

## Souq Al Mubarakiya – Part 2

Let's continue with my mission to lease the market on behalf of the investing company as assigned by the chairman of the bank I worked in. The hardest part of the project was dealing with the old shops' owners who inherited their shops from their fathers, and even their grandfathers.

There were markets for vegetables, fish, meat, dates, and retail, run by a group of modest people who grew worried that their shops would be taken over by new tenants without rightful claims. I dedicated evening working hours to receiving applications and answering inquiries. I put up a wall of steel against any attempts to trespass on the rights of those people, especially from our manager friend who wouldn't mind eating them with their shells. The leasing and lottery plan was performed in a timely manner with great success, everyone took what was rightfully theirs and all were satisfied. As a result, the bank recovered its money from the real estate firm, and the firm received a fully-leased and income-generating project. The old shop owners took what they deserved without any loss. This project, with its design and implementation mechanism, is considered a successful model for privatizing projects, keeping the state far from the crisis of a budget deficit without burdening the citizen in taxes and other fees. Projects like this would make Kuwait the most beautiful and attractive destination for tourists and families.

Now for the aftermath of our story, the bank received a large commission from the company for managing the leasing. The day of payment came, and I didn't face any problems paying my employees for the overtime they put into this project. The board was generous and paid me an amount for taking on the extra responsibility