

HH the Amir condolences Pakistani president over rain victims

Amir congratulates Moroccan King on 19th 'versary of accession to throne

KUWAIT CITY, July 29, (KUNA): His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent Sunday a cable to Moroccan King, Mohammed VI, congratulating him on the 19th anniversary of his ascension to the throne. His Highness the Crown

Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah also sent similar cables to the Moroccan King, Mohammed VI. Meanwhile, Kuwait's top law-

maker Marzouq Al-Ghanim congratulated Moroccans on Sunday as they celebrate the 19th anniversary of their King Mohammad VI's ascension to the throne. Al-Ghanim expressed his well wishes in messages he sent to Morocco's President of the House of

Representatives Habib El-Malki and President of the House of Councillors Abdelhakim Benchemach. Known as "Throne Day", the national occasion is celebrated in Morocco on July 30th of each year, commemorating the day of the king's ascension to the

throne. His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent a cable of condolences to President of Pakistan Mamnoon Hussain on Sunday, over the victims of the heavy rains that hit dif-

ferent areas of the country killing and injuring dozens. His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah sent similar cables to president Hussain.



The spiny-tailed lizard



The Deathstalker



The Beetles



The Desert Fox



The Hedgehog

KUNA photos

Kuwait desert rich with creatures

By Abdullah Al-Muharib

Many different kinds of creatures are living in Kuwait's desert environment, including the most famous reptile of them all; the Spiny-tailed lizard. In addition, many different mammals dwell into the

desert like Fennec fox and Red fox. Furthermore, many various kinds of birds thrive there such as the Houbara, Bustard and the Brown-necked raven.

There are also the Arabian horned viper, spiders, hedgehogs and beetles. (KUNA)

Low performing Kuwaitis transferred to admin

MoE terminates agreements of low performing expat teachers

By Rana Salem

Al-Seyassah Staff

KUWAIT CITY, July 29: Ministry of Education has ended the contracts of low performing expatriate teachers in some subjects at various educational areas and transferred the low performing Kuwaitis among them to administration.

An official source said the ministry took the decision after technical and administrative observations confirmed their low performance level based on evaluation by their direct supervisors during the previous academic year.

He explained the usual practice is for the technical instructors in charge of each subject to evaluate teachers for two years consecutively and follow up low performing teachers through a special committee that evaluates teachers

within the academic year.

The committee will later submit recommendations to transfer low performing Kuwaitis to administration or retain them as teachers if their standard improves. In the case of expatriate teachers, the committee recommends sacking them if their performance level does not improve.

They reiterated that expatriate teachers whose contracts were terminated have been investigated to identify the causes of their low performance and the possibility of rectifying the situation.

The ministry usually embarks on this procedure before the beginning of a new academic year to enable the Public Education Sector retain the qualified teachers while implementing the replacement policy of the state and Civil Service Commission regulations on low performers.

Tourney to last for a week

Kuwait nat'l hockey youth team to participate in Nyborg tournament

KUWAIT CITY, July 29, (KUNA): Kuwait hockey youth team will participate in Nyborg Hockey Tournament in the Czech Republic, starting on 12th of August and will last for a week, along with eight teams from Belgium, Slovenia, Croatia, Morocco and Czech. This participation comes as part of preparations for the next Asian Cup in Malaysia in December, noting that the team will start today a two-week training camp in the Czech Republic in preparation for the tournament, Kuwait Winter Games Club's Board Member Mubarak Al-Maassab said to KUNA Sunday.

Al-Maassab, who heads the team's delegation, said that 21 players would train with Czech coach for four training sessions a day, two in the morning and two in the evening, and would be divided between two sessions in

the snow and two outdoor.

The players have performed strongly in training the past few days to ensure they are in the best shape for this tournament, which is very important as it is the first foreign participation for these young players, praising the efforts of the coaching staff, Al-Maassab added.

In another context, Kuwait figure skating women team ended their training camp, which was also held in the Czech Republic in preparation for the Asian Championship to be held in Thailand between Aug 5-12, which is the first international participation in the history of Kuwait in this sport.

The team director Salem Al-Ajmi stated to KUNA, the 15-day training camp was an opportunity to improve the skaters' level, hoping that they can achieve the best possible result.

KUWAIT CITY, July 29: Violence among students in educational institutions — from fighting to destruction of properties — has worsened and it is no longer observed among boys alone as the girls are doing the same now; even surpassing their male peers in the destruction of school facilities, reports Al-Qabas daily.

This has become an unfortunate phenomenon which necessitates serious thoughts among educational and psychological experts, along with close monitoring by families.

