

# DIWANIYA ديوانية

A DIGEST OF PUBLIC OPINION

## 'Hope world will be better place to live in'

### 'Declaration has high moral value'

"ON Dec 10th we celebrate the 71st anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; the historic voting took place in Paris on the tenth of December 1948, after painstaking preparations exceeding three years," columnist, professor at Kuwait University's Political Science Department, an advisor to Human Rights Watch (HRW) and the chairman of the Arab Fund for Human Rights, professor *Dr Ghanim Al-Najjar* wrote for *Al-Jarida* daily.

"The announcement at that time was not an indication of the awakening of the world conscience. Rather, it was in response to the events of bloody wars during which more than 70 million people were killed.

"Not just that, during that time, the world witnessed brutal crimes and practices that were committed by a people such as genocide and sexual slavery surfaced, so that the victors in the Second World War decided in Dumbarton Oaks, in San Francisco, to show a human dimension about the tragedies that occurred, and then the term 'human rights' was mentioned five times in the Charter of the United Nations.

"With regard to the justifications that were given for the declaration of the human rights, it was mentioned that it was the negligence and contempt for human rights that caused barbaric acts harming the human conscience, as such the optimal purpose which the human beings were striving to achieve is to see the emergence of a world in which individuals enjoyed the freedom of expression, belief and the liberation from the fright and the poverty.

"The declaration also gave a justification and legitimacy for the rebellion: 'And when it was necessary for the law to protect human rights, so that one would not eventually have to rebel against tyranny and injustice'.

"So the declaration was issued, the most important human document in the history of mankind, and it became the standard that states are supposed to adhere to, to preserve human dignity, without distinction as to race, religion, language, origin, color, etc.

Although the 'declaration' is 71 years old, the practices on the ground are catastrophic indeed, at a time when the number of refugees has exceeded 65 million. Despite the development of mechanisms to protect human rights, violations of people's dignity, at the expense of equality and justice, still prevail.

"Meanwhile, we say there were no illusions 71 years ago in the ability to protect human rights on the ground through international documents. The labor was political par excellence. Perhaps it came as a lifting of a blame for the massacres of major wars committed by major countries, and then wiped swords dripping innocent blood, with obsolete rags.

"But for the time being, it seems that we are still co-existing with the same tragedy, but this time the latter is being committed by great powers, small powers and armed groups on an equal footing.

"A day may come when the world will be more human, but it is clear that the declaration has a highly influential moral value, and no one can compete with it, and its values and principles have become the substance in which millions of people move from various nations, and use them in the way of justice and equality in the face of tyranny, and against torture, human trafficking, and environmental protection, in all parts of the world, they started planting hope in the face of pain."

**Also:**

"On Dec 10, 1948, the United Nations issued the International Human Rights Declaration, which can be deemed as the most important international document," columnist *Dr Hind Al-Shoumar* wrote for *Al-Anba* daily.

"It is the indicator that can be used as a device to evaluate the performance of the international community. In this context, we look at how some states were pursued by the international community because of their failure to abide by this International Human Rights Declaration which gives the basic right to every human, in addition to the rights, as minimum which the ruling powers must extend to any human irrespective of his/her race, doctrine or color.

"However, aside from the International Human Rights Declaration, many other documents have been derived such as the rights of patients, children's rights and the rights of the elderly people all of these integrate with each other in terms of their principles.

"As a matter of fact, the gate to the human rights can be seen as sad for any regime or any state, hence, every individual on this day must get his/her children familiarize themselves with the texts of the International Human Rights Declaration in order to make all the people aware of the same and this means all of us must not to ignore our responsibilities in this connection.

"Likewise, we must show the awareness and be vigilant towards everything that help support our position in the international community and that means the National Diwan of Human Rights, must seize this opportunity to launch media campaigns to mark this occasion in cooperation with the press, the Ministry of Information, the civil community and welfare societies by republishing the texts of the International Human Rights Declarations in addition to projecting the efforts of the state and its achievements in this connection witnessed by the international community, particularly in the field of the human rights.

"In other words, we must celebrate the anniversary of the International Day for Human rights in this manner.

"However, we are waiting for a lot of things from the National Diwan for Human Rights, particularly in its capacity as an independent authority and shouldering a lot of significant responsibilities that touches the position of the State in the civil community by projecting its achievements before the entire world.

"Apart from the above, we suggest the Diwan, must practice its enlightened and legal role in addition to practicing its full responsibilities which include among other things projection of everything that related to the International Human Rights Day corresponding to Dec 10 of every year, particularly since we know that the international community has placed human rights at the top of its priorities."



"Kuwait is witnessing a growing political struggle concerning a number of issues. The consequences of such a struggle are invested in certain ways with the aim of enhancing electoral or political gains," *Dham Al-Qahani* wrote for *Al-Qabas* daily.

"The aforementioned equation is accepted but when the matter develops into making the political work a mere mask for hiding blackmail trafficking, the citizens must stand firm to confront such a destructive phenomenon.

"Any politician or parliamentary candidate must

be judged based on his thoughts and ideas that aim at achieving reform for the public issues. On the other hand, when we see a candidate promoting himself by his ability to complete illegal transactions by violating the laws, such a candidate represents nothing more than the project of a thief. A day will come when he steals the citizens' dreams and their children's future.

"On the other hand, what can we say about voters who support such corrupt candidates? Unquestionably, they are also corrupt because they made a deal with the devil. The price, represented in the illegal privileges they obtain, is deducted from the right of other citizens.

"We are therefore facing an integrated institution of corruption with MPs, politicians, sheikhs, media figures and ordinary citizens as members. Such an institution is a part of neither a fiction nor a prediction. Unfortunately, it has become a real fact that we all see, and the state admits that it already exists, but the state did not succeed in confronting it effectively.

