

Local

Awqaf Ministry intensifies efforts against illicit drugs and narcotics

War on drugs must become a societal priority

KUWAIT: Narcotics and illicit drugs have an adversarial impact on society with all roads leading to "doom and gloom" no matter how "careful" a user is. Kuwait's Awqaf (endowment) and Islamic Affairs Ministry plays a crucial role in the state's efforts to counter the evils of narcotics, providing moral and religious guidance to those entangled with drugs. Speaking to KUNA, religious experts all agreed that the war on drugs must become a societal priority, saying that mosques and guidance centers play a role in countering narcotics' menace.

Several religious-centered media campaigns geared towards warning against illicit drugs were launched in the past in coordination amongst several state entities, said

head of media at the ministry of Awqaf Dr Ahmad Al-Otaibi. He noted that a media campaign was inaugurated recently focusing on the youth sectors, saying that it was to promote the virtue of performing religious duties and steering clear from vices.

Cornering the fight against narcotics, he affirmed that campaigns should be modernized and should target all sectors of society in order for the battle against drugs to be successful. On his part, Imam of Abdullah ibn Al-Arqam mosque Dr Farhan Al-Shimmari stressed that all efforts must be based on the solid principles of Islam, revealing that Imams of mosques and religious centers were encouraged to protect the youth from narcotics through wisdom and patience.

He praised the Ministry of Awqaf for their efforts in supporting Imams and guiding them through the current efforts to combat narcotics, affirming that this cause was worth the fight especially with the rate of death from narcotics related causes was on the rise. The evils of drugs could not be disputed, affirmed Adel Al-Azmi, an Islamic scholar, pointing out that the increase of narcotics use was something that needed to be addressed with all due seriousness. He went on to say that there were main incidents where the use of narcotics had been linked to various crimes including assault and event murder; therefore, society as a whole must stand against the spread of drugs. —KUNA



Dr Ahmad Al-Otaibi



Adel Al-Azmi



Dr Farhan Al-Shimmari



KSH to implement special program

KUWAIT: The Kuwait Awqaf Public Foundation dedicated a fund for 30 children with disabilities to cover their rehabilitation and education services at the KSHs Educational Centers. The Kuwait Society for the Handicapped is eager to implement the "Care of People with Disabilities" project in Kuwait in cooperation with the Kuwait Awqaf Public Foundation.

KSH Director General Dr Elham Al-Hamdan stated: "Since the establishment of the Kuwait Society for the Handicapped in 1971 as the first charity in Kuwait that provides services for children with disabilities at no cost, the Society has continued to provide integrated rehabilitation services to people with disabilities at no cost and

spared no efforts in integrating them into society.

All these efforts were directed to empower and encourage the inclusion of people with disabilities in the mainstream community. In conjunction with the KSH's belief in the rights of people with disabilities, the Kuwait Society for the Handicapped has adopted in its strategy the achievement of sustainability in a way that serves the care of people with disabilities and the fulfillment of Kuwait Vision 2035".

Dr Elham added: "This project aims to provide integrated care programs for people with disabilities, which include rehabilitation services, such as physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech-language pathology, and education. These services develop the abilities of our students helping them overcome obstacles and assist them in improving independence, becoming productive, and adapting to the environment around them.

Moreover, this project contributes to empow-

ering people with disabilities from less fortunate families by covering their treatment fees and granting them access to adequate rehabilitation services, which symbolize solidarity and compassion among community members, especially as it's known that the costs of treatment are pretty high. She added that the Kuwait Society for the Handicapped provides equal services for people with disabilities who reside in Kuwait.

And that the Kuwait Awqaf Public Foundation fund was dedicated to the most underprivileged 30 people with disabilities registered in the society. Concluding her statement, Dr Elham Al-Hamdan expressed her sincere gratitude and appreciation for Kuwait Awqaf Public Foundation's efforts in supporting people in need, and she appraised the strategic partnership between the "Kuwait Awqaf Public Foundation" and the "Kuwait Society for the Handicapped" which is the forefront of sustainability, growth, and development in Kuwait.

