

diwaniya ديوانية

A DIGEST OF PUBLIC OPINION

'Govt must raise participants number for better outcome of dialogue'

"ANY table to which any national dialogue returns must stand on correct principles in order to bring its parties together on clear concepts, the most important of which is that reform is not linked to people, if they migrate, it is disrupted, as much as it is related to people's belief that sovereignty is for the nation, after the sovereignty of God's law, and the application of the constitution," columnist **Badr Khaled Al-Bahr** wrote for **Al-Qabas** daily.

"In other words, the linking of the dialogue with some specific person, shall mean that the immigration of these persons, could conduce to halting the relevant dialogue, rather any national dialogue, should be linked to the belief of the dialogue participants that the sovereignty is for the nation after the divine legislation and the application of the relevant country constitution and law in addition to the application of the principle of equality in a way that shall guarantee the rights and the freedoms, while all of the citizens should commit to perform their duties, as such the relevant violators, will be subjected strictly to the stipulated penalties.



Badr Al-Bahr

"However, if we take into consideration the above, then it would not be so important who will sit around the relevant table of negotiations as long as the other believe in the same dogma, hence, one may infer that linking of the political reform process which all of us are looking forward to, have nothing to do with the return of the MPs from their place of shelter.

"Anyway, let us be more frank and say that the preparation of the ingredients of a cake of violations represents in fact, an extra government cup in addition to the three cups of the MPs. In other words, if we were involved in encountering corruption, for instance, as a society specialized in education, but the same had come from some members of the National Assembly's Educational Committee, but unlike the above, we found a government insistence to implement the reform in addition to encountering corruption, where the prime minister and the minister of education and higher education and so on, have adopted the same attitude in this connection, given the fact that this is applicable to all of the remaining state sectors which are suffering from despotism of some MPs and their bargaining in terms of their dealing with the government in order to ingrain their interests in the institutions of the relevant sectors to meet the satisfaction of their voters and eventually form their electoral bases for the forthcoming parliamentary elections.

"Anyway, the national dialogue, should not be confined to the government and the National Assembly although the latter contains some esquire members who are working seriously to achieve the targeted reforms, but this Assembly, having its own mechanism that works on bargaining, quota system, denominational and tribalism shall mean return of the mechanism which is based on buying the conscience, para-

chute employment and the illegal practices from which the country had suffered for many decades during which, the MPs have neither solved the housing problem nor reformed the education system or handled corruption, the unemployment problem, the infrastructure and the population structure.

"Such being the case, we are not attaching a lot of hopes to them, hence, if the government is serious in dealing with the dialogue, we suggest that the government, should hasten to purchase a bigger table for dialogue in order to accommodate more people around it and eventually adopt new criteria for reform by inviting national personalities. This is in addition to some others -- members from the ruling family -- as well as personalities from the civil community institutions such as the welfare societies who last week had issued a statement in this connection because the latter, will play an effective role since they are the most capable people to diagnose the places of corruption.

"Moreover, they also enjoy more credibility towards offering 'free of charge' solutions and substitutes without any bargaining or asking for 'parachute appointments' let alone the youth should be also invited to lead this phase.

Also:

"In the early eras of independence, the Arabs adopted the system of constitutional monarchies, party democracies, and the method of press freedoms, and these tools did not take the Arab peoples to their goal, so they rejoiced when military coups took place and brought their leaders to the rank of demi-gods," columnist **Sami Abdullatif Al-Nisf** wrote for **Annahar** daily.

"The new repressive regimes raised the slogan of placing the trusted over the people of experience and competence and wreaked havoc and destruction in their countries and caused military defeats and backwardness

"Until the late seventies, China was under the leadership of 'Mao's thought' and his cultural revolution, took the country backward country, until his colleague took over the leadership -- the genius 'Deng Xiaoping' who did not continue on the same path, but rather raised the slogan 'It does not matter what color the cat is, as long as it catches mice', meaning it does not matter what kind of system we adopt, socialist or capitalist, or a mixture of them, as long as it will lead China and its people to progress, advancement and wealth. This happened after the previous regime had caused the death of nearly 30 million Chinese from starvation.

