

diwaniya ديوانية

A DIGEST OF PUBLIC OPINION

'Disliking for Kuwait remains reality ... work needed to promote Iraqi ties'

"We presume that the Kuwaiti-Iraqi relations have entered a stage of evolution and consolidation since 2003 on both the Kuwaiti and the Iraqi popular levels, in reality what we see is the opposite, because these relations still lack 'renovation' in all aspects and fields," columnist and former President of London based Kuwait Information Center, Dr **Khaled Ahmad Al-Tarrah**, wrote for **Al-Qabas** daily.

"However, once again, I am positive there is some kind of default and narrow horizon in the Kuwaiti official political, informational and strategic behavior towards the neighboring and sisterly country Iraq, since the downfall of the despot Saddam Hussein until date.

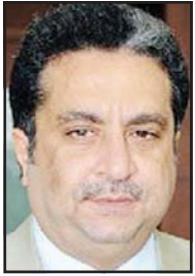
"In this connection, I refer to the televised program 'The Decision Is Up To You' presented by the Iraqi Satellite TV Channel recently, the dialogue in which I participated saw a wide gap which currently prevails in the Iraqi media in general over the Kuwaiti attitude either prior or post the downfall of Saddam Hussein.

"I also perceived another most painful default that falls on the shoulders of the Kuwaiti diplomacy, particularly in the absence of accurate monitoring of the deep gap and the wounds as well as the misguided opinions promoted by the Saddamist media machinery that has lasted for many years in addition to what is fed to various Iraqi denominations to promote the allegations and lies against the State of Kuwait.

"I was expecting prior and post to the downfall of Saddam the challenges and official Kuwaiti shortsightedness in terms of dealing efficiently with the opportunities to bring our relationship with the Iraqi people in general to a higher level not with the intellectual and political elite only particularly those who specifically belong to the Iraqi opposition in a selective Kuwaiti manner.

"In other words, we should have concentrated on the Kuwaiti official planning and cooperation with the Iraqi civil and informational institutions as well as with the various Iraqi communal denominations of various ages and diplomatic and media culture in a bid to directly address the Iraqi minds and consciences and build robust bridges, not temporary 'edifices'.

"Given the above, it was not strange to see the dialogue sending us back to square one given the role played by the Kuwaiti assistance and grants given to lessen the sufferings and torments facing the Iraqi people.



Khaled Al-Tarrah

"In this connection, we would like to point out, that the Iraqis had seemingly forgotten what was done by the State of Kuwait through the Donors Meeting for the Reconstruction of Iraq which had been hosted by the State of Kuwait in 2018.

"Given the above, one may observe that all the parties are working through non harmonious methods or traditional reaction policy. Likewise, we have observed that the Kuwaiti diplomacy and the consecutive governments have failed to learn how to recruit what is in the possession of the Kuwaiti Center for Researches and Studies on both the informational and political levels represented by a huge archive that was taken from various sources in various languages. These parties have failed to benefit from the experienced people as well as from what was submitted personally by me during my tenure as the president of London based the Kuwaiti Information Center from 2000 to 2007.

"With a reckless stroke of pen and without awareness of the prospective consequences and outcomes that are likely to happen all Kuwaiti foreign information centers were done away with in 2007 and the relevant decision was seemingly not studied.

"In this context, we have observed that the consecutive Kuwaiti governments and the selective diplomacy had confined its communication with some Iraqi groups by extending financial support to the latter without paying attention to the reality of the Iraqi people in general, particularly since the people are suffering for many years ago of the severe consequences of the political turmoil, the sectarian division and the Iranian influence in the state institutions.

"Such being the case, the Kuwaiti diplomacy should review its policies -- the worn out policies towards Iraq and ultimately keep in mind that the stability and the security of Iraq, will be directly reflected on the State of Kuwait, as such any leniency in dealing with this equation can be deemed as leniency towards the stability of the State of Kuwait.

"In this context, we suggest not only the sound of grenades and bombings but also the sound of fireworks happening in South Iraq will be heard in Kuwait and as a result will have a big impact given the fact that what is happening in Iraq is the gross Iranian intervention in Iraq.

"Once again, I say in my opinion and what I said during the televised interview about Kuwaiti assistance to Iraq during its war with Iran -- the war that was begun by the despot Saddam, we should avoid such illusions that this assistance had helped the Iraqi people.

"However, under similar circumstances and in reality what we heard from some Arab countries during the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait where Kuwaitis -- politicians and intellectuals -- indicated that the developmental assistance that was extended by the State of Kuwait to these countries had served the corrupt regimes and not the common man.

