

## BUSINESS

# ABK and ABK Wealth Management win four prestigious awards at the International Finance Annual Awards 2025

KUWAIT CITY, Feb 21: Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait (ABK) and ABK Wealth Management, the Group's investment arm, have won four prestigious awards from the leading global magazine International Finance for 2025. ABK received the awards for "Best New Mobile Banking App" and "Best Investor Relationship Bank", while ABK Wealth Management won "Fastest Growing Wealth Management Solution Provider" and "Most Innovative Investment Advisory Company" in Kuwait.

This achievement reflects the Group's continued success in advancing digital transformation and enhancing transparency and trust with the investment community, reinforcing its position as one of the most innovative and transparent financial and banking institutions in the Kuwaiti market.

The awards were presented during International Finance magazine's ceremony in Dubai, attended by Dr. Abdulaziz Jawad, Chief Strategy Officer at ABK and Chairman of ABK Wealth Management, Mohammad Al Qattan, Chief Consumer Officer at ABK, and a number of senior representatives from leading regional banks.

ABK's application was selected for the award based on its innovative user interface, integration of advanced technologies to personalize services, rapid responsiveness, and the provision of more than 20 fully integrated digital services that eliminate the need to visit a branch.

ABK was also named "Best Investor Relations Bank" in recognition of its excellence in financial disclosure, organizing regular investor meetings, ensuring easy access to financial data through its digital platforms, holding periodic analyst conferences on quarterly financial results, and announcing its plans and any operational developments through the stock exchange website, its own web-



site, and direct communication with investors to respond to their various inquiries, among other criteria.

Meanwhile, the "Fastest Growing Wealth Management Solutions Provider" award reflects the strong confidence investors place in ABK Wealth Management, driven by growth in assets under management and the expansion of financial services and products. The "Most Innovative Investment Advisor" award underscores the company's leadership in integrating digital solutions and advanced analytics to design flexible investment portfolios aimed at achieving optimal returns for clients.

**Precision in Execution**  
On this occasion, Jawad stated, "These awards confirm the precise execution of the strategic plans we set years ago. We take pride in this global recognition from an international institution such as International Finance, which stands as a testament to the dedication of our team and the consistency of our vision. It confirms our success in delivering unconventional advisory solutions that exceed our customers' expectations."

He added that this success serves as motivation to continue delivering sustainable added value to customers amid a global economic landscape full of challenges and opportunities, while maintaining a balance between growth and adherence to the highest standards of governance and transparency in the market.

Jawad further noted, "We place transparency with our shareholders as a top priority within our methodology. We are committed to holding quarterly analyst conferences on financial



Dr. Abdulaziz Jawad



Mohammad Al Qattan



Dr. Abdulaziz Jawad and Mohammad Al Qattan during the awards ceremony.



New achievements in the record of the Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait Group.

results to disclose our achievements and future plans. We participate in numerous conferences to engage with investors and will continue to strengthen commu-

nication channels and apply the highest governance standards."

He emphasized that ABK Wealth Management's receipt of these awards translates the com-



pany's dedicated efforts to integrate advanced technological solutions and digital analytics tools to design investment portfolios capable of transforming economic challenges into real growth opportunities, enabling clients to access new investment horizons with clarity and confidence.

"These titles are the result of the deep trust we have built with our partners through years of commitment to transparency and governance. We do not merely manage assets; we build a legacy for future generations. We will continue to expand our operations to remain the most trusted partner in building and growing wealth and in providing banking solutions aligned with developments in the banking industry, offering an exceptional experience characterized by transparency, speed, and absolute security," Jawad continued.

He concluded, "These awards reflect the great efforts, high expertise, and team spirit of all members of the Group, contributing to an ideal environment for innovating banking and investment solutions and services that earn the satisfaction and trust of our customers and all stakeholders."

#### Investment in Technology

Farn his part, Al Qattan said, "Winning these awards is the result of our intensive investment in technology and our commitment to keeping pace with technological advancements to deliver a smart, fast, and secure user experience that meets the expectations of all our customer segments."

He added that the awards prove the Bank's leadership in setting standards for an exceptional banking experience in the

market. They reflect the significant progress achieved in delivering digital services, engaging with customers, providing appropriate advisory services, and maintaining the highest security standards.

He noted that the ABK mobile application offers more than 20 digital services that can be completed without visiting branches and in accordance with the highest security standards, enhancing customer trust, saving time and effort, and enabling them to conduct financial transactions quickly and around the clock.

Al Qattan affirmed ABK's commitment to continuously developing its application and providing additional digital services for all customer segments. He highlighted its user-friendly interface and ability to customize services for specific segments such as elite clients, stressing the Bank's dedication to continuing its digital transformation strategy to strengthen its competitive position within the local banking sector.

In conclusion, Al Qattan stated, "These titles reflect a culture of innovation and serve as international recognition of the high-quality standards adopted by ABK and our success in turning challenges into opportunities to enhance customer experience and strengthen their confidence in conducting banking and financial transactions through diverse solutions."

The new awards add to a series of achievements that ABK continues to accomplish, reflecting its distinguished performance across various areas of the banking sector, including governance, digital services, and contact center operations. This demonstrates the confidence of specialized evaluation institutions in the level of service provided to all customer segments and the Bank's ongoing commitment to innovating banking solutions and services that meet their evolving expectations.

