

What's On



ABK staff celebrate National and Liberation Day

ABK celebrates National, Liberation Day with staff and the community

Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait (ABK) celebrated National and Liberation Day with its staff members on Feb 22, 2018, marking the start of the national celebrations. All employees at the Head Office and across all branches were presented with the Kuwait flag and themed pins upon arrival, and enjoyed a morning full of food, refresh-

ments, giveaways, music and Arabic coffee throughout the day, while the headquarters were lit in national colours ahead of the celebrations. This year ABK also presented their staff with two competitions. The first one was the decorating of ABK branches by creating an ambience in the branch that aligns with the commu-

nity the branch is in and the second was 'ABK's Little Artists', a drawing competition for the children of ABK employees where the drawing had to reflect National & Liberation Day with the ABK brand incorporated. The brand could either be the logo or an ABK building. ABK is committed to Kuwait and the community and

by celebrating the countries national holidays with its people, it reaffirms the sense of national spirit amongst its employees and the communities in which it operates.

For more information about ABK please visit eahli.com or contact an ABK customer service agent via 'Ahlan Ahli' at 1899899.

A key platform for info, knowledge exchange

KFH-Bahrain sponsors GCC Financial Forum



Al Khayyat at KFH-Bahrain Booth at the Forum

KUWAIT CITY, March 6: Kuwait Finance House — Bahrain (KFH-Bahrain), one of the leading Islamic Banks in the Kingdom and an integral contributor to the evolution of Bahrain's Islamic Financial sector, has sponsored the 7th GCC Financial Forum hosted at the Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay, on the 20th and 21st of February 2018.

Co-hosted by Bahrain Economic Development Board, this industry-leading conference brought together eminent speakers and C-level financial professionals, economists, policy makers, investors, regulators, and bankers from the regional and international financial communities, who converged to discuss and debate trends, challenges, future outlooks and opportunities facing the financial sector.

The 2018 Forum, themed 'Innovation and the Future of Financial Services', has been tailored to explore how the merging of Fintech and innovation, such as blockchain, Artificial Intelligence, and big data are driving a fundamental re-structuring of the financial services industry.

Abdulhakeem Al Khayyat, the Managing Director and CEO at KFH-Bahrain commented: "We are happy to be one of the sponsors of the 7th Annual GCC Financial Forum 2018 which has been running successfully for seven consecutive years and has positioned itself as one of the most significant gatherings of financial leaders and experts in the region. The event has an established reputation as a fundamental platform for information and knowledge exchange, and is considered a key driver of the evolution of the financial sector."

"As one of the leading financial institutions in Bahrain, we see it as our duty to support such events and we look forward to benefitting from the market insights and viewpoints shared by a host of regional and international experts," further commented Al Khayyat.

The event boasts a list of high calibre speakers including Lord Mervyn King, Economist and former governor of the Bank of England and Mohamed El Erian, Chief Economic Advisor at Allianz who will be joined by experts from Bahrain, including HE Shaikh Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, Minister of Finance; HE Zayed Alzayani, Minister of Industry, Commerce & Tourism; HE Rasheed Mohammed Al Maraj, Governor of the Central Bank of Bahrain, and HE Khalid Al Rumaihi, Chief Executive of the Bahrain Economic Development Board.



BBS students take a tour of Al Hamra offices.

Best learning experience

Al 'hosts' BBS students as part of introduction to business class

KUWAIT CITY, March 6: On Feb 27 and 28, 2018, Alghanim Industries, one of the largest privately owned companies in the region, hosted Al-Bayan Bilingual School (BBS) students at the company headquarters in Al Hamra Tower, as part of their Introduction to Business class. During their visit, the CEO of Alghanim Industries, Omar K. Alghanim made welcoming remarks.

The students were presented with an overview of the company, its history, its diverse businesses and its robust Corporate Social Responsibility programs. This was followed by detailed depictions of some of the inner workings and roles that exist across Alghanim Industries, by employees hailing from various departments and businesses. The students learned about Alghanim Engineering, the leading engineering service provider in the region, Costa Coffee, London's favorite coffee shop chain and part of Alghanim Industries Food & Beverage portfolio, and Business Development and Mergers & Acquisitions.

Dubbed "employees of Alghanim Industries" for the day, the students were then taken on a comprehensive tour of the state-of-the-art headquarters, beginning from the 70th to the 73rd floor. Alghanim Industries' headquarters features an entirely open office floor plan, designed to encourage collaboration, teamwork, transparency and innovation.

Welcoming the students, CEO of Alghanim Industries, Omar K. Alghanim, said: "We're excited to host one of the most impressive academic institutions in Kuwait. You represent the next generation of leaders and entrepreneurs. The future is very much in your hands. But the challenges you will face are greater than those of past generations."

