



Speaker of the National Assembly Marzouq Al-Ghanim meets with senior officials from the government agencies. Various issues were discussed regarding progress of multiple projects. KUNA photo

Parliament Speaker announces final touches on 'bedoun's' law

Awqaf sermons to strengthen unity

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 4, (KUNA): National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanim said Wednesday that he met with senior officials to complete the final touches on the illegal residents (bedoun) law, to present it before the next parliamentary term.

The meeting was aimed at hearing different point of views on the law, Al-Ghanim said, adding that he will also meet with multiple societies and activists in the country on the issue.

The meeting was held with the presence of Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Anas Al-Saleh, Minister of Justice and Minister of State for Na-

tional Assembly Affairs Advisor Fahad Al-Afasi and head of the central agency for illegal residents Saleh Al-Fadhala, Al-Ghanim said.

The meeting also included senior officials at the Cabinet, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees' (UNHCR) office in Kuwait.

On July 21, Speaker Al-Ghanim announced that the situation of illegal residents will be resolved during the summer, keeping in mind the human rights side of the issue.

Meanwhile, Kuwait presented new method of paying for memberships at the Standing Committee of the Asian Parliamentary Administrative and Financial Regulations on Wednesday.

During the meeting, Kuwait suggested that parliaments of member-states would pay equal membership fees, head of the Kuwaiti

delegation MP Rakan Al-Nesef told KUNA.

Kuwait also suggested that the Asian Parliamentary Committee would set membership fees according to each country's GDP, he added.

Strengthen unity: The Ministry of Awqaf will issue a circular according to which the next Friday's sermon will be allocated to fight fake accounts and highlight the seriousness of spreading rumors and the need to shun news posted in social media that provoke sedition, reports Al-Qabas daily quoting familiar sources.

The sources added the ministry will instruct all imams and preachers to spread awareness through the mosque pulpits about the negative impact the rumors and false news has on unity.

DIWANIYA ديوانية

A DIGEST OF PUBLIC OPINION

'Positive outcome to affect region'

'All eyes on US-Kuwait summit'

"THE State of Kuwait works at all levels for the sake of stability in the region in accordance with a clear cut vision keeping in mind peace alone can bring progress and development," columnist *Fahd Daoud Al-Sabah* wrote for *Annahar* daily.

"Since Kuwait enjoys a distinguished geographical location it is able to play the peacemaker role in view of its long history in the field of sophisticated diplomacy where it has tasted significant success in many Arab states.

"Based on this fact, several observers currently attach hopes to the visit of HH the Amir, Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad - we pray to Almighty Allah to protect him - to the United States of America and the Kuwaiti-American summit on Sept 12, 2019 which according to a US statement shall constitute an occasion to boost a long-term partnership between the two countries in addition to strengthening the economic and security ties between them.

"In other words, this summit will be political and economic by all means, particularly since we know there are a lot of issues that shall impose themselves on the historical allies (Kuwait and the US), either related to the Gulf crisis or how to settle it or related to the reactivation of the unity of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) which has suffered from setbacks since 2017 because of a dispute among some members.

"Apart from the above, the Kuwaiti-US Summit will discuss the blanket regional situation from Iran to the reconstruction efforts in both Iraq and Syria and the role to be played by US and Kuwait in this connection in addition to the Arab economic situations which needs some kind of rearrangement and the joint Arab cooperation in this field.

"Historically, the Kuwaiti-US relations are based on cooperation and mutual agreement over various issues because this cooperation and agreement are based on a vast heritage of relations that began in 1990 represented by the distinguished US mobilization of the State of Kuwait followed by the bloodshed on the chaste Kuwaiti soil to liberate the country from the Iraqi invasion and occupation. This cooperation has developed into a joint action at all levels.

"As a matter of fact, the history testifies that HH the Amir is the most effective personality at Arab and global levels throughout his diplomatic history, because the Amir has undertaken successful initiatives for the benefit of the Arabs.

"In this context, we cite the Kuwaiti mediation in Jordan in 1970 (between the Jordanian army and the Palestinian armed factions) which transformed Kuwait into political terms of reference in the field of successful Arab mediations.

"Consequently, HH the Amir played a significant role in solving the Lebanese crisis (the Lebanese civil war which erupted in 1975 and lasted up to 1990). During this time the Amir used his political experiences and sophisticated diplomacy to end this war but the complicated Lebanese state of affairs helped this war to continue.

