

Painters celebrate Amir's return



KUWAIT: Kuwaiti painters expressed their jubilation for the return of HH the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah to the homeland with drawings and paintings that demonstrate Kuwaiti people's love of their leader. The artistic works showed the Kuwaiti artists' passion and allegiance to the Amir. HH the Amir recently returned to Kuwait after a visit to the United States where he underwent successful medical examinations. — KUNA

Privately-owned Hamada School was a pioneer

KUWAIT: Hamada School, one of the oldest private schools in Kuwait, offered distinguished services to its students including weeklong camping trips during spring break so they would resume school in a fresh mood. "Hamada School started with a small number of boys in Qibla area, then the school expanded to include more than 200 students before it was shut down in 1950," Mohammad Jamal, a historian, said yesterday.

Jamal, speaking to KUNA, said Hamada School was established at end of the 19th century at Hamada house, where Rashed and Jassem Hamada were teaching young boys the Holy Quran and Islamic principles. The teachers started receiving more students, forcing them to rent Ibrahim Al-Yaqout house, which was close to their own school, and the teachers began teaching Arabic language and mathematics.

More teachers joined the new school, said Jamal, including Ali Al-Duwaisan, Abdulaziz Jassem Hamada, Mulla Mohammad bin Ali, Yusuf Al-Saleh and Abdullah Al-Obaid. Abdulaziz

Hamada then took over the management of the school. The school, incapable of housing the growing number of students, rented the diwan of Sheikh Humoud Al-Jarrah Al-Sabah, and the school's name changed to "Guidance and Teaching School for Boys." The new school had seven classes and the number of students increased to 200.

Other renowned teachers joined the new school like Sheikh Attiya Al-Athari, Mohammad Saleh bin Al-Sheikh Ahmad Al-Farsi, Mulla Musaed Al-Najdi and Mohammad bin Lahyan. The school management started teaching English language and writing, taught by Abdulhameed Al-Tannak, Abdullatif Al-Othman and Mirza Shirazi. Classes were held in the mornings and afternoons, and school was off during evenings of Monday, Thursday and Friday.

Abdulaziz Hamada became a judge in 1930, leaving the management of the school to his brother Ali Hamada who was assisted by Ahmad Rashed Hamada. New teachers joined the school as well: Abdulaziz and Abdullah Al-Balool, and Rashed Al-Ghannam. Jamal said Hamada school brought chairs for students, who previously sat on the floor. Jamal said the school's income came from weekly small amount of tuition, in addition to donations by citizens. The number of students at Hamada School started to decline when the government opened the school in 1937, forcing its closure in 1950. — AFP

Kuwaiti film 'In Paradox' screened at Casablanca fest

CASABLANCA: The screening of the Kuwaiti film "In Paradox" by Hamad Al-Sarraf at the Casablanca Arab Film Festival has attracted a large audience and positive feedback from critics. The film was screened on Wednesday as a part of the festival's feature film competition along with 11 other films

from several Arab countries.

Speaking to KUNA after the screening, director Hamad Al-Sarraf was grateful to the Moroccan audience who positively received the film. "I have discovered that the Moroccan audience has a wide knowledge of Kuwaiti cinema," he said.

Sarraf expressed pleasure to represent Kuwait in the official competition of the festival. The film story is about a man who seeks to uncover a mystery and stop the unknown memories that are controlling him, only to learn the difference between reality and illusions. The film has humanitarian, historical and philosophical dimensions, he pointed out. — KUNA



The Kuwaiti delegation at the Casablanca festival. — KUNA