The Kuwaiti Digest

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Kuwait Oil Company

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The Kuwaiti Digest

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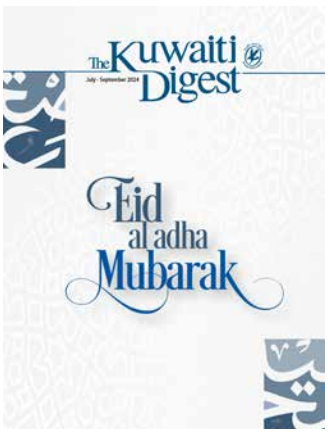

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Letter from the Editor

Eisa Abdul Rahman Al Maraghi
Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Planning & Innovation

This edition of the Digest offers a glimpse of the past, highlights major present achievements, and explores promising outlooks for the oil and gas industry.

The most significant achievement, is the recent inauguration of the Al-Zour Refinery, by H.H. the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. Al-Zour is one of the major projects in Kuwait's development plans, and a cornerstone of KPC's 2040 Strategy and Kuwait Vision 2035. It would be able to supply the local market with clean fuels, especially in light of increasing demands for this type of fuel and a higher demand for electricity due to population growth.

Another achievement we outline is KOC's recent success in modifying the design of KGOC's 12-inch gas transmission line. This led to an increased production capacity in Al-Khafji Joint Operations (KJO) of crude oil, as well as a reduction in the associated gas flaring rates, which have been reduced to less than 0.5%. This subsequently led to CCUS of a considerable amount of CO_2.

We also highly laud the contributions of the Partnership Advisory Council for local manufacturers, and the Kuwaiti Geosciences Society, who introduced AI and the latest technological breakthroughs that serve the oil sector. It is also worth highlighting that the oil and gas sector saw a fresh start in 2024, as this year witnessed rising oil prices due to the war in Ukraine. The global demand for oil and gas continued to rise in the Second Quarter, which heralds promising Third and Fourth Quarters.

This issue also coincides with the Hajj season, and on this holy occasion, we recount how our ancestors braved myriads of difficulties and hardships during their Hajj journeys. In this context, we also commemorate the late Dr. Abdulrahman Al-Sumait, May Allah have mercy on his soul, who inspired over 11 million people in Africa to convert to Islam on his hands.

As for our glimpse into the past, we spotlight Fahad Al-Salem Street, which was a major shopping and entertainment destination, particularly in the 1960s, and how Ahmadi City was dubbed the Oil Capital of the World.

As this issue also coincides with the heart of the summer season, we urge all KOC employees to adhere to safety and security measures during their travels, particularly those related to cybersecurity; such as using VPN, avoiding public Wi-Fi and charging stations, remaining vigilant with payment methods, locking electronic devices, and avoiding sharing trip details publicly.

Finally, I would like to underscore that all the achievements we cover in this issue were realized with a focus on their environmental impact, as sustainability and environmental protection are among the core values of the Company. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all those who contributed to these achievements, looking to the future with my confidence in further accomplishments.

Al-Zour Refinery

Ushering a New Era for Downstream operations in the State of Kuwait

H.H. the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah officially inaugurated the Al-Zour Refinery operations on Wednesday May 29 2024.

Al-Zour Refinery is one of the major projects in Kuwait's development plans, and a cornerstone of KPC's 2040 Strategy. The project also embodies the spirit of the Kuwait Vision 2035 development plans. Its importance stems from the fact that it would be able to supply the local market with clean fuels, especially in light of increasing demands for this type of fuel and a higher demand for electricity due to population growth.

THE CEREMONY

His Highness the Amir Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah officially launched the full operation of Al-Zour Refinery on Wednesday, May 29, 2024, marking a key milestone in the project's history. This project holds immense importance in the history of the country's oil sector, representing a major step forward in its development.

The convoy of His Highness arrived at the celebration site, where he was warmly welcomed by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Oil, Dr. Imad Muhammad Al-Ateeqi, the CEO of Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) Sheikh Nawaf Al-Saud, and the Acting CEO of Kuwait Integrated Petroleum Industries Company (KIPIC) Wadha Al-Khateeb.

The ceremony featured a captivating documentary film that highlighted Al-Zour Refinery Project. This remarkable project is considered a cornerstone of the aspiring "New Kuwait Vision 2035" and stands as the largest oil drainage and processing refinery in the Middle East, as it commenced operations on November 6, 2022, marking a significant milestone. The film provided insight into the various stages of project completion and the difficulties encountered along the way.

During the ceremony, the Minister of Oil, Dr. Imad Al-Ateeqi, delivered a speech in which he stated, "Today, we are privileged to be graced with the esteemed presence of His Highness the Amir of Kuwait, Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. His Highness graciously extended his patronage to the celebration of the full operation of Al-Zour Refinery, a significant milestone for the Kuwaiti oil sector. This demonstrates your ongoing dedication to staying informed and promoting progress in this crucial sector, as well as in other areas of the Kuwaiti economy."

"Al-Zour Refinery is one of the most important projects in the development plan of the State of Kuwait. It is also one of the main pillars of Kuwait Petroleum Corporation's (KPC) 2040 strategic plan, which aims to produce high-quality oil derivatives with low sulphur content in order to reduce polluting gases. This is done in accordance with global environmental standards and requirements, and it is also intended to meet the growing demand for electrical energy as a result of population and urban growth," the Minister added.

BACKGROUND ABOUT AL-ZOUR REFINERY PROJECT

With a total refining capacity of 615,000 bpd, Al-Zour Refinery is one of the largest in the world. As a leading project, the refinery is designed to

process various types of Kuwaiti crude oil, including Kuwait Heavy Crude oil (KHC), which will be produced as per KPC's Upstream Strategy. The refinery is also designed to provide clean fuel only (less than 1% Sulphur) to power stations and plants. The project also paves way for future development and expansion.

This project, as the name suggests, is located in the Al-Zour area, some 90 kilometers in the south of Kuwait, stretching over an area of around 16.5 square kilometers. Economically, this refinery is expected to secure a stable and continuous supply of clean fuel to power stations in Kuwait. The project will also create more than 1000 job opportunities for Kuwaiti nationals, the most of whom being graduates. By involving the Kuwaiti private sector in this project, it will gain exceptional technical expertise.

UNPRECEDENTED 2 MILLION + BPD REFINING CAPACITY

Alongside Al-Zour, there are five more refineries, of which three are located outside Kuwait. The local refineries are Mina Abdullah Refinery, Ahmadi Refinery, and Al-Zour Refinery, which produce as total of 1.415 million barrels per day together. The refineries located outside Kuwait are Al-Duqm Refinery in the Sultanate of Oman, Nghi Son Refinery in Vietnam, and Milazzo Refinery in Italy. Kuwait's share of the production of these three refineries amounts to 600,000 barrels per day, which makes its total refining capacity exceed the 2 million bpd cap. Al-Zour's launch will secure the production of high-quality products like fuel oil, diesel, naphtha, and low-sulfur fuel oil, which in addition to serving the local market's needs, can be exported to more than 30 countries. The pier attached to the refinery, which also includes the largest complex for sulfur cracking units, would carry this out. In addition, the refinery would use treated water for industrial and irrigation purposes. It also includes special stations for monitoring air quality and makes use of special boilers to reduce emissions.

A NUMBER OF GREEN FEATURES

Greening and environmental friendliness have become the main components of every sustainable project, especially in the gas and oil industry, which raises high environmental concerns. For this reason, the major players in the oil and gas industry in Kuwait, namely K-companies, continuously strive to integrate Health, Safety, and Environment (HSSE) in their development plans and

strategies, as well as in their upstream, mid-stream, and downstream operations. As a result, considerable resources are invested to create a workplace that is safe for human lives as well as the environment. This is achieved by following strict safety measures, in a manner that minimizes risks and mitigates downtime and disruptions in the entire supply chain.

Some Green features which the refinery is equipped with and operated by include the following, all of which aim to provide a healthy and viable environment that benefits both the environment and the Company's interests. The use of breakthrough technology also greatly contributes to this goal.

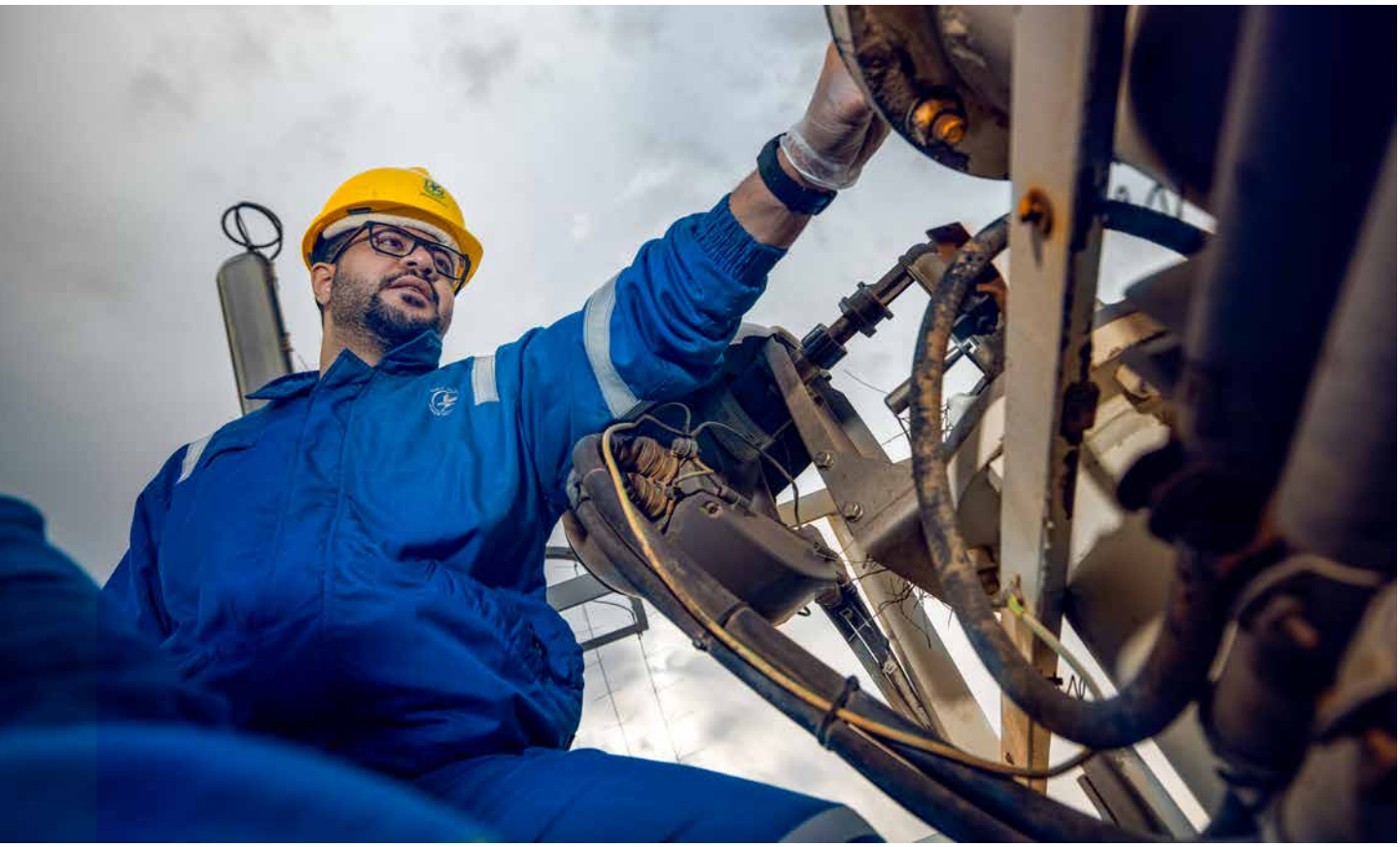
At Al-Zour Refinery, environmental safety is achieved by:

- Recycling and reusing wastewater.
- Controlling emissions and monitoring ambient air by using special systems.
- Using smoke-free and low-noise flares.
- Using special filters for flares.
- Applying strict HSSE standards and procedures.

Al-Zour Refinery is a new facility added to the ever-expanding list of achievements in Kuwait's oil and gas industry. The sector has always pioneered in developing and modernizing the oil and gas industry in Kuwait by making hefty investments in building new facilities and innovating production enhancing technologies and procedures. These activities are always carried out with a focus on the potential environmental impact, and measures are taken to mitigate this impact so that oil and gas operations are sustainable and mindful of the environment. Al-Zour Refinery is inaugurated within this larger context of sustainability and environmental friendliness. Thus, the refinery is but another success that is added to the many achievements made by Kuwait through major players in the oil and gas industry.

Oil & Gas Industry Outlook 2024

Macro-economic variables, Geopolitical Factors, Regulatory Considerations, and New Technology as Major Drivers of Upward or Downward Oil & Gas Markets Trends



Four major disruptors, geo-political factors, macroeconomic variables, evolving policies and regulations, and the emergence of new technologies shape the energy landscape for 2024. Despite these disruptors, though, global demand for oil and gas will remain on track to grow and cross the 100-mbpd mark for the first time. Output cuts of 2.5 million barrels per day (mbpd) by OPEC+ pushed Brent past the US$90/bbl mark, as the American oil giant supplied more oil to Europe to replace the unprecedented decline in Russian gas and oil supplies. Digging deeper into these disruptors would shed necessary light on the major trends that shape the prospect of the oil and gas industry not only in the Middle East, but on a global scale.

To start with, geopolitical factors have historically been the root of major trends and fluctuations in the oil and gas industry. The war on the Gaza strip and in Ukraine cast their shadow on the global market of oil and gas and led to disturbances in the supply chain, especially in Europe, which needs oil and gas to power its factories and heat its homes. In 2021, for instance, Russia accounted for 27% of the European Union's oil imports and 45% of natural gas imports. The drop in Russian supply of oil and gas to Europe was compensated by an increase in American LNG exports, which witnessed a 141% increase in comparison to 2021. In addition, American distillate fuels to Europe increased by 146% in the first half of 2022. As Europe is reducing its reliance on Russian energy, marine energy trade is expected to surge. Reduced European reliance on Russian oil and gas led to a boom in energy trading with India and China, with most of the transactions carried out in local currencies.

Macroeconomic variables are driving costs higher. For example, rising inflation is increasing material and capital costs, which, in turn, will lead to an increase in the cost of oil and gas production. In addition, higher interest rates and OPEC quotas mean that the country will be deprived of funds, which could otherwise have been deployed for purposes of financing development projects and initiatives, especially for countries like Kuwait where oil is nearly the only source of revenue as it represents more than 90% of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Diversification steps in Kuwait are still in their early stages, where the economy still relies significantly on oil production. However, the government is exerting tireless efforts to this end.

Another macroeconomic variable that may affect the oil and gas industry on a global basis has to do with the wars in Ukraine and the Gaza Strip. There are sound fears that the supply line of oil would be disrupted, especially due to the involvement of Al-Houthis in Yemen in the war and shutting down the maritime lines of international commerce and tanker lines in the Red Sea and the Suez Canal. These fears are amplified due to the fact that oil tankers and commercial ships were diverted from this route to the Cape of Good Hope in South Africa. Changing routes raises costs, in addition to delays in delivery, especially as the route through the Cape of Good Hope is longer and more costly. Given this situation, it is expected that, in the case that the tensions in the Red Sea rise, the supply lines would be affected, and consequently global oil and gas prices would rise. Historically, higher oil prices meant that global economic growth would slow down. It must be noted, however, that these high oil prices are not sustainable because the possibility of a ceasefire in Gaza and reducing tensions in the Red Sea would drive oil and gas prices down once again.

