

KUWAIT



<http://teachmideast.org/country-profiles/kuwait/>

KUWAIT

Negara Kuwait

دولة الكويت

Dawlat al-Kuwait (Arab)



Bendera



Lambang

KUWAIT

Kuwait is a constitutional emirate with a semi-democratic political system. The hybrid political system is divided between an elected parliament and appointed government.



KUWAIT

Kuwait is a country in the Arabian Peninsula, surrounding the Gulf of Kuwait at the head of the Persian Gulf. In the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, Kuwait was a prosperous trade port.



KUWAIT



<https://id.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kuwait>

KUWAIT



<https://id.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kuwait>

KUWAIT



LIFE EXPECTANCY
77 (M) 80 (W)



CAPITAL
Kuwait City



LARGEST CITY
Kuwait City



NATIONALITY
Kuwaiti



RELIGIONS
Islam, Christianity,
Other

KUWAIT OVERVIEW



CURRENCY
Kuwaiti Dinar
(KWD)



POPULATION
4,099,932



LANGUAGES
Arabic, English



AGRICULTURE
Fish & Shrimp



INDUSTRIES
Petroleum, Petrochemicals
Cement, Ship Building/Repair
Water Desalination, Construction

KUWAIT

Ibu kota (dan kota terbesar)	Kota Kuwait
Bahasa resmi	Arab
Pemerintahan	Monarki semi-konstitusional ¹
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Emir• Putra Mahkota• Perdana Menteri	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Sabah al-SabahNawaf al-SabahJabir al-Sabah
Legislatif	مجلس الأمة <i>Majlis al-Ummah</i>
Pembentukan	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Perairan (%)	dapat dihiraukan
Population	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Perkiraan 2014	4.044.500 (140)
PDB (KKB)	2014
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Total- Per kapita	<ul style="list-style-type: none">\$283.976 miliar^[1] (52)\$71.020^[1] (5)
PDB (nominal)	2014
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Total- Per kapita	<ul style="list-style-type: none">\$172.350 miliar^[1] (55)\$43.103^[1] (23)

IPM (2013)	▼ 0.814ref name="HDI">"2014 Human Development Report Summary" (PDF). United Nations Development Programme. 2014. hlm. 21–25. Diakses tanggal 27 Juli 2014. <div></ref></div> Error: Invalid HDI value · 46
Mata uang	Dinar Kuwait (د.ك.) (KWD)
Zona waktu	Waktu Standar Arab (AST) (UTC+3)
Lajur kemudi	kanan
Kode telepon	+965
Kode ISO 3166	KW
Ranah Internet	.kw
<p>1. Dalam sistem monarki semi-konstitusional, perdana menteri adalah pemegang kekuasaan eksekutif pada pemerintahan; namun raja masih memiliki kekuatan politik yang cukup besar untuk melaksanakan kebijakannya sendiri.</p>	
lihat · bicara · sunting	

K U W A I T

GEOGRAPHY

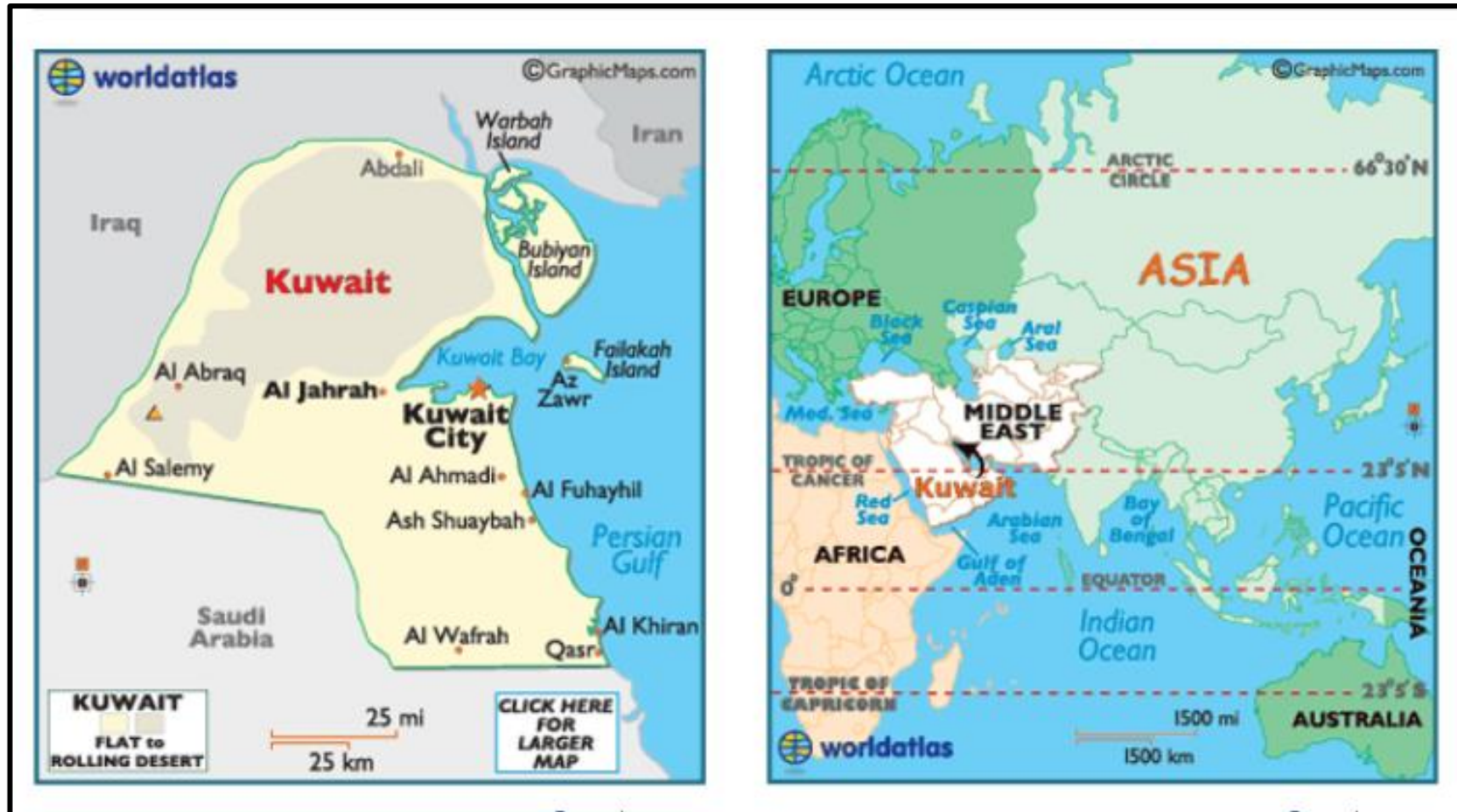
Kuwait (**Arabic pronunciation**) is a small country situated between Iraq to the north, Saudi Arabia to the south and west, and the Persian Gulf on the east. It has an area of 17,818 square kilometers (11,072 square miles), roughly the size of the state of New Jersey. Kuwait's climate is mostly dry with very hot summers, reaching up to 116.4° F, and short cool winters, with low temperatures between 47.3-50° F. Kuwait is a relatively flat country, with the Arabian Desert covering most of its territories, and has a peak elevation of 1,004 feet above sea level. Kuwait has nine islands, most of which are uninhabited. The vast majority of Kuwait's population lives in Kuwait City, making Kuwait one of the world's most urbanized countries. Altogether, Kuwait is slightly larger in area than the U.S. state of Hawaii.

K U W A I T

Kuwait suffers from a limited supply of fresh water. As of 2011, there was an estimated .02 km³ of renewable water in the country. One of the ways Kuwait obtains fresh water is through desalination of water in the Persian Gulf. According to the **Water Resources Division of the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research**, desalinated water accounts for 90% of domestic and industrial water needs, and supplies 60% of all general water needs. The country has a **very high consumption of water** at 500 liters per person per day. Between 2005 and 2014, the country invested \$5.28 billion into the water sector. While the government is implementing awareness programs, it is unlikely that the consumption will lower, with the population increasing at almost 1.62% annually.

When Iraq retreated from Kuwait towards the end of the First Gulf War, the Iraqi forces set fire to most of the oil wells in Kuwait. The fires resulted in one of the largest environmental catastrophes caused by mankind. According to NASA, an estimated 1 to 1.5 billion barrels of oil were released into the environment. After most burned, 25 to 40 million barrels ended up spread across the desert and 11 million barrels in the Persian Gulf. The fires burned for ten months, polluting the air. Kuwait's agriculture has yet to recover from the Iraqi invasion of 1990, which destroyed much of the arable land. Today, less than 1% of the land is arable, which poses major problems for the food supply. In an effort to alleviate this, the government has experimented with hydroponics (growing plants using only water) and small-scale farming.

KUWAIT



KUWAIT



Coat of Arms: Kuwait's coat of arms (considered an emblem) was adopted in 1962, and is composed of a golden falcon bearing a shield depicting the national flag.

Within the wings of the falcon (a symbol of the

Banu Quraish line) is a ship sailing over water with Kuwait's full name written above in Arabic.

