

HEALTH MINISTER AFFIRMS COMMITMENT TO RULES OF OVERSEAS MEDICAL TREATMENT



Health Minister Dr Ali Al-Obaidi

KUWAIT: Minister of Health Dr Ali Al-Obaidi said the decisions on overseas medical treatment are bound to specific technical criteria and fall in the framework of a practical system. "Such decisions are made without interferences by a minister. I have decided to refer a number of medical offices to prosecution over reported irregularities in this regard," he said.

The minister made the comments in an interview with 'Ommah 2016' program on Al-Rai TV station on Friday night. The overseas medical treatment is one of a range of services being offered by the Ministry of Health since the ministry was founded long years

ago, he said. "Under this system, a patient can file a report on his/her medical condition to a four-member consultant committee who can decide on the need of overseas treatment. Their decision should be approved by director of the relevant hospital and then be tabled to undersecretary of the ministry for final endorsement," he explained.

Dr Obaidi affirmed that the office of the minister has nothing to do with such applications. He noted that all decisions made by the competent committees in the recent period were correct and away from any exceptions or nepotism.

"There are 55 such technical committees

with a total 275 consultants in hospitals across the country who are known for their integrity and sincerity and serve our fellow citizens pursuant to the provisions of the constitution," he went on. He noted that the doubts cast by some parliamentary hopefuls targeted certain members of such committee not the minister.

He added that the cost of overseas treatment amounted to KD 760 million, noting that the number of Kuwaiti patients being treated abroad topped 2,314, including 1,193 patients in the United States, 462 in the United Kingdom, 370 in Germany and 289 in France. —KUNA

Local spotlight

SALWA CRIMES

By Muna Al-Fazai

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I love the Salwa area of Kuwait. It is a great location, close to the city, to shopping in Salmiya, family-friendly and accessible to all services. But there has been a growing rate of crime in the area and more attention needs to be paid to all that goes on there.

Hardly a day passes without the news of a murder, armed robbery, theft or trafficking in drugs and other crimes taking place. Some may claim that it is normal in modern societies. I don't think so because we are a small country and crimes, especially murders, are not something we should accept and simply get used to happening. Salwa was under the microscope this month for a massive increase in crime including cases of murder, drugs, domestic violence, theft, robbery, attacks on vehicles and much more. In one case, a 45-year-old citizen killed his 35-year-old wife, in front of her children, attacking her with a screwdriver and a hammer. The police arrested the man but the impact of this awful crime on the children will never disappear.

A week later another crime has set Salwa residents on edge. Three people were found dead including a member of the ruling family. All three had been tied up and gagged and then shot execution style. Everyone has begun to wonder why and worry over his family and personal safety.

Police acted fast and caught two suspects, two Iranians (it was originally reported that one was bedoon, but the Interior Ministry has confirmed the nationalities in its official statement to the press). According to the statement, the two men, one of whom was the cook for the sheikh, killed the three to steal KD 276,000. They planned to flee once the deed was done. Now they have been caught, and five lives were lost. But for the rest of people living in Salwa, the fear remains. The police and residents will need to work together to reverse the rising crime rate in Salwa and protect its good reputation.

I think that the overall prevalence of violence in the Arab world and the scene of terrorist groups like IS and other terrorist groups that spread in Syria and Iraq have a significant effect on the perpetrators of crimes because they do not feel remorse or hesitate to murder. The high number of crimes have a negative impact on social relations between individuals and spread of fear and anxiety. The Interior Ministry is doing its job now to uncover the causes of crime, but it is necessary to reconsider the reasons to eliminate the number of such crimes. What could be the reason for such crimes in this area? If there is a tip to all here, please make sure to lock all doors and windows at night and never leave any valuables such as credit cards or cash in your car for any reason. Don't be a prey to theft or criminals.

MINISTRY ARRESTS MURDERERS OF TWO KUWAITIS, INDONESIAN

KUWAIT: The General Administration of Criminal Investigation managed to arrest, in less than 24 hours, those responsible for the murder of the two Kuwaiti nationals, including a ruling family member, and an Indonesian female in Salwa on Friday, said the Ministry of Interior yesterday. The suspects were arrested after intense investigation and information from eyewitnesses, the ministry's media and public relations department said in statement. The suspects, Iranian nationals Mohammad Abdullredha Nawasser and Ali Mohammad Al-Bughaibesh, committed the crime using a handgun, said the statement. Before escaping, the two suspects stole KD 276,000 and three guns belong to the house owner, the statement added. — KUNA

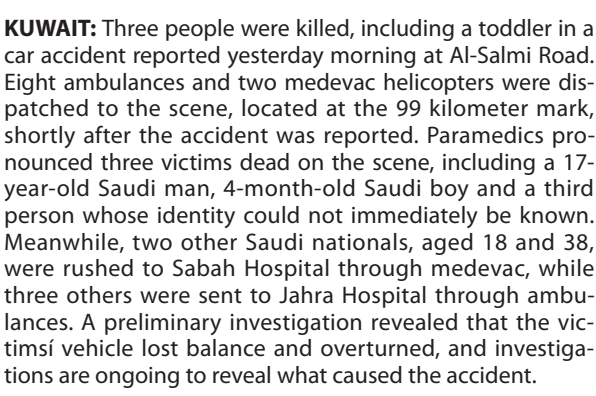


KUWAIT: This photo released by the Interior Ministry yesterday shows two suspects arrested yesterday for triple murder and theft in a crime they are accused of committing on Friday.

