



The workshop in progress.

KUNA photo

### CMA, Awqaf Ministry hold workshop

The Capital Markets Authority (CMA), with the cooperation of Kuwait Center for Islamic Economy affiliated to Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs, participated in the "National Workshop for developing Sukuk Market in Kuwait". According to a press release, the workshop was

aimed at raising awareness about the advantages and disadvantages of debentures and the relevant commitments.

The workshop was held on Dec 10 at the Thuraya Hall in JW Marriott Hotel.

## Kuwait urges 'North Korea' to restart denuclearization talks

'Dialogue best way to resolve issue'

**NEW YORK, Dec 15, (KUNA):** Kuwait has called on North Korea to return to the negotiating table and resume direct talks over its nuclear program.

Kuwait believes that dialogue is the best way to resolve this issue, Kuwait's Permanent Representative at the UN Security Council Ambassador Mansour Al-Otaibi said during a UNSC session on the tension in the Korean Peninsula.

He, moreover, stressed that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea must comply fully with its international obligations, dispose of its nuclear weapons and illicit

programs and return to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty as a non-nuclear State.

The Kuwaiti diplomat voiced support to the direct dialogue initiative undertaken by the United States and others in the region, saying that it has paid off.

Kuwait endorsed the resulting agreements which have contributed to defusing tensions, he noted. Al-Otaibi hailed the UNSC's leading role in issuing resolutions condemning the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's illicit programs.

The council must remain united, firm and keen on the full implementation of all such resolutions

while taking into account the need to facilitate the delivery of aid to people in need in North Korea.

He regretted that the atmosphere of optimism has begun to vanish after North Korea's resumption of ballistic missile tests.

"The path of talks to reach the desired goal of denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula is still long and arduous,

"But we believe that the full and sincere commitment of all concerned parties and the full implementation of all relevant UN Security Council resolutions will lead to a lasting and comprehensive peace agreement in a nuclear-free Korean Peninsula," he concluded.

# DIWANIYA ديوانية

A DIGEST OF PUBLIC OPINION

### 'GCC head for coordination after Summit'

## 'United we stand, divided we fall'

"LAST WEEK Saudi Arabia's capital Riyadh hosted the 40th Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Summit," columnist and attorney *Riyadh Al-Sanea* wrote for *Annahar* daily.

"To those who were following such an important event, the Gulf crisis was their top concern. This summit has achieved significant success, particularly in terms of the representation level.

"This happened even though the Amir of the State of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani had not attended this summit, but had authorized the Qatari Prime Minister Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifah Al-Thani to lead his country's delegation to the summit.

"Many Twitter users posted several pictures of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz receiving the Qatari Prime Minister with reciprocal smiles. This signifies obvious signs of the beginning of a constructive dialogue which will pave the way for bringing the Gulf-Gulf differences to an end.

"The GCC Secretariat General, through a statement on its website, affirmed that the GCC summit will study the regional and international political developments as well as the security situation in the region and its reflections on the security and stability of the GCC member states.

"Meanwhile, the GCC Secretary General Abdullah Al-Zayani had expressed his confidence that the GCC summit will reach constructive resolutions that will help boost and deepen the bond, cooperation and integration among the GCC member states as well as ingrain its pillars, particularly since we know that the region will be witnessing very important events that will draw the attention of the entire world. These events include the G20 Summit hosted by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Expo 2020 to be held in Dubai Emirate, and the 2020 World Cup to be organized by the State of Qatar.

"Given the above, one may suggest that surmounting of the Gulf-Gulf differences will pave the way towards achieving close, constructive and productive cooperation among the GCC member states.

"The speech delivered by His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah at the recent GCC Summit actually represented a roadmap towards bringing an end to the Gulf crises and unifying the GCC member states' visions for dealing with the regional and international issues.

