

'Truly a People's Princess'

Reflections upon a Royal Mother ... Diana, Princess of Wales

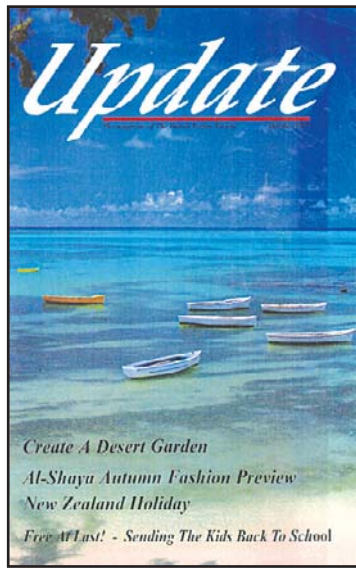
The recent celebrations of the glorious wedding of HRH Prince Henry of Wales, 2nd son of the late Diana, Princess of Wales and his bride Ms Meghan Markle — couple now known as Duke & Duchess of Sussex — have prompted many of us to reflect upon the occasion when the Mother of the Groom, Diana, married Prince Charles, Duke of Wales, a union, which, regrettably was ill fated and did not endure.

However, during Princess Diana's all too brief role as Princess of Wales, she undertook her public roles with great dignity, flair and passion — especially in those occasions related to charitable work and the caring for the underprivileged.

Any social occasion/event, in which Princess Diana was in attendance, was made extra special by her presence no less her attendance at a reception hosted in her honour at the British Embassy in Kuwait by H.E. Peter Hinchcliffe.

It was both a privilege and an honour to be present at this event and it prompted me to record my own perceptions of this memorable evening and the role, true to her own unique style, which 'Diana' played in it.

The article was first published in the magazine 'Update' which, at that time, was issued by the Kuwait British Ladies Society.



Cover of 'Update' magazine issued by Kuwait British Ladies Society.

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B.L.S (Vice-President) 1993/94



Diana, Princess of Wales, at the Kuwait British Embassy on March 13, 1989.

All of us, in some way or another, feel her loss; there are no words to describe the emptiness left in so many hearts by the premature passing away of this beloved young woman, taken from us in her prime. The paradox is that Britain's young "Queen

of Hearts" should leave behind her so many broken ones.

Through the many facets of Diana's life and personality were reflected, sometimes tinged with tragedy, so many elements of womanhood at its greatest and its best: a loving and caring mother, a compassionate supporter of a great number of life-improving causes, to so many, a friend. Truly a "People's Princess"

Throughout her short life Diana never ceased to seek perfection, ironic that as a Princess, she invited the world to share so many of her vulnerabilities. But there is much joy to be shared in reflecting upon the life and deeds of Diana and I am sure that if we can, temporarily at least, put grieving aside, she would wish us to remember her through the good, positive and noble events of her time with us, rather than dwell on those associated with sadness.

These thoughts bring me to reflect back to March 1989 and the visit to Kuwait of Princess Diana (then HRH) as she accompanied her husband, HRH Charles Prince of Wales. All our hearts and spirits were captivated by the Royal couple as in such a short time, they wove themselves into so many aspects of life in

Kuwait at that pre-invasion time.

Focusing on joy, may I invite you to share an anecdote of a special evening in Kuwait, Monday 13th March 1989 when a reception in honour of the Royal couple was hosted by the British Ambassador at the time Peter Hinchcliffe and his wife. As always Diana looked resplendent, the colour of her long dress was purple, or to be more precise in tones of purple and mauve, the bodice studded with clusters of shimmering pastel toned bead-work. The same dress was recently auctioned for charity in New York.

As the Princess mingled with the people she stopped by one particular group with whom I was standing, gave a coy, yet glowing smile and then having lowered her eyes towards her bodice and waistline, she looked up again, addressed us with enquiring and concerned eyes: "I hope you like this dress ... (she again fingered the waistline where there was a broad cummerbund) it's supposed to be Islamic ..."

"A bright start has suddenly been blotted out" Lord Hurd, former Foreign Secretary of UK

Royal purple, long sleeves, long skirt, high neck ... and with Diana's unique beauty, how could it not be right. Our smiles and nods served

to dissolve her concern. Of course she looked supreme and, as always, appropriate.