Evolving policies and regulations also helped shape and will continue to shape the oil and gas industry landscape in 2024. On a global scale, 106 countries targeted net zero emissions to be reached by 2050 to combat greenhouse gas emissions. Governments across the world allocated the sum of US$1.34 trillion in clean energy since 2020. Subscribing into the international efforts to reach zero emissions for the major greenhouse gases by this date, KOC, for example, set up its Energy Transition Strategy that will lead to this goal. Some facets of this transition include the introduction of new sources of energy, like blue hydrogen and solar panels, and implementing clean energy policies. On the ground, these policies have materialized in the completion of Al-Zour Refinery and its recent inauguration in

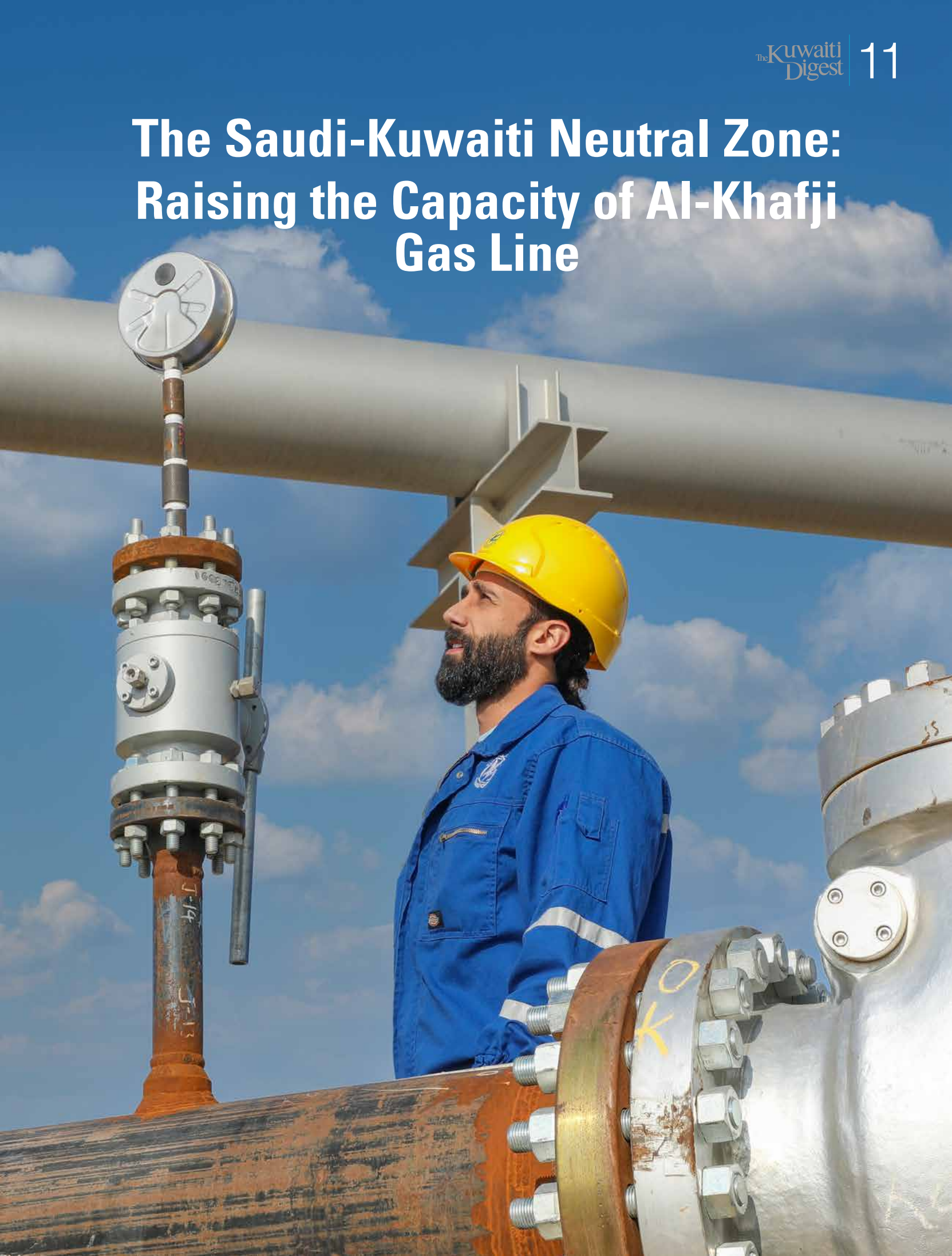
the end of last May. The new refinery has a capacity of producing more than 600,000 bopd of clean fuels.

The oil and gas industry has often been at the forefront of adopting cutting-edge technology. The latest technological breakthroughs are used to either bolster operational efficiency, reduce costs, or advance safety and sustainability measures. Most clean energy technologies are still under development. In addition, tapping into the clean energy approach to development requires investing heavily in research and development (R&D) and exerting efforts to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions by reducing the use of fossil fuels, which, in turn, requires the adoption of a series of sustainable practices and procedures. Among these practices, the carbon capture, storage and utilization (CCUS) policies and facilities initiated by KOC are expected to capture thousands of tons of carbon from being released into the atmosphere. Additionally, these huge quantities of carbon dioxide will be used for other purposes, thus achieving the twin goals of protecting the environment and creating a new value from carbon emissions.

As for the advancements in electric car technology and its potential impact on the phasing out of the use of fossil fuels, it must be noted that, throughout the history of other energies, no energy has been phased out completely until now. For example, nowadays there are so many alternatives to highly polluting coal and charcoal that many people believe that their usage has completely ceased. Of course, this is not true, because charcoal is still used on a large basis, in certain industries and specific regions of the world.

Rising oil prices in the first quarter of 2024 heralded a promising year ahead for the global oil and gas industry. With the continuation of the war in Ukraine and the outbreak of war in the Gaza strip, however, it was feared that the oil and gas supply chain from the Middle East might be disrupted. After the European sanctions against Russia following the Ukraine War, Russia turned to India and China to sell its oil and gas. What favored this shift is that these transactions were carried out in local currencies and not in euros or dollars, which meant that the value of these currencies' rates would rise against the euro and the dollar. Moreover, the US became a major supplier of oil and gas for Europe. The global pledge to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050 accelerated with the recourse of many countries towards alternative energy sources, like electricity and hydrogen, which was coupled with more investment in clean energy technologies.

The Saudi-Kuwaiti Neutral Zone: Raising the Capacity of Al-Khafji Gas Line



The Divided Zone between the State of Kuwait and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has been jointly operated by both countries based on mutual agreements about the joint exploitation of these vital oil and gas fields and their high importance for both countries.

In this article, the Digest sheds light on KOC's efforts to increase the capacity of Al-Khafji gas pipeline, and its success in this achievement despite the many disruptions in the operation of the field, which were overcome through thorough planning and perseverance.

Background on Al-Khafji and Joint Operations with Saudi Arabia

Al-Khafji field is located in the neutral zone between the State of Kuwait and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, which also includes Al-Hout, Al-Dorra, and Lulu fields. All of these fields are located offshore, in the Arabian Gulf waters, and are jointly operated by Al-Khafji Joint Operations (KJO).

KJO is a joint venture between Aramco Gulf Operations Company (AGOC), a subsidiary of Saudi Aramco, and Kuwait Gulf Oil Company (KGOC), a fully owned subsidiary of Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC). Al-Khafji field was discovered in 1960, and production started in 1961, with a total capacity of 300,000 bopd. The field consists of 11 offshore platforms, including a central gathering platform.

The Khafji gas pipeline to Kuwait was officially launched in August 2021 and started operation with a capacity of 11 million cubic feet of gas per day. It operated with a capacity of 29 million cubic feet of acid gas and 6000 barrels a day of condensate through a multi-stage pipeline (12 inches), which spans 120 kilometers on land and sea.

KOC recently succeeded in modifying the design of KGOC's 12-inch gas transmission line. This led to an increased production capacity in Al-Khafji Joint Operations (KJO) of crude oil, as well as a reduction in the associated gas flaring rates.

Thanks to the modification in the design of the aforementioned gas transmission line, the pumping capacity of lean gas was raised from 24 to 30 million cubic feet, and 6000 barrels of condensate per day.

This project was launched in 2012, but work was temporarily suspended due to certain contractual reasons, in addition to the cessation of production from the joint Khafji field, until the initial operation of the project began temporarily in August 2021.

On December 26 2022, the project was also operated temporarily, with a greater capacity, until the work was finally completed by KGOC.

The current operation of the 12-inch lean and liquefied gas pipeline extending from Al-Khafji region to Kuwait builds on previous achievements. The first fruit of its success came in August 2021, when the initial operation of the land and sea pipeline began to transport gas from the export facility in KJO in Saudi Arabia to Kuwait.

KOC enhances the Pipeline

This was carried out through a temporary connection with the gas fuel lines of KOC, which are used to feed Al-Zour South and North stations of the Ministry of Electricity, Water and Renewable Energy. Its capacity reached around 24 million cubic feet of lean gas, which contributed to accelerating the resumption of production in KJO, in addition to avoiding the burning of associated gas.

As part of KOC's strive towards further achievements, as per KPC's strategic directions and objectives for 2040 to raise the production capacity of oil and gas from the fields, including the divided area, the Company – represented by the Gas Operations and Gas Operations Support Groups, in cooperation with KGOC and KJO – implemented some necessary changes and modifications to the design of KGOC's 12-inch liquefied and lean gas transmission line, until the remaining project work is completed by the sister company.

On December 26 2022, Al-Khafji pipeline was operated with a greater capacity, reaching 30 million standard cubic feet of lean gas, and 6000 barrels of liquefied gas per day, which is then transported to KNPC's Liquefied Petroleum Gas Refinery in Mina Al-Ahmadi.

Future Plans

Regarding future projects, KOC, represented by the Gas Operations, Gas Operations Support, and Projects & Production (Gas) Groups, is working on coordination, continuous follow-up, and organizing periodic meetings with the concerned Teams affiliated with KGOC and KJO, pledging to provide its full support in this regard. This is necessary in order to finalize the remaining work of the project, which would lead to an increase in Kuwait's share of lean gas, acid gas, and condensate from the divided zone, in an effort to meet Kuwait's clean energy needs to operate gas-powered electricity stations.

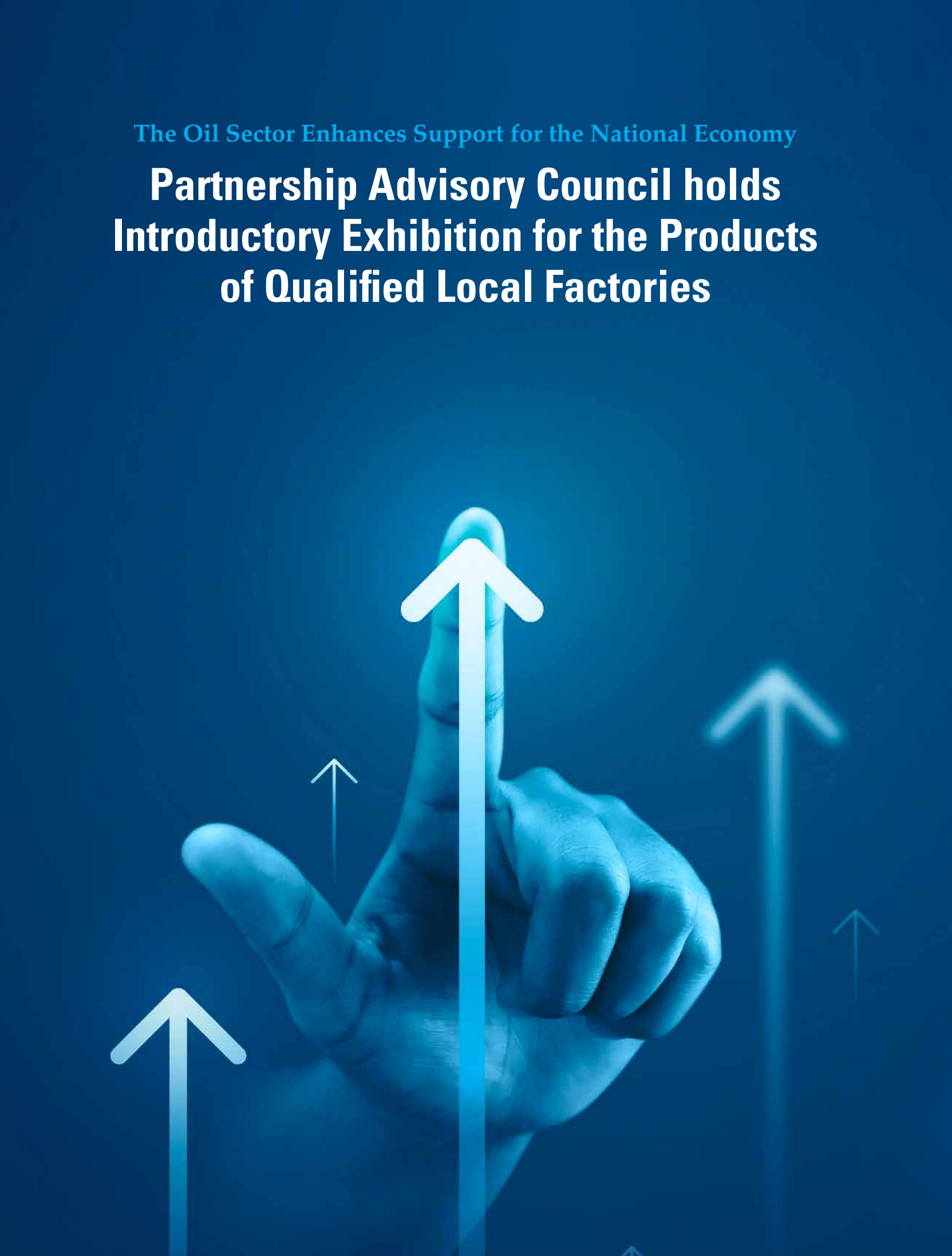
Perseverance and Determination

Since they were first discovered in 1960, Al-Khafji gas field and the other divided zone fields suffered from some disruptions in their operations, especially in 2014, when production from Khafji was halted until 2019. Contractual obligations or environmental concerns sometimes led to the disruption of production from this promising field. With the determination of KOC and other major players in the oil industry, it became possible to increase the production capacity of this field and thus provide the country's gas fuel needs.

Kuwait is facing an ever-increasing demand for clean energy, especially gas; to fuel its development and achieve self-sufficiency. To this end, KOC strived to increase Kuwait's gas production by replacing the 12-inch pipeline, which spanned over 100 kilometers through the land and sea, with a larger one of greater capacity. In addition, with the rapid population growth and increasing demand for electricity, along with growing environmental concerns about fossil fuel use and carbon emissions, there has been a higher need for clean sources of energy like gas.

The Oil Sector Enhances Support for the National Economy

Partnership Advisory Council holds Introductory Exhibition for the Products of Qualified Local Factories



In support of national industries, and to introduce local factories and their products out of its own initiative, the Unified Partnership Council for the Sixth Session (2022-2024) organized the Introductory Exhibition for the Products of Local Factories qualified for the oil sector, with the participation of 33 qualified local industrialists and international companies.

The exhibition, which was held in the KOC Tent in Ahmadi, was inaugurated by Acting Chairman of the Partnership Council and DCEO Admin & Commercial at KNPC, Bandar Al-Qahtani. The opening was held in the presence of members of the Partnership Council and a number of oil sector officials, including DCEO Exploration & Drilling at KOC Khaled Al-Mulla, and DCEO S&EK Mohammed Al-Abduljaleel. Chairman of the Board of Directors of Kuwait Industries Union, Hussein Al-Kharafi, and a number of economic specialists, factory owners, and officials also attended the event.

