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Panel nod on draft to punish abuse of elderly



A man cries after his relative was killed in a roadside bomb attack in Baghdad Nov 12. Two roadside bombs exploded in central Baghdad, killing four civilians and wounding 10 others, police said. (RTRS)

Iran warns

TEHRAN, Nov 12. (Agencies): Iran's top nuclear negotiator Ali Larijani on Sunday warned world powers over the consequences of passing a UN resolution against Iran over its nuclear programme, Iranian agencies reported.

The semi-official Mehr
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Jail, fine

KUWAIT, Nov 12. (KUNA): The parliamentary committee for Health, Social, and Labor Affairs ratified Sunday a draft law to punish those who abuse their parents or old relatives. Member of the committee MP Ali Al-Rashed said the law will benefit the elderly who are under continuous abuse by their offspring.

The punishment will include
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Prices will be reasonable

Enforcement of car fire extinguishers from January

KUWAIT, Nov 12. (KUNA): Director General of the Fire Department Major-General Jassem Al-Mansouri said on Sunday the decree on providing all vehicles with fire extinguishers will be enforced as of January 2007, under agreement with concerned departments in the Interior Ministry.

Enforcement of the ministerial decree of 2004 was put off several times due to lack of

necessary technical mechanisms," Al-Mansouri told KUNA.

The decision on the decree enforcement was made after licensing new firms specialized in selling fire extinguishers, in order to provide the market with enough affordable extinguishers.

"There are hundreds of international companies which produce fire extinguishers but we could not license them without scrutinizing their

standard specifications," Al-Mansouri underlined, noting that the licensing operation was not affected by any non-technical considerations.

The decision was made in consultation with the concerned departments of the Interior Ministry to prevent certain parties from manipulating the need of citizens and residents to raise the prices.

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Opinion

Reform needed on Constitution

By Ahmed Al-Jarallah

Editor-in-Chief, the Arab Times
NO one can deny the urgent need for political reform in Kuwait. We will be committing a big mistake if we believe our system of governance, which we adopted over 44 years ago, is the proper version of constitutional democracy.

This old version of democracy and Constitution, which need to be reformed, has become sacred over the years. We can judge this by the reaction when we mention the need to amend any article of the

Pace in rethink

WASHINGTON, Nov 12. (Agencies): Democrats, who won control of the US Congress, said on Sunday they will push for a phased withdrawal of American troops from Iraq to begin in four to six months, but the White House cautioned against fixing timetables.

"First order of business is to change the direction of Iraq policy," said Sen Carl Levin, a Michigan Democrat who is

BUSH OPPOSES IRAQ TIMETABLE Hill to push phased pullout



'Voyage into Arabia' mysterious and beautiful

Artist takes viewers on visual journey



Aspen Gallery Director Shelly Abu Sukheila (right) talking with an art patron.



Tareq Rajab (right), with daughter-in-law Denise Rajab viewing some of the paintings.

Tulu Koota 'Family Picnic': Tulu Koota Kuwait is pleased to announce its 'Family Picnic 2006' on Friday, Nov 17, at the Mahlat Garden.

Valid members and their families are invited

to attend this exciting event and all assured it will certainly be a memorable one. Maintaining the tradition of TKK in bringing the reminiscences of Tulu-Nada in Kuwait, rural games shall be held. Reviving the spirit

By Boie Conrad Dublin
Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 12: The paintings are at once beautiful and mysterious, the depicting scenes of ancient Mesopotamia and other Arabian imagery, all seemingly enveloped in a misty haze just like in a dream.

The works reflect a journey, a visual voyage of impressions from many years of traveling coupled by a passion for learning by the artist, about the archaeology and architecture of Mesopotamia and the region in general.

"Vian Sora, 'Voyage into Arabia' an exhibition by the Aspen Gallery, of over thirty paintings done in mixed medium on canvas depicting scenes of old Mesopotamia, opened Sunday at the Dar El Cid Exhibition Halls in Jabriya. The exhibition will run until Wednesday, Nov 15, 2006.

Explaining her works in a brochure, Vian Sora, a Baghdad native, says it is an attempt to present other cultures far away from the East, a means to interact and communicate between distant civilizations.

