



Scan the QR code to access the Arab Times WhatsApp Channel



## Opinion

**Ahmed Al-Jarallah**

Editor-in-Chief, the Arab Times

### Indeed, for Arabs, it is all 'soap'

THE Sykes-Picot Agreement was the final nail in the coffin of the Ottoman Empire. The Balfour Declaration then marked the next phase in the division of influence between Britain and France, leading to a significant increase in Jewish immigration to Palestine.

Even before that fateful declaration was issued, when Jewish settlements began to be established in Palestine in 1908, Palestinian landowners were wary of this development. However, they did not actively prevent the new settlements.

As events accelerated after World War I, the Arabs lacked the military power needed to halt the process of Judaization.

Meanwhile, Europe provided financial support to the new settlers, who succeeded in establishing a network of settlements and forming a self-defense force.

After World War II, Europe and Germany, seeking to atone for the atrocities committed by Hitler against the Jews, facilitated the increased Jewish immigration to Palestine.

This historical context is crucial in countering attempts to displace Palestinians from their land, particularly in light of the Israeli Finance Minister's statement about relocating Gaza's population to a third country.

For nearly two decades, several Arab countries have witnessed civil wars and internal divisions. Yet, despite this, the slogan "Free Palestine" continues to be raised, while actions often move in the opposite direction, or as we say in Kuwaiti slang, "praying towards the east."

Since 1948, false accusations have been leveled against the late Egyptian King Farouk, claiming his

Continued on Page 5

Follow me on:

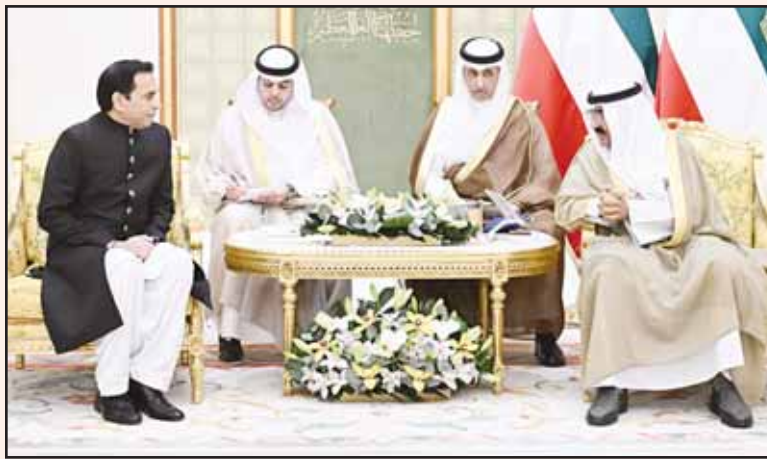
@Ahmedaljarallah

Ahmed aljarallah

ahmed@aljarallah.com



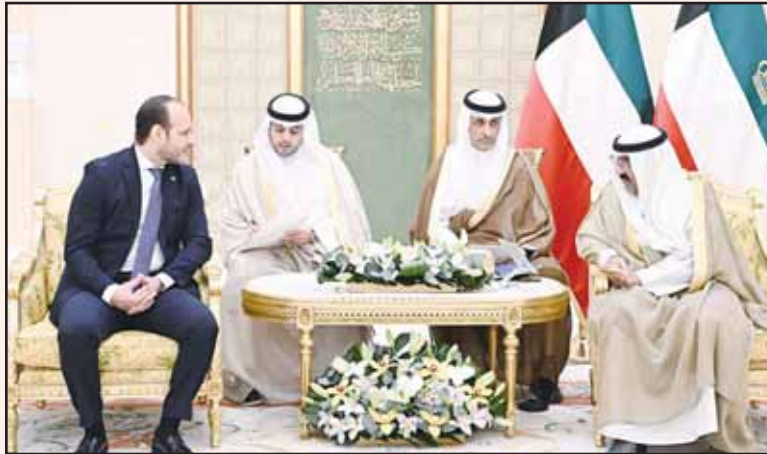
Scan QR code to visit the website: aljarallah.com



HH the Amir receives Ambassador of Pakistan.



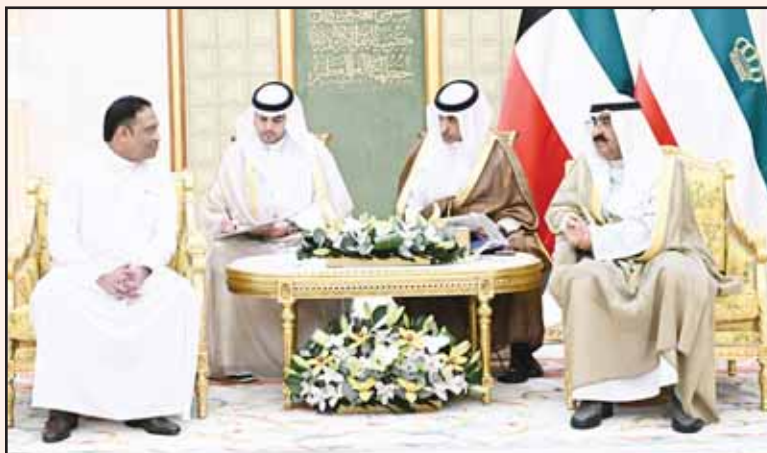
HH the Amir receives Ambassador of Cyprus.



HH the Amir receives Ambassador of El Salvador.



HH the Amir receives Ambassador of Armenia.



HH the Amir receives Ambassador of Sri Lanka.

Amiri Diwan photos

## HH Amir receives credentials of several new ambassadors

KUWAIT CITY, May 19, (KUNA): A ceremony was held Monday morning at Bayan Palace where His Highness the Amir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received the credentials of the following new ambassadors to Kuwait: Dr. Zafar Iqbal of Pakistan, Andreas Panayiotou of Cyprus, Juan Carlos Staben Boillat of El Salvador, Arsen Alexander Arakelyan of Armenia, and Lakshitha Pradeep Ratnayake of Sri Lanka.

Senior state officials attended the ceremony.

## Syrian President Al-Sharaa to visit Kuwait end of May

KUWAIT CITY, May 19: Syrian President Ahmad Al-Sharaa is scheduled to visit Kuwait at the end of this month, marking his first official trip to the country since assuming leadership during the transitional period, reports Al-Seyassah daily quoting Syrian sources.

In an exclusive statement to the daily, sources said this visit will conclude Al-Sharaa's Gulf tour, which included stops in Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates (UAE), Qatar and Bahrain. Sources added he will visit the Sultanate of Oman before arriving in Kuwait.

During his visit, President Al-Sharaa will meet with the Kuwaiti political leadership to discuss ways to strengthen bilateral cooperation. He will also express Syria's gratitude for Kuwait's longstanding political and financial support; including its role in hosting multiple donor conferences, providing substantial humanitarian aid since 2011, and launching an emergency airlift following the fall of the former regime.

Sources revealed that a delegation of Kuwaiti businesspersons, led by Bader



Syrian President Ahmad Al-Sharaa

Nasser Al-Kharafi, held a preliminary meeting last Tuesday to discuss potential investment opportunities. They said President Al-Sharaa is expected to meet with business leaders during his visit to explore avenues for economic collaboration.

In preparation for these discussions, President Al-Sharaa met earlier this

Continued on Page 5

# Kuwait unveils 3-point plan for school reform

Vision for harmonized education gets GCC support

By Abdulrahman Al-Shammari  
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, May 19: Education Minister Jalal Al-Tabtabai announced three Gulf educational initiatives during the opening of the ninth meeting of the Committee of Ministers of Education in Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries on Monday.

In his speech, Al-Tabtabai affirmed the commitment of Kuwait to support joint Gulf education; indicating that the meeting reflects the depth of partnership and integration among the GCC states in the field of education.

He said the three Gulf educational initiatives include the Gulf Youth Sports Initiative to promote physical activity and mental health among students, Unification of Academic Ladders among GCC States to enhance educational harmony and facilitate student mobility, and the Initiative to Promote a Common Gulf Identity in Educational Curricula.

He disclosed that these initiatives are in line with the Kuwait 2035 vi-



Photo by Mohammad Morsi

Ministers of Education from GCC countries gather for a commemorative photo during the 9th committee meeting on Monday.

sion, the sustainable development goals and the Gulf Education Vision 2030. He confirmed the importance of adapting to contemporary challenges, specifically digital transformation and artificial intelligence.

He pointed out that the meeting is a manifestation of the depth of Gulf ties and shared destiny, affirming the unity of path and the integration of aspirations toward an educational future that witnesses advanced co-

ordination in the area of educational cooperation. "This future is based on an effective partnership that draws its strength from a cultural heritage and

Continued on Page 5

## NewsWatch

**KUWAIT CITY:** The Committee for Regulating Humanitarian and Charitable Work held its third meeting Monday, chaired by Acting Prime Minister **Sheikh Fahad Yousef Saud Al-Sabah**, with participation from government representatives.

The meeting focused on improving efficiency and transparency of Kuwait's charitable efforts, aligning them with international standards and protecting the country's reputation.

The committee addressed major challenges and discussed recommendations to enhance coordination between government agencies and charitable organizations, to boost transparency and strengthen Kuwait's international credibility. (KUNA)

**TEHRAN:** Nuclear talks between Iran and the United States will be doomed if Washington continues to urge Tehran to slash its uranium enrichment activities down to zero, a foreign ministry spokesman said on Monday.

Accusing Washington of "complicating negotiations," **Esmail Baghaei** told the press that the Islamic Republic's uranium enrichment program is not subject to discussion, underlining that Tehran is still "participating in discussions" with Washington. (KUNA)

## Kuwait, Microsoft accelerate digital future

KUWAIT CITY, May 19, (KUNA): Kuwait's Minister of State for Communications Affairs Omar Al-Omar affirmed on Monday the ministry's commitment to accelerating digital integration and enhancing government innovation by implementing the terms of its strategic partnership with Microsoft.

In a speech during a high-level meeting with Microsoft's Executive Vice President and Chief Commercial Officer, Judson Bezek-Althoff, Minister Al-Omar said that Kuwait is making steady progress toward building an integrated digital system capable of keeping pace with global developments, enhancing the quality of government services, and creating an environment conducive to innovation and investment.

He also noted that one of the most important gains of this partnership is the empowerment of national competencies through specialized training programs in artificial intelligence, cy-

bersecurity, and advanced technologies, consolidating the role of Kuwaiti cadres in leading the transformation towards a competitive and sustainable digital economy.

In turn, Acting Chairman of the Communications and Information Technology Regulatory Authority (CITRA) Sheikh Athbi Jaber Al-Sabah said that the launch of the AI-powered data center project, in partnership with Microsoft and with direct support from the CITRA, is a pivotal step in Kuwait's digital future.

Sheikh Athbi affirmed that the Authority has taken it upon itself to serve as a link between relevant government agencies and international partners, most notably Microsoft, to ensure the necessary environment is created to establish and operate advanced data centers that serve the country's needs and support its ambitions towards digital transformation.

Continued on Page 5

## Day by Day

TO this day, a considerable number of people are being incarcerated for offenses related to "bounced checks" or "insufficient funds."

Dear Minister of Justice, or rather, dear Government, have mercy on these individuals, for there is no country in the world that treats a bounced check as a felony, nor does it imprison someone for such an act.

The government and its agencies are not debt collectors for creditors. We live in a civilized society. Therefore, the lender who fails to secure sufficient guarantees is responsible for the loss of their money, as stipulated by Islamic law and the principles upheld globally.

... Yet tomorrow is another day.  
**Zahed Matar**



**8 NBK wraps up the closing activities of 2nd 'NBK RISE' cohort**



**9 Burgan Bank participates in the annual GUST Career Fair**

**16 Warriors retain Kuwait Ice Hockey League title**

**Prayer Timings**  
 Fajr ..... 03:23    Asr ..... 15:20  
 Sunrise .. 04:54    Maghrib .. 18:35  
 Zohr ..... 11:44    Isha ..... 20:03

# Local

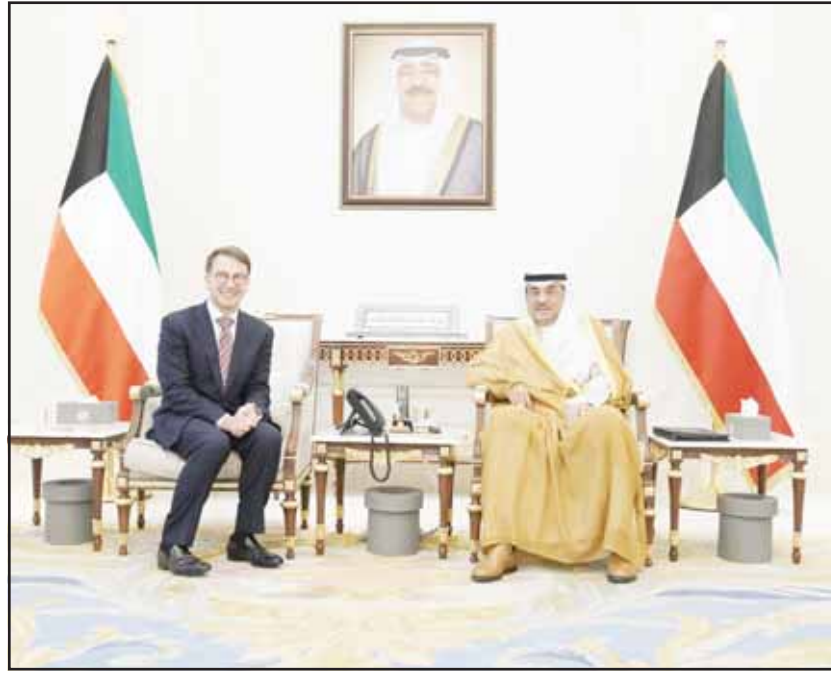
**Expected weather for next 24 hrs:**  
**By Day:** Very hot with moderate to fresh northwesterly wind, with speeds of 20-50 km/h causing rising dust.  
**By Night:** Rather hot and dust

**Weather**

|   |                |                |    |
|---|----------------|----------------|----|
| will subside gradually with light to moderate freshening at times over coastal areas northwesterly wind, with speeds of 12-45 km/h. | Abdaly         | 45             | 25 |
|   | Jahra          | 46             | 29 |
|   | Salmiyah       | 39             | 32 |
|   | Jal Aliyah     | 44             | 27 |
| <b>Station</b>  | <b>Max Exp</b> | <b>Min Rec</b> |    |
| Kuwait Airport  | 46             | 23             | 25 |
|   |                |                | 23 |



PM Diwan photo  
 His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah receives Under Secretary General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs Rosemary A. DiCarlo and UN Secretary-General's Deputy Special Representative for Iraq.