"We also discovered how Saddam enjoyed the Arab acceptance and solidarity just because he paid for printing some booklets and school curricula, but to the contrary the Arab public was seemingly not aware of the volume of the money Kuwait gave generously to finance the development projects in the relevant countries and this could be attributed to the absence of a strategy and the faulty media and the diplomacy to highlight there Kuwaiti efforts.

"As a matter of fact, the Kuwaiti media machinery needs to be active in Iraq and cover all areas to build necessary channels of joint understanding and not take the issues lightly because what we see is hatred for the State of Kuwait from some Iraqi groups."

Also:

"'We have to shave our heads before others shave', this phrase is attributed to the former president Ali Abdullah Saleh," columnist and attorney **Hassan Al-Issa** wrote for **Aljarida** daily.

"This was said during the days of the so-called 'The Arab Spring', in the context of his attempts towards self reform before it was imposed on the Arab states by foreigners. But, did not achieve the necessary reforms, rather, he weaved a coalition with the Houthis, and he didn't shave his head, rather he was killed by his allies, but it is needless to say that his wisdom in question, still exists. However, the talk here is about the OPEC (cartel) states.

"There is a conflict between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) over the volume of the oil output, where the Kingdom wants to maintain the current price of the oil barrel by going ahead in terms of defining the output ceiling by OPEC member states, while the UAE wants to increase its oil output in order to increase its financial potential, otherwise, and has threatened to leave OPEC. This prospective development is likely to weaken the oil organization, and there is a possibility of OPEC dismantling."

— Compiled by Zaki Taleb

Other Voices

The end of 66 years of love

By Ahmad alsarraf

Lebanon, in its current state, is a victim of three parties -- its politicians, its brotherly Arabs, and before this and that, its entire people.

There is no dispute over the damage caused by politicians. Perhaps there is also no doubt that the Arabs have used Lebanon to settle their differences, so they supported this leader, fought that feudal, financed the leader of one party and armed the head of the militia, and this is all that they could do best to shift the gun from one shoulder to another, but about the responsibility of the poor Lebanese?

The answer will not satisfy those who refuse to admit the truth. The deep-rooted religious and sectarian fear, militias, and other matters disturbing the security of the homeland have prompted the Lebanese -- for decades -- to be led by their instincts unconsciously, to elect someone who provides them with personal safety, often across the sect, not the national interest.

It swept Lebanon at times to the north and at other times to the south and found everyone complaining about the corruption of their leaders, but everyone re-elected them eventually. This is how the Lebanese destroyed Lebanon with their hands, their electoral vote, and their position, the political class that we see and the same has attitude has run supreme for half-a-century or more, and that will remain as long as Lebanon remains.

We see no silver lining on the horizon for real reforms or any breakthrough in the situation for a common man to breathe a sigh of relief. The elderly know that reform means accountability, and they do not want that to happen or rather will not allow it to happen.

They also know that hard currency has become scarce, fuel will soon disappear, cooking gas will evaporate, bread will dry out, price of medicine will soar and its existence will become non-existent, and the Lebanese will do nothing or rather best to say they can do nothing.

Lebanon will be the first country in the world where the army will starve, and whoever watches the manifestations of amusement, clothing, parties on its channels will be perplexed by this contradiction.

It would also be perhaps the first

country which is not at war and yet has no insurance coverage. Whose home or furniture is burnt, or car is broken down in a traffic accident, or his workshop collapses under the ruins of a building, will often get a generous compensation in dollars to deposit it in his bank account, but he will not be entitled to withdraw it and has to spend out of his pocket to buy his house furniture and fix his car.

There is no individual, as far as I know, more intelligent and creative than the Lebanese. There are no people more stupid than them; they are fit for everything except to be patriotic. Patriotism requires teamwork, and they have become completely unable to do so.

I think or hope that the Lebanese, after reaching the bottom for a while, will come out of this current tragedy, but it is painful that he will return again and for a third time to his sect and canton. There is absolutely no guarantee that he will learn from the ordeal, especially since there are stalkers, armed militias and displaced persons in millions.

Thus, the Lebanese has no options as the black joke says:

Either to go to Rafik Hariri Hospital for treatment or leave the homeland through the Rafik Hariri Airport, in search for another homeland! Or still better meet the fate of Rafik Hariri.

Iran and America may reach an agreement, and things may calm down in Syria, Saudi Arabia and the Islamic Republic may reconcile but the chronic Lebanese disease that has exacerbated over centuries through accumulated historical errors will remain alive.

The feudal lord, the politician and the head of the party need a lot of money to maintain his fiefdom, for his party to continue and for his leadership to take root and this money does not come without corruption.

