

Trend tied to marital problems ... which is attributed to lockdown

Divorce rate surpasses marriages for first time

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 3: For the first time in Kuwait, divorce rates surpassed marriages during July, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

Statistics issued by the Legal Documentation Department shows July witnessed 818 divorces, compared to 622 marriages, which means 4 divorces for every 3 marriages.

The daily quoting experts said the rise in divorce rates can be attributed to marital problems which in turn attributed the marital problems to the lockdown the country witnessed because of the outbreak of the corona pandemic.

The daily said add to this the financial problems which many families faced as businesses shut doors, while

the tempers inside homes flared over silly issues and this greatly affected the marital relations.

The daily added, there were few marriages and this was also due to the restrictions by the concerned authorities on social gatherings to prevent the spread of the virus.

The daily added, many couples

were reluctant to tie the knot without the presence of their friends and families as they keep hoping life in Kuwait like the rest of the world to come to normal – sans corona – albeit with the availability of the vaccine to control the epidemic.

The sources emphasized that the high rates of divorce and the decrease

in marriage cases does not necessarily mean there is an increase in divorces, but rather this scenario has unfolded due to the exceptional conditions that the country and the whole world are currently experiencing as a result of the outbreak of the virus, which is nothing more than a decline in marriage cases rather than an increase in divorce cases.

The statistics showed that the Department of Sharia Documentation completed during the period from June 30 until the current July 28, 13,947 transactions, the most prominent of which are 205 marriage permit contracts by an authorized person outside the administration (a non-Kuwaiti party).

'Amir's visit to China takes ties between 2 nations to new level'

Kuwait army seeks to develop relations with Chinese army

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 3: Chinese Ambassador to Kuwait Li Minggang affirmed that the successful visit of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad to China in July 2018 and the fruitful talks he held with Chinese President Xi Jinping resulted in many decisions being taken in the area of developing relations between the two countries, and resulted in the establishment of a strategic partnership between the two countries which

he said was like opening a new chapter in bilateral relations, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

In a speech delivered on the occasion of the 93th anniversary of the founding of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, the ambassador added over the past two years since the establishment of the strategic partnership between China and Kuwait, bilateral cooperation in various fields has grown in depth with fruitful and satisfactory results. He pointed out that this year witnessed a strong strategic partnership between China and Kuwait and a mutually beneficial cooperation in our joint struggle against the 'Corona' Covid-19 pandemic.

"China and Kuwait have stood together steadfastly and demonstrated solidarity and partnership through mutual support in facing the crisis, which is a vivid example of how to pursue our common future," he said, pointing out that the exchange of messages between President Xi Jinping and HH the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Sabah spell solidarity and support for each other.

Crucial

He explained that during the crucial moments in China's battle against the epidemic, Kuwait extended a helping hand and donated medical supplies to China, and in return, China provided the necessary facilities for Kuwait to purchase medical supplies from China. Moreover, China sent a team of medical experts to assist the Kuwaiti efforts, and invited medical officials and experts in the Kuwaiti Ministry of Health and the Kuwaiti army to attend several video conferences held by the Chinese side and exchange experiences.

He stressed the strong friendship between China and Kuwait, mutual trust and sincere cooperation will mark next year the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between the two countries.

He went on to say, China is ready to make joint efforts with the Kuwaiti side hand in hand to take the strategic partnership relations to a new level that better serve the two countries and peoples, and inject a new impetus for peace and growth in the region and make new contributions to building a common future between China and countries.

He added, he hopes the relations between the two countries and the two armies will grow stronger, and "I hope that the friendship between the people of our two countries will last forever."

He explained that recent years have witnessed a rapidly developing cooperation between the Chinese and Kuwaiti armies, which has become an important part of our bilateral relations. "We sincerely hope that China, Kuwait and our two armies will take into consideration the overall situation of peace and development in a purely defensive nature," he added.

For his part, the Chinese military attaché, Colonel Xiu Xuan, made it clear in his speech that Kuwait is the first Arab Gulf country to establish diplomatic relations with China. "As a new defensive attaché, I will dedicate myself to strengthening our bilateral defense relationship," he added.

Meanwhile, the head of the National Military Service in the Kuwaiti Army, Major-General Mohammed Ahmed Al-Khidr, expressed appreciation for the successful projects between Kuwait and China with regard to the army and strong cooperation in facing the corona epidemic and regional and international situation, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

Speaking at the China's Army Day celebrations, he said, "We value the close cooperation between the armies of the two countries through constant e-communication and in light of the continuing and rapid spread of this epidemic," and praised the measures and highly effective proactive efforts taken by the Chinese government to confront the pandemic.

He went on to say, "We look forward to developing relations with the Chinese army in terms of joint military exercises in various aspects of cooperation and the exchange of experiences and information," stressing that China will remain a dear friend to Kuwait.