He went on to say, "The past 10 years saw greater change than the last 100, and the next 10 years will produce an even bigger change. We live in a fast-changing world and you have to be ready, and willing to work. As a business leader, I hear a lot of great ideas for new businesses from young people. Some really inspiring ideas — but inspiring ideas on their own aren't enough. Success is 1 percent inspiration and 99 percent perspiration. The future of Kuwait is in your hands and it's in your power to make sure our future is bright and prosperous."

Speaking about the visit, Instructor at Al-Bayan Bilingual School, Fatima



Omar Alghanim addressing the students.

Kamali, said: "This real life experience our business class students were exposed to during their visit to Alghanim Industries was one of the best entrepreneurial learning experiences our soon to be future leaders encountered this year. We are grateful to Omar Alghanim and Alghanim Industries for hosting more than 70 students and making this a memorable event. I have always said to my students, in the words of Julius Caesar, "experience is the best teacher of all things."

The visit concluded with lunch and specialty, Kuwait-themed, drinks for the students offered by Costa Coffee, part of Alghanim Industries' Food & Beverage portfolio. More employees were present to engage with the students, and a photo booth studio was installed, giving students the chance to capture memorable group pictures of their visit.

These initiatives come as part of Alghanim Industries' Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) program, which is committed to empowering the underprivileged, supporting education and encouraging entrepreneurship. It is also worth noting, the company previously held an information session for merit scholar students studying in the United States to learn about the history of the company and its diverse businesses. The company is also one of the largest supporters for INJAZ-Kuwait, as it encourages its employees to volunteer regularly in INJAZ's different programs.

Int'l Women's Day

KIB official sponsor of Light Expo 2018

KUWAIT CITY, March 6: Coinciding with worldwide celebrations of International Women's Day, Kuwait International Bank (KIB) announced its sponsorship of 'Light Expo', the exhibition dedicated to showcasing Ramadan products, clothing and accessories crafted by talented female entrepreneurs and designers from Kuwait and the GCC region. This marks the fourth consecutive year that KIB has sponsored the annual exhibition, which is set to take place at the International Fairgrounds in Mishref during the period between 7 to 9 March.

Light Expo is an annual event that aims to support young female entrepreneurs and small business owners, by providing them with a commercial platform that allows for collaboration, networking and sharing of experiences. The exhibition features the participation of a large number of Kuwaiti designers and entrepreneurs, as well as a number of prominent social media personalities and influencers.

Support

On this occasion, Manager of the Corporate Communications Unit at KIB, Nawaf Najia, said: "KIB is proud to be a part of this initiative which aims to support female entrepreneurs and talented young Kuwaiti women. We have always believed that the female half of the population plays a crucial role in the country's economic growth and development. Therefore, female empowerment continues to be a stable component of our social responsibility program, as we actively seek to support impactful initiatives that work to support, encourage and develop Kuwait's female talents."

Najia also noted that a team from KIB will be present at a booth throughout the exhibition. KIB staff will be on hand to answer all questions related to the Bank's products and services, as well as its new campaigns and offers, which are designed to meet the various needs of all segments of the population.

It serves to note that KIB continues to support and sponsor various local initiatives, such as "Light Expo", which seek to promote development across all sectors and segments within Kuwait's society. The Bank is especially keen on being a part of initiatives and programs that focus on empowering young entrepreneurs and their innovative ideas. Within this context, KIB has always considered youth initiatives and entrepreneurial programs to be integral components towards empowering and nurturing future generations; by providing employment opportunities in the private sector for young men and women, nurturing the creative ideas of ambitious young minds, and helping build a brighter future for the country.



Zain being honored at the conference

Contributing to healthcare sector

Zain sponsor of Int'l Conference of 'Family Medicine' in Mideast

KUWAIT CITY, March 6: Zain, a leading telecommunications provider in the Middle East and Africa, vowed to further expand focus on digital transformation and talent development, through signing a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Huawei Technologies. The signing took place during MWC 2018 in Barcelona in the presence of Zain Vice Chairman and Group CEO, Bader Nasser Al-Kharafi and Guo Ping, rotating CEO of Huawei.

Under the terms of the agreement, Huawei and Zain will establish a Joint Innovation Team to explore collaboration opportunities in digital transformation. Both companies are committed to combine their expertise to advance in the field of testing and deploying 5G technologies. In addition, Zain will work closely with Huawei to rollout exciting and compelling innovative solutions to enrich the enterprise market, e.g. Smart Cities and digital services. Also, the cooperation will see both entities focus on exploiting the vast opportunities in cloud services and gaming, both key growth areas for Zain.

The MoU also has an element of corporate social responsibility; Zain and Huawei will collaborate to achieve a plan for the development of youth talented workforce, a key focus area as new technologies continue to develop across the Middle East.

