

# Truckers to start paying fees for crossing Jaber Bridge from today

Huge public auction on Wednesday

## Other Voices

### 'Keep away from excess TV'

By Ahmad alsarraf

My interest in reading was since my childhood though attracted to a television for a while, and I cannot remember when I last was stuck to this device for more than ten minutes. There is a general perception that reading books is good, watching TV is harmful. In spite of my belief in this, I do not see the reasons till the time of writing this article.

What is the difference between watching a documentary on the Russian Revolution and reading a book about the same subject? There are good books and others are bad and same applies to films.

In 2014, the Tohoku University of Japan conducted an examination on the brains of 276 children who spent a lot of time watching television and monitoring the impact on them in the long term. It turned out that the more children attached to watching television, the more parts of their brains became associated with higher levels of excitement and aggression, while at the same time expressing the ability to think verbally declined.

In the same year, the Emory University conducted an experiment on how reading a novel affects the brain. Students were asked to read the Pompeii novel about the Mount Vesuvius revolution in Italy. The book was chosen because of its eloquent language and drama plot based on real events.

After reading the novel, it was noted that the communication among the students involved and parts had an effect on their brains especially the part related to language. The increase in activity was noticeable in the brain's motor area, indicating the students had similar feelings to the characters of the novel.

A team of researchers from the Ohio University interviewed 107 pre-school children and their parents and tested them and found that increased television viewing weakens their cognitive outlook. A study published in 2015 pub-

lished in Cerebral Cortex revealed that watching television for hours could alter the structure of the human brain. The longer the child or adolescent spends in front of the television, the more the frontal lobe of their brains becomes thicker. It is the area known as the higher or the lower verbal intelligence.

Scientists also found that there are also long-term effects of reading books. Reading keeps the mind alert and delays the cognitive decline of older people. Older people who read regularly are less likely to Alzheimer's disease than those who regularly watch TV shows.

A study sponsored by the University of Sussex in Britain has shown that reading for minutes every day reduces daily stress at a high rate even more than listening to music or walking.

Reading is also related to increasing our vocabulary, our mental attention and increasing the logic in our thinking, and this is the opposite of what happens with many who watch television.

If we ask a mother to watch television with her little son and ask another to read a book with her son, we find that the reading in the second case increased the communication between the mother and her little son.

It is easy to stop reading a paragraph to talk or to respond to her son's questions and be back again to the book while this cannot happen if you see something on television even if it is silly as it is not possible to see what has gone by.

Television is designed to be negative, there is no effort on the part of the viewer and the programs are designed to be fast-paced to prevent channel switching, while books on the other hand are not limited to entertainment and learning. The reader has to focus on what he reads and thinks about the concepts.

When we read, we often have to use our imagination to fill gaps. Books also have an in-depth description of the event. How to switch from TV addicts to readers is not easy but an interesting and challenging question, and the answer may be more reading.

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**KUWAIT CITY, July 15, (KUNA): The Public Authority for Roads and Transportation (PART) said, Monday, that truck drivers will start paying fees while using Sheikh Jaber Bridge tomorrow.**

PART said in a press release that the fees for the transit of trucks to the bridge will be KD 1 per ton of the truck's total weight, adding that payment will be at entrances in Shuwaikh, Doha and Subiya areas.

Truckers should comply with the compulsory route to the truck weighing station to pay the transit fee through bankcards or prepaid cards, as cash payment is unacceptable.

Kuwaiti Minister of Public Works and Minister of State for Housing Dr Jinan Ramadan said that PART set up controls for the use of trucks in order to maintain the safety of the bridge and citizens, pointing out that the expected revenues will be used to cover part of the cost of maintenance and operation, implementing periodic inspection and supervision.

The process of weighing and the payment of fees will be done at the stations for weighing the trucks before entering the bridge to ensure the flow of traffic.

Not paying the fees will force trucks to use road 80 and then route 801 to reach the northern region.

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General Customs Department has announced that the biggest auction will be held on Wednesday, July 17 to sell 35 containers with several goods including 5,500 cartons of cigarette packs.

According to sources from the department, the containers will be sold in an open auction at Kuwait Finance House in Sulaibiya area. Director of Customs Management Affairs Ali Al-Enezi will conduct the auction in favor of the customs treasury.