Kuwaiti students partake in Huawei ICT Regional Finals

MUSCAT: Three Kuwaiti students will be competing in Huawei ICT Middle East Regional Finals in Muscat, Oman from December 20-22. Students Dalal Al-Awadhi, Abeer Al-Farhan and Faris Al-Mutairi will be among 45 competitors who qualified to the Finals that saw the participation of over 19,000 students from the Middle East and Central Asia.

The Kuwaiti students expressed to KUNA joy for taking part in such competition that witnesses and showcases latest technological developments in the communication and information sectors. Participants will be at Huawei ICT Academy under healthy competition circumstances and a wide range of innovative technologies to be exchanged with ideas from all competitors, as it has been since 2015. —KUNA

Court orders man to pay KD 500,000 for dud cheque

KUWAIT: The Court of Appeal ordered a Kuwaiti to pay KD 500,000 to a compatriot - a carpet seller - for issuing a dud cheque for the amount of KD 339,000 in exchange of 56 Persian carpets. In 2012, the carpet seller sold 56 Iranian-made carpets for an amount of KD 339,300. But the cheque bounced when he went to cash it. This forced the carpet seller to report the incident, and the misdemeanor court ruled the citizen be imprisoned for three years on the charge of issuing a cheque without balance. The plaintiff's defense confirmed there is a contractual relationship between his client and the citizen, and his client has the right to claim the amount, along with the judicial compensation estimated by the court.

National Assembly OKs several requests

KUWAIT: The National Assembly, in its regular session on Tuesday okayed several requests received after completing the discussion of incoming papers and letters. Among them is a letter from Head of the Parliamentary Investigation Committee MP Hamdan Al-Azmi, requesting that complaint number 165 be referred to the Parliament's Financial and Economic Affairs Committee in accordance with the provisions of article 156.

It approved a letter from a group of MPs requesting that the Parliamentary Public Funds Protection Committee be assigned to follow up the losses of the Kuwait Investment Office in London affiliated with the Kuwait Investment Authority along with Glencore company, provided that the committee submits its report to the parliament within two months.

Additionally, it okayed a proposal from MPs requesting that the Parliamentary Environment, Food and Water Security Affairs Committee be assigned to discuss and investigate what is contained in the reports of the oversight bodies, and complaints of citizens residing in Jaber Al-Ahmad city and northwestern Sulaibikhat regarding environmental violations.

The National Assembly welcomed a letter from MP Shuaib Shaaban, seeking that the Parliament's Public Utilities Committee be assigned to discuss with the concerned authorities to solve the problem of the main entrance to Jaber Al-Ahmad city. Also, it adopted a document from two MPs, Dr Abdulaziz Al-Saqabi and Muhammad Al-Sayer, requesting that the Parliament's Sports Affairs Committee be assigned to consider and follow up the issues in connection to cycling, provided that the committee submits its report within four months.

Conversely, the parliament rejected a letter from the Finance Minister and Minister of State for Economic Affairs and Investments Abdulwahab Al-Rasheed, asking for the urgency of the Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee to consider the draft law approving Kuwait's agreement to establishing the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank. —AFP



Japan Embassy holds 15th Japanese Speech Contest

KUWAIT: The Embassy of Japan in Kuwait held the 15th Japanese Speech Contest in collaboration with the Center for Community Service & Continuing Education at Kuwait University and the Japanese Society in Kuwait on Monday, December 19, 2022. As the National Council for Culture, Arts and Literature (NCCAL) hosted the contest in the National Library of Kuwait.

In his opening remarks, Charge d'Affaires at the

Embassy of Japan Kaneko Koji expressed great delight in having been able to hold the event for fifteen years, showing his appreciation for the continuous efforts of the Center for Community Service & Continuing Education at Kuwait University in teaching the Japanese language since 1996. Eleven contestants participated in the contest, while almost one hundred people joined the event as audience.

All of the contestants showed brilliant performance of the Japanese speech. And as a side event, two special guests delivered special presentations. The first guest, Dr Oki Yutaroh, Associate Professor of J-MENA Office, Kyushu University gave a presentation promoting studying in Japan with general information of various Japanese famous universities. And the second guest, Faisal Al-Salem, a famous



Charge d'Affaires Kaneko Koji

Japan-friendly Instagrammer aka gaijinexpress, delivered a special speech regarding his experience living in Japan for long years.