

الجريدة Al-Jarida

IS: CREATED BY BURKINA FASO

By Hassan Al-Essa

The only thing left for us to do is to accuse Burkina Faso, one of the poorest countries in the world, of being behind the creation of the Islamic State (IS) organization. If, according to social media stories accusing countries like Iran and the US for creating IS was logical enough and possible, then why, according to this absurd world we are living in, not accuse any other country of being responsible for that as well?

When IS commits a brutal terrorist crime, many would rush to explain what happened within a conspiracy context. They get driven by their feelings towards others and blame a 'ready' enemy for what happened. Only then do they feel relieved by removing the burden of having to blame themselves and sectarian culture for actions committed by IS and its likes.

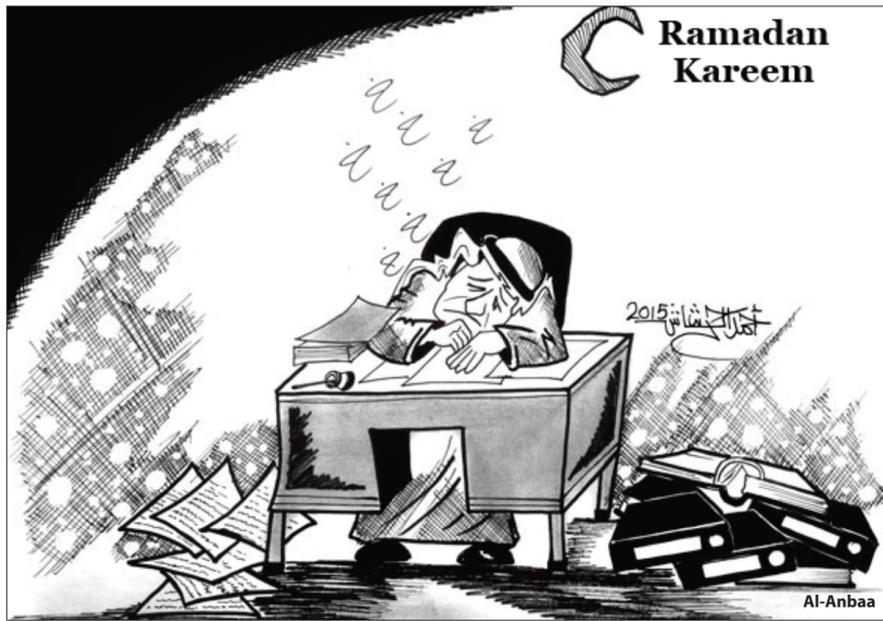
IS did not happen out of the blue. It is a natural product of a chronic, introverted sectarian culture that had been fed by the presence of tyrant totalitarian regimes that considered racial and sectarian categorization as the best means by which they could remain in power. It is also the normal result of the historic changes the area has gone through.

We used to have Al-Qaeda before IS. Before Al-Qaeda - a plan which backfired - Afghan Mujahedeen offered and provided endless services that helped reduce the Soviet State rule. At that time (1980s), thousands of benevolent people raced to support the Mujahedeen with funds and weapons, which is exactly what is happening today when we watch many ceremonies held to collect donations for the troops of the Syrian revolution. Has any of us ever wondered what happened to such donations or how they would end up in the hands of extremist groups like IS? Well, in this sense, one can actually blame the US and GCC states for creating IS because they were behind the creation of Islamic State's ancestors, Al-Qaeda and Arab Afghan Mujahedeen. The US is also responsible because of its invasion of Iraq in 2003 and its terrible administration of that country where it wrongly thought it could use a magic wand to achieve democracy in Iraq forgetting all about the historic layers of oppression, not to mention the total absence of nongovernmental organizations, all of which turned Iraq as almost a non-state as it was divided according to sectarian considerations. Nouri Al-Maliki's administration marginalized Sunnis and corruption prevailed and acted as a fuel added to the fire of sectarianism.

Similarly, one can also blame Iran for creating IS when it forced Maliki into power and alienated the moderate Ayad Allawi for political reasons and balances. It is responsible because it interfered in many regional conflicts such as the one in Syria, which accordingly agitated Sunnis against it and against Shiites, and that was all IS needed.

Those are all reasons behind the creation of IS and its likes. Yet the real historic reasons lies in the fundamental religious culture and the absence of a sense of religious reform like what happened in Europe in previous centuries. That is the basic reason, because limiting the responsibility for the creation of IS to US and Iran is settling with the easy answer. Well, it would be even easier to accuse Burkina Faso, like what the late writer Mohammed MUSAED Al-Saleh did in his articles whenever he wanted to avoid censorship in the 1980s.

— Translated by Kuwait Times



النبا Al-Anbaa

KUWAIT'S FOUNDERS

Al-Anbaa

By Salah Al-Sayer

National unity is an innate trait in my country. It is one beyond slogans, artificiality or pretence. It was the result of the birth of this country as a common dream among its people and founders who all decided to build a harbor at Kuwait Bay, which attracted people from all groups, far and wide, to launch that project and take care of it. Hence, Kuwait's genius comes from its diversity and origins that later became a source of strength for Kuwait.

