

The Quintuplet of the Municipality

Part 1: A Violator of a Private Residence.

Building violations in Kuwait are exotic and strange. For instance, villas and other private residential buildings go higher and higher until they reach five floors, then they're turned into condominiums with eight or sixteen apartments. These are all violations of building regulations. It's become clear the municipalities of Kuwait are incapable of stopping this ugly tide, while the municipality itself could very well be one of its causes. This can be seen when the allowable built-up area of a plot of land was increased to 210%. The intention behind this was aimed at allowing citizens to build additions to their homes in order to provide housing for their own children and families. This increased allowance has become a crime against society due to the greedy exploitation of homeowners who flip them into investment and commercial buildings. Their behavior not only taxes the electricity and water services for the area, but they violate the rights of their neighbors, the laws of the state, and they erase the Kuwaiti identity of their neighborhoods. In order to stay away from pontificating and finger pointing, I will share with you a personal experience. I had a neighbor from a kind family who converted his house into a six-apartment building before the brutal invasion. Unfortunately, he wasn't lucky in choosing some tenants, one of which was a woman and her son who turned their apartment into a house of disrepute. I complained to my neighbor about this and told him, if he wouldn't clean out this center of corruption, I'd either make an offer to buy the house from him or I offered to sell him mine. Then the invasion happened and that woman and her son turned their house into a brothel for the Iraqi officers, and after liberation we thanked God for breaking us free of both ordeals. Unfortunately, our friend