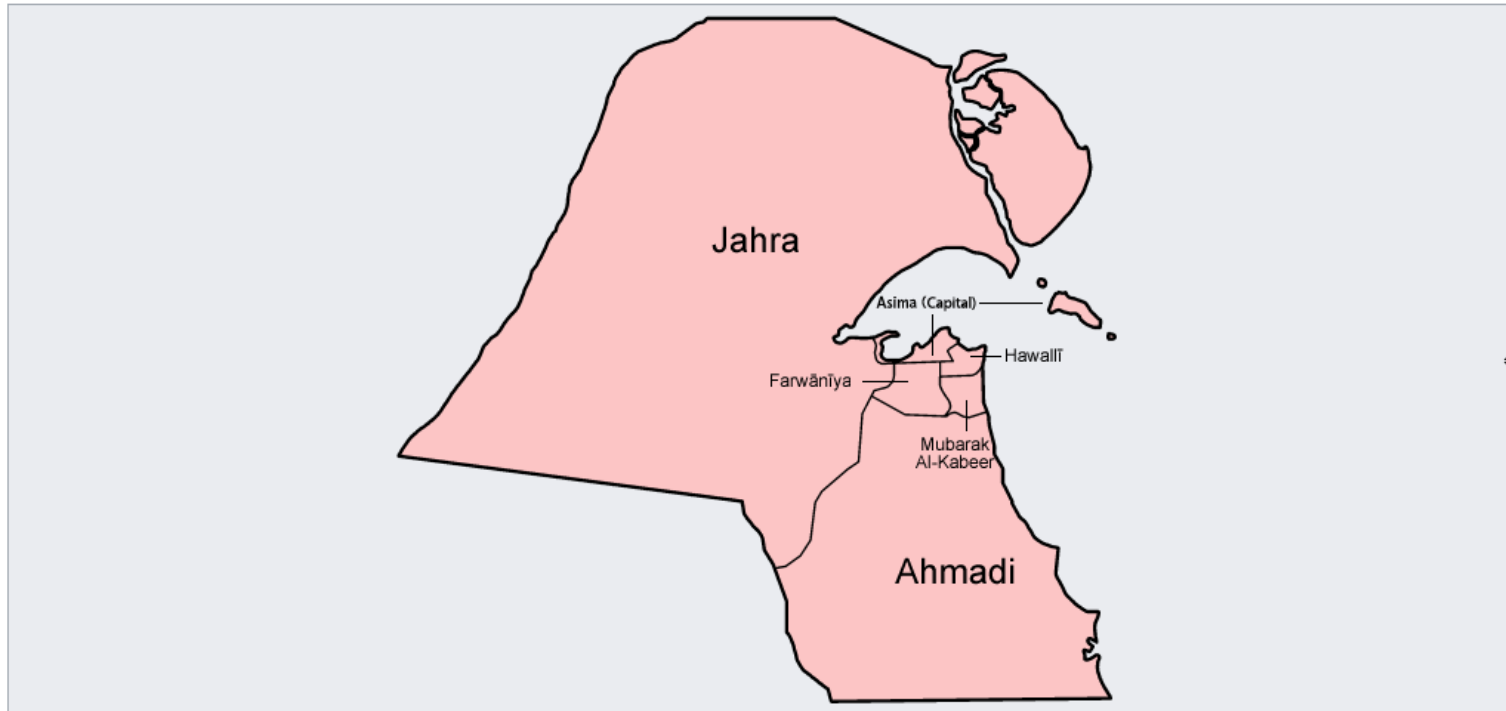
Flag of Kuwait

Flower: *Rhanterium epapposum*

This page was last updated on April 7, 2017.

KUWAIT

Kuwait is divided into 6 **governorates** (*muhafazah*). The governorates are further subdivided into **areas**.



Governorate	Population (June 2017)
1- Al Asimah Governorate (Capital)	568,567
2- Hawalli Governorate	939,792
3- Farwaniya Governorate	1,169,312
4- Mubarak Al-Kabeer Governorate	254,999
5- Ahmadi Governorate	959,009
6- Jahra Governorate	540,910

Source: The Public Authority for Civil Information Statistical Reports. There were also 5,001 people without a stated governorate.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Governorates_of_Kuwait

KUWAIT

Land Area	17,818 km ²
Total Area	17,818km ² (#152)
Population	2,832,776 (#141)
Population Density	158.98/km ²
Government Type	Constitutional Monarchy
GDP (PPP)	\$301.00 Billion
GDP Per Capita	\$71,300
Currency	Dinar (KWD)
More Information	Kuwait
Largest Cities	
Al Ahmadi (637,411)	Al Farwaniyah (86,525)
Hawalli (164,212)	Al Fahahil (68,290)
As Salimiyah (147,649)	Kuwait City (60,064)
Sabah as Salim (139,163)	Ar Rumaythiyah (58,135)
	Ar Riqqah (52,068)
View all cities in Kuwait	

Coastline: 310 miles (499 km)

Land Area:
(*land*) 6,880 sq miles (17,818 sq km)
(*water*) 0 sq miles (0 sq km)
(*TOTAL*) 6,880 sq miles (17,818 sq km)

To convert sq km (kilometers) to sq mi (miles)
[use our converter](#)

Land Area: (all countries)

Land Divisions: 5 governorates in Kuwait, including: Al Ahmadi, Al Farwaniyah, Al 'Asimah, Al Jahra' and Hawalli

Horizontal Width: 56.37 miles (90.71 km) from Al Salemy east to Al Fuhayhil

Vertical Length: 77.84 miles (125.27 km) from Abdali south to Al Wafrah

Note: Lengths and widths are point-to-point, straight-line measurements from a Mercator map projection, and will vary some using other map projections

Bordering Countries: (2) [Iraq](#), [Saudi Arabia](#)

Geographic Center: About 16.58 miles (26.68 km) west of Al Jahrah

Highest Point: unnamed hill 1,003 ft. (306 m)

Lowest Point: [Persian Gulf](#) 0 m

Latitude and Longitude

Relative Location

This page was last updated on April 7, 2017

Most of Kuwait is an entirely flat and dry barren desert of sandy plains. The land (desert) begins to rise slightly in the southwest, along the border with [Saudi Arabia](#).

The country's highest point is an unnamed hill that peaks at 1,003 ft. (306 m).

There are no perennial lakes or rivers.

[Landforms of the Middle East](#)
[Rivers of the Middle East](#)

This page was last updated on April 7, 2017.

KUWAIT



Kuwait City, the capital of Kuwait.

<https://www.worldatlas.com/articles/what-languages-are-spoken-in-kuwait.html>

K U W A I T

What Is The Capital Of Kuwait?

Considered to be a global city, Kuwait City is the capital of Kuwait and also its political, cultural and economic center. Located on the Persian Gulf coast, Kuwait City is home to over 2 million people.

K U W A I T

History Of Kuwait City, The Capital Of Kuwait

Kuwait City began as a fishing village when its first inhabitants arrived in 1613. It was after the arrival of the Bani Utubs in 1714 that the city transformed into a chief trade center of India and the Far East. Its a suitable location on the trade route stretching from Calcutta to Baghdad and Aleppo enabled the city to become a significant stop by 1750. Iraqi merchants fleeing the Persian-besieged Basra settled in the town in 1775, and aimed with trading and boat-building skills, further boosted the city's trade supremacy. Following the Iraqi merchants was the arrival of the British East India Company which made the city the main stop along its trade routes. Kuwait, by the 1880's had earned itself the epithet 'Marseilles of the East', due to its economic prosperity and boat-making supremacy. Its affluence went on well into the 20th century, giving rise to wealthy and powerful families. Kuwait was not spared from the Great Depression, however, and by the 1930s, some of the city's wealthy merchants had left the city because of economic hardship. From 1946 however, the discovery of oil propelled the city into rapid urbanization. Independence from the British Protectorate from 1961 saw Kuwait grow to become the most developed nation in the region. Plummeting oil prices and the invasion of Iraq in the 1990s devastated the city, however, Kuwait city has managed to rebuild itself and become a force to be reckoned with in the Middle East.

<https://www.worldatlas.com/articles/what-is-the-capital-of-kuwait.html>

K U W A I T

Administration And Trade In The Capital City Of Kuwait

Kuwait City is notably the seat of the country's National Assembly. Kuwait City houses government ministries, embassies, Supreme Court, diplomatic missions, and headquarters of national corporations such as Kuwait Petroleum Corporation and Kuwait Airways. Kuwait City is a bustling metropolis and souqs remain one of its prized traditions. The traditional markets of the city trade in oriental items including jewelry and gold, spices, handicrafts and second-hand items. The city is also teeming with western-style shopping centers which resemble others in developed metropolises across the world.

Among the cultural and historical landmarks of the city are the Grand Mosque, National Museum, Tareq Rajab Museum, Museum of Modern Art, the famous Kuwait Towers, Seif Palace and the Al-Hashemi Marine Museum. The city's architectural heritage has made it a major tourist destination in the Middle East.

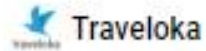
KUWAIT

Ad



Resorts World Genting - First World Hotel

IDR 322k 3.0



VISIT SITE



Considered to be a global city, Kuwait City is the capital of Kuwait and also its political, cultural and economic center. Located on the Persian Gulf coast, Kuwait city is home to over 2 million metropolitan inhabitants. The city is characterized by western architectural buildings such as high-rise office structures, malls and hotels alongside traditional Islamic

architecture as represented in the city's historical landmarks and markets.

HISTORY AND GOVERNMENT



KUWAIT

The **Emir of the State of Kuwait** is the monarch and head of state of Kuwait. It is the most powerful position in the country. The emirs of Kuwait are members of the Al-Sabah dynasty, which originate from the Bani Utbah; a federation of clans in the Arabian Peninsula.



KUWAIT



U.S. President Donald Trump 
welcomes the Amir of Kuwait Sabah Al-
Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah to the White
House, 2018

KUWAIT



مجلس الأمة

The **National Assembly**, is the unicameral legislature of Kuwait. The National Assembly meets in Kuwait City. Members are chosen through direct election; the country is divided into five electoral districts with ten members representing each district. There are no official political parties in Kuwait, therefore

KUWAIT

National Democratic Alliance التحالف الديمقراطي الوطني	
Leader	Bashar AlSayegh
Founded	1992; 27 years ago
Headquarters	 Kuwait City, Kuwait
Newspaper	<i>Al-Jarida</i>
Ideology	Liberalism Secularism National liberalism
Political position	Centre-right
Website	altahalof.org

Popular Action Bloc كتلة العمل الشعبي	
Leader	Ahmed Al-Sadoun
Founded	1992
Headquarters	Kuwait City
Ideology	Populism Nationalism Secularism
Political position	Centre-right

Hadas حدس	
 www.icmkw.org	
Secretary-General	Mohammad al-Olaim
Founded	31 March 1991
Headquarters	Kuwait City
Ideology	Sunni Islamism
Political position	Right-wing
International affiliation	Muslim Brotherhood
Website	www.icmkw.org

National Islamic Alliance التحالف الوطني الإسلامي	
Leader	Adnan Zahid Abdulsamad
Headquarters	Kuwait City
Ideology	Shia Islamism
Political position	Right-wing

Justice and Peace Alliance تحالف العدالة و سلام	
Leader	Saleh Ashour
Headquarters	Kuwait City
Ideology	Moderate Shia

KUWAIT

Current parties

- 1.1 Liberal
- 1.2 Secular
- 1.3 Populist
- 1.4 Youth groups
- 1.5 Sunni Islamist
- 1.6 Shia Islamist

The Constitution of Kuwait supports the existence of political parties, although political parties in Kuwait have not been legalized since independence in 1961. Nonetheless, the constitution itself does not prohibit parties.