PM Diwan photo  
 His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah receives Microsoft's visiting Executive Vice President and Chief Commercial Officer Judson Althoff.

## Imports helped curtail load shedding in April

By **Mohammad Ghanem**  
 Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, May 19: The April report of the Statistics Department at the Ministry of Electricity, Water and Renewable Energy revealed that the electricity grid imported 599,151 megawatts or 832 megawatts per day last month; thereby, limiting the implementation of the programmed power cuts.

According to the report, the maximum electrical load reached 13,150 megawatts on April 26; while the minimum load reached 7,460 megawatts on April 1 and 18.

Meanwhile, with regard to freshwater statistics, the maximum net consumption reached 466,904 million imperial gallons on April 30, the maximum daily water storage reached 2,592,801 million imperial gallons on April 29, and the lowest daily storage reached 2,217,044 million imperial gallons on April 17.

Furthermore, the report indicated that the ministry connected electricity to 790 customers in various residential sectors in April. Private residential customers topped the list with 698, followed by the government sector with 40, investment sector with 16, commercial sector with 13, industrial sector with 12 and agricultural sector with 11.

The report indicated that the total load provided to new customers reached 94,245,020 kilowatts; while stating that 21 employees were added to the total number of Kuwaiti and non-Kuwaiti employees, reaching 35,677 compared to 35,656 in March. It also disclosed that the percentage of Kuwaiti employees at the ministry reached 97.8 percent.

## HH Crown Prince meets UN official, Microsoft executive VP

KUWAIT CITY, May 19, (KUNA): His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah received visiting UN Under Secretary General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs Rosemary A. DiCarlo and UN Secretary-General's Deputy Special Representative for Iraq Claudio Cordon at Bayan Palace on Monday.

His Highness the Crown Prince's Diwan Undersecretary for Foreign Affairs Mazen Al-Issa and Assistant Foreign Minister for International Organizations, Minister Plenipotentiary Abdulaziz Saud Al-Jarallah attended the reception.

His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah also received Microsoft's visiting Executive Vice President and Chief Commercial Officer Judson Althoff and his accompanying delegation at Bay-

an Palace on Monday.

Minister of State for Communications Affairs Omar Saud Abdulaziz Al-Omar, Director General of Kuwait Direct Investment Promotion Authority (KDIPA) Sheikh Dr. Meshaal Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and KDIPA's Assistant Director General Sheikh Abdullah Sabah Humoud Al-Sabah were present at the reception.

# Al-Dughhaishem Diwaniya Hosts Al-Jaber



Abdulaziz Al-Dughhaishem receives former Foreign Minister Sheikh Salem Al-Jaber.



Guests pictured with the host.

Photos by Rizk Taufiq

A couple of days ago, the diwaniya of businessman Abdulaziz Al-Dughhaishem hosted

former Foreign Minister Sheikh Salem Al-Jaber in the presence of Dean of Kuwaiti

journalists and Editor-in-Chief of Al-Seyassah/Arab Times daily Ahmed Al-Jarallah and

a number of attendees. Friendly conversations are exchanged in the meeting.



Dean of Kuwaiti journalism Ahmed Al-Jarallah at the gathering.



Sheikh Ali Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Abdulaziz Al-Dughhaishem and guests.



Sheikh Salem Al-Jaber, Saud Al-Farhan, Mohammad Al-Barjas and Basam Al-Qassas.



Ahmed Al-Jarallah speaking at the event.



Ahmed Al-Jarallah, Abdulaziz Al-Dughhaishem, former Foreign Minister Sheikh Salem Al-Jaber and guests.

diwaniya ديوانية

A DIGEST OF PUBLIC OPINION

Wily neighbor ... and bid to take us back to square one

"In recent days, as Iraq has increased pressure on Kuwait and mobilized all popular and parliamentary forces, we have observed that the issue has shifted from an internal Iraqi dispute to an attempt to drag Kuwait into a situation where it has no involvement, either directly or indirectly". Kuwaiti journalist Hassan Ali Karam wrote for Al-Seyassah daily.



Hassan Karam

"The Iraqi leadership, represented by President Hussein Rashid and Prime Minister Mohammad Shia al-Sudani, submitted two letters to the Iraqi Federal Court challenging its ruling that rejected the Iraqi parliament's vote on the international resolution regarding the division of Khor Abdullah between Kuwait and Iraq.

"Perhaps the clearest statement on this matter came from Nouri al-Maliki, the former Prime Minister, who has been a main figure in the case from the very beginning.

"Al-Maliki stated that he visited Kuwait with a ministerial delegation and agreed that the Khor Abdullah would be designated as an international waterway. He added that Iraq was not present during the discussions on dividing the border in Khor Abdullah between Kuwait and Iraq. Experts decided to split the Khor equally between the two countries, with the deeper side allocated to Kuwait and the shallower side to Iraq, with a commitment to eventually deepen the shallow side.

"The renewal of this case arises not only from the letters sent by the President and Prime Minister to the Federal Court, nor because Iraq is set to hold parliamentary elections next November, but there is something more significant at play. Iraq, which has established the Faw Port, is located far from Khor Abdullah, while Kuwait's Mubarak Port directly overlooks the creek, giving it a clear advantage over Faw Port.

"The Iraqis have constructed roads and tunnels from their new port, which is expected to become operational by the end of this year. In contrast, Mubarak Port, due to its proximity to Iraq, requires no additional infrastructure, only the regular roads and tunnels.

"Therefore, the Iraqis are deeply concerned about Mubarak Port, fearing it could undermine the viability of Faw Port. However, these fears are based on speculation and unfounded illusions. The region is home to numerous large ports directly overlooking the Gulf, the most significant of which are the Iranian ports, which are in close proximity to the Faw ports. Iraq currently uses Iranian ports due to their proximity to Basra and their ability to accommodate large vessels.

"Iraq's escalation, along with the mobilization of parties, tribes, and paid media, is an unjustified approach to what is essentially a technical matter for which experts from both countries could resolve with a suitable solution. Unfortunately, this escalation, combined with the return of insults directed at Kuwait and claims of Iraqi ownership over its territory, does not bode well. This rise in tensions stems from the ill intentions of certain individuals, particularly Baathists, loyalists, and the remnants of Saddam's regime.

"In recent months, we have breathed a sigh of relief, thanks to football events and mutual visits between the youth of Kuwait and Iraq, particularly the dear people of Basra, Kuwait's closest and most beloved port of call.

"Any desperate attempts to change the Security Council resolutions regarding the brutal Iraqi invasion of Kuwait will only lead to disappointment. Therefore, Iraqis who harbor resentment toward Kuwait, and those who are sick in their souls, should not indulge in these notions and should not look back.

"Just as some ignorant individuals spread lies and nonsense to manipulate the minds of the naive, there is also history - books, records, and documents - that, if opened, would only magnify their losses.

"The Security Council resolutions regarding the Iraqi aggression against Kuwait were not issued for entertainment or to hide the crisis. They were made in accordance with Chapter VII of the UN Charter, and they are irreversible."

Hassan Karam

more disordered their priorities become. Immersing oneself in tribalism, sectarianism, and factionalism only wastes time, energy, and effort on matters that are ultimately fruitless. Furthermore, spending excessive zeal defending an idea more than its original proponent, and associating with fools and failures, only distracts from what truly matters.

"Setting personal priorities: True personal priorities arise from the innate tendency of a psychologically healthy and intellectually mature person to achieve self-sufficiency and care for those they love. The clearer their vision in this regard, the better they understand their rights, obligations, and what they must focus on achieving. The more they concentrate on what serves their legitimate personal interests, the clearer their priorities become.

"Those who strive to acquire critical thinking and personal decision-making skills are better equipped to define their priorities. Engaging with wise people will further illuminate which matters truly deserve attention and which should be left aside. Reading insightful writings clarifies vision and enlightens the mind.

"So, take the time to define your true priorities before it becomes difficult. May your efforts be blessed."

Hassan Karam

"Persuasion, not coercion, is the cornerstone of political and media discourse. Attempting to impose persuasion with weak arguments does not lead to sound opinions or accurate positions. Forcing people to engage with media and diplomatic discourse that lacks rhetorical skills only produces unproductive outcomes. The inevitable result is political failure". columnist Khalid Ahmad Al-Tarrah wrote for Al-Seyassah daily.

"The Kuwaiti delegation in Geneva took its seat at the United Nations Human Rights Council during the 49th session of the Universal Periodic Review, which focused on Kuwait's achievements in this regard. The session was full of surprises. The speeches lacked the skill to effectively direct the discourse, except for reciting the written text.

"Unfortunately, a traditional and rigid style dominated Kuwait's presentation, focusing excessively on the historical narrative and failing to break free from a cycle of weak arguments, arguments that, in fact, raised more questions than they answered.

"Main elements of effective discourse, such as eye contact and body language, were neglected. I can confirm that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is closely monitoring international publications on human rights in Kuwait, along with the questions and observations raised regarding freedom of expression and national identity.

"However, it seems the ministry has not approached these issues with sufficient thoughtfulness in its reading and analysis, nor has it been prepared to adopt a more unconventional approach to discourse. I have received feedback from academics and specialists criticizing Kuwait's speech in Geneva for its lack of professionalism, contradictions, and failure to understand the significance of foreign presence at the meeting, and its cultures.

"The Kuwaiti discourse deviated from political and media correctness when addressing the details of the revocation of citizenships, referring to them as "administrative decisions," not "decrees," and raising the legitimate question: What has the government done about all of this from both a legal and political standpoint?

"Does explaining these details serve or undermine the intended goal? Does it strengthen the political argument or weaken its credibility, especially when the picture remains unclear about who was responsible for the administrative error that led to the revocation of citizenship?"

"For instance, did the Fatwa and Legislation Department object to the administrative decisions to revoke citizenship? Did the General Secretariat of the Council of Ministers raise any objections? No one knows. From a media and political perspective, every issue has its own reasons, justifications, and motives.

"Regarding free education, it would have been more appropriate to focus on explaining the mechanisms for updating and developing curricula to combat religious extremism and intellectual terrorism, rather than simply recounting the well-known history of free education in Kuwait, which is recognized worldwide.

"As for Kuwait's speech on illegal residents (Bedoun), it lacked a clear, objective argument explaining the factors that transformed the issue from a small problem into an inexplicable and unjustifiable political and legal crisis. Simply reciting written texts was not a commendable approach. The Kuwaiti discourse lacked the essential elements and skills needed to deliver an impactful political message, including effective communication, proper use of gestures, and the expressive tones of voice.

"As for the international consensus on the Kuwait report, publishing the recommendations, international observations, and any Kuwaiti pledges, if any, would provide a clearer picture of the global response to the report.

"It is well known that there are systematic, non-random international procedures during such reviews, even if the recommendations are not legally binding on Kuwait. Unfortunately, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has placed promising young talent in a challenging position. The lack of preparation and prior training was evident."

Hassan Karam

— Compiled by Mahmoud Attiyeh/Simi K. Kutty



The Third Gulf Housing Week (GHW) kicked off on Sunday in Kuwait and will run until Thursday.

KUNA photo

Housing, sustainable development on agenda

KUWAIT CITY, May 19, (KUNA): The Third Gulf Housing Week (GHW) kicked off on Sunday in Kuwait and will run until Thursday, beginning with the 47th meeting of the GCC Technical Committee on Housing Affairs.

