

diwaniya ديوانية

A DIGEST OF PUBLIC OPINION

'Vital to separate what is purely political ... what is related to legal issues'

"THE Grand Mufti of Egypt indicated that he had noticed an increase in the number of fatwas in 2021, which, according to him, amounted to one million 368,000 fatwas, including oral, telephone, electronic and written," columnist **Suad Fahad Al Mojlil** wrote for **Al-Qabas** daily.

"Dr. Ali Abdel-Baqi, Secretary of the Academy of Islamic Research at Al-Azhar, commented: "The plurality of sects, the reverence of each opinion, the exaggeration, and suspicion of politics led to the emergence of contradictory fatwas that contain exaggerations." In Tunisia, about 15 fatwas were recorded daily from the Dar al-Iftaa were monitored.

"The fatwa often comes to take a form of political conflict, where the concept of the public interest is lost from the fatwa between conflicting political poles and blocs, and the meaning of real interests is mixed with the presumed or imagined interests associated with a group or person.

"Almost no Islamic country is devoid of the controversy of fatwas and the legitimacy of the fatwa in general, and the extent of its objectivity in terms of giving priority to the public interest over narrow personal interest or temporary political goals.

"The problem arises here when Sharia and politics overlap, so the legal fatwa comes in the guise of political programs and goals around which the parties differ, as happened in the recent fatwa controversy in Kuwait, a matter in which it is necessary to separate what is purely political and what is related to legal issues.

"Instead of skipping over an existing institution, and bypassing an existing law that grants it, as a fatwa body, the right to adjudicate on upstream political issues, such confusion must be addressed from its roots, and essentially withholding the right of the Fatwa Board to resolve purely political issues.

"Historically, the fatwa began after the death of the Messenger, may God bless him and grant him peace, through his companions, some of whom were moderate, before the spread of the companions' jurisprudence. After the end of the era of the Companions and their followers, the era of codification of fiqh began, and with it the eight schools of jurisprudence settled, four from the Sunnis, and four from the Shiites.

"That was the historical sequence, but the repercussions of such jurisprudential interpretations were not without conflicts, most of which were bloody, and from myths that people often confront from time to time.



Suad Al-Mojil

"With it, the fatwa departed from its legislative scope related to faith and its teachings, to turn into a political and economic tool with which the dissidents struggle.

"With the escalation of differences, conflict and wars in the Arab region in particular, political fatwas spread in an unprecedented manner, and became one of the important tools of conflict.

"Osama bin Laden issued his famous fatwa, declaring war on the United States, and ISIS came out with fatwas that forbid smoking, permit the killing of apostates and set conditions for the mujahideen worthy of martyrdom, until the definition and synonym of the fatwa in non-Muslim societies has become a license to kill, or an invitation to declare war on others.

"Especially in light of the openness of the world through communication engines, which enabled the whole world to share with the Islamic world news of fatwas wasting writers' blood because of political opinions, as happened with the Bangladeshi doctor and writer "Taslima Nasreen", who issued a fatwa to waste her blood because of her press articles, and before her Salman Rushdie.

"Such fatwas gave the right to some ignorant people to stab the Japanese translator of the book "Salman Rushdie" to death, as was the case with another group of translators. Opinions differ about the reasons that led to the emergence of the fatwa in Islam, although they all agree that the different times from the time of the Messenger call for diligence and fatwas in the developments of the age.

"But the issue of fatwas was not open and without conditions. One of the most important conditions for a mufti was that he be a religious scholar capable of deep logical analysis of the texts of the Qur'an and the Prophet's Sunnah, and that he be a diligent and knowledgeable of all previous fatwas, regardless of the party issuing the fatwa.

"According to all of us, it is rare today that such conditions are applied to many of whose fatwas have become the most widespread and credible for reasons, most of which have nothing to do with religion or belief as happened with the conditions of Kuwaiti admission to the army, which contradict the constitution and laws, and even with the requirements of the modern era and its variables in the first place."

Also:

"Before the "Corona" pandemic, there is no doubt that if you asked any person about this organization, where it is based, and its goals, you would not have found satisfactory answers, and perhaps the majority had not heard of it

before, and perhaps its knowledge was limited to doctors and those who work in this field, but today the situation is completely different and the World Health Organization, has become well-known," columnist **Zabn Al-Bathal** wrote for **Al-Anba** daily.

"The WHO has become popular in various media worldwide, and everyone follows the statements issued by it, and its director has become more famous than Larry King, the well-known American presenter, and perhaps has surpassed Hollywood actors, why not and this man was nominated by the African continent after he was Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ethiopia and earlier as Minister of Health, despite his rich record of holding positions, his statements recently have become permeated with a lot of doubt, suspicion and strangeness, because those statements issued by the World Health website are engraved in the name of its director and they change in their content in a week and perhaps in a day, sometimes it is mentioned that the virus continues to spread at a maximum speed, and then it is mentioned that the virus has been controlled, and after days a new mutated virus is announced, but it is unable to expand, and after days the words change that this virus is rapidly spreading.

