

KFH RAISES ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

KUWAIT: Kuwait Finance House (KFH) exerted remarkable efforts to raise the environmental awareness in the community in an attempt to keep the environment safe, healthy and clean. This comes in collaboration with the concerned authorities such as the Environmental Mabarrah and Kuwait Dive Team. KFH participated in the launch of the implementation phase of the plastic bottles recycling environmental project (Omnia) as an environmental partner and the first sponsor for this national project. KFH is the first bank to embrace this idea that aims at increasing the awareness of the importance of collecting and recycling the plastic bottles in Kuwait.

In collaboration with KFH, Omnia installed plastic bottles collection boxes at the main Cooperative Societies in different areas including Aledayliah, Alsalam, Sabah Alsalem, Mubarak Alkabeer, Saad Alabdallah, and Abdullah Almubarak. Moreover, The

Environmental Voluntary Foundation has received a number of Whaly Boats from Kuwait Finance House (KFH) as part of the bank's endeavors to optimally assume the social responsibility and support the efforts of Kuwait Dive Team. The Whaly Boats help in lifting waste and neglected materials, not to mention assist in the protection and rehabilitation mission of Kuwait's aquatic world and the safety of the marine environment.

KFH is keen on supporting programs that serve the community and spread awareness among people in efforts to keep the environment safe, healthy and clean. The bank organized many events for children in collaboration with schools and the Ministry of Education to raise their awareness of the importance of the environment. KFH attaches great importance to the environmental issues in Kuwait, and calls for boosting the synergy among all respective authorities to keep Kuwait clean and pollution free.



—photos by Yasser Al-Zayyat

A CULTURAL SYMPOSIUM ON SIGNIFICANCE OF MASHHAD

By Nawara Fattahova

KUWAIT: On the occasion of choosing Mashhad as the Capital of Islamic Culture for 2017, the Iranian Embassy in cooperation with the Kuwaiti-Iranian Friendship Union held a cultural symposium on the historical significance of Mashhad on Wednesday, the 38th anniversary of Iranian national day. Iranian Ambassador to Kuwait Dr Ali Reza Enayati expressed his happiness that Mashhad was chosen as the capital of Islamic culture, after Kuwait last year. "The Islamic Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) selected Mashhad due to its great cultural, religious and art value, and because tens of the most popular scientists, Islamic scholars, writers, astronomers and others who hail from there," he noted during the symposium.

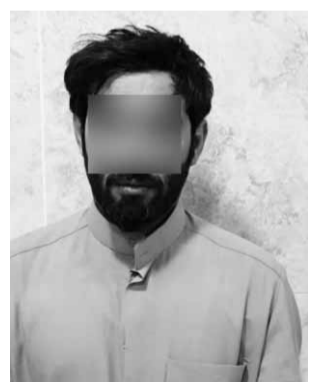
He mentioned the popular imams from Khorasan province, whose capital is Mashhad. "Mashhad wasn't popular earlier, but after Imam Ali bin Mousa Al-Reza came to this city and died there, it transferred into a huge Islamic center that contains many religious centers and universities. Over 20 million visitors from all over the world visit the shrine of Al-Reza every year," added Enayati. Cleric Sheikh Murtaza Faraj spoke about the religious role of Iran in general and Mashhad particularly. "Since Islam entered Iran, it plays a great role in preserving Islamic culture and heritage. Different nations converted to Islam, applied it and tried to spread it, but the Iranians played a major role," he said, pointing out the great role of Imam Al-Reza in developing the civilization of the city. Dr Faisal Taha, professor of history at Kuwait University, highlighted the

cultural role of the scholars of Khorasan during the fifth and sixth century after hijra. "At that time, this region was one of the most important regions of the Islamic world. Arab libraries need to include more studies of the cultural life and political situation of Khorasan.

The rulers and ministers there were very interested in education, and various families there supported the scientists, so paper manufacturing increased there and more shops opened. Linguistic and religious studies became very popular," he explained. Academic researcher Dr Khalid Al-Saleh spoke about the geographic and historical value of Khorasan region and its role in Islamic civilization. "One of the main reasons this region flourished was due to its huge size, which was rich in natural resources and agriculture, which resulted in rising trade," he noted.

EMBASSY URGES KUWAITIS TO AVOID INDONESIA PROTESTS

KUALA LUMPUR: Kuwait Embassy in Indonesia urged fellow citizens yesterday to stay off places and areas in Jakarta where political demonstrations are scheduled to take place later this month. In a statement, the embassy called on Kuwaitis in Indonesia to maintain a high level of vigilance, precaution, and safety, stressing the importance of staying away from certain areas in central Jakarta such as Gambir district, Hotel Indonesia, Indonesian House of Representatives, Shura Council, Jakarta International Expo, the National Monument (MONAS) in Merdeka Square, and Istiqlal Mosque. It also urged all fellow citizens to stay in touch with the embassy, in case of any emergency situation, through the following emergency phone numbers: +62081290992638, +62081513252597, and +62081281813758. The embassy wished safety for everyone, and lasting stability and security for Indonesia. Around 212 Indonesian Islamic organizations are planning to hold new grand demonstrations in Jakarta four days before electing a new governor for the city, scheduled for February 15th, demanding the current Governor Basuki Tjahaja Purnama to withdraw from the elections race for "insulting Islam". — KUNA



CAR THIEVES NABBED

By Hanan Al-Saadoun

KUWAIT: Salmiya detectives have arrested two Kuwaitis and a Syrian for stealing more than 15 cars from different areas in Kuwait. The suspects used to sell the spare parts of the stolen cars and burn the vehicles. The culprits confessed that they have been doing this for a long time. They have been referred to the concerned authorities for further investigations.