Consensus on importance

To begin, it must be noted that visitors unanimously agreed on the importance of holding this exhibition, due to its positive impact and support for national industries.

They also praised the distinguished results achieved by these industries, and the necessity of introducing the products offered, in addition to the capabilities of these factories and companies to meet the work and production requirements.

A Distinguished Exhibition

When it came to the opinions of the participants, Saud Salman Al-Hamada, owner of Al-Alam Steel Industries Company, established in 1962, revealed that they were the holders of the first industrial license in Kuwait. He added that their factory supplied local and regional markets with various products. He also pointed out that his company is one of the qualified companies in the oil sector as well as several ministries and government agencies, where they provide products according to the required specifications and the highest standards.

He stressed his company's keenness on manufacturing and introducing new products to the region, such as garbage compactors, sewage drainage and suction tanks, and fuel tanks with a bottom-filling system. It also pioneered in manufacturing tanks with high suction capacity to cover all uses, water and fuel tanks, and dumpers, among other products.

Conditions and Standards

Manager of the Mobile Pumps Project Engineer Abdul Wahab Al-Babtain, from Al-Rakeb Oil, Electricity & Construction Services (KSCC), discussed the participation of their Shuaiba-based factory, and the equipment and products it provides according to the latest technologies. He pointed out that mobile gas stations are among the most important products that serve some remote areas where there are no available stations.

Al-Babtain pointed out that this product, due to its adherence to safety, is accredited from Kuwait, the USA, and all concerned authorities such as KOC, KPC, and the Kuwait Fire Force. The company also has a smart fuel tank that is equipped with a fuel level gauge that monitors fuel levels of vehicles on their sites.

Innovative Solutions

Abdulaziz Al-Abdulrazzaq from the Fabrika Plastic Industries Factory expressed his company's pride in the high-quality prod-

ucts it provides. These products provide sun protection, and give innovative and practical solutions distinguished by their durability and flexibility. This creates a comfortable work environment in industrial, commercial, or agricultural workplaces, as well as covering buildings under construction to protect them from debris or damaging the neighboring buildings.

Al-Abdulrazzaq stressed his company's commitment to high quality standards in the manufacturing process, with strong and reliable products that withstand environmental challenges, such as rain, wind, and strong sunlight.

Products & Initiatives

Engineer Gopinath Veeraraghavan from Al Mulla Industries Group explained that his company is a pioneering, reliable supplier in the Kuwaiti market and always provides the best initiatives and high-quality industrial steel for the private and public sectors, including oil and gas, chemical industries, cleaning, logistics, fixed solutions, airflow, and related products.

Al Mulla Industries offers a full range of fixed heavy steel solutions such as underground and surface storage tanks, pressure and bulk vessels, and slurry plants.

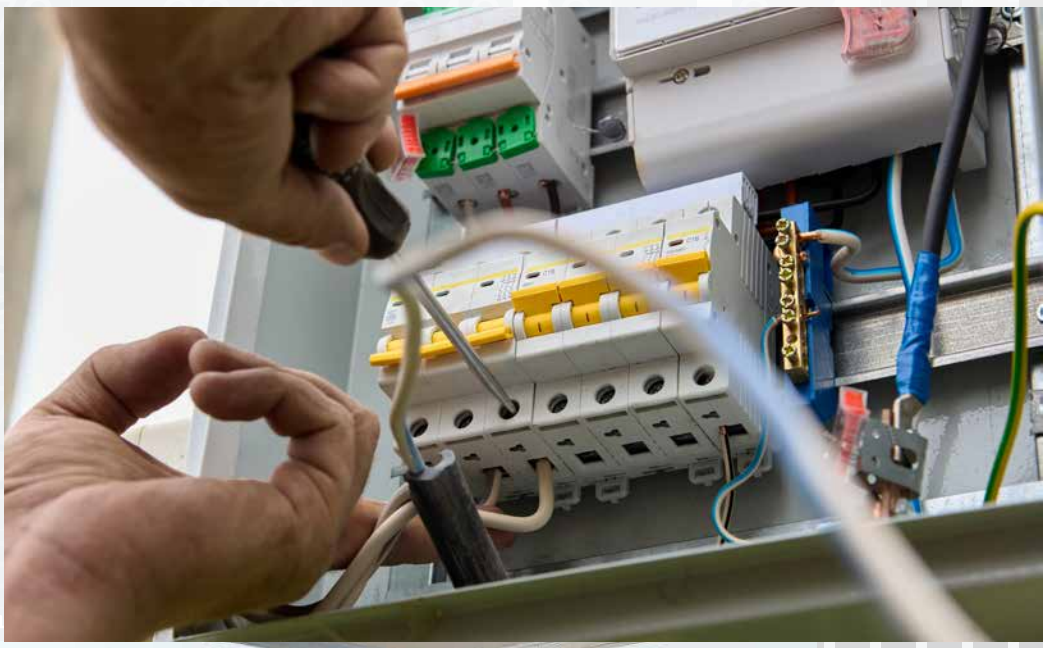
Production Efficiency

Engineer Moamen Mustafa, representing Khaled Al-Kharafi & Brothers Factory for Vacuum Structures, stated that his company maintains a good reputation in its field since 1975. It consists of four divisions, the first of which specializes in metal structures, with contributions in most government and private projects. The second is the doors division, with a production capacity of 12,000 doors annually. Third are the metal frames and related products, which secure work requirements and improve work conditions. The company is also successful in general contracting.

Electric Panels

Because production processes are linked to electricity, Al Nisf Electric Company (SNEC) was remarkable in terms of the variety of products it presented.

Senior Sales Engineer Ahmed Shaker explained that SNEC manufactures various high



quality electrical products and switchgear. The company has an integrated work team with over 50 years of experience, during which it built a wide range of customers, especially in the oil and industrial fields.

Shaker also explained their specifications, the nature of their work, and related matters; including maintenance, repair, spare parts provision, and after-sale services to ensure work-flow and production operations continuity.

Work Requirements

Kuwaiti Valve Industries' Commercial Director, Rahul Menon, discussed the factory's work as a leading manufacturer of valves in Kuwait. The company was established in 2004 and specializes in manufacturing, refurbishing, and servicing a wide range of industrial valves for oil, gas, refining, and petrochemical and energy stations, particularly gate valves and non-return valves of different pressure values.

The factory is located in Shuaiba Industrial Area for easy accessibility. It serves customer requests for valves of high quality and reliability as per the standards and conditions specified by the American and British Petroleum Institutes and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME).

Robots and Printers

At the Rapid pavilion, the company's General Manager Abdullah Al-Saffar explained the types of robots and their

various potentials. This is in addition to providing 3D printing services and materials for security uses to concerned authorities, such as the Ministries of Interior and Defense.

Al-Saffar pointed out that the company is supported by the National Fund for Small and Medium Enterprises Development ((NFSD). It follows a set strategy from 2019, based on following the latest technological developments and ensuring the highest standards for its customers.

A Leading Name in Power & Energy

For his part, Raed Al-Zagha from the General Control Group Company (GCG) pointed out that his company's field of work is diverse, including producing, designing, and manufacturing a comprehensive range of electrical switches and panels by utilizing the latest technologies, welding equipment, and electrostatic powder coating stations, in accordance with the required technical standards and fundamentals.

Recycling

As part of KOC's commitment towards the environment and sustainability, a booth was set up to explain the importance of keeping the environment clean, increasing green spaces, and the role of recycling. A device to recycle plastic was also available for the visitors.

This device also aimed to encourage agriculture for its positive environmental impact, which improves health by increasing oxygen and reducing carbon dioxide. Cultivated areas also have aesthetic benefits, maintain soil cohesion, and reduce dust and the formation of sand dunes.

Trained Team

In turn, Manager of the Manufacturing Department at Al-Shamali & Waris Electrical Tools Trading & Contracting Company, Sirajos Salakin, provided an overview of his company's work. He pointed out that it has been operating for over three decades and has branches in Kuwait and the UAE. It is a reliable local supplier, thanks to the various high quality electrical products it provides, including metal sheets and plates, cable boxes, cable holders, and switches.

He also pointed out that the company is a distributor for many leading brands and major European, Japanese, and Far Eastern companies, and has a large team of skilled engineers and technicians who work to achieve customer satisfaction.

Kuwait Oxygen

Kuwait Oxygen Industries is the first to produce gases in the Gulf region for industrial and medical uses. The company offers a wide range of products, including oxygen, nitrogen, argon, acetone, and others, in addition to medical gases such as breathing and anesthetic gases.

Kuwait Oxygen also plays an effective role in completing industrial work by supplying workshops with the various gases they need to carry out their work, such as blacksmithing, construction, metal shaping, and more.

Professional Team

Sahara Combined General Trading & Constructing Co. presented a range of its products related to the design and manufacture of electrical panels, switches, circuit breakers, electrical control systems, energy, and batteries.

The company has successfully maintained its reputation and relationship with business owners through the provision of high-quality products and services for many projects, its keenness to build strong partnerships, and a professional team of engineers and employees.

Plastic products

Engineer Saher from Al-Adsani Plastic Pipes & Fittings Factory discussed the various products that the factory provides for business and project owners. The factory has been in Kuwait since 1974, manufacturing all plastic products and fittings related to water and sanitation.

Leakage Preventers

General Manager Awadh Al-Shammari of Klinger Warba Gasket Manufacturing, an Al-Dorra Petroleum Services

company, explained that it manufactures various sealants, including spiral, corrugated metal, graphite-covered, and rubber gaskets, which withstand pressure and prevent leakage.

Al-Shammari explained that products are manufactured in all sizes, covering all the general and major industrial applications used in the oil exploration sector, refineries, petrochemicals, power generation, water desalination, rotary and reciprocating pumps, and other industries that use gaskets extensively in their work. These sealants withstand temperature fluctuations and rotational processes, and are made of excellent materials and chemically resistant fibers, with excellent mechanical properties that are suitable for compressors and pipelines.

Follow-up and Maintenance

TSL - Industrial Electronics Services Company presented its services and expertise in the installation, repair, and maintenance of various boards, such as panels, screens, and cards, used in production and industrial works.

TSL is a specialized company with an experience of over ten years, during which it has dealt with food laboratories, construction companies, large malls, oil and gas, and other businesses.

Lighting Fixtures

We conclude with Gulf Lighting Fixture Company, a subsidiary of Faddan General Trading & Contracting Company. The representing engineer Ashraf Ahmed stated that the company is participating in the exhibition with the aim to get closer to customers by displaying its latest products. The factory is qualified in the oil sector and has been in the market for more than 30 years, specializing in lighting fixtures and keeping pace with the latest developments.

He stressed his company's keenness to ensure that its products obtain international accreditation consistent with the required specifications.

Leading Initiative with major Oil Sector interest

In his statement on the sidelines of the event, Secretary of the Unified Partnership Advisory Council and its Committee Yousef Al-Deweila, TL Demand Planning & Strategic Sourcing at KOC, stated that the exhibition is one of the Council's pioneering initiatives for its Sixth Session.

Al-Dewaila added that this initiative was launched under the patronage of the Council to enhance the partnership between the local industrial sectors, the oil sector, the government, and international companies participating in Kuwaiti oil sector projects. He explained that numerous local and international companies were invited to the exhibition, and that all factories and companies are qualified for the oil sector, as per the terms and conditions set by KPC and its subsidiaries.

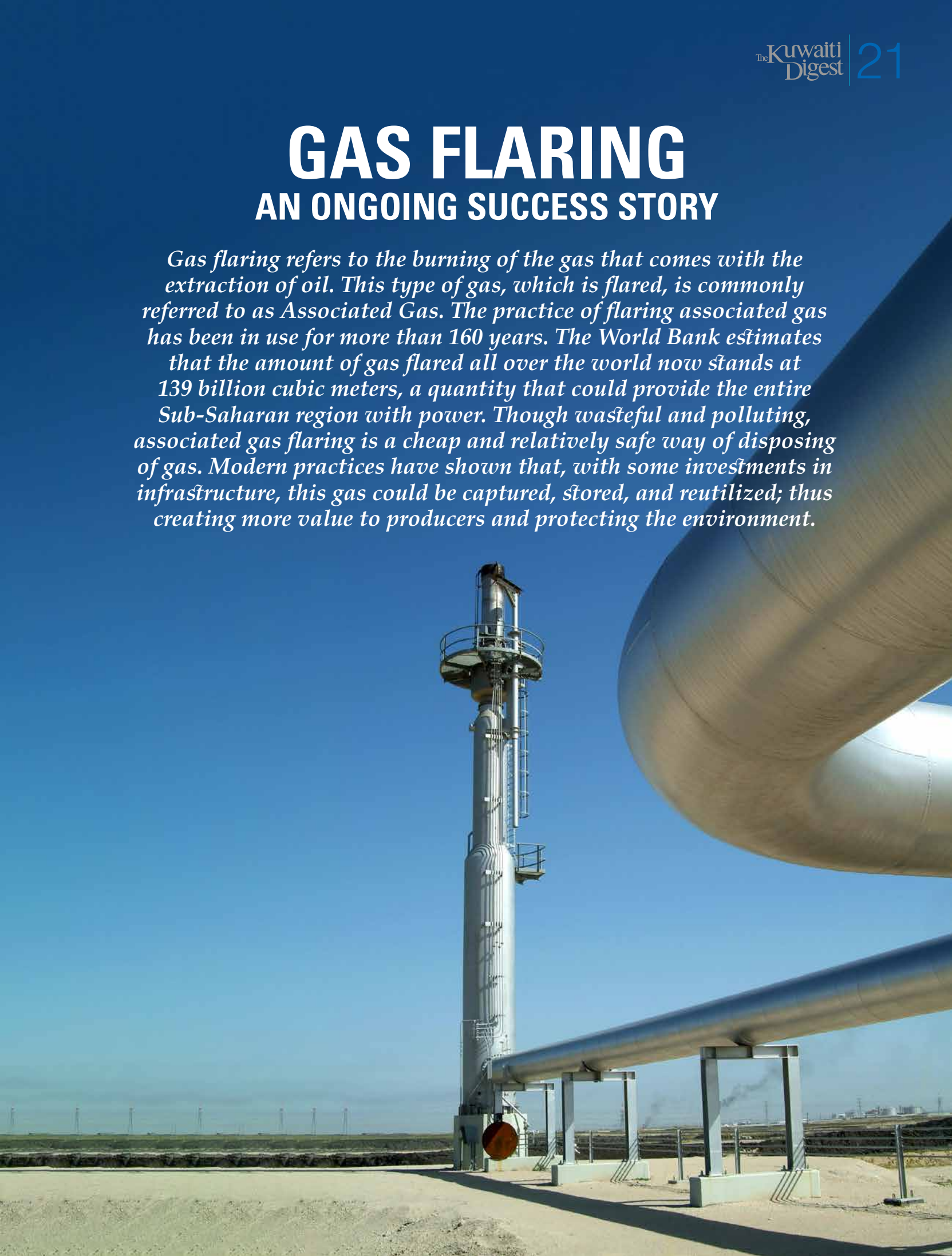
He stated that this is first initiative for local factory exhibitions, which promises a successful beginning for many future participations, expressing his hope that these exhibitions would be held more frequently in the upcoming editions.

For his part, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Kuwait Industries Union Hussein Al-Kharafi stated that the initiative of private industrial sector participation and qualified local companies and factories in the Kuwaiti oil sector shows the extent of the oil sector's interest in these companies, to enhance reliance on the local industry.

