

diwaniya ديوانية

A DIGEST OF PUBLIC OPINION

Women's effective participation vital to achieve 'comprehensive development'

"THE price of a falafel sandwich in Lebanon has increased from 2000 lira (pound) to 20,000 lira (pound). This sandwich has become an intractable meal for a large segment of the Lebanese people, who already suffer from the persistent deterioration of the exchange rate of their national currency vis-à-vis to the US dollar, particularly under the domination by the so-called Lebanese 'Hezbollah' of the joints of the Lebanese State which is operating in the name of resistance against the Zionist enemy," columnist **Sultan Ibrahim Al-Khalaf** wrote for **Al-Rai** daily.

"This happens although the only victim here is the entire people of Lebanon, not the Zionists, because the latter are living in safety and comfort in their homes and the borders between this entity and Lebanon are safer than ever, let alone that Lebanon is not in a state of war with the said entity.

"However, the Port of Beirut was recently exposed to mass destruction hit by an atomic weapon. This happened as a result of the explosion of 2,700 tons of ammonia nitrate which was stored in the port to resist the Zionists, but the explosion of these materials resulted in disrupting the services in the area to such an extent its devastating effects reached the neighboring houses and buildings and many Lebanese died as a result of the explosion, while none of the Zionists were affected as a result of this horrific act that terrified the miserable Lebanese citizens but didn't terrify the Zionists.

"Speaking of the Yemeni Houthis and their slogans 'Death to America, Death to Israel - God damn the Jews', have no effect because their missiles are directed at the cities and airports of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, but none of their missiles fell on any Zionist settlement in the occupied Palestine, while the cooperation between them and the Lebanese Hezbollah stand solidly behind the State of Iran with its new Safawi dress where the roots latter runs deep and for the past five centuries the Safawis have been attempted in collaboration with the Portuguese to dominate the Islamic states including the Hejaz Land and its holy places in both Makkah and Al-Madinah, but they were defeated by the brave Ottoman armies who defended the two holy cities, and remained under the protection of the Ottoman State for many centuries.

"In this context, we cite what was narrated in history when the Qarmatians wreaked havoc in the Muslim countries under their ally the Fatimid sectarian state and committed the most heinous crimes when they stormed the Holy Mosque of Makkah, terrorized the pilgrims when they were performing the Hajj (pilgrimage) on 'Al-Tarwiah Day' in addition to looting the belongings of pilgrims, food and money, and stole the Black Stone and returned it to its place after twenty two years post a threat issued the Fatimids when they justified their theft by saying 'we had taken it by the help of Allah and returned it back as well'.

"Anyway, the Holy Quran exposed those who were involved in manipulating the fate of the peoples and claimed piety and the religiosity although they are too far from it and according to the Holy Quran will face punishment.

"In this context, we would like to cite the Quranic text as follows: 'there is type of men whose speech about this world's life may dazzle thee and he calls God to witness about what is in his heart; yet is he the most contentious of enemies'. When he turns his back, his aim is to spread mischief throughout the world and destroy crops and cattle, but God loveth not mischief. When it is said to him 'Fear God', he is led by arrogance to (more) crime. Enough for him is Hell an evil bed indeed (To lie on).

"A message to some of the MPs. 'Oh gentlemen if you really love Kuwait, then you should open a new page for rational and constructive dialogue on how to address the concerns of both the homeland and the citizens in the spirit of desire for a solution, but not motivated by promoting dispute because dispute is not a prestige or picnic anymore nor pomp that deserves all this struggle'," columnist and former minister of information, **Mohammed Nasser Al-Sanousi** wrote for **Al-Qabas** daily.

"When will you strive to turn abuse into an objective dialogue? However, you have to follow the Hadith, because it falls within the core of Islam, as such, its acceptance and absolute belief in its context falls within the individual obligation, otherwise, no need to abide by the same.

"But in the two cases, you will endure the sin of promoting the wrong Hadith and the modification of the meaning in order that the overwhelming majority would have not believed it without depending on a final opinion from both the jurists and the scholars.

"However, they are leveling following accusations at

the women - science is for the men only because ignorance is mostly rampant among men, as such, for these people the participation of women in the parliament for them means spoiling from the seculars and the communists; sitting on chair is haram and wearing trouser is haram even inside the house; we have to work to allow our youths to marry two, three or four women each in order to surmount the women deviation.

