

## Local

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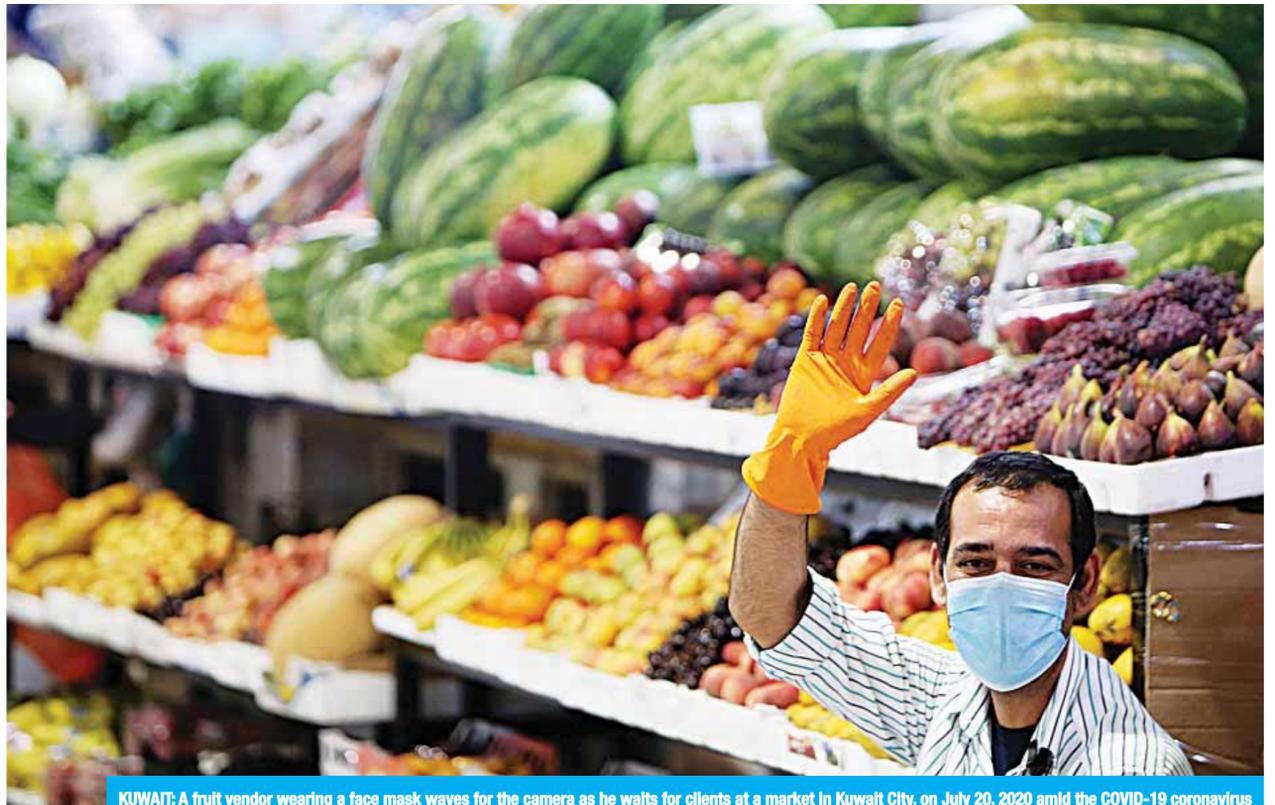
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## Photo of the Day



**KUWAIT:** A fruit vendor wearing a face mask waves for the camera as he waits for clients at a market in Kuwait City, on July 20, 2020 amid the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic crisis. —Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat

## Parents who fail to vaccinate children face fines, jail time

**KUWAIT:** Parents who fail to vaccinate children in their care face fines and jail time. Head of the Child Rights Protection Office at the Ministry of Health Dr Mona Al-Khawari warned that Kuwait law, Article 83 of the Child Protection Law No. 21/2015 stipulates that "Without prejudice to any more severe penalty stipulated by another law, each parent, guardian or whoever is legally responsible for the care of a child, who has not initiated immunization with vaccines against infectious and childhood diseases in accordance with the regulations and instructions issued by the competent medical authorities, shall be punished by imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months, and/or a fine not exceeding KD 1,000." Parents have a grace period of 14 days to vaccinate or face the legal consequences. Vaccinations are provided for all children in Kuwait through government hospitals.

## NBK Academy celebrates wave 23 program graduates

**KUWAIT:** National Bank of Kuwait (NBK) celebrated the graduation of NBK wave 23 program for newly hired employees who have successfully met the admission criteria for this intensive Academy Program that is especially designed for young Kuwaiti university graduates. The program activities were completed through blended learning, in line with the measures taken to fight coronavirus (COVID-19) and to keep trainees safe.

