



KUNA photo
Ambassador of Kuwait to Austria Sadeq Marafi heads the Kuwaiti delegation in the work of the 28th session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

'Practice self-restraint, respect human rights & spare civilians'

Kuwait calls for peace in Libya

NEW YORK, May 22, (KUNA): Kuwait called on all parties involved in Libya for self-restraint and respect commitment they made to international law on human rights and not to target civilians or civil-

ian facilities, affirming on the importance of peaceful solution through ongoing dialogue.

During a Security Council session on Libya, Kuwait Permanent Representative to UN Mansour



KUNA photo
Permanent Representative of Kuwait to the United Nations Ambassador Mansour Al-Otaibi addressing the meeting.

Al-Otaibi made the remarks, calling as well on the same parties involved not to resort to military means to end the crisis.

Al-Otaibi highlighted developments in the past years in Libya, ongoing regional and international efforts, including UN exerted efforts to determining the location of hosting a national conference, which was long awaited for and many rounds of talks with all Libyan factions for more than a year.

The diplomat added such efforts was exerted in order to ensure the necessary conditions were met and to find an effective and lasting solution to the crisis that entered its ninth year and led into a political settlement that respects Libyan national principles.

Anticipating

Al-Otaibi pointed out that the international community was anticipating to hold such National Conference after the Security Council reacted positively to invitation through its adoption of press release which welcomed the intention of the Libyan parties to participate actively in the events of this conference, which reflected on UN Secretary General Antonio Gutierrez visits to Tripoli and Benghazi with the goal of creating the appropriate conditions.

Al-Otaibi added that the international community urged those parties to ensure participation and acceptance, but was surprised by the outbreak of armed clashes in and around the Libyan capital Tripoli during the first week of last April.

Al-Otaibi pointed out that these confrontations left around 450 dead and more than 2,100 wounded and led to the displacement of about 70 thousand civilians outside the areas of confrontation, thus endangering the life of citizens and their property to real danger.

The diplomat noted that these confrontations contributed in endangering the political process there, which may lead to undermine all efforts made over the past years to end the crisis.

Al-Otaibi stressed the need to work in a constructive and concrete manner with the calls and efforts led by the United Nations mission in Libya to immediately stop the fire and reduce the military escalation, as well as the importance of cooperating to provide the necessary guarantees to hold the National Conference.

DIWANIYA ديوانية

A DIGEST OF PUBLIC OPINION

'Hope Iran ends expansionist moves'

'No US-Iranian clash on cards'

"PERSONALLY speaking I don't believe that a war between the United States of America and Iran is on the cards, simply because the two states are sharing the interests in the region either directly or indirectly under the wicked Zionist patronage which does not openly show its real intentions," columnist **Abdulmohsen Jumah** wrote for **Al-Jarida** daily.

"In other words, the regime of Mullahs of Iran (the theocratic regime) has given to Iran what it had not dreamed of - tearing apart the region through sectarian struggles. Not just that, this regime allowed Washington to use it as a scarecrow to blackmail the Arabian Gulf countries in addition to marketing its military weapons and protection worth billions of dollars.

"In this context, we wonder if any in Tel Aviv had dreamt that Syria with a big store of Arab human resources will be torn apart by the Hebrew state. Not just that, its Syria which has been transformed into sectarian and ethnic cantons.

"Apart from the above, we found how the popular Syrian revolution has been oppressed although this revolution was aimed at transforming Syria into a new country constituting a challenge to the Israelis.

"And who transformed Lebanon, a civilized and touristic challenge to Israel into a paralyzed state suffering from foreign debts and subject to sectarian militias? And who was involved in the killing of its scientists and pilots and who was behind the failure of its promising project that was adopted following the downfall of the dictatorial regime? And who did such and such from Yemen to Bahrain, isn't it Iran?"

"However, the Arabs got tired of satisfying Iran and calling on Tehran to cooperate with the Arab states in a bid to establish joint economic projects reflecting fraternity between the Arab world and Iran in addition to bolstering security cooperation between the two parties in a bid to transform the region into an economic might, able to compete with the entire world and impose its conditions on the latter.

"But Iran always evaded and exploited every opportunity to export its revolution although the latter had failed to provide luxury inside Iran. Not just that, Tehran played the trump card of Washington and the latter gave Baghdad to Tehran on a silver platter. Washington also closed an eye to Tehran's destructive role in Lebanon, Syria and Yemen and in the Gulf states.

"It is needless to say these sabotaging roles represent some of the American, Israeli and Western demands against the region.

