

The NBK al-Qa'qa

Boubyan Bank recently celebrated its tenth anniversary and, in addition to the outpouring of gratitude and congratulations to them, I would like to talk about the youthful "Boubyan" which regained its vigor when the National Bank of Kuwait (NBK) bought an influential stake in this bank. Mr. Adel al Majid, one of the leaders of NBK, was chosen to take the wheel of Boubyan and so began the calculated process of transforming, developing, and transferring the professional legacy and the distinctive administration of NBK to Boubyan. Mr. Adel was given full authority to re-structure this institution and a mechanism to select members for the Board of Directors who were most competent and possessed the most experience. Since that time, Mr. Adel began the process of developing Boubyan in complete independence from the parent institution, with a wise selection of staff from the finest Kuwaiti talent for his administration, and in conformity with sound rules of governance and the instructions of the Central Bank. I have also witnessed firsthand the degree of homogeneity and cooperation within one team as well as the individual creativity, each in his position. I would not be surprised if Boubyan Bank with this kind of administration will surpass its peers in the Islamic banking industry over the next five years, if not even surpassing its parent institution. The captain of Boubyan has his own style of leadership. He is very calm and is always seen smiling. Ever since I met him back in 1983 when he joined Gulf Bank as one of my colleagues, I never saw him quarreling with anyone. I'll admit that sometimes I even tried to provoke him deliberately or push him into conflicts so I could see how he would react if he was angered, but all my attempts failed. This man simply knows nothing about anger, and has used this quality and turned it into a tool he runs with