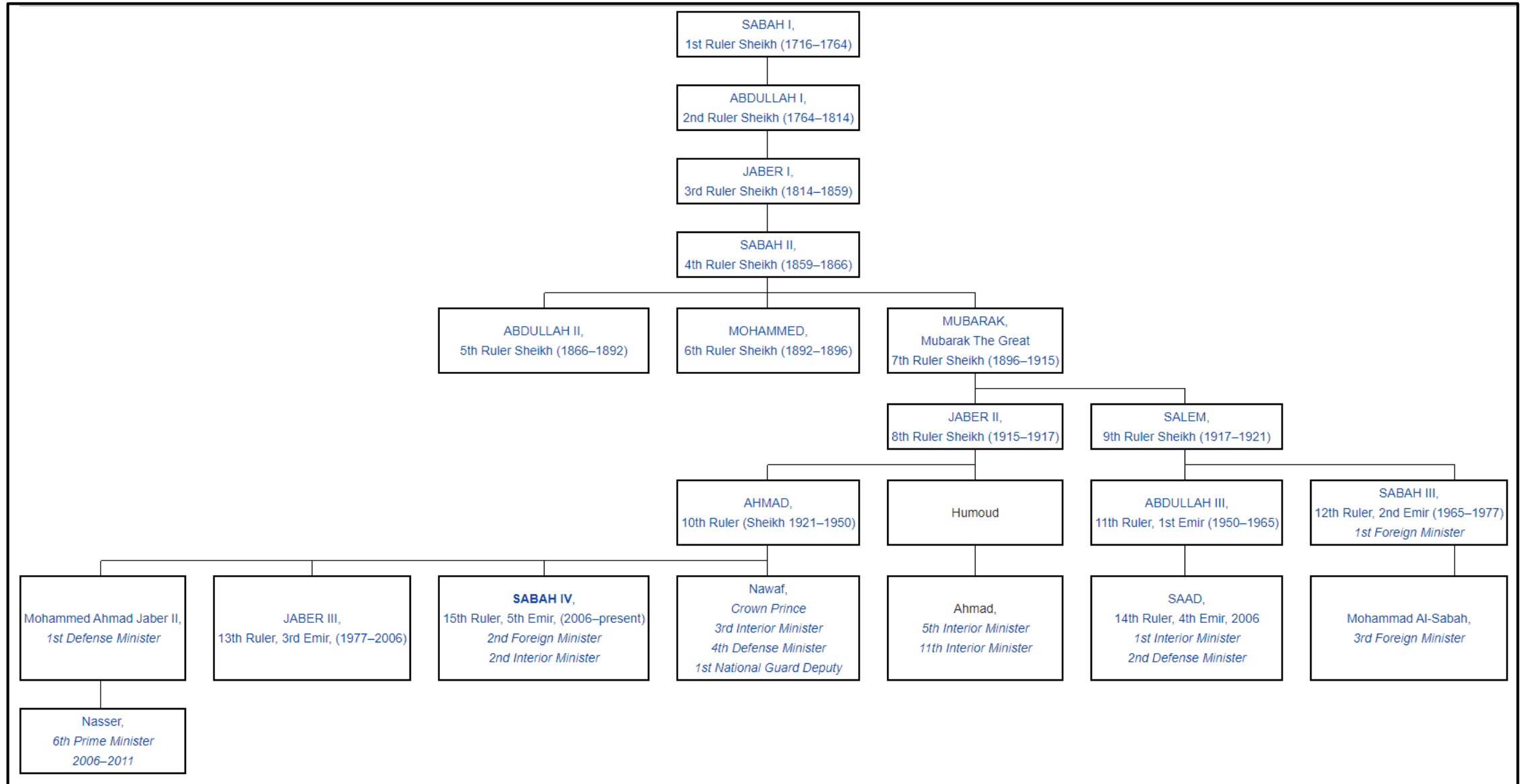
HISTORY & GOVERNMENT

The earliest settlers in Kuwait were Mesopotamians (6,500-3,800 BCE) who lived on Failaka Island, a part of modern-day Kuwait. In the fourth century BCE, the Greeks settled on Failaka under Alexander the Great, and called it Ikaros after the mythical being Icarus and a similar island in the Aegean Sea.

By 123 BCE, the Persian Characene Empire had established itself in the city of Charax in present-day Kuwait. In 224 CE, the Persian Sassanid Empire took control of Charax and ruled until 626 CE, when the Rashidun Caliphate armies defeated them. The Rashidun Caliphate ruled the region for a short time and was replaced by the Ummayyad Caliphate in 661. The area surrounding Charax came to be recognized as a strategic location for Muslim armies due to its proximity to the Persian Gulf; by the 9th century it had also become a well-known trading center. The Portuguese came to the region in 1507, and conquered the area surrounding the Persian Gulf in 1521. Locals began to rise against the Portuguese shortly thereafter and by 1660 the Portuguese were ousted and control of Kuwait was passed into the hands of the indigenous tribes.



KUWAIT



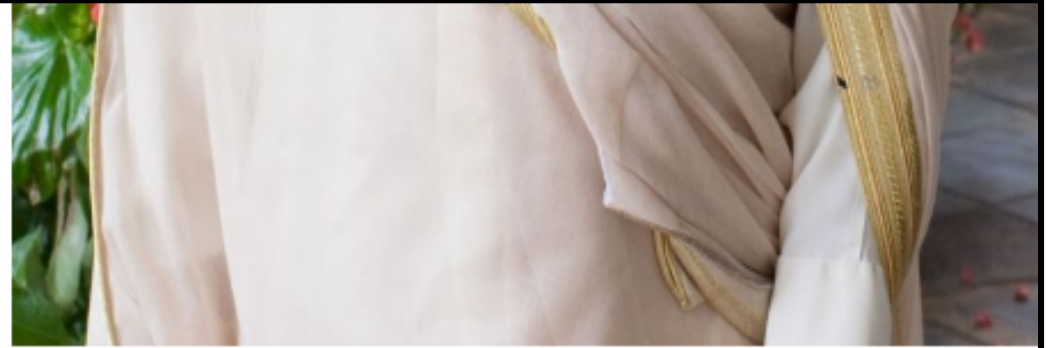
KUWAIT

Rulers [edit]

- 1st Ruler: HH Sheikh Sabah I bin Jaber: 1752–1762
- 2nd Ruler: HH Sheikh Abdullah I: 1763–1814
- 3rd Ruler: HH Sheikh Jaber I: 1814–1859
- 4th Ruler: HH Sheikh Sabah II: 1859–1866
- 5th Ruler: HH Sheikh Abdallah II: 1866–1893
- 6th Ruler: HH Sheikh Muhammad Al-Sabah: 1893–1896
- 7th Ruler: HH Sheikh Mubarak Al-Sabah: 1896–1915
- 8th Ruler: HH Sheikh Jaber II: 1915–1917
- 9th Ruler: HH Sheikh Salim Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah: 1917–1921
- 10th Ruler: HH Sheikh Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah: 1921–1950
- 11th Ruler HH 1st Emir Sheikh Abdullah Al-Salim Al-Sabah: 1950–1965
- 12th Ruler HH 2nd Emir Sheikh Sabah Al-Salim Al-Sabah: 1965–1977
- 13th Ruler HH 3rd Emir Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah: 1977–2006
- 14th Ruler HH 4th Emir Sheikh Saad Al-Salim Al-Sabah: (15–29 January 2006)
- 15th Ruler HH 5th Emir Sheikh Sabah Al-Sabah: (2006–present)

HISTORY AND GOVERNMENT

In 1705 Kuwait was known as Guraine and was home to the Bani Utbah tribe. They founded a small fishing port named Kuwait that became very successful. Much of the port's success was due to its proximity to the pearl banks along the Persian Gulf. The pearls made Kuwait an important stop along Ottoman trade routes that linked the Ottomans to distant markets in India. In 1775, seeking to gain a share of Ottoman wealth in the region, the Persian Empire invaded the rich agricultural region of nearby Basra in present-day Iraq. Many wealthy merchant families escaped to Kuwait after the invasion and Kuwait became a prominent trading hub along the Persian Gulf due to the influx of wealthy merchants. The al-Sabah clan came to Kuwait in the early 18th century and swore allegiance to the Ottoman Empire who, in turn, made the family administrators of Kuwait. Their willingness to cooperate with the Ottomans gained Kuwait partial autonomy from the Empire.



As the British expanded their influence in the Persian Gulf during the 1800s, they looked to incorporate the affluent trading center of Kuwait into the British Empire. The British reached an agreement with the al-Sabah family in 1897, which designated Kuwait and the surrounding desert as a British protectorate. Two years later, the country's leader, Sheikh Mubarak al-Sabah, signed another agreement that gave the British full control over Kuwait's foreign policy. Kuwait continued to drift farther from Ottoman influence and closer to the British in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The British and Ottomans agreed to designate Kuwait as an autonomous region within the Ottoman Empire in 1913, although the British continued to administer Kuwait as a protectorate. After the defeat of the Ottomans in World War I, the British separated Kuwait from the newly created Iraq mandate and drew Kuwait's present-day borders.

HISTORY AND GOVERNMENT

Following Great Britain's loss of its Indian colony in 1947, and the Suez Canal in 1956, there were few benefits in directly administering Kuwait's development as a protectorate. Britain withdrew its influence from the Persian Gulf in the early 1960s. On June 19, 1961, Britain officially declared the independence of Kuwait and named Emir Abdullah Al-Salim Al-Sabah the monarch. In response, Iraqi Prime Minister Abd al-Karim Qasim contested Kuwait's independence and claimed sovereignty over the country due to Kuwait's past incorporation into the Ottoman Empire. By late June 1961, a military confrontation seemed imminent; however, the Iraqi military refrained from invading after Kuwait received significant military support from Saudi Arabia and Britain. After a violent overthrow of Iraqi Prime Minister Qasim in 1963, Iraq declared its acceptance of Kuwait's independence.

The next two decades of Kuwait's history saw significant development of its **petroleum economy** and the decline in the production of pearls, Kuwait's traditional export. The oil found in 1938 was later discovered to be 10% of the world's oil reserves. Emir Sabah Al-Salim Al-Sabah presided over much of the oil industry's development from November 1965 until his death in 1977. The outbreak of the Iran-Iraq War in September 1980 threatened the entire Gulf oil economy, although Kuwait was particularly vulnerable due to its close proximity to the conflict. In response to the war, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Oman established an economic and security alliance known as the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC). The GCC, a collection of majority Sunni states, feared the spread of Shia Islam from the new Islamic Republic of Iran. The GCC gave billions in support of Iraq during the Iran-Iraq war. In response, Iran began attacking oil tankers in the Gulf in an effort to persuade the GCC nations to abandon their support of Saddam Hussein. In order to prevent a collapse of the Gulf oil market, the United States initiated a program called Operation Earnest Will, which provided naval escorts for Kuwaiti ships under Iranian fire.

HISTORY AND GOVERNMENT

Kuwait escaped the conflict with its economy and infrastructure mostly intact. In an effort to offset some of Iraq's losses, Saddam Hussein annexed and invaded Kuwait in August 1990. His military seized Kuwait's oil fields and removed Emir Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah from power. In response, the United Nations authorized a U.S.-led coalition force to expel Hussein and reinstate the emir. The result was Operation Desert Storm, an aerial bombardment campaign and ground invasion that fully expelled the Iraqi army by the end of February 1991. During the retreat, the Iraqis set fire to over 700 oil wells throughout Kuwait, which resulted in \$1.5 billion in damage to Kuwait's economy and widespread pollution. In addition, the war affected Kuwaiti-Palestinian relations, as Kuwait expelled nearly all of its 200,000 Palestinian citizens due to the Palestine Liberation Organization's support for Saddam Hussein during the invasion.

