



**Speech of His Highness Sheikh Nasser Al-Mohammed
Al- Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah at the lunch
banquet held in honour of Her Excellency Pia
Kjærsgaard, Speaker of the Danish Parliament**

February 3rd, 2019

In the name of Allah the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

Her Excellency Pia Kjærsgaard, Speaker of the Danish Parliament,
Members of the Diplomatic Corps,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my pleasure to welcome amongst us today, our guest the Speaker of the Danish Parliament, Mrs. Pia Kjærsgaard, and her accompanying delegation, who are visiting Kuwait at the official invitation of His Excellency Mr. Marzooq Ali Al-Ghanim, Speaker of the National Assembly of the State of Kuwait.

Your Excellency Madam Speaker,

The goal of official visits between countries in the past was to strengthen relationships and increase interests; however, in the twenty-first century, this is no longer enough. The world has become one village; and there are now other equally important goals for those visits, such as cultural, scientific and educational interests, as well as common concerns about the safety of our planet, on which we all live. These interests transcend the national and regional boundaries and highlight our responsibilities to preserve our common environment and our common peace.

Our world is diverse, multi-religious, and multicultural, and we need to discover this diversity and multiplicity and identify our human commonalities in thinking, religion, arts, literature, food and folklore; and this can only be done by exchanging visits, working on enhancing this cultural multiplicity in our world of today, and respecting the different religions, in order to maintain the world peace.



Your Excellency Madam Speaker,

In December 2009, I visited your country, the Kingdom of Denmark, as the head of the State of Kuwait's delegation to attend the Conference of the Parties of the Climate Change Convention, which was held in the capital Copenhagen. I would like to express my deep admiration for your great country and your friendly people.

I would like as well to highlight the struggle of the Danish people to establish their country. They roamed the seas in their distinguished ships since the time of the Vikings, through the reign of King Harald I of Denmark, then King Valdemar II who was one of the strongest kings of Northwestern Europe, and ended up building the modern Danish kingdom, which is distinguished among European countries by its stable economy, its advanced educational system, and its advanced cultural production. I would like to mention that during my attendance of the Conference of the Parties of the Climate Change Convention, my side conversations showed growing concerns about the low temperatures on Greenland Island, which is the largest island in the Kingdom of Denmark, and the largest island in the world. Climate change has become a major threat to Greenland's snow. And that day, I became more convinced that the concern raised about the Greenland island is not only limited to the Danish people as it is part of their country, but it is a concern that affects all humanity, because we all live on this planet.

Your Excellency Madam Speaker,

We will not forget the honourable position of the Kingdom of Denmark during the occupation of Kuwait in 1990. Your country did not only condemn the occupation and call for the liberation of Kuwait, but it also contributed to that liberation by sending symbolic forces to join the battle of liberating Kuwait, within the international coalition forces. It was a position that we will continue to remember throughout our history. For this reason, we do not consider you just friends, but loyal friends. His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah has confirmed this to the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Denmark, Helle Thorning, during her visit to Kuwait in 2015.



Your Excellency Madam Speaker,

I would like to reiterate my warm welcome to you and to the members of the accompanying delegation, and I would like to assure you of my deep pride in this visit, which reflects the close relations between our two countries, which are based on mutual understanding and respect.