

Local

# Kuwait's visual artists document brutal invasion, mark anniversary

**'Invasion helped sharpen loyalty to Kuwait'**

**KUWAIT:** Kuwaiti visual artists continued for years to commemorate their country's liberation anniversary with works documenting and depicting the brutal Iraqi invasion. Under the voluntary (February 26) committee, aptly named after the date of liberation, the nation's visual artists gather on several occasions to share their stories through art to remind people of the heroics of the Kuwaiti people during one of the country's darkest periods.

Speaking to KUNA, A'nbar Waleed - a visual artist and lecturer at the Higher Institute of Dramatic Arts - affirmed that the invasion helped sharpen his loyalty to Kuwait and consequently this was reflected in the art he produced. The apprehensive nature of the invasion made art related to this period very dark and emotive, he said, adding that this approach shifted after liberation.

A'nbar indicated that the artistic movement post-invasion saw it paramount to depict the harrowing experience Kuwaitis went through despite getting rid of the occupiers, but mixed feeling of sorrow and hope in the art was an interesting balance that brought in solemn reminders of loving the land people live in.

Similarly, member of the teaching staff at the institute and former POW Waleed Sarab affirmed that he was overjoyed with liberation, noting that his



Late father Amir Sheikh Saad Al-Abdullah and visual artist Waleed Sarab.

participation in the 1991 exhibition (February 26: the pain and the hope) in Kuwait was solely focused on depicting the pain felt by Kuwait's POWs. Sarab stressed that though his imprisonment was painful, he held on to hope, reflecting that memory in 14 works of art during the exhibition. —KUNA



The face of an innocent child and a tank - a surrealistic painting depicting war. —KUNA photos



An apprehensive painting - depicting a man following the news during the Iraqi invasion and hoping for freedom.



**KUWAIT:** MA Yusuf Ali Chairman & Managing Director of Lulu Group International meets His Highness Sheikh Ahmad Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, Prime Minister of Kuwait on the sidelines of the World Government Summit 2023, Dubai, UAE.

## Qout Market initiative helps entrepreneurs

**KUWAIT:** Qout Market is a unique fabulous community initiative that helps ambitious young entrepreneurs sell out locally manufactured products. The market, launched at Sheikh

Jaber Al-Ahmad Cultural Center on Saturday, is the largest local platform that brings together local vendors in order to promote their food and artisan products amid an attractive sunny atmosphere. Zain Telecommunications Company-sponsored initiative is deemed part of programs and endeavors designed to encourage and spur young local farmers, craftsmen and food enthusiasts, empowering them to put their products on display at the same place. —KUNA



**KUWAIT:** Local vendors promote their food and artisan products amid an attractive sunny atmosphere. —KUNA photos

## Yemen praises Kuwait's support

**ADEN:** Yemeni Information Minister Muammar Al-Eryani expressed appreciation on Sunday for Kuwait's honorable stand and support throughout the years, including dozens of its humanitarian and vital projects in the republic. Yemen's government news agency said the remarks were made during a meeting between Kuwait's Ambassador to Yemen Falah Al-Hajraf and the minister. The meeting delved into discussion on the latest development in Yemen, and efforts exerted by neighboring countries to renew the truce and achieve peace in the country. The minister also hailed



Yemeni Information Minister's Muammar Al-Eryani with Kuwait's Ambassador to Yemen Falah Al-Hajraf.

Kuwait stance and support to the constitutional legitimate government headed by the President of the Leadership Council Rashad Al-Olaimi, his government, and the Yemeni people. —KUNA



## Al Kout Mall and Beach celebrate national days

**KUWAIT:** Al Kout Mall and Beach on Saturday hosted a variety of entertainment activities that attracted a large number of people to celebrate the National and Liberation Days. Despite the cold weather, people from all age groups flocked to the mall and the beach to share the joy of the national days. —KUNA



Op-ed

## EU and Ukraine stand together until victory



Gediminas Varanavicius  
European Union  
Charge' d' Affaires



Dr Oleksandr Balanutsa  
Ambassador of Ukraine

**I**t has been one year since Russia launched a full-scale war against Ukraine, and nine years since Russia illegally annexed the Crimean peninsula and destabilized eastern part of Ukraine, including in Donetsk and Luhansk regions of Ukraine. Russia continues with its systematic and barbaric attacks on Ukrainian cities, killing civilians and destroying civilian infrastructure. Ukraine is fighting with courage and determination. We unequivocally condemn Russia's brutal invasion of and war against Ukraine.

The EU and its Member States remain united in supporting Ukraine economically, financially, militarily and in terms of humanitarian assistance. Ukraine and the EU share the same goal - securing of long-lasting and just peace in Ukraine and restoring peace in Europe. Thus, in the face of Russian aggression, we must stand united as never before. The EU will therefore continue to call Russia out for war crimes, and for blatant violations of international humanitarian law.

Throughout the year since the Russian aggression against Ukraine, there have been many activities in Kuwait, which succeeded in drawing the attention of Kuwaitis and others to the just cause the Ukrainians are fighting for. There were open letters in support of Ukraine and the Ukrainian flag flying over the EU Delegation and EU Residence as well as embassies of EU Member States. There were also numerous joint activities including this joint op-ed, which shows that Ukraine and its allies including the EU speak with one voice.

This fight is firstly about respect of fundamental values and principles of international law, as enshrined in the UN Charter, which Russia has manifestly violated. We demand that Russia ceases its military aggression and withdraws all forces and military equipment from the entire territory of Ukraine immediately and unconditionally. We also demand that Russia fully respects Ukraine's territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence within its internationally recognized borders.

Kuwait has always expressed its unwavering support to Ukraine's independence and territorial integrity. We appreciate this principled stance, which was evident in Kuwait's support to UN resolutions condemning the Russian invasion and calling for its immediate halt, and we count on Kuwait's continuous support in this regard.

Kuwaitis, who had shown heroic resistance against aggression during the Iraqi invasion, fully understand Ukraine's resistance against the Russian aggression. As we stood with Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and our other Gulf partners against an unjust invasion in the 1990s, we stand together now with Ukraine. Kuwait marks this month the 32nd anniversary of its liberation and has rebuilt its relations with Iraq on a new footing. We are confident that Ukraine too will emerge victorious and the Russian invaders would be defeated. Eventually, the light will prevail over the darkness.