"It is dangerous to mankind, and then a new strain is announced, but it has not been studied and how dangerous it is. The mutated Omicron, which is spreading in the world quickly, and they see that its symptoms are mild and less dangerous than its predecessors.

"People made a shocking statement that after "Omicron", more deadly and dangerous strains will appear. After these conflicting statements for two years, we wonder for God's sake, how will affect the psyches of people who suffer from various types of suffering from injuries, deaths, financial, occupational and living effects, and our friend is still tweeting outside the flock as if he lives in a virtual world different from the world in which we live.

"Perhaps some people understand from my words that I am against vaccination, and I say no, and to the contrary, I was one of the first people to receive all vaccinations, and I encourage and urge others to receive them in order to preserve their health and the health of those around them and to protect their community, but on the other hand, we see that this organization did not provide psychological protection before medical.

"The world, rather, began to live in fear and panic, and perhaps reluctance by some to take vaccinations because of these contradictions and the "coccids" they emit. Will the situation change for the better in the future? This is what we wish for."

— Compiled by Zaki Taleb

Huge inflation wave expected of commodity prices: experts

'Additional KD 28 on every KD 100 needs to be spent'

KUWAIT CITY, Feb 5: According to experts, the rate of increase in the prices of commodities in Kuwait amounted to 28 percent. This means every citizen and resident is now required to spend an additional KD 28 on every KD 100 to buy his needs, reports **Al-Anba** daily.

The experts warned that up to 300,000 different commodities, whose prices are fixed by the Union of Consumer Cooperative Societies, may witness an increase in prices with the application of the Competition Protection Law, which prohibits setting a minimum price. They said, "This means that there is a high wave of prices coming ... backed by law".

While Kuwait witnessed repeated meetings in the last period regarding the cancellation of the Minister of Commerce and Industry's decision No. 67/2020 to fix prices during the COVID-19 crisis and the demand for the liberalization of prices, the experts affirmed that there would be price hikes of up to 35 percent if the Ministry of Commerce and Industry canceled its decision. They stressed that this needs to be addressed, and there should be a rational control that takes into account the balance between all parties.

Increase

The experts highlighted that the price increase is due to many factors that are prevalent in the whole world and directly affect the supply chain, including weak production and supply globally, the high cost of transportation by land and sea, partial employment, and lack of employment.

Meanwhile, informed sources revealed that the government is not absent from the scene and is working tirelessly to maintain market stability by qualifying and motivating companies and suppliers.

They stressed that periodic follow-up decisions are being taken to ban export and re-export of goods, and also to provide financial support to some suppliers in the event of a shortage in local production of some goods.

Regarding this matter, the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Consumer Protection Association Mishal Al-Manea revealed that the association, in the year 2021, monitored the increase in the prices of many goods in cooperative societies and markets.

He said the price hike occurred at varying rates ranging between 7.5 and 28 percent, such that it is believed that each citizen and resident has to pay an additional KD 28 on every KD 100 spent.

With the passing of law No. 72/2020 for the Protection of Competition and its Executive Regulations, Al-Manea warned of another upcoming wave of inflation that will pose a danger to consumers directly.

He indicated that those on whom the law applies were defined as the individuals or organizations en-

Kuwait Airways reopens flights to Najaf

'Two flights each week'

KUWAIT CITY, Feb 5, (KUNA): Kuwait Airways announced on Saturday the reopening of commercial flights to Najaf with two flights a week.

In a statement, Kuwait Air-

gaged in an economic or commercial activity regardless of its legal form, such as traders and companies as well as cooperative societies, which is very dangerous.

Al-Manea explained that the regulation specified in its description of practices harmful to competition that it is prohibited for the dominant person to abuse dominance with the aim of limiting, restricting or preventing competition. This includes directly or indirectly setting or imposing prices for products or setting minimum prices or conditions for reselling them. This means that the cooperative societies do not have the right or the ability to fix the prices of commodities, which indicates that "a rising wave of prices is coming... and by law".

He went on to explain that according to the law, companies can ask cooperative societies to increase their prices without involving the Union of Consumer Cooperative Societies. If the board of directors refuses, they can file a lawsuit according to the text of this article and win them because the law is in force.

There are up to 300,000 different commodities, whose prices are fixed by the Union of Consumer Cooperative Societies, that may witness an increase in prices with the application of the Competition Protection Law, which prohibits setting a minimum price or the imposing of prices.

Cancel

If the Ministry of Commerce and Industry cancels its previous decision, which was issued during the COVID-19 crisis, to fix prices, there will be price hikes of up to 35 percent. This requires rational control that takes into account the balance between all parties.

Al-Manea said, "Kuwait is of a special nature, as it imports most of its needs, which means that it is affected by the supply chain crisis, the rise in the prices of raw materials and the price increases in the country of origin including the cost of shipping, which has doubled. However, the customs taxes in Kuwait are low, which means that the increases we are witnessing are currently unjustified to reach that extent".

