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Kuwait ready for schools' resumption

KUWAIT: Minister of Education Dr Ali Al-Mudhaf affirmed the resumption of study at schools next September through a well-studied plan for the safety of students in all grades. Regular study at schools was suspended for more than one year across the country due to the coronavirus pandemic. The minister wished, at the same time, conditions would be available for a safe return to schools, concurrently with the vaccination campaigns carried out by the Ministry of Health (MoH) for all the Ministry of Education (MoE) staff and students. Speaking to Kuwait State Television, Dr Mudhaf priorities highly health of students, adding that all matters are going better and the ministry is doing its best for safe conditions for the exams of both 12th grade and all grades. He revealed that the ministry has formed some committees of specialists to evaluate education in Kuwait. He said the ministry is planning to develop the national council for education development and the higher council for education as well as educational system or setting a specified and clear strategy to upgrade education position in international indicators.

The ministry has faced some challenges due to the coronavirus, and teachers and students have been trained on online education, he said, noting that this kind of learning is not alternative to the regular one. He noted that the exam of the 12th grade will be carried out through paper not electronically, reassuring people about relevant health matters. He affirmed that the MoE has worked with the MoH through some committees to set health measures to guarantee the safety of students. Up to 49,000 male and female students will be examined in the 12th grade, referring that every classroom has only six students with the implementation of a two-meter social distancing between a student and another. The minister pointed to some measures taken at schools like wearing facemask, using hand sanitizer and measuring temperature, in addition to the presence of a number of medical emergency teams. The MoE provided the MoH with names of all staff and students to receive vaccines, Dr Mudhaf said. — KUNA

Kuwait a global role model in philanthropy: UN official

KUWAIT: United Nations Acting Resident Coordinator in Kuwait Hideko Hadzialic said Friday that the State of Kuwait "constitutes an international model to be followed in terms of providing aid and assistance in support of international peace and security under the leadership of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah." Hadzialic added Kuwait also helps in building international and regional partnerships and pursuing peace and preventive diplomacy. These effective political efforts and positions are nothing but an extension of a history deeply rooted in the establishment of the State of Kuwait.

Marking the UN's third anniversary of the International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace, Hadzialic expressed her "sincere thanks and appreciation for the Kuwaiti pioneering efforts at all levels to enhance security and peace and strengthen plural partnerships, mainly the tireless efforts of the Kuwaiti Ministry of Foreign Affairs."

"The United Nations Charter constitutes a tool to enhance the role of diplomacy for peace, and charts the approach that should be taken in light of multilateralism and strengthening our commitment to achieving the goals of sustainable development and building a safer and just world for future generations," Hadzialic noted. "And that commitment is essential to the United Nations, states and to all spectrums of society around the world, more than ever."

The UN official also stressed on the importance of highlighting current challenging circumstances stemming from the outbreak of COVID-19, unresolved disputes, climate change, exacerbated inequalities, deterioration of the humanitarian situation. Hadzialic mentioned these challenging factors undoubtedly affirm the need to work together and promote diplomacy for peace on the local and global levels. Also, she noted "while stressing on the importance of strengthening cooperation between states, companies, individuals and all spectrums of society, and partnering with international organizations to find solutions to local, regional and global challenges."

"The State of Kuwait plays a pioneering role in the field of multilateral partnerships and peace diplomacy, which was evident through its relentless efforts and tireless work in promoting peace and security in the region and beyond," Hadzialic said. "Kuwait spared no effort in taking decisions, especially in issues of concern to the Arab region and maintaining international peace and security. It also reaped the fruits of its labors in solving the Gulf crisis after three years of its role as a mediator calling for an end to the Gulf crisis."