"In spite of the above, the Kuwaiti efforts continued until the holding of the Al-Taif Conference in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia where the State of Kuwait played a significant role and gained the praise of all parties.

"Speaking of the Yemeni crisis which erupted in the 1980s, the Kuwaiti mediation was crowned by an end to the crisis and this mediation was the natural introduction that paved the way for the Yemeni unity in 1990.

"Not just that, it is the State of Kuwait which is still exerting its efforts through mediation for bringing the war, which currently taking place in Yemen to an end.

"Apart from the above Kuwait played the role of mediator following the crisis between the State of Qatar and some GCC states - the crisis which resulted in the conflicting parties withdrawing their each other's ambassadors from the respective countries.

"However, HH the Amir has exerted significant efforts to end this crisis which was crowned by a meeting among the conflicting parties that resulted in achieving some reconciliation in 2014.

"With regards to the current crisis among some GCC states, it is needless to say Kuwait is still playing the mediator role towards this end in accordance with keeping its vision for unity of the GCC states which is the basis of the strength of these countries.

"Given the above, all people in the region are currently looking forward to the upcoming Washington Summit which is expected to ring in a new phase during which the State of Kuwait shall emphasize its position as a center for humanitarian action based on peace under the leadership of the Global Leader of Humanity.

"Consequently, the positive echo of the forthcoming Kuwaiti-US Summit will have its effects on provincial and regional levels simultaneously."

Also:

"It is needless to say we in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries are in an imperative need to resume our deep-rooted ties particularly following the bad blood and tensions currently surrounding us from every side," columnist *Abdurrahman Al-Awwad* wrote for *Al-Sabah* daily.

"Yes we the citizens of the GCC member states must hasten to carefully reign in the tragic situations and their prospective reflections and associations on the entire region in general.

"In other words, it is the duty of the GCC member states to heal these rifts as swiftly as possible and this is obvious through the efforts exerted by HH the Amir, the Leader of the Humanitarian Action who at the moment given his wisdom and experience strives to bring to an end the current crisis among some GCC states.

"It is needless to say the policies followed by the GCC states over the past tens of years have proved its wisdom and effectiveness and the ability to maintain the balance in our region, because these policies are based on holding the member states above the struggles which only brings devastation and destruction to its owners.

"But for the time being we are facing difficulties which should be immediately solved through cohesion and solidarity to nullify the challenges and dangers and return the glory days of the foundation of the Gulf Cooperation Council.

"In this context, we say there are signs and indications that the future will bring sudden changes and this means we should not become captives of the changing or fluctuating circumstances, rather we must groom ourselves to deal with all these prospective events before we get drowned in the midst of these crises, although we are aware many people are knee-deep in trouble and may sink any moment."

"Few weeks ago, the new British Prime Minister Boris Johnson replaced the outgoing Prime Minister Theresa May, after her poor performance in terms of the exit of Britain from the European Union based on a decision taken by the British majority to vote for BREXIT in 2015," *Hassan Ali Karam* wrote for *Al-Seyassah* daily.

"Those who see Johnson walking, moving, or talking

will think he is abnormal. However, the man is not like what his opponents describe him. He is a genius and his brain works more than others.

"While seeking citizens' votes, Johnson declared that he will not wait until the end of October to leave the EU.

"With the fast approach of the date for leaving EU, it seems the opposition at the House of Commons will fight to disrupt enforcement of Johnson's decision, which will in turn keep Britain locked up inside the European cage for long.

"When faced with the parliamentary demands to set up an agreement before leaving the EU, Johnson seems to be trapped in a corner. He then decided to give a deaf ear to democracy and jumped to taking an individual decision. Has he betrayed and threatened the deep-rooted British democracy, according to a statement of the head of Labor Party Jeremy Corin? Spokesman of the House of Commons John Birko described what Johnson did as a "constitutional scandal".

"This of course does not concern us in Kuwait, as many centuries separate the British democracy and the Kuwaiti democracy, which is still being subjected to tests and is a source of disappointment for the citizens. However, there are similar circumstances that sometimes obligate the decision-makers to take some decisions away from their free will.

"There is no doubt that we in Kuwait are much luckier compared to the people in the surrounding countries that are ruled by dictatorial and totalitarian regimes and suffer from civil wars. However, our democracy was not the result of natural delivery or born under suitable circumstances. The then Kuwaiti society had no idea what is democracy was or the conditions for a successful democratic experience. Therefore, most of our former and current politicians, including MPs and ministers, were only opportunists, as they considered the parliament as a corridor that leads to prestige and personal gains.