"Such being the case, these parties will not be in any war against Iran, unless an unplanned mistake from an extremist or irrational person from any of the two parties occurs. Certainly, we don't like to see any war in the region because we shall pay an exorbitant price at various levels.

"Hence, we hope that the Iranian regime will restore its rationalization and hasten to bring its ethnic and sectarian projects to an end, because these projects have actually destroyed the Islamic world, and killed thousands of Muslims in Syria, Iraq, Lebanon and Yemen.

"As a matter of fact, President Trump and the US administration at large along with Tel Aviv want only to curtail Iranian expansion and eventually get Tehran to abide by a scenario that has been created to keep it in check in future, because the absence of the Iranian role will mean a big loss for Washington and Tel Aviv.

"Consequently you have to wait for the outcomes of the Iranian-American negotiations which are currently taking place at a secret location in some capitals of the region and Europe, and as such what currently takes place in the Arabian Gulf represented by some security violations, represent just maneuvers that are aimed at boosting the attitudes of the Iranian negotiators inside the closed rooms."

Also:

"On April 14, 2019, Donald Trump who is 'unfortunately' the president of the United States of America during a meeting with his French counterpart in an apparent reference to our rich Gulf states, but not of course to Yemen or the Sudan for instance, was quoted as saying 'there are some states which will not remain even for one week without our protection and as such these states should pay the price'," columnist **Waleed Ibrahim Al-Ahmad** wrote for **Al-Rai** daily.

It is needless to say that Trump's method towards us seems was obvious even during this election campaign. In this connection, we still remember his words in 2016 when he said in an apparent reference to our states 'without us these states will not exist, let alone it will not stay'.

"Apart from the above, we would like to cite some of the 'eternal' words when he said 'the Gulf states, have nothing except money, as such I will make them pay, because our debts and the moment has reached \$19 trillion, but we shall not settle these debts, rather they will pay'.

"However, following his victory in the presidential election, his policy towards us became clear - the policy which is seemingly based on the slogan 'pay to stay' - the policy which some Arab politicians don't like to believe in and this was evident through their glorification of the US policy because they look upon the US as a protector sent to us by Heaven to rescue us from our enemies. "This happens although this policy has agitated the Gulf differences, appreciated Bashar Al-Assad remaining in power and praised us in Yemen and lauded the Houthis secretly.

"Meanwhile, we say it is Trump who lied against history when he said 'we have spent \$7 trillion in the Middle East during the last 18 years and as such the rich country in that part of the world should repay this money'."

"Given the above, Trump ignores the fact that this money was spent on the armament in the region in addition to the American occupation of both Iraq and Afghanistan. Moreover, this money was spent on the military bases that are built by Washington in the region in order to serve only its interests.

"Likewise, it is Trump who had earlier said 'I will request our allies to pay the quotas payable by them, because they are living like monarchs to such an extent the poorest person in Kuwait lives like a king. In spite of this fact, they are not paying although we have proved to them the necessary potentials that might be required to enable them sell their oil, and they didn't pay us 25 percent of their revenues?'"

"However, do you understand the game and the policy of the sole superpower in the world towards us when the situation between our region and Iran is agitated and the season of harvesting the money? We don't believe so."

"The series of challenges the world face in spreading tolerance in societies and among the religions are complex in all angles. Research centers, non-profit organizations have made frantic efforts in that concern, while governments have taken generous initiatives without seeing tangible results," columnist **Khaled Ahmad Al-Tarrah** wrote for **Al-Qabas** daily.

"As we did in Kuwait years ago, after an unsuccessful start of the Center for Moderation affiliated to the Ministry of Awqaf, the Center has drained a huge budget of publications, fliers and conferences - none of which achieved fruitful results to pave the way for spreading moderation and promoting tolerance among religions by

reason of total focus on selective Muslim groups for the purpose of meeting outside Kuwait, as observed at the conference held in a prestigious hotel in Piccadilly region, which was without press coverage - not even by the British media and even International Arabic.

"It was an event that looked like a closed conference or an elite meeting! Contrary to the extravagant session, a British organization organization (OLINK) organized its second annual conference in Newport City in May under the title 'The Wales Conference on Religious Dialogue'.

"The new session of the conference was devoted to discussing a range of issues related to 'citizenship and its relationship to religion and ways to strengthen it when following the three known monotheistic religions, and other beliefs of those living in Britain in general and Wales in particular.

"The conference did not marginalize either intellectual or religious parties. On the contrary, it focused on diversity in participation and attendance, with the aim of producing a fruitful dialogue even if the views and views differed. The main objective of the conference is to eliminate any challenges facing the spread of tolerance among religions of different nationalities.