The Academy's training program, that included 19 trainees, covered various areas of the banking industry such as banking principles, risk management, financial accounting, marketing, negotiation, consumer and commercial lending. Moreover, the participants went through training related to creativity and innovation, design thinking and data analysis. Indeed, the program focused on acquainting trainees with work principles and ethics, NBK core values, as well as intensive behavioral skills courses.

It is worth noting that the Academy program content undergoes continuous reviews and additions in order to keep it up to date with the latest international researches and studies related to the banking sector. The NBK Academy Program, that was launched 12 years ago, has been supporting NBK's strategy to employ, train and develop the professional skills of newly graduated Kuwaiti talents, in addition to attracting them to work in the financial services industry.

The Academy reflects NBK's vision to support sustainable human capital development as one of its top strategic priorities and a shared responsibility between the various governmental institutions and the private sector. The NBK Academy was inaugurated in 2008 with the aim to pave the way for new Kuwaiti graduates to join the banking services sector. The Academy provides graduates with the best training programs developed in cooperation with leading international institutions to meet the demands of the labor market.



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## Kuwait calls on ending Israeli crimes in Palestine

**KUWAIT:** Kuwait called on the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) to immediately end Israeli crimes and violence against Palestinians, especially that the world is facing the threat of the coronavirus pandemic. The remarks came in written speech, presented by Kuwait's permanent representative to the UN, Ambassador Mansour Al-Otaibi, during the UNSC's session on the situation in the Middle East late Tuesday. Kuwait and other Arab countries have boosted their efforts to stand in the face of Israeli escalation in the past few months, as the world was trying to fight the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, said Otaibi.

Meanwhile, he noted that in June, UNSC's member-states warned Israel against annexation and considered it a violation of the international law. Israel continues to expand settlements, violating UN resolution 2334, and it is also preventing the establishment of an independent Palestinian state, he added. The Kuwaiti diplomat affirmed that Israel will take the opportunity in every global crisis to escalate attacks against Palestinians, calling on UNSC to exert further efforts to bring Israel to justice. He also called on ending arrest operations, destroying Palestinian buildings, protect Palestinians against the crimes of settlers and end the 13-year siege on Gaza. Otaibi underlined the importance of expanding the work of the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). He reaffirmed Kuwait's commitment to the views of the Arab and Islamic World on the peace process and the two-states solution and having an independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital. —KUNA

## Egypt, Kuwait coordinate on labor issues

**CAIRO:** Egypt's Minister of Immigration and Egyptian Expatriates Nabila Makram confirmed that there is a continuous follow-up to all inquiries received, including the possibility of Egyptians renewing their expired Kuwaiti residency visas, in addition to clarifying the status of Egyptian Kuwait Airways employees who were reportedly included in the company's recent layoffs. She communicated with the relevant authorities in Kuwait, adding that Kuwaiti authorities indicated that residencies' renewal and fees' payment during this phase will be done online, noting companies can register online to renew visas of their employees. Regarding Egyptian Kuwait Airways employees whose services were ended, she said that she had contacted the relevant officials in Kuwait, as the company explained that it had given them three months' salary each after termination.

In my view

## Women, main pillar of society

By Abdellatif Sharaa

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**N**o matter how the woman is held in any society, be it at a higher status or any different fashion, she can never be ignored and forgotten. I do believe that those who treat women badly are not in their sane state of mind, because you will later find this person begging for forgiveness, claiming he did not mean or want to do what he did. Even more than that, he promises not to do it again, only to repeat the exact act, and the cycle goes on.

The woman feels most of the time she is between an anvil and a hammer, because of the stigma some societies place on the divorced woman in particular. Although it is changing somehow, yet the word "divorced" is still very heavy in many patriarchal communities.

Many people unfortunately forget that the woman is actually the main pillar of the society, due to her role of raising its members and getting them into various activities of the society. I believe that the saying "Behind every great man is a woman" is true and to the point. When one marries, you hear him say, "I got my second half", as if he was missing something! Now, don't we believe that the woman constitutes half of the society [and may be more]?

The woman's role is not limited to just doing household chores. In fact she is the source that shapes and directs the society in all its aspects through the way she brings up her children. There are many examples of women who were successful in their homes and laboratories early on.

All of us know the disease diabetes mellitus. Do you know that the discovery of insulin was inspired by a woman, who was a doctor suffering from diabetes? Her husband wanted to find some treatment to make her more comfortable and ensure she leads a normal life. The discovery was made in 1921-22 at the University of Toronto, and I hope that there will be an opportunity to talk about their story.

The woman's role in society varies according to her place, because it brings different responsibilities. Of course, the first and most notable function is motherhood, and with it she gained the description of generations-raiser, because she bears the responsibility of caring for children and bringing them up as the building bricks of the society, and they in turn reflect the effects of her upbringing through their acts in the society.

Let us remember that women opened closed doors and played many roles in politics and led major countries around the world, besides in other capacities. Women proved to be brilliant in medicine, for example, and mega projects are being managed by women engineers. We must wake up to the fact that women have the exact rights as their brothers and we should be supporting them in every way possible.