A historic achievement was made in the 41st Gulf Summit (Al-Ula Summit) to heal the Gulf rift by the State of Kuwait, resulting in naming the summit after the late Amir of Kuwait His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, as a recognition of the endeavors of His Highness and the efforts of the leaders



JERUSALEM: This archive photo shows people distributing food during a Kuwait-funded campaign to give away iftar meals in Ramadan this year. — KUNA

of the State of Kuwait in resolving this crisis. "This is besides the leading efforts of the State of Kuwait in hosting international donor conferences to end the Syrian crisis and the generous contribution in support of the Syrian humanitarian situation, hosting the Yemeni peace talks and the International Conference for the Reconstruction of Iraq, and its generous contributions in support of the countries affected by the spread of COVID-19," she added.

The UN official also noted "through the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development, whose activities extended to include 107 countries in the world, Kuwait contributed towards various humanitarian and development issues, the last of which was the commitment of the State of Kuwait on September 17, 2020 during the Ministerial Meeting on the Republic of Yemen, which was held on the sidelines of the 75th session of the United Nations General Assembly with an amount of \$20 million, which will be allocated through the Fund."

In addition, the Kuwait Fund has wide-ranging contributions covering a wide scope and geography in terms of supporting host communities for Syrian refugees, as the State of Kuwait has committed financial contributions and hosted conferences to support Syrian refugees. These commitments, which amounted to \$1.8 billion, out of which about \$377.5 million spent from the resources of the Kuwaiti Fund in support of Syrian refugees in Turkey, Egypt, Iraq, the Jordan, and Lebanon. In addition to various contributions with international and local organizations mandated to protect refugees and providing them with a decent life.

On the other hand, Hadzialic said, "the State of Kuwait has activities in Iraq that commenced after the end of the Iraq Reconstruction Conference held on February 14, 2018, which resulted in mobilizing several international resources amounting to about \$30 billion, from which the Kuwait's share amounted to \$2 billion in the form of loans and investments."

"Kuwait Fund has initiated the implementation of this fund through an educational project worth KD 23.5 million, and other health projects are being discussed with the Iraqi counterparts," she noted. "The Kuwaiti Fund has also contributed to addressing the epidemics and diseases sweeping the world. The latest of these contributions is the support provided to countries in facing the emerging COVID-19 virus pandemic, as the Kuwaiti Fund contributed to the Debt Service Postponement Initiative launched by the G20 and the World Bank Group in April 2020, which aims to empower poor countries to mobilize and focus their own resources to face the negative repercussions of the pandemic. Besides providing a set of emergency humanitarian grants that have been allocated to various entities, including UN agencies such as the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization (WHO) And the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) and in Palestine implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Programme of Assistance to the Palestinian People (PAPP), through the Islamic Development Bank, Kuwait Fund contributed \$42,000,000 for the construction of a comprehensive, functional and operational wastewater treatment plant serving over 217,000 residents of Khan Younis - Gaza," Hadzialic added.

All these grants were mainly aimed at facing the repercussions of the existing health crisis and supporting the humanitarian situation in the beneficiary communities. UN International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace is also a day that represents the reaffirmation of the UN Charter and its principles of resolving disputes among countries through peaceful means. It acknowledges the use of multilateral decision-making and diplomacy in achieving peaceful resolutions to conflicts among nations. — KUNA

NBK social program leverages innovative approaches in Ramadan

KUWAIT: NBK's Public Relations Assistant General Manager, Manal Al-Mattar, said that NBK's "Do Good Deeds in Ramadan" philanthropic drive initiated by NBK 30 years ago, is leveraging innovative approaches this year in response to COVID-19 pandemic.

"At NBK, we are driven to better understand how social responsibility can be used as an opportunity to support the front liners efforts, marginalized communities and lifesaving needs such as food and other kinds of social support," she added. For almost three decades, the Ramadan program comprised a series of activities and initiatives aimed at encouraging community engagement and solidarity in Kuwait. "During these unprecedented times, NBK hopes to encourage a greater sense of responsibility during the holy month," Mattar noted.



Manal Al-Mattar

Food rescue

NBK Ramadan Social Program includes more than 3000 "Ramadan Baskets" to low-income families. This initiative is a food solidarity initiative that is launched in partnership with Refood to make a difference in the community.

