

Local

Amir receives Crown Prince, new Diwan chief

Sheikh Nawaf meets Prime Minister following return from UN session



KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, as well as chief of staff of His Highness the Crown Prince's Diwan Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah. — Amiri Diwan and KUNA photos



His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah.



His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanem.



His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Sheikh Hamad Jaber Al-Ali Al-Sabah.



His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Justice and Minister of State for Nazaha Enhancement Affairs Abdullah Youssef Al-Roumi.



His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets President of the Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry Mohammad Jassem Al-Saqer.

KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah at Seif Palace yesterday. His Highness the Amir also received His Highness the Crown Prince and Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, who was recently appointed as the chief of staff of His Highness the Crown Prince's Diwan.

Furthermore, His Highness the Amir received His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah who returned from a mission to the United States, where he led the Kuwaiti delegation to the 76th session of UN General Assembly. In addition, His Highness the Amir

received National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanem, and Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Sheikh Hamad Jaber Al-Ali Al-Sabah. Moreover, His Highness the Amir received Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Justice and Minister of State for Nazaha (integrity) Enhancement Affairs Abdullah Youssef Al-Roumi.

Meanwhile, His Highness the Crown Prince received Ghanem. His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled, Sheikh Hamad Jaber Al-Ali, Roumi, and Minister of Interior Sheikh Thamer Ali Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah. Furthermore, His Highness the Crown Prince received President of the Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry Mohammad Jassem Al-Saqer. — KUNA

Students begin returning...

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on Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday and the first on Monday and Wednesday. The groups will continue to alternate on-campus attendance, the minister said. The duration of each period has been extended to one hour from 45 minutes to allow teachers to compensate for any loss in education due to the closure of schools from last year due to the pandemic.

Yesterday, kindergarten and grade 1 and 2 students returned to Al-Ruya Bilingual School in Sabah Al-Salem. Students of other grades will resume on-campus classes tomorrow. "We welcomed our KG and grade 1 and 2 students today in a dry run so we can receive a larger number of students tomorrow," said Sarah Abu Shanab from the public relations department at Al-Ruya.

"As mandated by the ministry of education, we have resumed hybrid classes; meaning our students will be divided into two groups - one group will be on campus and the other group will be online. They will alternate as we do not want the school to be crowded," Abu Shanab said.

Some parents were elated to accompany their children to school, but they were not allowed to enter the campus. "My children are in KG and grade 2. One is a new student, while the other was already in school before the pandemic began. We really missed on-campus teaching for our kids. My husband and I are very excited for this day. The school required us to monitor our children during online classes, but it was tough as we are working parents," a mother accompanying her children told Kuwait Times. "My kids are very excited to come to class today. They woke up early and had breakfast by themselves," she added.

Asked if she was afraid for the safety of her children, she said: "Honestly speaking, yes. But we cannot keep them inside the house forever. We need to educate our children, and the only way to do that is through traditional on-campus classes. They should interact with other people and their classmates."

United Indian School also welcomed students of grade 1, 2, 3, 11 and 12. "We will open gradually from today until October 6 to all our students as per the education ministry guidelines," the school's Administration Manager John Thomas said. He said all students must come to school based on the hybrid system. "Students with medical issues are excused, but no classes will be conducted online, except on Tuesday, when we will have online classes for all," he said. Many other private foreign schools will resume in-person classes from Oct 3 onwards.

had received "remarkable" support in the election.

Progressive Party leader Sigurdur Ingi Johannsson and Independence Party leader Benediktsson meanwhile both said yesterday they were open to discussing a continuation of the coalition, citing voters' strong support. Benediktsson told Stod 2 it was "normal for parties that have worked together for four years and had good personal relations" to try to continue together, but told public broadcaster RUV he wasn't certain they would succeed. He also wouldn't necessarily push for the post of prime minister, he said.

The unusual coalition mixing left and right came about after the 2017 elections, in a bid to bring stability to the nation after years of political upheaval. Deep public distrust of politicians amid repeated scandals sent Icelanders to the polls five times from 2007 to 2017. This is only the second time since 2008 that a government has made it to the end of its four-year mandate on the sprawling island, and the first time since 2003 that a government has retained its majority. —AFP

Zionists kill 5 Palestinians...

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The Zionist army said that "in five simultaneous operations to apprehend the terrorists, troops responded to live fire, killing five of the terrorists in a shootout, and apprehending several others".

Prime Minister Naftali Bennett confirmed that Zionist "security forces took action overnight in Judea and Samaria against Hamas terrorists who were about to carry out terrorist attacks in real time," referencing the biblical names used in the Zionist entity for the West Bank. Bennett, who was en route to New York to address the United Nations General Assembly, said the troops had acted "as expected of them", suggesting that the use of deadly force was justified.

The army said during an arrest in Burqin "a close range shootout was instigated by terrorists inside a building" that left two soldiers severely injured. "The possibility that the injuries were caused by our forces' fire is being investigated," the statement added, saying the troops received "life-saving medical treatment". It described the operation as a joint effort by army forces, special police units, intelligence agents and the Shin Bet domestic security agency.

Hamas confirmed its fighters had clashed with Zionist forces near Jerusalem and Jenin and said that those killed in the Biddu area - named as Ahmad Zahran, Zakaria Badwan and Mohammed Humaidan - were members of the Islamist group. Hamas has controlled the Zionist-blockaded Gaza strip since 2007, but also has a strong presence in the West Bank, which is formally controlled by rival



Relatives mourn during the funeral of Osama Soboh.

group Fatah.

Islamic Jihad, another Islamist militant group and the second strongest in Gaza, issued a statement identifying Osama Soboh as one of its "martyrs" who died in Burqin, praising his "heroism". Soboh was buried yesterday, but according to the Palestinian health ministry, the Zionist entity was holding the remaining four bodies - a practice used by both sides in the conflict to gain leverage in negotiations.

The Biddu area has been relatively calm for several years but has been hit by previous unrest. Jenin has been a flashpoint through the long-running Zionist-Palestinian conflict. Four Palestinians were killed in the Jenin refugee camp during clashes last month. The area was also the focus of an intense manhunt earlier this month after six Palestinians from Jenin governorate broke out of a high-security Zionist prison. All six were later recaptured. — AFP

Iceland elects women-majority...

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The largest party remained the Independence Party, whose leader Bjarni Benediktsson - the current finance minister and a former prime minister - has been eyeing Jakobsdottir's job. It won almost a quarter of votes and hung on to its 16 seats. But the election's big winner was the center-right Progressive Party, which gained five seats, to 13. After four years of concessions on all sides to keep the peace within the coalition, it is conceivable that the two right-wing parties may want to try to form a government without the Left Greens. Speaking to private broadcaster Stod 2 yesterday, Jakobsdottir refused to be drawn on the coalition's future discussions, saying only that her government

Egypt to tax social media...

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Pro-state, late-night television host Amr Adib questioned the revenue-raising exercise. "How

many bloggers are really out there?" said the bombastic anchor, who President Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi regularly calls live on-air. "The finance minister knows full well that there are millions of people who aren't paying their fair share of taxes. They evade them," he said. Since 2018, authorities have placed social media users with more than 5,000 followers under supervision. They can be prosecuted for posting "fake news". — AFP