"What we need today is not to turn back time, as such a thing is impossible. What is required is a comprehensive revision of the gains of our half-century old democratic experience. We need to answer questions concerning whether the fruits was what we aimed for. This evaluation of the democratic experience is a way of tackling the shortcomings and correcting the errors.

"The British Prime Minister has taken an unusual step by disrupting democracy to ensure BREXIT happens safely. Will our Prime Minister also take a similar step to ensure reform and place our democracy on the right track?"

"When will the government review all salaries for public sector employees? For many years, salaries for public sector workers remain uneven and sometimes illogical. For some time now, the government has been talking about the so-called strategic alternative to adjusting salaries," *Mishref Eqab* wrote for *Al-Shahed* daily.

"Many years have passed since we heard about it but we have not seen any salary adjustment. The situation is so bad that some sectors receive huge end of service benefits while others are lowly paid. Here is an important question: Where did the law of the so-called strategic pay alternative go? Will it be applied? If it really exists, and I doubt it, will it solve the problem of salaries which the government has not solved for years?

"We hear about the formation of committees to address the disadvantages associated with the scale of wages, salaries and financial cadres at the level of government agencies for a long time, but unfortunately everything remains stagnant. Why does the government hesitate in making decisions at the right time? I mean the formation of a committee after such a long period. The government at times complains about the financial cost, and at other times, says the situation is good with financial abundance, but did not solve the problem of cadres. Will the strategic alternative solve the salary problem? I doubt it.

"Does it make sense that a country like Kuwait, which is considered one of the richest countries in the world and exports three million barrels of oil with a population of not more than one million citizens, carries out salary increment of 25 percent for employees and 12.5 percent for retirees? It is an unreasonable, illogical and imaginary equation."

"After preoccupying the region with a war and threatening that the United States will strike Iran if it harmed the ships of US or other countries passing through the Strait of Hormuz, President Donald Trump told a crowd of supporters few days ago amid the heat of the upcoming elections that nobody would dare to harm the US ships passing through the straits because such ships are very few in that region," *Waleed Ibrahim Al-Ahmad* wrote for *Al-Rai* daily.

"Adding salt to injury, President Trump said, "We no longer need their oil; the United States has become one of the largest producers of oil and gas in the whole world".

"This American drama with Iran in the region is unfortunately seen by some of our countries or others do not want to see or believe it. They still believe that the US policy seeks to protect the Gulf system from external dangers, and protect the GCC allies from Iranian hegemony even though the reality says the opposite.

"Some days ago, Reuters quoted its own sources about the presence of secret channels for the exchange of information between the two countries concerning Taliban and security aspects in Afghanistan. The agency said Western mediators secretly conveyed messages between Washington and Tehran few months ago to encourage them for dialogue, at a time of increasing tension between them.

"While all this is happening, America tells us that it will not talk to Tehran, and asks us to impose economic sanctions on it."

"If we ponder over the advantages of the top developed countries in the world, we will immediately realize that they are education, industrial development, and scientific research, as well as respect for time and accuracy of performance. These are fundamental factors behind their success along with good and careful employment, and optimal use to serve themselves and the homeland," *Abdurrahman Al-Awwad* wrote for *Al-Sabah* daily.

"Education is the basis in any country that aspires for rapid development. It must provide all possible potentials to ensure growth. From good education, we find growth in the industry which makes civilizations economically strong in our modern era.

"Scientific research is the most important product of quality education and it contributes effectively and rapidly to the development of countries, generating income that sometimes exceeds the income of oil products in some countries.

"In the recent times, Kuwait has been striving to catch up with scientific research by encouraging and supporting it, after realizing that it constitutes an essential component of development.

"However, this effort is still short and does not live up to the aspirations due to which we appropriate budgets will be allocated for conducting scientific researches."

— Compiled by Zaki Taleb

مصنع هلا للبيوت الجاهزة
Hala Factory for prefabricated houses
هلا في بيتك الجديد

شركة هلا الصناعية
Hala Industrial Co.

The Latest Construction Systems

Villas Chalets Diwanias Farms Mosques Workers Resident

Saves time and cost up to 50% compared to traditional buildings

Solves problems of adding storeys (light weight)

New technology light weight coldsteel Building

Making your designs real

Certified Company by Most of the Ministries