In other words, one can say that Kuwait was not made by land and nature: it was rather founded by the deeds of its people and those of its migrants from various origins and lands who all took part in building and running the old harbor. These people built their old city and defend-

ed it. They built walls surrounding it to protect them from invasions and thus, Kuwaitis were destined to national unity and solidarity, which was not forced on them.

It became Kuwait's secret formula where houses and houses of worship were adjacently built wall-to-wall, uniting everybody under the rule of Al-Sabah family.

The boom and prosperity of Kuwait as a harbor was jointly made by everybody. It became Kuwait's secret formula where houses and houses of worship were adjacently built wall-to-wall, uniting everybody under the rule of Al-Sabah family.

Kuwaiti ships also looked much like the land they were built upon. Out at the wild sea, men aboard came from various origins. Nonetheless, they all devotedly shared work equally and together they faced many dangers that did not differentiate between Kuwaitis.

— Translated by Kuwait Times

النبا Al-Anbaa

'INVASION OF IDIOTS'

By Saleh Al-Shayji

Writing about how some people behave on social media networks, I imagined those networks as open meetings with no walls, doors nor ceiling above them: the meeting is seen and heard by everybody everywhere.

By absolute chance, I came across an opinion expressed by Italian essayist and philosopher Umberto Eco, on the same topic with a slight difference according to time and place.

Eco says that social media networks have provided idiots, who used to spend their time chatting in bars without doing their societies any harm and were easily silenced if they crossed any lines, with chances to use these networks and talk about things as if they were Nobel Prize laureates. "It is an invasion of idiots," he stressed.

Unfortunately, this is exactly what is happening. Now, these websites or networks are easily accessible to so many people who would never take into consideration that they are chatting in public and that their opinions are no longer whispers or secrets between two people.

Most of such opinions are based on hate and irrational grounds. Too many irresponsible frivolous comments have been causing groups, people, countries, religions and doctrines so much harm and damage without the slightest sense of responsibility for the potential danger befalling others as a result. All of a sudden, verbal wars would start leading to more hatred and arrows shot by some idiot shooters, injuring everybody.

On one of those websites, I saw a video of a GCC man pumping gas into his vehicle while talking on his mobile phone. Inserting the nozzle into the gas tank opening, he returns to his vehicle, but being too occupied with his phone, he forgets all about the nozzle and drives away pulling the hose off, gasoline spilling everywhere and creating a huge destructive fire!

The scene is tragically disastrous; but instead of giving suitable comments, many 'followers' started making jokes about and insulting the GCC national with unrivaled slander and silliness.

I only hope social network users would realize that whatever they say or do on those networks shines a spotlight. They are no longer sitting in private places pouring their hearts out to some trustworthy friends. So, I hope everybody would get the real message and stop hating and envying each other.

— Translated by Kuwait Times

EXPATS EXAMINED BEFORE ADMISSION TO EMERGENCY

KUWAIT: Emergency departments in hospitals began applying a policy of quick examination of expatriates to determine whether the patient is to be admitted or transferred to health centers in the area where he or she belongs.

The new system, purported to ease pressure on emergency departments, is conducted by a nurse who has experience in dealing with emergency cases. If the expat patient is found to not requiring immediate medical intervention such as cases of mild

diarrhea, cough or common cold, he will be transferred to his medical center, the manager of a health area said on the condition of anonymity.

Statistics show that 70 percent of emergency department cases are expats

that can be dealt with by primary health care centers, the source said, adding that this system will improve the services given to citizens and expats at the same time. — Al-Rai

Crime

Report

BEGGAR CAUGHT AFTER CAUSING MOSQUE SCARE

KUWAIT: A Jordanian woman created fear in Sulaibiya and was arrested by police. The woman drew the attention of policemen when she ran in front of a mosque during Friday prayers, so police chased her until she entered a house in Sulaibiya. A security source said the house owners handed the woman to police when they found her in their living room. She was taken to concerned authorities for further action and was found to have entered the country with a visit visa to beg during the holy month.

Prostitutes arrested

Days after the arrest of eight citizen and bedoon prostitutes, two more Arab prostitutes were arrested by residency affairs' department detectives. The two arrived in Kuwait using a visit visa issued by a Mangaf salon and were promoting their illegal activity through social media, where they charged KD 80 per hour.

Domestic violence

A citizen accused her brothers of restricting her freedom and beating her due to a family dispute. The woman filed a complaint against them and Hawally detectives were asked to pick up the three brothers since they refused to go to the police station. In another incident, Farwaniya detectives are looking for a man who beat his father and damaged his car with a stick all because the father refused to buy him a car.

Attempted rape

An Asian domestic worker accused the son of her sponsor of inappropriately touching her and attempting to rape her. The woman filed a complaint at Fahaheel police station. Police are investigating.

Drunk driving

A citizen and his girlfriend who had a liquor bottle with them were arrested after police spotted the car they were in being driven erratically. The man, in his twenties, and the woman, in her forties, were arrested and sent to Ahmadi police station. — Al-Rai

34,000 CITIZENS WITH EXPIRED GUN LICENSES

KUWAIT: Weapons arms detectives are seeking out 34,000 citizens who own light weapons and machine guns since 1990, many of whom did not renew their licenses.

