

Education process officially started in 1911

Kuwait marks 101 years of teaching English language

KUWAIT CITY, May 3, (KUNA): The education process in Kuwait officially started with the establishment of Al-Mubarakiya and Al-Ahmediya Schools in 1911 and 1921 respectively, marking a turning point in history of the country.

With the inauguration of the American Mission Hospital and the increase of the numbers of foreigners and diplomats in Kuwait, people started paying much attention to learning

the English language, especially when trade boomed after the World War I, Abdulaziz Al-Rasheed said in his book titled "Kuwait History".

Previously, unconventional schools, which were known as "Kuttabs", were the main source for education in the early 1900s. The education process was based on writing, reading, and Algebra. In his book entitled "Old Crafts, Professions and Activities in

Kuwait", Mohammad Abdulhadi Jamal, historian and researcher in Kuwait's heritage, said learning the English language caught people's attention and so the US mission inaugurated the first school to teach English in 1917 and then the American mission hospital.

Jamal added that Ismail Kaddo opened the first private school, which taught English in Kuwait in 1925. Kaddo came from Iraq's Mosul to stay

in Kuwait at that time, upon an invitation by Abdullatif Eissa Al-Abduljalil to teach his children English.

The author noted that Kaddo joined the American Mission School and then the British Consulate.

Jamal pointed out that Kaddo taught English at night at places close to Khalil Al-Qattan market, east of the city.

Kaddo was teaching a book called "Oxford" to youth and employees,

Jamal said. The process at that time depended on translating some paragraphs.

Gergis Eissa School was one of the first private facilities, which also was interested in teaching English.

Eissa, who was an Iraqi teacher, joined the American Mission School and then opened his private school to teach English.

Many of the first generation benefited from Kaddo and Eissa schools.

Some of them inaugurated a number of private schools to teach English to the next generation.

Also some other members belonged to the first generation occupied key posts at Kuwait Oil Company when it was set up at 1940s. Some others worked at the British Consulates as translators, while several others had prominent roles in politics and foreign companies working in Kuwait.



KAFCO receives MEED's Award of excellence.

KUNA photo

Jaber Al-Ahmad Cultural Center bags MEED's excellence award for 2016

KAFCO awarded major MENA HR prize at Dubai forum

DUBAI, May 3, (KUNA): Kuwait's Jaber Al-Ahmad Cultural Center has earned MEED magazine's award as the best cultural landmark in the Arabian Gulf in 2018.

Abdul Aziz Ishaq, Chairman of Financial and Administrative Affairs at the Amiri Diwan, has received the prize at a ceremony held by MEED for winners of its awards for top construction and architectural accomplishments in the region.

The Kuwaiti center has earned international awards for the second consecutive year, said Ishaq, in a statement to KUNA. Last August, it won the International Property Award for its distinguished construction, architectural and interior designs.

The center, he says, depicts Kuwait's heritage with modern architectural features, on par with world's iconic cultural centers.

Its buildings appear like glistening gigantic jewels decorating Kuwait City seaside district. It contains three theatres; the largest is the national theatre, which accommodates 2,000 people and the 700-seat drama theatre, in addition to the movie hall and historic documents library.

It also hosts vast halls for conventions and seminars, a 600-seat theatre, and a number of halls with state-of-art equipment.

The center, construction of which had been overseen by the Amiri Diwan, had won the American Award of Merit Excellence in Construction in 2017.

Meanwhile, Kuwait Aviation Fuelling Company (KAFCO) has received the Award of Excellence in managing human resources in the Middle East and North Africa Region (MENA) for 2018, for the in Best Nationalization Initiative, KAFCO said Thursday.

The win was announced at the Human Capital Awards ceremony in Dubai, part of the 13th Human Capital Annual Forum MENA, KAFCO Director General Abdullah Al-Duaijani said in a statement.

KAFCO's HR Advisor Tariq Ali received the prize on behalf of the company.

The Human Capital Awards recognize the region's leading organizations and individuals across eight categories; HR Team of the Year; Excellence in Talent Management; Excellence in Innovation; Employer of the Year; Best Nationalization Initiative; HR Professional of the Year; Champion of Change; and HR Young Leader of the Year.

KAFCO was nominated for the award thanks to its training program for qualifying talented staff to take over leadership posts in the future, Al-Duaijani added.