Al-Kharafi explained that there are many local factories that work to provide the products required by the oil sector and industry in Kuwait according to international quality standards. He pointed out that these factories are expanding and innovating the diversity and quality of their products, to keep pace with modern developments in global products.

GAS FLARING
AN ONGOING SUCCESS STORY

Gas flaring refers to the burning of the gas that comes with the extraction of oil. This type of gas, which is flared, is commonly referred to as Associated Gas. The practice of flaring associated gas has been in use for more than 160 years. The World Bank estimates that the amount of gas flared all over the world now stands at 139 billion cubic meters, a quantity that could provide the entire Sub-Saharan region with power. Though wasteful and polluting, associated gas flaring is a cheap and relatively safe way of disposing of gas. Modern practices have shown that, with some investments in infrastructure, this gas could be captured, stored, and reutilized; thus creating more value to producers and protecting the environment.



Apart from its environmental impact and it being a waste of resources, gas flaring is very important especially for safety reasons. Oil extraction involves dealing with highly changing and unstable pressures that could lead to sudden and dramatic explosions in the work site. Though such accidents are rare, especially with the strict safety measures taken on the work sites, they could be very destructive and life threatening if they ever happen. In such cases, the resulting effect would consist of long lasting fires that cannot be controlled. Gas flaring therefore allows oil field facility operators to depressurize their equipment and manage unpredictable large pressure variations by burning excessive gas.

From an economic standpoint, gas flaring can be very expensive to capture or reutilize. In most cases, oil extraction sites are in remote locations that are often inaccessible, or accessible with great difficulty. In addition, these fields may not produce large quantities of associated gas that can be used in oil operations. The result is that it becomes logistically and economically impossible to transport to another location where it can be processed and reutilized. In addition, if associated gas is found in small quantities in a given field or site, it would be very expensive to capture and reutilize.

From a technical point of view, it is sometimes impossible to reuse associated gas. The geology of the site of operations, in such cases, would allow it to be conserved by reinjecting it in the reservoir. However, this practice is not always possible, though many technological developments have been achieved in this respect.

Sometimes, when it is economically, logistically, and technically feasible to flare gas, the regulations in some countries do not allow flaring, or subject it to stringent conditions and lengthy procedures. Some countries also forbid companies to commercialize associated gas. For example, companies may be granted the right to explore or extract oil, but are not allowed to use associated gas. In addition, some countries have set up regulations that impose penalties on companies that flare gas. In this respect, the Global Gas Flaring Reduction Partnership (GGFR) works closely with companies and governments to create the correct policies and regulations to stop routine gas flaring and utilize associated gas in economically and environmentally viable purposes.

The Global Gas Flaring Reduction Partnership (GGFR), which is part of the World Bank, is a non-lucrative international partnership between the public and private sectors. This trust fund includes governments, oil

and gas companies, and non-governmental organizations from all over the world.

As an international initiative, the GGFR aims to involve countries and oil companies to find innovative solutions that contribute to overcoming the obstacles and challenges resulting from the disposal of oil-associated gas. Billions of cubic meters of natural gas are burned annually in oil production sites around the world, which results in wasting a valuable energy source that can be used to support economic growth and development in many countries. The gas wasted through flaring could also be used commercially. The large amounts of flared gas also have their destructive toll on the environment, as they are responsible for CO2 emissions and global warming. As a result, gas flaring reduction does not only save needed sources of energy, but also reduces the environmental footprint of gas flaring practices.

Kuwait Oil Company, in line with the strategy and vision of Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC), joined this partnership at the beginning of 2011 as an active member and partner. This culminated in the official signing of the partnership agreement on March 7, 2012, thus becoming a representative of the State of Kuwait in the context of its usual keenness and commitment to protecting the environment through the adoption of a sustainable approach to its operations.

The Company confirmed its commitment to complete transparency in its various dealings, within the framework of preserving the reputation of the State of Kuwait at the global level. Kuwait is the third coun-

try in the Middle East to join the partnership after Iraq and Qatar, and KOC's goal is to completely halt routine gas flaring operations by 2030, after reducing it considerably before that date.

The Company has achieved great success in reducing the rate of gas flaring from 19.7 percent in the fiscal year 2008-2009, to 0.6 percent in the first quarter of the fiscal year 2015-2016, and then this percentage continued to steadily decline.

In March 2015, the gas-flaring rate was reduced to 0.4953%, which achieves a significant goal for the Company in the context of its ongoing keenness to preserve the environment.

Also in 2015, the Company won the "Excellence Award for Gas Flaring Reduction for the Year 2015", presented by the Global Partnership for Gas Flaring Reduction Project supervised by the World Bank, after achieving a very high level of associated gas reuse in its operations in West Kuwait.

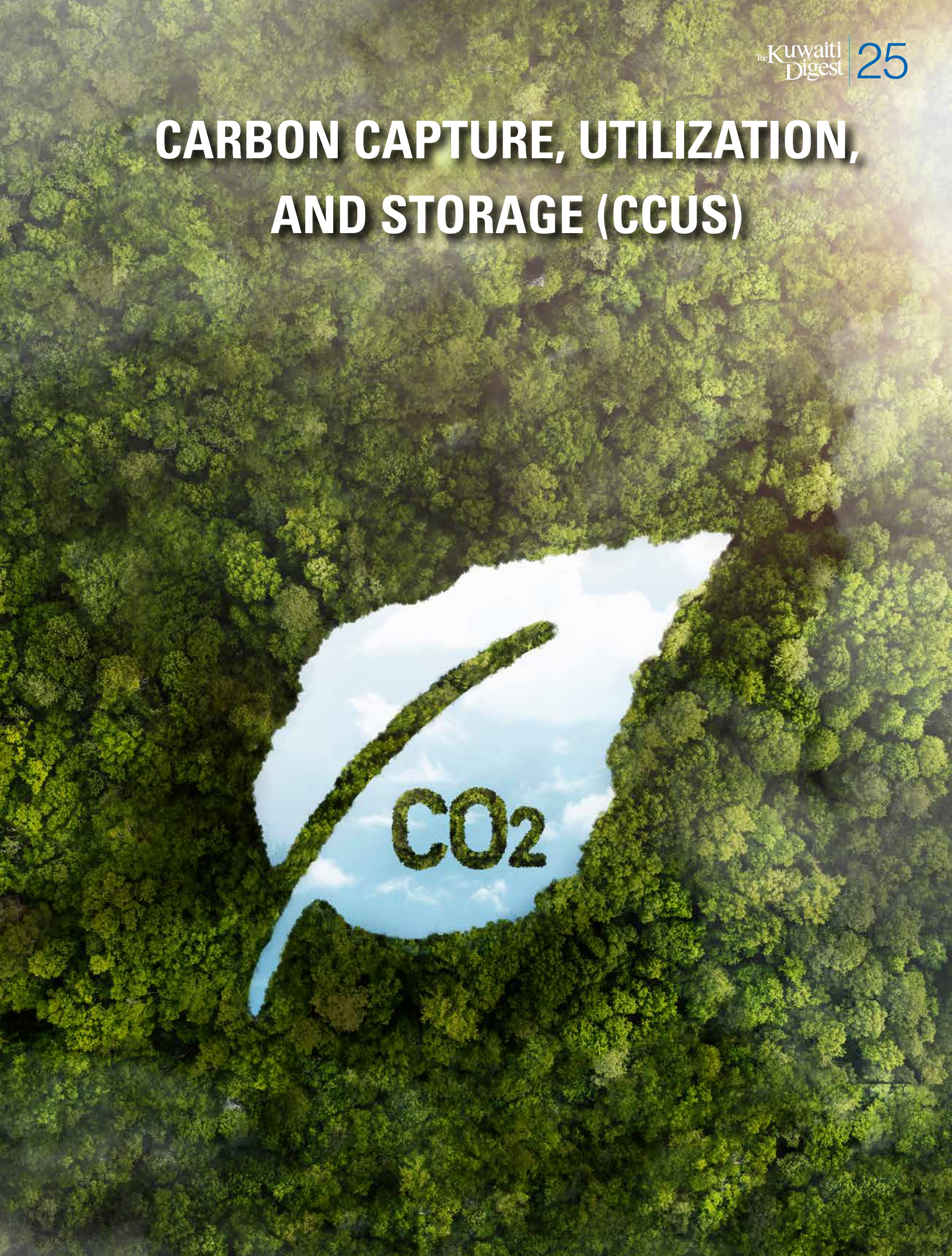
Then, in 2020, the latest report issued by the World Bank within the framework of its follow-up on the progress of member states in the Global Gas Flaring Reduction (GGFR) partnership showed that the State of Kuwait, represented by KOC, continued the pace of continuous decline in gas flaring, thus reserving its place among the leading countries in the world in this field.

In this context, the local representative of the World Bank office in Kuwait, Ghassan Al-Khoja, congratulated the Company's officials on this achievement, stressing that the Company has excelled in its performance within this Partnership, despite the challenging unprecedented circumstances that the entire world is subjected to.

Though gas flaring has always been criticized for its environmental impacts, great steps have been taken to mitigate its effects. For example, oil production went up by 26% since 1996, while the amount of associated gas flared has been reduced by about 16%, which means that much progress has been made by the oil industry in this respect. The age-old correlation between oil production and gas flaring - which means that the more oil is produced, the more gas is flared - has been reformed. Considerable capital investments are made by oil field operators and oil companies to reduce gas flaring.

In 2015, the World Bank and the United Nations Secretary-General launched the Zero Routine Flaring by 2030 (ZRF) initiative, aiming to urge governments and oil companies to stop flaring gas routinely in new field developments and end existing flaring in 2030 by the latest. This initiative comes in the context of growing concerns about global warming and climate change in the world, which are transforming conventional approaches to business, especially in a very vital sector like the oil and gas industry. Achieving zero associated gas flaring is a common objective on a global level.

CARBON CAPTURE, UTILIZATION, AND STORAGE (CCUS)



Global warming has necessitated immediate action to reduce emissions that are responsible for the Greenhouse Effect. Carbon Capture, Storage, and Utilization is one of the best means to achieve this goal.

Mitigating emissions is a major component of KOC's 2050 Strategy. For this purpose, a road map was created, and investments have been allocated to control and mitigate emissions. In the short run, substantial reduction has been achieved in direct emissions from gas flaring, which stands at less than 0.5%. The long-term target is zero emissions by 2050, which was announced during the COP 27 Conference held in Egypt in 2022, and it requires collective efforts between all key players in the oil industry. Applying groundbreaking technologies and innovative methods is also necessary to this end.

Kuwaiti oil is distinguished by the lowest carbon emissions in the world, which explains its high demand in global oil markets. One of KOC's projects targets capturing more than 100 million m^3 of CO_2, to be utilized over a period of 25 years. Though fossil fuel use will be gradually phased out in the years to come, this will not apply to lower-cost fuels with lower carbon density – features that are specific to Kuwaiti oil.

A detailed roadmap, including a comprehensive course of action for the initiatives and projects to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050, has been put in place and incorporated into KOC's major Strategic Goals. The State of Kuwait is firmly committed to achieving carbon neutrality by 2050, as was announced during the COP 27 Conference, held in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, in November 2022. To comply with these commitments, KOC works toward reducing greenhouse gas emissions by applying the latest CCUS technologies. Experts say that such technologies can reduce emissions by up to 37%.

In addition, KOC uses Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR) with CO_2, and foresees capturing CO_2 and determining the best means of storing it. Enhanced Oil Recovery with CO_2 started as a pilot in Minagish field (WK), and is expected to increase the Oil Recovery Factor (ORF) by 10%. This would contribute to the sustainability of oil production in the long term, and storage of large quantities of CO_2 that could be used in the future. Currently, KOC is working on other reservoirs where injecting CO_2 could lead to similar results, including increasing production and reducing emissions.

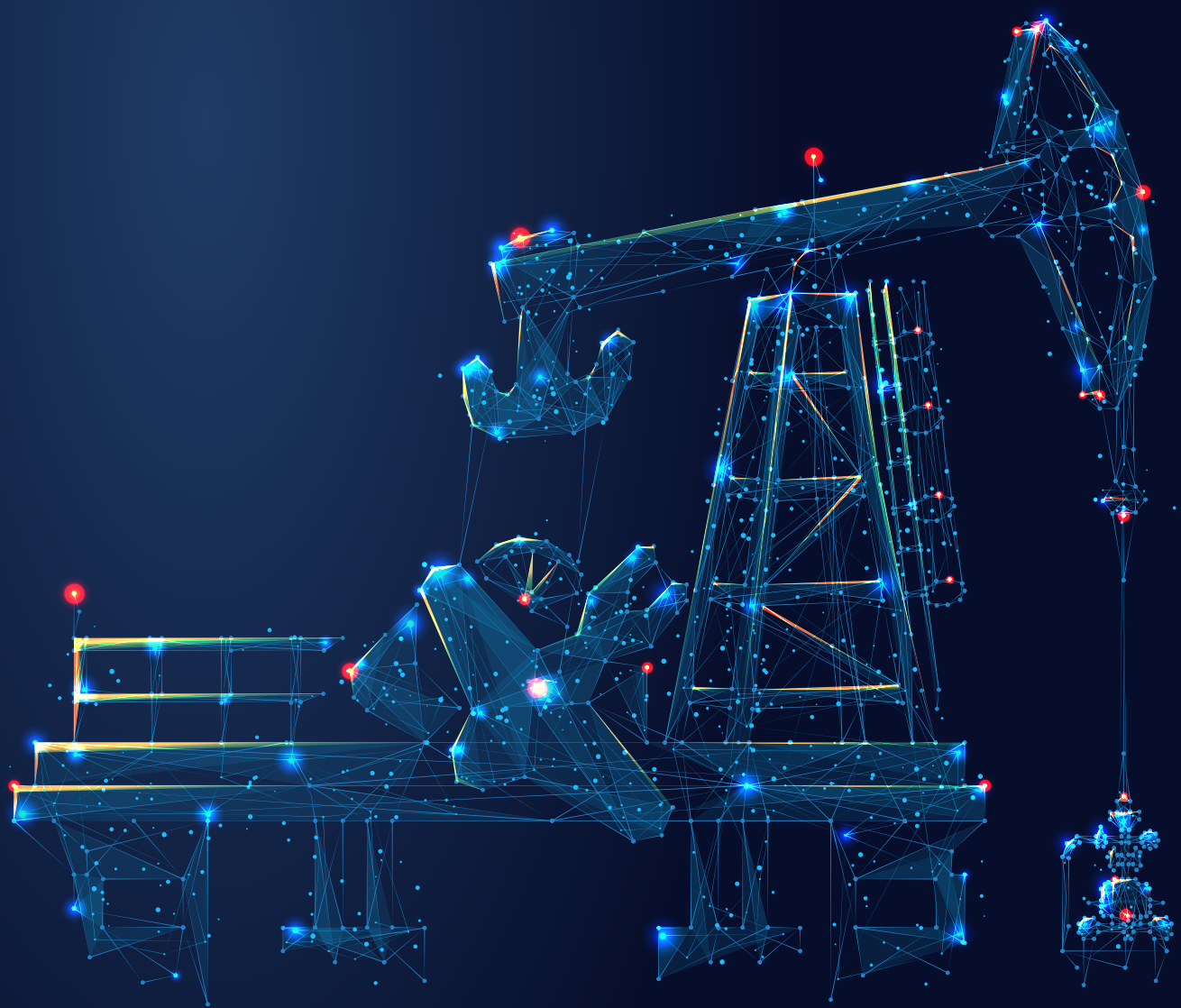
KOC works closely with other K-companies in the CCUS field in meticulously chosen geological formations, to reduce CO_2 emissions in Kuwait and achieve the ultimate goal of carbon neutrality as per its 2050 Strategy. One such example is a joint project with KNPC and KIPIC that targets capturing 100 m^3 of CO_2 to be used over a period of 25 years. In addition, work is under way to study the best methods to store 400 m3 of CO_2 for later use in production operations.