I set my foot at the Beirut Airport for the first time in July 1956, and have not stopped since that day. Lebanon became my horse stable and a source of imagination and fondness, a child and a teenager, and my passion as a young man, a husband and a father, and then a mature man who plans to spend the rest of his life there, perhaps to die and be buried among pine trees, and let the chirping of birds, the scent of roses, and the voice of Fayrouz be the last things I will ever experience, but it seems that the course of things may inevitably be the end in a part of the barren and dusty land of homeland, at the end of the sixty-six years of love.

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95 visa peddlers held in 6 mths

Kuwaiti shot, police hunt assailants

KUWAIT CITY, July 26: Statistics issued by the Kuwaiti Ministry of Interior, on the activity of the General Department of Residence Affairs Investigations for the first half of this year, showed 95 suspects have been arrested for issuing residence permits for money, 53 misdemeanors cases related to work permits (expiration of residence) and 7 forgeries in official documents, reports Al-Qabas daily.

According to a statement issued by the Directorate General of Public Relations and Security Media Department of the Interior Ministry, Sunday, said 24,547 orders had been issued to list, lift restrictions, and inspect companies and commercial establishments.

The ministry stated 84 persons were deported in co-operation with the Ministry of Health. The deportees fell in the category of 'UNFIT' due to sicknesses they carried. This is in addition to 4,896 persons who have been deported for staying in the country illegally.

The ministry indicated 2,326 illegal residents who had overstayed their legal period have rectified their status after paying fines.

The sources pointed out the ministry carried out 95 inspections tours and arrested 36 wanted criminals. In addition, 149 hotels were inspected, 106 complaints were looked into, 44 fake domestic workers offices were shut and 4 local liquor-manufacturing dens were busted.

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Kuwaiti shot: The Jahra detectives are looking for two unidentified persons, who have gone into hiding after one of them shot a Kuwaiti man in the back, reports Al-Rai daily.

The daily added, the victim has been admitted to the intensive care unit (ICU) of the Jahra Hospital.

According to security sources the victim entered the Diwaniya of a Kuwaiti man in the suburb of Saad Al-Abdullah and said he had been shot by an unidentified person and the former rushed him to the area health center and since his condition was critical he was immediately referred to the Jahra Hospital.

A security source said initial investigations show the victim is 23 years old and the suspects are unknown.

The victim told police he does not know the one who shot at him and that he had not seen the person before. He added, he only saw two men in a Japanese-made four-wheeler, one of whom was driving and the man in the passenger seat shot him in the back.

A case of attempted murder has been registered at the area police station.

Job support for 2,607 citizens suspended

KUWAIT CITY, July 26: Minister of Commerce and Industry, Abdullah Al-Salman, revealed the suspension of disbursement of labor support for 2,607 citizens during 4 months from January 1 to April 30, 2021.

Al-Salman said this in response to the query submitted by MP Marzouq Al-Khalifa. He said support for 1,779 was suspended citing resignation of the employee, and 11 because of their registration as students according to

government data. He added, the reason for stopping support for 601 was due to the expiration of the work permit.

Regarding stopping employment support, the minister explained that the fifth article of Cabinet Resolution No. 391 of 2001 about granting social allowance and children's allowance to professionals and craftsmen and workers in non-governmental institutions include conditions for disbursing

financial support, and Article 9 of the resolution speaks of suspension of the disbursement of that support.

The disbursement is suspended immediately in implementation of the provisions of the aforementioned Council of Ministers decision in the event one of the conditions for disbursement set forth in Article V are violated, or one of the suspensions mentioned in Article IX of the aforementioned decision becomes available.

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4 teams tackle scrapyards 'fire'

KUWAIT CITY, July 26, (Agencies): Four teams from the Kuwait Fire Force (KFF) controlled on Sunday a blaze, which erupted in the Na'ayem scrapyards earlier this morning.

A press statement by the KFF said that an emergency call alerted the firefighters of the incident in which several discarded vehicles went up in flames.

The teams addressed the situation and managed to contain the fire with no human casualties reported, concluded the statement.

Acting on information firefighting engines from the Hawalli and Shuhada Fire Centers rushed to the Rawdah Cooperative Society last Thursday and put out fire, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

الَّذِينَ إِذَا أَصَابْتُم مَّصِيبَةً قَالُوا
إِنَّا لِلَّهِ وَإِنَّا إِلَيْهِ رَاجِعُونَ

Condolences Participation
 The management and staff of **ktech** would like to extend their heart felt condolences to
Ms. Carla Elizabeth Burton
 Head of Foundation Department
 at the sad demise of her
(Husband)
 May Allah Almighty bless his soul and grant peace to the bereaved family.

kuwait technical college
كلية الكويت التقنية