



KUNA photo  
Secretary-General of the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters during the tour of the exhibition.

### NCCAL inks accord to borrow relics

The National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters inked an accord to borrow some unique possessions of the Kuwaiti relics' collector Mahmoud Al-Nouri.

The council president, Kamel Abduljelil, said in a statement that the five-year accord was renew-

able, affirming that the item were some of the most precious Islamic relics, some dating back to 700 years back.

They include a large collection of ceramic works, potteries, wood-work, gold ornamented Quran copies and rare manuscripts.

For his part, Al-Nouri said that he has been collecting the treasures since 40 years ago, noting that they would be displayed at a five-year exhibition that opened last March.

The antiques includes coins dating back to several Islamic ages. (KUNA)

## Kuwait continues philanthropic action throughout the year '19

Millions donated for needy people

**KUWAIT CITY, Dec 28, (KUNA):** The State of Kuwait, which the UN termed as "Humanitarian Center," kept extending a helping hand for people in need in many parts of the globe.

Following are major philanthropic contributions by the Gulf country.

Jan 16: His Highness the Amir directed dispatch of USD 1.5 million in emergency relief aid to Syrian refugees in Rukban camp in Lebanon, through the Kuwaiti Red Crescent Society.

Jan 17: Kuwait donated USD five million for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to cover UN-

humanitarian aid to 41,000 people across Yemen.

Jan 18: Kuwait contributed USD 9.1 million to a number of UN agencies to support the humanitarian situation in Syria.

Jan 20: Kuwait Red Crescent Society (KRCS) launched a donation campaign at the Avenues Mall for the relief of the Yemeni people.

Jan 31: KRCS launched an emergency convoy to aid displaced people from the Yemeni governorates, including five trucks carrying 100 tons of humanitarian aid.

Feb 3: Kuwait offered a financial support of one million Euros to re-activate a hospital in the Italian city of Norcia after a devastating earthquake.

Feb 7: KRCS distributed 100 tons of

humanitarian aid to 41,000 people across Yemen.

Feb 26: Kuwait donated USD 250 million to the Humanitarian Response Plan Conference in Yemen launched by the UN in Geneva.

March 14: Kuwait announces USD 300 million support to the Syrian refugees during the third Brussels conference on supporting the future of Syria and the region.

April 5: KRCS sent the first plane to Iran to help the flood victims upon the directives of His Highness the Amir.

April 6: KRCS offered humanitarian aid to Yemeni people in Socotra Island.

April 24: KRCS donated three medical clinics to Iraqi displaced people as part of "Kuwait Beside You" campaign.

# DIWANIYA ديوانية

A DIGEST OF PUBLIC OPINION

## Democracy flourishes in 'diwanias'

### 'We need MPs loyal to country'

"THE Arab states which are ruled on a party system can be seen as failures because governments lack popular support and one of the reasons is the parties are not loyal to the homeland as it is evident their loyalty is to the leaders of ruling parties or the spiritual leaders and the case of Iran is a perfect example," columnist *Abdulmohsen Muhammad Al-Hussaini* wrote for *Al-Anba* daily.

"Speaking of the Arab parties, the ruling Al-Baath Party in Syria, for instance, has failed to establish its popular base in Damascus which still sees conflicts among various denominations as a result of which the country is subjected to instability in the face of absence of harmony among various denominations and sects.

"In Iraq, the ruling Al-Baath Party has failed and as a result has been brought down. However, this party is succeeded by a group of religious and sectarian parties, but none of them has succeeded in creating a popular base inside Iraq and for this reason it is currently suffering from divisions, civil unrest and instability.

"In Lebanon the political and sectarian parties have failed too and Beirut is still unable to form a government acceptable to the Lebanese. On the other hand, we say in spite of the attempts exerted, the Lebanese opposition parties still say the new government should not be formed by any former leaders and politicians because according to the opposition they have done nothing for the citizens and want the former politicians and leaders to stay away from the government formation.

"Speaking of Algeria, the political and religious parties have failed to found popular bases and the same can be said on the old National Liberation Front Party which led the struggle against French imperialism. However, although Algeria has managed to move forward by electing a new president, there are still pockets of resentment.

"We hope the differences which currently prevail in Algeria will end and Algeria will soon get the taste of prosperity and bask in security and peace to enable this country development.

"With regard to Tunisia, this country also was shadowed by differences but, just like others, none of these parties were able to build for them popular bases. However, for the time being we see how the Tunisians are still insisting not to appoint a prime minister from among the old timers.

