

## **Kuwaiti Law School and Promoting Legal Education**

This brief paper is intended to highlight “The Role of Kuwaiti Law School in Providing Legal Education in Kuwait and its Future Role in the Arab World in Maintaining the Role of Law” as one of the oldest law schools in the region, which positioned itself in advanced role to promote legal education in Kuwait, the Gulf area and in the region. For around 40 years the law school took as part of its mission and goals to enhance the legal profession in Kuwait and the region throughout providing substantial distinguished legal education which adhered to the key values of the law school roles, namely academic freedom in the legal education, advocating justice and fundamental human rights, setting up standards in legal profession, and maintaining the rule of law in the society via the investigation of legislations and court of law rulings based upon theoretical, practical and comparative, research and education.

Therefore, this paper is designed to highlight the following major points:

A. The Role of Kuwaiti Law School in Providing Legal Education in Kuwait.

The Kuwaiti Law School founded in 1966 with the following mission:

1. The Law School seeks to provide a distinguished level of legal education among its peers of Arab Universities, which meets international educational standards.
2. Provides a highly qualified and trained legal graduate to the society, equipped with legal skills and research capabilities to satisfy requirements of the legal profession, with cross culture appreciation.
3. Effectively participating in developing and spreading of legal education and awareness among all sectors of society.
4. Focusing in faculty members’ development skills via encouraging and facilitating academic research.

### **1. The First and only Law School in Kuwait and the Region:**

Since that date, the law School started its four-year program of legal education which leads to a degree of Bachelor of Law (L.L.B.). The school has taken a key role in the society as a source of legal education and a reference to the standards of the legal practice in the country, taken into consideration that it was the first and only law school that has been established in the Gulf region apart from Kuwait.

### **2. Quality of Education and graduates capabilities:**

The degree that is awarded by the Law School to its graduates enables them to be highly equipped with the necessary skills and capabilities to fulfill all types of legal services needed and required by the legal profession society, whether in the public sector or the private, including but not limited to in-house lawyers, public attorney office, legal educators, and private lawyers.

### **3. The Rule of Law and Justice in the Vision of the Law School**

Spreading the spirit of the Rule of Law and Justice in the Society was one of the main goals that the Law School has been able to build and substantiate throughout many direct contacts to different officials in the government, as well as providing a neutral legal opinion to matters of concern to governmental institutions and individuals in the society. As a crucial role in that direction, the law school held many different seminars, conferences and workshops to upgrade the level of awareness among the society members and appreciation of the rule of law and justice.

### **4. Serving Justice and Law Implementation in the Society:**

The Law school has closely worked with the judiciary and other legal institutions that are concerned about interpreting, implementing and enforcement of law, in order to support and upgrade the standards of justice and preserving the values of the fair and democratic society that is governed by institutions and maintaining and respecting the constitution and laws. Such role was reflected in joint efforts to

prepare the different legislations throughout the legislature (Parliament) and the government body that is responsible for legal services which is (The Department of Legislation and Legal Opinion) as well as the Ministry of Justice.

## **5. Value of Research and Studies prepared by the Law School**

Nevertheless, the Law School's efforts includes providing serious and distinguished legal studies and research, that deals with an eminent legal problems that faces the society, in addition to legal studies which enable the society to cope with the new changes and trends that take place in a developing society which is Kuwait, particularly these related to economical, social and cultural aspects taking into consideration Kuwait's location which is right in the heart of international waves between the West and East.

## **B. Kuwait School of Law and Maintaining The Rule of Law in the Arab World**

### **1. Providing Legal Education in the Arab World.**

Providing the standard legal education within the Gulf Region and the Arab World was one of the initial goals that has been focused upon by the Kuwaiti Law School, taken into advantage that it was the first and only law School in the Gulf Region, in the year 1966, which is the year of its establishment. Therefore, the Law School as part of its program allocated many seats for scholarship directed to the people of the Arab Gulf States to achieve the above mentioned goal. Furthermore, there was a highly standard for staff selection from the Arab World in order to support this goal, a target that has been maintained successfully.

### **2. Gaining membership in Arab Law School Society.**

The Law School intention to actively participate in maintaining the Rule of Law in the Arab World motivated it to involve in the **Arab Law School** Society very actively via the gaining of the membership of said society, and putting together some proposals to promote legal education in the region, a matter that has been highly appreciated by the member law schools.

### **3. Issuing an influential Law Journal**

The Law School took a lead role in the Arab world to be the first Law School to have a well respected journal under the name of the Law school journal, which publishes very distinguished articles from all around the Arab world in Arabic, English, and French languages. One of the characteristics that distinguish this journal is to be issued periodically without any obstacles from being issued in the right dates and time of its publication. This journal is a refereed one according to the international legal standards in the research criteria.

### **4. Classifying legal publications and Rulings**

In the year 1989 the Law School moved seriously toward what can be seen as a distinguished role in maintaining easier references to legal rulings that has been adjudged by the Kuwaiti Court whether being the Constitutional Court, Court of Cassation, or the Appeal Court. Such a project soon came into existing in the year 1992 with a huge amount of classified rulings which is accessible to the legal society in Kuwait and outside, particularly in the Arab and Islamic world. And nowadays, it is under the name of the Law School Center for classifying Court Judgments, which is a fundamental institution in serving legal society in large.