

# Kuwait's foreign assistance

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Programme, the paid up capital of the FUND jumped to KD 100 Million in 1963, to KD 200 Million in 1966 to KD 1 Billion in 1974 and later to KD 2 Billion in 1981.

A brief consensus of KFAED's role in financing Arab, Islamic and other developing countries as on 1st January 1990, shows the following:

| COUNTRY        | NO. | SIZE OF LOAN       |
|----------------|-----|--------------------|
| Arab countries | 15  | US\$ 2,995 Million |
| African        | 31  | US\$ 1,100 Million |
| Asian          | 17  | US\$ 1,729 Million |
| Total          | 63  | US\$ 5,894 Million |

This of course does not include, donations or other contributions extended to other Arab, Islamic, African or Asian countries.

In addition to the Government of Kuwait and KFAED, there are a host of

other Kuwaiti institutions that also come out with generous assistance and grants. Some of these notable organisations are as follows:

1. The International Islamic Charitable Organisation.
2. The People's Committee for Collecting Donations.
3. The Kuwait Mutual Relief Committee.
4. Kuwait Zakat House (Baitul Zakat).
5. Revival of Islamic Heritage Society.
6. The Ministry of Awkaf.

Most of these organisations, singularly or collectively backed up different projects in the developing countries under private initiative based on sound organisational planning to reach maximum benefit to the maximum number of people within a region. Bangladesh serves as a model. For about half a decade, hundreds of poor and poverty stricken Bangladeshi families in the Eastern, northern and south-

ern belts have benefitted from private Kuwaiti assistance which have been and still is being rendered without fanfare or publicity. There are housing projects for the have nots; seed, fertilisers, shallow tube wells and cash assistance for needy farmers; deep tube wells for fresh water supply; income generating schemes under which sewing ma-

chines, rickshaws, vans, shops have been provided to hundreds of destitute families. Small self-supporting health centres have been set up in many villages. A number of vocational training centres have been set up in the rural areas. Thousands of orphans are being sponsored, hundreds of Madrasahs and Mosques have been constructed and much more.

It is rather unfortunate that Kuwaiti philanthropism had received a rude setback during its occupation by the evil forces of aggression. The invasion did not only hurt the Kuwaiti people but also many such beneficiaries which ran and thrived on Kuwaiti assistance.

Indeed, the cornerstone of Kuwait's success in over turning the tide of aggression lay in its cultivation of friendship trees with the countries of the world.

Heartiest Felicitations to the Government and the Brotherly People of The State of Kuwait on Their National Day



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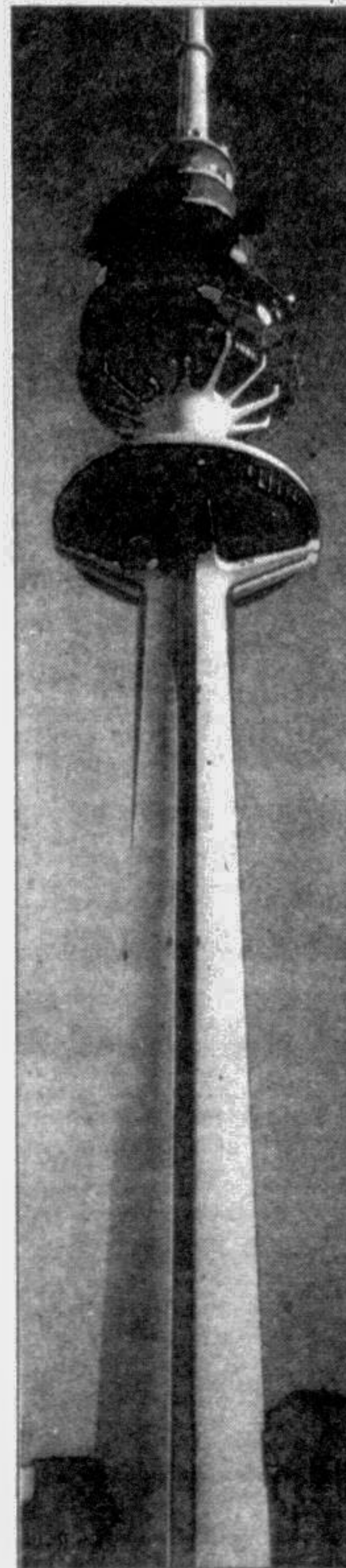
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shrines and homeland rights, as well as its desire for a peaceful life and progress is similar to the Africans' struggle for freedom, independence and the elimination of social discrimination.

On the international level, Kuwait aspires to a new approach in international relations and believes in the key role played by the United Nations, in collaboration with the Super Powers and the international groups. Simultaneously, Kuwait hopes that the Super Powers will adopt a formula by which security is ensured to each of them; provided this is not at the expense of other countries.

Kuwait calls for international co-operation to protect humanity, individuals and groups from the dangers of ethnic, racial and State terrorism and all forms of threat and blackmail associated with them. However, a clear line must be drawn between oppressive terrorism pursued by individuals, groups and states and the legitimate right to self and national defence as well as to the restoration of usurped rights.

Kuwait, as declared by His Highness the Amir of the State of Kuwait, lives under the protection of Islam as its religion, Arabism as its homeland, co-operation as its strategic path, tolerance as its motto, fraternity as its guidance, consultation as its modus operandi, justice as its rule, progress as its responsibility and peace as its goal.



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