Diana moved on, her private detective discreetly shadowing her at every step; Prince Charles was performing his Royal duties by mingling elsewhere; the balcony at the Embassy had perhaps never seen or will ever see an evening so animated, so happy, so memorable — joy was in the air! In the background the combined bands of Kuwait English and New English School could be heard above the excited social chatter.

Another stop, another group for the Princess to address. Her laughing eye! alighted on a glass held in the hand of my then secretary's Mrs Tricia Davies. husband. With her own particular brand of coquetry, Diana put her head to one side and with a mock look of serious concern asked John Davies: "May I ask you what you have in that glass?" "Oh just Perrier Water", came the prompt and honest reply (John was a teetotaler so fate had drawn her to the right person for an appropriate and acceptable answer) Diana transferred her glance from the glass to John's face and then she spontaneously confessed: "I was not supposed to ask, so I am ..." Wasn't that Diana? Her own person.

Fawzia to host lectures on diagnosis and care of ALS patients

FSHN sheds light on neurodegenerative diseases

KUWAIT CITY, June 3: In line with its commitment to providing specialized treatment in Kuwait, the Fawzia Sultan Healthcare Network (FSHN), will be hosting a series of lectures dedicated to understanding the diagnosis and care of patients with neurodegenerative diseases, such as Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) in Kuwait. The lectures will be hosted by the Chief of Neurology Services, Dr Merit Cudkowicz, and Nurse Practitioner, Ms Darlene Sawicki, Co-Director of the ALS Clinic at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston.

The lectures will be hosted as a step towards broadening Kuwait's medical spectrum in the field of neuroscience. A focused lecture will be hosted at The Promenade Culture Centre on June 5th at 10 am and will be led by Ms Sawicki, which will discuss the best practices of caring for patients with neurodegenerative diseases, including possible challenges and different techniques to best cope with the patient and provide the utmost level of care.

"At FSHN, we are committed to continued professional development and research and we believe that such lectures provide a platform to engage with Kuwait's healthcare providers and caregivers to help provide our society with the best care possible," said Dr Elham Al Hamdan, President and Medical Director of FSHN. "We are launching a new specialized clinic that will provide multidisciplinary care for patients with ALS. Our Neurorehabilitation and Elderly Care Unit teams are in talks with the renowned physicians from the Massachusetts General Hospital to discuss future collaborations and to benefit from their wealth of expertise in the field of neuroscience," added Al Hamdan.

The upcoming lectures are part of a commitment to education and continued learning by FSHN, in which international physicians and specialized clinicians are invited to Kuwait to exchange their expertise with local specialists and to learn from the healthcare network's highly qualified specialists. In addition, FSHN hosts international consultants to train local specialists and treat patients who have severe conditions and are in need of other special medical treatments.

Interested specialists and caregivers can register to attend the lecture titled "Caring for a person with a neurodegenerative disease" through emailing s.whitehead@fshnkuwait.org. Additional information or queries about the lecture can be channeled through the FSHN official social media channels, @FSHN-KW on Instagram and @FSHNKuwait on Facebook.

Fawzia Sultan Healthcare Network is a multidisciplinary non-profit clinic based in Kuwait. It employs a highly specialized team of clinicians, providing exceptional quality of healthcare services and compassionate care across a number of specialty areas including: pediatric rehabilitation (at its Children Evaluation & Rehabilitation Centre: CER), family medicine, preventative medicine, mental health and wellness, physiotherapy & occupational therapy, speech therapy, neurology, elderly care, women's health and research and education.



ABK and KACCH staff with children at Farwaniya Hospital.

ABK staff visit children in local hospitals

In an effort to demonstrate its commitment to the community during the Holy Month of Ramadan, Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait (ABK) staff in collaboration with Kuwait Association for the Care of Children in Hospital (KACCH) recently visited Ibn Sina and Farwaniya Hospitals to share the joys of Ramadan and Girgean with the children.

ABK staff distributed girgean bags and engaged the children through fun activities including hand painting,

colouring books, and a surprise visit from caricature's, offering some support to young patients during their stay in hospital.

