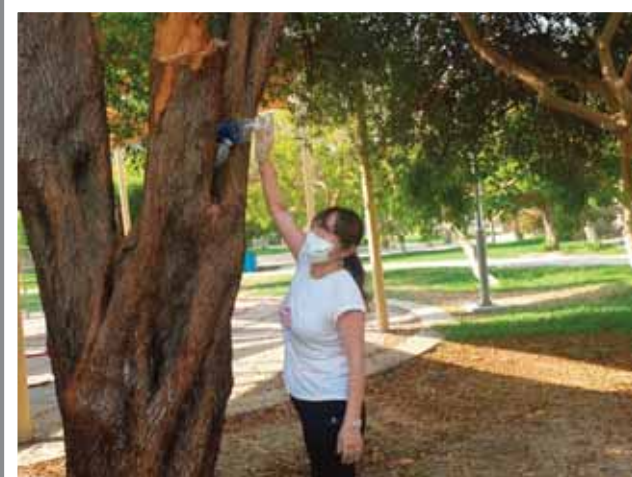


Local

Friday, August 7, 2020



Mia is married to a Briton who works in the oil sector. "I normally stay at home, so I thought I can be more productive if I use my free time feeding the cats and cleaning the park. I don't do it for anyone - I am doing it because I know it's the right thing to do. In my country, we don't throw plastic bottles or any other rubbish in the park. We need to love the place where we live and be happy," she said.

Mia's actions have not gone unnoticed by people frequenting the park. Bassam, a Syrian English teacher, has only praise and admiration for this Japanese lady. "We should all be like her. She doesn't need to do what she's doing since the park has cleaners. She is not an ordinary woman - she deserves our full respect. She has brought her culture of discipline to Kuwait and that is amazing. I am also guilty of sometimes throwing things and taking my surroundings for granted. She's not just doing a favor to the environment, but imparting some important lessons we should all learn," Bassam said.

Sometimes, children join Mia in picking up the trash throughout the garden. "Several Kuwaitis who come to me and say 'thank you'. I tell them that this is a small act of kindness and that we should all be doing it. I tell them I need no praise for it," she said.