# DIWANIYA ديوانية

A DIGEST OF PUBLIC OPINION

## 'Situation could be exploited by some'

### 'Troubles mounting for country'

"DURING the past fortnight, the country witnessed the explosion of many social issues of dangerous security dimensions reflecting on the reputation of the State of Kuwait at the internal and external levels simultaneously," columnist, professor at Kuwait University's Political Science Department and Assistant Undersecretary for Legal Affairs at the Ministry of Information Dr. Haila Hamad Al-Mekaimi wrote for *Annahar* daily.

"Apart from the above, these issues may create an atmosphere in the country which is likely to be exploited by some parties to impose their agendas on the Kuwaiti internal policy.

"The first was the suicide of a young Bedoun (stateless person) and this incident gave rise to many reactions from people belonging to this denomination who went on to demonstrate and put forward many demands some of which coupled with threats in addition to some speeches which ended in the security authorities arresting some of those who took part in the demonstration.

"But the condolence visit by the US delegation to the family of the Bedoun who had committed suicide actually added fuel to the fire as some people see the visit as intervention in Kuwait's internal affairs as well as a kind of Arab or American spring launched by the consecutive American administrations in the Middle East, particularly in the wake of the collapse of the former Soviet Union.

"In this context, we elucidate that the beginning of this spring appeared in the form of the so-called Grand Middle East Project and normalization of ties with Israel. This project later was transformed into a 'weapon' for so-called the democratic changes in a prelude to support the Muslim Brotherhood Group and eventually bring this group to power in the name of peaceful exchange of power, but this attempt ended by the 2011 events where the latter achieved nothing because what came to be known as revolutions were ended by counter revolutions and this left the Arabs moving in empty circles.

"But in the midst of such strange series of events the Kuwaiti Ministry of Interior issued a statement about the arrest of members of the Egyptian secret cell belonging to the Muslim Brotherhood Group who had fled Egypt because they were wanted by the Egyptian authorities.

"However, the arrest of the cell members came by virtue of the electronic connection system but the statement of the Interior Ministry did not reveal the date of their entry into Kuwait and whether these members came to Kuwait on work permits to work for state ministries, private companies or civil institutions or was it a case of trafficking in resident permits.

"Apart from the above, the statement didn't say whether these members were working for one sponsor. We raise the above because what is required in this issue is total transparency particularly from the security point of view that is linked to the reputation of Kuwait and its international undertaking to fight terrorism.

"As a matter of fact, all issues emphasize that the population structure in the State of Kuwait is currently passing through its worst phase and this can be attributed to negligence and non-serious attempts exerted for dealing with all cases directly linked to the expatriate manpower Arab or foreign, particularly since we know that bringing manpower into the country should have been more organized to guarantee good quality and make sure that this manpower shall give a new impetus to the Kuwaiti community.

"In other words, bringing foreign manpower into the country should have not been a subject of political criteria or to serve the interests of some political groups - Kuwaiti or foreign.

"However, the above, also is applicable to the Bedoun (the stateless people who are residing illegally in the country), because dealing with this denomination of people actually requires a clear cut vision and this means the government should not leave issues subject to the interests of the MPs, particularly in terms of the naturalization priority.

"In other words, the naturalization issue should be subjected to the criteria referred to in the Kuwaiti Nationality Law and keep in mind that boosting the state of law, shall help surmount all fabricated population and political problems in favor of the State's existence and its international reputation."

Also:

"It is obvious that Iran is currently 'craving' for war to be waged on it to target its depth to such an extent this 'craving' is no longer a secret," columnist *Saleh Al-Shaiji* wrote for *Al-Anba* daily.

"In other words, Iran doesn't conceal its desire to see some foreign powers waging a war on it to such an extent we venture to say Iran looks forward to see these powers waging an actual war on it.

"In this context, we cite how Iran provoked the great powers such as Britain and the United States of America and this was represented by its attempt to intercept a British ship and the shooting down of an American drone and this represents a bid for war to be waged on it by these two great powers.

"This is in addition to Iran violating the terms and conditions of the nuclear deal because Tehran has failed to abide by this deal which was previously signed by it along with the international community.

