

Other Voices

The mistake of Faiq Sheikh Ali

By Ahmad alsarraf

On an Iraqi TV channel from his safe apartment in Kuwait – I say safe because he won't find this safety even in his own homeland -- in terms of security, freedom and respect, the Iraqi MP Faiq Al Sheikh Ali said, "Do you know that the provinces of Al-Qassim, Buraidah and Unaizah in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia belong to the Governorate of Basra, and that Kuwait also belongs to the Basra, in addition to Riyadh and Najd of Saudi Arabia belong also to Basra, and add to this Al-Hasa and Qatif which are also part of Basra."

He went on to say, "All these provinces belong to Iraq, even Qatar belongs to Iraq, and this is not from the Babylonian time, but 140 years ago (from 1875 to 1914) when the British entered Iraq?"



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This is pure trash, but the sad part is these words are uttered by a member of the Iraqi parliament by someone, we would describe as person of understanding, liberalism, openness and preponderant reason, but he turned out to be fanatic just like many other delusional Iraqis who weave webs weaker than that of a spider.

The response was more than necessary which followed his weak justifications, to the message of a friend and colleague Sami Al-Nisf although Sheikh Ali insisted on his false allegations or rather beliefs.

He insists that the entire region was affiliated to the Basra Governorate, while preferring to remain mum about the dates he has mentioned, and for hundreds of years before that, Basra and Iraq as a region was completely subordinate to the Ottoman Empire, and its affairs were managed from the Sublime Porte in Astana.

A state or a province subordinate to a colonial state at a certain point in time does not mean anything fundamentally. It falls outside the narration of history, if the subordination is basically correct.

The words of Faiq Sheikh Ali are meaningless and can only tickle the sentiments of the demagogues.

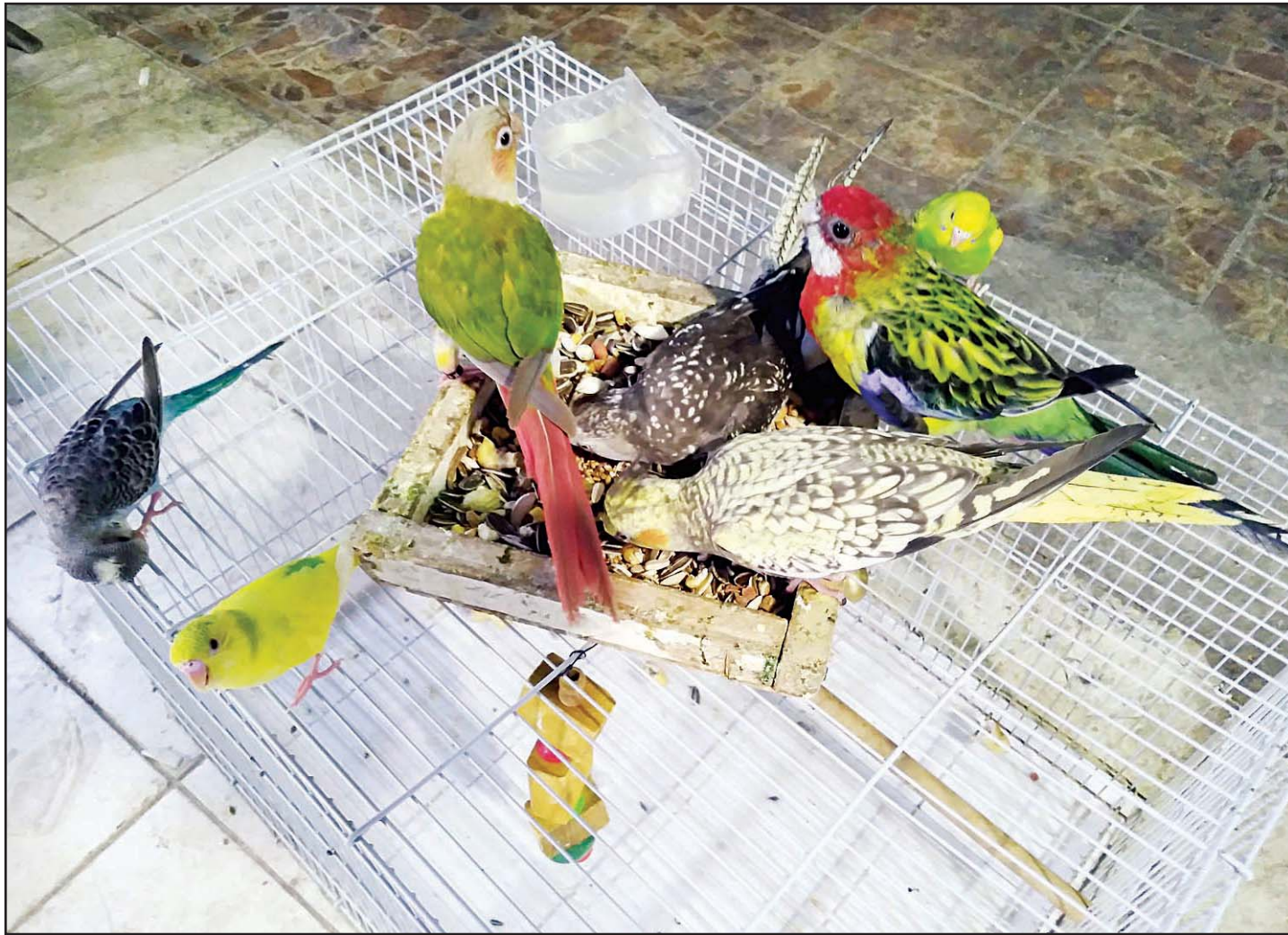
The British ruled dozens of countries of the world, east and west, including India and the United States, and even large parts of China with an iron fist or by international decisions. No sane person gave Britain the right to praise its previous colonial history and claim that these regions or states are subordinate to it, and the matter applies to every colonial state that preceded it from the Persian Empire of Cyrus 2,500 years ago, and other dozens of colonial states throughout the unjust history of the world. It is impossible for the ruling power to be just to the ruled, so what is brother Faiq proud of?

