



**KUWAIT:** Firemen inspect the scene in Um Al-Haiman after the blaze was extinguished.



This photo released by the Interior Ministry yesterday shows a man arrested for drug possession and trafficking.



The fake doctor arrested yesterday for rape.

In my view

## KUWAIT'S PLIGHT AND SOLUTION

By Nabila Al-Anjeri



One cannot be too optimistic about the current parliament despite of all the positive indicators in the recent election process, which included a growing number of new lawmakers and the fall of bothersome MPs, as expected. These indicators can be the cause of tensions within a few months unless a national salvation program is jointly set by the upcoming cabinet and an overwhelming majority of the parliament. Without a program, gaps will start developing within the government-parliament cooperation, which will probably pave the way for new interpellations eventually, or a parliament dissolution as some analysts expected after the elections.

A national salvation program and agreeing on joint priorities have an exceptional significance not only to avoid the dissolution of the assembly, but also to avoid other consequences that are not affordable keeping the current circumstances in mind. Aside from the direct damage on reform, development and planning for the near future, lack of cooperation will enhance further tension, while repeated dissolution will tarnish Kuwait's international image and portray it as being incapable of running its own matters despite the wealth and long regional parliamentary experience. In terms of the irrational sectarian and doctrinal speech, it is considered a cause for undermining national solidarity.

During the electoral campaigns, some candidates called for holding a national conference, which reminds us of what happened during the Iraqi invasion and clearly indicates the severity of the challenges we are facing at all levels. However, that is as necessary as the need for a brave governmental vision on which we can rely to set a salvation program that satisfies the parliament's majority. But the question is, how do we reconcile these populist calls, financial and economic reforms and sustainable development? Unless these issues become so convincing to not incite public opinion against the government and reform measures, it is impossible to do so. This might take some time until awareness programs start blossoming. Until then:

- 1- The government will have to do more than just provide services. It will have to be in contact with various citizens without any brokers or go-between people who would blackmail the voters using the state and trade in at the same time.
- 2- Both the government and state establishments will have to stop taking sides in public or behind closed doors at the expense of other powers and blocs. It must equally resolve the problem of revenge seeking. It must be open for new public and youth powers.
- 3- The government, the National Assembly and all Kuwaitis must realize that constant tension will open more foreign eyes, especially those powers that are already waiting to use our political gaps and domestic division to infiltrate and create more chaos and tumults, to help terrorists control Kuwait and after that crying over spilt milk will do us no good.

## MAN KILLED IN UM AL-HAIMAN HOUSE FIRE SUSPECT TURNS HOUSE INTO 'DRUGS FARM'

By Hanan Al-Saadoun

**KUWAIT:** A man died while his sister was injured in a house fire reported in Um Al-Haiman yesterday, the fire department said yesterday. Um Al-Haiman and Mina Abdullah fire centers headed to the scene in response to an emergency call, and found 30 people trapped inside. They started evacuating them despite some obstacles they faced such as windows protected by steel bars which had to be cut down. The man died before reaching the hospital while his

sister was admitted there for treatment, Kuwait Fire Service Directorate said in a statement.

### Drug possession

A man who turned his residence into a 'drugs farm' was arrested in Sabah Al-Salem yesterday, the Interior Ministry's Relations and Security Information Department said. Police found a room equipped with heat control equipment in an apartment, along with paraphernalia, drugs and a scale. The suspect, Canadian, said he has been using his

house for two years for this activity.

### Raped by fake doctor

A woman was raped by a person who posed as a doctor and lured her to his fake clinic in Farwaniya. In her statements to police, the Filipina woman accused the Egyptian man of sexually assaulting her shortly after she entered an office based on an address he had given her as that of his clinic. The man was identified, arrested and sent to the proper authorities for further action.

## HEAVY OIL PRODUCTION STARTS IN 2018: KOC

**KUWAIT:** Heavy oil production will begin in the end of the year 2018 with roughly 10 to 15 thousand barrels per day at Ratqa refinery, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Kuwait Oil Company (KOC) Jamal Jaafar said yesterday.