"In Egypt, the Muslim Brotherhood Group failed to win the support of the Egyptians and as a result after just one year of coming to rule, Egypt was afflicted by popular demonstration and millions of Egyptians demonstrated in the streets of Cairo and other cities calling for the ouster of the government of Muslim Brotherhood.

"Not just that, Egypt is still a victim of terrorist operations supposedly carried out by the Muslim Brotherhood Group in Sinai with the help of Hamas in Gaza Strip. In this context, we say Hamas is part and parcel of the Muslim Brotherhood Group. Likewise, we say Hamas is still at loggerheads with the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) in Ramallah.

"Given all of the above, we conclude that none of the political parties in the Arab states have succeeded in gaining the support of the Arabs because these parties till date are unable to translate their slogans into reality.

"Meanwhile, both Iraq and Lebanon currently witness strong opposition to the ruling regimes in their respective countries and the people there still insisting to see a prime minister and ministers who do not belong to any political party or former powers.

"Speaking of the State of Kuwait, this country basks in peace, security and stability and in order to allow this atmosphere to continue we should be aware of the experiments of our sisterly countries and not elect any candidate who belongs to religious or political parties or those who are working for any pertinent societies.

"As a matter of fact, we live in an atmosphere (in our diwanias) which is conducive to exchange of dialogues and always exchange ideas and pay no attention to the slogans of religious and political parties. However, we need MPs who are loyal to the State of Kuwait, not the party to which he/she belongs."

Also:

"In Sudan the Muslim Brotherhood Group cooperated with some military officers to carry out a military coup which was led by the then Muhammad Numeiri in May, 1969," columnist and Professor *Abdulmalek Khalaf Al-Tamimi* wrote for *Aljarida* daily.

"The group again participated in the military coup that was organized by General Omar Hassan Al-Bashir in 1989 and now the members of the same group are currently critical of the military officers in Egypt. We wonder what kind of double standard policy the group is following. How can they justify the same through their political fatwas (edicts) and then claim they do not belong to the Muslim Brotherhood Group although they are defending this group and assisting it.

"Not just that, the Group members support the candidates of this Group and if their favored candidates fail to make it they oppose others.

"As a matter of fact, the Muslim Brotherhood Group has failed in Egypt, Sudan and Tunisia and in most Arab Gulf states. However, in spite of the above, they are still active because they have incubators in some Arab and foreign countries because they follow and support those who can satisfy their taste.

"In some cases they resort to violence and sometimes go underground because they play professional politics and this falls within their objectives to win power and have access to funds and the evidence is crystal clear—the sleeper cells which currently exist in several countries with the collaboration of some local supporters.

"They have lost their citadel in Egypt and the same happened in the remaining Arab countries and now they have found that only Turkey and Gulf states embracing their ideology.

"However, this group introduces itself under different names in every Arab country and Turkey but everyone knows that the ideology remains the same. In other words, it is part and parcel of the political Islam which is slowly and steadily 'dying'.

"In other words, the group members are currently using extremism and violence in Libya, Syria and Egypt and eventually flee to Turkey and one Arab Gulf state and some of them live under the protection of the British law and others prefer to remain 'dormant' in some Arab countries.

"Apart from the above, they resort to the democratic electoral methods in Yemen, Iraq, Tunisia, and Algeria under Islamic reformist names.

"And whereas the title of this article is 'The Muslim Brotherhood Group with and against the Military Rule' then we wonder why the former military regimes are accused following the ex-communication ideology and attacking the regimes with which you had earlier collaborated in the Sudan as we have said before. Not just that, you actually represented their base in that country.

"Given the above, the issue for you is not one of principle but political action. In other words, you will not hesitate to seize any opportunity to support military coups should the need be as long as it helps you as you have been in the forefront during military coups.

"This happened, although experiences have shown that all military coups in which you have collaborated were organized by the corrupt people, while the military coups that you fought were organized by the honest and nationalist powers.

"Now the question is where the thinkers and educated elite from this Group are. And why they are not criticizing and keeping a track account of this group and its modus operandi?

"However, some of them have rebelled against the group post their experiment in Egypt, but they have disappeared. Hence, we wonder if this disappearance means they prefer to look at the group as an organization and not an ideology.

