

Crime

Report

DRUG POSSESSION

KUWAIT: Police found a citizen in an abnormal condition in Jahra. They found a bag of shabu with him, along with SR 5,000, which was found to be forged. He was sent to concerned authorities. Separately, two young men drew policemen's attention in Farwaniya. They asked for their IDs, and found they were twins on drugs. They had some drugs with them and remnants of hashish joints. Both were taken to Farwaniya police station to be sent to the Drugs Control General Department.

Youngster attempts suicide

KUWAIT: A young man in his 20s tried to commit suicide after his parents insisted that he leaves their home, prompting policemen and detectives to intervene and prevent him from carrying out the attempt. The man was taken to the police station charged with attempted suicide. Meanwhile, his father and mother were summoned for questioning.

Girls' fight

Gossiping led to a fight between four girls in a Salmiya cafe. Patrons of the cafe called police as they were not able to break up the fight. Police took the girls to the police station, where one of them claimed that two girls spoke maliciously about her, and when she admonished them, they beat her. The four are being sent to concerned authorities.

Drunk man arrested

A drunk citizen entered a house thinking it was his in Farwaniya, so he was arrested on two charges. When the man entered the house, those inside were surprised and the women screamed, and he was caught and handed to police. The citizen faces two charges - public drunkenness and entering a house without permission. — *Translated from the Arabic press*



POLICE ASSAULT PROBED

KUWAIT: A security source said Interior Ministry Assistant Undersecretary for Nationality and Passport Affairs Maj Gen Sheikh Mazen Al-Jarrah asked for a report about a policeman attacking his colleague at work, and investigate alle-

gations of the policeman stubbing out a cigarette in his face.

A security source said the accused reported to work to guard a building accompanied by a relative, and asked the policeman of the previous shift to hand him the responsibilities,

but he refused, assuming the policeman was not in a normal condition. This angered him, and a verbal exchange ended with exchanging blows, and accusations that the suspect stubbed out the cigarette in his opponent's face. — *Al-Rai*

PALESTINIAN TEACHERS

By Ahmad Al-Sarraf

I received several comments regarding an article I wrote about bringing Palestinian teachers. Most of those comments were negative, and the feelings of those who sent them can be understandable. I received other comments that were positive, the best of which was from a reader named Raed, in which he said bringing Palestinian teachers, without their families, and other Palestinian workers with them will not change much, and the education ministry should look into the matter of the deteriorating education more deeply.

According to Raed, Kuwait today complains about the general drop in the level of its school graduates, compared with its outstanding level before the heinous Saddam invasion. So, nothing much will be changed unless we restore the situation to 'some' of what it was in the past. The Palestinian teacher was honest in his work because he was teaching Kuwaiti students along with his compatriots and children of the rest of the Arabs, so he was building for his future at his work. Yet, today, if he accepts coming to Kuwait, he will not work with the same enthusiasm, rather will make financial gains his main goal, just like others.

He said that the Kuwaiti student benefited from the presence of the rest of Arab students in the past with him in public schools. Because of their humble financial capacities compared with their Kuwaiti peers, those students were more interested in school and studying, thus providing an incentive for Kuwaiti students. This incentive disappeared today as the non-Kuwaiti element disappeared from government schools.

So, the return of the Palestinian teacher today will not achieve what is hoped for, or make any change, Raed believes, adding that the reason is that this teacher will mostly come alone, as the salary he will receive, which is less than KD 600, cannot help him support a full family, and that most of those he will teach will be Kuwaitis, and his children or nephews are not among them, so his enthusiasm will not be like teachers in the past.

Before the Invasion, the Palestinian teacher considered himself a resident of Kuwait for an indefinite time, so he was living and behaving on this basis, and his salary was not draining the country's resources. But now, this situation will change, according to Raed. He believes that the change will happen due to the disappearance of the semi-loyalty to the country. A teacher will not hesitate to accept any better offer whenever he receives it.

The Palestinian teacher will find himself compelled to ride the wave of private tuition, taking advantage of the extended free time he has. So, Raed says that it is better for the education ministry to think outside the box, and give the choice for expat children to join government schools in exchange of fees that are close to those paid to private schools. With this condition we can create a healthy educational environment, more forgiving towards others and more competitive and rich, one that pushes the Kuwaiti student to benefit from the experience of his colleagues. Also it is possible through the school fees to support the education system and attract the best teachers for lucrative salaries.