Director General of the Weapons Detectives Department Major General Farraj Al-Zubi said that although the renewal costs KD 1 per year, many still did not apply and kept their weapons in violation of the law. Most of the licenses were for pistols and hunting rifles, then right after the invasion, more than 2,000 citizens were granted licenses for AK-47s and other guns, but most of them did not renew their licenses. He added the new law bans ownership of such machine guns. — Al-Rai

25 PEOPLE SELECTED FOR THE PROTEGES FIFTH GENERATION

KUWAIT: A partnership contract was signed with the strategic partner for The Proteges program - Kuwait Projects Company Holding - and its subsidiaries for the third year in a row to embrace the program and deliver it to the biggest possible number of young men and women in our dear country. The Proteges Program offers training opportunities for young people on leadership skills and practical life tools to work and address life challenges and ways to overcome them. The enrollment process to The Proteges program started in September 2014 and was successfully completed.

Shamlan Al-Bahar - The Proteges general manager and its strategic partner of the program - Kuwait Projects Company Holding - and its subsidiaries announced the start of the fifth generation of the program, which consists of six weeks, and includes 25 young men and women. Bahar also stated that, "The six weeks will be divided to four weeks in Kuwait and two weeks in other countries; the destination has not been disclosed yet which will serve as a surprise to the students". The following list includes the names of young people who were chosen to join the fifth generation of The Proteges program, they are as follows:

1. Nour Al-Shemali
2. Farah Al-Fahad
3. Abdelaziz Ghannami
4. Bushra Yasser Daoud
5. Reem Al-Shamali
6. Fawaz Salem Al-Enezi
7. Hanan Abdullah Al-Dagher
8. Tarik Al-Bedah
9. Fatma Yasser Al-Hoty
10. Eman Al-Sayegh
11. Wadha Al-Dabbous
12. Rawan Al-Dhahi
13. Jasem Burahmah
14. Ahmad Bassam
15. Fares Al-Fuzia
16. Sara Mohammed
17. Dana Al-Hamdan
18. Abdulwahab Boodai
19. Hamad Mohalhil Al-Khaled
20. Ahmad Al-Qallaf
21. Shaha Al-Hunaidi
22. Wadhah Al-Jeamaz
23. Zineb Akouri
24. Dana Al-Faraj
25. Lulu Raed Al-Roomi

Bahar also mentioned that: "Choosing the top 25 students this year was like an impossible task, sheer numbers of applicants year after year increase, especially this year, thank God. And, due to the success of the promotional campaign for the program this year, the number of applicants tripled since the opening of registration back in September 2014. We look forward to meet them, and we hope to have the year full of achievements."

Commenting on the strategic partnership with The Proteges program, Abeer Al-Omar - Manager of Social Responsibility in the Kuwait



Projects Company said: "The Proteges program is a special program to prepare the next generation of leaders and Kuwait Projects Company is proud to support this program. KIPCO was and will always be committed to support the young generation of Kuwaitis and help them achieve their full potential. All our subsidiaries will participate in supporting the program, for example, the United Education Company will host a program at the American University in Kuwait, while OSN network will provide its expertise in the field of broadcasting through a television ad on all its channels during the month of Ramadan and after it.

Furthermore, Kuwait Projects Company will provide through this partnership invaluable support to the future leaders of Kuwait, and we look forward working with those in charge of the Proteges program to ensure its success." Bahar thanked and showed his gratitude to the KIPCO Group subsidiaries: Burgan Bank, Gulf Insurance Group, Consort Company, Petrochemical Industries, KAMCO, United's Networks, United Education Company, Kuwait Hotels Company, United Real Estate Company, Media and contributor to The Proteges program OSN. In addition I thank the Platinum Sponsors: TAMDEEN Group and Kuwait Oil Company, and the Gold Sponsors: Ali Alghanim & Sons, TABCo Food, Jumbo Travel agency and Tap, for their continuous support for the program which aims to build the future generations, and we were able to innovate and to create a real experience which makes a positive change in the future and the course of the lives of the 25 participants.

LOYAC SIGNS COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH KSSS

KUWAIT: LOYAC recently signed a cooperation agreement with the Kuwaiti Society for Students Support (KSSS) with the aim of providing direct and indirect financial support to students who are facing difficulties in the course of completing their studies.

Speaking on the occasion, KSSS chairman of board Talal Al-Arab said that the agreement reflects keenness on developing Kuwaiti and Arab youth in quest for science. He also pointed out that KSSS activities covered students in other Arab countries including Palestine, Mauritania, Yemen, Egypt, Oman, Bahrain, Sudan, Jordan, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia and Syrian refugees in Jordan.

Meanwhile, LOYAC's Chairperson Fare'ah Al-Saqqaf thanked KSSS for providing scholarships for Kuwaiti youth to study at Birzeit University, Palestine including accommodation. Saqqaf added that in collaboration with LOYAC, KSSS will arrange a visit for Kuwaiti students to Birzeit University, the Palestinian territories, Jerusalem, Islamic and Christian holy sites and Palestinian universities.

