

Who am I?

Almost every morning I go to the gym before heading to the usual headache of work. Although I have already retired after nearly 30 years of service in the banking sector, I've continued to work in both real estate and in the jewelry business. Furthermore, nearly all of my remaining time and attention are devoted to managing the charitable endowment provided for in the will of my late father, Abdullah Abdullateef Al Othman, who dedicated a third of his estate to charity.

One morning before starting any of my daily routines, I was browsing the papers and was elated by the wonderful news that the United Nations had recognized His Highness, Emir of Kuwait, as a humanitarian leader. Honestly speaking, I was overwhelmed with this peculiar sensation of mingled thoughts and feelings because, for many years, I had been immersed in studying and analyzing the endless records of my late father. He left behind an archive rich with records, accounting books, and donations, in addition to a collection of poems which he composed to express his views on life, charity, patriotism, and love; poems which leave me with teary eyes. It was an archive of records and an enormous legacy that could have been lost had I not embarked on the mission to protect and publish them. With this news, I couldn't finish reading the papers. With my mind lost in thought, I left my bread untouched and my cup of coffee full and I went to the gym with a spinning head.

I was on the cross trainer, a machine I like to use whenever I'm lost in my thoughts because it doesn't require any focus. Suddenly I got a call from my friend Ahmed Shamsuddin, a columnist for *Al-Qabas* newspaper, and he asked me why I sounded