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A DIGEST OF PUBLIC OPINION

'Dialogue must between political belligerents to end stalemate'

"THE futile political struggle witnessed on the floor of the National Assembly between the government and its parliamentary minority on the one hand, and the opposition parliamentary majority, is unprecedented in the modern history of Kuwait which requires everyone to sit at the negotiating table in order to reach a political solution to end this escalating stalemate," columnist **Dahem Al-Qahtani** wrote for **Al-Qabas** daily.

"The government will not succeed in carrying out its constitutional duties if it insists on suspending the role of the National Assembly and thinks of running the country alone, as if there is no elected parliament even if this leads to the disruption of the issuance of necessary legislation. This, by the way is an approach which governments that are keen on the higher interests of the country do not follow.

"At the same time, the opposition parliamentary majority will not succeed in achieving its electoral promises if it insists on targeting the prime minister with the weapon of 25 votes, which is sufficient to file non-cooperation with him.

"This targeting makes any prime minister obliged to follow any method that would enable him to avoid being subjected to a parliamentary interrogation, the results of which are known in advance.

"Therefore, the Prime Minister has no option but to meet a delegation representing the parliamentary majority to reach an understanding and strike a formula to cooperate and run the country without each party feeling that it is under threat from the other.

"Some may criticize this behavior on the grounds that it weakens the constitutional tools, but history teaches us that politics is in fact the art of the capable. The impossible will never happen unless the conflict is managed in a completely different manner, as happened in late 2011 when the parliamentary minority decided to boycott the sessions of the National Assembly, and preferred to take to the street and seek help of the people to overthrow the government after the deputies were unable to do so.

"The parliamentary majority coming to terms with the prime minister is not something new. The parliamentary majority in the National Assembly in February 2012 had previously protected the government of Jaber Al-Mubarak from three parliamentary interpellations submitted against three Sheikh Ministers.

"This happened because the parliamentary majority wanted to send a message to the Kuwaiti citizens and to the leadership that the Kuwaiti opposition is ready to cooperate with the government if the government's goals are national and consider the public interest above all.

"Reaching an understanding with the Prime Minister may be the only solution left that does not result in a rupture with the government, a solution that automatically means the dissolution of the National Assembly will be imminent."



Al-Qahtani

Also:

"The Brothers are progressing and we quickly commit the mistakes of the past, specifically before 1990. Since the beginning of political life in Kuwait, there has been a culture -- a very dangerous culture -- a kind of precedence that some politicians set making their loyalty to countries and parties a priority ahead of their loyalty to Kuwait and their pardon of those countries which have committed grave mistakes against Kuwait in the belief it was the 'slip of the tongue' no matter how small of big the mistake was," columnist **Sami Al-Nisf** wrote for **Annahar** daily.

"The phenomenon of alternative loyalty to ideologues that has caused and continues to burn, destroy and ignite civil wars in Arab countries such as Syria, Libya, Iraq, Yemen, Palestine and Lebanon ... etc., is what should be criminalized by Kuwaiti law and the laws of other Gulf and Arab countries as this is no less than crimes of high treason and those who practice it must be called traitors of the homelands, this is their reality and not those who call for peace.

"We must punish those who restrict the hand of the state in its changing choices and future interests with changing situations and times. They create problems for the state with its brothers and neighbors, and those who stood during its ordeal in 1990 in favor of those who stood against Kuwait, rejoiced, chanted and danced to the tune of occupation of its land, killed its children, demolished its structure and burned its oil wells.

"One of the saddest jokes is that the Palestinian Muslim Brotherhood member, Mansour Abbas, is a member in the Israeli Knesset (isn't this normalization?) made an alliance for the first time in the history of the Arabs of Israel with the extreme right-wing politician Naftali Bennett, a former leader of Yehsha, the main settler movement in the West Bank, and the believer that Israel's borders are from the river to the sea, and there is no place for a single Palestinian in it, to take over the place of Netanyahu as prime minister.

