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Kuwait current account surplus \$10b

Al-Fann exhibition home



Photo by Rizalde Cayanan, courtesy of DAI NCCAL Secretary General Kamel Sulaiman Al-Abduljalil at the opening of the 'Al-Fann: Art from the Islamic Civilization' exhibition at the Amricani Cultural Centre on Tuesday evening.

OUR LOVES OUR COMMUNITY What's On Pages 11-20

Opinion

Oh Nasrallah, he is the villain of the era

By Ahmed Al-Jarallah Editor-in-Chief, the Arab Times

IRAQI Shiites are dominating in numbers the mass demonstrations being held in various Iraqi cities and towns.

This is completely unusual, given that the regime in Iran attempted to portray itself in the last four decades as the representative and defender of Shiites all over the world...

Today, the notion of Iran being the shield of the Shiites in the world has fallen in Iraq. Iraqi protesters are denouncing every organization or format of the seditious regime.

This "change in mood" of the Arab Shiites has always existed even though their voice wasn't heard due to the sedition-charged atmosphere which was based on the idea that there is a conspiracy against the existence of Shiites...

Such rhetoric has started crumbling and the ugly facts through which the voice of Arab Shiites was forged is being exposed...

History has documented the fact that majority of the Iraqi army fighting the Iranian soldiers in the war, which lasted for eight years, were Shiites.

The situation is no different in Lebanon. Despite the efforts of Hassan Nasrallah and his group to depict Shiites in Lebanon as being against the populist uprising...

These militias have been suppressing any opposition for a very long time in areas that they consider their environment. The observers of the Lebanese affairs have realized that the residents of these areas have also come out to protest in favor of the national unity...

Undoubtedly, those who are suffering from the Lebanese populace uprising and those who caught its wave or opposed it are trying to distort the voices of hundreds of thousands of Lebanese who reject the return to the previous status.

They are standing firm with their slogan "All means all", and they will not be appeased when the voice of a significant caliber of their society, I mean the Shiites, is distorted in this uprising.

This is due to the fact that the issue in this country exceeds any image of corruption, nepotism, sectarian sedition, and control of the country's wealth, in addition to the Revolutionary Guard's practices through its representative Qasem Soleimani who is playing the role of occupation authority.

The Arab Shiites have brought down every imaginary claims adopted by the Mullahs regime which the latter used to achieve its expansionism scheme. If the regime had achieved it, it would have been the first to commit massacres against the followers of this sect...

Therefore, the blood that the Iraqis are shedding today on the streets and squares is a clear declaration of the dying Persian expansionism scheme. It is clearer from the change made to Nasrallah's statement "Khamenei is the Hussein of this era" into chants of "Khamenei is the villain of this era".

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By Cinatra Alvares Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 6: The "Al-Fann: Art from the Islamic Civilization" exhibition attempts to tell the story of Islamic artistic expression across the breadth of time and geographical reach through 200 captivating objects from the al-Sabah Collection.

The Dar al Athar al Islamiyyah opened its much awaited exhibition at the Amricani Cultural Centre on Tuesday evening, as part of its 25th cultural season.

The exhibition opening was held under the auspices of the Minister of Information, Mohammah Nasir Abdullah Al-Jabri and in the presence of the Secretary General of the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters, Kamel Sulaiman Al-Abduljalil.

Addressing the audience, NCCAL Secretary General Al-Abduljalil mentioned the importance of art as the sincerest of history, the engineering science of body and soul; a vessel of civilization and reflection for cultural identity...

Al-Abduljalil revealed that he shared the view of DAI Director General and Co-founder, Sheikh Hussa Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah with regard to the difficulty of defining the word "art" unless it was associated with one of its peers such as visual, fine or cinematic arts.

Sentiment

He reiterated the sentiment from her elegant foreword in the exhibition catalogue in which she stated that the word "art" is not described in Arabic in the sense that it has no limits...

Al-Abduljalil stressed the significance and benefit of this exhibition in covering the geographical breadth of the Islamic civilization, which reached areas far from the center such as Spain and China...