In the 1990s, Kuwait's oil economy rebounded from the invasion with the monetary support of the United States and the other GCC countries. In return, Kuwait provided a critical staging point for the U.S. invasion of Iraq in 2003, which ended the regime of Saddam Hussein. The country housed over 100,000 troops in preparation for the invasion and maintained bases along the border with Iraq. The U.S. Navy also utilized Kuwait's waters to launch airstrikes and bombing campaigns in the lead-up to the initial invasion.

HISTORY AND GOVERNMENT

Emir Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah became the monarch of Kuwait in 2006. In 2008, parliament refused to work with the government citing widespread corruption and Emir Al-Sabah dissolved parliament in response. Three years later the Arab Spring protests began, and created more problems for Kuwait's government. These protests occurred following a move by the emir to refuse a free food grant to the stateless Bedouin people in Kuwait. Many of these people were born in Kuwait, however, their ancestors did not file for citizenship in 1960 when the country was founded. As protests spread over corruption and the lack of citizen status for these groups, Prime Minister Nasser Mohammed Al-Ahmed Al-Sabah resigned and the emir dissolved parliament on December 6, 2011. The country held new parliamentary elections on December 1, 2012, but many cited unfair changes in Kuwait's electoral laws and protested the results. In June 2013, Kuwait's Constitutional Court ordered another dissolution of parliament and Kuwait again elected a new parliament in July 2013. In 2016, the emir once more dissolved parliament after an emergency government meeting; in November elections, opposition groups and their allies from a Muslim Brotherhood-linked group and Salafists won nearly half parliament's 50 seats, raising fears of fresh political wrangling. The move to dissolve parliament for the 4th time since February 2012 was widely seen as **linked to disputes between government and parliament** over austerity measures including a sharp hike in state-subsidized petrol prices.

KUWAIT

The **Constitution of Kuwait** was created by the Constitutional Assembly in 1961–1962 and signed into law on 11 November 1962 by the Emir, the Commander of the Military of Kuwait Sheikh Abdullah III Al-Salim Al-Sabah. The constitution establishes Kuwait as a Hereditary



KUWAIT

Elections in Kuwait are held for both the National Assembly and for the Municipality. Kuwait's constitution calls for elections to the unicameral National Assembly at a maximum interval of four years. Elections are held earlier if the Constitutional Court or Emir dissolve the parliament.



KUWAIT

Parliamentary elections were held in Kuwait on 23 January 1963. A total of 205 candidates contested the 50 seats, with pro-government candidates emerging as the largest bloc. Voter turnout was 85.0%.



KUWAIT

The **Cabinet of Kuwait** is the chief executive body of the State of Kuwait. The current cabinet is the 35th in the history of Kuwait. It was formed on 11 December 2017, after the previous Cabinet resigned on 30 October 2017. The latest reshuffle took place on 25 December 2018.



KUWAIT

The **Cabinet of Kuwait** is the chief executive body of the State of Kuwait. The current cabinet is the 35th in the history of Kuwait.^[1] It was formed on 11 December 2017^[3]. The latest reshuffle took place on 25 December 2018.^[4]

Incumbent	Office	Website	Since
Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah	Prime Minister	www.pm.gov.kw	4 December 2011 – present
Nasser Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah	First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense	www.mod.gov.kw	11 December 2017 – present
Sabah Al-Khalid Al-Sabah	Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs	www.mofa.gov.kw	22 October 2011 – present
Khaled Al Jarrah Al Sabah	Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior	www.moi.gov.kw	4 August 2013 – present
Anas Khalid Al Saleh	Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs	www.cmgs.gov.kw	6 January 2014 – present
Fahad Ali Zaid Al-Shoula	Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs	cms.islam.gov.kw	25 December 2018 – present
Khalid Naser Al-Rodan	Minister of Commerce and Industry	www.moci.gov.kw	10 December 2016 – present
Hamed Mohammed Al-Aazmi	Minister of Education	www.moe.edu.kw	11 December 2017 – present
Khalid Ali Mohammad Al-Fadel	Minister of Electricity and Water	www.mew.gov.kw	25 December 2018 – present
Naif Falah Al-Hajraf	Minister of Finance	www.mof.gov.kw	11 December 2017 – present
Basel Hamoud Al-Hamad Al-Sabah	Minister of Health	www.moh.gov.kw	11 December 2017 – present
Hamed Mohammed Al-Aazmi	Minister of Higher Education	www.mohe.edu.kw	11 December 2017 – present
Mohammad Nasir Al-Jabri	Minister of Information	www.cmgs.gov.kw	11 December 2017 – present
Fahd Mohammed Mohsen Al-Afasi	Minister of Justice	www.moj.gov.kw	11 December 2017 – present
Khalid Ali Mohammad Al-Fadel	Minister of Oil	www.moo.gov.kw	25 December 2018 – present
Jenan Mohsen Hassan Ramadan	Minister of Public Works	www.mpw.gov.kw	25 December 2018 – present
Fahad Ali Zaid Al-Shoula	Minister of State for Municipal Affairs	www.baladia.gov.kw	25 December 2018 – present
Saad Ebrahim Saad Al-Kharaz	Minister of Social Affairs and Labor	www.mosal.gov.kw	25 December 2018 – present
Mariam Egeal Al-Saied Hashem Al-Aqeal	Minister of State for Economic Affairs		25 December 2018 – present
Jenan Mohsen Hassan Ramadan	Minister of State for Housing Affairs	www.housing.gov.kw	11 December 2017 – present
Khalid Naser Al-Rodan	Minister of State for Services Affairs	www.moc.gov.kw	25 December 2018 – present
Fahd Mohammed Mohsen Al-Afasi	Minister of State for National Assembly Affairs	www.mona.gov.kw	25 December 2018 – present
Mohammad Nasir Abdullah Al-Jabri	Minister of State for Youth Affairs	www.youth.gov.kw	26 March 2018 ^[5] – present

{ Adopted on: 11 Nov 1962 }
{ ICL Document Status: 11 Nov 1962 }

[Preamble]

In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful,
We^{Key}, Abdullah al-Salim al-Sabah,
Amir of the State of Kuwait,
desiring to use the means of democratic rule for our dear Country; and,
having faith in the role of this Country in furthering Arab nationalism and the promotion of world peace and
human civilisation; and,
striving towards a better future in which the Country enjoys greater prosperity and higher international
standing, and in which also the citizens are provided with more political freedom, equality, and social
justice, a future which upholds the traditions inherent in the Arab nation by enhancing the dignity of the
individual, safeguarding public interest, and applying consultative rule yet maintaining the unity and stability
of the Country; and, I
having considered Law Number I of 1962 concerning the system of Government during the period of
transition; and,
upon the resolution of the Constituent Assembly;
do hereby approve this Constitution and promulgate it.

Part I The State and System of Government

Article 1 [Sovereignty, Territorial Integrity]

Kuwait is an Arab State, independent and fully sovereign. Neither its sovereignty nor any part of its territory
may be relinquished. The people of Kuwait is a part of the Arab Nation.

Article 2 [State Religion]

The religion of the State is Islam, and the Islamic Sharia shall be a main source of legislation.

Article 3 [Official Language]

The official language of the State is Arabic.

TIME LINE

BC - 1800s AD

(3rd century BC) **Greeks** colonized Faylaka Island

(127 BC) Kingdom of Caaracene was founded within the borders of modern Kuwait and southern **Iraq**

(224 AD) Kuwait became part of the Sassanid Empire

(636) In the Battle of Chains between the Sassanid Empire and Rashidun Caliphate, the Rashidun won and Kuwait came under Muslim control

(700AD) Kuwait became part of the Abbasid empire

(1500s) Kuwait was under **Portuguese** control

(1700s) Settlers from the **Arabian Peninsula** arrived at the site of present day Kuwait City

(1756) Al-Sabah family took control of Kuwait

(1860s - 1890s) Ottoman Empire conquered much of Arabia, Saud family moved to exile in Kuwait

(1899) Kuwait became a **British** protectorate

TIME LINE

1900s

(1913) **Iraq** and Kuwait boundary determined

(1914) **Britain** recognized independence of Kuwait

(1914) Arabia attacked Kuwait

(1922) Neutral zone established between Kuwait and Arabia

(1923) Borders drawn on map between **Iraq** and Kuwait

(1937) Large oil reserves were discovered by the US-British Kuwait Oil Company

(1951) Kuwaiti sheikh controlled half of the oil reserves, Kuwait's infrastructure and welfare services were developed

(1960) Kuwait was one of the founding members of OPEC

(1961) Kuwait became independent with the end of **British** protectorate, the sheikh became an emir

(1961) Kuwait joined Arab League

(1961) Work began on constitution

(1961) **Iraq** renewed claim that Kuwait was part of its territory

(1961) **British** troops arrived in Kuwait to aid against threats from **Iraq**

(1962) New constitution approved, Kuwait became first Arab state in Gulf to establish elected legislature

(1962) Law passed requiring women to obtain husband's signature for issuing of a passport

(1963) National elections were held under the terms of the new constitution

(1963) **Iraq** gave up its claim on Kuwait

(1973) Constitutional Court was established, given exclusive jurisdiction to interpret the constitutionality of legislation and to review electoral contests

(1976) Emir suspended the National Assembly due to failure of acting in the country's best interests

(1980) **Iran-Iraq** war; Kuwait supported **Iraq**

(1981) National Assembly recalled

(1982) Souk al-Manakh (camel market) collapsed which prompted a recession

(1983) Truck bomb exploded at **U.S.** Embassy in Kuwait, five killed 62 wounded

(1985-86) Thousands of **Iranian** expatriates deported due to security concerns about **Iran's** influence over Shi'ite minority

(1987) **U.S.** offered military protection to Kuwaiti ships in **Persian Gulf**

(1987) **Iranian** missile hit **U.S.**-guarded Kuwaiti ship in **Persian Gulf**

(1987) Emir dissolved Parliament

TIME LINE

(1988) Gunmen forced Kuwait Airways jet to land in **Iran** resulting in 15-day hijacking

(1988) **Iraq** re-asserted its claim to Kuwait

(1990) **Iraq** filed complaint with OPEC that Kuwait was stealing its oil, **Iraqi** President Saddam Hussein threatened military action

(1990) Black Thursday - **Iraq** invaded and annexed Kuwait, 330 Kuwaitis died, Emir and Cabinet fled to **Saudi Arabia**

(1990) **Iraq** declared occupied Kuwait as the 19th province of **Iraq**

(1990) **U.S.** assembled 540,000 troops to drive **Iraqi** forces from Kuwait

(1990) **Yemen** refused to endorse action against **Iraq** following invasion; **Saudi Arabia**, Kuwait governments expelled over a million **Yemeni migrant** workers, causing **Yemen** financial distress

(1991) **U.S.** announced start of Operation Desert Storm to drive **Iraqi** forces out of Kuwait

(1991) **Iraqi** forces retreating from their occupation torched oil well in **Persian Gulf**

(1991) UN ordered **Iraq** to pull out of Kuwait. **Iraq** failed to comply. Allied forces led an aerial bombing campaign in Kuwait and **Iraqi**