"Peaceful co-existence among peoples would eliminate intellectual and behavioral extremism, which has become a scourge for groups living on extremism and intellectual terrorism, shedding the blood of innocent civilians and polluting young minds with poisonous ideas. Terrorism has been expanding for years, through many windows that begin to brainwash, with the aim of inculcating religious extremism and intellectual extremism, and then moving to the implementation stage of schemes devised by religious and social deviant ideologies from terrorist groups hiding behind religion.

"It is not right to underestimate the phenomenon of the spread of religious extremism and terrorist ideology and the lack of certainty of its disappearance in any country or region. There are many evidences of the existence of terrorist cells in the world and the movement of them from one place to another, especially when the entry of new suicide bombers, distribution of terrorist targets according to new circumstances and nationalities. Terrorism does not have an identity or a religion, which requires working to face it in an equal social partnership".

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"Latest statistics of AIR HELP (an organization that specializes in aviation and travel) ranks Kuwait Airport 131 out of 132 airports around the world in terms of quality and services with the official national carrier Kuwait Airways in 70th place among a list of 72 companies, so we now occupy the lowest position and ranking in all aviation-related specializations", columnist **Zayed Al Zaid** wrote for **Annahar** daily.

"According to reports published in the local newspapers, AIR HELP's classification of airports was based on several factors, such as commitment to flight schedules, quality of service, food and shopping options. In all factors, Kuwait Airport received the lowest ranking in terms of organization and treatment of passengers and even shopping options.

"As Eid holiday approaches and the number of passengers increases, I invite you to see what will happen at the airport, and even the level of bad treatment some expatriates suffer coupled with the long wait at the terminals without rest, as with all international airports. It's important to note here that any of the super powerful countries in population and civilization were not included in the list of best airports in the world. That is to disprove argument about lack of fairness in comparing Kuwait with the big countries.

"On the top of the list of best airports were sisterly neighboring countries that resemble us in terms of conditions and wealth. Sheikh Hamad Airport in Qatar is one of the best airports in the world. Anyone who has passed through Qatar can visit the airport and see how the place is developing and what it can do for Qatar in future, and contributing to enhance the income of the State.

"Every airport in the world is gateway to the respective country, and tourists or investors who aspire to figure out the attitude of the government can know a lot about the mechanism of work in the country and its routine through what they see at the airport. Frankly speaking, Kuwait Airport can never encourage tourists or investors to enter and invest in the country.

"Funny and embarrassing enough, Kuwait's General Directorate for Civil Aviation imposed a fee of 8 dinars on each passenger for services provided by Kuwait International Airport! The administration returned to freeze the decision based on widespread criticism on social media that made them felt that it does not deserve a penny of the people's money!"

"Kuwait Airways remains a very long story! Despite the purchase and lease of fleets, change of boards of directors and the costly advertisement campaigns, it remains at the bottom of global lists, which means the problem is not about money or budgets but the mentality of those running the Kuwaiti aviation industry in general".

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"Trump is a merchant who has the sole purpose of increasing his assets, supporting his companies and opening his own investment opportunities," columnist **Dr Anwar Al-Shuraian** wrote for **Al-Shahed** daily.

"The most important characteristic of Trump is the power of his tongue, which has exposed many countries and leaders. He has broken all the customs of diplomacy and started treating America's allies according to their sizes and according to the need of America for them. This was evident in his rhetoric and mockery towards many countries and their leaders.

"Whatever the outcome of the US escalation in the region and Iran's reaction, it certainly will end within a short period and then begin the process of payment of bills by the parties involved and sometimes from irrelevant parties which have nothing to do with the struggle. Then, this crisis will be part of our contemporary history. The humiliating speeches in which Trump addressed some leaders will remain recorded in history and generations will pass them on to see how Trump dealt with some countries as if they are part of his own big farm.

"I am not here to stand with or against a State, but I see what happens with a bit of shame and write with the fingers of pain what reached us as people. Do we get angry or ashamed of Trump's defamation of some rulers of our sisterly countries? Trump has two goals: first is to win a second term and second is to increase his wealth since he will return to his business and become a former US President. But, what are our goals as countries and peoples? What are the objectives of the governments of the region?"

"Trump will continue to blackmail every country and every ruler as long as they seek America to support his rule or to support him or support a stupid ruler against another country. He will seek to humiliate the two parties getting advantage of their contradictions and conflict of interests. Then, men who are wise read what is happening and provide alternatives

"The trader understands only the language of numbers and the aristocrat does not understand the language of patience. Both of them destroy countries. The successful politician is a combination of confidence, wisdom and patience. We know that wisdom and patience are not qualities of traders or crazy people."

- Compiled by Zaki Taleb



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