"In this regard, one may cite some of His Highness the Amir's speech content especially when he said, 'The most perilous challenge currently facing us is the schism that has seeped into our Gulf entity. The persistence of these differences will expose the GCC attitude of unity to a dangerous threat. In fact, the world has started doubting that its interests in the region are no longer enjoying the necessary guarantees due to the Gulf differences. This unfortunately resulted in the world witnessing the fact that our Gulf entity is currently suffering from upheaval.'

"Apart from the above, His Highness the Amir had insisted that the current struggle in Yemen constitutes a threat against all of us. Due to this, we hereby call for the success of consultations over the Yemeni issue in Sweden.

"Regarding Syria, His Highness the Amir said the humanitarian disaster there is still persistent, and we hope the new United Nations envoy will succeed in containing that disaster.

"Speaking of the relations with Iran, His Highness the Amir said, 'We hope these relations will be based on non-intervention in the internal affairs and respect for good neighborly relations with the neighboring countries.'

"Towards the end of the 40th GCC Summit, the participants affirmed the importance of maintaining the cohesion of the GCC in terms of encountering the threats that are currently surrounding the region.

"Likewise, the conferees had emphasized the need for enhanced coordination, integration and cooperation among the GCC member states as well as effects of the good endeavors and sincere efforts exerted by His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad in this regard. These efforts were not only lauded by the GCC member states but they also affirmed the importance of supporting these efforts and persisting on maintaining the framework of a single Gulf House.

"In conclusion, we pray Almighty Allah will protect the Gulf as a unified entity in terms of its history, blood and fate."

Also:

"The peaceful demonstrations in democratic states no longer come as a surprise because these states give their citizens enough space of freedom for them to express their opposition to the government's political performance or protest the high prices of various commodities or demand some new rights," columnist and former MP *Abdulmohsen Yusuf Jamal* wrote for *Al-Qabas* daily.

"I think what is currently taking place in many countries throughout the world in terms of demonstrations being organized is a good evidence of the boosting of issues affecting human beings and their right of expression.

"At the same time, some shortsighted people are frightened of such a right and consider it as something that calls for panic and horror. Some democrats consider this as a coup against the prevalent situations to such an extent that some of their pertinent analysis and imaginary thought were based on sarcasm.

"On the other hand, Kuwaitis are proud of their Constitution because it contains many articles that bestow upon the citizens the right to express their opinion and attitude freely concerning various events.

"Not only that, the concerned Kuwaiti authorities allow peaceful demonstrations and gatherings in order to enable the citizens to express freely their opinion and show their different attitudes towards various issues, provided that such a freedom does not negatively affect the freedoms of others or harm the public interests or damage private properties.

"However, those who follow the demonstrations currently taking place in the Arab region will observe that there are three democratic Arab states where the citizens have been involved in demonstrations since several weeks. This calls for optimism, especially since we know that such a political move has been transformed into a reality in our Arab World because our Arab people have started paying attention to their looted rights and are currently demanding for dealing with these rights and other national duties in a

civilized manner.

"Some people fear that these demonstrations will turn into something worse or they will result in the intervention of some foreign powers and eventually divert the popular move away from its peaceful nature.

"However, despite these fears, the reality has proven the contrary. This could be attributed to the awareness of the Arab peoples and their maturity, particularly in terms of differentiating between the good and bad."

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"The 24th Arabian Gulf Cup, which was held in Doha, achieved success with distinction in all aspects, most importantly the technical, administrative and arbitration aspects. It is the most notable success in this regard is it managed to host all relevant nations without exception", *Yousef Hajji* wrote for *Al-Nahar* daily.

"Indeed, sports brings people together and does not divide them. Sports managed to achieve something that politicians have not been able to achieve. This sports gathering in Doha witnessed the real beginning to the end of the GCC crisis and a return to the situation seen three years ago and maybe even better, as we have started seeing positive signs of reconciliation. We all hope that these signs will be the start of a stage of cooperation and unity among its member states.

