

Local

Meet Thunayyan Al-Buloshi, Kuwait's young and aspiring motocross rider

Ten-year-old dreams of representing Kuwait in Rally Dakar



KUWAIT: Thunayyan Al-Buloshi shows off his medals and trophy won in his young career. — Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat

By Faten Omar

KUWAIT: Some parents won't let their kids play sports due to concussion risks, which may prevent the child from developing his self-affirmation, expanding personal boundaries, and evolving his physical courage. Motocross is a dirt-bike racing sport in which riders compete on off-road courses like gravel, mud, or grassy roads. The risks are worth the rewards in a child's development; that is what the father of Thunayyan Al-Buloshi believes. He is supporting his child by all means to achieve his son's dream of being involved in a unique extreme sport in Kuwait.

Buloshi, a 10-year-old Kuwaiti boy, is passionate about being a star in the motocross sport. He practiced basic riding skills to improve his techniques. Riders must find just about every way to have fun in the dirt, from spending a great day riding at the track or trail, to competing in organized races. That is why the sixth grader chose 'Keep Smiling' as his motto. Buloshi told Kuwait Times that he started in the dirt bike sport five months ago, due to his love of the extreme sport to kick the adrenaline up. "I ride for fun and hope to reach the professional level in the future," he said.

Buloshi has been in two races in the UK. "I was the first Kuwaiti to collaborate with FAB-Racing, I got

first place in motocross track, and I got a trophy for the first base," he said. "My Parents encourage me to evolve in the game. My father wants me to skydive with him, but due to age restrictions, I did dirt bike sport instead. I take all the precautions in order not to get serious injuries," he noted.

'I can do it'

Buloshi is planning to participate in a major race in Kuwait next month, adding, "I will participate in the KTM race. There is a camp that I will sign up for to get the proper training." He has a dream to be experienced as a dirt biker and teach the sport to other young bikers. "I want to be able to finish the Rally Dakar which is every motocross rider's dream. I only have to believe in myself that I can do it. My father taught me when I was seven years old; I started with a bicycle step by step until I could ride the bike. I'm waiting for my younger brother to reach three years old to teach him how to ride an electric bicycle."

Buloshi's father thinks that motocross sport does not have a big focus in Kuwait, which is why he supports his child to be able to evolve. "Most parents are afraid of getting their children to be involved in such sport," he pointed out. "I worry about my child, but if there is safety, things will be good. My son will get my full support; I will make him participate in local,



regional, and international races. I will get him a private coach to teach him the latest techniques in dirt bike sport. I bought him the KTM 65 bike for KD 1,700. I'm investing in my son."

"Kuwait has only one annual race called Kuwait Motor Town (KMT). My child is guided by Omar Al-Medlej, who is a biker in the Kuwaiti army along with

his Coach Mohammed Jaffar, a professional KTM rider," he indicated. "He is getting proper training and practicing. There are a lot of races that he will participate in." He expressed his hope to open an academy for his son in the future in order to reach more young people and teach children this kind of sport like the MX Factory academy.

Otaibi tenders credentials as Kuwait Ambassador to Russia

MOSCOW: Kuwait's new Ambassador to the Russian Federation Mansour Al-Otaibi tendered a copy of his credentials to Russian Special

Presidential Envoy for the Middle East and North Africa Mikhail Bogdanov on Thursday. Bogdanov, who is also Deputy Foreign Minister, received the credentials during his meeting with Ambassador Otaibi where they discussed the special relationship between their two countries and explored ways to cement cooperation in various areas. They expressed a shared desire to enhance the political dialogue on international issues of common concern and issues related to MENA region, according to a statement from the Foreign Ministry of Russia. — KUNA

Kuwaitis' private sector allowance will not stop

KUWAIT: Employment support for nationals working in the private sector will not stop according to the Public Authority of Manpower. Sources within the authority clarified that this government allowance is for the support of Kuwaiti employees who work in the private sector. Moreover, this aligns with government policies to localize employment in the private sector, especially since "there are serious plans to increase Kuwaiti employment which includes thousands of jobs that could bring more locals to switch away from government employment."

Speaking on the condition of anonymity, the sources told Kuwait Times in the meantime that "not lowering the support for locals working in the private sector does not mean that there are plans of increasing it, as the expenditure currently is KD

538 million yearly, which equates to KD 44.8 million monthly."

The total number of local workers in the private sector is about 71,800 employees, which is equal to 4.1 percent of the number of total employees there. Sources have also shown that it is possible to review the eligibility of some employees to earn that support, as per recommendations of the budgets committee of the National Assembly, as some the payment could be seen as unnecessary for workers who earn over KD 5,000 per month, for example.

The Public Authority for Manpower already spends monthly allowances based on the academic level of the Kuwaiti employee. Workers within the health field receive KD 790, while people working in law, accounting, information services, statistics, economics, nursing, finance, financial management, insurance, exports, and education receive KD 740. Other degree holders receive KD 690 per month.

As for high school and diploma holders with a course of at least two years, receive KD 629, while middle school certificate holders along with at least two years training courses receive KD 571 per month. As for middle school holders and less receive KD 481 and KD 456 respectively.

necessary to have an executive list that will also take time to finish, which imposes the postponing of the project to send to the National Assembly," said the sources.

In response to remarks from previous MPs concerning the lack of having an election panel for about 60 years, the sources explained, "Elections in Kuwait are run transparently and independently by the judicial authority which supervises electors and the election process, as well as the counting of ballots, gathering the results, and making sure of the eligibility of candidates beforehand."

The government's role, on the other hand, only ensures that factors in the election process only affect it positively, such as providing security, election committees and their needs, explained the sources. Moreover, the government encourages the judicial authority and supports the election process, ensures media freedom to candidates and their campaigns, while also allowing international supervisors and journalists to enter Kuwait and supervise the integrity of Kuwaiti elections.

"All previous elections received international acknowledgement that Kuwaiti elections were going successfully in integral and transparent conditions without the existence of a private national panel to supervise elections, as judicial authorities already suffice in their work," the sources affirmed to Kuwait Times.

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National Election Authority to be left for upcoming Assembly

KUWAIT: Ministerial sources told Kuwait Times that the National Election Authority remains a priority for the government, as it is planned to ensure transparency in the executive authority and make sure a transparent democratic process takes place in the upcoming elections that invigorates parliamentary work. Sources clarified that the project has already been submitted to the parliament about a month prior to the 2020 elections of the National Assembly. However, it has not been discussed because due to lack of time. Meanwhile, the dissolved National Assembly has been preoccupied with other issues, the sources explained.

The government will reenlist the issue to the National Assembly after the upcoming elections expected at the end of September. However, it will not affirm the project with urgency in fear of disqualifying it by the Constitutional Court, as time will be a serious issue for the National Election Authority, the sources noted. "In case the project was submitted in urgency, it will be