

THE OPENING SPEECH OF HIS EXCELLENCY SHEIKH DR. MOHAMMAD AL-SABAH, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE STATE OF KUWAIT.

UNITED NATIONS HOUSE

JANUARY 18, 2009

In the name of Allah most gracious, most merciful

Your Excellency, Mr. Ban Ki-moon, United Nations Secretary General,

Respectful Excellencies and Honorable Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Peace be upon you.

We stand here today in front of the United Nations House in our dearest nation, as we approach the 18th commemorative celebration since our liberation.

We stand here inspired by the lesson that if it weren't for the Mercy of Allah, the unity of intentions and values represented by this structure, and the confirmation of its international legitimacy and the ruling of law, we wouldn't be gathering on this generous land today, where the belief in the international system is now a secure method that stands against the evil apostatizing to the law of the jungle in dealing with one another. We are grateful to Allah's generosity in the past and in the future.

Remembering that era is a lesson. It invites us to think of the essential period in the history of our honorable organization. Looking back at the conflict between the nations during World War One until the establishment of the United Nations Organization shortly after World War Two, Clearly and strongly emphasizes the importance of securing this organization and taking it as the pedestal of rights and the voice of justice against all evil tendency towards war, human abuse in all aspects of life and ignoring brutality's effect on humanity, environment and neighborhood.

Your Excellency, United Nations Secretary General,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

All those events put the international community in front of its essential responsibilities. Kuwait is an active member in the organization, and a country that has suffered brutality and law violation against humanity during the invasion, as well as victory when international law and decisions were followed and applied to solve that

crisis. Therefore, Kuwait confidently assures the organization's great ability in remarkably overcoming crisis which , obligates us to all work enthusiastically to improve its different mechanisms and develop its method to react beforehand to the events and the changed firmly to maintain its mobile ability to carry out its goal which is maintaining security, peace, and protecting human rights around the world.

Honorable Guests,

Kuwait is proud to embrace this house, the United Nations House, which essentially reflects noble humanity goals for which this organization was initially established. It is my pleasure today to have his Excellency, Mr. Ban Ki-Moon, Secretary General of the United Nations, honor this house with his visits. I welcome you and the noble goals of the offices settled in this house as well as the others that belong to this great organization. Kuwait will always support the United Nations in maintaining human rights and justice in the world.

Thank you and peace be upon you