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## Award ceremony in Kuwait attracts broad Arab participation

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KUWAIT, Nov 18 (KUNA) -- Under the auspices of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, an annual prize-giving ceremony known as "Takreem" was held late on Saturday.

Attending the ceremony on behalf of His Highness the Kuwaiti Amir, Minister of State for Amiri Diwan Affairs Sheikh Ali Jarrah Al-Sabah said he was

"honored" to represent His Highness, extending his warmest congratulations to him on winning a "lifetime achievement" award.

The Kuwaiti minister attributed the "resounding success" of this year's ceremony to the strenuous efforts of the organizers of this noble initiative, thanking His Highness the Amir for acknowledging the success attained by Arabs from all walks of life. In his speech, the founder of the award Ricardo Karam hailed Kuwait as a "prosperous and developed nation", saying with Kuwait as the host nation, this year's edition of the ceremony is all the more special.

He expressed his deepest gratitude to His Highness the Amir for organizing a gala that attracted youngsters from across the wider Arab region, citing a young Iranian woman as among the most prominent award recipients.

In words of encouragement directed at Arab youth, he emphatically urged them to aim high and "look to the stars."

Kuwait Red Crescent Society (KRCS) Chairman and the Honorary Council Member Dr. Helal Al-Sayer stressed that the honoring of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah is an addition to his relentless calls for peace and moderation.

The humanitarian acts grants His Highness the Amir the UN's Humanitarian Leader's title. Kuwait is at the forefront of donor countries and fully dedicated to peace in order to save lives and help those in need throughout the world, he added.

For his part, Sheikh Mohammad Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah delivered a speech in which he said that the late Kuwaiti Amir Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah's achievements covered Kuwait, the Arab and Islamic nations, which have become prominent to the present day.

For his part, Sheikh Salem Al-Jaber Al-Sabah expressed appreciation to the jury for giving the award for the late Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad.

The ninth session of the initiative honored many success stories, with the cultural creativity award went to Dr. Ahmad Mater from Saudi Arabia, the young entrepreneurs award jointly went to Dr. Sami Haurani from Jordan and Dr. Nadine Hashash Haram from Lebanon.

The humanitarian and civil services award went to Majda Jobran from Egypt while the leading Arab women award went to Fareah Al Saqqaf from Kuwait.

The Prize for creativity in education was awarded to Prof. Eltaher Ben Akhdar from Tunisia, the award for sustainable environmental development was received by Dr. Majda Aboras from Saudi Arabia and the scientific and technological innovation award for Prof. Rachid Yazmi from Morocco.

The international contribution award went to the American Society for Refugees in the Near East (ANERA) - US - and the outstanding business leadership award was to Emile Haddad from Lebanon.

Dr. Nadia Al-Suqati from Saudi Arabia received the special excellence award while the award for the life achievement went to His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, and "Historical Leader" Award for the memory of late Kuwaiti ruler Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad.

Since its inception, "Takreem" has been keen to become a meeting place for distinguished Arab personalities in its field and has become a source of inspiration for the Arab youth. (end) ss

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