"Isn't it supposed to pass legislation considering that the entire Brotherhood unit condemned normalization after he announced alliance, and after the normalization of the Brotherhood's party in Turkey and Morocco, and of course in Gaza where the borders are open with Israel and the normalization that took place from morning until sunset.

"At last, Question (1): If a war broke out during the next two years between the government of Naftali Bennett and its Brotherhood ally, Mansour Abbas, against Hamas which represents the Brotherhood movement in Gaza. Who will the Kuwait Brothers side with?

"Question (2): My knowledge of the volatility of the Kuwaiti Brotherhood makes me uncertain and do not bet on which of the two sides will take sides, even if I am certain that they will side with the party depending on external orders."

"The current clash between the government and the parliament is that the ministers do not want to attend the parliamentary sessions because of the MPs

who want to grill their boss, and the MPs do not want to sit in their seats in protest against the refusal of the ministers to attend the sessions. Either way the seats remain empty, and the situation continues to get more complicated," columnist **Waleed Ibrahim Al-Ahmad** wrote for **Al-Rai** daily.

"Citizens are tired of such a sterile scenario of understanding, and so is the government and the MPs, after which 31 MPs issued a statement to raise this matter to His Highness the Amir of the country in order to find a way out of this crisis!"

"As they say, the book is in its title. After the by-elections in the Fifth Constituency and the arrival of opposition MP Obaid Al-Wasmi into parliament, the crisis worsened and the two authorities became more stubborn in clinging to their positions to the extent that everyone is calling for the dissolution of parliament as the only solution.

"We move to the other side of the crisis, which is the electronic flies that feed and ignite these differences. It has evolved in an unprecedented manner such that there are some who post statements to provoke both the people and the officials.

"The Twitter account of Eddie Cohen, who calls himself an Israeli academic researcher and journalist from the Jews in Lebanon, is one of such accounts that specialize in spreading rumors in the country and striking national unity, taking advantage of the spread of corruption here and the conflict of the two authorities in a bid to stir confusion and chaos. Unfortunately, some people have ended up believing in the accuracy of the posts from that account.

"Not to mention the fake accounts from abroad and the local accounts that are managed from within are backed by influential people in the country! In short, a solution is urgently needed before things get out of hand."

"Public libraries are among the important cultural landmarks and they have witnessed prosperity as centers of cultural radiation for years," columnist **Dr Hind Al-Choumar** wrote for **Al-Anba** daily.

"Libraries used to contain good books, periodicals, newspapers and magazines with an appropriate reading hall. However, with the multiplicity of social media platforms now, interest in reading and its paper sources has declined. It no longer attracts members of the community as it used to be before.

"Public libraries seek to achieve some important goals, such as the provision of books that support the curricula, a self-education environment, information within record time and with less effort, books and stories for all ages.

"Some of those interested in reading are now trying to organize reading forums in order to discuss what they read for the benefit of everyone. This should have a wider scope for everyone to benefit from the initiative. I hope public libraries are developed with non-traditional initiatives to return to the era of their prosperity and transform them into digital libraries. The boards of directors of cooperative societies put this issue on top of their priorities, especially since libraries used to be adjacent to cooperatives in each region."

--- Compiled by Ahmad Al-Shalzi

Around 7,000 expats deported in 5 months for drugs, other crimes

'Zero tolerance for narcotics smugglers'



A fireman dumps water to extinguish flames at a fire in Amghara scrapyard on Tuesday. KUNA photo

8 children among 16 rescued

The Public Relations Department of the Directorate-General of Fire Department (DGFD) stated the firefighting teams rescued 16 people, including 8 children, who were trapped in a house in Al-Firdous after a fire broke out on the ground floor Sunday evening, reports **Al-Qabas** daily.

The DGFD said after the operations

room received a report about the house on fire, firefighting teams from the Ardhiya and Jleeb Al-Shuyoukh fire centers rushed to the spot and rescued those who were trapped inside before putting out the fire.

The firemen then put out the fire without causing any injuries.

