMAC and real-estate mogul Trump announced in 2013 it would build the complex in its \$6-billion, 28-million-square-foot 'Akoya by DAMAC' development. DAMAC pays a licensing fee to the Trump Organisation to use the Trump brand.

Last month, then-President-elect Trump said he turned down a \$2-billion deal offered by DAMAC Chairman Hussain Sajwani because he did not want to "take advantage". DAMAC later confirmed the offer.

Trump has been criticized for not distancing himself enough from his family business, the Trump Organisation, since he was elected president in November.

Trump has maintained ownership of his global business empire though he has handed control to his sons while he is president.



Anthropologist Scott Atran addressing the World Government Summit in Dubai.

### Saudi writer shares his experience of religious radicalism

## 'Develop strategies to combat extremism'

DUBAI, Feb 13: "Extremism is in the mind, and it results in horrendous acts. I too went down that path, but thanks to reviewing and further understanding my religion, I stand before you as an advocate against radicalization and hatred," said Abdullah bin Bijad Al-Otaibi, Saudi writer and political analyst.

Addressing attendees at a session entitled 'The Making of an Extremist' on Day One of the World Government Summit 2017, Al Otaibi focusing on the need to face terrorism head on and fight the plague that has spread across the world.

He discussed the fundamentals of terrorism and extremism, the roots of which, he stated, are found in the roots of humanity - every human being can love or hate. Extremism has been bred by misguided and radicalized groups nourishing their own hatred, humiliation and frustration, and fostering these emotions in others to spread its negativity.

Al Otaibi drew on the example of Hassan Al-Banna, the Egyptian

schoolteacher who founded the Muslim Brotherhood, one of the largest Islamic revivalist organizations, who said that if given the chance, he would open schools specifically to teach hatred to everyone from ministers to journalists.

To combat extremism, Al Otaibi highlighted that governments around the world need to develop a comprehensive strategy to promote open religious speech, based on the priorities and policies of each state. Similarly, the legislative systems should incorporate the increasing need to monitor such conversations. Finally, he noted that governments need to immediately ensure that funding for these groups is cut, so that radicalization is contained.

Al Otaibi added: "The fight is long, but there is hope. Many regions and cultures have suffered from radicalization and extremism. This is not limited to any specific religion or region. In fact, one cannot say that it is caused due to dictatorship rule, or social status - some of the most prominent terrorists were also very well off financially."

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Al-Otaibi

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