More than $100 million will be invested in these projects, which will be carried out in cooperation with international partnerships, government bodies, investors, local and international scientific establishments specializing in technologies that target the reduction of harmful emissions, and more.

Mitigating CO_2 emissions and incorporating it in the core strategies of the Company is a token of KOC's commitment to a clean and sustainable world driven by clean energy and sustainable practices adopted by the major players in the oil and gas industry.

Leveraging Artificial Intelligence in Upstream Oil & Gas

By 2028, it is expected that the market for AI in the oil and gas sector worldwide will reach $4.21 billion. An Ernst & Young survey found that 92% of oil and gas companies worldwide are investing in AI or scheduling to do so in the next five years. In the following article, the Digest explores the ways and procedures in which AI can serve the oil and gas sector in the upstream operations.



Exploration: Mitigating Risks & Reducing Costs

In the oil industry, the exploration stage for new fields involves a myriad of risks, as heavy investments are often made without reaching the intended goal of finding oil or gas in commercial quantities. Offshore exploration of oil and gas involves more risks and investments. Large amounts of data are collected by geologists, including seismic surveys, satellites, GPS systems, and more, to define sites of interest. Machine learning, artificial intelligence, and cloud computing offer a reliable way to correlate, analyze, and interpret these datasets for decision-making purposes in a cost-effective manner. The role of AI, in this respect, is to rapidly unify and cross match different sources of data to support decision-making. Machine Learning (ML) algorithms can analyze well log data, identifying patterns that could not be identified otherwise. Through AI, companies are able to identify potential locations for drilling, which minimizes the need for test drilling and reduces the risk of dry wells.

Optimizing and Automating Operations & Maintenance

Downtime due to maintenance work is one of the major challenges facing oil and gas operations, both in terms of cost and operation time lost. A study conducted by Accenture found that predictive maintenance powered by artificial intelligence (AI) could reduce unplanned downtime by up to 50%. Predictive maintenance is all about anticipating potential industrial breakdowns, which allows organizations to plan for maintenance ahead of time. In this case, therefore, a shift has occurred from the old, reactive maintenance approach to a proactive approach, which increases asset longevity, minimizes downtime, and reduces operational costs.

Optimizing Production Schedules

Oil and gas projects comprise a number of interlinked activities, including rig installation and drilling, which are essential for production processes. Poor weather conditions, logistic challenges, and resource issues, for example, can threaten production schedules and cause very costly delays. In fact, that is why automating production scheduling is one of the fastest growing applications of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the oil and gas sector. Such costs are further increased for offshore projects, which are more capital intensive.

In addition to a myriad of applications, AI helps to forecast demand for oil products, thus enhancing production optimization and inventory management, and quickly adapting to market changes. This will revolutionize decision-making, resource utilization, and operational efficiency in the oil and gas industry.

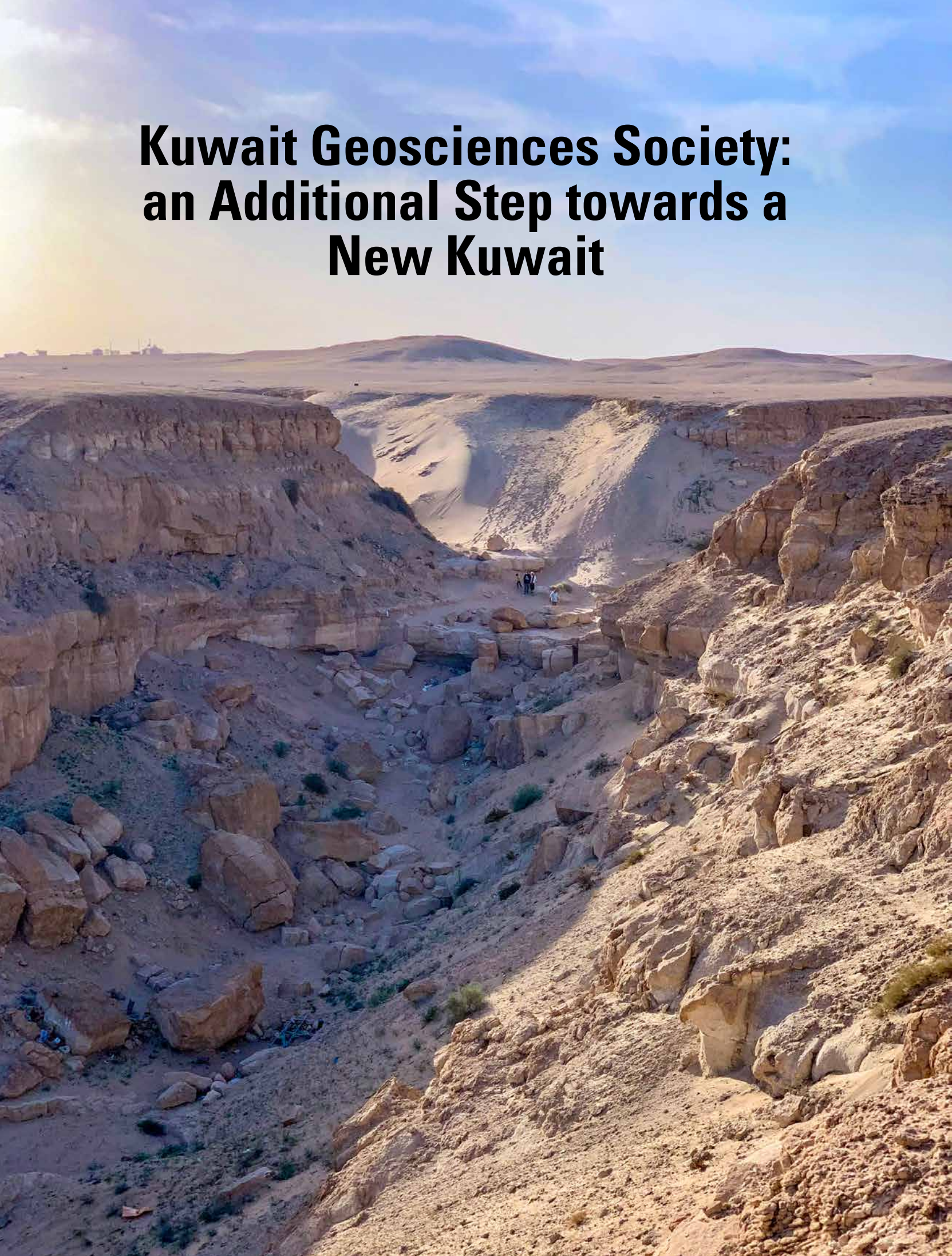
KOC's Digital Oil Field (KwIDF)

Kuwait Oil Company has three major digital projects across its assets (North Kuwait, West Kuwait, and South & East Kuwait), which are part of the Kuwait Integrated Digital Field (KwIDF) program. The aim of this program is to provide real-time surveillance of wells and promote collaboration and integration between surface and subsurface Groups and Teams across KOC. The program also accelerates the data-to-decisions life cycle at all levels of the Company's organization, through the integration of production data and workflows. During the pilot phase of this program, KOC increased oil production by more than 5% and improved overall efficiency through automated work processes and shorter observation-to-action times.

AI Prospects

Artificial Intelligence enhances operational efficiency through predictive maintenance and optimized supply chains. It also reduces downtime and improves decision-making. It is applied in reservoir analysis, drilling optimization, detecting pipeline anomalies, monitoring safety, emissions reduction, and environmental sustainability. In the future, it is expected that AI will reshape the oil and gas industry in many respects; including optimized operations, data-driven decision-making, improved safety, and environmental sustainability.

Kuwait Geosciences Society: an Additional Step towards a New Kuwait



In an achievement that is considered one of the building blocks of a new Kuwait, and a gain of common interest, Kuwait Geosciences Society was officially launched during an exhibition and ceremony that included announcing and inaugurating its work, in the presence of Kuwait Oil Company's CEO, Ahmed Jaber Al-Eidan, who expressed his belief in the important role of civil society organizations.

The Society is a continuation of the work of generations of geologists, acting as a platform that brings together geo scientists of various specialties and provides them with the opportunity to exchange knowledge and experiences.

Embodying the principle of partnership and cooperation for making achievements, a number of cooperation agreements were signed on the sidelines of the event between the society and some local, regional and international organizations of common interest.

In addition to the announcement and inauguration of the society, a week of activities and events was launched, including an exhibition for the works of some local, regional and international influencers in the field of geology, in addition to a scientific forum, among other events as detailed below.

A Huge Ceremony

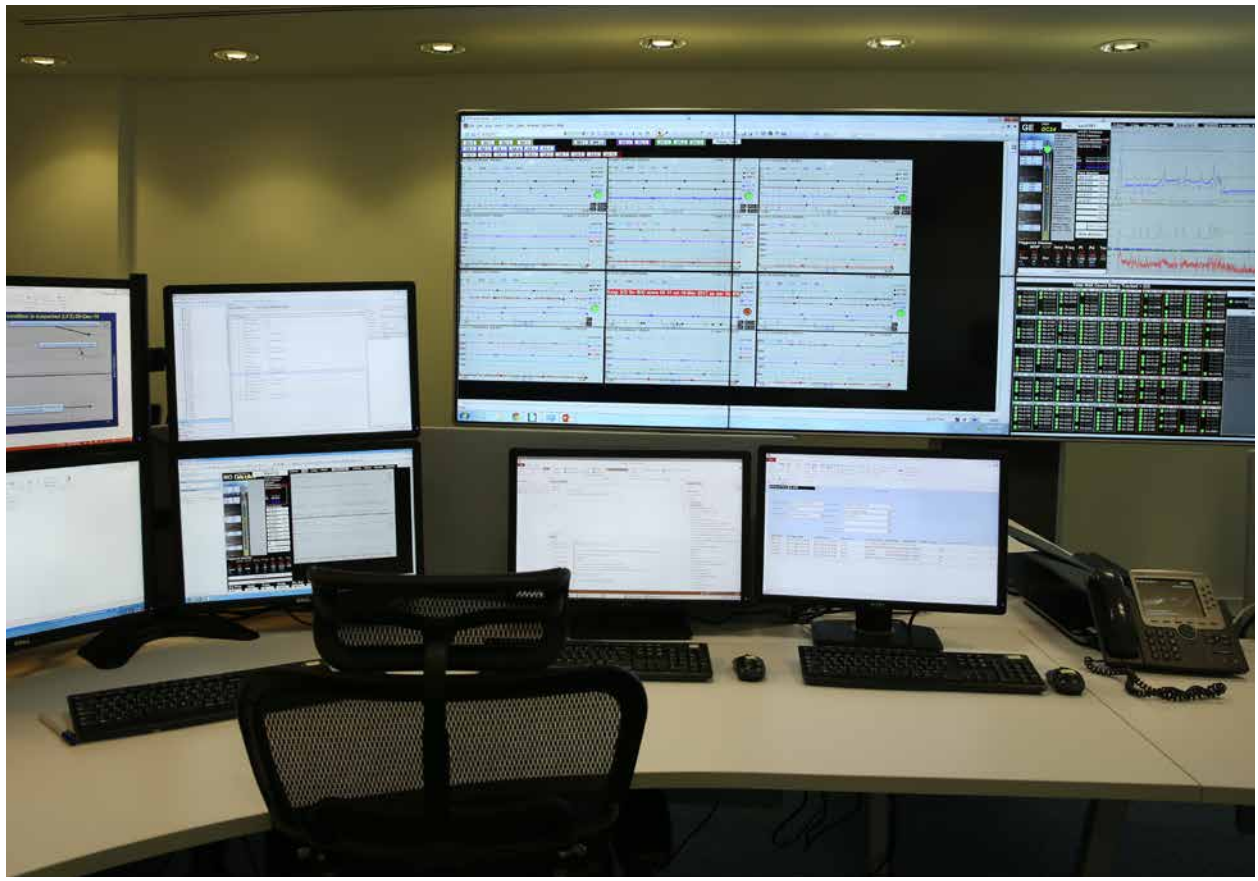
The ceremony and exhibition of the work of Kuwait Geosciences Society were held in Grand Hyatt Hotel, Avenues Mall. The event was attended by 400 people from Kuwait and abroad, including workers in this field, people of interest, former ministers and government officials, and heads and representatives of local, regional and international organizations and establishments, along with a number of KOC officials, most notably DCEO Drilling & Exploration Khaled Al-Mulla and some Group Managers and Team Leaders.

Support and Sponsorship

In his opening speech, the sponsor of the ceremony, KOC CEO and former Chairman of the founding Board of Directors of Kuwait Geosciences Society, Ahmed Jaber Al-Eidan, expressed his great pleasure to inaugurate this gathering after years of tireless efforts to introduce a society that includes a selection of geoscience specialists from the State of Kuwait.

Al-Eidan pointed out that he personally supported and sponsored the initiative to revive the founding of the society, as he had the honour to chair its founding Board of Directors. This would give him the opportunity to supervise its work and form the outline of its vision. He stressed his deep belief in the importance of the role of civil society organizations.

He added that the oil industry in Kuwait has been operating for 90 years, thanks to God first and then to the early geoscientists who conducted the first



geological surveys of the State of Kuwait in 1913, which led to the discovery of oil and gas and subsequent development and progress of the country.

Common Efforts

Al-Eidan pointed out that the geologists attending this ceremony come from various sectors, including scientific and research establishments, ministries, public and private companies, each serving the country with their own technical, administrative or leadership position. It was the perfect time to combine and integrate those efforts under the umbrella of a single specialized entity like Kuwait Geosciences Society, which seeks to enhance knowledge and experience sharing and exchange between the various establishments of the state, in a manner that serves the New Kuwait 2035 vision.

He stressed the need to keep pace with the latest technological developments in the oil and industrial sectors to confront the challenges of resource sustainability, energy transition, and climate change, which requires unifying research and knowledge efforts and accumulated scientific and practical experiences. It also requires everyone to adopt the new necessary skills imposed by the regional and global changes in these sectors.

Al-Eidan believes that geoscientists and geologists in particular play a pivotal role in preserving the Earth's natural resources, especially as Kuwait relies essentially on oil as a primary source of income.

He stressed that KOC continues to be a hospitable environment for the people of Kuwait in various related specialties, and is a sponsor of novelties in the oil sector.

The CEO expressed his thanks and gratitude to those who contributed to the establishment of this society, including its members, Board of Directors, and those who showed interest in it, for the benefit of the State of Kuwait.

A Historical Event

For his part, the President of the society, Chief Geochemist in the Exploration Group at Kuwait Oil Company, Dr. Mubarak Al-Hajri, stated that the founding of the society on December 12, 2021 was a historical event that geologists in Kuwait have long awaited, especially as they represent a large segment of Kuwaiti society. They work in ministries, institutions, and public bodies, hence the need for a society to represent them on par

with other geoscience societies in the neighboring countries. He expressed his confidence in the importance of the society to Kuwaiti society and its services in cooperation with all state institutions.

Al-Hajri explained that one of the most important goals of the society is to spread awareness about the importance of geosciences and their role in developing society. Another goal consists of encouraging and enhancing scientific research and professional development in this field, by providing a platform for the exchange of knowledge and experiences among scientists and researchers.

The society also aims to create a scientific environment by holding forums, lectures, technical workshops, and geological field trips to promote professional excellence. This would enhance practical knowledge and optimal application of standards, which would reflect on job performance in the organization.

