

## Local

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## Photo of the Day



**KUWAIT:** Residents walk on a waterfront promenade in Kuwait City on Tuesday, as authorities allowed people to exercise for two hours amid a nationwide curfew due to the COVID-19 pandemic. — Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat

## Young Writers

## The human

By Layan Al-Qenaai

**A** human is a creation that isn't born perfect and has flaws on the way. Although he tries to be a perfectionist but fails. He is born with a brain to think before doing and a tongue to connect it with the brain before speaking. Humans have many imperfections or flaws such as slavery, harassment, forced marriage, animal abuse, etc. Slavery began in 1619, yet it is still found nowadays. Nannies, drivers and company workers are not slaves, but are named as victims of modern slavery. I repeat, Nannies, drivers and company workers are not slaves. They deserve their salary on time, plus their food and rest readily available. They are humans; they deserve love, attention, and kindness. Some families treat nannies and drivers as if they are slaves from the 1600s or some kind of robots. Those actions should be forbidden. In addition, many high company operations use their workers as slaves by not giving them their salaries although they gain millions of dollars. Some company workers are children; they deserve to be studying at schools, not working in bag, shoe and fabric factories. Every human deserves to be respected no matter how much money they make, their looks, class, nationality, and so-on.

Kuwait could save  
KD 900 million  
on metro project

**KUWAIT:** Correspondence issued by the Kuwait Authority for Partnership Projects (KAPP) shows that the current model for the Kuwait Metro, for which a financial study was conducted, showed that the construction cost for the first stage - if implemented with the conventional system - will be KD 4 billion, in addition to KD 1.3 billion annually for operation and maintenance for 30 years. Meanwhile, construction of the first stage if the current system continues with partnership between public

and private sectors will be around KD 3.476 billion, in addition to KD 934.8 million for operation and maintenance annually for 30 years, which means savings of around KD 900 million, Al-Anbaa Arabic daily reported yesterday. The partnership authority said that on April 5, 2017, a higher committee decision was issued asking KAPP to correspond with the Public Authority for Roads and Transport (PART) to complete a feasibility study and decide the suitable means to execute the project. It called the concerned departments to issue related decisions to finish the feasibility study as soon as possible. KAPP called PART on May 16, 2017 to implement what the higher committee instructed. The independent higher committee is formed of specialized persons according to a finance ministry decision.

COVID-19 vaccine  
doesn't invalidate fast

**KUWAIT:** The fatwa (religious edict) authority at the Ministry of Awqaf Islamic Affairs said the COVID-19 vaccine does not invalidate the fast and can be taken during the daytime in Ramadan, Al-Qabas Arabic daily reported yesterday. This came in a statement by the fatwa department while answering a query with regards to the vaccination campaign the ministry is carrying out against the novel coronavirus. The question was: Will the vaccine taken through the muscle during the day spoil the fast or not? The authority said in its fatwa: "If a recipient becomes very tired due to fasting because of the job, or if a competent doctor advises them to break the fast to avoid harm and alleviate pain, they can break the fast and must make up for it after recovering."

## FRONTLINE HEROES OF KUWAIT

## Student Art Competition 2021



It is our pleasure to welcome each and every youngster to our Student Art Competition. We hope that everyone is ready to create beautiful artworks and show support for our heroes of Kuwait! We're searching for great art – so get your paintbrushes, color pencils, crayons and markers ready. Let your talent flow and start painting. Good luck to our young artists!

- The competition is open to students aged 6-18 years with categories (6 - 8 years) (9 - 11 years) (12 - 14 years) (15 -18 years) and special abilities students.
- The competition is open to all schools in Kuwait (government and private).
- Submissions are open from February 14, 2021 till March 31, 2021.
- 5 winners from each category will receive valuable prizes.
- All participants will receive a certificate of appreciation.
- All schools and individuals interested in participating in this competition are welcome.
- Participants in the ages 6 - 8 years may use marker colors only.
- You can use any drawing sheet, but of A3 size.
- All artwork must be hand drawn and not computer generated.
- All paintings should be submitted by email at [painting@kuwaittimes.net](mailto:painting@kuwaittimes.net) in PDF format ONLY.
- Participant must include on the bottom of the artwork the following: name, age, email address, phone number and school in legible font.

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**TUNIS:** Tunisian Prime Minister Hichem Mechichi meets with Kuwaiti Ambassador to Tunisia Ali Al-Dhafiri. —KUNA

Kuwait, Tunisia  
discuss ways to  
strengthen bilateral  
cooperation

**TUNIS:** Tunisian Prime Minister Hichem Mechichi and Kuwaiti Ambassador to Tunisia Ali Al-Dhafiri discussed yesterday ways to strengthen and develop bilateral cooperation between both countries. This was brought up during a meeting between Mechichi and Al-Dhafiri, at the Government Palace in Kasbah,

the Tunisian government said in a statement, noting that the talks focused on supporting cooperation between both sides and elevating it to the level of strategic partnership. Mechichi underlined the importance of the exemplary ties that existed between both sides for decades, highlighting the size of Kuwaiti investments in tourism and the banking sector in Tunisia, which dates back to the 1960s. Meanwhile, Dhafiri expressed Kuwait's support with standing by Tunisia in its path and the economic reforms to be implemented, as well as revitalizing economic ties by upgrading the work of the joint Tunisian-Kuwaiti Higher Committee to the level of heads of government. On this occasion, Dhafiri presented an official invitation to Mechichi to visit Kuwait, which he accepted to be scheduled for later. — KUNA

Kuwait oil price  
down to \$63.64 pb

**KUWAIT:** The price of Kuwait crude oil was down 23 cents to reach \$63.64 per barrel on Tuesday, Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) said yesterday. Elsewhere, the price of Brent Crude saw a decline of \$3.83 to reach \$60.79 pb, as the West Texas Intermediate was also down \$3.80 to settle at \$57.76 pb. The price of OPEC basket of 13 crudes went down by 95 cents to \$62.27 per barrel (pb) on Tuesday compared to \$63.22 the day before, said OPEC Secretariat calculations yesterday. OPEC bulletin stated that the annual rate of the basket price last year was at \$41.47 pb. Dealers in the oil market said that the recent OPEC Plus agreement to maintain low production, contributed in supporting global market prices above \$60.00 pb. The General Secretariat estimated the demand for OPEC raw materials would reach 27.3 million this year, which is about 4.9 million barrels per day compared to 2020. — KUNA

Gulf states keen  
on enhancing  
ties with China

**RIYADH:** GCC states are looking forward to enhancing cooperation and good ties with China to achieve common goals, said the GCC Secretary General Dr Nayef Al-Hajraf yesterday. During his meeting with State Counselor and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, Hajraf discussed the latest regional and international developments. The two sides welcomed Saudi Arabia's initiative to end the crisis in Yemen to reach a comprehensive political agreement that includes a ceasefire under the UN supervision. Moreover, both sides discussed the outcomes of the fourth strategic dialogue held between the two parties on November 9. They also stressed the importance of investing in the opportunities that resulted from the Coronavirus pandemic in the fields of the digital economy, artificial intelligence, the fourth industrial revolution, and e-commerce, as well as the Chinese 'Belt and Road Initiative' projects in a way that serves the common strategic interests between the two sides. — KUNA