Kuwait Times: What is Abolish 153 and what is the main goal of this campaign? Shiekhah Lulu Al-Sabah: The Abolish 153 campaign is a grassroots campaign about and ultimately abolishing Article 153 of the Kuwaiti penal code, which allows for the killing of mothers, daughters, sisters and wives based on honor. While lobbying for changing the law in Kuwait, the campaign hopes to form coalitions across Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and Arab countries where similar laws exist and transform the Abolish movement into a regional demand.

Kuwait Times: To what extent is honor killing prevalent in Kuwait? Is it true that it has a reduced rate? Shiekhah Lulu: Many people believe that we have fewer cases than in other Arab countries, yet there has been a 20-year campaign in Jordan to report these cases in the media and the newspapers, which means that such cases are better reported than they are in Kuwait. This campaign was spearheaded by award-winning journalist and human rights activist Rana Al-Husseini, who spoke at our symposium in the American University of Kuwait (AUK) in November. Kuwait has signed a number of significant human rights conventions and treaties, including the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966); the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (1979); and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (1990). There are many laws that exist in law. This legislation is a form of indirect and unconstitutional and against Islamic sharia law. Article 153 was added to the Kuwait penal code in 1960. At that time, it was the equivalent to KD 225. At current conversion rates, it is KD 14. It is fed in every country that has a monetary value placed on a woman’s life.

Kuwait Times: Why is there this particular focus on the double standards that the next two exhibitions will be more about the role of women in the society and highlight it to the world! Sheikha Lulu: We live in a patriarchal society. We notice in the exhibition, an illustration that will target female tribal leaders. We will create a safe environment where mothers, women and girls can be legally protected from all forms of violence, and raise awareness around the existence of these violent practices and the legislation that sanctions them. Sheikha Lulu: It is for this reason that our campaign holds an annual exhibition in Kuwait on May 16 to raise awareness and fundraise for our cause.

Kuwait Times: What has the Abolish 153 campaign achieved so far? Are you progressive? Shiekhah Lulu: Yes, we have some progress. We have a number of MPs, judges, lawyers and activists on our side and this will help us enormously in our fight to abol- ish this law.

Kuwait Times: Tell us about your latest fundraising exhibition in Dubai. Shiekhah Lulu: Abolish 153 hosted an art exhibition at the JAMM Art Gallery in Dubai from April 28 to May 8 to fundraise for the campaign. The exhibition included 40 works in various media by 11 emerging artists from the GCC and Iran. The seven artworks displayed during an art exhibition that the Abolish 153 campaign held recently at the JAMM Art Gallery in Dubai. The seven artworks displayed during an art exhibition that the Abolish 153 campaign hosted recently at the JAMM Art Gallery in Dubai. The Abolish 153 campaign focu...