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A DIGEST OF PUBLIC OPINION

Virus killed scores, made rich many

"BIOLOGICAL warfare, also called microbial warfare, has been defined as 'the intentional use of germs, viruses, or other microorganisms and their toxins that cause the spread of epidemics among humans, animals and plants, and means of resistance to these epidemics and their causes'," columnist **Dr. Bahija Behbehani** wrote for **Al-Qabas** daily.

"What happens in our present world is the 'third world war' and it was a biological war, as some scientists believe that the new corona virus was created in a laboratory in China and leaked from it, as the virus appeared and the first cases of infection were in the Chinese city of 'Wuhan' in early December 2019.



Dr. Behbehani

"The question is, was the deadly virus deliberately leaked, as some believe? It is noticeable that the major countries made huge benefits in terms of huge financial returns by exporting medicines, medical tools, masks, medical gloves, sterilizers, detergents and disinfectants, to other countries and then importing vaccines and still is, in addition to some making huge money from PCR tests to detect infection with the virus or not, some companies have also been able to earn financially by forcing those infected with the virus to self-isolate in hotels for a period ranging between 10 and 14 days.

"This viral war exterminated millions of people, while it provided the opportunity for other human beings to be empowered and powerful and became masters of the world providing other human beings - including us - security and safety, and most importantly, the continuity of life.

"As soon as the number of people infected with this virus decreased slightly, due to the vaccines provided by those major countries - whether they created it or whether it popped up out of nowhere - some citizens began declaring war on the beliefs of the peoples of those countries, as they did not find technology to reduce the effects of the virus and protested against the Christmas tree in a complex, so they made every effort until it was removed.

"Here we have the right to ask: Does the presence of a Christmas tree indicate that we will change our religion to another religion? Or does the tree convince us to visit the church? We are Muslims until the Day of Judgment and we have our fixed beliefs, and we respect the other monotheistic religions, as Kuwait's constitution states: 'Freedom of belief is absolute, and the state protects the freedom to perform religious rituals in accordance with established customs, provided that this does not disturb public order or contradict morals.' What happened was biological warfare followed by religious war?"

Also:

"The new government headed by Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled has been announced, and we wish success to the ministers who are awaiting many challenges and political pitfalls. There are many files that need urgent solutions and some of them require bold decisions and others surgical operations," columnist **Abdulaziz Al-Kandari** wrote for **Al-Rai** daily.

"There are issues on which no one may disagree, especially with regard to education, health, housing and the provision of real job opportunities. Therefore, these are a set of challenges that await the government:

"1 - The state's financial situation, which needs professionals in the economy, and talk about withdrawing from the generational reserve to provide liquidity, and the search for permanent solutions such as reducing expenses, and re-pricing some services, taking into account the middle class, and it is in a segment system, but this matter needs seriousness from the government, so that it is unreasonable to reduce salaries on the one hand and increase on the other.

"2 - Rearranging the demographic map, while thousands of expatriates have left Kuwait leaving behind a big vacuum in skilled labor, which has increased the cost of labor, and whoever has a plot of land under construction knows this well. Nonetheless, visa traders must be held accountable for this crime, which is human trafficking, which exhausted the health sector and security institutions during the pandemic period.

"3- Compensating students for educational losses due to the pandemic, lack of skill in dealing with it, and a full return of all education sectors, but unfortunately, we have a generation that can neither write nor read, and is ineffective in distance education. We are facing a catastrophe - in every sense of the word - against this generation unless the matter is remedied

and as soon as possible.

"4 - Completing the march of success in confronting the Corona virus and preventing it from spreading, in order to secure people's lives, especially from the new mutant that has begun to spread and some countries have moved to close their borders again, and many flights have been canceled due to this virus, and we hope that people will not be reckless in taking health precautions and God willing, this epidemic will end.

"5 - Technology will change the face of many traditional industries. I do not say within five or ten years, but within a year or two, and perhaps the 'Corona pandemic' has contributed a lot to this, and the world is changing unexpectedly. Twelve years ago, the cover of Forbes magazine was about the telecommunications giant at the time, 'Nokia', and it wrote in the headline, 'Nokia one billion users... who can catch up with the king of mobile phones'?... Was anyone expecting what happened today in terms of retreat for the company?"

"We are facing challenges that the largest armies in the world will not withstand. They are the armies of science, progress and technology. If we do not prepare well for this change, be responsible, live within the limits of time, abandon thinking about the past and its struggles, and search for false champions... then our fate will be early retirement and living on the borders of life.

"There are many countries in the Arab world that will retire early, and there are indicators and sensors that show this fact, and perhaps the most important of them is economic failure."



"Countries throughout the world and of all religions raced to celebrate the New Year holidays. Some of such celebrations conveyed political, economic, social and scientific messages reflected in the events held on high towers and transmitted by satellite channels all over the world..." columnist **Sami Al-Nisf** wrote for **Annahar** daily.

"The world witnessed the New Year celebration at the Beijing Tower in the capital of China. It was transmitted by satellite channels and conveyed a clear message that reflected China's scientific progress through a scientific dazzle which other countries in the West and East could not do.

"In Dubai, the celebration of the Emirates focused on the Burj Khalifa. It conveyed messages about tourist, commercial and economic attractions, reflecting tolerance for investors, tourists and residents with the aim of attracting more investment and tourism. This is in addition to showing the scope of the United Arab Emirates' scientific progress and preparation for the next technological revolution, and that it is looking forward, not backward..."