"The work is spontaneous and sometimes mystical in content as I try to capture the essence of the moment when I see something for the first time. The colors of Baghdad, arches, mystical figures and ancient ruins, are noticeable influences in my paintings, which are portrayed through my deep respect for the civilizations of the past with the hope to develop a discourse to the present," she said in her writing.

Art, she said, is not worth doing unless it attempts to make an improvement in the human condition. This contribution can be direct by enlightening the audience to further knowledge of their inner self, removal

ing them from the burdens of daily life while fostering a common dialogue between different ethnicities. Creating art can also make an immense personal improvement in an artist's life.

There are no limits, she further wrote, in the creation process of art, in terms of materials. Hues and deep tones convey the mood and even its temperature. "I depend mainly on oils, acrylics, planet colors, timber panel, water colors and chalk pastels, using the latter materials for sketching. The conduit of expression for my works, generally in a single color used to convey more historical interests or poetic expressions, are then blended with other colors that combine to shape the final result of the work," she concludes.

Vision

Some of the paintings have explanations: The "Call to Prayer" is from a vision of a mosque, with the muezzin calling out across all Arabia from the minaret, so God's words touches all those who hear; the ritual poetry flowing, beautiful in its meaning, calling all together for prayer — a celebration of faith.

Of "Ishtar," it tells of the most prominent female deity in the late Babylonian pantheon, and the Ishtar Gate was constructed in her honor. The Ishtar Gate was the eighth gate to the inner city of Babylon, and was constructed in about 575 BC by order of King Nebuchadnezzar II.

The gate was made of blue glazed tiles with alternating rows of blue-relief dragons and bulls. Through the gate ran the Processional Way, which was lined with walls covered in lions on glazed bricks. Statues of the gods were paraded through the gate and down the Processional Way each year during the New Year's celebra-

tion. Another painting is of Queen Zubaydah, who died in 831 AD and was Caliph Al-Mansour's daughter and wife of Harun Al-Rashid of Baghdad. She was said to have expanded and eased the route of the pilgrims by having an aqueduct constructed to carry the water to Makkah — some 12 miles away — and she also had the Zamzam well deepened; and had wells and caravanseries built along the 900-mile road from Makkah to Kufa, a route that became known as the Zubaydah Road.

Queen Zubaydah deserves to be remembered as the most-practices of all great Abbasid ladies. She was said to participate in making Palm Sunday decorations and crosses of gold and silver, as well as giving Pataraah Timothy gold and silver vessels and luxurious clothing.

She also supported liberal and Bishop Serjus in getting the Caliph's signature to rebuild churches and monasteries, which had been demolished by Hamdoun Bin Ali's men.

Vian Sora was born in Baghdad in 1976. She studied and graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Computer Sciences, from Al-Mansour University, and is a member of the Iraqi Artists Union; Plastic Artists Association; Visual Arts Committee (V.A.C.); and International Arts Association (IAA).

Her works can be found in many private and public collections in Europe, USA and Middle East countries. She has held solo exhibitions in her native Iraq, Turkey and Denmark from 2001 up to the present and participated in group exhibitions in Sweden, Paris, Switzerland, Rome, Lebanon, Jordan, the UAE, Turkey and in Iraq from 2000 and 2005.

of 'unity in diversity' events such as 'Jaw Khambi', 'Shakti Kalia' and many more Games and activities for all age groups have been planned for the day.

Teams interested in participating in 'Kabaddi', 'Volleyball' and 'Vandala' (for men) and 'Throw Ball' (for ladies) are requested to register their names with our Sports Secretary Nazeem Maccarham Moh: 7895654 on or before Nov 15.

Enjoy the exhilarating experience with TKK, participate and win exciting prizes. Book your pass at: Rawaily Shetty Grocery 2640860, 2662056, 2639667, Kuwait City Oriental Restaurant 2456553, Salimya Sashook Super Market 5044919, M&M Confectionery 5619946, Tahaluf/Mangaf 6526888, 6475585, 9528231, Abhaya's Choice Center 4373022, Shilo Tandoor 4311914, Farwantiya, 7996421, 7477871, Abu Haidia Ram Razaq 3728331, Shewakh 7895654, Asghara 9560233.

Belgium: The visa department will reopen normally to the public on Sunday, Nov 19, office hours 9:00 till 12:00.