The society also aims to cater to students and recent graduates in various geoscience fields, and to guide in terms of labor market options.

Achievements

Similar regional and international societies readily accepted the invitation to the inauguration ceremony. Nine cooperation agreements were signed with associations and organizations, including the Kuwait Environment Protection Society, Kuwaiti Geographical Society, the Saudi Society for Geosciences, the Geological Society of Oman, the Society of Saudi Geologists, the Emirates Geological Society, the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, and the European Association of Geoscientists and Engineers.

As for the third achievement, Al-Hajri stated that it consists of the immediate and unconditional approval of the heads of the Gulf Geological Societies on the proposal of Kuwait Geosciences Society to establish a union of Gulf geologists working under the umbrella of the Secretariat of the Gulf Cooperation Council for the Arab States, with headquarters in the State of Kuwait. The fourth achievement is the exceptional organization of the ceremony, which left a great impact on attendees from Kuwait and abroad.

He praised the dedicated efforts made by the organizing committee of the society, whose members work in various entities in the country such as KOC, the Ministry of Education, the

Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Kuwait University, and the College of Basic Education. These efforts were made in cooperation with the Public Relations Team at KOC.

Dr. Al-Hajri praised the efforts of the organizing committee of the society's first scientific forum, which included cadres and geologists from the Company.

He also expressed his thanks, on behalf of the members of the founding Board of Directors of Kuwait Geosciences Society, to KOC CEO Ahmed Jaber Al-Eidan, for his unlimited support of the Society and his sponsorship of the ceremony. He also expressed his thanks to Manager Public Relations & Information Group Mohammad Al-Basry for his guidance and assistance in organizing the society's events and activities.

The Geology Academia

Then, a speech on behalf of the geology academia was delivered by Kuwait University professor, and former President of the Environment Public Authority and Kuwait Environment Protection Society, Dr. Mohammad Al-Sarawi, where he expressed the pride of the faculty members in the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences - the College of Sciences, Kuwait University, for their support in developing the State of Kuwait.

He pointed out that they belong to a generation that contributed to making reforms, enhancing state institutions, and construction in various fields of development; including energy, the environment, agriculture, water development, geochemistry, and managing earthquakes, in addition to the management of coasts and natural resources. He paid great tribute to this generation that paved the way for the future, and was followed by another group of promising scientists to continue this promising scientific journey.

After that, Al-Hajri handed Al-Eidan a token from the society, which consists of a piece of a rare rock formation from Al-Subiya in north Kuwait Bay, which is considered an epitome of Kuwait's geology. This was followed by honoring a number of distinguished guests from Kuwait and abroad, for their contributions to the foundation of the society or in the field of geosciences. The ceremony concluded with a tour of the exhibition, accompanied by a number of sponsors from the field of geology, at the regional and global level, in addition to representatives from various Kuwaiti ministries.

A Scientific Forum

In addition, the society launched a strategic partnership with KOC through the joint organization of the first scientific forum at Ahmed Al-Jaber Oil & Gas Exhibition. The forum included six scientific lectures presented by members of the Society of Exploration Geophysicists, the Saudi Geologists Society, and the Ryder Scott Company - Sharq. The Middle East Oilfield Services Company and the United Energy Services Company discussed two important topics: unconventional resources and energy transition.

Among the most prominent attendees of the forum were KOC's Acting Manager of the Exploration Group, Mohammad Hafedh, and a number of guests of honor from Kuwait Geosciences Society, including the CEO of the Saudi Geological Survey, Abdullah Al-Shamrani, the President of the Saudi Society for Geosciences, Professor Abdullah Al-Omari, the President of the Emirates Geological Society, Dr. Khalid Al Balushi, and Vice President of the Omani Geological Society, Saeed Al Rahbi, in addition to two representatives of Qatar University, Dr. Khaled Al-Awa and Dr. Maryam Al-Youssef.

The attendees toured Ahmed Al-Jaber exhibition to learn about the history of the oil and gas industry and the role of KOC in the development of the State of Kuwait.

Introductory Lecture

Kuwait Geosciences Society, in cooperation with Sheikh Abdullah Al-Salem Cultural Center in Maidan Hawalli, organized an introductory lecture on the importance of Earth sciences and their relationships with the rest of the natural sciences, entitled "Everything around us is geology".

The lecture was given by the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Saudi Geologists Society at King Saud University, Dr. Abdulaziz bin Laboun, and was well received by the audience. A large portion of the audience also followed the event on social media platforms.

HAJJ IN ISLAM

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

﴿ وَأَذِّن فِي النَّاسِ بِالْحَجِّ يَأْتُوكَ رِجَالًا وَعَلَىٰ كُلِّ ضَامِرٍ يَأْتِينَ مِن كُلِّ فَجٍّ عَمِيقٍ ﴾

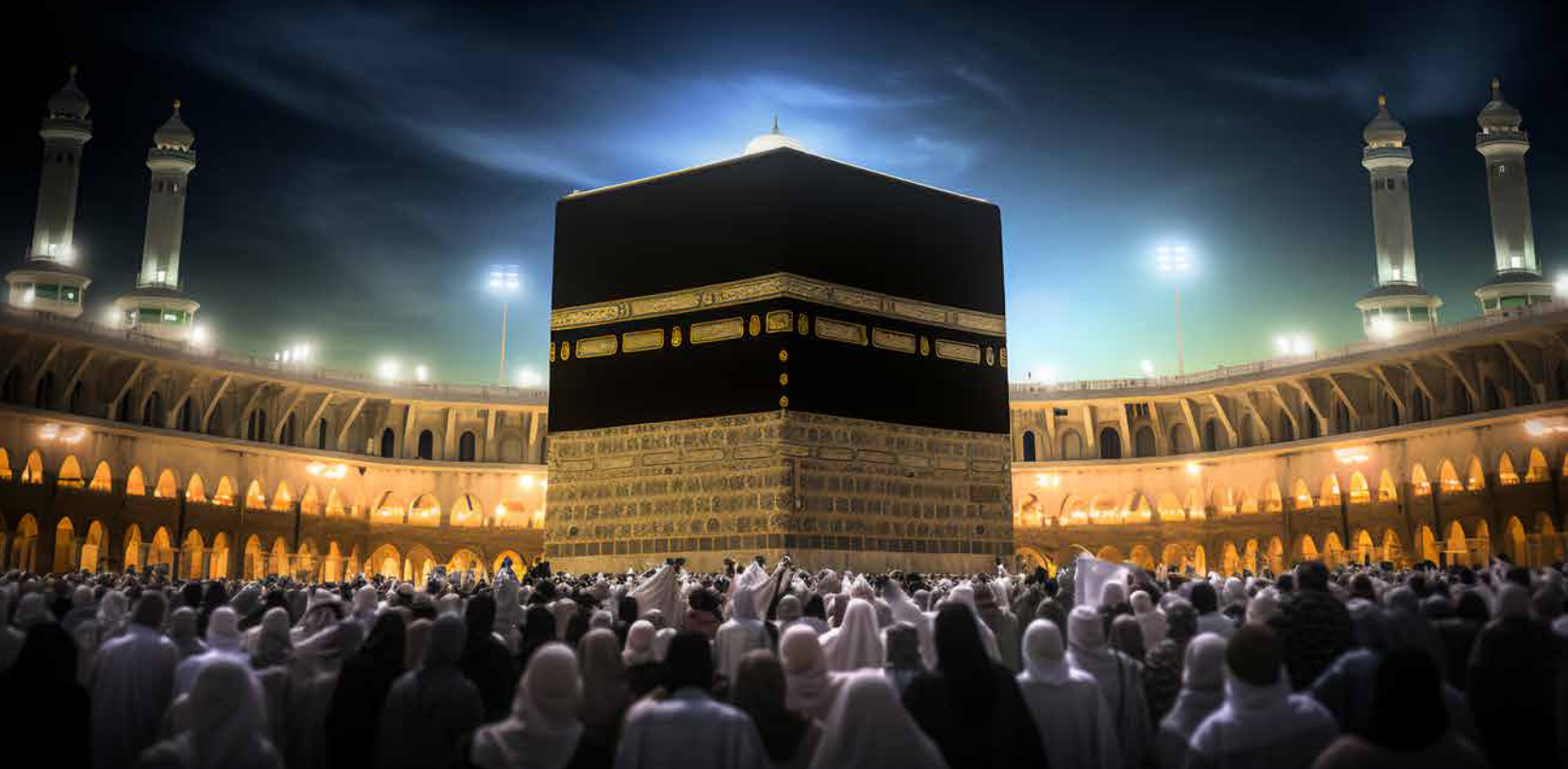
[الحج: 27]

In the Name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

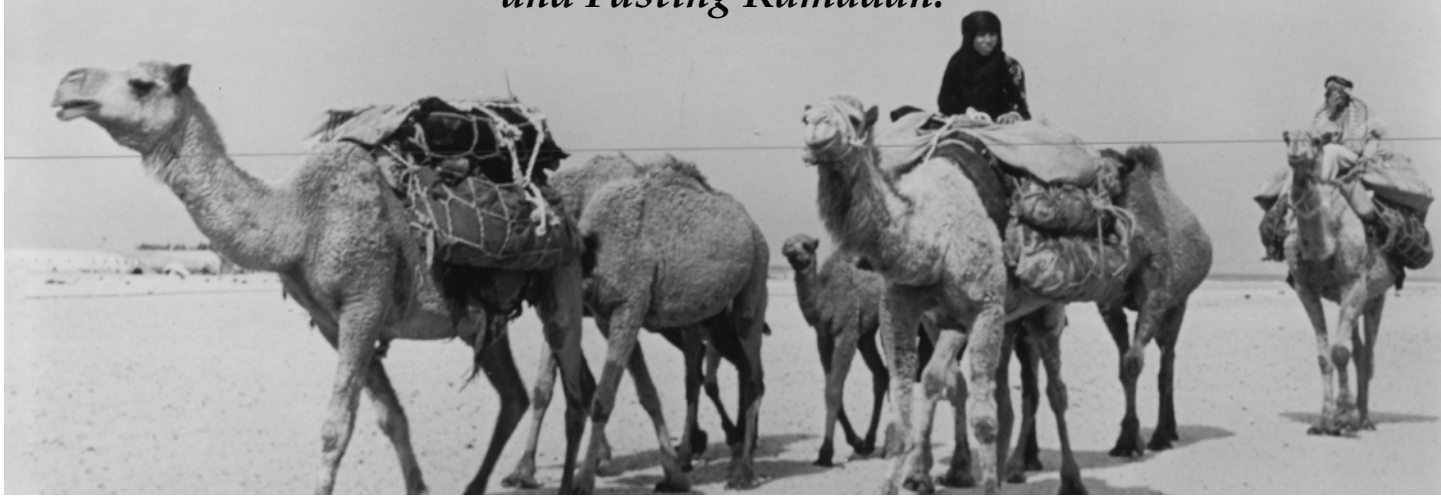
And proclaim to the people the Hajj [pilgrimage]; they will come to you on foot and on every lean camel; they will come from every distant pass

(Al-Hajj: 27)

لَبَّيْكَ اللَّهُمَّ لَبَّيْكَ



Hajj is one of the five pillars of Islam, including Shahadatain (Islamic oath and creed), Salat (prayer), Zakat (almsgiving), and Fasting Ramadan.



Hajj, however, is not a compulsory pillar because only those who are capable of Hajj are obliged to do it. Capability, in this case, refers to the physical and financial capability for Hajj. The poor, for example, are exempted from Hajj because they do not have the financial means to carry it out.

Hajj is held once a year in Mecca, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the major venue for Hajj. Some people go to Madinah after Hajj, but no Hajj-related rituals take place in Madinah.

Hajj Started Well Before Islam

Many believe that Hajj to Mecca began with the dawn of Islam. In fact, people used to perform Hajj to the Kaaba ("The House of Allah") for thousands of years, ever since Prophet Abraham built the Kaaba upon the commands of God. Then, the Kaaba was turned into a place of idolatry, which is strictly forbidden in Islam.

Hajj Rituals in a Nutshell

A pilgrim must carry out many steps during Hajj. These steps start with the preparation for Hajj and expressing one's intention to do so. Then, the pilgrim enters the state of Ihram until the end of all the rituals related to Hajj. After that, the pilgrim carries out Tawaf, or going around the Kaaba seven times, in a counter-clockwise circular movement. Once Tawaf is over, the pilgrim goes to Safa and Marwa, walking and jogging back and forth seven times. Other Hajj rituals include the Day of Arafah, when Muslims stand on the Arafah Mountain from sunrise to sunset, praying to God to atone for their sins and give them plenty of His blessings. Then, from Arafah, and at sunset, the pilgrims head for Muzdalifah, where they spend the night and offer the Fajr prayer, then they go to Mina, where they reside for three days, during which they perform Rami Al-Jamarat (stoning the devil). After the Day of Arafah comes Eid Al-Adha, when pilgrims offer their animal sacrifices. Then, the pilgrims return to Mecca, where they perform Tawaf Al-Ifadha (going around the Kaaba seven times), before doing Saa'i between Safa and Marwa (seven times). After that, Sunnah stipulates that men should cut their hair, which does not apply to women and the ill.

In Kuwait, our ancestors underwent arduous journeys to reach Mecca, the holiest city

of Islam, to perform Hajj. They rode camels and braved a long journey that lasted three months to reach their destination. They had to cover a distance of 1527 km (948 miles) to get to Mecca. Historians relate that the first Kuwaiti Hajj campaign dates back to 1800. Arrangements for Hajj used to take place months well before the date of Hajj, where people would prepare stocks of food, including rice, dates, flour, tea, and coffee. The trip to Mecca was not always easy, as it was often encumbered by persistent wars, political instability, and the spread of contagious diseases.

Some Kuwaiti expeditions headed directly to Mecca, while others headed to Madinah. Muhammad Abdulhadi Jamal, a Kuwaiti heritage specialist, explained in his book "Crafts, Professions and Old Business Activities in Kuwait", that pilgrimage expeditions from Kuwait passed through many areas on their way to Mecca, including Al-Hafar, Al-Nasafa, Al-Rataouiya, and Um Al-Jumajem. Each expedition included 50-60 camels that were specifically bought for the occasion or rented by the expedition owner, along with 20-30 Bedouin camel leaders. The cost of Hajj back then was around 150 rupees that were paid directly to the expedition's owner. This price did not include food expenses. Expeditions would start after Fajr (dawn) prayer and continued until midday, when they would stop for rest and allow their camels to rest and graze near water wells that were spread throughout the road to Mecca. At the end of the day, tents were set up to spend the night, and food was prepared by the families. The trip would continue the next day after Fajr prayer. Once they arrived to Mecca, some pilgrims stayed in their tents for the whole Hajj period, whereas the well-off would rent private houses equipped for pilgrims for a fee ranging from 50 to 80 Saudi Riyals per house for the whole period of Hajj.

Hijra is the migration or journey of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and his followers from Mecca to Yathrib, which he later renamed Madinah, in 622 CE. The migration from Mecca to Madinah (or Hijra) took Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) eight days. He travelled during the night and rested during the day, covering a distance of around 350 kilometers, which separated the cities. This migration from Mecca to Madinah was a turning point in Islamic history because it marked the real beginning and expansion of Islam in the Arabian Peninsula and beyond. Before reaching Madinah, Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) stopped in Quba, a spot in the outskirts of Madinah, where he built a mosque that is now known as Quba Mosque. The Prophet spent 14 days in Quba, then continued to Madinah where he was warmly welcomed by its kind people. Among the first things Prophet Muhammad did in Madinah was build the Prophet's Mosque, reconciling between the tribes of Madinah

and harmonizing their lives with each other through what has come to be known as the Constitution of Madinah.

