

Local

Empowering women high on Kuwait's agenda: Minister

'Dikakeen 2' exhibition showcases made-in-Kuwait products



KUWAIT: (Left) Minister of Social Affairs, Family and Childhood Affairs Sheikh Feras Saud Al-Malek Al-Sabah meets social affairs ministry officials. (Right) Sheikh Feras is seen taking a tour of the exhibition. — KUNA photos

KUWAIT: Empowering women is one of the state's utmost priorities and "Dikakeen 2" — an exhibition for small and medium size enterprises — is an event that requires full support from the government, said Minister of Social Affairs, Family and Childhood Affairs Sheikh Feras Saud Al-Malek Al-Sabah on Wednesday. He confirmed the importance of supporting and empowering Kuwaiti women as well as helping small entrepreneurs in displaying and marketing their products and providing them with all aspects of care.

This statement was made by Minister

Sheikh Feras at the opening of the Productive Families Exhibition "Dikakeen 2", organized by the Family Welfare Department in the Social Development Sector (Boutique 33) with the participation of a number of Kuwaiti families and persons with disabilities. The exhibition will continue until September 2. "The initiative invokes a sense of optimism, especially given the skill and accuracy observed in the products offered," he said.

Acting Undersecretary of the Ministry of Social Affairs Abdulaziz Al-Mutairi stressed the ministry's keenness to provide all aspects of support to productive

families, such as "providing them with raw materials, holding exhibitions to market products, in addition to providing several training workshops in cooperation with the General Secretariat of Awqaf, with the aim of helping beneficiaries provide their products to the masses."

Mutairi said the number of productive families and beneficiaries participating in the program is 96 families, revealing the opening of another similar exhibition Thursday in Sabah Al-Ahmad, as part of efforts to cover all governorates of the country. According to the director of the Family Care Department Sarah Al-Dosari,

the exhibition is part of the ministry's plan to support beneficiaries and transform them from recipients of social assistance to entrepreneurs.

Head of the Old Kuwaiti Crafts Society Salman Boland said the association's participation is represented in several industries and various crafts, including the manufacture of ships, bisht and jewelry, in addition to the manufacture of perfumes, accessories and other handicrafts. Boland praised the efforts of the social affairs ministry in involving the association in such exhibitions, revealing a memorandum of understanding that will be imple-

mented with the ministry in October and November with the aim of training the female members of the Department of Family Welfare.

President of the Down Syndrome Society, Hessa Al-Baloul, stressed that participation is an opportunity to integrate people with disabilities, especially with the provision of the ministry for exhibition places and facilitating ways of participation. Baloul called for the continuation of such exhibitions because of their remarkable impact in enhancing confidence and developing the skills of people with disabilities. — KUNA

PM tours Jahra government office, hospital

KUWAIT: HH the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Al-Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah visited government offices in Al-Jahra Governorate on Wednesday. His Highness visited Al-Jahra Hospital and engaged with patients to listen to their notes and feedback on services offered by the hospital, whose new building was officially inaugurated in 2018 by the late Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah.

Additionally, the prime minister visited Al-Jahra

Municipality. His Highness met with the municipality's Head of the Department for Engineering Licensing Wegian Al-Shammari to talk about the new Al-Mutlaa area. The Public Authority for Housing Welfare (PAHW) announced in July that citizens received "to whom it may concern letters" needed for acquiring building permissions from the municipality. In early July, the authority had announced that 5,361 housing units were ready for electrical connections.

His Highness inquired whether citizens are facing any obstacles in the licensing process and instructed municipality employees to expedite their procedures. Speaking to reporters, the prime minister affirmed the government's focus on reforms. This visit comes as part of a series of visits to authorities in Kuwait's various governorates.



KUWAIT: HH Sheikh Ahmad Al-Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah is seen during his visit on Wednesday.

In my view

The conflict between science and money



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The conflict between Christianity and science originated in the Middle Ages. This struggle became glaringly apparent when senior clergy members failed to control scientists and subject them to their absolute influence. This influence had allowed the clergy to dominate society in their favor, alongside the wealthy classes that supported them. However, scientists held differing views, leading to a profound struggle between scientists and the clergy. Some of the most notable scientists who suffered in this conflict included Galileo, Isaac Newton and Giordano Bruno.

While some Christian churches made contributions to the field of science, the struggle eventually resulted in the separation of religion from the state. Throughout history, science encountered opposition from those who sought to use it as a tool for amassing power and wealth. Despite science's triumph and its influence over contemporary life, the battle to control and manipulate science has not ceased. Recent scientific articles indicate the resurgence of this age-old struggle, albeit in a different form.