THREE KILLED, FIVE INJURED IN SALMI ROAD ACCIDENT

KUWAIT: Three people were killed, including a toddler in a car accident reported yesterday morning at Al-Salmi Road. Eight ambulances and two medevac helicopters were dispatched to the scene, located at the 99 kilometer mark, shortly after the accident was reported. Paramedics pronounced three victims dead on the scene, including a 17-year-old Saudi man, 4-month-old Saudi boy and a third person whose identity could not immediately be known. Meanwhile, two other Saudi nationals, aged 18 and 38, were rushed to Sabah Hospital through medevac, while three others were sent to Jahra Hospital through ambulances. A preliminary investigation revealed that the victims' vehicle lost balance and overturned, and investigations are ongoing to reveal what caused the accident.

By Hanan Al-Saadoun



KUWAIT: Three people were killed, including a toddler in a car accident reported yesterday morning at Al-Salmi Road.

QATARI GENERAL HIGHLIGHTS MILITARY TIES WITH KUWAIT

DOHA: Head of Qatar's military institutes and colleges authority Hamad Al-Naimi underlined yesterday the deep-rooted military ties between Qatar and Kuwait, mainly training and education. In a statement following visiting the location of a military exercise, Naimi stressed that Qatar provides all support for the army command to make a success of this exercise.

The drill is held for the first time between Kuwait and Qatar, as part of the military cooperation between the two sides. The Qatari army's command briefed Naimi on phases and activities of the exercise as well as achievements made during this period. More than 300 military cadets of Kuwait are taking part in the drill that started on November 19 and will run until December 3. — KUNA



DOHA: Head of Qatar's military institutes and colleges authority Hamad Al-Naimi is pictured with the Kuwaiti military delegation. — KUNA



KUWAIT: Archive photos showing students from different eras throughout Kuwait University's history. — KUNA



KUWAIT UNIVERSITY CELEBRATES 50TH ANNIVERSARY TODAY

KUWAIT: Marking its 50th anniversary of establishment, Kuwait University earned its respect as one of the leading regional and international high-level educational institutions. The university, which was inaugurated by His Highness the late Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah, has made several achievements over the years that contributed to finding scientific solutions to the society's issues. It has been keen on development in accordance with a certain plan aiming to prepare graduates qualified enough for requirements of the modern age.

The university was established under Act No. 29/1966 regarding the organization of higher education and its laws, five years after the State of Kuwait gained its independence. The idea of setting up the university was launched in 1960 as the Ministry of Education appointed a number of experts to form a commission that included professors Solaiman Hozain, from Egypt's Assiut University, Qustantin Zuraiq, from American University in Beirut, and Igor Genges, from Cambridge University.

The first academic years started in September of 1964 at the Faculty of Arts and the Faculty of Sciences. The Ministry of Education at that time appointed Professor Abdulhalim Montaser as the University's director. During his stay in Kuwait, he made several studies on the establishment of KU and its requirements. The official inauguration of the university coincided with the establishment of the faculties of Arts, Sciences, Education and others.

issuance of the Amiri Decree to establish a College of Architecture and College of Computer Science and Engineering.

The university is considered the first government one seeking to provide quality

Some Amiri decrees were issued to set up College of Law and Sharia, College of Commerce, Economy and Political Sciences in 1967, College of Administrative Sciences in 1971, College of Medicine in 1973 and

support staff working in teams and in a friendly atmosphere.

The faculty accepted its first class of 32 full-time students into the first year of the curriculum in September 1997.



education and contribute to knowledge and development to achieve development goals as well as the needs of the community. The university's buildings, modern equipment, high-tech laboratories, advanced libraries and technological resources form a suitable environment for learning, development and innovation, as KU offers programs qualified research excellence performance and scientific interest towards global modern concerns and international academic accreditation for its programs to achieve a prestigious scientific status.

College of Engineering and Petroleum in 1974. Upon some Amiri decrees, it was also agreed to establish College of Graduate Studies in 1977, College of Education in 1980, College of Sharia and Islamic Studies in 1981, as well as College of Allied Health Sciences and Nursing in 1982.

Under Amiri decrees, Faculty of Pharmacy was established in 1996, Faculty of Dentistry in 1998 and Faculty of Social Sciences in 1999.

The Faculty of pharmacy relies on skilled and committed academic support staff, laboratory and research technicians, and

Innovation

The university aims to preserve and transmit knowledge through scholarship, encourage innovation and development in the arts and the sciences through addressing issues of national, regional and global significance. It has made significant advances since its establishment 50 years ago, and has evolved into a multi-faculty institution of higher learning comprised of 17 colleges.

The institution's scientific culture strives to further postgraduate studies, develop new programs, and enhance collaborations with world renowned universities and research centers to attain global recognition and visibility.

This purpose dynamically involves faculties in exploring new dimensions in academic exchanges and research, in bolstering their institutions external profiles and international standing. The KU takes pride in its distinguished students and bestows honors and awards on students who have demonstrated scholastic excellence; it also strives to nurture talent in rare specializations.

Each faculty maintains a list of its honors students who achieve a grade point average of 3.5 and above. Students who finish their program's requirements within the prescribed period and graduate with a grade point average of 3.67 are awarded an honors degree in recognition of their distinguished accomplishment and academic excellence. — KUNA