"However, such behaviors refer to bad reality which Iran suffers from on internal and external levels, particularly since we know that Iran has exhausted itself by foreign interventions and this has resulted in the depletion of its financial, military and human resources and incurred huge losses, without any margin of profit.

"Such being the case, we found how the relevant losses and failures have negatively reflected on the internal situation in Tehran including the standard of living of the Iranians and the absence of security, and despotism of the ruling regime in its dealing with the citizens.

"Given the above, the people there will have no choice but to revolt against the regime and this was evident when we saw the Iranians passing through hardships over the years. Moreover, the Iranian police deal mercilessly with the people in the street and this has resulted in the Iranian ruling regime seeking to alleviate its internal front by fabricating a crisis with some foreign powers and this was evident through its attempt to provoke both the US and Britain."

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"Arrest of the Brotherhood cell fleeing to Kuwait from serious judicial decisions related to acts of terrorism in Egypt is a successful and welcome step, but it still needs more effort to curb the spread of cancerous 'brothers' in the country," columnist *Sattam Ahmed Al-Jarallah* wrote for *Al-Seyassah* daily.

"Those people would not have found shelter in the country in the absence of persons who aided their entry and provided them jobs and protection to stay over that period. It is very important for the security service to complete the process of identifying sponsors and institutions that brought them into the country, and to examine their activities and follow up all their actions in order to close this file permanently.

"It is known that the Brotherhood in Kuwait has been present for many years and has its institutions through which it has been working four decades and more. It has mobilized people in its political orientations, and in recent years, been a source of criticism against Kuwait by neighboring countries that feel it has been lenient in dealing with this terrorist-classified group, as they have long been calling for intolerance against the group.

"Will those members arrested for serious crimes be deterred from committing terrorist crimes in Kuwait, a country where they feel no affiliation, while they have killed their own people in order to realize the project of their group that knows no borders and values, and achieve its objectives?

"Kuwait had a bitter experience with this group in the Iraqi invasion in 1990 when they supported the invasion. It even sent a delegation to bargain on this issue in the famous meeting with the then Ambassador of Kuwait Sheikh Saud Al-Nasser Al-Sabah. All leaders of the group from various countries then became frequent visitors to Baghdad, as they declared their unequivocal stances against Kuwait.

"Unfortunately, all evidences were forgotten after the liberation, and as the state opened a new page in this regard, the group remained on its position. They worked hard to penetrate the institutions of the state and grew to the extent that its leaders in the so-called 'Arab Spring' issue threats to transfer the chaos to our country. One of them said: 'The first nation after Egypt where the Arab Spring will happen is Kuwait.'

"At that time, we have all been witnesses to the doings of this group in our country from demonstrations and sit-ins to state institutions and the judiciary, as they tried to hit the country by what was called 'sit-ins of the Palace of Justice'.

"All this would not have happened if the state had not failed to uproot the group since 1990 by pursuing and excluding its members from all positions and jobs they occupy in order to get rid of the 'brotherly' cancer that kills the body enters it. Arrest of the cell must be the beginning of cleaning up Kuwait of the group that corrupts every place it enters."

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"E-commerce in Kuwait is a huge and growing market although there is no exact figure on its size, but the reports that we receive monthly about sales of applications and sites show their value exceeds billions of dollars," columnist *Zayed Al-Zaid* wrote for *Annahar* daily.

"This growing trade requires a law that controls and protects consumers, considering the rising number of complaints against online fraudsters who obtain goods and do not deliver them to buyers, as well as price manipulation and commercial fraud.

"Unfortunately, lawmakers are ignoring the need for legislation to control e-commerce, similar to what Saudi Arabia did a few days before enacting a strict consumer protection law and monitoring online buying and selling.

"In general, the State should promote e-commerce and the Internet market, which is huge in the world and is growing exponentially, by providing the necessary infrastructure and adopting the electronic law, special tax and legal facilities for international Internet companies to invest in Kuwait and open regional offices as the case in Dubai which has lured major global Internet companies to open their regional offices there.

"Controlling e-commerce to protect consumers and encourage investment in the Internet, which is already growing without government intervention, means making Kuwait a center for technological innovation in the region like the famous Silicon Valley in the United States of America.

