

Local

Amir congratulates King Salman on Saudi Arabia's 88th National Day

Kuwaiti ambassador praises accomplishments of Saudi Arabia

KUWAIT/RIYADH: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent a cable yesterday to Saudi King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud to congratulate him on the occasion of the Kingdom's 88th National Day. In his cable, His Highness the Amir also expressed wishes of prosperity and progress to the Saudi leadership and people. His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah sent similar cables. Meanwhile, Speaker of the National Assembly Marzouq Al-Ghanem sent a cable of congratulations to Chairman of the Saudi Shura Council Sheikh Dr Abdullah Al-Sheikh on the occasion of his country's national day.

Saudi accomplishments

Kuwait's ambassador to Saudi Arabia Sheikh Thamer Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah said meanwhile that Saudi National Day is a national day for all who seek security, stability and welfare. In a press statement, Sheikh Thamer conveyed congratulations to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud, Crown Prince, Deputy Prime Minister and Defense Minister Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud, the Royal Family and the Saudi people on the 88th National Day.

Sheikh Thamer said "The Kingdom's achievements are ahead of time to achieve the goals of sustainable development through the implementation of the strategy 2030, which we see its fruits represented in restructuring the economy, raising efficiency of performance of the government sectors, human development, and enhancing the participation of women in building the country to keep abreast of global variables, whether



His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah



Saudi King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud



Kuwait's Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Sheikh Thamer

economic, developmental, social or cultural." He stressed that the vision 2030 serves the concept of reducing the dependence on oil as a single and depleted source and reaching the goal of diversifying sources of income, encouraging foreign investment and opening up to successful regional and global experiences. He added that this will enhance the aspirations for a bright and secure future for the kingdom under the guidance of King Salman and Crown Prince Mohammad bin Salman.

The Kuwaiti diplomat praised the outstanding efforts

exerted by the Kingdom with the international community to combat the phenomenon of terrorism and extremism and the exploitation of the true religion through establishment of the World Center to Combat Extremism and the establishment of the Islamic Alliance against Terrorism, in addition to the peace agreement between the Republic of Ethiopia and the State of Eritrea, a matter which reflects the Kingdom's effective role in enhancing security and stability of the region and the world. He also referred to the Kingdom's generous

humanitarian assistance to alleviate human suffering wherever it was through the King Salman Center for Relief and Humanitarian Action and the active and influential efforts in helping the brotherly Yemeni people. Sheikh Thamer stressed that the relations between Kuwait and Saudi Arabia are in constant development, pointing out that the establishment of a Kuwaiti-Saudi Coordination Council recently is a testament to the distinguished historical and social ties between the two countries. — KUNA

Pinnacle Middle East, IAA-Kuwait organize digital conference

By Ben Garcia

KUWAIT: A one-day digital conference, workshop and exhibition was organized by Pinnacle Middle East in partnership with the International Advertising Agency Association (IAA-Kuwait Chapter) to provide the best platform for knowledge and exchange partnership that will eventually help shape the future of business. The event was attended by about 300 digitally-driven companies.

Nayab Rafiq, Founder and CEO of Pinnacle Middle East, welcomed guests and urged them to continuously support innovation for the benefit of their industries or companies. Pinnacle Middle East has been in the market supporting changes in digital technologies of many countries around the world since 2010. "Events for our company started eight years ago in Dubai, but now we are all over the Middle East. It's a response to what is happening on the global level in digital space," he said.

It is very important that companies are always on top of all the innovations in the digital space. "Businesses will compete to excel and leverage the latest digital tech," Rafiq said. According to him, the event was made possible through the support of several digital companies in Kuwait and the IAA-Kuwait Chapter. "It is a chance to meet one another and get to know each other and learn. Definitely the most interesting thing in this world right now is to make sure that we all know that the world is constantly changing and that we need to be on top of it," he added.

"Kuwait is relevant to all countries around it, just like other countries are relevant to Kuwait. This region is relevant to other regions as well. Every country has its own phases to cope with the fast-changing world. For example, the UAE is in an advanced phase thanks to the leadership of the rulers who are doing their best to be relevant elsewhere in the world. Everyone is moving towards digitalization and enhancing innovation and space. We



Officials attend a panel discussion during the conference.



Officials in attendance.

are all doing well, including the countries around us, except of course countries in this region that are in turmoil (referring to Syria and Yemen)," Rafiq said.