Official statistics released by the Ministry of Education showed that the problem of vandalism and damage to property by students has been worsening year after year.

Educational sources said this phenomenon resulted in wastage of public funds as the administrations of schools usually spend thousands of Kuwaiti dinars annually for maintenance and repair. It has been reported that 1,700 students have committed vandalism in schools.

Educational experts have warned against the spread of this phenomenon, stressing it is a manifestation of the aggressive behavior of students and a form of rebellion against the educational system.

They pointed out that tampering and destroying school properties by some students is a global phenomenon which could not be addressed and controlled although the harshest penalties are imposed on perpetrators.

They asserted this is the responsibility of the family, school and teachers; explaining that vandalism could be deliberate or an act of vengeance among other personal and environmental causes. Sabotage for whatever reason is a form of aggressive behavior and a violent phase of adolescence.

Absence of planning

Manifestations of tampering and vandalism of school properties extended throughout various stages of education, but the intermediate and secondary stages are the two most prominent phases for emergence of vandalism.

Biological, psychological and mental changes in this age play an important role in development, especially if the weakness or absence of family, teachers and community planning is taken into consideration.

Experts pointed out students always cause damages to school properties during and after classes and the intensity of damage varies. In the simplest case, writing and drawing on tables and walls but it could reach the point of breaking furniture, electrical appliances, toilets and billboards, in addition to vandalizing the cars of teachers and school buses.

Statistics

The latest educational statistics indicate that the number of property damage cases increased significantly over the past two years — 1,395 in 2015/2016 which increased to 1,706 in 2016/2017.

Statistics showed that the last school year witnessed 848 cases of property damage by male students in various educational stages, while 858 cases were committed by female students.

Appropriate ways to cope with the phenomenon

Social and psychological experts have recommended ways to cope with this phenomenon as follows:

■ Training and encouraging students to express their opinions within the framework of responsible freedom.

■ Suggest ways of expressing opinions by putting them in the proposals box.

■ Develop the sense of loyalty and belongingness to the homeland by maintaining its facilities.

■ Develop the sense of belongingness to the educational institution by protecting its facilities.

■ Develop the conscience such that the students abhor the act of sabotage.

■ Apply the response-cost method, such that the students bear the cost for repairing the properties

Student violence in schools has gone from bad to worse

Girls doing the same even surpassing their male peers



Divers watching a shark in Kuwait Bay.

KUNA photo

About 32 shark species in state's regional waters: Al-Mijil

Kuwait waters home to 'peaceful' sharks

By Mervat Abduldayim

KUWAIT CITY, July 29, (KUNA): Kuwait's regional waters, mainly Kuwait Bay is one of the largest incubators in the world for many types of fish and marine life forms, and especially attracting different kinds of shark. One of the main types of sharks living in Kuwaiti waters is the Whale shark, which is considered to be one of the largest of its species.

The peaceful and friendly fish may appear near the shore in search of food and it is sought after by many divers to take photos. Speaking to KUNA on Sunday, Kuwaiti shark expert Dr Dareen Al-Mijil said that there are about 32 monitored shark species in Kuwait. She

added that there are another 17 species that were "heard and read about" and they play a major role in protecting the environment by feeding on weak and sick fish.

Al-Mijil noted that sharks are often shy and peaceful in nature and they live in quiet areas. They swim in groups and are rarely seen near beaches or people, she added. Boubyan Island is one of the best homes to large numbers of sharks, since rivers' waters flow into the area carrying nutrition sources for these creatures, she said.

The researcher noted that sharks grow between 50cm to 12m and they do not attack humans unless they feel threatened. She advised divers to respect these marine crea-

tures' privacy and keep a safe distance to avoid confrontation.

Al-Mijil also said that bubbles coming from oxygen tanks used by divers would affect sharks' nervous system and provoke them to attack. According to the expert, in case of a shark attack, it is advised to hit the fish on its gill, eyes or the front part of the face to drive it away and allow people to escape.

On his part, researcher at Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research Abdurrahman Youssif said that the number of sharks is largely decreasing while some of its species are already extinct.

He noted that these creatures are being widely and illegally fished out for their fins.

they destroyed or tampered with.

■ Instruct students to read manuals on maintaining and preserving properties.

■ Organize competitions in many areas related to the problem,

such as the clean classroom contest.

■ Organize workshops for students to engage in hobbies like repairing properties such as desks and tables and others.

■ Organize art workshops to encourage students to draw and write, and then display their works in areas where students usually gather.

■ Create a school culture that promotes discipline.

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