

:Khiam Center and the Gulf Forum

Khiam Center was established in June 1999, and it's known as the Khiam. Khiam is a name that relative to the detention centre in South Lebanon, which was closed on 23 May 2000.

Khiam is an NGO, working to rehabilitate victims of violence, torture and defence of human rights, its a verified member of the GNAT in Geneva, a member of MNRDHR, and was awarded consultative status at the UN on 2018.

The Gulf Forum for Civil Society Organizations was established in as a non-profit organization, with an official license in France, 2013 working in develop freedoms and human rights on the Gulf countries both organizations provided with many reports for the Human Rights Council in UN in Geneva, as well as, both organizations are so active in the Gulf countries and the Middle East region.

Summary:

The report of Khiam and Gulf Forum focuses on the recommendations of the Human Rights Council, which were approved by Kuwait in 2015.

Freedoms in Kuwait:

Kuwait faces a lot of human rights crises, and this going up and increase day by day, as a result of implementation of laws inconsistent with the Article 36 of the Constitution, Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the International Covenants on Civil, Political, Social and Economic Rights that was signed and ratified by Kuwait.

The Total of the sentences of the political activists are around 578 years in prison, and this is a historic precedent, which leded Kuwait to be on the top countries issued prison terms for political activists, according to the report of the human rights organizations.

Unfortunately, Kuwait did not abide by its signature on the relevant international human rights, and the laws in which the Kuwaiti courts operate and Its judgments shall be rendered accordingly are clearly invalid constitutionally and legally. Implementation of these laws took the society to social and family problems, as there are more than 40 prisoners of opinion, some of whom spent time in prison, and others are still in.

The Kuwaiti Parliament is delaying to change the laws that violate Article 36 of the Constitution and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights:

In our movement efforts with the legislative institution to amend and change the laws, we held a meeting with the Speaker of the Parliament, Mr Marzouq Al-Ghanim on 2 February 2019, we discussed with him the importance of changing these laws because of its disastrous human rights in Kuwait.

We submitted an amendment to these laws officially on 29 April 2018 and 24 December 2018.

On 14 April 2019, we submitted a complaint of ignoring what we provided to the Parliament, However, we did not get any response for our request.

On 3 March 2019, we sent our third speech to remind them, we did not get any answer from the legislative institution.

And after a close follow-up with a number of MP's, we present Mr Khalid Al-Oriaubi MP and provided him with a numerous of parliamentary questions to be afforested to the Minister of Justice and the Minister of State for National Assembly Affairs.

Indeed, Mr Khalid Al-Otaibi MP asked the question to the ministers concerned, but they ignored to answer to his question in contravention of the regulations that oblige the minister concerned to answer and answer the question within 15 days of the question being asked. This gives us a serious indication of the Kuwaiti government's disregard for the human rights condition.

:Kuwaitis Seeking Asylum Abroad

As a result of the enactment of laws against the Article 36 of the Constitution and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, a number of activists have requested political asylum abroad as a result of judicial rulings on opinion holders and activists. The figure continues to rise and increase with each sentence by the Kuwaiti court.

There are numerous of MP's sought an asylum, one of them the leader of Kuwaiti opposition Musllam Al-Barrak MP, and Dr Abdulhamid Dashti MP, Dr Jamman Al-Harbash MP, Dr Fahad Al-Khannah MP, and Waled Al-Tabatabai MP.

As well as, Dr Bashar Al-Baghli, Dr Abdullah Al-Saleh, Pilot Ahmad Ashour, and the youngest asylum-seeker 18 years of age at the time of his request for political asylum in the UK in 2016 Mohammad Al-Mail, and Dr Fatima Al-Matar, who came to USA with her daughter,

and many other political activists, come abroad because of the government's arbitrary pursuit of activists.

The National Office of Human Rights:

The implementation of the recommendation of the Human Rights Council to establish a Human Rights Bureau is good and positive, but we think that there are a corrupt in government work in this field it should be noted and modified. It is assumed that this bureau is completely independent, but in fact, it is not; the president and members of this bureau have been appointed by the government and thus are both the proponent and the judge.

International Criminal Court:

Kuwait signed the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court in 2000 and has not yet ratified it, like many countries in the world, especially out countries in the Gulf region, which argue that this agreement affects the sovereignty of the state, and this is not true at all. As the importance of ratifying the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, we believe that the move further on this file has become very important, and nineteen years enough to confirm the unwillingness of the Kuwaiti Government to ratify the Convention.

Stateless Bidoon:

The Bidoon case is no less important than what has been mentioned. More than 120,000 people are still deprived of the most basic rights such as housing, treatment, education and work. This led many of them to suicide to escape from an intolerable and bad life.

Ayed Hamad, a 20-year-old Bidoon, suicided on 7 July 2019. The oldest 36-year-old man suicided on 27 February 2018.

Kuwait government remains determined to ignore the solution to this humanitarian crisis, which is worsening day after day, and the fact that the government refuses even to leave them to go outside Kuwait to search for a better future.

In 2014, Director of Citizenship and Passports Department Sheikh Mazen Al-Jarrah revealed that there was an agreement with an Arab country that was not mentioned but later turned out to be the Republic of Comoros to give the Bidoon passports, and then they abandoned after of this moral and humanitarian scandal.

Kuwaiti Women Rights:

There is no doubt that Kuwaiti women rights have jumped quite a bit to achieve their full rights, to be equal with men. These positive steps are calculated for the government and we commend them as procedures where some news leaked that this year Kuwaiti women will take the position of judge. This step is a step and a leap. However, Kuwaiti Woman will still be suffering from some rights, for example, she can not rent a private home for her, this is what prompted Mrs Noura Al-Shammari to carry a plate and stand in front of the stock market, she wrote on it: IF YOU STANT FRONT OF ME, YOU WILL EXPLODE WITH ME! as well as, Kuwaiti women who is married from a non-Kuwaiti live in a terrible family life, which created a real tragedy that make the children wish that their father died before they reaching of age to be able to get the Kuwaiti nationality 18.

Conclusion and Recommendations:

We believe that the Kuwaiti government, although it has endorsed the recommendations of the UPR, but:

1. It did not set a timetable for the implementation of the recommendations of the Human Rights Council.
2. The government often invokes the issue of the traditions and the non-conformity of certain clauses in the agreements that it signed and ratified with Islamic law. Therefore, as Kuwait is a civil state with a civil constitution, we demand that it not insert the traditions and Islamic law in these matters.

Therefore, we call for the following recommendations:

On the level of freedoms and political asylum:

Amend the national legislation related to freedoms in line with the agreements signed and ratified by them.

To drop all judgments from opinion and political activists and work on the return of political refugees.

At the level of the National Office for Human Rights:

Abolish the subordination of the National Human Rights Bureau to the Kuwaiti government.

At the level of the International Criminal Court:

To ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

On the Bidoon issue:

Work to end the Bidoon case by granting them Kuwaiti nationality or allowing them to obtain asylum in any other country they wish.

On the level of Kuwaiti women married to non-Kuwaiti:

To grant Kuwaiti women the right to transfer their nationality to their children in the same way as men and equal equality in accordance with Article 29 of the Constitution.