

127,408 ELIGIBLE VOTERS IN 4TH CONSTITUENCY

KUWAIT: The total electorate for the upcoming elections due on November 26 stands at 483,186, including 230,430 males and 252,756 females. The number of eligible voters in the fourth constituency had reached 127,408 with 67,914 females. The current figure is an increase by 13,723 voters which is around 2.84 percent from the numbers registered in the previous elections in July of 2016. The fourth constituency represent 26.36 percent of the total number of voters nationwide.

Voters of this constituency are residents of 18 areas: Farwaniya with 5,346 (including 2,253 females), Al-Ferdous with 17,643 (including 8,900 females), Al-Omariya with 5,225 (including 2,652 females), Al-Rabiya with 5,750 (including 2,941 females), Al-Rigaiya and Al-Andalous with 8,197 (with 4,846 including females), and Jleeb Al-Shuyoukh with 4,922 (including 2,244 females).

The constituency also consists of Sabah Al-Nasser with 7,679 (including 4,643 females), Al-Rehab with 1,677 (including 4,107 females), Al-Adhailiya with 20 male voters only, Al-Adhailiya with 13,468 (with 7,544 females), Ishbiya with 1,488 (including 738 females), Abdullah Al-Mubarak with 4,014 (including 1,754 females), new Jahra area with 23,857 (including 13,304 females), Al-Sulaibiya and government housing areas with 2,061 (including 1,842 females), Saad Al-Abdullah city with 4,416 (including 1,742 females), and Jahra and Al-Bar with 19,215 (including 10,081 females). No voters were registered in Al-Shadidiya and Saihad Al-Awazim.

Education

Candidates of the fourth constituency for the National Assembly elections for the 15th legislative term, slated for 26 November 2016, are predominantly have high levels of education. About 48 percent of them 40-49 years old. Out of the total 116 nominees of the constituency, as the registration ended for the race, there are 68 (58.62 percent) with university degrees; nineteen (16.37 percent) carry diplomas; eighteen (15.51 percent) are high school graduates, and ten (8.62 percent) completed the intermediate school.

Among the 68 nominees with academic degrees, 11 have PhDs in education, law, family medicine, accounting, business administration, political science, and teaching methodology. Twelve nominees have MAs in military sciences, economy, law, libraries, information documents, Islamic studies, strategic management, environmental engineering, and psychological and educational guidance.

Forty-five BA holding nominees studied history, aviation science, law, social work, electronic engineering, electrical engineering, architectural engineering, surgery, economic geography, accounting and political sciences. The 19 candidates with diplomas are specialized in business administration, electronic engineering, military sciences, police science, or studied at the Religious Institute.

As for the candidates of the fourth constituency in the 2013 parliamentary elections, they were 114; Fifty-five of them (48-24 percent) had university degrees; Twenty (17.45 percent) had diplomas; Thirty-one (27.19 percent) were high school graduates, and seven (6.14

percent) candidates completed the intermediate school.

Among the 55 nominees with university degrees, 10 had PhDs in e-government, modern history, Fiqh (Islamic jurisprudence), strategic philosophy, philosophy of business administration, education, political science, economy and oral and dental surgery.

Thirteen candidates with MAs were qualified in management, public law, international and diplomatic relations, project management, military sciences, Islamic studies, fundamentals of education, and business administration.

BA nominees, 32, were specialized in physical education, medicine, surgery, law, science, Sharia, education, sociology, business administration, social work, law, and civil engineering. The twenty diploma candidates studied fire science, military sciences, police science, electronics, business administration, engineering, civilian aircraft maintenance, medical emergencies, and aviation science.

2012 elections

In the 2012 elections, candidates of the Fourth Constituency were 97. Nominees with university degrees hit 44 (45.36 percent), the same figure of the ones with diplomas and the high school graduates together, 22 candidates (22.68 percent) and 23 (23.71 percent) respectively. Predominantly, most candidates were 40-49 years old. Eight candidates (8.24 percent) completed the intermediate school.

Nine of the 44 nominees with academic degrees had PhDs in economy, business administration, information management, distance learning, philosophy, mechanical engineering, medicine, leadership, education policies, and sociology. Nine nominees studied law, teaching methodology, quality management, military sciences, public law, and international relations.

Twenty-six BA holding candidates were qualified in the Arabic language, law, education, Sharia, political science, economy, business administration, accounting, commerce, social work and industrial engineering.

The 22 nominees with diplomas had were specialized in military sciences, management, secretarial work, health sciences, mechanical engineering, electronics, medical emergencies, social work, technology, safety and security, and accounting, or studied at the Teachers' Institute.

Age

In terms of age, 56 of the Fourth Constituency nominees for the 2016 elections are 40-49 years old, 48.27 percent of the total candidates. Forty-seven (40.5 percent) were 50 years old or over, and 13 (11.20 percent) were 30-39 years old.

