

In my view

GREETING, REVERENCE TO YESTERDAY'S MOTHERS



By Abdullah Abbas Bowair

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The word 'mother' is not one to be taken lightly because mothers are the first schools children ever attend, so if they are well-prepared, they will be able to raise the best peoples ever. Mothers are fertile lands that are very fruitful when taken care of. Those who have seen mothers in the 1980s and earlier can never forget how dedicated and devoted they used to be. Back in the old days, when life was much simpler, mothers used to bear with very tough circumstances, especially when men went out on pearling or fishing expeditions, leaving the responsibility of their households to them.

In those times, mothers used to take care of everything in the house. They stayed up all night to make sure that their children were sleeping peacefully and

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comfortably. They used to give without expecting any rewards for it. So, whatever one does in return, it will never be enough to repay even a little bit of her sacrifices.

On the other hand, today's moms seem to lack such unique genuine characteristics of good mothers. I personally saw an unforgettable scene on picking up my daughter from school the other day. A housemaid was carrying a little girl outside the school and the girl firmly clung to her, refusing to go to her mom, who kept trying to carry her instead. The girl's attitude reflects how much she loves the maid, more than her own biological mother, even though I often see domestic workers and drivers drive crazily regardless of all traffic regulations on the road with their sponsors' children onboard.

Yes, dear old mothers of the past good old days, you were the best. So may the Almighty have mercy on the souls of those who have departed us and prolong the lives of those of you who still live amongst us!

KUWAITI JOURNALISTS SUPPORT PALESTINIAN HUNGER STRIKER

By Faten Omar

KUWAIT: The Kuwait Journalists Association (KJA) organized a sit-in at its location in Shuwaikh yesterday to demonstrate solidarity with journalist Muhammad Al-Qiq who is imprisoned in Israel. Qiq has been on hunger strike since November 25, 2015 in protest against his imprisonment without charges or trial. The 33-year-old Palestinian is reportedly in critical condition as he continues his 89-day hunger strike in protest.

During his speech, Dhiran Aba Alkhail, member of the Administration Council at the KJA, said that the KJA met with members of the Freedoms Committee and agreed to hold the sit-in in order to support Qiq. He added that Kuwait is the first Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) country to organize a sit-in in solidarity with Qiq, and the first Arab state to take this step after Palestine and Jordan. He called on

government officials to urgently end Qiq's torture. "I did not meet Qiq," Aba Alkhail said, "but during our talking with his colleagues in the freedom organizations, I knew that he was a fearless journalist who made his enemy fear him until now, where he is in poor health and his sight and hearing have been effected."

Comprehensive peace

Former MP Ali Al-Deqbaasi called for the immediate and unconditional release for Qiq and all Palestinian political prisoners as key to the realization of justice and comprehensive peace between Palestine and Israel. He demanded all freedom and international organizations to work together to promote and implement campaigns of boycott and sanctions against Israel and its illegal measures against Palestinians. "Palestine is our cause," Deqbaasi proclaimed. "I have discussed with international organizations the



Former MP Ali Al-Deqbaasi speaks during the sit-in.

situation in which prisoners are spending more than 30 years in jail without charges or trial."

The former lawmaker stressed that Arab countries and organizations must act immediately. "We already know the issue and know our enemy, what are we waiting for?", he asked. "Unfortunately, some freedom organizations are waiting for governments to act, but that is never going to happen. We must act and translate the Palestinian issue to all lan-

guages and post it on social media to deliver their voices. We also have to debunk bribery of all the media and the freedom organizations that are silent."

Jehad Gradat, General Coordinator of the Jerusalem Forum, said that Qiq, whose health has deteriorated to the point of facing imminent death, showed the world that Palestinians will always be strong and fight their enemies by wearing a smile on their faces.



KUWAIT: A general view of people in attendance at a sit-in organized by KJA to demonstrate solidarity with Palestinian journalist Muhammad Al-Qiq. — Photos by Joseph Shagra

ENTRIES FOR SHEIKH MUBARAK AL-HAMAD JOURNALISM EXCELLENCE AWARD CLOSED

KUWAIT: The higher committee of Sheikh Mubarak Al-Hamad Journalism Excellence Award said yesterday that submission of entries for the competition ended. The competition kicked off last November 18th. The award is sponsored by His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah.

This year's award witnessed unprecedented participation due to the constant development plans of the award, namely the prizes and training courses hosted in the most recognized media institutes, president of the higher committee of the award Ayman Al-Ali said in a press release.

Al-Ali added that among those improvements were signing a memo of understanding with France 24, International Radio France, and Monte Carlo Radio for training the winners and polish their skills, in addition to signing a contract with Thompson Foundation. Ali added that a specialized committee is currently sorting and scrutinizing applicants based on the rules and conditions listed for the competition. With regard to the award's final ceremony, Ali said a dateline will be announced next March for the event. — KUNA

US MEDICAL EXPERT VISITS SABAH AL-AHMAD HEART CENTER

KUWAIT: Sabah Al-Ahmad Heart Center said yesterday that it is hosting an expert from the US Mayo Clinic Hospital specializing in Cardiovascular Diseases Dr Peter Brady as part of his 8th routine visit to the country.

The center expressed in a statement its keenness on bringing in the best experts in the heart disease field for the sake of providing quality medical services to citizens and residents alike, the President of the Center Dr Mohammad Al-Jarallah said.

Jarallah added that Dr Brady will deliver lectures to doctors on the issue, including workshops to doctors working on Cardiovascular Diseases, including advance analysis on reading and analyzing heart Electrocardiography, known as (ECG). The visitor performs many heart operations, including reviewing and following up patients with difficult heart problems, Jarallah said. — KUNA

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