Even if we assume the authenticity of his statements, which are full of contradictions, we ask him was the colonization or occupation of Iraq of all the countries and cities mentioned in his words something that deserves to be praised, despite that such statements are contrary to reality on the one hand, and something that is not honorable on the other?

The bonds of friendship and loyalty required of him, who is a well-versed jurist and an expert parliamentarian, not to be drawn into such delusions on the pretext that he wanted to show how was Iraq one day in the light of his boasting about the influence of the Iranians in his homeland, and therefore we expect him to apologize for what he did against a homeland which still hosts him.

This is in addition to the fact that boasting the glories of the past is nothing but a harmful drug, because if he has the right to boast of the colonial history of Iraq, so the people of Cyrus, the Tatars, the British and the Ottoman Sultans have the right to boast about their colonial history in Iraq.

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Colourful birds feeding at the Birds and Pets market in Al-Rai area.

Photo by Bassam Abu Shanab

'Delay in allowing return of fishermen will lead to little sea food, price hike'

Open auctions in Sharq, Fahaheel markets: KFU

**KUWAIT CITY, Sept 17: Head of Kuwait Fishermen Union, Dhafer Al-Sawyyan, called on concerned government agencies to respond to the demands of fishermen, and allow the return of expatriate fishermen stranded abroad to continue their work, reports Al-Rai daily.**

In a statement, Al-Sawyan indicated that fishing profession is one of the toilsome professions that require skilled labor, most of which are outside the country such as jobs in factories, livestock and agriculture.

He pointed out that the delay in return of fishermen will lead to the scarcity of sea food and high prices, while local produce maintains the balance of prices and makes them affordable for everyone.

He also suggested that fishermen be received in the event of their return to Kuwait, in accordance with the health precautions the Ministry of Health sees instead of coming to the country via transit.

Al-Sawyan indicated the union also aspires to open auctions in Sharq and Fahaheel markets for consumers instead of limiting them to companies, restaurants and stalls, as is the current situation, proposing auctions in the morning and after the afternoon prayer to reduce crowding- in accordance with the conditions set by the Ministry of Health and concerned authorities to allow consumers to participate in the auction to buy shrimp and fish.

The auction process is limited to restaurants, companies, stalls and parallel markets since 1/4/2020.

**Big accounts not crime:** The Public Prosecution will soon summon two social media celebrities, representing the last batch, in a day or two after interrogating 12 male and female suspects out of 16 suspects in money laundering cases, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

The two celebrities are the owner of Boutiqaat Company Abdul-Wahab Al-Essa, and Abdullah Al-Jasser (nicknamed Aboudka).

Legal practitioners affirmed that the money laundering allegations against the celebrities are without strong proof, because those monies have known sources, which are reputable companies that can be considered as legitimate sources, and they were found in local banks.