Throughout the Holy Month of Ramadan, ABK have supported the community through similar initiatives.

For more information about ABK please visit eahli.com or contact an ABK customer service agent via 'Ahli-an Ahli' at 1899899.



A photo from the event

Firm achieves leading position in religious tourism

Al-Raya Co organises Ghabqa for media

KUWAIT CITY, June 3: Al-Raya, the leading operating and developing real estate company, held a Ramadan Ghabqa in honor of the media at Sultan Ibrahim Restaurant in Salmiya. The event was attended by the company's senior management represented by CEO Jassim Al-Fajri, Vice-President of the Investment Department Adnan Al-Salem, a number of employees from various departments and the media. Speaking at the event, Fajri said: "Today we are delighted to meet with the Kuwaiti

success who are a partners in our company's success through their support."

Fajri pointed out that the company today occupies a leading position in the development and operation of international and regional tourism properties, which have a clear impact on the advancement of this promising economic sector in the countries in which it operates, especially Saudi Arabia, where it operates a number of hotels. This makes the company the first choice for customers who are seeking

comfort and flexibility while performing religious rituals, he said, adding that the company is considering a number of strategic expansions in promising markets across the world. The Ghabqa witnessed a large media presence and featured a draw on a two-person Umrath trip.

"We at Al-Raya are committed to developing our services and operations in line with our customers' expectations, and we expect to achieve high growth rates at the end of the year and in the years to come. We promise to be a trusted source of high performance and quality of service," Fajri affirmed. Al-Raya Company was founded in 1994 as a real estate and investment development company that supports the economic development witnessed by Kuwait and the region, and participates in the revitalization and development of the real estate and investment sectors through strategic development plans and effective. The company has succeeded in achieving a leading and reliable reputation in the religious tourism and real estate sector by providing a comprehensive range of real estate and investment services and products that enrich the experience of customers and investors to meet their aspirations. The company operates a number of hotel projects in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia including Sky Tower Hotel in Makkah and Nusk Al-Madinah Hotel. Al-Raya has expanded its strategic services to expand its operations across a number of branches in the Middle East and Africa:

■ Al-Raya United Company, a Kuwaiti-Egyptian company in the Arab Republic of Egypt.

■ Al-Raya United Company Branch of Saudi Arabia.

■ Jaddarah Hotel's Management and Operation in Saudi Arabia.

■ Al-Raya United Turkish Company, a Turkish real estate company.



A photo from the event

'Nour with Nour'

Dr Nour Al-Tijali launches 1st skin, haircare event in Kuwait

KUWAIT CITY, June 3: The specialized and first skin and haircare event "Nour with Nour" kicked off June 1, in Sheikh Salwa Al Sabah Hall in Salmiya. The event is organized by Dr Nour Reza Al-Tijali, a renowned Dermatologist and Venerologist at Adan Hospital, and hair transplant surgeon at New York Hospital.

The event accommodates leading international companies in the field of skin and haircare medical treatments, as well as famous dermatologists in Kuwait and abroad, including Dr Fahd Al-Halabi, a Dermatologist, Dr Dalia Sadeq, a Dermatologist and Venerologist, and Dr Dana Al-Reyahi, Obesity and Bariatric surgeon. Besides, the launch event was attended by media delegates and figures, bloggers in addition to beauty lovers and professionals.

This event aims at raising aware-

ness on various medical topics, mainly the causes of skin diseases, solutions and the different medical treatments for each case by conducting a series of seminars, lectures and workshops that are held by doctors and experts in dermatology and hair transplant in Kuwait.

Dr Nour Al-Tijali expressed her delight for organizing this vital event for the first time in Kuwait and said, "Through this exhibition, we are working hard to achieve the goals and aspirations of international medical events, and to attract specialized companies in the field of hair and skincare to the local market that is considered the region's hub for healthcare and beauty. This event brings together leading international and local companies that showcase new inventions in this field to satisfy customers' needs and meet their expectations".



A photo from the event.