KUWAIT CITY, June 9: The Drug Control General Department, which is affiliated to the Criminal Security Sector in the Interior Ministry, referred about 450 expatriates to the deportation prison from the beginning of 2021 until the end of last May, reports **Al-Qabas** daily quoting sources.

Sources confirmed these expatriates have been deported, adding that 7,000 expatriates involved in different cases were deported within the same period.

Sources revealed the department refers about three expatriates of Arab and Asian nationalities to the Deportation Department as per the official letters signed by the undersecretary stating the need to deport them in the interest of the public. Sources said this step is taken after their referral to the department or if they are arrested with narcotics or psychotropic substances in their possession.

Sources said most of those deported were arrested for the possession of very small quantity of narcotic substances -- around one or two grams, or psychotropic substances -- half or one pill. Sources pointed out many of these expatriates could be acquitted and then released, so the best option is to deport them in order to protect the public.

Back to normal: Electricity usage has returned to its normal rate after witnessing its peak in the history of Kuwait on Monday, reports **Al-Anba** daily.

The electrical index recorded a maximum load of 14,180 megawatts, a difference of about 890 megawatts from Sunday's load, despite the high temperatures.

According to informed sources from the ministry, the loads are prone to rise again in light of the high temperatures during the peak season which extends until the end of September. Such increased loads put pressure on the electrical network.

The sources called on consumers to rationalize in order to maintain the service, especially during peak times of the day, which range from 12 noon to 4 pm.

The Undersecretary of the ministry Eng. Jassem Al-Nouri spoke about rationalization in an interview on Monday evening on Kuwait TV.

He said he believes the ministry is dealing with clients who are aware of the importance of rationalization, and appealed to them to continue to do so.

Al-Nouri stressed that the biggest challenge facing the ministry is the time taken to restore power in the event of any emergency failures on the network.

He affirmed that the ministry is working on a lot of preparations for the summer through studies of the expected maximum load, and ensuring the maintenance of the power stations, water distillation and the network of all kinds is completed before the beginning of the summer.

DGCA inks KD 9.2 m deal

KUWAIT CITY, June 9: The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) on Tuesday signed a KD9.2 million (\$30 million) contract with Spain's Indra Company to provide communication equipment for the new tower at Kuwait International Airport, reports **Al-Rai** daily.

As per the contract, Indra will also supply standby navigation devices at the airport. Deputy Director General for Planning and Projects at DGCA Saad Al-Otaibi told KUNA that the contract, which will be implemented within 18 months, is part of the government's plan to upgrade infrastructure at the airport through the provision of state-of-the-art navigation devices for the new tower.

He said this upgrade is within the operation of a new runway, as well as training nationals on the operation and maintenance of the new communication system. The contract, signed by DGCA Chairman Sheikh Abdullah Ali Al-Sabah and Indra's representative in Kuwait Yahya Al-Shaibani, stipulates a 48-month guarantee, he added.

Other Voices

'Know yours and others rights'

By Ahmad alsarraf

Dignity, the interest which increased with the spread of the concepts of ethics with the enlightenment era is defined as the personal quality of human being worthy of respect. When our dignity is robbed from us, we cannot feel safe, we hate ourselves, and become negative and pessimistic about the world around us.

It is also easy to control people whose dignity is hurt as a result of being subjected to constant humiliation and ridicule, especially if this is done in public, and the individual suffers.

Therefore, we found that extremist groups and some governments seek by various means to humiliate others by deliberate beating, imprisonment and killing their loved ones to make it easier for them to control them. They are also keen to deprive women of education, and this robs them of even the right to know that they are humiliated or have no dignity.

The Lebanese professor and friend, El-ham Helou, describes this situation in an impressive manner, saying: "Women in our unjust societies feel like an empty vessel with one tied to a rope and the other to a steadily moving fast modern car and as the car moves the vessel continues to hit the road and the pavement and when the car stops, the vessel curses the years of life, examines the bruises she suffered all over her body and discovers she is in pain and enjoys nothing in life."