"The legendary Chinese leader relied on sending missions to the best Western universities and then appointed them in political, administrative and technical positions. It was not based on selection, but on excellence and efficiency, and began to transform agricultural, hungry, backward China into a major industrial and technological state of the first class, and imposed on the Western companies a partnership with Chinese governmental and private companies and in a few years he was able to

transform China from a poor country that only exported raw material into a highly advanced and wealthy large industrial force, which exports almost everything to the world.

"The population of China exceeds the population of the entire Arab world by three times. It is better for us than the Western example based on democracy and elections in order to rise and progress, and then we have to turn to the system of destroyed Middle Eastern democracies, which is a case of names similarity only to the aging Western democracies in order to destroy what we have built.

"At last -- I was on my way to China in the mid-nineties and I read in a Kuwaiti newspaper the complaint of the Minister of Education at the time, a famous thinker and intellectual about the problems and difficulties of education for 300,000 students in Kuwaiti schools and a woman on her success in completing the sixth phase of delivering modern technology to 900 million farmers, and transforming many of them from radish and tomato growers into manufacturers of cars and airplanes."

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"Document number 68, presented at the meeting of the Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean of the World Health Organization (WHO) from Oct 11 to 18, is available on the WHO website and in the published agenda. It contains colors reminiscent of the school performance reports," columnist **Dr Hind Al-Choumar** wrote for **Al-Anba** daily.

"Indeed, it is an unequivocal evidence of the failure of the Kuwaiti authorities to combat smoking despite studies and spending on anti-smoking programs and treatment costs due to smoking and its repercussions on health.

"Where is the imbalance? Is it in the performance of the Ministry of Health in the field of combating smoking in spite of the issuance of the international framework convention, laws, studies and expenditure accounts on the repercussions of smoking?"

"If this document is read in a scientific and neutral manner, it indicates the failure of anti-smoking programs and justifies the need to reconsider them. This is in addition to letting the Ministry of Health assume its responsibilities in this regard by changing its name to the Ministry of Health and Anti-Smoking and transferring to it all the competencies regarding anti-smoking from other ministries, including oversight and implementation of the International Framework Convention Law.

"Also, the Ministry of Health must lead all efforts to combat smoking, including abuses in marketing and sales, interference in ban and permit decisions, government auctions on confiscated tobacco products brought into the country, and restructuring the anti-smoking program to take advantage of the capabilities of the Ministry of Health after its transformation into a ministry that includes anti-smoking."

— Compiled by Zaki Taleb

Outstanding loans reach over KD 13b: CBK report

'196 million withdrawn in Aug'

Other Voices

Why Gaddafi, Saddam missed?

By Ahmad alsarraf

The late Ahmad al-Rubei (1949 - 2008), after the revolutionary and leftist ideas evaporated from his head, told me that he visited the fish market in Aden, the former British protectorate (the British left in 1967) and was shocked by the spread of filth and foul odors of fish and poor quality, and the high price, so he asked an elderly fishmonger the reason for all this, and if things during the days of the Englishman were much better than after independence.



alsarraf

The veteran fisherman replied, "Bring the English back to us if you want a clean market, good quality fish, and good prices".

I remembered this story while reading an article by a Palestinian who demands, out of his great pain and despair that the Israeli occupation returns to the areas that were liberated from his homeland. Here are brief excerpts from what he wrote, with some amendments:

"Yes, this is not a luxury of saying, or a form of madness, or an admiration for the occupation. Rather, this is a cry in the absurd. Yes, return the occupation to us because our people are no longer able to pay the cost of two occupations at the same time.

"Yes, we want to go back to what we were before 1993 which became the history of a new catastrophe for our people who are now ruled by two authorities, the authority of the master ruler, and the authority of the executioner servant."

