

## Local

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## Young Writers

## The sincere dean of diplomatic corps

By Nermin Al-Houti

I, since my return to my dear homeland Kuwait, kept seeing him in almost every cultural and art event. This man always participated with educated and creative individuals. He is the Senegalese Ambassador to Kuwait, Abdou Lahad Mbacke, who was the dean of the diplomatic corps for over 23 years in Kuwait.

Culture and politics are two sides of a coin, and this is what Mbacke was doing. Our words today are to tell him goodbye with the hope to meet this political and cultural personality in the future at cultural or art events in Kuwait or anywhere else.

I did not expect to write to see off a friend who always backed Kuwait and educated Kuwaitis with his views and advised us. We will miss you for sure. Ambassador Mbacke is an excellent reader of all Kuwait writers, particularly the columnists in Kuwait. We will miss your follow-up and opinion of our columns.

We tell you goodbye, hoping to see again. You are the son of Kuwait and will remain so. You joined us for more than a quarter century in our sad and happy times. You were and still are a member of all Kuwaiti families through your visits and contacts with diwanis. You will soon depart your second country, and all we have are prayers for you and your family to have a happy life. We ask Almighty Allah to always hear good news about you. We will miss you.

## Photo of the Day



KUWAIT: The sun sets behind buildings in Kuwait City on Monday. — Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat

## 'Friendship Society' covers patients' medication bills

KUWAIT: Director General of Kuwait Humanitarian Friendship Society Khalid bin Sabt paid a visit to Farwaniya Hospital Director General Dr Mohammad Al-Barrak in the presence of head of accounting Ali Al-Mutairi. Bin Sabt handed Dr Barrak a cheque to cover the cost of medication of insolvent patients of various nationalities, to relieve them from this burden in coordination with the hospital administration. Meanwhile, Dr Barrak thanked the chairman and board members of KHFS for their efforts to achieve their humanitarian goals towards all those who live in Kuwait regardless of nationality, race or religion.



KUWAIT: Director General of Kuwait Humanitarian Friendship Society Khalid bin Sabt hands over the cheque to Farwaniya Hospital Director General Dr Mohammad Al-Barrak, in the presence of the hospital's head of accounting Ali Al-Mutairi.

## Ooredoo Kuwait honors Dr Feeli

KUWAIT: Ooredoo Telecom, the first to introduce innovative digital services in Kuwait, honored Dr Bassam Al-Feeli, the founder of Orbital Space, the first private company in the Middle East to provide access to space through CubeSat technology, Nada Al-Shemmari and Abdulraof Al-Feeli, on the occasion of the success of releasing Kuwait's first Nano satellite into orbit called "Qmr Kuwait".

Dr Feeli and Nada Al-Shemmari were greeted by Abdulaziz Yaqoub Al-Babtain - Chief Executive Officer; Fadi Kawar - Chief Operating Officer; Mijbil Alayoub - Senior Director, Corporate Communications; Fatima Dashti - Senior Manager, Public Relations, Internal Communications and Social Responsibility; Essa Al-Moosa - Senior Director, Customer Care; Thamer Al-Tahous - Director, VIP and the Public Relations Team in Ooredoo Kuwait. The team expressed their pride in Dr Feeli's strenuous efforts and great achievements on behalf of the State of Kuwait, which resulted in a historic achievement called the "Qmr Kuwait", which was released from Cape Canaveral Space Force Station located in Florida, United States.

Meanwhile, Dr Feeli gave a detailed explanation of the project and its development stages, stressing on the fact that the main objective of this project is to raise awareness about satellite technology, in addition to raising the name of the State of Kuwait and encouraging Kuwaiti youth.

Ooredoo affirmed its continuous support for youth and local skills and talents in various sectors including: science, technology and space innovations, since space inspires the youth. Further, the company stressed on the fact that the ultimate goal of such honors is to develop the capabilities of youth in scientific research and raise awareness about space experiments and their role in sustainable development along with improving the quality of life.

Dr Feeli is a Kuwaiti scientist with expertise in



KUWAIT: Ooredoo CEO Abdulaziz Yaqoub Al-Babtain (center) honors Dr Bassam Al-Feeli (right) and Nada Al-Shemmari.

advanced technologies including nanotechnology, lasers and photonics, advanced nuclear reactors design, and space technologies. He is currently a Scientific Consultant and Program Manager within Innovation and Enterprise Directorate at the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences (KFAS). Among his responsibilities at KFAS is organizing science, technology, and innovation related learning programs that would provide local companies with tools and skills to improve business productivity and competitiveness.

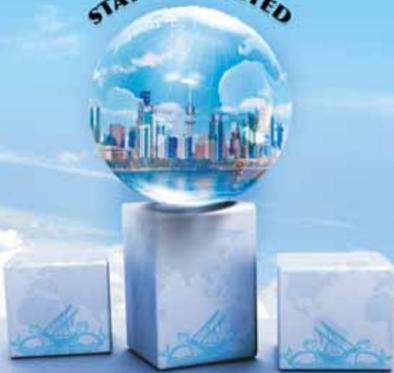
Dr Bassam holds PhD in Microelectromechanical Systems (MEMS) from Virginia Tech where he contributed to the development of micro gas analysis devices. He has served as scientist in the Nanotechnology program with the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research, and program coordinator in the Kuwait National Nuclear Energy Committee. In 2012-2013, Bassam was a Fellow of the Kuwait-MIT Center for Natural Resources and the Environment. He has served as a visiting scientist at MIT Chemical Engineering Department, and was a visiting scientist at the Institute for Materials Research, Tohoku University, Japan.



A group photo at Ooredoo headquarters.

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