In the 2013 elections, 53 candidates (46.49 percent) were 40-49 years old; 46 ones (40.35 percent) were 50 years old or over; fifteen nominees (13.15 percent) were 30-39 years old. Candidates for the 2012 elections, included 50 nominees (51.54 percent) were 40-49 years old; 26 ones (26.80 percent) were 50 years old or over; and twenty-one nominees (21.64 percent) were 30-39 years old. — KUNA



KUWAIT: Kuwaiti opposition leader and candidate Jamaan Al-Harbash speaks during a campaign meeting in Kuwait City Tuesday evening. Kuwaiti opposition groups are aiming for a comeback in parliament after a four-year election boycott, seeking to reverse what they see as the deteriorating political situation in the Gulf state. — Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat

THE 'SILENT MAJORITY': A TRUMP CARD IN ELECTIONS

KUWAIT: It is interesting to see with every parliamentary elections that there are some people who are 'silent' and not interested in voting for candidates, and if they do vote they would surely turn some tables. Candidates try their best to bring those silent people and lure them to vote and exercise their right for the upcoming parliamentary elections of November 26 in order to determine the nature of the next parliament through adoption of numerous realistic programs that cope with the current pressing regional, domestic and international issues, besides meeting ambitions of this segment.

Such group of people are called differently in every country, where some call them the 'Silent Majority', 'Hesitant or Negative' and in Egypt they are called the 'Couch Party'. This category of silent people are estimated between 10-50 percent according to semi-official statistics as their par-

ticipation is linked to their mood, timing of the elections and to the nature of issues being addressed on the political and media arenas.

Nonexistent

Political researcher and academician Dr Ayed Al-Mannaa said that the silent majority in its political approach does not exist in Kuwait, however, there is a large number of people who have no interest in politics or in elections, but can make a change in the elections. He added that such group is also found in the rest of the world and is becoming a target for candidates once they decided to break their silence and take part in presidential or parliamentary elections' process.

Manaa attributed their rejection to take part to psychological, political and religious matters or to the failure of politicians to reach out for them and lure them into participating. He

said that such hesitant or silent group could heavily impact the elections and determine the identity of the next parliament should they decide to go ahead and vote. He pointed out that the single-vote system has given a big incentive for the voter, a matter that prompted candidates to seriously think of snatching votes of all with no exception.

Negative

Meanwhile, Professor of Political Sociology Dr Mohammad Al-Rumaihi said that the concept of silent majority has a negative consequence on the entire society and on the political reality in particular, saying such a group has no interest in politics and does not want to contribute to it. He asserted the role of the individual to actively take part in the development of the country, chiefly in the political process, calling for selecting the best candidate. —KUNA



KUWAIT: Kuwaitis gather at the election headquarters of fourth constituency candidate Osama Al-Munawer. — Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat

KFSD ON ALERT TO GUARANTEE SMOOTH PARLIAMENT ELECTIONS

KUWAIT: The Kuwait Fire Service Directorate (KFSD) has made all arrangements and preparations for the National Assembly (parliament) elections due on November 26. Head of the Hawalli Fire Department Brigadier Mohammad Al-Mahmeed, who is also KFSD's General Coordinator for the National Assembly Elections, told KUNA that all precautions are taken to supervise the democratic process with cooperation with all concerned bodies.

The KFSD will distribute its fire engines on schools used as ballot stations since they open early in the morning until the official results are announced, Mahmeed said yesterday. He stressed that they are always on alert and have made maximum preparations to deal with any emergencies, around the clock. He also hoped that the elections would proceed smoothly, urging all parties to cooperate with the Directorate's staff to provide due protection for all.

Meanwhile, Deputy Director General for Prevention Sector at the KFSD, Brigadier Khalid Abdullah Fahad, said

that they had issued 120 licenses for electoral headquarters, which included tents. These were offered according to certain specifications and conditions, mainly related to providing the highest level of safety.

The KFSD spares no effort, and take the necessary measures to secure a smooth electoral process, head of the Public Relations and Media at the KFSD Colonel Khalil Al-Amir said. He added that firemen are wielding enormous efforts to successfully implement plan set for securing the elections, as well as boosting the public's awareness on dealing with fire emergencies.

As per law 20/2012, the first 10 candidates with most votes in each constituency win seats in the National Assembly. Voters can only vote for one candidate per the constituency they are registered in. Up to 363 candidates, including 15 women, are standing for the elections. Eligible voters are 483,186 voters. More than 4,000 Interior Ministry personnel are entrusted with securing the elections. — KUNA



CONDOLENCES

Al-Alyan Family

convey their deepest condolences to

Al-Awadhi family

on the sad demise of

Khaled Abdullah Mohammed Al-Awadhi

who passed away on November 15th 2016

May Allah Almighty bestow His mercy on him