"Frankly speaking, corruption in Kuwait can never be confronted without launching a comprehensive 'war' against its foundations, which is the state-level corruption.

"Is it true that corruption has become too dominating to confront? Has it achieved such powerful authority that no one can fight it?"

"What we urgently need is an intellectual revolution of our concepts about confronting corruption. The issue is no longer limited to a few thieves but has reached a miserable level, especially when someone talks openly and unabashedly about the thefts that he considers as part of his acquired rights. Take care! We live in a state that is in danger."



"The Court of Cassation recently issued its final verdict to overturn the appointment of 560 legal experts affiliated to Ministry of Justice. The verdict was reached after one of the female applicants challenged the appointments when she was not accepted for the position despite having all the required qualifications and expertise," *Zayed Al-Zaid* wrote for *Al-Nahar* daily.

"The ruling, which some legal experts described as 'historical', reinforces the principle of equality, justice and equal opportunities in obtaining public jobs, in a scene rarely seen in the regional countries. It also affirms that the Kuwaiti judiciary is the last resort for every grievance related to decisions made by the government and its ministers and officials, which are often random.

"Despite the importance of the ruling, it led the country into a major administrative, legal and bureaucratic predicament, as 560 legal experts who catered for legal interests of the state are out of a job, and the rulings that they issued in the last three years since their appointments are prone to dismissal and nullification due to the illegality of their appointment.

"At the moment, the challenge facing the legal experts is the mechanism of implementing the ruling. This matter should not be limited only to legal discussion in terms of avoid the ruling and the implications of nullification of the experts appointments, but it should go to the root course, which is the ministers of the Justice who have been directly condemned by the ruling.

"The solutions offered today must be in two directions - the first is to contain the problem, ensure it is solved in a manner that safeguards the interests of the state, ensure the citizens are not affected, and search for a legal way out for it, and the second is to ensure everyone who is implicated is held accountable."



"His Highness the Prime Minister-designate Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled has talked about governmental slackness' and by doing so he has opened the most important file of the ministries, particularly the so-called services ministries, where supervisory positions are occupied by some who are not creative or who suffer from what he called 'administrative inactivity'," columnist *Hind Al-Shoumar* wrote for *Al-Anba* daily.

"Many government departments have become hotbeds of inactivity, unaccountability or oversight, because some of those in supervisory positions have succeeded in occupying the jobs although they lack creativity, skills, or inclinations, while the performance of the government apparatus should be active in all locations and consistent with needs and hopes and aspirations of the citizen in a country like Kuwait, because Allah has bestowed all the goodness and prosperity on this nation.

"Therefore, it is time for the government action to address its flabbiness, just like addressing the obesity in patients. We must take a diversion in a rigorous and accurate manner to overhaul the performance system such as the food systems after gastric sleeve operations. We also need administrative and psychological rehabilitation for the government apparatus, such as the one to which a patient is subjected to after the operation to cure obesity.

"But before all that, the large quantities of fat surrounding the government body in its various locations must be 'cut off' as quickly as possible because obesity and sagacity in the government apparatus result in complications that may be more dangerous than the obesity complications on a human body which leads to heart diseases, diabetes and cancer."



"It is not trivial for sporting activities to occupy a lofty position in any society. The governments attach exceptional commitment to it, especially team activities such as football that has become top priority for the largest segments of the society, and even individual games like athletics that have a large following," *Mahfouz Al-Shawaf* wrote for *Al-Rai* daily.

"We will talk about sports in our dear country, Kuwait, in this article. We will start by saying that we noticed there was conspicuous commitment to all aspects of sports - individual and team - in the past, so much that the sporting clubs were doing well. Schools and universities were also committed to sporting activities. This put Kuwait above other Gulf countries and even among Arabs to an extent that Kuwait won laurels, and we had stars that were our pride in various aspects of sports.

"However, it is unfortunate that sports has been falling in Kuwait to a worrisome level. We are aware of the reasons leading to that fall and the attendant implications of the youth deserting sporting activities in an organized manner. Kuwait has the chance of becoming champions among its peers in the Gulf and Arab countries.

"Being a referee in one of the individual sporting activities, I am closely involved and I know that Kuwait has bright performers in those activities. The administration may be the most notable problem in Kuwaiti sport. It is so bad that we now see star administrators rather than star sportsmen. This is a dangerous phenomenon affecting our sporting affairs."

— Compiled by Zaki Taleb

# Kuwait's 'Nazaha' team attends Palestine anti-graft conference

## Fight against corruption priority

**RAMALLAH, Dec 10, (KUNA):** Palestine's anti-corruption authority opened on Monday its first conference under patronage and in presence of President Mahmoud Abbas, with Kuwait's participation.

Kuwait took part in the event with a delegation from Nazaha (Kuwait Anti-Corruption Authority) led by acting

president Riyadh Al-Hajri.

During a speech in the opening session, Al-Hajri conveyed the greetings of His Highness the Amir, the government and Kuwaiti people to President Abbas.

He affirmed the depth of cooperative ties between Kuwait and Palestine.

He expressed Kuwait's confidence in the victory of Palestine to achieve its hopes and establish an independent state with East Jerusalem as its capital.

He highlighted combating corruption, which contribute to

achieving the 2030 sustainable development goals.

Governance has become a main and real method to pave main ways for developing societies and building effective institutions, he noted.

Kuwait has been paying attention to combat corruption and enhance transparency with measures aiming to boost accountability in the public sector, he pointed out.

Kuwait has adopted principles and mechanisms of governance out of its faith in the governance's key role in carrying out successful plans and programs, he said.



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