Bader Al Kharafi commented, "Our goal at Zain Group is to en-

sure that our clients enjoy a world-class user experience and benefit from the most cutting-edge products and solutions. We believe that our strategic partnership with Huawei will help us continue to deliver outstanding services to our customers and further bolster our transformation to be a leading digital lifestyle operator."

Guo Ping added, "Once again, we are proud of our strategic partnership with Zain Group. It is vital for people and organization to have access to intelligent and agile telecommunication infrastructure in order to stay competitive in an increasingly digital world. By partnering with Zain, we hope to deliver the most technologically innovative infrastructure to the Middle East as well as develop the digital skillsets of the region's future leaders."

This is not the first instance of collaboration between Huawei and Zain. Throughout the Middle East, Huawei and Zain have been strengthening their strategic partnership across various technology initiatives. In 2016, the two companies signed a strategic agreement to enhance the efficiency of the telco networks through NFV/SDN solutions by the year 2020. In May 2017, Zain and Huawei held the fourth annual Zain-Huawei MBB Summit under the theme of "4G Evolution Towards 5G. The summit resulted in another strategic MoU between Zain and Huawei promising further collaboration in the field of 5G.

Al Ostoura discounts

Gulf Bank rewards priority customers

KUWAIT CITY, March 6: Gulf Bank announced the launch of a special campaign for its Priority Banking Customers where they can enjoy up to 20% discounts at all Al Ostoura outlets and showrooms in Kuwait from March 1 to May 31, 2018.

A leading retailer of designer brands in Kuwait and the Middle East, Al Ostoura operates a growing retail group of high profile, monobrand and multi-brand stores that offer clothing and accessories for the luxury and contemporary lifestyle markets.

Gulf Bank's Priority Banking customers can indulge in a wide selection of international renowned luxury brands at Al Ostoura outlets in Al Thuraya Mall, The Avenues, Salmiya Complex, Zahra Complex and Gate Mall. Priority Banking Customers should use their Gulf Bank credit cards including Visa Infinite, MasterCard World or Visa Signature, to benefit from the privileges.

Gulf Bank is committed to providing Priority Banking Customers with exceptional value and exciting offers that meet their needs, in addition to presenting them with one of the widest selections of financial products and banking services currently available in Kuwait.

With Gulf Bank Priority Banking, customers enjoy a personalized and preferential treatment coupled with a suite of Banking and investment products and services designed to meet their financial goals. A dedicated Relationship Manager is assigned to manage customers banking requirements in the comfort of dedicated private floors. In addition, they will receive a branded ATM card that recognizes their status across Gulf Bank Network, premium credit cards with exclusive privileges, discounted fees and waivers on banking transactions and added value benefits through our premium partner merchants.



A photo from the event.

Educating younger generation

AlSayer holds road safety drive

KUWAIT CITY, March 6: AlSayer Holding as part of its Corporate Sustainability & Social Responsibility — "Live the Moment" campaign continued to educate the younger generation about road safety habits and inform the consequences of not complying with road safety. Corporate Excellence Department, Toyota Technical Training Centre, Car Rental division, and Lexus unit of AlSayer Holding collaborated with the NGO partner SAHI (@9aa7y) for the campaign on road safety at Reborn Academy for Early Education, Al Sadiq (www.rkeakw.com) and at Al Najat School Salmiya (www.alnajat.edu.kw).

Increasing road accidents in Kuwait continues to be a major cause of concern to the society and statistics indicate that nearly all traffic accidents and violations recorded are related to crossing of red signals, excessive speeding, use of mobile phones and reckless driving.

The program engaged 250+ students from different age groups including KG2 and High Schools grade, their teachers along with AlSayer volunteers and SAHI Team for spreading awareness about orderly driving practices for safer roads. Children also watched interactive animated

road safety videos and participated in an on-stage play with SAHI Team to experience 'Learn through Fun'.

The High School students of Al Najat School Salmiya received demonstration on the functioning of seat belts, air bags during accidents along with the industry leading safety options featured in Lexus LS 350.

Nehad AlHaj Ali Deputy Group Manager Corporate Excellence said "Our aim is to spread awareness to reduce accidents caused due to negligence. AlSayer delivers cars equipped with advanced technology functions and innovative vehicle safety features, to contribute to reducing fatalities. We are continuously working together with our partners to build highly effective and responsible automobile society who respect safe driving."

At Reborn Academy children experienced Toyota Prius Hybrid car world's first mass produced hybrid car that runs both on gasoline and battery operated electric engine with minimum carbon footprint. AlSayer Toyota Technical Training Centre Team held a demonstration to highlight the benefits of Prius Hybrid which included touch and feel of tools specially designed for Hybrid cars.