In the same context, government sources explained that the rise in prices is a global phenomenon that was prevalent during the period of

ways CEO Maen Razouqi said that the flights will operate on Saturdays and Wednesdays of each week.

"This comes as part of our efforts to offer as much op-

portunities possible for our clients, and Najaf is considered a high demand destination for our clients for its touristic sites and rich cultural history," said Razouqi.

1- Unavailability of ships and shortage of containers due to the increased demand for consumables, which affected the carrying capacity of ships and the lack of sufficient space for transporting cargo containers.

2- The presence of restrictions in international ports, shortage of stations, and shortage of workers, which led to congestion, and long waiting period for ships to unload the goods.

Eid explained that a significant decrease in the rates of 40-foot containers has been observed during the current period, from USD 9 thousand in the last quarter of 2021 to USD 7,500, for goods coming from China, which is the largest exporter of goods around the world. Such an increase and decrease in the rates is global. The rates amounted to USD 20 thousand for containers from China to the United States, and USD 15 thousand for those destined to Europe and north, provided that there is sufficient space on board the ship.

The 2021 report issued by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) on the review of maritime transport stated that global import prices may rise by 11 percent and the prices of consumables by 1.5 percent between the current period and the year 2023 if the disruptions in shipping and supply chains are not stopped, and the restrictions imposed in global ports and container terminals are not addressed.

Solutions

The report touched on the need to work on finding new solutions that include development of the infrastructure and technology for shipping, digitization, and trade facilitation measures.

It indicated that there will be large-scale transformations in maritime transport in the presence of the pandemic.

Regarding the restrictions imposed on receiving ships loaded with goods in Kuwait, Eid said there is a delay in issuing entry permits for regular ships loaded with importers' goods, in contrast to what was in place before 2019 with regard to regular ships that visit Kuwait ports on an ongoing basis, and have a local marine agency registration certificate, contrary to what is applied in ministerial resolution No. 282/1980.

He highlighted the high daily rental cost of ship carrying goods.

Eid concluded by saying the KSCAA, with the cooperation of the Kuwait Ports Authority, is working hard to harness and overcome all difficulties and problems to facilitate the entry and exit of ships loaded with importers' goods, and to prevent delays for international ships loaded with goods.

National Day's greetings sent

HH Amir congratulates Sri Lanka

KUWAIT CITY, Feb 5, (KUNA): His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent on Friday a cable to the President of Sri Lanka Gotabaya Rajapaksa, congratulating him on his country's National

Day. His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah sent similar cables.

Services of all accused stand suspended

Counselor Al-Jalawi moves quickly to investigate alleged CAPT suspicions

KUWAIT CITY, Feb 5: Minister of Justice and Minister of State for Integrity Enhancement, Counselor Jamal Al-Jalawi was quick to investigate a report which talked about suspicion of benefit and conflict of interests in the renewal of one of the contracts at the Central Agency for Public Tenders, reports **Al-Rai** daily.

According to the decision issued by the minister the investigation into the incident must be completed within a month. Another decision issued by the minister is that the services of all those involved in the incident stand suspended until the investigation is completed.

For his part, MP **Muhammad Al-Sayer** has praised the decision taken by Al-Jalawi's, saying, "We congratulate and support this step from our brother, Minister of Justice, on the suspicious activity in the Central Agency for Public Tenders in the interest of protecting public money." He added, "We will continue to fight corrupt people and tools of corruption everywhere."

For its part, well-informed sources in the CAPT told **Al-Rai** that the investigation will expand to include other officials as they are directly concerned with preparing the agenda of the topics to be discussed by members of the Board of Directors of the Agency, whether from legal or technical aspects, reviewing documents and examining reports legally, so that the vision is clearly before the CAPT board of directors.

The same sources said, "The concerned

Falcon submarine cable to be fully repaired by Feb 9

KUWAIT CITY, Feb 5: The Communications and Information Technology Commission has received a report from the company (GCX), the owner of the Falcon submarine cable, on the latest developments on the cable repair, which states that the procedures for restoring the Internet traffic services are on the right path, reports **Al-Rai** daily.

The daily quoting company sources said work is progressing at 'a good pace' and the repair work on the Yemen side has been completed and services restored.

However, the repair work on the marine optical fibers are continuing given good weather conditions, and the repair process is expected to be completed and services returned to normalcy by February 9, according to the company.

The authority noted that Internet traffic in Kuwait has returned to normal after the completion of the transfer of traffic from the affected cable to other international tracks and cables within a short period of time.

officials are supposed to provide the members of the agency with all the details related to the topics under research and study, especially matters related to tenders or contracts of companies owned by relatives of the agency members, so that everyone is aware before making a decision."



Sponsored by:



Everyone's Favourite Choice Since 1985

Freshly LAUNCHED

VALUE PACKS



ORDER AT YOUR NEAREST BRANCH

22425131/2 | www.mughalmahal.com | @mughalmahalkuwait