He shared that the exhibition sheds light on the manifestations of Islamic art in its varieties and materials such as stones, wood, glass, textile, calligraphy, decoration, metalwork, jewelry and ornament.

"All this proves the civilized self of Islam, which is far from what it is unjustly attached to," he said. "The fact is, the Islamic civilization that inspired the world was and is still based on enlightened values through which Muslims were able to prove their existence and personify the tolerant teachings of their great religion...

The spread of the message of Islam and its successive expansion contributed to the convergence of Muslims with people of different religions, civilizations and culture, and it was through the contact and inter-marriage with great empires such as the Byzantine in the West and Sassanid in the East...

Al-Abduljalil concluded by commending DAI and the al-Sabah Collection for its strenuous and tireless effort to present the artistry of Muslim countries to the public in Kuwait since its establishment in 1983. He noted that this exhibition is among hundreds of initiatives of the efforts to spread culture, enlightenment and entertainment through its cultural seasons.

Dalal Al-Fadhli, DAI Director of Cultural and Artistic Resources, describing the exhibition, stated that it consists of more than 200 different historical art pieces which are "inspirational to the heart before the eye".

"Al-Fann" has been conceived and organized in two main parts. The first part presents a chronological progression from the beginning of the seventh century - the crucial date being 622, the year of the Hijra, or migration, of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) from Makkah to Madinah...

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Registers and warranties

Ministry regulates car repair

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 6: The Minister of Commerce and Industry and Minister of State for Services Affairs Khalid Al-Roudhan has issued a decision on the rules and regulations concerning car spare parts to regulate the fixing and mechanical and electrical works, reports Al-Rai daily.

It is noteworthy to mention the Al-Rai daily in its Oct 20, 2019, issue had highlighted the issue obliging garages to give guarantee of up to a month on used spare parts and car repair.

The decision specifies a warranty period that varies between maintenance, repair and fixing of new spare parts, as well as painting from 30 to 180 days with special laws, regulations or other standards agreed upon by the parties on a longer term.

The decision, a copy of which has been obtained by the daily, talks about the following articles which should be taken into consideration.

Article (3): The warranty period for overhauling engine shall not be less than 90 days and not be less than 30 days for used one starting from the date of repair indicated in the repair shop invoice.

Article (4): The warranty period (overhaul)

of the gear shall not be less than 90 days, and not less than 30 for replacement with used one from the date of installation as indicated in the repair shop invoice, except for race cars, the warranty period shall not be less than 30 days starting from the date of installation as indicated in the repair shop invoice.

Article (5): The warranty period for the new hydraulic installation shall not be less than 60 days, the repaired and refurbished hydraulics shall not be less than 30 days and the hydraulic used shall not be less than 15 days.

Article (6): The duration of the warranty for the installation of the air conditioning compressor of the vehicle, or charging gas in the unit shall not be less than 60 days starting from the date of work done as indicated in the repair shop invoice.

Article (7): The warranty period for the installation of the new front and rear body shall not be less than 30 days and for second hand material 15 days starting from the date of maintenance, repair or installation as stated in the repair shop invoice.

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CBK issues data

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 6, (KUNA): The Central Bank of Kuwait (CBK) said on Wednesday that the current domestic account posted a surplus at KD 3.2 billion (\$10.5 billion) in Q2 2019 against KD 2.6 billion (\$8.5 billion) in the year's Q1.

The CBK reported in a press release, marking issuance of preliminary data of Kuwait balance of payments for Q2 2019 and the amended data for Q1, a 21.4 percent growth in Q2, reaching KD 528 million (\$1.7 billion).

It alluded growth of the balance of payments to a rise of debts' payments in Q2, estimated at KD 568.4 million (\$1.8 billion), 5.9 percent compared to the Q1.

The growth increase was also as a result of decline of collected debts dues, estimated at KD 40 million (\$132 million).

Initial data of the balance of payments, in Q2, showed rise of the value

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Kuwaitis out in their numbers at the Erada Square to protest against corruption, unemployment and other social vices.

Demonstrators back at Erada Square

Other Voices

When will we stop being last?!