"The occupation of our homeland is the first occupation in history to be called an inexpensive occupation, an occupation run by those who claim to be representatives of the people while they are occupying their homeland."

"Yes, unfortunately, this is our situation, not out of deception or as an exaggeration, but from the reality of the situation that lasted 30 years and is still mastering in providing the best means of security and safety

for the ruling occupier until it has become Israeli-managed from an office in which the number of officials does not exceed a few dozen in air-conditioned offices because this is one of the requirements of the donor countries on which the authority relies to earn benefits and salaries.

We had a Palestinian revolution launched with one goal more than 55 years ago, which is the liberation of Palestine, all of Palestine. Our people offered their best sons voluntarily, love and redemption as fuel for this revolution. Then our organization changed its charter and its leaders bet on a moment of weakness that Palestine could not be returned by armed struggle but by political action, and they entered Oslo on this basis, but 30 years after Oslo, what happened? The dream of establishing the state has become a mirage, and in return for the mirage, the occupier granted us official recognition for free, without any compensation for our interest.

Is this what the Palestinians dreamed of, and what about those who laid down their lives in the belief of liberation?

When the young men were arrested by the occupier, the women 'ululate' and the men cheer with pride over the arrest or martyrdom of their sons. The young man among us would stand with his head held high and his eyes shining like that of a hawk, because the enemy had arrested a hero that the whole country is talking about.

The question is what drives such people to such despair? Why did a large part of the Iraqi people become nostalgic for the days of Saddam, the tyrannical, despicable, inhuman and brutal dictator?

How do Libyans lament the days of Gaddafi, who perched on their chests for more than forty years without spending anything from the surplus of billions of state funds for their betterment?

Finally, why do the conditions of the peoples of the world vary between ups and downs, except for the Arab countries, most of which have deteriorated for half a century from one military coup to another, and from bad to worse and even more worse?

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KUWAIT CITY, Oct 16: According to data issued by the Central Bank of Kuwait (CBK), the total installment loans reached a level of 13.64 billion dinars, which is the highest during the past decade, reports Al-Anba daily.

Kuwaitis in August alone (without taking into account the loans granted by the Kuwait Credit Bank) obtained about 196 million dinars, with a daily average of 6.3 million dinars per day.

The daily added, these are long-term personal loans that the customer uses for non-commercial purposes, in particular to purchase or renovate private housing, and are repaid in monthly installments within a period not exceeding 15 years.

Beginning

Since the beginning of this year, the value of housing loans obtained by citizens from commercial banks has reached one billion dinars, about 936 million dinars during the first 8 months of this year.

It is worth mentioning the Kuwait Credit Bank grants citizens a loan of 70,000 dinars to buy, build or renovate their own houses, but the value of this loan may be insufficient for many citizens to build a new house, and therefore they resort to commercial banks to obtain an additional housing loan which is given in instalments, in order to complete the construction of the house.

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'Oil hike temporary': First Vice President of the Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry Abdulwahab Al-Wazzan stressed on the need to work on diversifying sources of income in Kuwait sooner rather than later, and not to rely too much on the current rise in oil prices, especially since the current rise may not last long, reports Al-Anba daily.

In an exclusive statement to Al-Anba, Al-Wazzan added, the rise in oil prices should not lead to a halt or delay in the procedures for financial and economic reforms in the oil-producing countries in general and Kuwait in particular, especially since Kuwait suffers from a large liquidity deficit that prompted it to think of withdrawing from the Future Generations Fund.

He went on to say, "Do not be deceived by the temporary rise in oil prices. "We should not be swayed by the current rise, so we postpone solutions and alternatives. The rise in oil prices has its political and technical justifications, and therefore once these reasons are eliminated, prices may fall to levels of \$60 by the end of this year or the beginning of next year."