Deputy Director General for Planning at the Public Authority for Housing Welfare (PAHW) Engineer Nasser Khuraibet said in a statement to KUNA that the meeting discussed enhancing

regional cooperation in housing and sustainable urban development. Khuraibet explained that the meeting's agenda included reviewing and discussing the Gulf Joint Housing Action Plan (2024-2030), which aims to unify efforts and facilitate the exchange of expertise among GCC countries.

The meeting marked the official launch of the third Gulf Housing Week (GHW), which features a series of events and activities aimed

at raising awareness and strengthening communication between housing authorities and local communities, Khuraibet added.

The activities also include the second edition of the Gulf Housing Hackathon, with the participation of students from architecture and planning faculties across GCC countries, aimed at encouraging youth innovation in smart and sustainable housing solutions.

Huge cache of drugs found on four 'Bedoun' residents – Mol

Expat duped ... phone, cash stolen

**KUWAIT CITY, May 19: Ministry of Interior announced that the Criminal Security Sector, represented by the Drug Control General Department (DCGD), arrested four Bedoun residents, identified only as M.A., A.J., S.S., and S.A, in possession of various quantities of narcotics and intoxicants, reports Al-Seyassah daily.**

Authorities discovered the following items in their possession: 15,000 Lyrica capsules, 100 grams of cocaine, 500 grams of Chemical drug, 250 grams of hashish, 80 psychotropic pills, a sensitive weighing scale, and KD 10,590, suspected to be profits from drug

trafficking.

The ministry affirmed that the necessary legal procedures have been taken against the individuals, who have been referred to the competent authorities for further action.

**Phone, cash stolen:** The Criminal Security Department at the Interior Ministry recently closed a robbery case titled, 'Forced Robbery', after apprehending the suspect – a young Gulf national who was positively identified by the victim, an expatriate, in a police lineup, reports Al-Anba daily.

According to a security source, an expatriate born in 1982 filed a report at Hawally Police Station. In his report, the victim narrated "I signed a contract with a telecommunications company to purchase an iPhone. Since I no longer needed the device, I put it up for sale on social media. Two days later,

someone interested in purchasing the phone contacted me.

We agreed on the price and I shared my location. The individual came to the basement of my building, asked to inspect the phone, and requested to see my civil identification card. The potential buyer then ran off with my phone and wallet." The victim reported that his wallet contained KD1,860.

The source affirmed that the case was immediately referred to detectives who traced the phone number used to contact the victim. A carefully planned entrapment led to the arrest of the suspect outside his residence in Jahra Governorate.

During questioning, the suspect confessed to the crime after being presented with the victim's statement and surveillance footage of the incident. He admitted to reselling the stolen iPhone to a store in the Capital Governorate and that he already spent the stolen money.

Crackdown leads to wanted people, criminals arrest

By Munif Naif

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, May 19: The Rescue Police General Department at the Interior Ministry continued its security campaigns to pursue wanted individuals and outlaws.

Last week's campaigns resulted in the arrest of 42 individuals who were referred to the Drug

Control General Department (DCGD).

The weekly statistics revealed the implementation of 1,927 security operations; during which 147 wanted individuals, eight individuals with criminal convictions, and 87 individuals without identification were apprehended.

In addition, 104 absconding cases were recorded, while two individuals with theft reports against them and 149 individuals with expired

residency permits were referred to the competent authorities.

Meanwhile, rescue officers dealt with nine fights, referred 36 wanted vehicles to the concerned authorities, and provided assistance to 674 individuals. The rescue patrols issued 3,026 citations for various traffic violations; including 33 violations related to the use of parking spaces designated for people with disabilities.

Woman granted divorce from promiscuous man

By Jaber Al-Hamoud

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, May 19: The Family Court granted a Kuwaiti woman a divorce from her husband due to the harm she suffered from him, along with custody of her children.

The wife discovered her husband's infidelity after noticing a change in his behavior. She found photographs and conversations on his phone that confirmed he was involved with other women.

She then filed a case in the Family Court, seeking a divorce due to harm, while retaining all her financial rights and custody of the children.

In his defense, the husband claimed he had other wives, but it was proven that he was only married to the woman in question.

The court ruled in favor of the wife, based on the arguments presented by her legal counsel Lawyer Mohammad Safar.

MUGHAL MAHAL APP OFFERS 20% OFF + 5% CASHBACK IN WALLET

SCAN THE QR TO DOWNLOAD THE APP

Download on the App Store | GET IT ON Google Play

1800 188 / 5501 1985

Municipality asks eight charities to shift office

By Inaas Awad

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, May 19: The Public Relations Department of the Kuwait Municipality announced that the supervisory team affiliated with the Engineering Audit and Follow-up Department in Jahra Governorate has completed its third field inspection campaign to ensure compliance with the removal of violations by charitable committee owners located in residential areas.

The department explained that the campaign has led to the issuance of four citations for violations and eight removal warnings. Also, charitable committee owners have cooperated in evacuating seven charitable committees in private residential areas.

Driving in a sandstorm?

KUWAIT CITY, May 19: The Ministry of Interior announced driving guidelines during dust storms; such as using warning lights only as a warning, monitoring weather updates and maintaining a safe distance, reports Al-Rai daily.

The ministry stated "if visibility decreases, slow down. Do not use your mobile phone, close the windows and use the air recirculation feature. If visibility decreases, try to move to a secondary road."

# 'New Kuwait': Young architects and engineers building country's future

KUWAIT CITY, May 19: Empowered by Limak, over 549 Kuwaiti youths have received specialized training, contributing to the Kuwait International Airport Terminal 2 project and gaining exposure to global landmarks like the world's longest suspension bridge and FC Barcelona's new Camp Nou stadium.

Kuwaiti youth are leading the way as the architects and engineers of 'New Kuwait' Vision 2035. They are building the country's future, bolstered by the support of Limak Insaat Kuwait S.P.C. and its efforts to champion initiatives that educate and empower the local workforce.

Established in October 2016 through the Kuwait Direct Investment Promotion Authority (KDIPA) Foreign Direct Investment Law, Limak Insaat Kuwait S.P.C. operates as an independent subsidiary of Limak Holding, implementing the company's business model in Kuwait. Notably, it was the first construction company to be locally established under this law, and among the first ten companies overall.

Limak is guided by the principles of its sustainability strategy, which rests on the pillars of inclusive development, social responsibility, and environmental stewardship. The company actively contributes to the communities in which it operates. Whether in Kuwait or abroad, Limak's overarching mission remains the same: to create long-term societal value through youth empowerment, education, and training.

Since beginning operations in Kuwait, Limak has delivered world-class construction and engineering services



Limak's young Kuwaiti engineer women with the officials.

while spearheading impactful initiatives in knowledge transfer, social responsibility, and environmental sustainability.

To date, more than 549 Kuwaiti youths have benefited from over 52,000 hours and 21 months of specialized

training provided by Limak. Additionally, the company has employed over 119 nationals in construction, engineering, and architecture roles on the Kuwait International Airport Terminal 2 project.

A key driver of this success is Limak's proactive approach to human capital development. In collaboration with esteemed local institutions, Limak ensures that Kuwaiti graduates and professionals gain access to unparalleled training and career opportunities. These training sessions have included visits to iconic international projects that are built by Limak, including the 1915 Çanakkale Bridge, which holds the distinction of being the world's longest suspension bridge, and FC Barcelona's new Camp Nou stadium.

Mohammad Al-Omar, Board Member and General Manager at Limak Insaat Kuwait S.P.C. said: "As a Kuwaiti, it is a great privilege to work with an internationally renowned company that is genuinely committed to the future of our people. Limak believes that real progress begins with opportunity; opportunities for our youth, women, and professionals to lead, innovate, and build."

Through educational initiatives like GEG, economic empowerment platforms such as KWEEP, and a range of hands-on roles and specialized training opportunities at T2, we are ensuring that Kuwaitis are not only entering the workforce but are equipped with the skills and experience needed to shape the country's future with confidence and capability."

Limak partners with the Ministry of Public Works and the Public Authority for Manpower to recruit Kuwaiti talent through job fairs and university career events. These platforms offer young nationals opportunities to join landmark projects and gain valuable early-career experience.

# MoIA has projects glut on anvil

212 tenders in '25-'26 procurement plan

By Mohammad Al-Enezi

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, May 19: The Ministry of Islamic Affairs has launched its procurement plan for the 2025/2026 fiscal year, which includes approximately 212 tenders and projects of all sectors of the ministry.

The tenders aim to implement a variety of projects aimed at developing and expanding the ministry's services in various religious, administrative, and technical fields.

The plan highlights the implementation of several major construction and service projects. Notable among them are the establishment of Quranic studies centers, residential facilities for imams and muezzeens, and Quran memorization centers in various areas of Kuwait.

The plan includes the creation of an integrated Islamic cultural center in Adan.

It also includes a project to operate the fiber optic network infrastructure between the ministry's locations, along with the supply and installation of integrated services for people with special needs at its headquarters.

Within the framework of awareness and media, the ministry will seek bids from companies to produce television spots aimed at enhancing the religious media system, reaching all age groups, and promoting Islamic values, ideals, and morals.

The ministry will also issue a tender to develop the electronic Hajj and Umrah portal. The portal will include comprehensive modules to serve pilgrims, Umrah performers, and campaigns, including units for electronic Hajj registration for pilgrims and campaigns, electronic Umrah registration for companies and

individuals, managing Hajj campaign licenses, and overseeing companies organizing Umrah caravans. There will also be modules to manage Hajj and Umrah operations, as well as campaign-related complaints and evaluations.

The plan also includes a tender for automating the Islamic Studies Sector, aimed at completing the analysis, development, and maintenance of a modern electronic educational system for the Quran and Islamic Studies Sector.

In addition, the ministry will issue a tender for the development, updating, and maintenance of its electronic portal to automate government services provided through its official website.

This initiative aims to deliver practical outcomes, enabling transactions to be completed in the shortest possible time, and enhancing the ministry's role in serving religious and administrative affairs in Kuwait.



Minister of Social Affairs Dr. Amthah Al-Huwailah (right) during the meeting. Photo by Rizk Taufiq

# Coordination, mutual support vital to achieve goals: minister

By Fares Ghaleb

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, May 19: Minister of Social Affairs Dr. Amthah Al-Huwailah confirmed that the ministry will present and explain its strategy within the framework of Kuwait Vision 2035.

Al-Huwailah said the ministry's strategies are derived from the general approach of State and are continuously evaluated to determine what has been achieved and address any shortcomings or delays in projects and the overall productivity of the ministry.

On the sidelines of the presentation of the achievements of the ministry at the Ministries Complex on Monday, Al-Huwailah clarified that the new structure of the ministry was designed "in a streamlined manner" without posing an obstacle to achieving its goals.

She disclosed that the redistribution of tasks and the merger of some departments will give the new structure additional strength through integration between vari-

ous departments. "Some departments had overlapping tasks and we will be clear on this point. Goals can be achieved through any sector as long as there is coordination and mutual support," she added.

She pointed out that "we are entering a new era, even at the level of the ministry's relations with governmental and private institutions. We are working hard to establish partnerships with all sectors, both governmental and private. We will not fear change, because we are confident in the capabilities of our experts in designing structures. This is a trend that encompasses all ministries, not just the Ministry of Social Affairs."

She stressed the need to revise the country's laws to align with the New Kuwait Vision and international laws and standards. She argued "the old legislation does not keep pace with the present. Kuwait has an international obligation that must be respected. We need a new legislative initiative that supports the national approach and frees institutional work from the old restrictions."

## Other Voices

# Is fall of the Jordanian Muslim Brotherhood just a beginning?

By Ahmad alsarraf

In 1945, Abdul Latif Qura founded the Muslim Brotherhood in the Emirate of Transjordan, which later became the Kingdom of Jordan. Around the same time, the late Abdul Aziz Al-Ali Al-Mutawa established the same group in Kuwait.

Initially, both organizations started as peaceful charitable groups, focused on promoting good morals and avoiding political involvement. I don't know anyone from my generation, or older, who was not once a member of this organization.

However, as the group became increasingly embroiled in political quagmires, some of its early founders, including Abdul Aziz Al-Mutawa, distanced themselves from it, leaving it in the hands of those more aligned with Al-Banna's radical ideology. Over time, the organization collapsed.

In the early 1960s, the Muslim Brotherhood was revived, taking on a more hard line stance and increasingly infiltrating political life, with the backing of influential government agencies.

After the defeat in June 1967, the group's influence grew, along with the other branches of the Muslim Brotherhood.

In this context, scholar Mohamed Metwally Al-Shaarawy famously remarked that he thanked God for the defeat of the "atheist" Soviet weapons used by his country's army, which were countered by the "faithful" American weapons used by Israel in that war.

The Muslim Brotherhood, outside of Egypt, has always been a peculiar offshoot of the original organization. Evidence of this lies in the fact that, for 70 years, the Supreme Guidance Council of the Muslim Brotherhood, which has led the international organization, has never included any members from outside Egypt, except as symbolic figures, primarily to enhance financial gain.

The Muslim Brotherhood is notorious for its volatility and pragmatism. It can be seen supporting state authority

one day, opposing it the next, and then aligning with the government again for years, depending on the laws that serve its interests and the ministries it controls.