By Ali Ahmed Al-Baghli Former Minister of Oil

NewsWatch

DUE to our conservative lawmakers and spineless ministers, we have been occupying the last position in many aspects of economy, finance, commerce, culture ...

The last time we had a cultural scandal in the current era of cultural boom happened under the leadership of the youthful Minister of Information who opposed invitation for seminar on the liberal philosopher Jalal El-Deen Al-Roumi who died decades ago!!!

This was followed days later by the suspension of the commercial license of a company for three months for organizing an event where Iraqi bands performed, because a woman who attended the event shook her shoulders. A youthful Korean band was banned from performing due to information gathered by Kuwait's Ministry of Culture and the lawmakers with a twist that some members of the band were bisexuals?!

Peace be unto the Holy Prophet as this is happening in Kuwait in the 21st century. But the people I mentioned are the ones holding us back to traditions of the Arabian Peninsula several decades ago.

What really baffled me about the level of deterioration in my country concerning corruption that is widespread like wildfire is when I perused a recent announcement issued by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) listing six new Arab cities on its website as creative cities.

Before reading the list, I hoped to see Kuwait City, but I was quickly disappointed.

The global list contained cities that chose creativity as basis of growth in areas such as music, arts, popular vocation, design, cinema, information art, literature and art of cooking. The statement released by UNESCO to mark the World Creative Cities Day indicated that the organization would include Beirut in Lebanon and Sulaimaniyah in Iraq for being literary

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KUWAIT CITY: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah has sent a congratulatory cable to Saudi King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud on signing the "Riyadh Accord" between the Yemeni government and the Southern Transitional Council.

The signing occurred under the patronage of Saudi Crown Prince, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Mohammad bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud.

His Highness Sheikh Sabah hailed Saudi's efforts to end conflict between the two sides and sign the accord which will bring peace and security to the war-torn country.

His Highness the Amir also wished King Salman a long healthy life and further development and prosperity for the Kingdom. His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah also sent similar cables to King Salman. (KUNA)

KUWAIT CITY: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah congratulated President of the sisterly Republic of Yemen Abdrabu Mansour Hadi on inking "the Riyadh Accord" between the Legitimate Yemeni Government and the Interim South Council in response to a call by Saudi King Salman bin Abdulaziz with sponsorship by the Crown Prince, the Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister of Defense, Mohammad bin Salman bin Abdulaziz.

His Highness the Amir in a cable to the king expressed hope that the agreement would lead to unifying the ranks, tackle the differences for sake of boosting stability of Yemen.

Their Highnesses the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, respectively Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, addressed cables of identical content to the Saudi Monarch. (KUNA)

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KUWAIT CITY, Nov 6: After years of calm and peace in the country, demonstrations have returned to Erada Square, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

The call for demonstration was made by former MP Saleh Al-Mulla via his Twitter account, which succeeded in attracting the attention of hundreds of citizens and Bedouin residents including former MPs and activists. They gathered at Erada Square tonight and held the demonstration under the slogan "The story has become silly enough".

Their top demand is the cancellation of loans and interests. Some of the other demands expressed by the protestors during the demonstrations were "Citizenship is our demand", "Immediate and full citizenships", "Citizenship is the solution", "Our demand is the cancellation of Central System for Remedying Status of Illegal Residents", "We are Kuwaitis whether you like it or not" among others.

According to some protestors, the calls started by protesting against the widespread corruption and ending with calls for offering Kuwaiti citizenship and cancellation of loans.

The demonstrators verbally attacked both the executive and legislative authorities, calling for the dismissal of the National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanim and His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah.

Former National Assembly Speaker Ahmed Al-Sa'adoun said the demonstrations reflect the anger of the people towards both the government and the National Assembly.

Activist Latifa Al-Ruzaihan said, "We call for the reassignment of the government and National Assembly, and we demand elimination of corruption".

She stated that the government issued licenses to real-estate companies that swindled citizens of their money and managed to escape without being held accountable or facing any questioning.

Abdulaziz Al-Suwait told Al-Seyassah daily, "The National Assembly is very bad and it should leave. So does the government".

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