

Part 1: A Minor Without a Voice

By nature, man is prone to preoccupation with work and responsibilities. Although he knows that death is one of life's only certainties, he forgets or tries to forget that fact. Suddenly, he is surprised by his death when it should not be a surprise because it is destined for all. This article is not about death, however. Rather, it's about what comes after, and the connection between death and a government institution specialized in dealing with the affairs which Kuwaiti citizens leave to this world whether it's money, wills, or children.

A distinct institution, and unlike any other government institution, its spirit and supreme goal is to fold a large group of Kuwaitis under its wings and care for them in a special way which is rarely found in similar countries around the world. As with other institutions, however, conflicts have spread through its hallways and its systems have aged before their time. This has happened due to the absence of media and parliamentary attention, the rapid succession of Ministers of Justice in their capacity as chairmen of its aging board, and most importantly because the minors and orphans who are entrusted to their care have no voice with which to cry out.

I thank the member of parliament Faisal Al Duwaisan who has raised many questions regarding the Public Authority for Minors' Affairs (PAMA) performance; its mechanism of investing minors' inheritances in a collective investment fund, and to whom the ownership of this fund belongs; its methods of calculating *zakat* and the legitimacy of holding it and delaying its payment for years; but I disagree with the draft law no. 21 of 2014 which is presented with all its flaws for the National Assembly's approval. It gives the right to the Board of Directors to deduct 10% of