The basket contains a variety of items that meet the needs of the beneficiary families during the holy month. Through this initiative, rescuing food and saving the environment goes hand in hand. Refood's initiative works to bridge-the gap between excess food in the industry that would've gone to waste and instead give it to those in need across Kuwait.

In addition, NBK presented a donation to the



KRCS to support its efforts and help smoothing the vaccination process in Kuwait Vaccination Center in Kuwait International Fairground in Mishref. The donation included providing golf carts to give elderly patients and people with disability free rides from and to the parking area. Throughout NBK social media channels, awareness videos from doctors are posted to highlight the effectiveness and safety of vaccines and correcting misinformation being shared.

Promoting health

NBK Mobile ATM will be visiting different parks in Kuwait during the outdoor exercise period allowed during the curfew. NBK will be challenging people who achieved or exceeded 10 thousand steps walking to win prizes. This initiative aims at promoting positive health effects and wellbeing.

NBK Ramadan Social Program will include daily awareness videos, competitions and health tips through the official social media channels of NBK.

Despite social distancing, NBK is organizing a group of health events for staff that includes clinical visits to doctors for consultation. These events focus mainly on mental health and online education. In addition, NBK has a schedule full of fun and rewarding activities for staff including the traditional Graish celebration, which was, organized Live this year through the employees Instagram channel I Am NBK. It witnessed an array of entertaining activities and contests. These staff activities aim to bring NBK family closer and find a way to demonstrate the ties between NBK family members are stronger in these difficult times.

Info Ministry to launch five-year media strategy

KUWAIT: The Ministry of Information will launch a five-year strategy to establish sustainable and pioneering media, Minister of Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Abdulrahman Al-Mutairi said yesterday. The minister affirmed that the strategy comes under the directives of the country's political leadership on the necessity of developing the official media and empowering Kuwaiti youth in various fields. The minister pointed out that the strategy keen to create distinguished youth

media leaders who have a clear vision to adopt a media discourse that keeps pace with the state's renaissance. The media strategy focuses on the necessity of digital transformation of Kuwait TV and Radio channels and all its platforms on social media, as it aims to enhance Kuwait's position as a country with distinguished media history and long cultural heritage, he added. He also noted that a timeline for the strategy has been drawn up, a committee to produce programs has been formed, a spokesperson has been appointed, training courses will be held, and laying down the basic building blocks to achieve the scheduled digital transformation. Furthermore, the minister stated that there will be an annual evaluation for the strategy achievements, stressing that the official media, as one of the nation's development soft powers, has a role in reflecting the cultural image of Kuwait. — KUNA



RAMADAN QUIZ 2021

Kuwait Times annual Ramadan competition will publish every day throughout the holy month of Ramadan. All thirty coupons containing the correct answer must be sent to the newspaper to become eligible for the raffle draw. All coupons must be received on or before Monday 17 of May 2021. Winners will be announced in Kuwait Times.

ISSUE NO: 18418 RAMADAN 12, 1442 AH

Kuwait Times Ramadan Quiz

12- A chapter (Surah) of the Book of Allah the Almighty in which the Name of Allah is mentioned in every verse:

- A. Ar-Room
 B. Al-Mujaadilah
 C. Al-Hashr

Kuwait Times Ramadan Quiz

Date :
Name :
Civil ID :
Tel :
Email :

ISSUE NO: 18418 RAMADAN 13, 1442 AH

Kuwait Times Ramadan Quiz

13- A verse (ayah) in the Book of Allah the Almighty about which it is said whoever makes it a practice to recite it after every prayer, there will be nothing between him and his entering Paradise except death:

- A. Verse of Honor (last verse of Chapter Al-Israai)
 B. Verse of Thihhaar (second verse of Chapter Al-Mujaadilah)
 C. Verse of Al-Kursi (Verse 255 of Chapter Al-Baqarah)

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