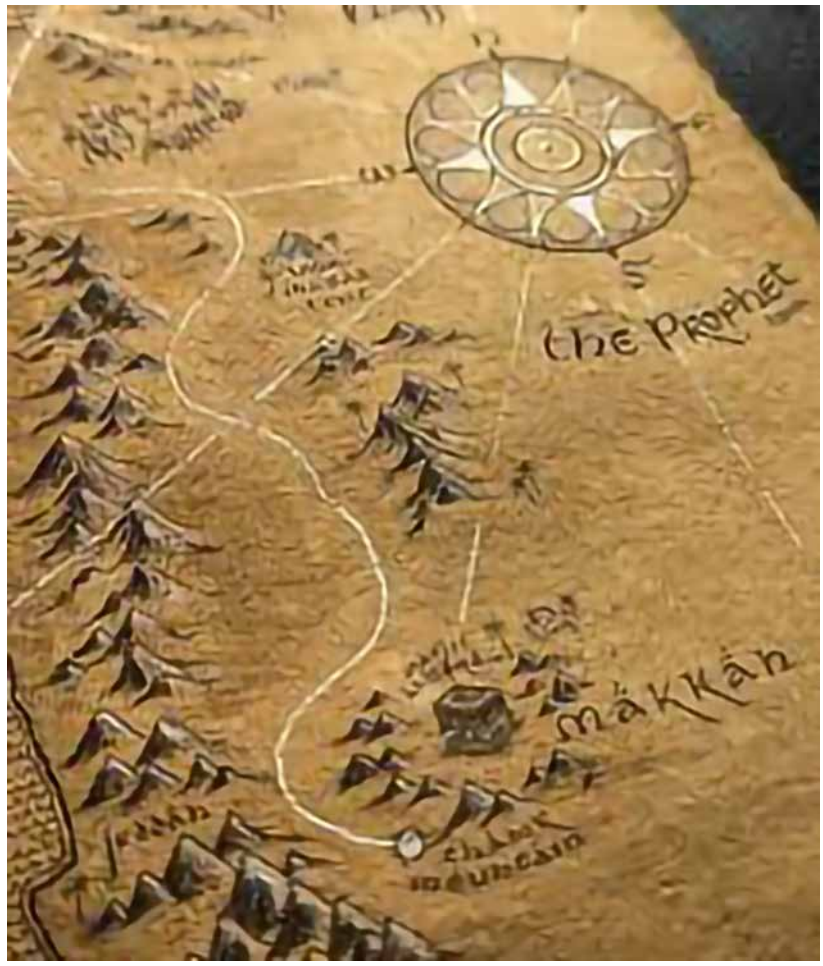
After completing Hajj rituals in Mecca, many if not most pilgrims head for Madinah to pray in Prophet Muhammad's Mosque (PBUH). This is not part of Hajj rituals, but Muslims from all over the world have grown accustomed to visit the Prophet's Mosque in Madinah and pray in it, as one prayer in the Prophet's Mosque is worth a thousand prayers in other mosques.

The trip from Mecca to Madinah historically took around two weeks on camel's back. Some Kuwaiti pilgrims wished to spend some time in Madinah, while others would prefer to go back to Kuwait directly after Hajj. The choice depended on the availability of financial means, the age of the pilgrim, and their commitments in Kuwait.

With the rise of modern means of transportation, the two-week trip from Mecca to Madinah has been significantly reduced, especially with the launch of a high-speed train link between the two holy cities. Apart from personal trips by car, the best way to get from Mecca to Madinah is by train, which takes around 2h 33m. The trip's cost ranges between $55 and $120 and is available in economy, business, and first class. There is no direct link to Madinah, but the transfer is made through the city of Jeddah. This project has made it easier for millions of pilgrims to transfer from Mecca to Madinah and vice versa.

Hajj 'Mabroor' or becoming Sinless

After completing the Hajj rituals, the pilgrims would pack their belongings and tents, heading for Kuwait in a return trip that would not be easier than the previous one. With the development of means of transportation, buses and cars replaced camels by the mid-1920s, thus making Hajj easier and faster. Pilgrims, however, did not care how difficult Hajj was; what is most important to them is that they earn Hajj 'Mabroor', i.e. having their sins atoned, becoming as sinless as when they were first born.



Dr. Abdul Rahman bin Hamood Al-Sumait

Al-Sumait was born on October 15, 1947 and died on August 15, 2013. Between these two dates was a long track record of philanthropic work that surpassed Kuwait to cover other continents, particularly Africa, where Al-Sumait is still remembered as a man of unmatchable humane qualities. Al-Sumait was a Medical Doctor, a religious scholar, and a humanitarian activist of exceptional willingness to give and help the needy.

Early Childhood & Education

Al-Sumait was born and raised in Kuwait. He was the third son of the Al-Sumait family, raised in a conservative family and performing his religious duties regularly. He liked to play the doctor game ever since he was a child.

Al-Sumait completed his primary and secondary school studies in Kuwait, got his GCSE in 1963, and applied to medical universities in Egypt and the United States. He was accepted in both universities, but soon changed his mind. In his search for a study destination, it came to his knowledge that it was very difficult to succeed at Baghdad University. He was determined to take the challenge and actually joined Baghdad University, from which he obtained a Bachelor's degree (BSc) in Medicine and Surgery. He then obtained a diploma in Tropical Diseases from the University of Liverpool in 1974. He completed his post-graduate studies at McGill University, Canada and specialized in Internal Medicine and the digestive system.

Nurturing his Early Passion for Benevolent Work

When he was in secondary school, Al-Sumait arranged with his classmates and students from other schools to buy a used car for transporting workers to their places of residence. Al-Sumait was deeply moved when he saw poor Asian migrant workers (expats in Kuwait) waiting for the bus, under the scorching heat of Kuwait; thus inspiring him to take them home after a long day of strenuous work. After gathering the required funds, they bought a used car and hired a driver, and this commuting service was provided free of charge. This was only the beginning of his passion for helping those in need, regardless of who they were or where they happened to be. This service continued for some time before it was halted.

Being aware of the financial situation of his family, which was not very good as his father had a clerical job, Al-Sumait limited himself to only one meal a day. He also gave up sleeping on a bed, preferring to sleep on the ground; knowing that many Muslims did not have the means for such 'luxuries' as he saw them. He wanted to live an austere life, so that he could feel what it would be like to be hungry or poor. Such a way of life brought him closer to the poor, and enhanced his continuous readiness to help others and stand by them, especially those who suffered from famine and starvation in Africa.

His passion for medicine also stemmed from this philanthropic feeling and love for others. As a doctor, he thought, he would be in a better position to help the sick, save human lives, and fight the spread of diseases; which, along with famine, took many lives, especially in the African continent where he preferred to stay. This explains why playing doctor with his sister was his fa-

vorite game as a child. He would then go on to make medicine his career.

His Career as an MD

Al-Sumait joined Montreal Public Hospital, the Department of Internal Medicine, specializing in Digestive Diseases as a medical practitioner from 1974 to December 1978. He then worked as a specialized doctor in Queen's College in London, from 1979 to 1980. Upon his return to Kuwait, he worked as a doctor specialized in the digestive system at Al-Sabah Hospital, Kuwait from 1980 to 1983. He published many medical research papers about the colon, endoscopy for cancer tumors, and many related fields. From 1983, he departed from Medicine and dedicated himself to humanitarian and volunteer work, to serve distant communities that are deprived of the most basic dignified living conditions. Dr. Al-Sumait's prominence shone when he combined medical work, humanitarian work, and preaching; where he was a renowned Islamic scholar.

Dr. Al-Sumait decided to leave his country and halt his career as a doctor, to dedicate his time to helping those in need and spread the teachings of Islam in Africa, a continent where Christian preachers were widespread, spread Christianity among the indigenous populations.

His Work in Africa

Africa had a special place in Dr. Al-Sumait's heart, where he was so devoted to this continent and its people to the point that he decided to leave his homeland, Kuwait, and settle there; despite the high risks of disease, outbreaks of wars, and famine. He felt that he had a noble and important role to play there.

Choosing Africa as a destination for his benevolent work came by chance. Everything started when a generous Kuwaiti woman expressed to him her intention to build a mosque in Kuwait at her own expense. He decided that this mosque would be built in Africa. Al-Sumait also utilized his carving skills, which he developed at the age of five, to live in the jungles of Africa. These childhood dreams soon became a reality, where he would use a stick for catching snakes and self-defense.

Dr. Al-Sumait spent 29 years of his life in Africa, during which around 11 million people in Africa converted to Islam at his hands. He is credited with building around 5700 mosques, drilling 9500 water wells, and establishing 860 schools, 4 universities, and 204 Islamic centers. On top of these outstanding achievements, Dr. Al-Sumait established the Direct Aid Society, which has become the most prominent international organization in Africa, with more than half a million students enrolled in its facilities. This Society also owns four universities and a large number of radio stations and publications. It has drilled and equipped around 8600 water wells, and trained more than 4000 preachers and teachers.

In recognition of his prolific philanthropic efforts and spreading Islam in Africa, H.H. the late Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah named a street in Kuwait after Al-Sumait. During his lifetime, Al-Sumait received many honorary awards, notably the Kuwait Medallion of the First Class. He was also honored by many regional and international organizations, in the fields of humanitarian and benevolent work. May Allah bestow His peace and mercy upon the soul of this great man who devoted his life to helping the needy, providing them with the necessary means of life: including water, food, education, and shelter from the arid environment they lived in. He also gave them a peace of mind by educating them on Islam and how they could help their Muslim brothers, wherever they are.

Fahad Al Salem Street

the Good Old Days, with a Modern Touch

A Major Gateway to Kuwait City

Fahad Al-Salem Street harmoniously blends past nobility with present modernity; where old buildings, some of which need restoration, still stand among high-rise towers.

This street was formerly known as Jahra Street; as it starts at Jahra Gate, one of the gates of Kuwait Wall (Soor Al-Kuwait) located in Sheraton Square, and extends from Safat Square to Darwaza Al-Jahra: the huge door that leads to the old Jahra Village.

This is considered the only non-winding street in Kuwait, created after Dasman Street and the New Street (Share'a Al-Jadeed). It is around one and a half kilometers long, renowned for its high-rise buildings. The street has long been a major point of interest, due to its numerous shops and showrooms that catered to various demographics. It became more spacious after the old houses were removed, with a parking space that can accommodate more than 2000 cars.

At the beginning of the sixties, Fahad Al-Salem Street stood out from all other streets from an urban and economic standpoint. Its buildings and constructions were the talk of the people, turning it into a bustling shopping hub and one of the most prominent landmarks in the city.

Commercial Street

On both sides of the street, there are many service facilities and complexes, such as the old police station, Faisal Tower, Salhiya Complex, and Muthanna Complex. The street was named Fahad Al-Salem to honor the memory of the late Sheikh Fahad Al-Salem Al-Sabah, may God rest his soul.

The street is highly commercial, and it was quite popular with the Kuwaiti youth. It had numerous luxury shops, Indian and Levantine restaurants, confectionery and electronics shops, and eyewear stores.

The Current Street

The past and the present charmingly blend in many of the current features of Fahad Al-Salem Street, especially the old buildings, which now stand in harmony with modern buildings; forming a picture that recalls the memory of Al-Jahra, the name that was given to it in the past.

The street is currently witnessing a major urban renaissance, embodied by high-rise towers built according to the latest models, which are of a more commercial than residential nature. This also applies to the old buildings, which in turn, are witnessing economic and commercial activities, although some of them have aged and need restoration.

After the discovery of oil in Kuwait, the country witnessed an accelerated urban revolution. Until the end of the fifties of the last century, there were only two streets in Kuwait that were paved with asphalt: The first is Dasman Street (currently Ahmed Al-Jaber), and the second is New Street (currently Abdullah Al-Salem), created in 1959. Fahad Al-Salem Street followed in the early 1960s.

Fahd Al-Salem Street quickly gained wide fame, thanks to the

proliferation of modern buildings and luxury shops.

Al-Jahra in the 1960s

The Anwar Al-Sabah Buildings were among the first residential and commercial buildings of the early 1960s. They were built on vacant land that had once been a football field, known at the time as "Al-Qibli Stadium". Heirs of Sheikh Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah owned the land.

"My childhood memories are inscribed on these walls", expresses Dr. Hala Al-Bashir, who recounts her childhood memories at the Anwar Al-Sabah Buildings. She added that an apartment's rent cost KD30, then increasing to KD50. Her family's apartment was one of the largest in the building. It was a three-bedroom apartment on the fourth floor.

Dr. Hala continued, explaining that the building's residents were of different Arab nationalities, as well as Indians. The children were close in age, and she still maintains very strong friendships with many of them. She recalls how they would walk on foot every school day from the building to Nawara Restaurant to buy breakfast, then go to Aisha Primary School.

Among the famous stores that were located in the Anwar Al-Sabah Buildings was the "Sari House" store for women's fabrics, which was the first store to sell sari fabrics in Kuwait. There was also the "Pearl of the Gulf" fashion store. Fahad Al-Salem Street lost its luster and fame after the emergence of new commercial streets, such as Salem Al-Mubarak Street in Salmiya, and the rise of modern malls.

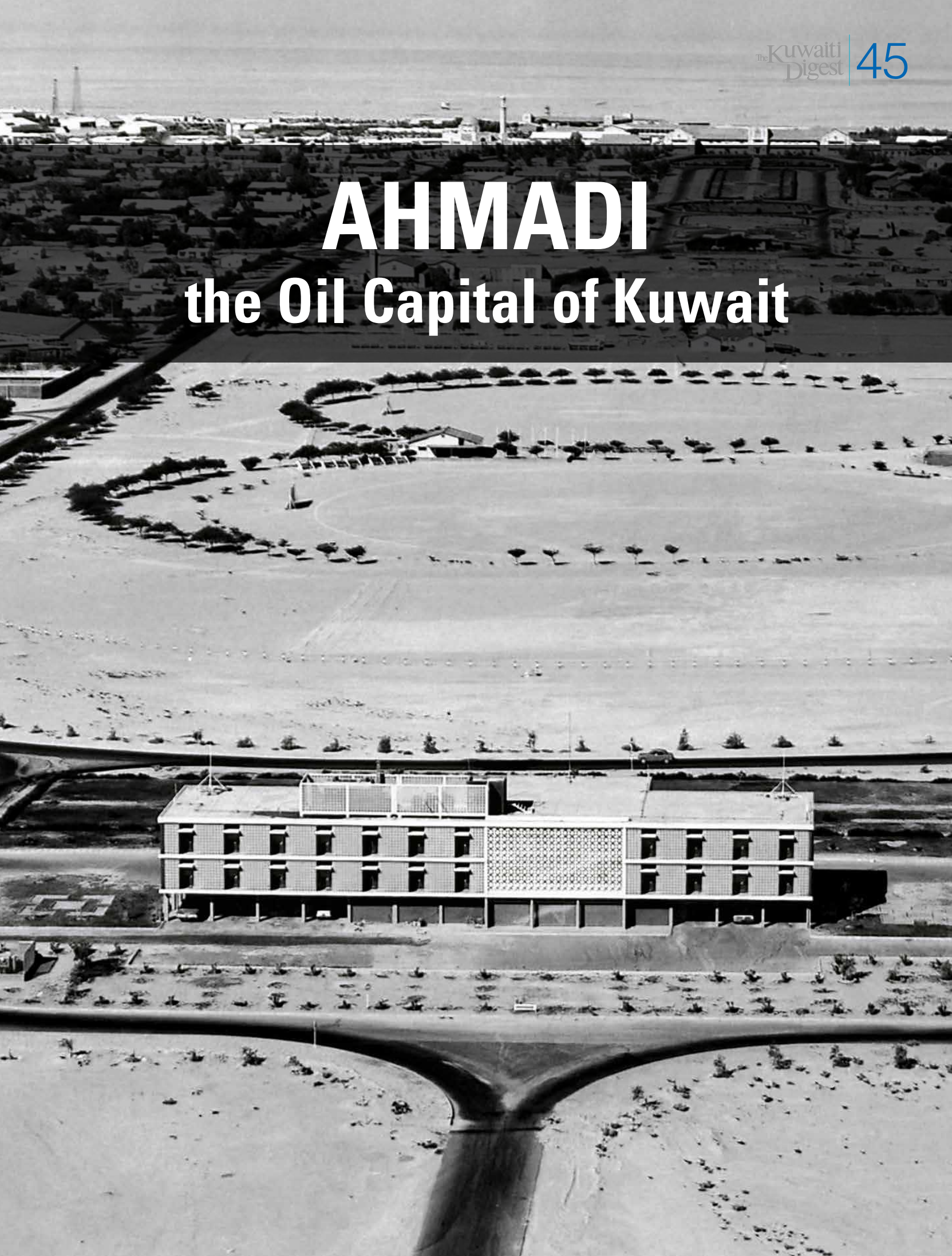
Easy Mobility

Meanwhile, Abdullah Marzouq Al-Hamad, a resident of "Barahat Abbas", explained that he has been frequenting Fahad Al-Salem Street since his childhood. He mentioned the price of the government's acquisition of more than 300 houses, where only dust and trucks transporting the remnants of old houses could be seen at the time. Consequently, the street became quite spacious, allowing easy mobility to the Shamiya and Jahra Gates, Safat Square, Salhiya in the middle, and to the left, Al-Watiya, for those coming from Al-Darwaza, and to the Qibla area.

