



# **INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL SUPPORTING FAIR TRIAL & HUMAN RIGHTS**

Registration No. 2795/2012

**OFFICIAL LETTER HEAD OF THE ORGANIZATION**

## **Report of the International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights of the Peaceful gathering at Al-Irada Square on August 14, 2021**

For the tenth week in a row, Kuwaiti citizens returned to the “Al-Irada Square” to revive "Saturday Save the Homeland 10." In the presence of the Monitoring and Documentation team of the International Council for the Support of Fair Trial and Human Rights, the Council's representative in the State of Kuwait, Adviser Anwar Al-Rashid, followed the course of the peaceful gathering. As usual, the gathering witnessed an active participation of the "Medical Freedom Group" in support of the right to choose whether or not to take the COVID-19 vaccine.

The peaceful gathering, which took place at “Al-Irada Square”, was characterized by the observance of all standards of legitimate and ideal rights in organization and arrangement, as well as expression of opinion and the right of peaceful assembly. The participants also adhered to the location and timing of the gathering, which had been notified to the official authorities of the State.

On the other hand, it is reported that the official security authorities, while following up the gathering, have fulfilled their obligation to abide by rights standards in support of the right to peaceful assembly. It also respected the right of citizens to express their views, public assembly, and peaceful gathering.



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**However, we have monitored the following points:**

**First:** As usual, for the tenth week in a row, the East and West parking lots of Al-Irada Square were closed without justification, and here, we confirm that the closure was intended to narrow attendance in the mentioned gathering. Notably, these attempts have proved unsuccessful over the past 10 weeks, as parking closures have not limited citizens' participation in the parking lot.

**Second:** The Monitoring and Documentation Team has monitored the movement of the suspicious and well-known media machine against the mobility activists. The usual rumors were broadcast against the activists, claiming that they were not holding a fair case, and that they were taking money to disturb security and stability and cause chaos.

**Third:** Since the Minister of the Interior is responsible for this security apparatus, we request permission to deny this. Otherwise, we consider these contacts to be official contacts to intimidate citizens.

**Fourth:** A number of security agents have been spotted in civilian dress, asking the audience what they say in public. And it's not about them, it's just about keeping the audience safe.

The ICSFT, therefore, stresses that it is the duty of the Kuwaiti Government to act to meet the demands of the demonstrators. The ICSFT asserts that this claim is a legitimate right of the Kuwaiti people.



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The ICSFT also reminds the Kuwaiti Government that the demands of their captors in Al-Irada Square are an integral part of the natural rights that should be the gains of the Kuwaiti people, as are all the peoples of the world. The ICSFT also reaffirms that these rights are an integral part of the constitutional rights guaranteed by the Kuwaiti Constitution under articles 36 and 44 and guaranteed by the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights ratified by the Kuwaiti State.

The ICSFT also commends the statement of the Complaints and Grievances Committee of the National Human Rights Office of Kuwait, which called on the Ministry of the Interior not to take any arbitrary action against citizens wishing to express their legitimate rights.

**Head of the Monitoring and Documentation Team at the ICSFT**

**Human rights advisor**

**Anwar Al-Rasheed**

**Kuwait, August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

**ICSFT in special consultative status with the ECOSOC / The Scandinavian Institute for Human**

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