Al-Khidr conveyed the greetings and congratulations of the Ministry of Defense leadership on the Chinese Army's Day.



Chinese Ambassador Li Minggang delivering his speech during the 93th anniversary of the founding of the Chinese People's Liberation Army celebration.



Kuwaiti and Iranian shrimps available in abundance at the fish market. Photo by Mahmoud Jadeed

MoCI specifies shrimp selling price

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry specified the selling prices for shrimp to ensure ample supply for consumers, affirming the availability of 150 baskets of different sizes of shrimp on Saturday, reports Al-Rai daily.

The ministry's decision states that the price of 'Shahamiya' shrimp should not exceed KD30 for 20 kilograms, while the price of assorted

shrimps should not exceed KD50 for 20 kilograms and not more than KD90 for 20 kilograms of jumbo shrimps.

On the other hand, local fish and shrimp are available in Sharq Market where the price monitors from the ministry checked the weight of shrimp baskets that were distributed to stalls, cooperative societies, parallel markets, restaurants and companies.

Industrialists to submit petition to Cabinet

'Factories at risk of stopping due to 14-day quarantine for arrivals'

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 3: Industrial milieus are preparing to submit an urgent petition to Cabinet to express concerns that a number of Kuwaiti factories have stopped working due to the refusal of many foreign engineers and technicians (European national in particular) to come to Kuwait under the 14-day home quarantine imposed by the authorities on those entering the country, reports Al-Anba daily.

Responsible industrial sources affirmed that a number of factories have completed a petition to be submitted to the Council of Ministers at the end of the blessed Eid Al-Adha holiday after several production lines in their factories stopped working due to the need for technical maintenance by engineers and technicians from the parent companies that manufacture the production lines. The engineers and technicians in question refuse to come to Kuwait, because they do not want to stay in home quarantine for 14 days as they have other work obligations in different countries.

The sources said the Kuwaiti factories were awaiting the start of Kuwait International Airport on Aug 1 to bring in technicians specialized in operating machinery, equipment and production lines in their factories, some of which were stopped during the total ban period especially as some of these lines are still under warranty by the parent companies.

They noted maintenance also requires

specialists and technicians from those companies but they're surprised that the specialists are refusing to come to Kuwait under the current circumstances.

They added the specialists confirm their willingness to come if only they'll be allowed to leave after a maximum of one week due to their association with other maintenance schedules in different countries around the world, saying it is not logical to spend 14 days in quarantine at the expense of their work in other countries.

The same sources confirmed that the petition to be submitted to Cabinet includes a proposal that a new PCR examination be conducted for specialists coming to Kuwait, in addition to the examination carried out by those from their countries as a condition to enter Kuwait, and then allowing them to visit the factories two days after their entry into Kuwait, so that the Kuwaiti factories can continue their work without interruption. This is important considering the need for the work and products of these factories to continue in the face of the pandemic conditions.

They warned of the danger of some main production lines stopping work in the coming days, unless this matter is taken seriously by working to solve the compulsory quarantine problem for those coming to Kuwait, especially as it affects all economic sectors in the country, and not just the industrial sector.

Teachers 'hit' by arrival ban decision

Ministry facing new crisis regarding return of teachers stranded abroad

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 3: The Ministry of Education is facing a new crisis regarding the return of teachers stranded abroad after the decision to ban the entry of travelers from 31 countries, reports Al-Rai daily quoting a source from the educational sector.

Disclosing that dozens of teachers are affected by the decision, the source said the ministry will consider the possibility of excluding them from the decision immediately after the Eid Al-Adha holiday in coordination with the Ministry of Health and other concerned government agencies.

The source emphasized that schools are suffering from an acute shortage of teachers, especially in some disciplines.

The source pointed out that stopping the local and foreign contracts along with the teachers' annual resignations

since the start of the health crisis will negatively affect the start of the next academic year, even if the system of online education is implemented.

The source suggested requesting the Ministry of Health to exempt teachers from the decision like the medical workers.

On the other hand, Al-Qabas daily has reported that Kuwait Teachers Society Chairman Mutee Al-Ajmi demanded for exemption of the expatriate teachers from the decision to ban the entry of travelers from 31 countries.

In a press statement, Al-Ajmi stressed the need for the Ministry of Education to take the necessary steps to facilitate procedures for these teachers' return to Kuwait; especially after setting the date for the resumption of work for the academic staff in all levels.



Chairman of the Directorate General of Civil Aviation Sheikh Salman Al-Sabah inspects the operation of the Kuwait International Airport. KUNA photos

Eight flights leave Kuwait, 9 arrive

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) announced Sunday evening the schedule of departing

and arriving flights to and from the Kuwait International Airport for Monday, reports Al-Rai daily. DGCA indicated

8 flights leave for Doha, Istanbul and Dubai, with 9 flights arriving from Doha, Istanbul, London and Dubai.

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