"It is needless to say that supporting women's rights is a national objective and this means the organizing a concerted effort in addition to exerting every possible effort to support the women in political, economic and social rights and achieving an objective to surmount discrimination against women in addition to achieving legislative reform related to women's situations and taking other necessary actions that might be required to change the values and communal concepts which negatively affect women's rights, particularly since we know that the comprehensive development, will not be achieved in our communities without an effective participation from women."

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"When things calmed down and life began to gradually return to normal in the last few months, the Corona pandemic returned to spread terror and panic among people in most parts of the world, especially with the emergence of more than one variant of this deadly virus," columnist **Mishari Al-Matraqa** wrote for **Al-Jarida** daily.

"Kuwait was not protected from this, as the number of Corona cases in the country set new records in the past few days, which raised anxiety among citizens and expatriates despite the assurances of the government through the balanced decisions it took and its confirmation that this strong wave of the pandemic will be contained and confronted within days.

"Finally, the government adopted a policy of containment in facing this new wave of the pandemic, with measures far from closures and disrupting the interests of the country and people, while stressing the need for cooperation and non-complacency in implementing health regulations.

"Perhaps, one of the most important decisions that will contribute to confronting the new wave of Corona is to reduce the workforce in government agencies; implement flexible systems, hours and work schedules; hold meetings, conferences and courses through remote communication; and instruct ministries to provide their services through online booking of appointments.

"The current situation requires concerted and integrated official, civil and public efforts; partnership in dealing with the spread of the virus in order to go through this difficult stage and control infections. Everyone must be committed to implementing health regulations, reducing gatherings and crowding, and postponing travel and social events such as weddings and office meetings."

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"Years ago, many problems and events appeared in our beloved Kuwait that increased during the Corona crisis, which led to anxiety and tension among Kuwaitis who are keen on protecting their homeland and its people," columnist **Abdullah Al-Abduljader** wrote for **Al-Anba** daily.

"These problems and events were recognized by the government and the National Assembly. They were reviewed and published in various media outlets, including television, press and social media in Kuwait and abroad.

"The causes of anxiety and stress are as follows: *A lot of our children who graduated from universities and colleges are still waiting for job opportunities in the public and private sectors. Their number has reached 21,000 which has led to anxiety and tension among job seekers and their families.

"*There is still acceptance of educational majors that are in excess of the needs of the labor market and are not suitable for the job opportunities available in the public and private sectors. This problem was presented years ago to the government and the National Assembly.

"*The persistence of financial and administrative corruption in the government sector, such as receiving commissions in millions and bribes in thousands. They have been increasing, especially in projects, tenders and government transactions that led to a differentiation between references and another for the same treatment, as well as appointments through favoritism and distinction between a Kuwaiti graduate looking for work and another with the same qualifications.

"* Many Kuwaiti youths started their small and medium businesses by obtaining loans, but since the start of the Corona crisis they have had losses and many debts, including rents and salaries of workers and others that they could not pay and were referred to the judiciary."

— Compiled by Zaki Taleb

Municipality closes 3 unlicensed workshops

CITRA to set up regional free zone for data storage

KUWAIT CITY, Jan 20: The Communications and Information Technology Regulatory Authority (CITRA) is negotiating with more than one global technology company to establish a regional free zone for cloud data storage on an area of one million square meters, reports **Al-Rai** daily quoting informed sources.

They revealed that CITRA has reached advanced stages in this regard. The sources explained that CITRA currently owns 100,000 square meters of area that will be allocated for this purpose. It submitted a request to the Kuwait Municipality for the allocation of three plots of land to build storage centers, each one with an area of approximately 300,000 square meters.

In the event of the final agreement, Kuwait will not bear any cost to build the targeted free cloud zone, as the willing international party will bear all the expenses, provided that the state provides construction facilities, foremost of which are the procedures for entry of these companies into Kuwait, provision of the required land for their centers, and facilitating their linking to a fiber service.

CITRA recently presented to the

concerned officials a plan aimed at a new economy that enhances the country's non-oil resources.

This will happen by developing the information sector and digital economy.