One of the biggest dangers has been the Muslim Brotherhood's control over education curricula for more than half a century.

It is ironic that the Muslim Brotherhood parties in Egypt and Jordan have long relied on funding from the Gulf, particularly Kuwait, and yet, they were the first to betray Kuwait when Saddam Hussein invaded the country.

The Muslim Brotherhood's acceptance of billions in foreign funding stands as one of the most telling contradictions to their claims of independence. The dramatic 180-degree shift in their stance after Kuwait's liberation serves as clear evidence of their true nature.

The ultimate goal of the Muslim Brotherhood is to seize power and establish a caliphate, with the caliph inevitably being the same as their Supreme Guide once they gain control in any country.

The Muslim Brotherhood has no homeland; they believe in a universal regime. Given this, how can any government genuinely accept or compromise with them, even reluctantly?

Jordan, Egypt, the United Arab Emirates, and Saudi Arabia made no mistake in taking action against the Muslim Brotherhood in their societies.

Testimonies from senior officials in these countries reveal the group's treachery, malicious intent, and the urgent need to prevent their activities.

Many intelligence reports have shown that the Muslim Brotherhood uses charitable organizations and associations as fronts to fund its operations and spread its ideology worldwide, extending beyond Arab and Islamic nations.

In response, the governments took decisive action by shutting down all fundraising websites that specialized in collecting donations for many, often fraudulent projects. The funds raised were frequently funneled to organizations or parties linked to the Muslim Brotherhood, and eventually ended up in their secret bank accounts.

It can be seen supporting state authority

| Weekdays (Saturday - Wednesday)                            |  |
|--|--|
| Queen Cabana (2 persons inclusive of breakfast) per night. | 2 Bedroom Chalet (4 persons inclusive of breakfast) per night. |
| NOW  | NOW  |
| BHD 57.173   | BHD 128.000/-net   |
| Weekends (Thursday & Friday)                               |  |
| Queen Cabana (2 persons inclusive of breakfast) per night. | 2 Bedroom Chalet (4 persons inclusive of breakfast) per night. |
| NOW  | NOW  |
| BHD 65.000/-net  | BHD 145.000/-net   |

Promo period from 1st May to 31st May 2025

Terms & conditions apply\*

Tel: +973 17701201 - Ext. 351 | Email: reservation@albander.com | www.albander.com | @albanderhotelandresort

email: a.alsarraf@alqabas.com.kw



Left: Secretary General of the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters (NCCAL) Mohammad Al-Jassar delivers a speech. Center: EU-Kuwait Culture Forum in progress. Right: Anne Koistinen, EU Ambassador to the State of Kuwait, addresses the attendees. Photos by Rezk Tawfiq

Cooperation anchors 40 years of relations

# Kuwait-EU forge deeper cultural ties at landmark forum

KUWAIT CITY, May 19, (KUNA): Secretary General of the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters (NCCAL) Mohammad Al-Jassar on Monday stressed the significance of Kuwait-EU cultural cooperation.

Al-Jassar made the statement to KUNA on the sidelines of the EU-Kuwait Culture Forum, organized by the EU Delegation to Kuwait to celebrate the State of Kuwait becoming the Arab Capital of Culture and Media for 2025.

The first-ever event was held under the patronage of Minister of

Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Abdulrahman Al-Mutairi.

Al-Jassar said that Kuwait-EU cooperation plays a significant role in the promotion of bilateral relations in various domains, hailing their bilateral cultural relations as "fruitful and excellent".

He cited the continued visits of EU archaeological excavation teams to Kuwait as a resonant paradigm of fruitful cooperation between both sides.

He added that Kuwait always

sends many students to EU countries to acquire knowledge and expertise in different fields so that they could contribute to developing their homeland and society.

He also cited existing architectural cooperation between Kuwait and the EU, particularly regarding the EU designing of special buildings and landmarks in Kuwait as another unequivocal proof of their significant cultural cooperation.

Al-Jassar considered that today's event reflects the fact that the State of Kuwait attaches much attention

to bolstering and cementing cultural relations with world countries, especially the EU.

For her part, Anne Koistinen, EU Ambassador to the State of Kuwait, told KUNA that Kuwait's cultural and civilizational heritage is a valuable traditional treasure, pointing to EU archaeological missions in Kuwait.

She added that Kuwait-EU cooperation covers architecture, arts and human science, along with the sharing of movable museums.

Koistinen spoke highly of the

first-ever EU-Kuwaiti cultural forum as clear-cut proof of deep cultural cooperation between the EU and the State of Kuwait, which are expected to mark 40 years since they forged their diplomatic relations early next year.

Prominent speakers from the EU and Kuwait participated in the forum to discuss the long-standing collaboration between European Union Member States and Kuwait to preserve and promote cultural heritage.

During the event, participants also exchanged ways to promote and in-

crease EU-Kuwait cultural connections, as both sides strive to enhance their excellent relations and elevate them to a strategic level.

The discussions at the forum touched upon a wide range of topics, including initiatives such as the European Capitals of Culture, best European and Kuwaiti practices in preserving cultural heritage and building partnerships, as well as innovation and audiovisual practices or the role of museums in raising awareness and engaging the local communities in cultural heritage practices.

## IICO constructs 175 houses for Rohingya refugees

KUWAIT CITY, May 19, (KUNA): Kuwait's International Islamic Charity Organization (IICO) constructed 175 houses with solar-powered utilities for 1,050 Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh, said a statement by the charity on Monday.

The IICO revealed in a statement that this charitable effort cost around USD

104,000, indicating that the aim was to protect Rohingya families and provide them with safe and environmental-friendly dwellings.

The design of the houses, made of bamboo, plastic, and cement, was meant to protect refugees from the elements, said the IICO, adding that each housing unit was built on an area of 16 square

meters.

The Kuwaiti charity affirmed that it would expand humanitarian partnerships with international organizations, saying that it signed with United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in 2000 a MoU to help the Rohingyas and others across the globe.

# UK Embassy debuts quarterly 'Women's Diwaniya' in Kuwait

Platform empowers future female leaders

**KUWAIT CITY, May 19: On Sunday, May 19, the British Embassy in Kuwait held its first-ever 'Women's Diwaniya' in the presence of influential women leaders from various sectors to commemorate last Friday's Kuwaiti Women's Day.**

According to a press release, the new initiative, which will be held on a quarterly basis, affirms the Embassy's keenness to strengthen ties with women leaders and create spaces for them to network, share ideas, and address important issues.

The launch of the Women's Diwaniya comes on the heels of the Embassy's successful "Women in Business" Ghabga event during Ramadan and complements other ongoing initiatives to empower women and girls. Among these initiatives is the "Future Female Leaders in Sport" programme, a collaboration with the UK's Safeguarding Alliance and Kuwait's Public Authority for Sport.

Speaking at the event, the British Ambassador to Kuwait, Her Excellency Belinda Lewis, said, "Kuwaiti Women's Day is a time to honor the remarkable accomplishments of women in Kuwait, both past and present, and to inspire the next generation of women leaders.

It is also an opportunity to reflect on the challenges women face globally, the progress we have made, and the barriers still to overcome. I am proud that tonight's Women's Diwaniya allows women leaders from various fields to connect, collaborate, and support one another."



Some photos during first-ever 'Women's Diwaniya' in the presence of influential women leaders from various sectors.

## Continued from Page 1

**Indeed, for**

involvement in the use of defective weapons during the 1948 Arab-Israeli war. He was also accused of being reactionary and of collaborating with the West and the Zionist movement. These accusations were used to justify Major Jamal Abdel Nasser's coup against the king in 1952 and the secession of Sudan from Egypt. Such claims were also exploited by power-seekers in different Arab countries.

This period marked the beginning of a wave of revolutions (coups) that swept through the Arab world, starting with Iraq and Syria, followed by a failed coup attempt in Lebanon, Yemen, and Libya. In 1969, Colonel Muammar Gaddafi led a coup that ousted King Idris Al-Senussi in Libya.

I still remember the chants of the demonstrators in Tripoli that day, shouting, "The Devil is better than Idris." It is said that when King Idris Al-Senussi heard those chants, he prayed to God that Libya be ruled by the Devil.

We all know the history of Gaddafi after the success of his coup and how he adopted the liberation of Palestine as his slogan. However, Gaddafi went too far in threatening Arab rulers, intervening in the Lebanese civil war, and attempting to invade Chad, instead of directing his army to liberate Palestine.

In 2011, Muammar Gaddafi's regime collapsed, and he was killed in one of the most brutal ways. Following his death, militia leaders took control of various regions in Libya. Despite being a country rich in natural resources, with beautiful coastlines and fertile land, Libya has been reduced to ruins since 1969.

This is similar to what the Ba'ath Party regime did in Iraq, under Saddam Hussein, who also raised the slogan of liberating Palestine. Saddam even went so far as to declare the formation of the "Jerusalem Army." However, instead of marching into Palestine, he invaded Kuwait.

What has recently transpired in Libya, with Abdul Ghani al-Kickli, also known as "Ghaniwa al-Kickli," attempting to seize control of the country's resources and loot the central bank, mirrors what gangs in Somalia and Iraq have done.

It has become evident that the slogan of liberating Palestine is often nothing more than a justification or pretext for theft and the illegal assumption of power. Even Palestinian factions, who are supposed to be the most dedicated to their cause, are not exempt from this behavior.

This is why the proverb "It is all soap to the Arabs," which has been a hallmark of Arab culture since the year 800, when Ibn Khaldun referenced it in his book "Ibn Khaldun and the Arabs," seems especially relevant today.

What is happening in the Middle East is the result of a long history of division and discord, often at the expense of peoples and nations. In the end, as the saying goes, for Arabs, it is all "soap".

## Kuwait unveils

an ambitious strategic vision, which responds to the priorities of sustainable development and the aspirations of our Gulf societies," he added.

He stated that "the meeting is being held amidst rapid global changes that require us to strengthen Gulf coordination and intensify efforts to formulate strategic visions for the educational future of our children, especially in light of the successive developments in the field of artificial intelligence and digital transformation. We have to expand educational paths and develop flexible educational models aimed at empowering students with the tools to innovate and adapt to the latest developments."

He asserted "we believe in the importance of developing the educational system to keep pace with 21st century standards, strengthening the common Gulf identity, and providing flexible and inspiring educational environments that develop students' creative thinking and innovation skills. We also confirm our strategic partnership with international institutions, and our commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals and the Joint Gulf Vision for Education 2030, which contribute to building a competitive and effective educational system at the regional and international levels."

On the other hand, Jassim Al-Budaiwi, GCC Secretary General, emphasized in a statement on the sidelines of the meeting the importance of the ministerial meetings held at the level of the ministers of Education, Higher Education and Scientific Research as they are related to the future of GCC countries.

Al-Budaiwi stated that items in the agendas of both meetings are extremely important, considering their direct impact on joint Gulf action regarding public and higher education.

He added one of the important recommendations approved in the meeting is the unified Gulf strategy to combat drugs -- the great scourge that is devastating people. "It was agreed that the curricula in the GCC countries should include some elements of this strategy to educate our students about the dangers of drugs. The State of Kuwait presented three initiatives on youth sports and unifying the educational ladder; and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia put forward an important initiative related to the participation of the GCC countries in its approved strategy for education and how countries can develop their educational systems," he elaborated.

He went on to affirm that the agenda of the meeting of the Ministers of Higher Education and Scientific Research included many topics; as the GCC countries give importance to scientific research and GCC leaders always recommend this issue.

He pointed out that the GCC Charter consists of articles on the need to support scientific research, strengthen cooperation in this field, integration of young men and women in Gulf universities, admission process, and encouraging them to study in other Gulf countries.

He also expressed his pride in the achievements of the GCC countries in the fields of public and higher education. He added "the GCC countries' indicators are a testament to the strength of these countries. Our academic institutions have become prestigious, keeping pace with the times and providing outstanding academic outputs."

## Syrian President

week with several ministers and heads of the concerned institutions to review the draft investment law and the proposed amendments.

Sources stated that the goal is to improve the business climate and align with Syria's new phase of economic openness and recovery.

On the political front, the President recently issued a decision to establish the National Commission for Transitional Justice, in accordance with the country's Constitutional Declaration.

This move reflects the commitment of the President to justice and reconciliation as foundations for a lawful and inclusive State. The mandate of the commission includes investigating human rights violations committed by the former regime, holding perpetrators accountable, compensating victims, and addressing the damage caused.

Sources also indicated that the commission will pursue legal accountability for former regime-linked businessmen who were involved in fraudulent activities, particularly those impacting Gulf countries. They affirmed that all proceedings will follow proper legal channels.

Describing Syria as a "land of justice and fertile ground for investment," the sources highlighted the country's pressing need for reconstruction. They pointed out that this process gained significant momentum after US President Donald Trump lifted sanctions on Syria at the request of Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia Mohammed bin Salman. "This development paves the way for renewed Gulf investment, especially from Kuwait, to take a leading role in rebuilding efforts and capitalizing on the range of opportunities in different sectors," source elaborated.