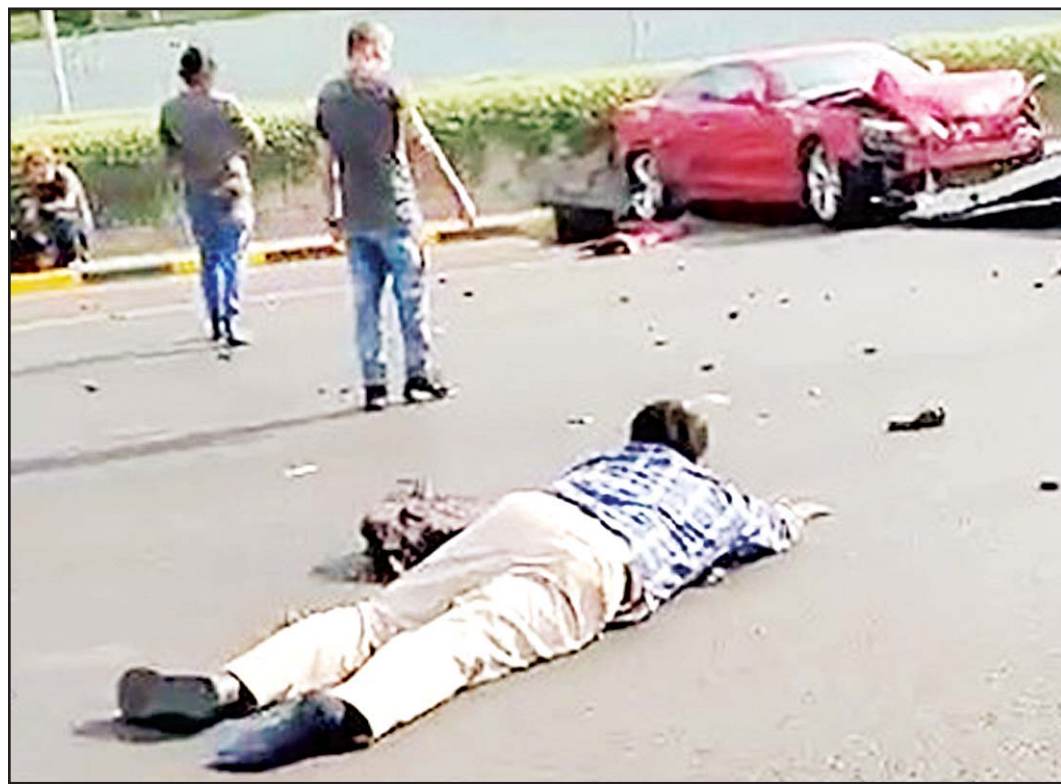
They said having bloated bank accounts in Kuwait is not a crime; in fact, finding suspicious sums of money in bank accounts without verifiable sources should rather make the banks the prime suspects for keeping such funds.

**Dentist, worker fight:** A dentist and an employee of the dental clinic have been referred for interrogations for fighting in the parking lot of the clinic, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

The daily added both men were arrested and taken to the area police station after some visitors to the clinic called the Operations Room of the Ministry of Interior.

The daily added, when police arrived the men were still fighting. It has been reported they were fighting over earlier dispute.

Both men have submitted medical reports showing injuries on their body and both accuse each other of starting the fight.



An injured person lies on the road at the site of the accident.

Four hurt in accident on 5th Ring Road

A collision on the Fifth Ring Road in front of Bayan towards Salmiya between two salon cars and a bus left four people injured, reports Al-Anba daily.

The daily said on impact the bus overturned. A security source said immediately after the accident, the traffic police who rushed to the spot organized traffic and the injured were taken to the

Mubarak Al-Kabir Hospital by Emergency Medical Services personnel.

Investigation is underway to find out the cause of the accident.

Jail sentence overturned to fine

Judge annuls night-time private house raid

**KUWAIT CITY, Sept 17:** In a notable judicial ruling, the Criminal Court of Cassation headed by Judge Abdullah Jassim Al-Abdullah annulled the inspection procedures that the investigation officer had conducted in a house during night time, which was in violation of the search warrant issued by the Public Prosecution, reports Aljarida daily.



Al-Abdullah

In the merits of its ruling, the court stated that the warrant issued to the officer did not include the possibility of searching at night, which was a matter that should have been referred to by the warrant, especially since searches at night are only permissible when necessary.

Also, the court considered the ruling of the Court of Appeals as invalid due to its issuance in the absence of the defendant, citing that the notification procedure was not fully and properly implemented.

According to the case file, the Public Prosecution charged the two defendants with possession

of narcotic substances with intent to consume, and possession of weapons and ammunition which is in violation of the provisions of the relevant law.

The Court of First Instance had sentenced one of the accused to five-year imprisonment with hard labor, and acquitted the other from all charges levied against him.