Al Tijaria celebrates Girgean in Symphony, Al Tijaria Towers with orphans & other kids

KUWAIT CITY, June 3: As part of the company's aim for preservation of the original Kuwaiti traditions and within the framework of its social responsibility under the name "We Care", Symphony Style Mall & Al-Tijaria Tower celebrated their Girgean in a special way.

On this occasion, the Commercial Real Estate Company had sent a special invitation to the Orphanage and other children along with their families to come celebrate the joy of Girgean, where a special Girgean band took place walking around the Mall singing the traditional Girgean Songs and distributing them to the kids.

Mrs Rawan Adnan, Department Manager of Marketing and Communication said: "Through this holy month, The Commercial Real Estate Company aims to create happiness and joyfulness in the hearts of the orphans and children to provide entertainment for people with special cases and help them integrate into the society.

In conclusion, Mrs Rawan Adnan thanked all the visitors for coming and being part of this joyful event.

AUB honors Holy Quran recitation competition winners

KUWAIT CITY, June 3: Ahli United Bank (AUB) honored the winners of its annual Holy Quran recitation competition, which was organized throughout the month of Ramadan at the Bank's headquarters. The competition included eight categories: male staff and female staff who recite Al-Mursalat verses, staff children who recite Al-Nabaa verses and also younger participants, whilst the other five categories were for the wider public participation and were as follows: category four and five: children boys and girls age group stage between 6 years to 10 years who recited Al Jinn verses; category six and seven: boys and girls age group stage between 11 years to 17 years old who recited Al-Hashr verses; and finally the category of men with impaired hearing in memorizing Al-Fatihah, Al Shamas and Al Balad verses.

For the male employees and the children of AUB employees:

Contestants: Male Employees: First – Abdulqader Sultan; Second – Ali Yousef; Third – Bashar Fayed Othman.

Female Employees: First – Doha Adnan Salmeen; Second – Iman Mahmoud Omoani; Third – Shahar Abdulfattah

Salih. Children of the Employees: First – Mariam Adel Abbas; Farida Ahmed Rashwan; Othman Hamad Al-Enizi.

For the winners from outside the bank as follows:

Contentants: Children boys age state between 6 years to 10 years First – Gasser Hany Jamal; Second – Youssef Ekram Alsayed, Third – Anas Alaa Ali.

Children girls age group between 6 years to 10-years: First Aheed Makram Ali; Second Rahma Alaa Ali, Third – Khadija Ahmad Abdullah.

Childrens boys from the same age group stage: First – Mohaned Mohammed Ezzat, Second – Abdulmahjed Mohammed Salahah Mofhafar; Third – Soliman Fouad Al Outabi.

Children girls from the same age group stage between 11 years to 17 years: First –Mariam Sherif Aliwon; Second – Sumia Mohammed Nourwas; Third – Aisha Mohammed Ahmad Al Shimocame.

Finally, for men impaired hearing category: First – Mohammed Shamkhi Jaber; Second – Mahmoud Al Hus-saini Mahmoud; Third – Jarah Hmoud AlOutabi, Fourth – Ramy Jamal Al Eri-

ani; Fifth – Abdullah Morwawa Oubaid Ahmadceme; Sixth – Mohammed Khalaf Allah.

Winners were honored and rewarded during a special ceremony that was held at the Bank's main building and was attended by Sheikh Dr Khaled Al-Mathkour, AUB's Chairman Shari'ah Supervision Board, and Abdullah Al Shuaib, AUB's Head of internal Shariah Audit



A photo from the event

Department.

The Bank said in a press release, "The Bank continues its Ramadan Quran recitation activities every year to instill enthusiasm and competition among the contestants. AUB's management and organizing committee were impressed with the competitive and positive spirit portrayed by all participants, and in return congratulated all winners and all of those who made this unique event a success. The Bank added, "Such activities aim to reflect a positive contribution and collaboration across all members of society to truly understand the values of the Holy Quran and apply its principles throughout their daily lives. The Bank's commitment to similar initiatives is a core element of its comprehensive social responsibility approach that includes a broad range of activities that help to spread more awareness and encourage education around positive values."

For more information on Ahli United Bank's products and services, customers are invited to visit any of the Bank's branches or call the customer service "Hayakom" on 1812000, or log on to the Bank's website www.ahliunited.com.kw