"Anyway, there is a point which should be mentioned. In other words, although we criticize the military rule, it is needless to say that objective criticism means we must cover the positive and negative aspects of this rule, but not as Muslim Brotherhood Group members by giving them a clean chit and projecting the military officials as a problem although the fact shows that the history of the Muslim Brotherhood Group, was and is rife with extremism and violence irrespective of their ability to conform to circumstances, because in reality they have been supporting the military coups and at other times criticizing, depending on the circumstance that suit their tastes."

"Last week, I visited the State of Qatar on a kind invitation of Sheikh Jaber bin Abdullah, chief of the noble Al-Haram tribe, to attend the wedding of his son, Yasser. While there, I took the opportunity to observe the level of progress Qatar has attained as compared to my last visit in over ten years ago," columnist *Bader Saeed Al-Failakawi* wrote for *Al-Anba* daily.

"In 2009, Qatar was a country under construction in every sense of the word; in whichever direction turned to, one would see ongoing constructions, closed roads and few commercial complexes here and there. Currently, the country has managed, to its level best, to develop and progress culturally, architecturally and even socially; almost everything in it is beautiful and new, carrying within it a scent of originality and the Qatari-Gulf heritage.

"It is rare in the Arab world to find great interest given to education sector, except in Qatar and the UAE. In this regard, proper management of education sector is more important than all urban and economic achieves, let alone the fact that the Qatari achievements in this aspect are globally recognized.

"For example, the Global Competitiveness Report issued by the World Economic Forum in Switzerland pointed to that wonderful development taking place in the field of education, with Qatar achieving the first Arab position in the fields of primary education and the quality of secondary education and quality of mathematics education, science and the educational system and got the second Arab position in the internet service in schools, and achieving advanced positions in many aspects of education worldwide.

"Also, Qatar has noticeably made major strides in the cultural aspect where cultural exhibitions, seminars and events organized are common, and publishing houses are available for any book idea submitted by any Qatari or resident, and willingness of the state to bear the cost of publishing and distribution of such work, citing the Katara Publishing House, which recently launched a competition for the Qatari writers to raise the level of quality of writing in the country. With these and several other developments and support, Qatar has become more beautiful."

"An Asian person infiltrated the security system at Kuwait International Airport and managed to enter a plane in November 2015. Thankfully, he was caught before the plane took off. In Shuaiba Port, which is considered to be well-secured given that it is a vital facility attached to many oil installations, someone posted a video on Twitter on Dec 22 which shows a restaurant delivery car inside the facility", *Ahmad Al-Dawast* wrote for *Al-Seyassah* daily.

"The owner of the Twitter account dubbed "Detect corruption in the country" wondered how easily the delivery guy managed to enter the facility and what if he had a bomb. In other countries, such lax security would have prompted resignation of the minister in charge, or at least would cause public outcry.

"On Dec 11, a citizen tried to storm the Army's 35th Brigade Camp along Salmi Road, but the camp security arrested him and referred him to State Security to find out his motives.

"It is known fact that in Kabd, everything banned is on display for sale, even police uniforms and security gadgets. In the past, an Iranian man was arrested for attempting to smuggle various types of uniforms of the security agencies in the country. During interrogations, he admitted that he had done it several times before.

"In the past years, fire consumed several vital facilities such as Ahmadi Refinery, the air cargo office in the airport, Ministry of Education store and Information Systems building in Ministry of Interior, which paralyzed the ministry, Shuaiba Refinery, and the oil factory in Ahmadi, the under-construction building of Kuwait Credit Bank, among several other examples.

"Who is responsible for such incidents? The regional situation is in crisis, and danger surrounds Kuwait from all directions. There are hateful souls that are focused on destabilizing Kuwait internally. Today is about fires and tomorrow will be about rumors. What makes me wonder is - Why has the state been silent for so long?"

"There is no doubt that the tremendous efforts exerted by Ministry of Commerce and Industry and the General Customs Department to seize imitation commodities are worth being appreciated by all; otherwise the greed of traders would lead to circumvention of the legal processes by developing ways of cheating and violating rights by imitating branded commodities inside the country or smuggling them from outside without fearing discovery", *Abdulrahman Al-Awwad* wrote for *Al-Sabah* daily.

"Some greedy traders and merchants are only interested in their personal interest at the expense of the consumers' interest. Therefore, it is necessary to develop tools for supervision and inspection on commodities and update the mechanism of work in the concerned bodies in order to seize these commodities before they reach the local market.

"Of course, they all know now that majority of these commodities come from some Asian countries that are famous for industrial activities as well as imitation of original goods and brands."

— Compiled by Zaki Taleb



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