(1991) **Iraq** continued to explode oil fields in Kuwait

(1991) Kuwait's emir returned, imposed martial law for three months

(1991) **U.S.** and Kuwait signed ten-year security pact

(1991) **Iraq** repealed annexation of Kuwait

(1992) Emir allowed National Assembly elections following domestic and international pressure

(1993) Port and number of oil wells were awarded to Kuwait following UN-established Kuwait-**Iraq** border

(1993) Following **Iraqi** border invasions, **U.S.** troops were dispatched to Kuwait

(1994) **Iraq** officially recognized Kuwait's independence and UN-established borders

(1999) Following feud between MPs and cabinet about misprints in state-published Koran, Emir suspended the National Assembly



TIME LINE

2000s

(2002) Huge oil field fire killed four workers, stopped production of over 600,000 daily barrels

(2003) Thousands of soldiers met on Kuwait-Iraq border for U.S.-led campaign to oust Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein

(2003) Emir appointed Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad al Sabah prime minister, separated post from crown prince for the first time since independence

(2005) Islamist militants and police engaged in deadly gun battles

(2005) New law approved by Parliament allowing women the right to vote and seek seat in Parliament

(2005) Massouma al-Mubarak became the first woman cabinet minister appointed to Parliament

(2006) Emir Sheikh Jaber died, Crown Prince Sheikh Saad succeeded as Emir

(2006) Days after being appointed Emir, Sheikh Saad was removed from office due to failing health, Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad was sworn in as Emir

(2006) Sheikh Sabah named Sheikh Nawaf, his brother, as crown prince and Sheikh Nasser, his nephew, named prime minister

(2006) Women voted for first time

(2006) Women failed to win any seats in first attempt in parliamentary elections

(2006) Emir dissolved parliament, called for early elections

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(2007) Government resigned over no-confidence vote against the health minister

(2007) Sheikh Ali, Oil Minister, resigned

(2007) Government announced it was changing the country's weekend to Friday and Saturday instead of Thursday and Friday

(2007) To meet demands of economic growth due to record oil exports, Kuwaitis were asked to conserve electricity

(2008) Opposition-dominated parliament was dissolved after a political standoff delayed reforms

(2008) Emir called for elections after cabinet resigned over alleged lack of cooperation from MPs

(2008) Radical Islamists won over 50 seats in parliamentary elections

(2008) No women elected to Parliament in elections

(2008) Sheikh Nasser al-Mohammad al-Ahmad appointed prime minister by Emir

(2009) New government formed after parliamentary row over visit by a Shia cleric

(2009) Emir dissolved Parliament after demands to question his nephew and the prime minister about corruption allegations

TIME LINE

Corruption allegations

(2009) Three women won seats in Parliamentary elections

(2009) Court ruled that women MPs were not required to wear the Islamic head cover

(2009) Court ruled that women could obtain passports without husbands' consent

(2010) MPs injured during demonstrations against government plot to change constitution

(2010) Scope TV's studios and equipment were destroyed after it aired shows critical of the ruling family

(2011) Inspired by wave of protests across Arab world, hundreds of young people in Kuwait demonstrated for reforms to change into a constitutional monarchy

(2011) Following protests and showdown over allegations of corruption, Emir dissolved Parliament, replaced prime minister

(2011) **Iraq** and Kuwait pledged to work toward resolving border disputes and debt issues

(2011) Over 3,000 customs officers went on strike demanding better pay and threatening to half oil exports

(2011) Foreign minister resigned amid allegations of high-level corruption

(2012) Islamists took control of parliament in elections

(2012) Emir al-Ahmad blocked a proposal made by members of Parliament to amend the Constitution to make all legislation in the country comply with Islamic law

(2012) Constitutional Court ruled that Parliament had been elected unconstitutionally, restored the previous legislature

(2012) Emir dissolved Parliament, called for second election in the year

(2013) Constitutional Court forced new elections

(2013) Third elections in 17 months took place

(2013) Twitter users in Kuwait and **UAE** received prison sentences in crackdowns on social media for posts deemed to be offensive or against state security

(2014) Emir appealed for donations for fundraising campaign to help **Syrian** people

(2014) Bids worth a total of \$12 billion were approved for major upgrades at two oil refineries

(2014) Opposition called for major reforms, including institution of political parties and limiting ruling family's power

TIME LINE

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I N V A S I I R A Q

On this day in 1990, at about 2 a.m. local time, Iraqi forces invade Kuwait, Iraq's tiny, oil-rich neighbor. Kuwait's defense forces were rapidly overwhelmed, and those that were not destroyed retreated to Saudi Arabia. The emir of Kuwait, his family, and other government leaders fled to Saudi Arabia, and within hours Kuwait City had been captured and the Iraqis had established a provincial government. By annexing Kuwait, Iraq gained control of 20 percent of the world's oil reserves and, for the first time, a substantial coastline on the Persian Gulf. The same day, the United Nations Security Council unanimously denounced the invasion and demanded Iraq's immediate withdrawal from Kuwait. On August 6, the Security Council imposed a worldwide ban on trade with Iraq.

On August 9, Operation Desert Shield, the American defense of Saudi Arabia, began as U.S. forces raced to the Persian Gulf. Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein, meanwhile, built up his occupying army in Kuwait to about 300,000 troops. On November 29, the U.N. Security Council passed a resolution authorizing the use of force against Iraq if it failed to withdraw by January 15, 1991. Hussein refused to withdraw his forces from Kuwait, which he had established as a province of Iraq, and some 700,000 allied troops, primarily American, gathered in the Middle East to enforce the deadline.

KUWAIT



<https://www.worldatlas.com/articles/what-is-the-capital-of-kuwait.html>

INTERNATIONAL & REGIONAL ISSUES

Kuwait has few ongoing international disputes. Together with Saudi Arabia, Kuwait continues to negotiate the maritime boundaries with Iran which remains unsettled. Since the conclusion of the Gulf War, Kuwait has made efforts to secure and maintain allies throughout the world. In addition to the United States, defense arrangements have been concluded with Russia, the United Kingdom, and France. Close ties to other key Arab members have also been sustained, particularly with the other GCC nations.

Secretaries-General [edit]

Tenure	Name	Country
26 May 1981 – April 1993	Abdullah Bishara ^[46]	Kuwait
April 1993 – April 1996	Fahim bin Sultan Al Qasimi ^[47]	United Arab Emirates
April 1996 – 31 March 2002	Jamil Ibrahim Hejailan ^[48]	Saudi Arabia
1 April 2002 – 31 March 2011	Abdul Rahman bin Hamad Al Attiyah ^[49]	Qatar
1 April 2011 – present	Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani	Bahrain







KUWAIT



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gulf_Cooperation_Council

KUWAIT

There are six [member states](#) of the union:

Flag	Common name	Official name		Type of government
		in English	in romanized Arabic	
	Bahrain	Kingdom of Bahrain	<i>Mamlakat al-Baḥrayn</i>	Constitutional monarchy
	Kuwait	State of Kuwait	<i>Dawlat al-Kuwayt</i>	Parliamentary system, Constitutional monarchy
	Oman	Sultanate of Oman	<i>Saltanat 'Uman</i>	Absolute monarchy
	Qatar	State of Qatar	<i>Dawlat Qaṭar</i>	Absolute monarchy
	Saudi Arabia	Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	<i>Al-Mamlaka al-'Arabiyya as-Su'ūdiyya</i>	Absolute monarchy
	United Arab Emirates	United Arab Emirates	<i>Al-Imārāt al-'Arabīyah al-Muttaḥidah</i>	Federal monarchy ^a

^a Elective by monarchs *de jure*, hereditary *de facto*.

KUWAIT



The **invasion of Kuwait** on 2 August 1990 was a two-day operation conducted by Iraq against the neighboring State of Kuwait, which resulted in the seven-month-long Iraqi occupation of the country. This invasion and Iraq's subsequent refusal to withdraw from Kuwait by a deadline mandated by the U

KUWAIT

The **Gulf War**, codenamed **Operation Desert Shield** for operations leading to the buildup of troops and defense of Saudi Arabia and **Operation Desert Storm** in its combat phase, was a war waged by coalition forces from 35 nations led by the United States against Iraq in respons



HISTORY AND GOVERNMENT



Secretariat General
of
The Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf
GCC



State of Kuwait



25 September 2019

The GCC and the Republic of India held a Session of Talks.

HISTORY AND GOVERNMENT

ECONOMY

Kuwait's economy is largely dependent on trade. Imports and exports make up around 99% of the total GDP. Like the other Gulf States, Kuwait is in need of diversifying its economy. The country invests heavily abroad, particularly in the UK, and they encourage foreign direct investment into their own country as well, although the Government of Kuwait has a right to screen any foreign investment. Currently petroleum accounts for over half of GDP, 92% of export revenues, and 90% of government income. Kuwait's stock exchange was privatized in 2016.

The Kuwaiti government subsidizes many of the basic services for its citizens, including the cost of water, food, fuel, and healthcare. Often, this has resulted in overuse and waste of products within Kuwait. When the subsidies have been cut, however, as was the case for fuel subsidies in 2015, there has been widespread outrage among the public and National Assembly (parliament), leading to strikes and even the dissolution of the National Assembly by the emir.

K U W A I T

Economy Of Kuwait City

The sea ports of Kuwait City were particularly important for the country's trade in Petroleum and fertilizers. Kuwait City houses multiple corporate offices, banks, and headquarters of the large financial institutions such as the Kuwait Stock Exchange. The Kuwaiti dinar has earned itself supremacy as the highest-valued currency unit in the world and most of the city's inhabitants subsequently pride in a high living standard. The Central Bank of Kuwait is located in the city as is the Kuwait International Airport, which is a world-class airport in the Middle East.

KUWAIT

Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) is a non-government institution representing business establishments in Kuwait. The Chamber acts on the behalf of, represents and lobbies for the interests of businesspersons and industrialists in Kuwait.



KUWAIT



The **Kuwaiti dinar** is the currency of Kuwait. It is sub-divided into 1,000 fils. The Kuwaiti dinar is, as of September 2019, the world's highest-valued currency unit per face value.



KUWAIT



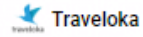
The Grand Mosque in Kuwait City, Kuwait.

<https://www.worldatlas.com/articles/what-is-the-capital-of-kuwait.html>

Ad



Resorts World Genting - First World Hotel
IDR 322k 3.0



VISIT SITE



Kuwait is a country in Western Asia with a population of about 4.2 million people. This population includes about 1.3 million Kuwaitis and 2.9 million expatriates. Thus, Kuwait is one of the few countries in the world in which expats make up the majority of the population.