"In Kuwait, the financial, commercial and tourist center that will attract, within a few years, 30 million investors and tourists who will bring alternatives to oil as sources of national income, as stated in its development plan, orders were issued to prevent New Year's celebrations. Darkness prevailed over its upcoming towers and a clear message was sent to the whole world - that we have become the capital of closure and extremism in the world. It is strange that we still spend billions every year for the implementation of our development plan."



"Since Kuwait has no nuclear weapons, it does not have a stockpile of chemical weapons," columnist **Dr. Naji Al-Zaid** wrote for **Al-Jarida** daily.

"Also, the country has no laboratories to prepare for biological or bacterial warfare. The operation carried out by the State security personnel to lure a soldier with the rank of major in the Ministry of Interior is shocking and it should be denounced. The soldier was imprisoned for five days in a cold room and tortured in order to obtain information from him that may not even exist, except in the imagination of some of those in charge of the State security system!"

"So, what exactly is the extensive and secret information that the State security services tried to obtain from the soldier?!"

"The case is now in the hands of the Attorney General, whose honesty we do not doubt. The role assigned to him is to reveal all the facts on this matter... Newspapers reported that the officer was locked in an unbearably cold room and tortured to obtain information from him.

"As citizens, we want to know and understand this information. Perhaps, there is really high treason that we do not know anything about, although we are absolutely suspicious of it!"

— Compiled by Zaki Taleb

Some expats deported were involved in drugs trade, use

Eateries, bakeries offer 'free' food

KUWAIT CITY, Jan 4: About 1,500 out of 18,221 expatriates who were deported last year as per the latest announcement of the Interior Ministry were proven to be involved in the possession, consumption and trading narcotics and intoxicating substances, reports Al-Anba daily quoting a source from the security sector.

The source said those arrested for the possession or consumption of narcotic substances are usually referred to the Drug Control General Department. If proven that they possessed or consumed small quantities of narcotics, they are deported and blacklisted; while those who possessed or consumed large quantities are referred to the judiciary, the source added.

According to the ministry, the expatriates deported from January to December 2021 included 11,177 men and 7,044 women.

Free food for hungry: A group of restaurants and bakeries, in a humanitarian gesture, are said to have joined hands to feed the hungry and allegedly give away sandwiches and bread for those who cannot afford to pay, reports Al-Rai daily.

One of the workers, who identified himself as Abu Ahmad, and works for a restaurant told the daily "our happiness with those who come to take free sandwiches exceeds our happiness with those who pay for them." He pointed the pleasure to feed the hungry is indescribable. Free food is given away in many parts of Kuwait, including Hawally, Farwaniya, Khaitan and other areas.

Abu Ahmad added, "The workers normally can differentiate between those who can pay and those who cannot pay, because most of them are known customers. Those who cannot pay can just ask for what they want, take their order and walk away just like that without uttering a word. In Kuwait," he says, "no one goes hungry, and what these restaurants do in terms of helping the needy is a reflection of the charity work that Kuwait is doing, which benefits the less fortunate."

Two held with drugs: Two expatriates have been referred to the General Department of Drugs and Alcohol Control (GDDAC) after they were caught by personnel from the Criminal Investigations Department in the suburb of Jabriya for being under the influence of drugs and possessing drugs and drug paraphernalia, reports Al-Rai daily.



A mini-van torn apart by the collision.

1 dead in 4-car crash

One person died and two were injured in a four-vehicle car crash on the Fifth Ring Road, reports Al-Rai daily.

The cause of the accident is not known but the Public Relations Department of the Directorate-General of Fire Department said fire engines from the

Ardhiya fire station rushed to the site of the accident upon receiving information and dragged the dead man and the injured from the damaged vehicles and handed them over to the emergency medical personnel of the Ministry of Health.

Birds, eggs from Poland barred

Ban on import of cows from UK

KUWAIT CITY, Jan 4: The General Administration of Customs has issued a decision to temporarily ban the import of live cows from the United Kingdom to Kuwait.

The ban has been imposed at the request of the Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources due to the outbreak of mad cow disease also known as bovine spongiform encephalopathy or BSE. The instructions issued to the customs

authorities also says PAAAFR has imposed a ban on the import of all types of live birds and hatching eggs from Kazakhstan, Poland and Hungary, due to the emergence of highly pathogenic avian influenza.

Meanwhile, the Public Authority for Food and Nutrition (PAFN) quickly acted on the news about the Egyptian regulatory authorities' decision to seize a food facility that manufactured dairy products found to be unfit for human consumption, reports Al-Jarida daily.

Announcement

The Kuwaiti Public Transport Company announces its need for a number of workers to fill the following positions:

Job	Requirements
Heavy Route Drivers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The age of the applicant should be from (25) to (45) years. The applicant shall have a transferable residence It is preferable to master reading, writing and mathematical operations Preferably who has a Kuwaiti general driving license. The driver should be of good conduct and appearance. The driver should be free of chronic diseases (hypertension, diabetes, asthma, hepatitis, poor visual and hearing ability, etc.).

Applicants will be subject to tests and personal interviews for the job. Those wishing to apply to the job should submit their applications during the morning period from (8:30) in the morning until (2:30) in the afternoon at the head office of Kuwait Public Transport Company located in: Murgabopposite to Al-Watania Central Market - next to Liberation Tower. No later than (15) days from the date of publishing the announcement, bringing with them the following:

- Civil ID and a copy of it.
 - Passport Copy.
 - Recent Personal Photo.
 - Driving license copy.
- Any application that does not meet the required documents will not be considered.

For inquiries: 22328469 - 22328614



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Behind Maghateer Commercial Complex & Opp. Police station - Farwaniya
 info@shifaaljazeera.com.kw - www.shifaaljazeera.com.kw