Sources stressed that "the new Syria is determined to reengage with its Arab neighbors. The visit of Al-Sharaa to Kuwait is also a gesture of appreciation for the Kuwaiti people's steadfast support throughout the Syrian crisis. This marks a turning point in the foreign policy of Syria, signaling a return to its Arab identity."

On the security front, sources confirmed that the Syrian leadership is focusing on maintaining stability. They revealed that Defense Minister Murhaf Abu Qasr recently called on small armed groups not yet integrated into the national security forces to do so within 10 days.

## Kuwait, Microsoft

For his part, Althoff presented the agreement's key points and prospects for cooperation in a number of key areas, including accelerating investment in artificial intelligence technologies, developing data centers, and adopting Microsoft Copilot solutions.

This meeting is part of a series of coordination steps to implement data center projects, centers of excellence and innovation, and integrate Microsoft Copilot solutions into government operations, enhancing performance efficiency and raising the level of services provided to citizens and residents.

## Al-Najlat inaugurates new homes in Yemen

ADEN, May 19, (KUNA): Kuwait's Al-Najlat Charity inaugurated on Sunday a 30-residence hamlet (Alkhaiyereen-10) in Tor Albaha region in Lahj as part of the Kuwaiti ten-year relief campaign, "Kuwait on your side."

Omar Al-Samati, advisor to Lahj Governor, said in a press statement that construction of the small village was part of the efforts by the State of Kuwait and the association to support sustainable humanitarian projects in Yemen.

Such ventures largely help in improving Yemenis' living conditions and alleviate their hardships, particularly in rural regions where basic services are scarce, Al-Samati said.



KUNA photo Photo during the inauguration.

**Required for 2025-2026 Academic Year at Private American School**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>Kindergarten</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Female Physical Education Teacher/Lifeguard</li> <li>• English Teacher (Native English speakers only)</li> </ul>  | <p><b>Elementary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• English Teacher (Native English speakers only)</li> <li>• Science Teacher</li> <li>• Math Teacher</li> </ul>                                     |
| <p><b>Middle and High School</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AP English Teacher (Native English speakers only)</li> <li>• English Teacher (Native English speakers only)</li> <li>• Science Teacher</li> <li>• Culinary Arts Teacher</li> <li>• Social Studies/Humanities Teacher</li> <li>• Physical Education Teacher</li> <li>• Counselor (Social-Emotional and Academic Focus)</li> <li>• College Counselor</li> </ul> | <p><b>Leadership Positions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High School Principal</li> <li>• Middle School Vice Principal</li> <li>• Curriculum Coordinator</li> <li>• Dean of Students</li> </ul> |

Interested applicants may apply through our website at the following link: <https://www.abs.edu.kw/careers/abs>





## CBK Bonds and related Tawarruq

KUWAIT CITY, May 19: The Central Bank of Kuwait (CBK) announced the most recent issues of CBK Bonds and related Tawarruq at a total value of KWD (200) million for (3) months with Rate of Return (4.125%).

# Business

With the participation of 25 exceptional female trainees from different professional backgrounds

## NBK wraps up the closing activities of 2nd 'NBK RISE' cohort

KUWAIT CITY, May 19: In a special visit to its final training session at the IE Business School in Spain, National Bank of Kuwait successfully wrapped up the closing activities of the nine-month-long Global Women Leadership Initiative "NBK RISE" in its second cohort.

"NBK RISE" is a first-of-its-kind initiative specifically designed to empower women and increase their representation in higher leadership roles, which reflects the bank's commitment to achieving diversity, equity, and inclusion as per the highest international standards, and ultimately elevate women leadership institutionally, locally, regionally and globally.

The second cohort is comprised of 25 female participants from diverse professional backgrounds, including local and international NBK employees, as well as representatives from NBK Wealth and representatives from prestigious regional companies such as Kuwait Petroleum Company, Ooredoo, Kuwait Banking Association, Abyat, Gulf Bank, Kuwait Financial Centre-Markaz, J's Bakery, and Invest Capital Partner-New York.

The program is divided into several training modules that aim to develop leadership and strategic skills, communication, and interaction, in addition to a focus on preparing participants to obtain exceptional leading roles in the future.

The fourth and final module, focused on behavioral and impact skills, was held in collaboration with IE Business School in Madrid. Various essential topics were explored, such as Leading Conflict, Conflict Resolution, Leading Strategically, Megatrends and Future of Work, Effective Decision Making, Delegation & Empowerment, and overall Wellbeing.

Moreover, the participants had the ability to work with their executive coach from IE Business School, Madrid, to further develop their Capstone Projects in preparation for the presentations to Executive Management, reflecting the skills and knowledge gained throughout the program. In this cohort, not only did participants receive training for leadership skills, but they were also exposed to first-hand communication with global and diverse experiences, which contributed to enhancing overseas strategic collabora-



Ambassador of Kuwait to Spain Ziyad Al-Anbai and Emad Al-Ablani in a group photo with NBK RISE program trainees.

tion and ultimately establishing a big network of women leaders across different sectors and locations.

Joined by Mr. Emad Al-Ablani, Group Chief Human Resources Officer, the visit included a dinner banquet to honor His Excellency Mr. Ziyad Al-Anbai, the Ambassador of Kuwait to Spain along with several distinguished women leaders, with the attendance of Constantino De Zabala, the Director of Operations at IE Business School for the Middle East as well as the university leaders and Kuwaiti students.

On the sidelines of the program's closing activities, exclusive discussions were conducted covering Human Resources topics, by Mr. Emad Al-Ablani and moderated by Professor Kriti Jain from IE, where they explored visions and global insights on the latest leadership and human resources strategies. These activities posed a remarkable opportunity for the participants to be directly in touch with distinct diplomatic and academic figures, further widening their overseas professional network.

It should be noted that NBK is always keen on providing equal opportunities and promoting diversity and inclusion in the workplace through various strategic initiatives and specialized programs that aim to develop women leadership, further contributing to increasing the representation of women in leadership roles.

In fact, increasing women's participa-

- "NBK RISE" is designed to empower women and increase their representation in higher leadership roles.
- This initiative goes hand in hand with NBK's strategy towards enhancing women leadership across all levels.
- The bank provides specialized programs tailored to support, develop, and enable women in leadership.
- "NBK RISE" aims to make a sustainable impact in all sectors by establishing a diverse community of women leaders.
- NBK's is committed to providing equal opportunities as well as promoting diversity and inclusion in the workplace.
- "NBK RISE" has earned prestigious recognition and received several awards.
- NBK is proud to be a pioneer in implementing equality in the workplace across its global locations.

tion and providing them with decision-making opportunities are integral parts of international institutional strategies, especially as women are more involved in social contexts, which contributes to establishing an environment that promotes sustainable development and a positive social impact in the long run.

Therefore, the "NBK RISE" program aims to make a sustainable impact across different sectors where alumniguide ambitious future candidates, creating a sustainable cycle that enables the program to carry on and continue to make a positive impact. Moreover, it reflects NBK's commitment to enhancing gender diversity and

women empowerment.

It is also noteworthy that the program, which aims to enhance gender diversity and women empowerment, has earned prestigious recognition and received several awards, including MERIT's Special Recognition for "Developing Women Leaders" and the Bronze Award for Excellence in Diversity and Inclusion from the Society for Human Resources Management (SHRM) as part of the 2023 MENA Awards.

NBK prides itself in following equality principles throughout its international locations, where women



Al-Ablani during a discussion session at IE University.



From left: Emad Al-Ablani, Lee Newman, Dean of IE University Madrid, and Anmar Aldarmi.

already occupy 43.2% of its workforce and females occupy 29.7% of national higher management roles and above. Moreover, NBK is proud that it does not implement a gender wage gap. NBK RISE is a testament to NBK Group's continuous efforts to be a global leader in corporate community advancement.

In collaboration with the most prominent universities and training providers around the world, NBK is keen on providing specialized programs and workshops that aim to develop women leadership, raise awareness about gender inequality, and utilize them

to increase productivity and innovation. Moreover, NBK is committed to expanding the range of diversity and inclusion to include customers, as it launched several services and products especially for female customers and entrepreneurs.

NBK is committed to in stilling the principle of women empowerment in the Group's professional culture by providing mentorship, continuous career development opportunities, and adopting innovative strategic insights in the field of human resources, in line with the bank's future aspirations and goals.

### Discounts, rewards, and travel ease

## Weyay Bank & Emirates partner to empower student customers

KUWAIT CITY, May 19: In alignment with its vision to empower student customer base and keep pace with their lifestyle, Weyay Bank, the first digital Bank in Kuwait, offers discounts of up to 10% on economy and premium economy class tickets, and 5% on business class when booking flights on Emirates. This collaboration with Emirates Airline aligns with the Bank's belief in the importance of supporting and empowering youth.

Students will also benefit from an enhanced baggage allowance of an extra 10 kilograms or one additional piece of luggage (whichever is applicable), along with 2000 Skywards Miles upon enrolling in Emirates' loyalty program.

This partnership reflects Weyay Bank's dedication to understanding its customers' needs and providing them with convenience and value, particularly in travel, through collaboration

with a globally respected partner like Emirates.

This initiative for student travelers complements Weyay Bank's digital prepaid Multicurrency Card, available to all Weyay customers across different segments. This card is the ideal travel companion, enabling customers to pay in 15 different currencies worldwide without any hidden fees. This feature saves students the hassle of traditional currency exchange and the volatility of exchange rates, granting them the ability to manage their expenses easily and transparently while abroad.

Weyay Bank is Kuwait's first digital bank, providing innovative banking solutions designed to keep up with the digital age we live in. Weyay offers a wide range of digital services and benefits via its easy-to-use app, focusing on speed, flexibility, and security.



Weyay Bank x Emirates

## Kamco Investment Fund triumphs 2025 LSEG Lipper Fund Awards in 6 categories

For the third consecutive year

KUWAIT CITY, May 19: Kamco Invest, a regional non-banking financial powerhouse with one of the largest AUMs in the region, announced that the Kamco Investment Fund won the 2025 LSEG (London Stock Exchange Group) Lipper Fund Awards in 6 categories in recognition of the fund's exceptional performance and risk-adjusted returns. Lipper's quantitative and proprietary methodology in awarding funds is a truly independent and uncompromised assessment of each fund's performance.

The MENA market awards recognize funds with outstanding performance based on Lipper's rigorous assessment process. Kamco Investment Fund was named the MENA Markets and MENA Markets Domestic LSEG Lipper Fund Awards Kuwait 2025 Winner, "Best Equity Fund Over 3 Years", "Best Equity Fund Over 5 Years", and "Best Equity Fund Over 10 Years".

The fund outperformed its respective benchmark during the mentioned periods with Kamco Investment Fund achieving 6.8% over 3-years (Benchmark -1.2%), 94.8% over 5-years (Benchmark 83.6%), and 138.5% over 10-years (benchmark 97.7%) as of 30 April 2025.

Commenting on the awards, Salah Al Wuhaib, Senior Executive Director of Equity and Fixed Income at Kamco Invest, said, "We are proud to once again be acknowledged for the periodic performance of our Kamco Investment Fund, one of Kamco Invest's flagship funds in Kuwait, at the LSEG Lipper Fund Awards. This recognition reflects the strength of the investment philosophy and active fund management approach that we implement when managing our funds. We will continue to uphold our dis-



Salah Al Wuhaib



Mahmoud Tifouni

ciplined investment strategy to deliver sustainable long-term value for our clients."

Mahmoud Tifouni, Director - Equity and Fixed Income, said, "This recognition by the LSEG Lipper Fund Awards highlights the fund's performance over the short-, medium-, and long-term periods. Our investment framework has proven resilient through favorable market cycles and periods of uncertainty. The Kamco Investment Fund, along with our other Kuwaiti funds, continue to deliver strong performances, ranking amongst the top performing conventional and Islamic funds in Kuwait."

Otto Christian Kober, Head of Lipper Research, LSEG Data & Analytics, said, "The 2025 LSEG Lipper Fund Awards are recognizing perhaps the most dramatic three-year period that the markets have seen in decades. Fund managers being recognized have steered their investors through a pandemic, a mild recession, rising geopolitical risks, skyrocketing inflation and dramatic central bank intervention."

He added, "Whether you've been investing for just the past 15 years and have seen only the easy money environment following the Financial Crisis - or you've been an investor for 50 years and feel as if you've seen it all, there is no way to have foreseen the range of fundamen-

tal and non-financial factors that impacted the markets these past few years."

Kober concluded, "We applaud the 2025 LSEG Lipper Fund Award winners such as Kamco Invest for delivering outperformance and the accompanying comfort of consistency to investors' portfolios through a cross-current of global market disruptions."

Al Wuhaib concluded by congratulating the Asset Management Team for their effort and diligent investment approach which have resulted in Kamco Invest's Kuwait Equity Funds being ranked amongst the top performing funds in 2024 and the first quarter of 2025.

It is worth mentioning that LSEG is one of the world's leading providers of financial markets infrastructure and delivers financial data, analytics, news, and index products to more than 40,000 customers in over 170 countries. They help organizations fund innovation, manage risk, and create jobs by partnering with customers at every point in the trade lifecycle: from informing their pre-trade decisions and executing trades to raising capital, clearing and optimization. Backed by more than three centuries of experience, innovative technologies, and a team of 25,000 people in over 60 countries, they are driving financial stability, empowering economies and enabling sustainable growth.