A vast majority of Kuwait's population practice Islam, which is the country's official religion. According to the CIA World Factbook, Muslims account for 76.7% of Kuwait's total population. Most of Kuwait's Muslims adhere to Sunni Islam, although there is also a small but significant Shia Muslim community. Christians in Kuwait represent 17.3% of the population, while the remainder of the population, especially expats from foreign countries, follow other religions or do not claim affiliation with any particular religion. The followers of these other religions include Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, and Bahá'ís.

However, these percentages have been calculated on the basis of the total population, where about 69% of the population is represented by immigrants to Kuwait. Thus, the figures might vary considerably if only Kuwaiti citizens are considered to comprise the population of the country.

K U W A I T

SOCIETY

Kuwait has a population of around 4 million people, and the largest ethnic group in Kuwait is Arabs. Kuwaiti Arabs make up 31.3% of the population and other non-Kuwaiti Arabs constitute 27.9%. Asians and other ethnic groups make up the remainder of the population with Asians representing roughly 37%. **Kuwait's population is increasing** at a rate of 2.9%, which is relatively high in comparison to most other Middle Eastern nations. Kuwait was a destination for Palestinian refugees who moved to Kuwait for employment in various industries. Some 80,000 Palestinian refugees are in Kuwait but there were upwards of 400,000 before the Gulf War; many fled due to the negative backlash caused by the PLO's support of Saddam Hussein in the conflict.

Kuwait's constitution states that education is a fundamental right of every citizen. Schools in Kuwait consist of four levels: kindergarten (2 years), primary (5 years), intermediate (4 years) and secondary (3 years). The primary and intermediate levels are compulsory, so school is mandatory for children 6-14 years of age. The government encourages students to continue education after their secondary year and students have the option of going to vocational school or university. Kuwait University is a public university established in 1966. Originally, it only had two colleges: a college of science, arts, and education, and a college for women. There are now 16 different colleges as well as graduate programs. The Australian College of Kuwait was Kuwait's first private technical college and offers courses in vocational skills. In addition, the government sponsors citizens studying abroad, offering scholarships and stipends, particularly in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) fields. Consequently, there is a large population of Kuwaitis who study in America, and elsewhere, and then return to Kuwait.

KUWAIT



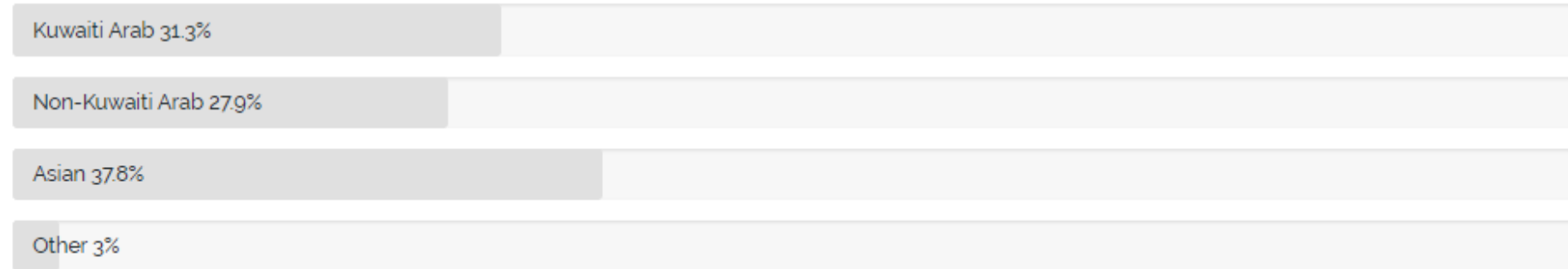
The **Bani Utbah** is a tribal confederation of Arab clans, which originated from Najd. The federation is thought to have been formed when a group of clans migrated to the Persian Gulf coast in the 16th century. **Utub** is the plural form, while the singular form is **Utbi**. The current ruling families of Bahrain and

KUWAIT

The literacy rate in Kuwait is 96.3%. Men are slightly more literate than women (96.5% vs. 95.8%), although men spend less time in school than women (13 years vs. 15 years). The Kuwaiti government provides free state-run education for all children. This free education includes food at school, clothing, transportation, and books. Schools below the university level are typically segregated by gender, but offer the same programs.

Kuwait ranks 51st on the Human Development Index. Most Kuwaiti nationals are employed by the government, and enjoy short working days and early retirement.

Demographics in Kuwait



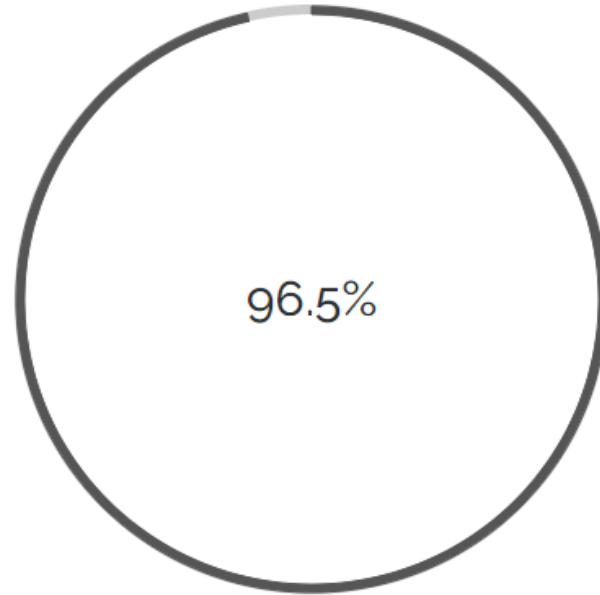
KUWAIT

Population of Kuwait according to nationality

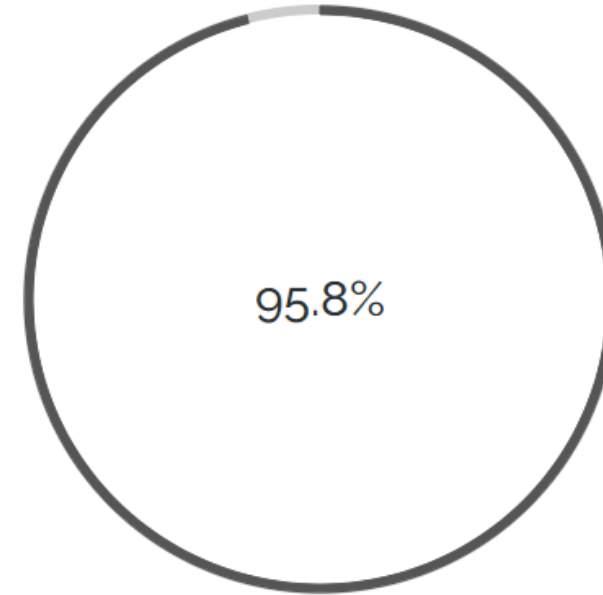
census year	Kuwaiti		non-Kuwaiti		Total	Change
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
1975	307,755	30.9	687,082	69	994,837	-
1985	470,473	35	1,226,828	65	1,697,301	70.6
1995	653,616	41.5	921,954	58.5	1,575,570	-7.2
2005	860,324	39.2	1,333,327	60.8	2,193,651	39.2
2011	1,089,969	36	1,975,881	64	3,065,850	39.8
2013	1,403,962	33	2,291,354	67	3,695,316	20

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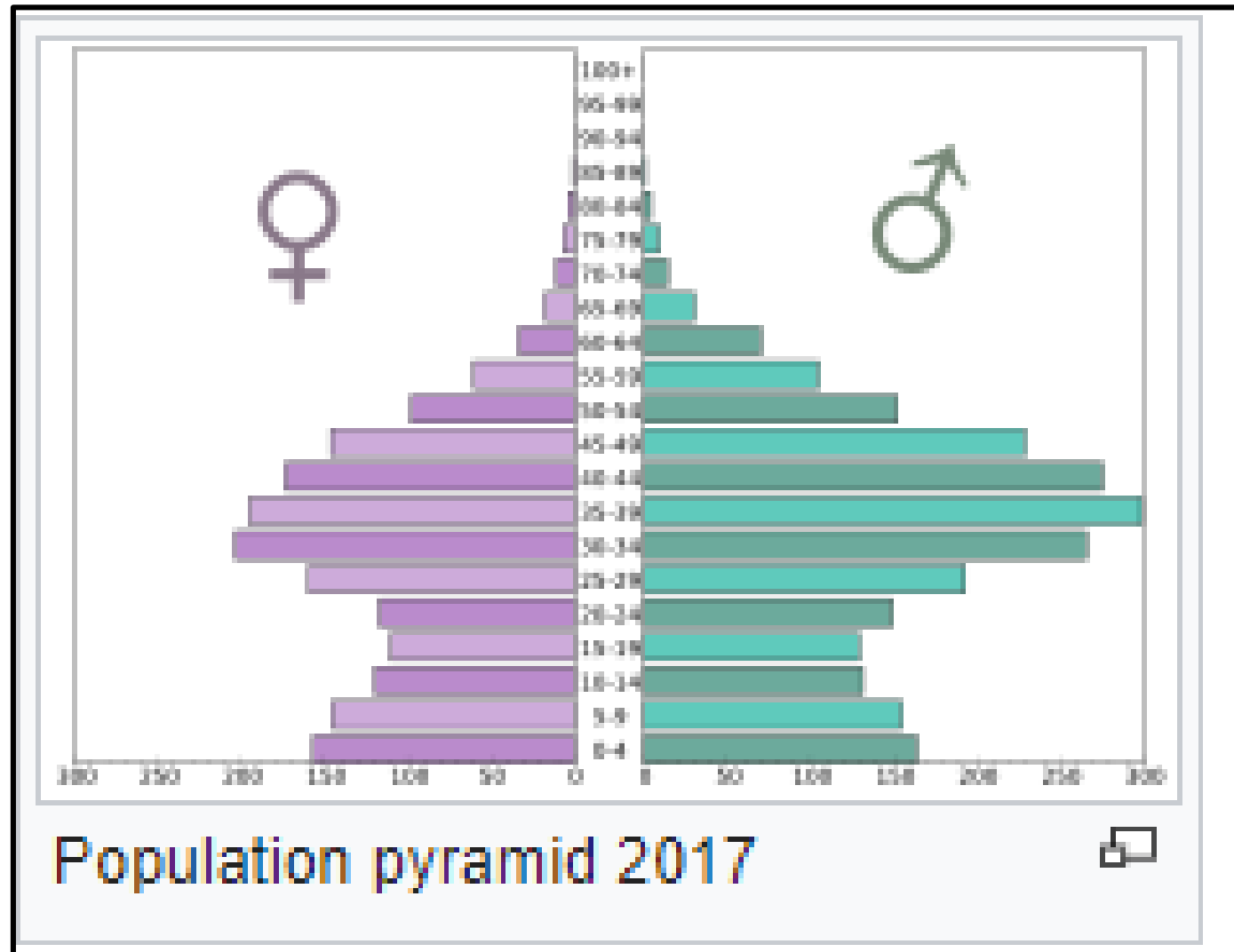


Literacy Rate in Kuwait (Men)



Literacy Rate in Kuwait (Women)

KUWAIT



KUWAIT

Life expectancy [edit]

Period	Life expectancy in Years	Period	Life expectancy in Years
1950–1955	53.6	1985–1990	71.6
1955–1960	58.3	1990–1995	72.4
1960–1965	62.0	1995–2000	73.0
1965–1970	64.9	2000–2005	73.3
1970–1975	67.1	2005–2010	73.7
1975–1980	68.7	2010–2015	74.3
1980–1985	70.3		

Source: *UN World Population Prospects*^[11]

KUWAIT

SOCIETY

What Is The Ethnic Composition Of Kuwait?