He said a country like Kuwait is doing well in digital technology but admitted that it needs more pushing. "It is a small country but with very dynamic people. The world we are living in today is very different from the world they lived in years ago. Digital technology space needs only a good idea to see rapid result and growth from the idea of concept implementation. You can achieve so much in a small period of time with technology and the right people, and I think what is important is bringing the right people and minds and leveraging the success of others," he said.



Nayab Rafiq, Founder and CEO of Pinnacle Middle East, speaks to Kuwait Times. — Photos by Yasser Al-Zayyat



A general view of people attending the conference.

Saudi Ambassador's message on occasion of Saudi National Day

By Saudi Ambassador to Kuwait HH Prince Sultan bin Saad bin Khalid Al-Saud

The first day of Libra, September 23 of every year brings the memory of a glorious day in our national history. That day crowned the major national epic with the announcement of founding King Abdulaziz bin Abdulrahman Al-Saud of unifying the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in 1932. We, as this memory dawns on us, remember the struggle and sacrifice of our forefathers who established and contributed to building this large entity, which provides us with a motive to preserve it along with the gains achieved by this country through the wisdom of its leaders and arms of its loyal citizens.

The founding king placed the kingdom on the path of comprehensive renaissance that went and is still going on in all political, economic, social, cultural and educational fields. His sincere sons continued the march after him, and built on the foundations he laid, as late kings Saud, Faisal, Khalid, Fahd and Abdullah continued construction, development and the kingdom's modernization in all fields, while adhering to the principles and values of the founding king, defending Islam and being dedicated to the service of the country and citizens.

The kingdom, under the reign of the custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud, continues the march of development and modernization in all fields. The kingdom is going through a stage of prosperity and determination to achieve, and build to provide all prosperity means for citizens. He started his reign by enhancing the administrative structure, placing the kingdom on the path of a promising stage of prosperity as a confirmation of his keenness to utilize all national resources to serve the citizens and country. He started the implementation of the national transformation strategy to implement Vision 2030 - vision of the present and future - which announced the kingdom's entry in a new stage of its development to diversify sources of income and increase the efficiency of government performance.

In 2017, the NEOM project was signed, which is a Saudi project to build a Saudi city that crosses borders announced by HRH Prince Mohammad bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud, Crown Prince, Deputy Premier and Defense Minister. The NEOM project aims at transferring the kingdom into a pioneering world model in various aspects of life. The kingdom also signed a memorandum of understanding with a Japanese communications company with regards to the solar power project. In April 2018, the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques launched the Qiddiya entertainment project which includes mountains, valleys and a view of the desert. These three economic cities are considered the largest in the world.

Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz was able with his vast political and administrative experience to advance the kingdom qualitatively in all fields despite the regional and international developments that surrounded the region lately,



Saudi Ambassador to Kuwait Prince Sultan

which enabled the kingdom to maintain its international status as one of the 20 most influential countries in the world politically and economically. The kingdom, under his reign, continues its defense of Arab and Muslim nations' causes, and leads with its vibrant diplomacy efforts to bring peace and security to the region and the world. These efforts were crowned by the Arab-American summit in Riyadh in May.

The kingdom, out of its religious and humanitarian commitments, contributes to rescue and development efforts all over the world, as the total payments the kingdom made during the past decades total \$140 billion. Those efforts were crowned by the establishment of the King Salman Rescue and Humanitarian Action Center, which distributes humanitarian aid presented by the kingdom to other countries.

The kingdom plays a major role in maintaining security and stability in the region, and continues its fight against terrorism. It was one of the first countries to suffer from it and lost several of its citizens in terrorist acts, yet the kingdom was able to thwart many terrorist plans by astray groups. The kingdom's leadership felt the importance of consolidating international efforts to fight terrorism, so it organized the first international conference for fighting terrorism, and created the global center for fighting extremism (E'tidal) which was launched during the Arab, Muslim and American summit in Riyadh last May.

I, on this auspicious occasion, will allude to the strong relations between Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, which time has proven is a model of relations to be followed between countries. The communications between the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz and His Highness the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and all officials at all levels continues regardless of what takes place in the distinguished relations between the two brotherly countries.

I am honored, on this occasion, to congratulate the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz, HH Prince Mohammad bin Salman bin Abdulaziz, Crown Prince, Deputy Premier and Defense Minister, the royal family and the Saudi people. I pray to Almighty Allah to protect our country against all evil and to bring this occasion back with all that is good, and maintain security, stability and prosperity for the kingdom, Kuwait and all Arab and Muslim countries.