### In line with its commitment to Diraya campaign

## Kuwait Finance House warns against unverified online links

KUWAIT CITY, May 19: Kuwait Finance House (KFH) advises customers to stay cautious about a new phishing scam targeting their bank accounts and stealing their funds. KFH warning is part of its continuous support for Diraya campaign, which aims to promote banking awareness, in collaboration with the Central Bank of Kuwait (CBK) and the Kuwait Banking Association (KBA).

In its press release, KFH stated that the new form of online scam involves sending a message with a suspicious link

tricking victims to click the link to visit a particular website or participate in a survey. Once they click the link, their devices will be hacked, enabling the hacker to access and exploit their personal data for harmful purposes.

KFH urged customers to stay vigilant and refrain from disclosing their personal information to requests received through e-mails, text messages, or phone calls, as they are attempts to obtain customers' banking information to steal their funds or data.

KFH advised customers to be careful when receiving links as these links could lead to theft of sensitive banking information. The bank also recommended that customers protect their bank accounts by avoiding the storage of confidential information, such as card numbers or passwords, on their mobile phones. Additionally, customers were urged not to share their OTP with anyone and to log out of the bank's application or website promptly after finishing a transaction.



KFH & Diraya logo.







'Nouvelle Vague,' a beautiful reimagination of Godard's era

## Linklater's ode to French New Wave enchants Cannes

CANNES, France, May 19, (AP) — When Richard Linklater first started thinking about making a film about the French New Wave, he figured he'd show it all everywhere except one place.

"I thought: They'll hate that an American director did this," Linklater said Sunday. "We'll show this film all over the world, but never in France."

But Linklater nevertheless unveiled "Nouvelle Vague" on Saturday at the Cannes Film Festival, bringing film about the making of Jean-Luc Godard's "Breathless" to the very heart of the French film industry. It was, Linklater granted, an audacious thing to do.

And "Nouvelle Vague" went down as one of the biggest successes of the festival. At a Cannes that's been largely characterized by darker, more portentous dramas, "Nouvelle Vague" was cheered as an enchanting ode to moviemaking.

"Nouvelle Vague" is an uncanny kind of recreation. In black-and-white and in the style of the French New Wave, it chronicles the making of one of the most celebrated French films of all time. With sunglasses that never come off his face, Guillaume Marbeck plays 29-year-old Godard as he's making his first feature, trying to launch himself as a film director and upend filmmaking convention.

Linklater's movie, which is for sale at Cannes and competing for the Palme d'Or, is in French. It not only goes day-by-day through the making of "Breathless," it endeavors to capture the entire movement of one of the most fabled eras of moviemaking. Truffaut, Varda, Chabrol, Melville, Rohmer, Rossellini and Rivette are just some of the famous filmmakers who drift in and out of the movie.

Linklater told reporters Sunday that he wanted audiences to feel "like they were hanging out with Nouvelle Vague in 1959."

"It was an old idea of some colleagues of mine," said Linklater. "Thirteen years ago we started talking about it. We're just cinephiles Austin,



Aubry Dullin, (from left), director Richard Linklater, Zoey Deutch and Guillaume Marbeck pose for photographers at the photo call for the film 'Nouvelle Vague' at the 78th international film festival, Cannes, southern France, Sunday, May 18. (AP)

Texas, who love this era and it's meant so much to me in my filmmaking. It represented freedom and the notion of the personal film. I've made a lot of films and I've always felt if you do it long enough, maybe you should make one film about making films."

The stars of "Breathless" - Jean-Paul Belmondo and Jean Seberg - are played by Aubry Dullin and Zoey Deutch, respectively, in "Nouvelle Vague." With precision, Linklater captures them making some of the most famous shots from "Breathless" with a visual style and camera movements typical of that time.

"We couldn't work quite as fast. We had sound and things," said Linklater, chuckling. (Godard dubbed sound after shooting.)

"It was a crazy idea and I haven't really ever seen a film exactly like this. I said: We're making a film from 1959 but it's not a Godard film," said Linklater. "You can't imitate Godard. You fail. But we could imitate the style of the time."

In "Nouvelle Vague," Godard is surrounded by doubts - Seberg is notably unsure of the project - but he stubbornly sticks to his instance on spontaneity. There's no real script, some shooting days just last a few hours and lines are improvised on the spot. In one fittingly moment where Godard tells his actors just to quote Humphry Bogart movie lines, he explains: "Not plagiarism. Homage."

Linklater's own homage in "Nouvelle Vague" brought him back to his early days as a filmmaker. His first films - "Slacker," "Dazed and Confused," "Before Sunrise" - have much of the independent spirit of the New Wave, he said.

"Making this film all these later, I felt like I erased my own history," said Linklater. "I was going back to being in my late 20s making my first film. I told a friend last night: I felt like was 28 years old making this film."

### Cannes

Actress shines in postpartum role

## Jennifer Lawrence sparks Oscar buzz in Cannes for 'Die, My Love'

CANNES, France, May 19, (AP) — Last year, the Cannes Film Festival produced three best actress nominees at the Oscars. This year's edition may have just supplied another.

In Lynne Ramsay's "Die, My Love," Jennifer Lawrence and Robert Pattinson play a married couple with a newborn who move into an old country house. In Ramsay's messy and moving marital psychodrama, Lawrence plays an increasingly unhinged young mother named Grace whose postpartum depression reaches darkly hallucinatory extremes.

For Lawrence, the 34-year-old mother of two, making "Die, My Love" was an intensely personal experience.

"It was really hard to separate what I would do as opposed to what (Grace) would do," Lawrence told reporters Sunday. "I had just had my firstborn, and there's not really anything like postpartum. It's extremely isolating. She doesn't have a community. She doesn't have her people. But the truth is, extreme anxiety and extreme depression is isolating, no matter where you are. You feel like an alien."

### Competition

"Die, My Love," which is in competition for the Palme d'Or at Cannes, was one of the most anticipated premieres of the festival. That was owed partly to the widely respect for Ramsey, the Scottish director of "Ratcatcher" (1999), "Moulin Rouge" (2002) and "You Were Never Really Here" (2017). Lawrence sought her out for the film.

"I've wanted to work with Lynne Ramsay since I saw 'Ratcatcher' and I was like, 'There's no way,'" said Lawrence. "But we took a chance, and we sent it to her. And I really, I cannot believe that I'm here with you."

In Ramsay's "Die, My Love," adapted from Ariana Harwicz's 2017 novel, is disorienting experience, pulsating with animalistic urges and manic spurts of violence. As a portrait of a marriage in trouble, it makes "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" look tame.

"Die, My Love" was quickly snapped up by Mubi on Sunday. In easily the biggest sale of the festival, the indie distributor plunked down \$24 million for distribution rights to the film in the U.S. and multiple other territories.

Lawrence's performance, in par-



Jennifer Lawrence, (left), and producer Justine Ciarrocchi pose for photographers at the photo call for the film 'Die, My Love' at the 78th international film festival, Cannes, southern France, Sunday, May 18. (AP)

ticular, drew the kind of raves in Cannes that tend to lead to Oscar consideration. Lawrence has been

nominated four times by the Academy Awards, winning once for 2013's "Silver Linings Playbook."

Since then, much has changed for Lawrence, including becoming a mother. On Saturday, Lawrence said parenthood has been such an enriching experience for her that, she joked, "I highly recommend having kids if you want to be an actor."

"Having children changes everything. It changes your whole life. It's brutal and incredible," Lawrence said. "I didn't know that I could feel so much."

"My job has a lot to do with emotion, and they've opened up the world to me," she added. "It's almost like feeling like a blister or something. So sensitive. So they've changed my life, obviously, for the best, and they've changed me creatively."

Pattinson, who recently had his first child with Suki Waterhouse, chimed in that he found having a baby "gives you the biggest trove of energy and inspiration."

Lawrence mockingly pounced on

him: "You get energy?!"

Pattinson let out a sigh. "This question is impossible for a guy to answer correctly," he said, to laughter.

Meanwhile, stars in glamorous gowns often peacock on the Cannes Film Festival red carpet, but one attendee Saturday night literally came as a bird.

Ahead of the premiere of Lynne Ramsay's "Die, My Love," with Robert Pattinson and Jennifer Lawrence, a man came fully dressed as a bird, complete with a beak and feathers.

The costume had a purpose. It was a tie-in with the documentary "I Love Peru," which is playing in the Cannes Classics section. The costume was specifically a condor, which in Peru has been seen as a creature connecting heaven and earth.

The Cannes Film Festival recently banned nudity and "excessively voluminous" gowns. But it has no policy against condors.



NBC 'Today' show anchor Deborah Norville visited with host David Letterman on 'Late Night with David Letterman,' Sept 5, 1990, in New York. (AP)

### 'Explore new horizons'

## Norville wraps up 30-yr stint at 'Inside Edition'

NEW YORK, May 19, (AP) — For a television news industry in a constant state of motion, Deborah Norville has been a model of stability. She began hosting the syndicated newsmagazine "Inside Edition" in 1995 and has remained there ever since.

Now that 30-year run is coming to a close. Norville, 66, signs off on May 20. She's planning to celebrate with a long vacation through Europe with her husband, and try something new when she gets back. She will host "The Perfect Line," a trivia show that begins airing this fall. No successor has been named at "Inside Edition."

"I'm very excited about the game show," she said. "It's fun, and who doesn't want to give away somebody else's money to people who are happy to take it?"

Three decades ago, Norville left CBS News for a genre largely dismissed as tabloid television. She's proud of telling stories that add value to the audience's lives: A company that makes a device to aid choking victims says it has traced a thousand uses to people who say they learned about it through an "Inside Edition" story.

During COVID, the show began broadcasting from her kitchen almost immediately and never stopped, as she built a makeshift studio in her New York-area home.

"We were a familiar presence during a time when everything else was topsy-turvy," she said, "and I think the bond with our audience was made even stronger then."

As she prepares to adjust to a life no longer governed by news cycles, Norville paused to reflect on her time with The Associated Press.

**Associated Press:** You made the decision a while ago to leave "Inside Edition." Now that it's happening, how does it feel?

**Norville:** It really hit me today. It's the same day my daughter and husband came over (to the studio) for an in-person interview for a piece they're doing - a farewell Deb thing. My daughter was on "Inside Edition" the day she was born. Nine hours after I gave birth, the crew was in my hospital room taping "Inside Edition" because they couldn't find anyone else to do the show, which was ridiculous. To see her, this beautiful, 27-year-old grown woman, so statuesque and wonderful and lovely and perfect, to do an interview about what it's like having her mom work at this place for literally her entire life, it was like, oh my gosh, there's something major about to happen.

**AP:** When you first joined, tabloid shows were considered less respectable than networks. How do you think that's changed?

**Norville:** Remember Tom Shales of the Washington Post? Tom Shales actually put in the paper that I was selling my credibility. The old Deborah would have just gone into a fetal position and cried. The new me said, "Oh, I don't think so." I never knew my credibility had anything to do with the peacock or eyeball on my paycheck, because I had worked at NBC and CBS. My credibility had to do with the show that I stood in front of, the stories that I personally produced and reported on and what we put on television every day. All I was asking was that people watch.

**AP:** When you look back on it, what is the work you'll remember the most?

**Norville:** "Inside Edition" has evolved a lot in the 30 years that I've been here. When I got here, it was still the hard-core, tabloid, beach blanket bingo - a lot of girls on sandy beaches in tiny bikinis. We don't do that anymore. ... It has evolved in such a way that we as a program have become a companion to people - not just on television, but we're a companion on the internet, on social media, on YouTube. The content that we do is watchable, but also very relatable and meaningful.

**AP:** It's unusual these days to stay at the same job for a long time. Why did that appeal to you?

**Norville:** I came to "Inside Edition" because I was expecting my second child. I knew it was going to be a boy (Norville and her husband, Karl Wellner, have two boys and a girl). I turned down an offer from CBS News to be "Eye on America" correspondent four days a week and anchor the weekend news one night. I would have been teed up for the job that Katie Couric ultimately got. But those four nights a week were going to be on the road all over the country and I didn't think I could be the kind of mother I aspired to be, and certainly the kind of wife that I wanted to be, if I was on the road. I just didn't know how I could do it.

**AP:** Any regrets about paths not taken?

**Norville:** Oh, probably. But here's the antidote to that. You take a look at where the road has taken you and you take stock at what you see at that spot in the road where you find yourself. ... The biggest thing is that I look at my family, which is the most important thing to me. My husband and I have been married for 37 and a half years. I have three amazing children who actually enjoy being with us, who are solid citizens, who are kind and giving and industrious and entrepreneurial. I didn't mess up my kids. Coming to "Inside Edition" for the right reasons, turned out to be the right reason for me.



