

Local

Evolving threat



By Abdellatif Sharaa

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Let me start by saying that coronavirus will one day be defeated and it is a matter of time - this is for sure, and I hope that it will be sooner than later. COVID-19 is no doubt a disease that must be given its due respect, because of its extreme danger and its ability to elude all the ammunition thrown at it by experts.

Coronavirus was able to fend off one existing medicine after another from what is already available, even those used to treat AIDS! Experts had said the virus crawls on surfaces and the ground because it is heavier and rides with the mist resulting from the sneezing or coughing by carriers of the virus, only for those same experts to come around and say wait a minute - it seems that we missed something as the virus can be airborne and can cause infection in that state.



Yes, we still need masks, we still need sanitizers

Oh my God! We thought that we can play around with this blend of RNA strands that in order to become viable, need to invade a cell - and not any cell; just those in the respiratory system and the lungs in particular. It is good that those specialists and scientists are working hard and are discovering more characteristics about this virus and warning us along the way against what it may do, so we can set our defenses against its attack.

Please do not misunderstand me. We are still in need of following every health instruction given to us, besides doing what our common sense calls for. Yes, we still need masks, we still need sanitizers, we still need social distancing, we still need to stay home when there is no absolute need to go out - all these precautions and more.

It is a good idea for everyone to carry sanitizers on them (there are pocket-sized bottles in the market) to sterilize our hands whenever we touch a surface or button, like in elevators, because many people use and touch the same and the risk of infection is there.

You may be wearing gloves, but those are to keep your hands away from the virus, which will hang on the outside of the gloves. Here we must be very careful not to touch any part of our face while wearing the gloves and we should always remember that the gloves may collect all types of germs and contaminants - so let us be very careful. I hope that experts can find a remedy, a vaccine, or anything that protects us against this crowned beast - corona - so that we can live in peace once again.

Final word: "A river cuts through rock, not because of its power, but because of its persistence." - Anonymous

Photo of the Day



A butcher wearing a mask cuts meat at his shop in Souq Mubarakiya. — Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat

Evangelical Church opens, Holy Family Cathedral still shut

By Ben Garcia

KUWAIT: The National Evangelical Church in Kuwait (NECK) has been granted permission to reopen but with 20 percent capacity on weekdays. According to Jacklein Hannah, a church official, NECK requested permission to operate from the ministries of awqaf and health. "We were permitted to reopen and accept worshippers from today (Thursday), but not on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. Meaning we can accept worshippers only on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday," she said.

The National Evangelical Church in Kuwait has a number of worship halls and several congregations of various nationalities use them. "Our huge halls which can accommodate around 300 worshippers will only be allowed to host not more than 60 people; most of the other halls are smaller, so a maximum of 25 worshippers are allowed," she said. "Thank God, we are slowly getting back to normal and we thank the ministry for allowing us to worship again," she added.

Meanwhile, the Holy Family Cathedral in Kuwait City is still closed. "Until now we do not have any new advice from the ministry, so our church will remain closed until further notice," said a woman who answered Kuwait Times' inquiry through a phone number posted at the gate in Kuwait City yesterday. Like other places of worship and government and private institutions, churches in Kuwait were closed in March to stop the spread of the coronavirus in Kuwait.



National Evangelical Church in Kuwait



Holy Family Cathedral