"Encouraging investment in the Internet is a new source of income for the State and it employs thousands of young Kuwaitis in new and thriving sectors which are different from the dominant sectors where the number of graduates increased significantly in recent years. This is in addition to injecting external capital into the State which the government has been aspiring for.

"Building infrastructure for the Internet market and e-commerce does not require tremendous efforts and investment of hundreds of millions or tens of billions, as in the case of infrastructure for solid industry or the service sector, for example. To do this, rules and regulations are required, especially since we have Internet applications created by Kuwaiti youths and were proven to be efficient after selling them for hundreds of millions to international companies."

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"Death has taken away one of the 'Knights of Kuwait' and one of the finest, honorable, patriotic and humble men who left behind an impressive footprint and a pioneering career in serving the nation in all fields", *Tareq Idris* wrote for *Al-Anba* daily.

"Abdulrahman Abdullah Al-Awadhi, a hard-working man and one of the founders of national and charitable work, was a statesman with clear and frank opinion through his national positions from within the official government decision and from outside via presentation of his commendable viewpoints and opinions on the national situations and confrontations!

"Bou Abdullah was a national school that taught us the bold and balanced attitude we knew in our youth through Kuwait's silver screen. He provided pieces of advice and medical guidance with the aim of spreading health awareness, which remained firm in the minds and conscience of everyone who knew, until he entered the political arena through the National Assembly. He followed it up with the national battle when he took charge of Ministry of Health for a number of years as the minister, focusing on practical development of the health sector, spreading awareness and participating in the renaissance of health care in the State of Kuwait. He achieved this with a selection of professional, administrative and technical personalities!

"I will not forget his speech to us, members of a delegation of teachers led by Abdullah Jassem Al-Obaid (I wish him a quick recovery) during a crucial meeting in Sana'a on January 13, 1991. He said, 'The time is crucial for this mission'. He delivered a goodwill message to us from the Father Amir Sheikh Sa'ad Al-Abdullah, stressing his stance and support for our national mission to recognize and realize the right of Kuwait in Arab and international forums!

"Yes, the great late Uncle Abdulrahman Al-Awadhi will remain firmly in the memory of all the people of Kuwait, and will remain immortal in the record of the loyal men of Kuwait who deserve to be honored!"

— Compiled by Zaki Taleb

## JUSTCLEAN Announces Recent Joint Campaign With CAREEM



Justclean, the GCC's leading laundry technology company, announced their joint campaign with Careem, the leading internet platform in the greater MENA region.

Careem and justclean, both focusing on convenience to their users are not only disrupting offline industries, but aim to offer services to a new generation of users who are growing more accustomed to the integration of technology in their daily lives.

"Just as passenger mobility was revolutionized by Careem, justclean is revolutionizing the traditional way of doing laundry. With this collaboration, clients who have long understood the importance of personal convenience will expand this understanding to how they do their laundry," says Athbi Al Enezi Co-founder and Managing Partner of justclean. Commenting on the occasion is Khaled Nuseibeh, General Manager of Careem GCC: "At Careem we value partnerships that offer customers convenience and simplifies their day to day needs.

We are always seeking opportunities where technology is used as a platform to deliver significant values and we aim to do so through this partnership".

This offering represents a new era for justclean, as it looks to further expand regionally with operations in several locations around the GCC including Kuwait, UAE, Bahrain, and launching in KSA and Qatar in the upcoming months, strategically positioning the business as the leading B2B and B2C solution within the cleaning sector.

"It's important to us all at justclean that we continue to align ourselves with trendsetters in the regional startup scene, and this joint campaign confirms our dedication to that," says Nouri Al-Enezi, Co-founder and Managing Partner of Justclean.

Athbi Al Enezi, Co-founder and Managing Partner of justclean, adds "Both justclean and Careem have clients who consider themselves pioneers of new consumer technology adoption. Careem have done a great job engaging this core audience and we intend to do the same by working together on this campaign".

GCC tech companies are increasingly raising the bar, creating a hot bed for entrepreneurial activity and with this arrangement justclean places themselves at the epi-center of the movement.