## Reaffirms its support of national talent and the development of their financial skills

# Boursa Kuwait concludes its sponsorship of the CFA Research Challenge

KUWAIT CITY, Feb 21: Boursa Kuwait concluded its sponsorship of the CFA Institute Research Challenge for the second consecutive year. Organized by the CFA Institute and CFA Society Kuwait, the competition reflects the company's continued commitment to developing human capital and promoting financial literacy as the bourse aims to contribute to the growth of the Kuwaiti capital market and strengthen its standards of professionalism and transparency.

The CFA Research Challenge serves as a hands-on educational platform for university students to develop their financial analysis skills, assess investment opportunities and strengthen their ability to prepare research and make investment decisions in line with professional frameworks and recognized ethical standards in capital markets.

Boursa Kuwait's sponsors hip falls under the company's "The Bell" initiative, which aims to enhance financial awareness and equip the youth with the technical and analytical skills required to contribute effectively to the financial sector and support the efficacy and sustainability of the Kuwaiti capital market.

This year's edition saw the participation of two teams from Kuwait University as well as one team each from the American University of the Middle East (AUM) and the American University of Kuwait (AUK). Participants prepared research reports on "Premier" Market company Mabane, delivering in-depth financial analyses and investment recommendations based on recognized professional standards before a judging panel comprised of:

■ Mr. Tareq Al-Saleh – Acting Chief Investment Officer, InvestGB

■ Mr. Asif Khan – Chief Investment Officer, Action Energy Company

■ Ms. Sara Dashti – Vice President, Equities and Fixed Income Investments Department, Kamco Invest



Boursa Kuwait concludes sponsorship of CFA Research Challenge for second year.

■ Mr. Nitin Pal – Partner, Provititi

The competition saw a high level of academic and analytical performance, with the Kuwait University team composed of Alaa Hamdan, Abdulaziz AlObaid, Mohammad Al-Kandari, Sultan AlShehab and Mohammad AlZoubi securing first place. The winning team was advised by Dr. Sulaiman AlBader, Assistant Professor of Finance and Financial Institutions at the College of Business Administration.

In addition to overseeing the student selection process, Dr. AlBader served as the primary liaison with the CFA Society. He also reviewed the research reports and presentations, as well as providing guidance and feed-

back to students without influencing their decisions or written materials.

Addressing the competition's participants, Senior Director of Marketing and Corporate Communications at Boursa Kuwait, Mr. Nasser Mishari Al-Sanousi, said: "The conclusion of the CFA Research Challenge marks an important milestone in your academic and professional journey, successfully bridging theory and practice and offering you the opportunity to develop your financial analysis skills and adhere to the highest standards of professional practice, preparing you for the real-world demands of the investment sector and capital markets."

"Boursa Kuwait is proud to be the first official sponsor and stra-

tegic partner of this competition in Kuwait. We also value our ongoing partnership with the CFA Institute and the CFA Society Kuwait, which stems from our firm belief in the importance of supporting educational initiatives that enhance financial knowledge and develop qualified national talent capable of supporting the growth and stability of the financial sector. We commend all participating teams for the advanced level they demonstrated and congratulate the winning team on this well-deserved achievement," he added.

Al-Sanousi concluded his remarks by reaffirming Boursa Kuwait's aspiration that the competition's participants will contribute to the continued development of the Kuwaiti capi-

tal market and increase its competitiveness on the regional and international stage. He also expressed his appreciation to the CFA Institute and CFA Society Kuwait for their role in promoting financial literacy and investing in young talent.

Boursa Kuwait signed a Memorandum of Understanding with CFA Society Kuwait in October 2018, followed by an agreement of understanding with the CFA Institute in October 2025. Both agreements aim to strengthen educational collaboration and provide investment fundamentals content through Boursa Kuwait's educational portal, Boursa Academy, in addition to offering preferential access to a range of the Institute's programs and certifications.

This collaboration seeks to enhance investment awareness and deepen understanding of financial instruments, supporting market efficiency and reinforcing investor confidence. It also includes the implementation of awareness initiatives under the "The Bell" initiative to promote financial literacy, as well as women's empowerment initiatives held to commemorate International Women's Day.

"The CFA Research Challenge provides a practical experience that closely reflects the realities of working in the investment sector and capital markets, allowing students to apply their knowledge within a professional and competitive environment," said CFA Society Kuwait Chairman Mr. Talal Al-Khamis.

"The level of commitment to research and analysis demonstrated by the students reflects a high degree of dedication and ambition, qualities we strive to cultivate through such impactful initiatives. I would like to thank Boursa Kuwait for their valued partnership and continued support in developing young talent and strengthening their technical capabilities and look forward to seeing these students achieve distinguished accomplishments throughout their future professional careers," he added.

The strategic partnership between Boursa Kuwait, CFA Society Kuwait and the CFA Institute is part of the company's broader efforts to create a positive, sustainable impact on the community, in line with its corporate sustainability strategy and commitment to developing human capital and advancing financial awareness and knowledge. It is also aligned with Goal 4 - Quality Education - and Goal 17 - Partnerships for the Goals - of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. These efforts reinforce Boursa Kuwait's role as a pioneering national institution that strengthens confidence in the Kuwaiti capital market and supports Kuwait's economic development.