Speaking to reporters on the sidelines of a conference and exhibition organized by the Association of Petroleum Engineers, Jaafar noted that the heavy oil production will gradually increase to 60 thousand barrels per day six months after production starts. Moreover, he underscored that KOC remains diligent to bring its grand oil production plan of churning out 4 million barrels daily by the year 2020. Speaking on KOC's oil production capacity, he said it has the potential to reach 2.8 million barrels per day, which highly hinges on the needs of the oil market. On traditional oil production, the KOC CEO noted that it has largely dwindled, which prompted oil companies to resort to unconventional forms of oil production, as he highlighted the potential of GCC nations to create a thriving heavy oil market. The three-day conference and expo is patronized by Deputy Prime Minister, Finance Minister and Acting Oil Minister Anas Al-Saleh. —KUNA



**KUWAIT:** Newly-elected MPs are pictured inside the parliament's building, where they were taken on a tour yesterday ahead of the inaugural session next Sunday.— Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat

## ICM CALLS FOR CABINET THAT 'CONVEYS VOTERS' MESSAGE'

By A Saleh

**KUWAIT:** The Islamic Constitutional Movement (ICM) congratulated the Kuwaiti people for the success of the parliamentary elections and the results achieved by reformists. The results convey a general sense of public rejection to those who could not meet people's expectations, ICM's Secretary General Mohammed Abdullah Al-Olaime said in a statement.

Further, Olaime stressed that ICM demands the formation of a cabinet that will convey the voters' message and help achieve their aspirations. He added that the new cabinet's formation

will have to enhance national security, and revive the economy by fixing economic problems without overburdening the citizens. "The government must also support political reform, undo the injustice of withdrawing citizenships, stop prosecuting people for expressing political opinions and cooperate with lawmakers," he underlined, noting that ICM has conversations against reappointing ministers who had committed 'constitutional violations' as well as those who failed in running any public or private establishments.

**Candidates' hiring**  
Candidates with pending

appointments for leading positions at the Ministry of Education will be appointed after the formation of the new cabinet, Assistant Undersecretary for Public Education Fatima Al-Kandari said. She added that lists of additional candidates will be issued by mid-December so that they can be interviewed shortly. In other news, and as per the instructions from the Civil Services Commission, the ministry will start withdrawing the vehicles handed over to all senior officials and under-secretaries starting from January 2017, and instead will pay them a KD 250 monthly allowance.

## KUWAIT KEEN ON CLOSER TIES WITH HUMAN RIGHTS BODIES

**KUWAIT:** Kuwait is due to host on December 6-15 a contingent of United Nations (UN) officials dealing with legal discrimination against women, Deputy Foreign Minister Khaled Al-Jarallah said yesterday. The visit is a testament to Kuwait's commitment to human rights issues and an opportunity for the country to get acquainted with the latest developments in that field, Jarallah noted.

On the visit of the UN officials, he said that the Foreign Ministry is sparing no effort to ensure that it is a fruitful one, where officials from across the government spectrum, in addition to independent bodies, are expected to meet with the UN contingent.—KUNA

## FOOD CHOICE, GOLDEN SPONSOR OF HORECA 2017

**KUWAIT:** Food Choice Company's CEO Marwan Fares praised the Horeca Kuwait exhibition and its ability to attract companies specializing in hospitality, food industry and hotel requirements, in addition to travel, transport, oil and construction firm.



Marwan Fares

Fares added that with that in mind, Food Choice decided to participate in the event against as a golden sponsor, indicating that "it is of great significance to take part to enhance the company's expansion plans."

Following the success it has achieved ever since its establishment, Food Choice intends to continue growing and expanding internationally using various unique creative ideas, Fares stressed. At the same time, the company is keen on supporting new creations and observing health quality standards in catering and retail services, he added.

In addition, Fares noted that Food Choice was established in 2005 to supply the Kuwaiti market with world-standard food products, which soon earned it a good reputation for its keenness on finding innovative solutions and providing various services for hotels, restaurants and department stores. This went side by side with introducing international high quality products including meat, pastry, cheese, seafood and beverage brands such as Monin, Valrhona, Bonn Maman and the leading New Zealand dairy products brand of Fonterra to local markets, he added.

Fares further indicated that Food Choice also launched its own brand of a wide range of food products that it distributes in Middle East markets. "This success would not have been achieved if it were not for our strategy of employing highly qualified and experienced staff," he concluded.

Horeca Kuwait 2017 has so far attracted over 70 companies due to display their products in the presence of a group of international experts and chefs and a large group of company and hotel owners. The exhibition is organized by Leaders Group in collaboration with Hospitality Services Company at Kuwait International Fairgrounds in Mishref on January 16-18, 2017. It takes place under the patronage of Minister of Information, State Minister for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Al-Humoud Al-Sabah.

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**KUWAIT:** The Coast Guard Department of the Interior Ministry announced yesterday that they will carry out a shooting drill using live ammunition, on December 12-14. The department advised sea-goers to refrain from approaching the identified locations during the drill.—KUNA

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