The studies prepared in this regard showed that the GDP will record growth leaps if regional central units are built for cloud data.

In addition to the economic and human investment that Kuwait will greatly benefit, given that the cloud data free zone will store the data of government agencies and the private sector that are prohibited from being stored abroad, as well as the data of neighboring countries, which constitutes a new economy for the state, and a resource, the returns of which will make a tangible difference in the general budget.

Regarding the expected date for the completion of the building for the targeted cloud data banks, the sources indicated that this will happen within a year of activating the executive regulations, which prohibit storage of government agency data "cloud" outside Kuwait starting from February 11, especially if the data is highly sensitive or private.

Meanwhile, Kuwait Municipality Wednesday closed three unlicensed workshops in the Farwaniya Governorate, and removed two encroachments on state property, in addition to issuing 44 citations related to health requirements and the implementation of Municipal procedures, reports **Al-Jarida** daily.

The head of the Violations Removal Department in the Farwaniya Municipality branch, **Fahad Al-Muwaizri**, said in a press statement the team focused on violations in the **Jleeb Al-Shuyoukh** area, and issued 26 warnings related to health requirements and warehousing requirements.

Al-Muwaizri has called on shop owners to abide by the Municipality's regulations and to take all preventive measures in order to ensure the health and safety of all and to avoid violations and fines, indicating that the repeat of violation may lead to administrative closure.

He pointed out to the continuation of field tours by the supervisory teams, stressing that there will be no complacency in taking all legal measures against violators of health requirements and municipal regulations.

Municipality teams evict 12K bachelors from Bneid Al-Qar

Security breach cited at Shuwaikh Port

KUWAIT CITY, Jan 22: The head of the emergency team of the Capital Governorate Municipality Branch, **Zaid Al-Enezi**, revealed that more than 12,000 bachelors have been evacuated from Bneid Al-Qar area during 16 months, (an average of 750 bachelors during one month and 25 bachelors on a daily basis), from September 2020 until January 2022, reports **Al-Rai** daily.

In a statement to **Al-Rai**, **Al-Enezi** explained that "all those who were evicted from the area were inhabiting it in an unorganized manner, and exploiting real estate in violation of the building regulations in force in the municipality."

He added that the campaign that affected the region was led by the Governor of the Capital, **Sheikh Talal Al-Khaled**, and with the support of the Capital Municipality's emergency team, and the Judicial Police team in the Ministry of Electricity and Water. They were targeted within some areas of the governorate, whether they were private or investment housing, and 220 building violations were removed, a number equal to the number of evictions carried out in cooperation with their owners.

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Security breached: Director of the General Administration of Customs, **Suleiman Al-Fahd**, referred a group of security and safety employees at Shuwaikh Port Customs for investigation, against the background of not taking the necessary administrative measures and allowing the exit of a truck without passing through the inspection ramp, reports **Al-Rai** daily.

A customs source told the daily, "A shipment coming from one of the Asian countries loaded with equipment arrived at the port in Shuwaikh last Sunday, but the truck driver arrived at the external gate without passing through the normal inspection procedures and that he was allowed to leave the port."

The source added: "When the data was checked, it became clear that there was a container that was not inspected, which necessitated contacting the owner of the supplying company, and coordination and cooperation with him were established, and the shipment was immediately inferred in the company's warehouses," noting that "a team of customs search and investigation went to inspect the shipment that was not yet disposed of and it was discovered the shipment did not contain any contraband."

The source confirmed that "the director general has taken a decision to refer the security and safety employees for investigation due to negligence," noting that "other measures will be taken next week against the background of the incident to be more firm and not to repeat such a mistake."

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No buyers for fish: A number of vendors at the fish market in Sharq compared the current situation in the market to paralysis due to the severe cold weather that the country is witnessing these days, reports **Al-Anba** daily quoting sources.

Sources affirmed that the abundant supply of local and imported fish led to a record level drop in prices, indicating the market has become a ghost site without buyers or visitors except a small number.

Under these circumstances, the sellers complained about the material losses they suffered as a result of the situation in the market as rents have neither stop nor drop since the establishment of the market and the losses amounted to thousands of Kuwaiti dinars.



Al-Anba photo

Securitymen issuing citation to a two-wheeler home delivery man.