Free Medical Consultation Camp:

Under the auspices of Kuwait Medical Association (KMA), Indian Doctor's Forum (IDF) and in association with Kerala Arts Lower's Association (KALA), it has been decided to conduct a 'Free Medical Consultation Camp' on Nov 24, 2006 at Indian International School, Mangaf, mainly aiming to the welfare of our society in Kuwait. Specialist doctors from different fields will be giving their consultations in the camp. The registration for the camp is already under process and it is expected to have a participation of nearly 450 patients from different parts of Kuwait. We are planning to provide the beneficiaries of the camp services including free transport and arrangement for meeting doctors from different specialties.

The registration for the camp is already started through KALA volunteers, through our main throughout Kuwait. The camp is open to all and the admission will be strictly through pre registration and confirmation thereafter. For fur-

ther details, please contact KALA Volunteers or call at 4317875, 4331598, Tel: 3721802.

KEA Sports Day:

Kerala Engineers Association (KEA) has the pleasure of inviting all the Kuwait Engineers Forum members and their families to the third KEA Sports Day conducted for the benefit of all the member associations of Kuwait Engineering Forum (KEF), on the 17th of November 2006 at the Kuwait Amateur Athletics Federation stadium, Kuwait.

The opening ceremony will at 8:30 am and will be followed by various competitions and fun games. The Sports Day is expected to conclude by 4:00 pm. Breakfast, lunch and refreshments are arranged at the venue.

For any further information please contact Biju George 97156530.

Kala Kuwait painting contest:

Kala Kuwait - Mangaf Unit invites students of all Indian schools to take part in 'Painting Competition' to mark the birthday of our first prime minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru - 'Children Day' on Nov 17 at 2:00 pm at Indian International School, Mangaf. 4 groups medium. Group A: from LKG to 1st Std, Crayons; Group B: from 2nd Std to 4th Std, Crayons; Group C: from 5th Std to 8th Std, water colour; Group D: from 9th Std to 12th Std, water colour.

Crayons and water colours shall be brought by participants. Paper will be given by organizers.

Added attractions: 'Open Canvas Painting' an opportunity to all parents, guests and visitors to express their feelings and talents.

For registration and further details please contact chairman K. V. Johnson 3734634, program general co-ordinator P.N. Hari Kumar 9330753, Unit co-ordinator Prabhakaran Pillai 6678228, V.P. Maken 9420925, V. Ashok Kumar 9293319, C. Bhaskaran 3727570, Salim Kumar 6351915, Prabhakaran Pillai 6678228, Aji Kumar 9754676.

'Fitness for Fun':

Fitness for fun every Friday from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm at Natural Hygiene Health Club Jabriya (JA) building no 6 basement besides McDonald. Come and join our members. For more information contact Nancy 6972796, Mayo 6736412.

KES marks Remembrance Day

REMEMBRANCE Day was solemnly commemorated this week at Kuwait English School. A special assembly was held on Nov 11 — 88 years to the day since the cessation of hostilities in WW1. The assembly was led by year 7 students and aimed to educate pupils about the horrors of war and to encourage them to think about the value of a peaceful world. KES is grateful for the presence of Reverend Andrew Thompson, Chaplain of St Paul's Anglican Church.

Pupils performed several poems, including 'Armistice Day', Edward Shanks' poem about remembering victims. As always at Kuwait English School, high quality music was a feature of this community event. Amongst a series of items was a rendition of 'The Sky Boat Song' (played by David Abi Hanna) and a solo of 'Plains d'Amour' (played by Ivona Kovac). Further atmosphere was added to the

occasion by year 10 students, who performed an evocative dramatic interpretation of a Wilfred Owen poem. After the traditional silence, music teacher Donna Clarke sounded the haunting 'Last Post' on trumpet, to a standing audience of respectful students. This iconic musical piece was played again at KES' flag raising ceremony on Remembrance Sunday.

In the weeks before Remembrance Day, KES students were active in trying and wearing poppies to signify their own empathy with those affected by conflicts around the world. Proceeds from the sales will be donated to charities which benefit war victims. In addressing the assembly, School Director Mrs Rhoda Elizabeth Mahmood referred to 'Thinking Week' at KES when she expressed her fervent wish that students should think about the great suffering that is caused by war.



Head Boy Omar Ali Fabir and Head Girl Laura Feszy raising the Kuwaiti flag.



Junior students performing at the Remembrance Assembly.

Vian Sora