The street was paved from its start, and before reaching Safat Square, one could see the Knowledge Department building, which became the talk of the people and Arab newspapers. This street, considered wide in the early sixties, constituted a structural revolution in construction and reconstruction, with its five-story buildings. Additionally, the building's walls were approximately four meters high, to protect the visitors and the shops from sunlight and rain.

Fahad Al-Salem Street included major landmarks, the most prominent of which was the Al-Muthanna School, which has since been transformed into the Muthanna Complex in the middle of the street. It also included the Knowledge Department building, after it moved from Barahat Bin Bahar in the New Street. An old cemetery known as the Al-Dahla Cemetery could also be found there, which became a public park known as the Municipal Park.

With the urban renaissance that Kuwait has witnessed in recent years and the emergence of modern malls, attention has shifted away from Fahad Al-Salem Street as a destination for shopping and entertainment, but it still maintains its character, which embodies the history of Kuwait blended with a more developed present.



AHMADI
the Oil Capital of Kuwait

The total area of Ahmadi is 60 square kilometers, and it is home to KOC's headquarters and other main facilities, which are among the oldest in Kuwait. Some of these facilities include medical centers, guesthouses, oil-related exhibitions, and sports and entertainment clubs. Recently, the city underwent a series of development plans initiated by the Company in cooperation with Ahmadi Governorate, including establishing various environmental, commercial, and sporting facilities; including the Ahmadi Park and Walkway, Ahmad Al-Jaber Oil & Gas Exhibition, and the New Ahmadi General Hospital.

A Historical Overview of Ahmadi City

Historically, Ahmadi was named after Sheikh Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, who ruled it from 1921 to 1956. Built on a hill that is 400 meters above sea level, Ahmadi strategically stands on the second largest oil field in the world, the Greater Burgan Field, stretching from from Magwa to South Warah. Ahmadi's history was shaped by and closely tied to the discovery of oil in this area in 1939.

After the discovery of oil in Burgan, British and Indian expatriates moved to Ahmadi. The first urban features of the city started to form after the export of the first shipment of oil from Kuwait in 1946; such as the early employee lodgings of the former Kuwait Oil Company Limited, which consisted of tents, some houses made of clay, and prefabricated huts that appeared between 1946 and 1949.

The town's prime location by the sea and its altitude (about 400m above sea level) made it an ideal location for shipping oil from the nearby Ahmadi Port, one of the largest seaports in Kuwait. This strategic location was enough to convince KOC officials to transfer the Company's headquarters from Magwa to Ahmadi. This decision was coupled with the start of building the early roads and other facilities in Ahmadi, and the city started to flourish with life.

After the early urbanization of Ahmadi was completed, the city became a favourite entertainment and cultural destination for the people of Kuwait, especially on weekends and public holidays. British engineer James Wilson, the founder of Wilson & Mason Co., was in charge of designing the city of Ahmadi, the Main Office, and accommodation for the workers.

A Strategic Location that Serves Oil Exportation

This seaside town's location is important because it lies at the end of a natural channel under the seabed of the Gulf, which is suitable for the movement of fully loaded tankers. It is separated from

Burgan Field by Al-Dhahr area, which is a hill that is 400 feet above sea level. The tank farm was constructed at this height so that oil is pumped from the fields, and then flows through natural gravity to the tankers at the port, which is very cost effective. In addition, Al-Dhahr was intended to act as a natural bunker for a city that was built at its eastern side facing the Gulf, thus reducing the effect of wind and helping drain sewage water and rainwater more easily.

Ahmadi's Early Inhabitants in Numbers

People of different nationalities settled in Ahmadi, including Arab nationals, Asians, Europeans, and some Kuwaitis working at Kuwait Oil Company Limited. The Europeans, who were a majority, left their trace in the architectural style of the city, which is still evident; with single-floor houses with tilted roofs, and low-fenced gardens, for example. Three urban areas developed in the city; for the higher officials of Kuwait Oil Company Limited, the foreign workers, and Arab and Kuwaiti employees. The number of inhabitants in Ahmadi developed as follows:

1957 – 7,280 people.

1961 – 12,860 people.

1965 – 18,719 people.

1970 – 21,244 people.

1985 – More than 27,000 people, representing 1.6% of the total population of Kuwait.

Early Educational Facilities

The first Arabic school in Ahmadi was built in 1954, under the supervision of the Knowledge Department. This school could accommodate between 150 and 200 students. An American school, an Indian school, and a Pakistani school were also constructed later. There were schools for boys and others for girls, along with a vocational school that taught crafts related to the oil industry. The city also featured a school and center for teaching Arabic toß non-Arab nationals.

Early Health Services

In 1947, KOC opened a hospital in Magwa, in the north of Ahmadi, to provide medical services for these areas. Due to the increase in Ahmadi city's population, another hospital was built in the city, with a capacity of 170 beds, providing services for all the workers of Kuwaiti oil companies and their families. The New Ahmadi General Hospital was opened in 2017 to serve the entire city.

Ahmadi's Wealth, the Oil Fields

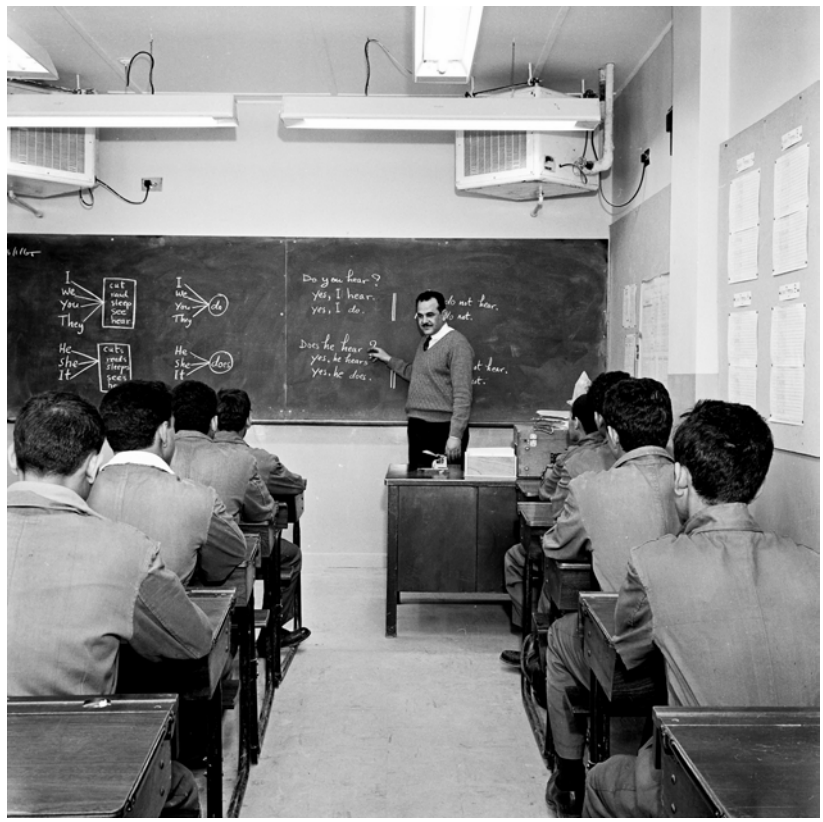
Among the Kuwaiti population, Ahmadi is popularly known as 'Umm-Al-Khair', for its abundance of oil. It includes many oil fields, namely Burgan, which is the largest in Kuwait and the second largest oil field in the world.

Major Landmarks in Ahmadi City

KOC's Main Office: constructed in 1950, including the offices of the CEO, the Higher Management, and Group Managers.

Kuwait Little Theatre: established in Ahmadi in 1948. It used to host British plays and programs.

Ahmadi Southwell Hospital: named after Sir Philip Southwell, the first CEO of Kuwait Oil Company (1946-1959). This facility used to serve KOC employees, their families, and re-



tired employees. Now, the hospital is under the authority of the Ministry of Health (MOH).

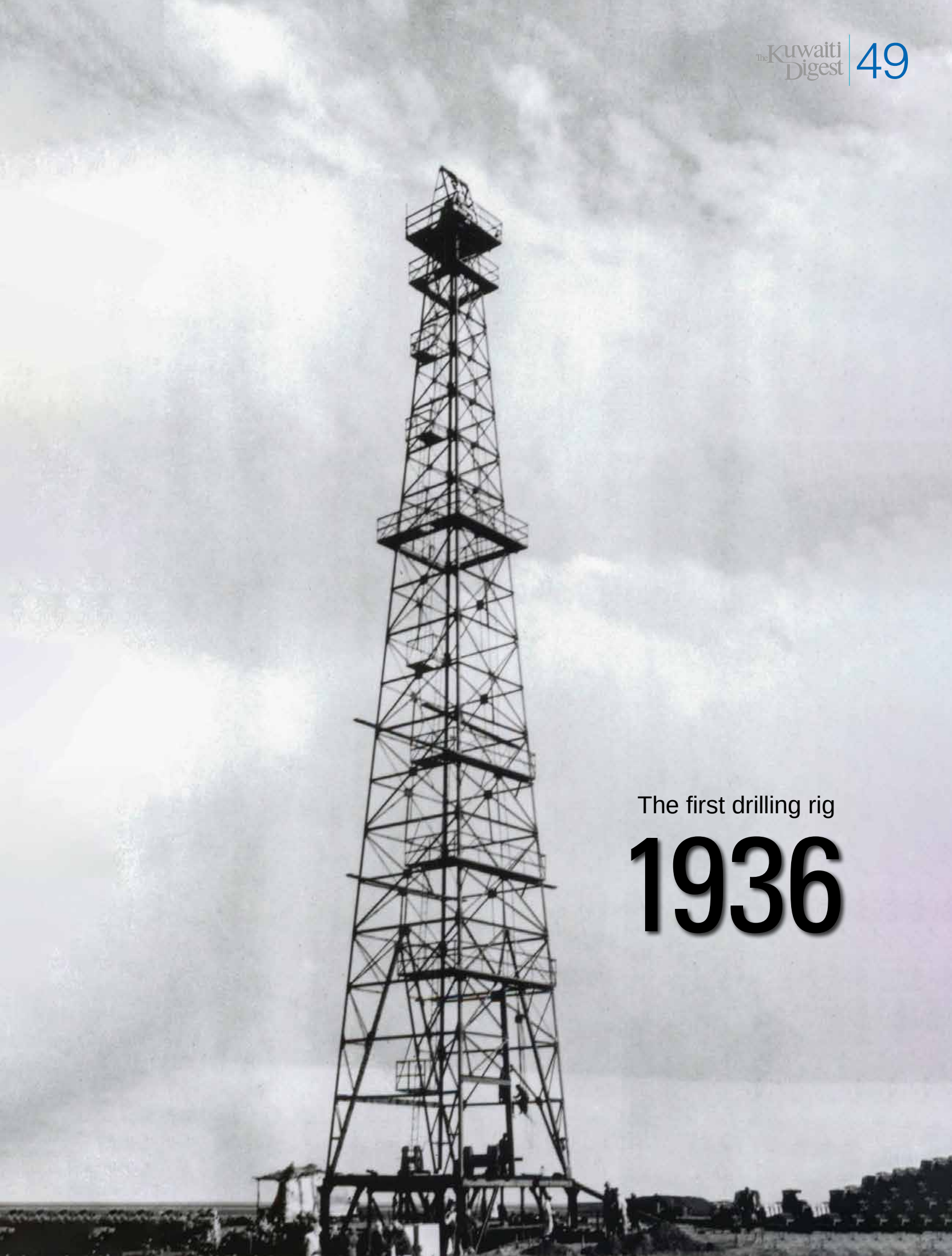
The White House: this name was given to the accommodation of the CEO of Kuwait Oil Company Limited, when CEOs were of British nationality. The building was occupied by the first Governor of Ahmadi, the late Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad, where he dwelled until 2003. It was restored after the Iraqi invasion by Beresford Company.

Ahmadi Golf Club and Stadium: Established in 1950, this stadium is among the oldest in the Arabian Gulf region. The stadium features an 18-hole course and is built on an area of 500,000 m^2. The degradation of its pitch lead to a maintenance shutdown in 2010. It was then reopened in December 2020 after rennovation works that lasted for four months. The works included pitch restoration, and planting 2000 fungal plants, 850 olive-trees, and 500 Washington trees, in addition to an irrigation network of 4 kilometers.

Saint Paul's Anglican Church of Kuwait: This church was founded in 1948 and originally started in a converted Nissen hut. The current building was constructed by KOC out of its commitment to cater to the spiritual needs of its non-Muslim employees. The name 'St. Paul's Church' was chosen for the new church because St. Paul was the only apostle who is mentioned in the New Testament as having spent time in Arabia.

Ahmadi's Grand Mosque: this mosque lies in the east of Ahmadi city, in a street deriving from Southern Road no. 32, surrounding the commercial center of the city. The mosque is surrounded by vital facilities, including the public library and many shops. The Grand Mosque was inaugurated on June 3rd, 1953 during the reign of H.H. Sheikh Abdullah Al-Salem Al-Sabah. Photos from the Municipality show that the mosque maintained its current form since 1960, except for the women's prayer section, which was added later. This mosque is one of the largest that have been built in Ahmadi city, on an area of 1858 m^2, and can accommodate more than 1,500 people. It is distinguished by its high twin minarets, each fitted out with four arches, circular balconies, and iron fences; in addition to the green dome at the top of the minarets.

Apart from these landmarks, Ahmadi City features a variety of other facilities, including sports centers, conference and events venues (like the KOC Tent), the Unity Centre, Al Hubara Club, KOC's Football Stadium, a domestic animals park, a cinema hall, Ahmadi Governorate building, Ahmadi Equestrian Club, and more.



The first drilling rig

1936

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