'680 power and water meters installed per day'

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 16: Director of the Contracts Follow-up Department and Head of the Smart Meter Installation Team at the Ministry of Electricity and Water Eng Malouh Al-Ajmi has confirmed the installation of 3,400 me-

ters since the inauguration of the project on Sunday - at a rate of about 680 meters per day, reports Al-Qabas daily.

Al-Ajmi told the daily that as soon as the meter is replaced, the team en-

ters the old reading into the system and issues an invoice to the owner of the facility or building to settle the unpaid bills in preparation for converting the new meters to the prepaid system in the coming days.

Old buildings target

Beautifying Kuwait City

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 16: The Governor of the Capital, Sheikh Talal Al-Khaled, was quoted as saying the Governorate welcomes all those who have ideas and perceptions about how to enhance the vision and develop the landscape of the Capital city, reports Al-Rai daily.

He was speaking during a field visit to Bneid Al-Qar Friday evening accompanied by the head of the emergency team of the Kuwait City Municipality branch Zaid Al-Enezi, and members of his team and a number of officials from the governorate's office.

He revealed there are 9 dilapidated properties ready for demolition and disclosed more than 70% of building violations in Bneid Al-Qar have been eliminated.

Al-Khaled added the road map drawn up by the governorate is not only to eliminate building violations, but rather to address all civil society institutions, and called on everyone to assume their responsibilities in beautifying the capital.

He explained the demand for development and beautification requires an administrative and societal uprising and a common will in which all components of society, various sectors and people of regions cooperate, reiterating that cooperation and partnership is the key to the expected progress and development.



JOINT OPERATIONS WAFRA

SAUDI ARABIAN CHEVRON INC. (SAC) - KUWAIT GULF OIL COMPANY



Joint Operations (Saudi Arabian Chevron Inc. / Kuwait Gulf Oil Company), announces the under-mentioned Public Tender for procurement of material.

Kuwaiti and Saudi Merchants, registered with either Company wishing to participate in the under-mentioned Tender are invited to collect the Tender documents from Purchasing Section, Purchasing & Logistic Division, Administration Building, Ground Floor, Joint Operations, Wafra, during the official working hours from 17 OCT 2021 up to 1 NOV 2021 for a non-refundable fee mentioned against tender.

Tender Fees to be deposited in the National bank of Kuwait (NBK) Account No. 1001132057. Saudi Suppliers can collect the tender documents from Saudi Arabian Chevron office in Al-Khobar Telephone No.: (013) 8645104 - Fax No.: (013) 8985436

The closing date for the following Tender will be on **Monday, 8 NOV 2021 @ 09:00 AM.**

S.NO.	TENDER NO.	MATERIALS	FEES (IN KD)
1	2751048	PIPES SMLS & SLEEVES (COATED SYSTEM-A TK-236)	35

Notes:

Gate Passes are required for Suppliers entering JO-Wafra Administrative Offices to collect the tender document and gate pass processing time is 48 hours. Please send request for gate pass along with legible copies of Authorization letter, Civil ID, Car Registration, Supplier Registration (KGOC or SAC) to e-mail HBJH@chevron.com or RAVQ@chevron.com at least 48 hours prior to arrival.

For additional information, you may contact:

Telephone No.: 23982614 - Fax No. : 23981315

KOTC to ink deal soon

Plan to improvise gas cylinders

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 16: In a step towards modernizing domestic cooking gas cylinders, the Kuwait Oil Tankers Company (KOTC), which is responsible for the two liquefied gas filling factories in Shuaiba and Umm Al-Aish, Kuwait, intends to fully improvise the liquefied cooking gas cylinders in Kuwait, reports Al-Anba daily.

The sources said the company intends to sign a contract with an international company to implement the rehabilitation

process for the 5, 12 and 25 kilogram cylinders traded in the market, to ensure the highest standards of safety and security in gas cylinders.

The sources stated that the scope of work will include pressure testing, repainting and sealing of all cylinders. Three companies have submitted tenders, with the lowest prices of 986,999 thousand dinars, while the prices quoted by the second and third companies are 1.4 million dinars each.