**Verdict overturned:** The Court of Appeals overturned the verdict issued by the Court of First Instance, which had sentenced a supervisor, a production manager and the managing director of Kuwait TV (KTV 3) channel to four-year imprisonment with hard labor, payment

of KD 1,000 for suspending the execution of the verdict, and the return of all the money they had acquired fraudulently. The court instead imposed a fine of KD 3,000 on the production manager, and KD 2,000 each on the other two defendants.

According to the case file, they were accused of embezzling funds belonging to the Ministry of Information through forgery of attendance documents despite being outside the country and receiving full salary.

The Public Prosecution had charged the production manager of the KTV 3 channel with receiving about KD 42,000 fraudulently during the period from March 13, 2008 to February 15, 2018. It also charged all the three defendants of facilitating salary increment for the production manager, and forging documents related to attendance and appraisals to prove the production manager had been at his workstation throughout the aforementioned period.

or disappeared gradually over a period of time. He also did not say if the suspect was holding his passport.

**Expat insults officers:** An Arab man has been summoned for interrogation for insulting two traffic officers (majors), reports Al-Rai daily.

The daily added, this happened when the suspect was reportedly told that his transaction was incomplete when he visited the Mubarak Al-Kabeer Traffic Department.

At this point the expatriate allegedly got angry and verbally abused the officers. He blurted out and

reportedly said, 'You don't know how to respect, you don't know who I am. I will see that the transaction is completed irrespective whether you approve it or not.'

**Jet skier drowns:** The remains of an unidentified person who allegedly fell off the jet ski and drowned in sea have been referred to Forensics, reports Al-Anba daily.

The daily added, this happened after the Operations Room of the Ministry of Interior received a report that some sea goers had found a jet ski, but no one was seen around it.



The trailer truck completely destroyed by fire.

KFSD photo

Short circuit cause of fire

Wednesday afternoon firefighters from the Salmi fire center put out fire to a truck which was loaded with sand, reports Al-Anba daily.

It has been reported the fire was caused by an electrical short circuit. Meanwhile, the corpse of a 29-year-

old Ethiopian woman, who drowned off Khairan, has been referred to the Forensics, reports Al-Rai daily.

Without going into details, the daily said the remains of the woman were fished out of the waters by the Coast Guard.

News in Brief

**'Stick to COVID rules':** Kuwait Medical Association (KMA) warned against non-compliance with health regulations under the pretext that the curfew has ended and normal life has returned, considering the alarm sounded on the repercussions of such action on public health as manifested in the spread of coronavirus, reports Al-Qabas daily.

In a press statement, KMA President Dr Ahmed Thuwaini Al-Enezi asserted: "What we see today in terms of non-compliance with health regulations and the rising number of infections portend grave danger with dire consequences. They threaten public health and the health system; thereby, annihilating the medical staff who are already tired as they have been fighting against coronavirus since the beginning of the crisis."

He cited the conduct of by-elections as one of the reasons for the rising number of infections, especially since those behind such activities are not implementing any of the health measures recommended by local and global health authorities.

He urged the concerned authorities in the State to be "firm" and to impose penalties on those who ignore health regulations. He also stressed the need for deterrence for those who do not wear masks in order to protect public health.

**Bank account hacked:** A Kuwaiti born in 1974 has filed a case with the police accusing an unidentified person of stealing 295 dinars from his bank account, reports Al-Anba daily.

In his complaint to the police the man said when he received a message on his cell phone that 295 dinars had been debited from his account he rushed to the bank and was told that the money was debited against the purchase of goods.

Hunt for mother

Dead baby found

**KUWAIT CITY, Sept 17:** Police are looking for the mother of a newborn baby whose corpse was found near the outer wall of the Sulaibikhat Cemetery, reports Al-Rai daily.

The daily added, police have not ruled out foul play. The issue has been referred to the Public Prosecution.

**Revolver stolen:** A traffic officer – employee of the General Traffic Department of the Ministry of Interior – has reported the theft of his service revolver in mysterious circumstances when the police patrol was on duty the Shuwaikh Industrial Area, reports Al-Rai daily.

A complaint has been filed with the Shuwaikh Police Station and provided in the complaint the weapon's number and specifications.

The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) has been informed of the theft. An investigation has been opened in the circumstances of the theft.

**Car theft reported:** A National Guard officer has informed the police about the theft of his vehicle belonging to the Kuwait National Guard, reports Al-Rai daily.

He said the vehicle bearing civilian number plate was stolen from Hawalli.

**Theft in home:** Police are looking for an unidentified thief who is said to have stolen 12,000 dinars from the home of a Kuwaiti, reports Al-Anba daily.

The daily added, according to the security sources the suspect is the one who knew the place well or the thief may have broken into the home to look for valuables and by chance happened to find the cash in the closet.