He attributed the win to the distinctive efforts by KAFCO's HR team, saying it would be added to previous regional and international achievements the company realized over past years.



Jaber Al-Ahmad Cultural Center officials with the MEED's excellence award.

KUNA photo



Kuwait and Lebanese aviation officials sign MoU on codesharing.

KUNA photo

Kuwait, Lebanon ink codesharing deal

The civil aviation authorities of Kuwait and Lebanon on Thursday signed a deal on arrangements for codesharing that will allow the state carriers in both to engage in bilateral trade cooperation.

The Memorandum of Understanding was signed by both head of Kuwait's Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) Yousef Al-Fawzan and his Lebanese counterpart Mohammad Shehab-Eddin.

Codesharing is a marketing practice in which two airlines share the same two-letter code used to identify carriers in computer reservation systems used by travel agents.

Al-Fawzan said the deal is in line with efforts to promote Kuwait's open-

skies policy and welcomed airlines to increase their flights to Kuwait International Airport.

The MoU seeks to streamline passenger traffic and air freight linking the Kuwaiti airport to others around the world, in addition to bolstering trade exchange between the two countries, he added.

For his part, head of the Lebanese Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) said the MoU would help enhance cooperation between the two sides for better services to passengers as well.

It is a complementary deal to an MoU they both signed in August 2005 on code sharing arrangements, he noted. (KUNA)



Photos from the event

Ahmadi governor honors winners of school project

Ahmadi Governor Sheikh Fawaz Khalid Al-Hamad Al-Sabah honored winners of the second environment-friendly schools project during the closing event held Wednesday at Umm Al-Hayman Middle

School for Girls, in Dhahiya Sabah Al-Salem Area.

The governor said the government is eager to see friendship schools project during the becoming an integral part of life and the language which every

individual and group will be speaking.

This will genuinely translate the purpose for which human beings were created to improve the earth and maintain the blessings of Allah the Almighty.

US panel evaluates work of institute

'KISR national source of development, research'

KUWAIT CITY, May 3: The Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) is a national source of development and a strong institution that has a substantial and positive impact on many areas of research, development and scientific innovation in the country according to the American Association for the Advancement of Sciences (AAAS), reports Al-Qabas daily.

The KISR director Dr Samira Al-Sayed Omar said the report was prepared by the arbitration committee consisting of experts in international research and laboratory work in the United States to evaluate the work of the institute.

She added the assessment report was made upon the request of KISR in cooperation with the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences (KFAS) to conduct a comprehensive assessment of its activities and results.

This is in addition to the impact of its work on the society. The assess-

ment was done by a neutral body with international standards to diagnose the current challenges and provide guidance on developing the leadership and management skills of Kuwaiti researchers.

"The committee commended the focus of KISR on the major challenges facing the society and the national issues facing the State, especially those related to food, energy, water and the environment, as well as developing researchers, strengthening the country's development plans, improving the performance of their research institution and providing scientific advice to the government, which contributes to excellent reputation at the regional level," Dr Samira added.

She said the evaluation committee spent 10 weeks to gather and analyze information, conducted several field visits, reviewed the documents of the institute's eighth strategic plan and held several meetings with the institute's centers, sectors and staff.



Ghassan Al-Zawawi, Kuwait's Ambassador to Turkey

Plan to cement strategic relationship

Turkish PM to visit Kuwait on May 8

ANKARA, May 3 (KUNA): Turkish Prime Minister Binali Yildirim's visit to Kuwait due on May 8 cements the strategic relationship between the two countries, says the State of Kuwait Ambassador to the nation.

Ghassan Al-Zawawi, in a statement to KUNA on Thursday, said the mission to Kuwait would be complementary to visits by His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber

Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah to Turkey, respectively in March and September last year.

Kuwait and Turkey, during premier Yildirim's visit, will ink a number of agreements, the ambassador said, without elaborating.

Current regional "challenges" warrant further consultation and coordination between the two states, he said.

Premier Yildirim may inspect construction site of the back-up facilities for Kuwait

airport, executed by the Turkish company Limak, if the works have been completed, he said.

Kuwait and Turkey cooperate at the political, business, cultural and humanitarian levels. Trade exchanges per year between them is in the range of \$1.5 billion.

They also coordinate to aid hundreds of thousands of Syrian refugees who have taken up refuge in Turkey. Moreover, the nation is a favored tourist mecca for many Kuwaitis.