Providing the expat with freedom of sending his child to public schools will reduce pressure on private schools; who would then be forced to improve their quality and enhance the educational environment to avoid losing students in favor of public schools. Those are good proposals that are worth studying. Maybe not all of them are applicable, but they need to be subjected to creative thinking to come up with solutions to change the miserable situation of our education.

— *Translated by Kuwait Times*

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March 12th, 2017 Till April 6th, 2017

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- All photographs** should accurately reflect the subject matter and the scene as it appears. 'High Dynamic Range' images are acceptable. Photos that have been digitally altered beyond standard optimization (removal of dust, cropping, reasonable adjustments to exposure, color, contrast, etc.) will be disqualified.
- Caption information should include:**
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THE OPPOSITION AND RAMADAN ELECTIONS

By Thaar Al-Rasheedi

According to all available and evident data, everyone is now preparing for parliamentary elections due to be held in June, assuming that the current parliament will be annulled by the first week of May as predicted. This means that the elections will be held in between the first and last week of June. Either way, the elections will be held the Ramadan. This is most likely to happen if the constitutional court annuls the current parliament on May 3rd and thus the cabinet is expected to resign from office in the same week of issuing a decree calling for parliamentary elections, just like what happened with the 2013 parliament. The same scenario is happening again for the same reasons and under the same circumstances leading to the formation of a new parliament to be known as the '2017 National Assembly'.

Some people may believe this is unlikely to happen, but I believe it is possible. We will probably witness early elections this summer which will be the second one to be held during Ramadan in Kuwait's history. I personally believe this will happen and still insist that the current parliament will be dissolved or annulled. However, I tend to believe it will be constitutionally annulled. This is because the government that issued the decree calling for the previous elections was unconstitutional, because it did not include any MP appointed as cabinet member (all the three MPs in the cabinet had resigned before calling for the elections). This makes it an unconstitutional government issuing an unconstitutional call for elections. Many political analysts believe so as well, and are certain it will happen.

So, with less than 50 days before the possible early elections, I expect the current parliament will only hold ordinary sessions as political showoff in preparation for the coming elections, namely on the opposition MPs' side. This does not mean that none of them will try to race to grill His Highness the Prime Minister, though there is no time left for it. Furthermore, it will be too late for the opposition to make such a maneuver. What is clear evident is that everybody is haunted by the possibility of annulling the parliament, that new elections are so near and that the political map will be changed once again but only after the opposition will have lost several opportunities in making it to the second Ramadan-elected parliament. — *Translated by Kuwait Times*



KUWAIT: The Public Authority for Applied Education and Training (PAAET) opened yesterday its first job fair, which is organized by the Planning and Development Department in cooperation with the deanship of students' affairs. The fair runs through tomorrow.



KFH TAKES PART IN JOB FAIR AT GUST

KUWAIT: Minister of Commerce and Industry and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Khaled Al-Roudan honored Kuwait Finance House (KFH) represented by Group Chief Strategy Officer Engineer Fahad Khaled Al-Mukhaizeem in recognition of its participation in the 19th job fair held at Gulf University for Science and Technology (GUST) that reflects the bank's keenness to support the efforts of qualifying national cadres while offering them suitable job opportunities. A Human Resources team was accessible at KFH's booth at the job fair in order to answer job seekers' queries and educate them on KFH's sectors and departments and its nature of work.

KFH is a pioneer in attracting Kuwaiti manpower where it managed to create high caliber Kuwaiti bankers and investors. Bank received several awards in the field of human resources and 'Kuwaitization': KFH has lately won two Awards at Organizational Learning Conference which are "Best Employer for Job Seekers" and "Best Job Stability Award" at the 2016 Excellence awards ceremony for the institutions of the private sector held by the Manpower and Government Restructuring Program MGRP.

KFH's booth was heavily visited by university students who wanted to explore their potential in joining KFH and the banking sector in general. KFH allows Kuwaitis to hold senior positions and gain experience in various sectors, such as the banking, commercial, real estate, investment, and IT sectors.

KFH's participation confirms the priority bank puts on enhancing its role, in collaboration with the concerned authorities, to reinforce efforts toward providing job opportunities for Kuwaitis, qualifying them, and honing their skills in accordance with international standards.