GTD's campaigns to arrest violators

The General Traffic Department launched a traffic campaign in **Al-Ardiya Al-Harfiyah**, **Mahboula** and **Fahaheel** and issued 163 citations to errant motorcyclists, home delivery vehicles and taxis, reports **Al-Anba** daily.

Some of the motorcyclists were found to be driving without a license, not wearing protective gear including helmet, driving on pedestrian bridges and not complying

with the traffic instructions in force, not carrying a permit and some taxis for not using the fare meter. A campaign in **Al-Qurain Markets** area yesterday resulted in issuing 527 citations for various reasons. The GTD administration says the traffic and operations sector continues to implement security and traffic campaigns in all parts of the country to apprehend outlaws and violators of traffic rules.

Kuwait's FM, 'Indian' counterpart discuss bilateral ties in phone call

KUWAIT CITY, Jan 22, (KUNA): Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs **Sheikh Ahmad Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah** on Saturday received phone call from **Dr Subrahmanyam Jaishankar**, Minister of External Affairs of India, discuss-

ing bilateral relations between two countries.

During the phone call, the two friendly countries discussed ways to strengthen and develop the existing strategic partnership in various fields as well as latest regional and international developments.

Meeting set to discuss railway project

KUWAIT CITY, Jan 22: The Public Authority for Roads and Transportation (PART) revealed that Chairman of its Board of Directors **Dr Hussein Al-Khayat**, a number of board members and Director General of the authority **Rajaa Al-Momen** will meet next week in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia with the officials of the Gulf unit responsible for implementing the railway project, reports **Al-Rai** daily quoting sources.

Sources said this is the first meeting at the level of Gulf countries participating in the Gulf railway project.

1st oil tanker carrying naphtha

Petroleum coal export ops temporarily halted: KNPC

KUWAIT CITY, Jan 22, (Agencies): Kuwait National Petroleum Company (KNPC) announced the temporary suspension of petroleum coal export operations due to the recent fire incident in Shuaiba Industrial Area, reports **Al-Rai** daily.

In a press statement, KNPC disclosed that "a minor fire broke out in a part of the petroleum coal carrier in Shuaiba Industrial Area. The fire incident did not result in any injuries, while the coal export operations are temporarily halted until the site's safety is ensured."

KNPC announced earlier on Friday its full control over fire on the side of the petroleum coal conveying line in the Shuaiba Industrial Area.

The fire did not result in any injuries; it was dealt with by KNPC firefighting team, said the Executive Vice President for Administrative and Commercial Affairs and the company's official spokesman, **Ahed Al-Khorayef** to KUNA.

Al-Khorayef explained that the fire led to the temporary suspension until

the safety of the site was fully ensured, and the condition of the line was evaluated and rehabilitated again.

He stated that the resumption of exports through this line will take place after the necessary repairs are made.

Meanwhile, Kuwait recently witnessed a historic achievement in the operation of Zour refinery, as it has received the first oil tanker carrying naphtha - the basic material for operating the refinery, which is expected to start in March, reports **Al-Anba** daily quoting sources from the oil sector.

Sources told the daily that Kuwait Integrated Petroleum Industries Company (KIPI) is currently conducting the first stage of operating the refinery and testing its operational units. Sources said the refinery has a refining capacity of 615,000 barrels per day - the largest ever in the region and built in one phase. In the past few days, it succeeded in the preliminary operation of the hydrogen unit for the refinery project, which consists of four huge factories, sources added.

Plane collision report denied

KUWAIT CITY, Jan 22: The Kuwait Airways Corporation has denied there was a collision between the Kuwait Airways aircraft and said the pictures published by some social media showing damage to the front part of the aircraft are photos of an old incident, reports **Al-Jarida** daily.

In this regard the Kuwait Airways has issued a statement denying what has been published about a collision involving one of its planes.

The newspaper pointed out that the published photos are old, and called on everyone to check on the accuracy of the reports and take information from its sources.

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Duties: Interior Minister **Sheikh Ahmed Al-Mansour** has issued a decision assigning Major-General **Anwar Al-Barjas** to carry out the duties of the Undersecretary of the Ministry of Interior, reports **Al-Rai** daily.



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