Today, the conflict is no longer between science and religion but has transformed into a battle between science and wealth. A professor at the University of Southern Florida published a paper suggesting that cellphones may protect against Alzheimer's disease. Conversely, experts from Lund University published a study highlighting the potential dangers of mobile phones causing Alzheimer's disease. Although both studies provide valuable scientific insights, the contradictions between their results underscore the ongoing struggle between science and wealth in the current century.

Some international pharmaceutical companies allocate portions of their profits to incentivize doctors to collect data supporting their products. There are also instances of studies manipulating analytical data to boost drug sales. Numerous issues worldwide indicate the evolving battle between science and capital.

Today, numerous mega-corporations allocate a portion of their profits to scientific research, often raising concerns about the credibility of research supported by vested interests. A representative from a major pharmaceutical company recently admitted to mistakes in COVID vaccines and shifted responsibility to politicians.

The complexity and high financial costs of scientific research raise concerns that private capital may successfully control study outcomes to its advantage. If this occurs, and there are strong indications it might, humanity could become a testing ground, and the health of individuals could be manipulated by powerful interests. Heinous financial capitalism could once again dominate the lives of billions of people.

The only solution for the future of humanity appears to be the separation of science from wealth. Without this separation, "science will become ignorance."



Anas Al-Ateeqi and other employees at the Human Resources department are seen with LOYAC interns.

Alghanim Industries concludes summer internship program

KUWAIT: Alghanim Industries, one of the largest privately-owned companies in the region, has successfully concluded three diverse and innovative summer internship programs. These programs, each with its own unique focus and collaboration, underscore Alghanim Industries' commitment to nurturing young Kuwaiti talent, fostering professional growth, and aligning with Kuwait's vision for the future.

Anas Al-Ateeqi, Chief Human Resources Officer at Alghanim Industries, elaborated on the initiative: "Our strategic partnerships with these distinguished organizations are a clear reflection of our long-term vision to cultivate young professionals who are not only skilled but are also capable of driving transformative change and innovation across multiple sectors. These programs have not only provided our interns with a unique platform to acquire hands-on skills but have also imparted deep sector-specific insights. This enables them to contribute meaningfully to Kuwait's private sector. Our commitment to their holistic development is not merely a strategic choice; it is a defining aspect of our corporate identity as a Kuwaiti enterprise committed to excellence and leadership in every endeavor."

Building on its enduring partnership with IN-JAZ Kuwait, Alghanim Industries is currently running a five-week intensive professional development program specifically tailored for university students. This initiative is designed to bridge the gap between academic learning and real-world applications. Participants are given the opportunity to work closely with seasoned professionals in diverse fields such as marketing, human resources, accounting, engineering, customer service, and information technology. Through this immersive experience, the interns will be able to



Khaled Al-Ramadhan is seen with a number of participants at the Waed program.

transform their academic knowledge into actionable skills, thereby enhancing their readiness for the competitive job market.

In a new collaboration with LOYAC, a renowned organization dedicated to youth development, Alghanim Industries participated in the "Darb" summer internship program. This program was a rich tapestry of experiences, offering interns a chance to engage in a plethora of activities and tasks. They interacted directly with customers at Safat Home, Alghanim's flagship furniture brand, and acquired artisanal coffee-making skills at Costa Coffee outlets. Additionally, the program ventured into the automotive sector, providing interns with a comprehensive understanding of car sales, customer service protocols, and dealership operations.

In an innovative partnership with Waed, a program spearheaded by the Youth Public Authority and the Association of Social Reform, Alghanim Industries launched a specialized automotive internship. This program was meticulously designed to offer a panoramic view of the automotive industry, encompassing everything from warehouse operations and vehicle logistics to

basic maintenance procedures like oil and filter changes. Field visits to various showrooms, service centers, and warehouses were integral to the program, offering interns a hands-on understanding of the complex operations that drive the automotive sector.

These multifaceted programs are a vivid illustration of Alghanim Industries' steadfast commitment to youth development, innovation, and alignment with the Kuwaiti government's New Kuwait 2035 vision. By providing unparalleled training opportunities and a diverse array of experiences that focus on the enhancement of local talent, Alghanim Industries is actively shaping the future landscape of professionalism in Kuwait. This contributes significantly to the vitality, growth, and sustainable development of the nation's private sector.



Anas Al-Ateeqi, CHRO Alghanim Industries