

Several fatwas issued to kill motion against Kuwaiti minister

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Several fatwas (religious edicts) have been issued to do away with the no-confidence motion which has been tabled against the Minister of Education and Minister of Higher Education Nuriya Al-Subaih by 10 MPs.

The most prominent of the fatwas is the joint fatwa issued by preachers Abdulrahman AbdulKhaliq and Mohammed Al-Tabtabaei. According to this fatwa the position of a minister cannot be compared to the leader of a country. So the point made in the no-confidence motion is weak.

The sources added this fatwa was issued after AbdulKhaliq met with MPs Waleed Al-Tabtabaei, Ahmed Baqer and Ali Al-Omair. The sources said the Salafists have agreed to the fatwa but they face strong opposition from the constituencies which they represent. However, MP Waleed Al-Tabtabaei has made it known that he will vote in favor of the motion.

Meanwhile, the sources quoting reliable persons said one member of the ruling family has urged some MPs to vote for the no-confidence motion. Meanwhile, sources added a maximum of 20 MPs will support the no-confidence vote.

The same sources said the fatwa was responsible for 'destroying' the alliance among MPs belonging to the Al-Mutraan and Al-Awazem tribes. The sources went on to say MPs Ahmad Al-Shuhoumi and Abdullah Okash will vote in favor of the motion during the session while MPs Marzouk Al-Ghanim and Faisal Al-Shaye will vote against it.

MP Hussain Al-Huraiti was recently quoted as saying he supports the Minister of Education and Minister of Higher Education Nuriya Al-Subaih. He also added he will vote against the no-confidence motion when the issue comes for voting in the National Assembly, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

In a press release Al-Huraiti said "because the issues which were discussed during the grilling needed discussions and to make sure adequate steps had been taken against those who were responsible for violating the laws, I met the Al-Subaih recently and she was very cooperative and even promised to introduce reforms in the near future."

He added he is sure all the factors which were included in the grilling against Al-Subaih could have been solved without the need to table the no-confidence motion in the National Assembly. Moreover, he went to say, Al-Subaih had spent very little time in the ministry since taking over the portfolio.

He also praised members of the Independent Islamic Bloc for their serious attitudes toward reforms in the educational process in the country. He said that the manner in which Dr Al-Shurai' submitted the grilling request was polite and of high standard which was admired by every one in the National Assembly.

Meanwhile, the National Assembly Speaker Jassem Al-Khorafi was recently quoted as saying the National Assembly and the government whom he called the two sides of one coin, are working hand in hand to execute a large number of projects, reports Al-Anba daily. Al-Khorafi told the convener of the Kuwait Journalists Association and Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee that the execution of important and development projects are top of the list.

He pointed out the most important issues on the agenda of the National Assembly and the governments are the economical and developmental issues such as the trade law, the Stock Exchange market law and the housing law. He said approval of these laws will solve many issues and the work of the government easy.

Al-Khorafi also touched on the meeting with HH the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah which was attended by representatives of parliamentary blocs. He assured any meeting for the Amir with any group benefits Kuwait and the political life in the country.

He added everyone attending the meeting with HH the Amir must listen carefully and follow the instructions of the Amir. Al-Khorafi also said the Kuwaiti society is affected by what he called outside influences which are trying to sow seeds of discord in the social, political and religious arenas. Al-Khorafi also praised Dr Ali Al-Shuraa' who grilled the Minister of Education and Minister of Higher Education Nuriya Al-Subaih. He added the minister answered all the queries confidently.