Marianna Brennand, (left), winner of the Women In Motion Emerging Talent 2025 award and Nicole Kidman, winner of the Women in Motion 2025 award, pose for photographers during the Kering Women in Motion dinner at the 78th international film festival, Cannes, southern France, Sunday, May 18. (AP)

'This victory is for you'

## Austria welcomes Eurovision winner JJ with cheers, hugs

VIENNA, May 19, (AP): Austrian fans enthusiastically welcomed classically trained singer JJ back home at Vienna airport on Sunday after he won the 69th Eurovision Song Contest with "Wasted Love."

As JJ walked through the gate, hundreds of fans cheered, some played his song and others surrounded the new star, hugging him and asking for autographs.

The 24-year-old countertenor, whose winning song combines operatic, multi-octave vocals with a techno twist, and who also sings at the Vienna State Opera, held up his trophy in one hand and a big bouquet of roses in the other. He smiled, wiped away tears and told the crowd "that victory is for you."

JJ, whose full name is Johannes Pietsch, was Austria's third Eurovision winner, after bearded drag queen Conchita Wurst in 2014 and Udo Jürgens in 1966.

"This is beyond my wildest dreams. It's crazy," said the singer when being handed the microphone-shaped glass Eurovision trophy after his win in the Swiss city of Basel on Saturday night.

On Sunday night, JJ told reporters in Vienna that "I don't think you'll realize that you did it at all until you're on your deathbed."

Austria's president, Alexander van der Bellen, celebrated JJ in a video posted on X.

"What a success! What a voice! What a show!" he exclaimed. "All of Austria is happy."

Chancellor Christian Stoecker wrote on X: "What a great success - my warmest congratulations on winning #ESC2025! JJ is writing Austrian music history today!"

The Vienna State Opera also expressed joy over the win. "From the Magic Flute to winning the Song Contest is somehow a story that can only take place in Austria," opera director Bogdan Roscic told the Austrian press agency APA.

Several Austrian cities were quick to show their interest in hosting next year's contest. Innsbruck Mayor Johannes Anzengruber told APA that "not everything has to take place in Vienna. ... Austria is bigger than that," and the towns of Oberwart in Burgenland and Wels in Upper Austria also threw their hats into the ring.

JJ himself said he hoped that Vienna would get the next ESC which he would love to host together with his mentor, Conchita Wurst.

At a post-victory press conference, JJ said the message of his song about unrequited romance was that "love is the stron-

gest force on planet Earth, and love persevered.

"Let's spread love, guys," said JJ, who added that he was honored to be the first Eurovision champion with Filipino heritage, as well as a proudly queer winner.

The world's largest live music event, which has been uniting and dividing Europeans since 1956, reached its glitter-drenched conclusion with a grand final in Basel that offered pounding electropop, quirky rock and outrageous divas.

Acts from 26 countries - trimmed from 37 entrants through two elimination semifinals - performed to some 160 million viewers for the continent's pop crown. No smoke machine, jet of flame or dizzying light display was spared by musicians who had three minutes to win over millions of viewers who, along with national juries of music professionals, picked the winner.

Estonia's Tommy Cash came third with his jokey mock-Italian dance song "Espresso Macchiato." Swedish entry KAJ, which had been favorite to win with jaunty sauna ode "Bara Bada Bastu," came fourth.

The show was a celebration of Europe's eclectic, and sometimes baffling, musical tastes.

This year's contest was roiled for a second year by disputes over Israel's participation.



JJ from Austria smiles during a press conference in Vienna, Austria, on Sunday, May 18. (AP)

### Museum



The grand staircase at the Grand Egyptian Museum.



An ancient Pharaonic sarcophagus inside one of the exhibition halls of the museum.



Tourists viewing unique artifacts inside the museum.



Statues, artifacts, and display screens narrating the history of ancient Egyptian civilization.

KUNA photos

GEM set to open, become world's largest museum

# Grand Egyptian Museum: Cultural edifice telling unique civilization story

CAIRO, May 19, (KUNA): With a charming view of the world-famous Giza Pyramids and covering nearly 500,000 meters, the Grand Egyptian Museum (GEM) is expected to open its doors for visitors very soon as the world's largest museum.

Once visitors get into the 7,000-meter lobby of the modern museum, they come across the huge statue of King Ramses II, which stands out in a way as if it invites them to an expedition that reveals the secrets of the ancient civilization of Egypt, which the GEM, in fact, tells its story in an amazing mode.

The idea of establishing the new historic edifice emerged in the seventies and the ceremonial cornerstone of the museum was laid in early 2002. Construction works started at a strategic location just next door to the Pyramids in 2005.

The main contract for the design of the GEM was awarded to the Irish architectural firm Heneghan Peng in 2003 following an extensive international competition. But, in fact, a team of 300 people from 13 companies in six different countries contributed to the design phase.

The original cost of the great project was initially estimated to be around USD 500 million, but delays, changes and other factors have driven the final price tag for the complex to over one billion US dollars.

The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) provided the necessary financial support for the project through a couple of official development aid loans at a value of 84.2 billion Japanese yen (around USD 800 million).

The GEM whose construction works were completed in 2021 is considered to be one of the greatest modern achievements of Egypt, becoming an integrated international cultural and entertainment facility and the first destination for all those interested in the great Egyptian civilization.

Once all relics and collections are finally transferred from the Egyptian Museum in central Cairo and other places to the Grand Egyptian Museum, it will host about 100,000 ancient artifacts, 4,549 of which will be from the tomb of the famous king of Tutankhamun.

The GEM is expected to welcome around 15,000 visitors per day, roughly three times the number of people who visit the current museum daily. They can see the facility's artifacts and the three famous Pyramids at the same time through modern technological tools.

The facility was mainly designed to preserve and maintain the Egyptian culture and historic heritage, to organize temporary

and permanent archaeological exhibitions in Egypt, and to hold cultural and scientific symposia, conferences and activities aiming at raising public awareness of the Egyptian civilization.

The GEM has opened 12 halls with exhibits about ancient Egypt in its main galleries in a trial run ahead of the announced official opening, coinciding with final arrangements and preparations for shops, cafeterias, restaurants, gardens and parks.

The GEM has adopted a clear-cut sustainable development strategy by means of using green building dimensions in all phases of the mega project through lobby ventilation and natural lighting.

The Egyptian government, in fact, is racing against time to complete all arrangements for officially opening the GEM for visitors on July 3.

In this context, Spokesman for the Egyptian Cabinet Mohammad Al-Homosani told KUNA that the government was doing its utmost to finish all preparations to inaugurate the museum at the previously announced time.



The main hall of the Grand Egyptian Museum, featuring a massive statue of King Ramses II at its center.

KUNA photo

### Variety

LONDON: Gary Lineker, the former England soccer player and now a media celebrity, will leave his role as a presenter for the BBC after facing criticism for reposting an Instagram story about Zionism which featured a picture of a rat.

The 64-year-old Lineker, who is the British national broadcaster's highest-paid presenter on about 1.3 million pounds (\$1.7 million) a year, was set to leave flagship soccer highlights show "Match of the Day" at the end of this season but remain with the corporation to front other soccer coverage, including next year's men's World Cup.

However, the BBC said in a statement that Lineker will step down from the BBC after final "Match of the Day" episode next weekend.

"Gary has acknowledged the mistake he made," BBC director-general Tim Davie said. "Accordingly, we have agreed he will step back from further presenting after this season."

Lineker had apologized last week for his conduct. Before Lineker's apology, Davie said the corporation needed people to be the "exemplars of BBC values and follow our social media policies" and that "when someone makes a mistake, it costs us."

"Football has been at the heart of my life for as long as I can remember - both on the pitch and in the studio," Lineker said. "I care deeply about the game, and about the work I've done with the BBC over many years. As I've said, I would never consciously repost anything bias - it goes against everything I stand for. (AP)"

NEW YORK: This year's winners of the Gotham Book Prize celebrate New York City as experienced on foot, bus and train.

Ian Frazier, author of "Paradise Bronx: The Life and Times of New York's Greatest Borough," and Nicole Gelinis, who wrote "Movement: New York's Long War to Take Back Its Streets from the Car," will split the \$50,000 in prize money given for books that "encourage and honor writing about New York City," award officials announced Monday.

Philanthropists-political strategists Bradley Tusk and Howard Wolfson cofounded the Gotham prize in 2020 as a "way to uplift the creative community" during the pandemic.

In "Paradise Bronx," Frazier draws upon his years of walking about the New York City borough and weaves together everything from Revolutionary War history to baseball and hip-hop. Gelinis' "Movement" continues the tradition of such classics as Robert Caro's "The Power Broker" in documenting how New Yorkers have fought for the preservation and improvement of mass transit. (AP)

NEW YORK: Libraries across the United States are cutting back on e-books, audiobooks and loan programs after the Trump administration suspended millions of dollars in federal grants as it tries to dissolve the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Federal judges have issued temporary orders to block the Trump administration from taking any further steps toward gutting the agency. But the unexpected slashing of grants has delivered a significant blow to many libraries, which are reshuffling budgets and looking at different ways to raise money.

Maine has laid off a fifth of its staff and temporarily closed its state library after not receiving the remainder of its annual funding. Libraries in Mississippi have indefinitely stopped offering a popular e-book service, and the South Dakota state library has suspended its interlibrary loan program.

E-book and audiobook programs are especially vulnerable to budget cuts, even though those offerings have exploded in popularity since the COVID-19 pandemic. "I think everyone should know the cost of providing digital sources is too expensive for most libraries," said Cindy Hohl, president of the American Library Association. "It's a continuous and growing need."

President Donald Trump issued an executive order March 14 to dismantle the IMLS before firing nearly all of its employees. (AP)





Mbappé scores again for Madrid

# Villarreal dampens Barcelona's title celebrations



Barcelona's team members celebrate winning the La Liga soccer match between Barcelona and Villarreal at Lluís Companys Olympic Stadium in Barcelona, Spain. (AP)

MADRID, May 19, (AP): Villarreal dampened Barcelona's title celebrations by handing the Catalan club its first defeat of 2025 in the Spanish league.

Barcelona, which clinched its 28th league title midweek, presented the trophy to its fans in the team's final home match of the season at Montjuïc stadium. Players were announced one by one after the game, which Villarreal won 3-2, before lifting the trophy.

Barcelona's Spanish Super Cup and Copa del Rey trophies also were displayed at Montjuïc, with players dancing around the silverware during the celebrations. "We can be proud of this team for winning these titles and for how it did it," Barcelona goalkeeper Marc-André ter Stegen said. "We had a great season in all levels."

Before the match, Villarreal players did a guard of honor for the new league champions, with its players lining up to congratulate Barcelona as the team entered the field.

Real Madrid won 2-0 at nine-man Sevilla, with Kylian Mbappé extending his league-leading tally to 29 goals with one round to go. Jude Bellingham also

scored. Madrid reached 81 points, four fewer than Barcelona.

Villarreal's victory secured its return to the Champions League for the first time since reaching the semifinals in 2022.

It will join Barcelona, Madrid, Atletico Madrid and Athletic Bilbao in Europe's top club competition next season. Spain will have five clubs in the Champions League next season.

Real Betis clinched one of the Europa League spots. Celta Vigo, Rayo Vallecano and Osasuna will be chasing the final Europa League place and the Conference League spot.

Leganes, owned by former Houston Astros general manager Jeff Luhnow, and Espanyol will try to avoid the last relegation spot in the final round when Leganes is at last-placed Valladolid and Espanyol faces relegated Las Palmas.

Barcelona, Madrid, Atletico and Athletic will play in next year's lucrative Spanish Super Cup in Saudi Arabia.

All 10 games were played at the same time on Sunday.

Barcelona hadn't lost in the league since a 2-1 defeat against Atletico on Dec.

21, with 15 wins and two draws since then. Villarreal's win was its fifth straight victory in the league.

Ayoze Pérez put the visitors ahead after a breakaway four minutes into the match. The hosts equalized when Lamine Yamal scored with yet another beautiful goal in the teenager's outstanding season, curling in a left-footed shot from outside the area.

Fernán López put Barcelona ahead in first-half stoppage time, but Santiago Comesaña scored for Villarreal in the 50th and Tajon Buchanan netted the winner in the 80th.

It was likely the last match Barcelona played at Montjuïc stadium as the club plans to return to the Camp Nou Stadium next season even though renovation work at the venue is not expected to be fully completed until mid-2026.

Mbappé strengthened his chances of finishing as the league's top scorer this season with a goal from a low shot from outside the area in the 75th.

Mbappé now has 29 league goals. Barcelona's Robert Lewandowski (25 goals) is his nearest rival.

# Alcaraz outclasses Sinner again to win Italian Open



Carlos Alcaraz of Spain, holds the trophy after winning the Italian Open tennis tournament at the Foro Italico in Rome. (AP)

## Spaniard solidifies status as French Open favorite

**ROME, May 19, (AP): There's only one player who is consistently beating Jannik Sinner.**

Carlos Alcaraz defeated the top-ranked player again, beating Sinner 7-6 (5), 6-1 to win his first Italian Open and add another big clay-court title to his resume.

Since the start of last year, Alcaraz is the only player to beat Sinner more than once and now he's done it four straight times.

"Just proud about myself, the way that I approached the match mentally. Tactically think I did it pretty well from the first to the last point," Alcaraz said. "I maintained my level during the whole match."