Kuwaitis account for 30.4% of the population of Kuwait.

As of 2019, the population of Kuwait was estimated at 4.2 million, representing a 100% increase compared to 2.1 million in 2005. About 70% of the population of Kuwait is made up of expatriates. Indians and Egyptians make up the largest expat community. While the number of native Kuwaitis rise by about 3% annually, the expat population is increasing at more than 6%. Native ethnic groups of Kuwait include Arabs from Iraq, eastern Arabia and Bahrain, ethnic Persians, and the Baharna people. A quarter of the Kuwaiti population is below the age of 15 while 21% is between 15 and 24. The median age of the country is 29 years.

KUWAIT

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KUWAIT

Expat Population

There are more than 1.1 million Arabs and over 1.4 million Asians in Kuwait. The government rarely issues citizenship to foreigners, but the high per capita income and affordable cost of living has turned the local population into an ineffective labor force. Organizations, including the government import labor, especially for menial jobs. Apart from the high level of non-nationals, there are over 100,000 stateless people in the country. This group mainly consists of immigrants from Iraq, Syria, and Saudi Arabia who are trying to claim Kuwaiti citizenship. In 2013, the government passed a law to grant 4,000 stateless people citizenship to solve the problem, but the Immigration Department delayed the procedure, claiming that some people had destroyed their documents to claim citizenship.

KUWAIT

Quality Of Life And Life Expectancy In Kuwait

Kuwait has a low infant and maternal mortality rates as well as high life expectancy of 78.2 years. The maternal mortality rate is 4 per 100,000 live births, while the infant mortality rate is 7 per 1,000 live births. The fertility rate is 2.4 per woman. It is estimated that the fertility rate will drop to 2.1 by 2035, while the youthful population will also decline significantly.

What Is The Ethnic Composition Of Kuwait?

Rank	Ethnic group	Percentage of total population
1	Kuwaiti	30.4%
2	other Arab	27.4%
3	Asian	40.3%
4	African	1%
5	Others (includes European, North American, South American, and Australian)	9%

KUWAIT



People walk in Kuwait City, Kuwait. Editorial credit: Matyas Rehak / Shutterstock.com.

<https://www.worldatlas.com/articles/what-is-the-ethnic-composition-of-kuwait.html>

KUWAIT

The Largest Religion in Kuwait

It is estimated that between 85% and 95% of Kuwaiti citizens are Sunni Muslims, while between 5% and 15% are Shias. Other Islamic sects also have small populations in Kuwait. Among non-citizens of Kuwait, there are about 100,000 Shias. However, no estimate of the number of Sunnis among non-citizens exists.

Christianity in Kuwait

Christianity is the largest minority religion in Kuwait. The country is one of only two countries in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) that have non-Muslim citizens. However, most of the country's Christians are non-Kuwaiti immigrants, and there were only 259 Christian citizens in Kuwait in 2014. This group can be divided into two sub-groups based on their origin. The first group, which makes up about one-quarter of Kuwait's Christian population, arrived in Kuwait from Turkey and Iraq, and are now well-integrated in Arabic society, speak Arabic, and adhere to the local culture and cuisine. The remaining Christian Kuwaitis arrived more recently from Palestine during the 1950s and 1960s. A few Christian Kuwaitis also trace their origins to Lebanon and Syria.

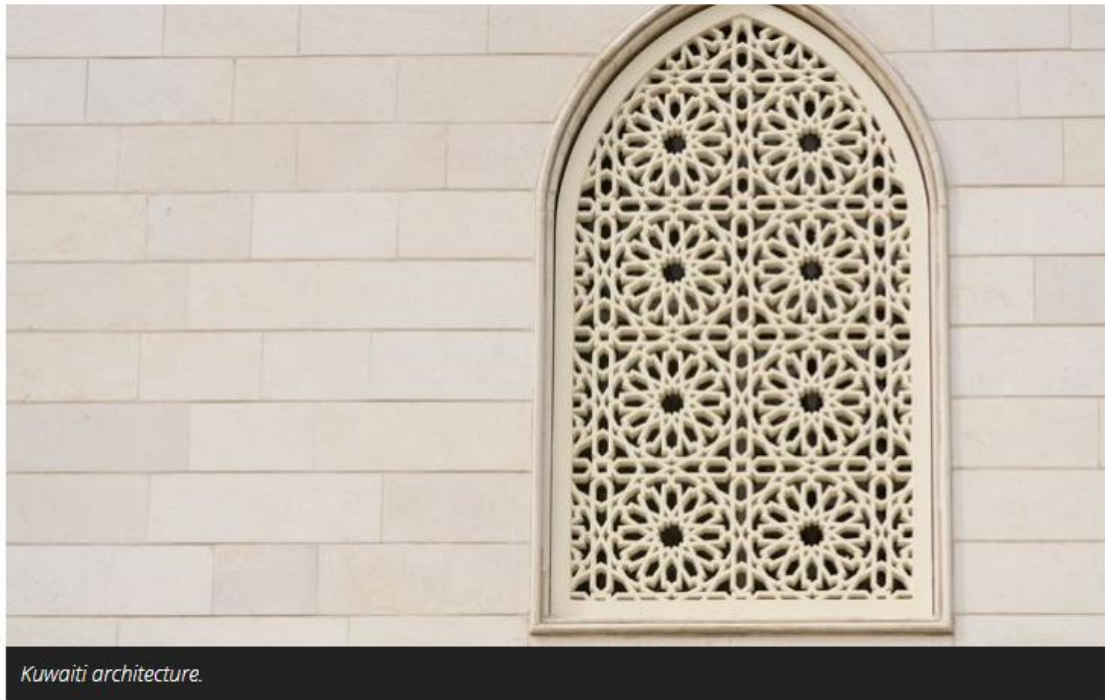
Religious Freedom and Tolerance in Kuwait

Kuwait's constitution is considered to be the most liberal of all GCC member states. However, attempts to strictly Islamize the state have been made several times before. The Kuwaiti society is generally considered to be diverse and liberal, and it is this liberal nature that allows a large population of expats from different religious backgrounds to work and live in Kuwait.

KUWAIT

The Culture Of Kuwait

Kuwait has a thriving art scene and features more than 30 art galleries.



Kuwaiti architecture.

Kuwait is a country located in Western Asia, on the northeast part of the Arabian Peninsula. Officially, the State of Kuwait has a population of approximately 4.2 million inhabitants, of which only 1.3 million are Kuwaitis, while the remainder are migrant workers from other countries. Ethnic Kuwaitis and other Arab populations account for 30.4% and 27.4% of Kuwait's population, respectively. Various Asian populations represent a combined 40.3%, and the country also has small populations from Africa, the Americas, and Australia. Islam is the official and predominant religion in Kuwait, as it is practiced by 74.6% of the population. Christianity is the second most common religion, and is practiced by 18.2% of the population.

KUWAIT

Kuwaiti Cuisine



Malaysia Airlines Travel Fair

Travel from IDR2,020Mil with our great offers. Book by 29 Sep.

Malaysia Airlines

BOOK NOW

Kuwaiti cuisine has been influenced by Arabian, Mediterranean, Persian, and Indian cuisines. Seafood, especially fish, rice, and bread are the staples of Kuwaiti cuisine. For example, the traditional Kuwaiti flatbread, called khubz, is baked in a special oven and topped with sesame seeds and usually served with fish sauce. Other popular dishes of

Kuwaiti cuisine include biryani (seasoned rice cooked with lamb or chicken), maglooba (rice cooked with potatoes, eggplant, and meat), harees (wheat and meat cooked together, mashed, and topped with cinnamon sugar), machboos (a dish of fish, mutton or chicken, served with rice cooked in the same spiced broth), and gabout (steamed flour dumplings stuffed with cooked meat or vegetables and served with meat stew). Arabic coffee, karak tea, dried lime tea, and sharbat are examples of some of the popular beverages in Kuwait.

KUWAIT

Literature and the Arts

Written literature in Kuwait developed relatively recently. Historically, oral literary traditions prevailed, as folk tales and legends were passed down orally from one generation to the next. However, during the 20th century, several eminent writers emerged in Kuwait, writing novels, poetry, and history. For example, Ismail Fahd Ismail, Taleb al-Refai, and Laila al-Othman are some of the noted contemporary Kuwaiti writers.

Calligraphy has a long history in Kuwait. In fact, Arabic calligraphy is one of the acceptable forms of artistic expression in Kuwait, and is regarded as sacred in Islam.

Kuwait has a thriving art scene and houses over 30 art galleries. Mojeb al-Dousari, a Kuwaiti artist, is regarded as the founder of portrait art in the Gulf region. Art festivals like the Al Qurain Cultural Festival are held in the country to encourage Kuwaiti artists.

KUWAIT

Performing Arts in Kuwait

Kuwait is the birthplace of many musical genres that are currently popular in the Middle East. The country's music has influenced the music culture of many of the neighboring nations. The maritime influence has also shaped the music of the nation. For example, Fijiri (vocal music sung by the pearl divers) and swat (a form of urban music played using a drum, a plucked lute, and in later years, also a violin) are some music genres that originated in Kuwait. Various music festivals are held in the country, and musical education is provided by many academic institutions in Kuwait. Today, contemporary Kuwaiti music is popular throughout the Arab world.

Kuwait is the only country in the Persian Gulf with a domestic tradition of theater. The country's cultural life is portrayed by its theater, and Abdulhussain Abdulredha is one of the prominent actors of Kuwaiti theater. The Higher Institute of Theatrical Arts in Kuwait provides higher degrees in theatrical arts, and the country has become the center of the television, comedy and drama scene within the Persian Gulf. In fact, Kuwait has been nicknamed the "Hollywood of the Gulf." Soap operas originating from Kuwait have high viewership across the Persian Gulf region.

<https://www.worldatlas.com/articles/the-culture-of-kuwait.html>

Life in Kuwaiti Society

Laws and customs in Kuwait define and enforce a division of labor by gender. However, women in Kuwait participated in the workforce more than any other country in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC). Females are often employed in academic, social service or clerical positions, while business leaders, managers, and top-level administrators are male. Nevertheless, the rights and freedoms of women in Kuwait are improving. Women gained the right to vote in 2005, and younger Kuwaiti women are more educated and more prominent in the country's commercial and social circles than the previous generations.