"In my opinion, the 24th Arabian Gulf Football Cup has been the most successful and the best among the GCC tournaments so far. Its positive results were seen not only in the sporting level, but in all fields. The chant "Our Gulf is one... Our fate is one" is being interpreted on the ground, and we wish the six Gulf states live with one heart. Indeed our Gulf is one ... our fate is one."

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"It was normal that the speech delivered by HH the Amir of Kuwait, Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad at the conclusion of the 40th GCC summit in Riyadh was of great interest and concern at popular levels in Kuwait and all GCC countries," columnist *Abdurrahman Awwad* wrote for *Al-Sabah* daily.

"The speech has achieved the main target and the Amir touched the hearts of every citizen in the GCC countries. In his speech, HH focused on his call to make Riyadh the road of the future of the GCC countries saying the next meetings will be better than the former meetings.

"For its part, HH the Custodian of Two Holy Mosques has affirmed the ability of GCC to overcome all challenges.

"Finally, I'd like to point out that the conclusion of the summit reflects the spirit of cooperation and coherence among the leaders of GCC countries irrespective of the circumstances they have faced that will be overcome soon."

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"While all are waiting for the completion of the new government formation and its announcement soon by His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khalid Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, the citizens are holding high their hopes for the upcoming government to lead the country to a good future", *Abdurrahman Al-Awwad* wrote for *Al-Sabah* daily.

"His Highness the Prime Minister affirmed, during his former meetings with many officials and supervisory bodies as well as social media activists, that the government plays an important role in translating the directives of His Highness the Amir of the state into reality, and cooperating for combating corruption and protecting the public funds.

"Therefore, we can assume that the reason behind the delay in the formation of the government is that Sheikh Sabah Al-Khalid is seeking to create a strong government that is capable of fighting corruption and corrupt. This requires efficient ministers who are able to perform the responsibilities and face the challenges."

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"The late Abdulmohsen Al-Fares was one of the executive directors of a sporting club. Some of my colleagues have written articles about his sports life before me," *Abdulmohsen Muhammad Al-Husseini* wrote for *Al-Anba* daily.

"He started as a player in the old Al-Jazeera Club, and then he joined Al-Qadisiya Club after opening the sporting club. He became the Board Chairman of the club's football team. His vision was for Al-Qadisiya Club to be the one of the best, due to which he paid extra attention to the youth centers affiliated to Ministry of Social Affairs and the intermediate schools in search for talented youth.

"During his search, he chose Farouk Ibrahim, Jassem Yacoub, Sultan Yacoub, Abdullah Al-Essa, Fahad Al-Essa, Hamad Bu Hamad, and Saud Bu Hamad. They all eventually became stars in the national team.

"Al-Fares helped in leading Al-Qadisiya team to emerge victorious in many championships and competitions."

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"We often try to find the time to speak to our children and grandchildren to sing about our beautiful past; the past that does not resemble our present reality, and our conversation is marred by ecstasy and lamentation. We remanence about our wonderful lives, our illuminating relations, and ever-spring weather," columnist *Waleed Al-Rujaib* wrote for *Al-Rai* daily.

"We have a stream of colorful feelings about a world that was perfect and beautiful, everything in it was captivating and magical. Did you have mobile phones; did you have internet and did you have the same devices that we have. We ought to defend our past lives, our homes and our environment, as if we are defending a precious thing. They imagine the utopia but they want proof so we can produce them black and white photographs that faded with time, and see the opposite of what we're telling them. Houses with primitive construction, the sandy corridors and gutters that empty the dirty water in the pathways, and they see our wrinkled clothes and our feet covered in dust.

"Were we imagining or fantasizing, or was our memory fooling with us? Did we just see in our imaginations what we would like to see? Did the memory and imagination betray us or the childhood memory was false; did our souls create that time in which we grew up in or we clung to the reality of our childhood? Did we actually live the life we are singing about or we just want to dream once again?"

— Compiled by Zaki Taleb

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