Alcaraz's victory before Sinner's home fans at the Foro Italico snapped the Italian's 26-match winning streak, which stretched back to October - when Alcaraz beat him in the China Open final in a third-set tiebreaker. Alcaraz now leads the career series 7-4.

It was Sinner's first tournament back after a three-month doping ban.

"I'm just really happy to see Jannik back at this amazing level," Alcaraz said. "I'm sure it wasn't easy for him coming back from three months without playing. Making the final here is something insane."

Alcaraz also solidified his status

as the favorite to defend his title at the French Open, which starts next Sunday.

Sinner was playing his first tournament since he won his third Grand Slam title at the Australian Open in January.

In February, Sinner agreed to a settlement with the World Anti-Doping Agency that raised questions, since the three-month suspension allowed him not to miss any Grand Slams, and come back at his home tournament.

Sinner said he and his team went through "three months that were anything but easy, so achieving this result already here is re-

ally big" and that "we should be really proud."

He added: "We're bringing home a very special trophy, even if I wanted the other one."

Sinner was attempting to become the first home man to win the Italian Open since Adriano Panatta in 1976. He was also trying to complete a sweep of the Rome singles titles for Italy after Jasmine Paolini won the women's trophy on Saturday.

Paolini and partner Sara Errani also defended their women's doubles title earlier Sunday, making Paolini the first woman since Monica Seles in 1990 to sweep

Rome's singles and doubles titles in the same year.

A large number of the 10,500 fans in Campo Centrale were decked out in orange - Sinner's theme color - and they were chanting Sinner's name before the match even began.

But Sinner wasted two set points on Alcaraz's serve when he led 6-5 in the first set and then Alcaraz jumped ahead in the tiebreaker with two aces and held on to seal it before cruising in the second set.

On Alcaraz's third match point, Sinner ran down a drop shot but Alcaraz was waiting for his reply and hit a stretch volley winner into the open court.

Alcaraz then held his hands out wide and flashed a wide smile.

Alcaraz, a four-time Grand Slam champion, will move back up to No. 2 in the rankings on Monday after his third final in three clay-court events this season. He won the Monte Carlo Masters and finished runner-up in the Barcelona Open before withdrawing from the Madrid Open because of injury.

Having also won the Madrid Open in 2022 and 2023, Alcaraz became the fifth man to win all three Masters 1000 clay events after Rafael Nadal, Novak Djokovic, Gustavo Kuerten and Marcelo Rios.



Jannik Sinner of Italy, returns to Carlos Alcaraz of Spain during their final tennis match in the Italian Open at the Foro Italico in Rome. (AP)

## LA Galaxy draws with LAFC

### Orlando shuts out Inter Miami, extends unbeaten streak to 11

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla., May 19, (AP): Luis Muriel scored a goal just before halftime, Marco Pašalić added a goal early in the second half and Orlando City beat Inter Miami 3-0 on Sunday night in the Florida Derby to extend its unbeaten streak to 11 consecutive games. Orlando City (6-2-6) has not lost since it dropped a 2-1 decision to New York City FC on March 8.

Pedro Gallese finished with four saves for his sixth shutout of the season and had the second assist of his five-plus year career in MLS.

Luis Muriel opened the scoring in the 43rd minute. Gallese played a perfectly-placed ball ahead from the edge of Orlando's penalty area to a streaking Muriel, who slipped behind the defense, in the attacking third before his rolling finish from the right-center of the area made it 1-0 at halftime.

Pašalić scored on a first-touch shot from near the penalty spot to give Orlando a 2-0 lead in the 53rd.

Dagur Thorhallsson capped the scoring in the fourth minute of stoppage time, putting away a cross from Duncan McGuire with a one-touch shot from point-blank range. Marco Reus scored two goals for the LA Galaxy in a 2-2 tie with Los Angeles FC in the 20th playing of El Tráfico in the MLS regular season.

The Galaxy (0-10-4), the defending MLS Cup champions, have a minus-21 goal differential, worst in MLS, and are off to the worst start in MLS history.

Reus opened the scoring in the sixth minute. Hugo Lloris made a diving stop of a shot by Gabriel Pec on a breakaway but Reus tapped the rebound into a wide-open net from point-blank range. The 35-year-old slipped a free kick from the edge of the penalty arc inside



Orlando City midfielder Joran Gerbet (35) controls the ball past Inter Miami midfielder Yannick Bright during the first half of an MLS soccer match in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. (AP)

the right post to make it 2-2 in the 87th.

Denis Bouanga tied it in the 13th minute when, on the left side, he cut back to evade a defender and ripped a shot from well outside the area that curled inside the back post to make it 1-1. The 30-year-old has scored in three consecutive games and has seven goals in the last seven matches for LAFC.

Nathan Ordaz scored his third goal of the season - and the fourth of the 21-year-old's career - to make it 2-0 in the 50th. Ryan Hollingshead played a perfectly-placed ball ahead that split two pairs of defenders before ripped a first-touch shot inside the near post from the left-center of the area. LAFC (6-4-4) is unbeaten in seven straight, including a 4-0 win over Seattle on Wednesday.

**ARAB TIMES**  
Kuwait's No.1 English Newspaper

**For Subscriptions and Complaints**

Please Call

**51508991**  
**51526559**





Club Secretary Mishaal Fulaitah crowns the Warriors team captain with the cup.

# Sports

## Warriors retain Kuwait Ice Hockey League title



All the winners pose for group photo after the closing ceremony.

KUNA photos

### Al-Awadhi praises the tournament's high level of competitiveness

**KUWAIT CITY, May 19, (KUNA):** The Kuwaiti Men's Ice Hockey League for the 2024-2025 season concluded on Sunday with the Warriors team securing their second consecutive title. The tournament, organized by the Kuwait Winter Games Club, spanned nine months and featured 20 competitive rounds, all held at the club's indoor arena in Bayan.

In a thrilling final match, the Warriors defeated their rivals Stars with a score of 10-6. The Stars finished as

runners-up, while Camelz clinched third place. Five local teams participated in the tournament.

The final match was intense and action-packed. The Warriors stormed into the lead, ending the first half 6-1. However, the Stars came back strong in the second half, scoring four consecutive goals and narrowing the deficit to just one. In the third half, the Warriors regained control and added four more goals to seal their championship victory.

Following the conclusion of the tournament, Club Secretary Mishaal Fulaitah told Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) that this season saw high levels of competition and showcased many young and promising players, who are expected to play key roles for the national team in the near future.

Fulaitah emphasized that the competitive nature of the league has positively impacted the development of Kuwait's national team. The team earned notable results at the 9th Asian Winter Games in Harbin, China (February 2025) and secured third place at the Level IV Ice Hockey World Championship held in Armenia in April.

He also highlighted the club's commitment under Chairman Fahid Al-Ajmi to supporting all five sports under its supervision: ice hockey, curling, figure skating, and speed skating. Fulaitah congratulated the top three teams for their performances this season.

Speaking after the win, Warriors and national team captain Jassem Al-Awadhi praised the tournament's high level of competitiveness and noted the participation of several

professional players. He credited the team's success to the dedication of the players and the technical and administrative staff. Al-Awadhi expressed pride in retaining the league title and acknowledged the Winter Games Club's board for its continuous support in developing the sport and helping Kuwaiti teams excel internationally.

The closing ceremony, attended by club treasurer Ahmed Al-Omran and other members, featured the honoring of the top three teams as well as individual awards for the best striker, defender, goalkeeper, and overall top scorer.

In addition, the Winter Games Club honored 34 members who successfully completed the referees' qualification training course for the current season—an important step in boosting officiating standards in the sport.

## Al-Jahra crowned Zain First Division champion



Al-Jahra celebrates winning the Zain First Division Football League title.

KUNA photo

**KUWAIT CITY, May 19, (KUNA):** Al-Jahra celebrated winning the 2024-2025 Zain First Division Football League title after securing a 1-1 draw with Al-Sulaibikhat in the 20th and final round on Sunday. The result was enough for Jahra to finish top of the table with 26 points and earn promotion to the Kuwaiti Premier League (Zain League) next season.

Al-Shabab Club also secured promotion, finishing in second place with 22 points, following a strong campaign in the five-team competition. Meanwhile, Al-Sahel defeated Burgan 1-0 in their final fixture but finished in fifth and last place with 15 points.

The final standings placed Al-Jahra first (26

points), Al-Shabab second (22), Al-Sulaibikhat third (21), Burgan fourth (19), and Al-Sahel fifth (15).

As Jahra and Shabab prepare to rejoin Kuwait's top-tier football, Khaitan and Yarmouk have been relegated to the First Division after placing ninth and tenth, respectively, in this season's Zain Premier League.

### Top-seeded OKC dominates Nuggets in Game 7

## SGA and Thunder roll into West finals

**OKLAHOMA CITY, May 19, (AP):** The Oklahoma City Thunder grew up on Sunday.

Shai Gilgeous-Alexander scored 35 points, Jalen Williams added 24 and the Thunder rolled into the Western Conference finals, beating the Denver Nuggets 125-93 in Game 7.

The top-seeded Thunder will host the sixth-seeded Minnesota Timberwolves starting Tuesday. It's Oklahoma City's first trip to the conference finals since 2016.

Oklahoma City went a league-best 68-14 in the regular season, becoming the youngest team to win at least 60 games. To back up their status as the best team in the league, the Thunder had to get past three-time MVP Nikola Jokic and a Denver squad that won the NBA title in 2023 and beat the Los Angeles Clippers in seven games in the first round this year.

Coach Mark Daigneault said his players handled the pressure well. "There's not many games, you wake up in the morning and you know that you're going to remember the game for the rest of your life, and Game 7 is one of them," he said. "To be able to focus through that and perform the way these guys did today was very impressive."

Jokic had 20 points, nine rebounds and seven assists for the Nuggets. Aaron Gordon, a key player for Denver throughout the playoffs who hit the winner in Game 1 against the Thunder, started despite a strained left hamstring. He had eight points and 11 rebounds in 24 minutes.

"What he played with today, I don't know many people that would even attempt to go out there and run up and down," Nuggets interim coach David Adelman said. "And he did it in Game 7 against Oklahoma City on the road. That that was one of most incredible things I've ever seen. He was extremely close to not playing. I was surprised."

The Thunder fell behind by 11 in the first quarter, but took the lead early in the second. Oklahoma City outscored Denver 39-20 in the period to take a 60-46 lead at the break.

Gordon was called for a flagrant-1 foul for elbowing Gilgeous-Alexander in the face early in the third quarter. Gilgeous-Alexander made both free throws, and then Williams hit a short jumper to give Oklahoma City a 66-46 lead.

Cason Wallace got loose on a fast break and dunked on Jokic to put the Thunder up 78-57, sparking delirious roars from the crowd.

Oklahoma City cruised from there and now hopes to make another leap.



Oklahoma City Thunder guard Shai Gilgeous-Alexander (2) works to the basket against Denver Nuggets guard Jamal Murray, left, in the second half of Game 7 in the Western Conference semifinals of the NBA basketball playoffs in Oklahoma City. (AP)

## Title race between Napoli & Inter goes to final day, possibly further

**MILAN, May 19, (AP):** The fight for the Serie A title will go into the final day, and maybe even further.

Napoli could have clinched its second Italian league title in three years but will have to wait after both Antonio Conte's team and second-placed Inter Milan were held to draws.

League leader Napoli drew 0-0 at relegation-threatened Parma, and Inter drew 2-2 against Champions League-chasing Lazio to remain one point behind Napoli.

Napoli hosts Cagliari in the final round, while defending champion Inter visits Como.

If they finish level on points, a play-off will be needed to decide the destination of the league title.

Apart from the title fight, there was still almost everything else to play for



Napoli's Romelu Lukaku, foreground and Parma's Alessandro Circati vie for the ball during a Serie A soccer match between Parma and Napoli at Parma's Ennio Tardini Stadium, Italy. (AP)

in Serie A. That was why all but one of the 10 matches in the penultimate round kicked off simultaneously on Sunday.

Inter was perhaps under the most pressure of the two rivals as it knew a loss would hand Napoli the title if the leader won at Parma.

Yann Bisseck was both hero and villain at San Siro. He scored the opener in first-half stoppage time but also gave away a late penalty to allow Lazio to snatch the draw that took the title fight out of Inter's hands.

Pedro had scored the first equalizer for Lazio in the 72nd minute before Denzel Dumfries headed Inter back in front seven minutes later.

That result would have sent Inter top of the table and left the Nerazzurri in control of their destiny.

However, Lazio was awarded a penalty when it was adjudged - on video review - that Bisseck had blocked Taty Castellanos' volley with his arm.

Pedro converted in the final minute. Inter thought it had snatched the win deep in stoppage time but Marko Arnautovic's header was ruled out for offside.

Both Inter and Napoli coaches were sent off during the VAR check for the penalty. Conte and his counterpart were also sent off in Parma as there was late drama in their match too.

Napoli was initially awarded a penalty in stoppage time for a presumed foul by Mathias Lovik on David Neres but it was revoked on video review.

Napoli also hit the woodwork three times.