Marriages are mostly arranged and women usually need their father's permission to marry. Women cannot marry non-Muslim men, while men are allowed this freedom. The prevailing religious laws also allow men to have up to four wives at one time.

Families are usually extended and residence is patrilocal in nature (living with the husband's family). Inheritance is based on Islamic law, which allows both genders to inherit the property of their parents.

Mothers and other female members of the household are assigned the task of childcare. Education is free for children between ages six and fourteen, but schools are usually segregated by gender.

Honor, respect, and reputation are considered to be basic foundations of Kuwaiti. Interactions between members of the opposite sex are highly restricted, and public displays of affection are frowned upon. However, members of the same sex can interact. Men often shake hands with each other upon greeting and before departure.

KUWAIT

Culture

In the Arab world Kuwait is known as the "Hollywood of the Gulf" because it produces popular television shows and theater productions which are distributed and enjoyed throughout the Gulf. Kuwait is well known for its tradition of theater, though other Gulf countries have followed suit with their own performance art industries including opera and theater. The theatrical movement in Kuwait constitutes a major part of the country's cultural life. Abdulhussain Abdulredha is one of the most prominent actors from Kuwait.

Food

Seafood is a staple in the Kuwaiti diet, and has been for centuries. The most famous Kuwaiti dish may be *Machboos*, a dish of rice and meat (usually lamb, chicken or fish) served with a homemade tomato sauce called *daqqus*. The meat is seasoned with an assortment of spices. Iranian *khubz is* a flatbread served in Kuwait. It is a large flatbread baked in a special oven. Kuwait has a strong local presence of bakeries, and Iranian bakers are common.

The majority of Kuwait's food is imported from other nations, due to the low availability of arable land. As a result of the often processed foods that are imported from far away, Kuwait has a high prevalence of obesity and diabetes.

Clothing

Most Kuwaiti men wear a *dishdasha*, which is a long-sleeved, floor length garment. In the summer they will typically wear white, while gray, beige or blue is common in the winter. Long or short white cotton pants are worn under the dishdasha.

The Kuwaiti male headdress consists of a *gahfiya* (a close fitting knit white cap) and the *gutra* (the main cloth). The gutra is a square piece of cloth that is placed so that the ends hang down equally over the shoulders. The gutra is usually white in the summer, and red and white in the winter.

There is much more variety in dress when it comes to women in Kuwait. The traditional Kuwaiti woman wears a long-sleeved, loose, floor length dress known as a *daraa*. On festive occasions it is often covered with a sheer, sequined or embroidered dress called a thobe. For everyday activities the abaya is popular, as with neighboring Gulf states. Muslim women in Kuwait wear a hijab.

Women of Bedouin origin often cover their face more fully, wearing a niqab or a *bushiya* (a semi-transparent veil that covers the entire face).

K U W A I T

Official Language Of Kuwait

Modern Standard Arabic in Kuwait is mainly used in education and journalism. The spoken form of Arabic has evolved depending on the region where it is used. Gulf Arabic is the variant used in Kuwait and more specifically Kuwaiti Arabic. Kuwaiti Arabic features loan words from Indian, English, Persian, Turkish, and Italian due to trade and immigration. There are some differences between the dialects used in Kuwait's rural and urban areas. Kuwaiti Arabic is locally known as Khaliji, Khamseh, and Al Hasaa in other Arab nations. Pupils are instructed in Modern Standard Arabic in Kuwait's public schools as well as private Arabic schools which inform their everyday use of Kuwaiti Arabic. At university levels, lectures are instructed in Arabic for courses with historical or religious focus. Official documents, magazines, books, and newspapers feature Modern Standard Arabic.

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Art

Traditionally, art in Kuwait has focused on calligraphy based on Quranic writings or abstract art due to Islamic beliefs. The representation of people in art is seen by some religious authorities as a form of idolatry for Muslims. However, there is a vibrant contemporary arts movement taking place in the country. [ArtKuwait.org](#) is a blog that monitors the arts scene there with information on museums and galleries, exhibits, initiatives, and notable artists. The website features the Abolish 153 Initiative which seeks to remove article 153 from Kuwait's penal code. Article 153 effectively gives men regulatory, judicial and executive power over their female kin in cases where alleged sexual misconduct is accused; men who kill female relatives are charged with misdemeanors. The movement is bringing attention to gender inequality and violence through arts and other creative channels.

Folk arts are also popular in Kuwait. Bedouin women weave camel hair, goat hair, and wool into long strips called *qatas*. These strips are then woven into rugs or curtains used to divide a tent. The Kuwaiti Society of Formative Artists; the National Council of Culture, Arts, and Literature; and the Free Art Studio all promote visual art in Kuwait and are active in assisting local artists by displaying their work or granting them scholarships.

The Kuwait National Museum was the original home of Dar al-Athar al-Islamiyyah, an organization founded to create an exhibition from the collection of Sheikh and Sheikha al-Sabah in 1983. The collection contains many objects from the history of Islam. In 1990 the museum was looted by the Iraqi forces and everything was taken. Most of the collection has since been recovered, although many objects have been damaged.

Literature & Film

Kuwait is known as the "Hollywood of the Gulf", as mentioned previously. The reputation stems for its tradition of theater, but in modern times Kuwait is perhaps most known for its numerous soap operas, which are aired all over the Gulf. In fact, most Gulf television dramas are filmed in Kuwait and they are home to the most-watched soap operas in the Gulf region.

Music

The Kuwaiti government kept examples and records of music throughout its history until most of these records were destroyed during the Iraqi invasion in the early 1990s. Women, mostly in private settings, perform traditional music in Kuwait which sets it apart from the other Gulf States.

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Sites



Kuwait is home to ruins from ancient civilizations. Failaka Island houses the barest remnants of Dilmun culture, which date back to the third century BCE. There are ongoing archaeological digs on the island; a few of the sites are Al-Khidir, Al-Quraniya, and Al-Qusur. These digs have revealed the foundations of various structures and some pottery.

Sweco, a water distribution company in Kuwait, built the Kuwait Towers, a popular tourist attraction that contains a mixture of contemporary western and traditional Islamic architecture. The combination of the two separate styles is seen as a sign of the progressive nature of Kuwaiti society. There are three different towers, two of which are water towers. The tallest holds 4,500 cubic meters of water and has a restaurant at the top. The middle tower is just a water tower, holding the same amount of water as the tallest, and the third and shortest tower houses electrical equipment for the other two towers.

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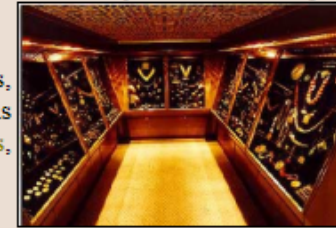
Tareq Rajab Museum

Kuwait



The **Tareq Rajab Museum** houses a collection of over thirty thousand items collected over the last fifty years, of which approximately ten thousand are on permanent display. Tareq Sayed Rajab was the first Kuwaiti to be sent abroad to study art and archaeology. While a student in the United Kingdom, he met his future wife, Jehan Wellborne, who from her childhood was interested in folklore and particularly the arts and life of exotic peoples and minorities. They got married in 1955 and after their return to Kuwait; Mr. Rajab was appointed as the first Director of the Department of Antiquities and Museums of Kuwait. He resigned from his post in 1969 and together with his wife opened the New English School for Kuwaiti and foreign children. By then they were already involved in collecting material for a future Museum of their own. They travelled all over the Islamic world and beyond to Central and South-East Asia and the Far East, collecting artefacts and photographing monuments, peoples, their customs, everything they believed could be used and exhibited in a museum. As a result of their hard work and research, they were able to open the Museum to the public in 1980.

The Museum is divided into two parts: in Area A, **calligraphy, manuscripts, miniatures, ceramics, metalwork, glass, jade-, wood- and stone-carvings** are exhibited. Area B contains objects which were produced in the Islamic world during the last ca. 250 years, i.e. **costumes, textiles, jewellery and musical instruments**.



In August 1990 and within the first week of the Invasion one side of the Museum had to be hurriedly but carefully packed away into any available boxes. These were then placed behind a convenient space which was blocked off. It was impossible to do much with the other side of the Museum with its textiles, musical instruments, jewellery and costumes, owing to lack of containers and mainly space. With the Iraqi army ceaselessly circling around every road and ready to be interested in any kind of activity, the best that could be managed was to separate each side from the other and then as far as possible block each one off.

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The steps leading down in to the Museum with their show cases were left as they were, anything of a vaguely "Museum". The great wooden Indian door facing onto the street were securely locked and bolted.



The reference library with its rare books and magazines pertaining to the Arab/Islamic world was blocked off from the main buildings as well. As it adjoined the empty side of the Museum that portion was reopened during the Air War for the neighbours to use as a bomb shelter if needed. The museum storage area in the upper part of the building was blocked away and the rest was Gods will. It was decided that the Museum would reopen its doors once again in September 1991.

In 2001, Tareq Rajab Museum opened **Dar El Cid Exhibition Halls** which is close to the Museum's main building. Its aim was to promote art and culture by the way of lectures and exhibitions. The galleries have been a huge success over these past five years and have not only housed our own additional material that we are unable to display in the main Museum such as the *Indian Miniatures*, *David Roberts Lithographs of Egypt, Nubia and the Holy Land*, as well as cultural Exhibitions such as *The Carved Wooden Doors of Kuwait, the Gulf and Yemen and Glimpses of the Marsh Arabs*, and many other visiting exhibitions from outside.



The Museum has two other major exhibitions abroad. Some three hundred objects, each with beautifully rendered inscriptions, were loaned to the newly built Asian Civilizations Museum in Singapore in 1997. A catalogue under the title of *Harmony of Letters* was published for the occasion.. The second exhibition was opened in the Helikon Castle Museum, Keszthely, at Lake Balaton in Hungary, under the title of *The World of Islam. The Arts of the Islamic World in the 18th – 20th centuries*, which was opened in 2002.



On 14th March 2007, The **Tareq Rajab Museum of Islamic Calligraphy** opened its doors to the general public. Its aim is to trace the development of the Arabic script. The earliest script in the museum dates back to the 7th century up to the present day.

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The al-Sabah collection does not end with objects, at present the DAI has a research library containing many books on history and the history of art and specialising in the arts of the Islamic world. There is also a collection of rare and old books, many hand stitched with leather bindings. As these books are very fragile and some are damaged there is an ongoing programme to digitise these manuscripts which will make them available to all interested scholars and students.



Ceramics



Glass



Ivory



Wood



Jewellery



Hardstones



Libraries



Manuscripts



Calligraphy



Metals



Numismatics



Carpets



Textiles



Stone



Stucco

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Women in Kuwait are among the most emancipated women in the Middle East region. In 2014 and 2015, Kuwait was ranked first among Arab countries in the Global Gender Gap Report. In 2013, 53% of Kuwaiti women participated in the labor force. Kuwaiti women outnumber men in the workforce

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kuwait>