Nothing can make a woman feel important and entitled to live and enjoy every moment like education. This is why female education is forbidden in some societies. During an interview with the enlightened Sheikh Abdullah Al-Jaber, the first Minister of Education from the Al-Sabah family, he mentioned that he rented a house and equipped it and transformed it into a girls' school, and brought 12 female teachers from Iraq and Palestine, and

on the opening day not a single girl came because clerics at the time, such as Abdul-laziz Hamada and Ahmad al-Khamis and others urged worshippers not to send their daughters to receive education because of its corruption. I also remember well that large sections of the Kuwaiti Shiites after years of the above incident were refusing to send their daughters to school.

Times have changed, and so people's view of things that were once taken for granted, but our nation is distinguished of being the only one that broke and even the back of a camel with a stick, and for this reason humiliation was made easy for us and our defeat in all fields of war and peace made easy. A nation without good education cannot know its rights. A nation that does not know its rights is a nation that has no dignity.

How can there be dignity when wives and mothers are humiliated, sisters are saddened, and daughters are oppressed?

Do not just look at your families, and those around you, shaking your heads, rejecting this talk, and you describe it as exaggeration, but look around you and see how women are humiliated in dozens of our capitals, thousands of our cities, and millions of our villages so the sight of a woman dirtied and stoned to death becomes commonly acceptable, or take for example the dozens of radical mullahs beating women with sticks and water hoses, detonating bombs in girls' schools, and pouring acid on their faces but we do not pay much attention.

Al-Huwaini (clergyman) says that love is adultery so how can a man love someone who pees and defecates? Al-Shaarawy says, justifying the man's assault on his wife says how can the wife refuse the husband's verbal abuse of her, when he is the one who saw her nakedness? A third says that beating the wife is permissible if she refrains from 'bed'.

This is how the nation's "scholars" view women, mothers, teachers, educators, sisters and wives and then we expect this nation to triumph over its enemies.

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News in Brief

Rights issues discussed: The Kuwait Bureau for Human Rights discussed with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) cooperation and issues of common concern recently, reports **Al-Seyassah** daily.

This came during the meeting of the bureau's Vice-President, Dr. Saham Al-Fraih and Head of the Office of the UNHCR in Kuwait, Dr. Samer Haddadin, in the presence of the Head of the Committees Sector, Lana Abu Eid and Doha Al-Otaibi at the National Office for Human Rights and the External Relations Officer from the Refugee Commission, Lulwa Al-Terkait.

The bureau indicated in a press statement, that during the meeting, common areas of cooperation were reviewed, including training for target groups and functional cadres in the Bureau to prepare topics of common interests, in addition to discussing the preparation of a special memorandum of understanding to facilitate cooperation within legal frameworks.

Finance plans auction: The Ministry of Finance intends to soon hold a public auction to sell two plots of land in the East and Fahahel regions, reports **Al-Anba** daily quoting reliable sources.

The sources added, the Finance Ministry is in the process of giving final touches to the issues. The first plot is located the Sharq region of the Capital Governorate, and the second is State Plot No. 3 in Plot

UK and back

Benefits of flights

KUWAIT CITY, June 9: The resumption of the Kuwait-London-Kuwait flights from next Sunday, which the Cabinet has approved during its meeting, will benefit the students and sick people who are waiting for overseas treatment, reports **Al-Qabas** daily quoting reliable sources.

The daily added, the decision came after a request from some national airlines, which wanted to take advantage of the direct commercial flights to fly passengers to London, especially since some foreign airlines have taken the advantage when Kuwaiti airlines stopped flying 'transit' passengers to and from Kuwait which hurt the local airlines.

No. 62 in the Fahahel region. The daily added, the ministry will make an announcement in local newspapers to give opportunity for the biggest number of citizens to take part in the auction.

The Ministry of Finance holds these auctions in accordance with Article No. 6 of Decree-Law No. (105) of 1980 regarding state property system stipulates the sale of state's real estate property by through public auction.

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