



# Kare Q8

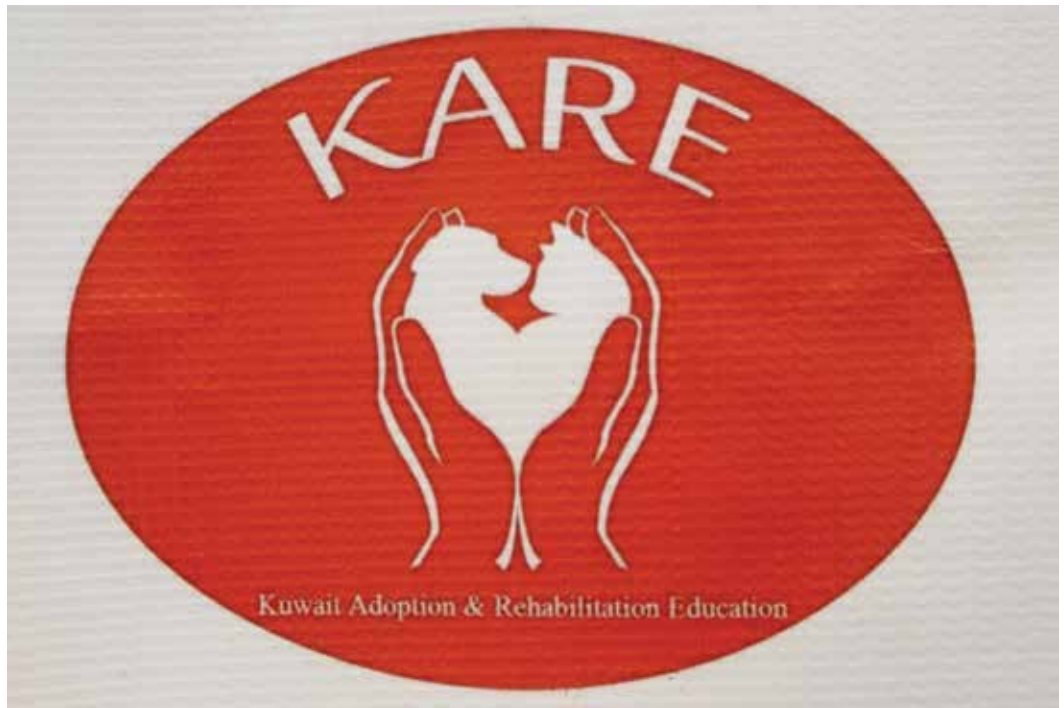
## In the Words of Sara Al-Awadhi

**I couldn't be more grateful to have been brought up as a person who has always been fond of animals, ever since I was a kid. That explains why I used to want to be a vet when I grow up until I found out there is no such major in Kuwait.**

Having as many pets as I want is never an option, but I hope someday it will be. It's things like going to Friday Market and seeing how poorly and mercilessly the animals are treated there, which that breaks my heart every time and makes me want to do something about it. Up until recently, I thought that the best thing to do was to save up a budget from my monthly salary to spend on buying as many of those poor cats and dogs and finding suitable families to adopt them.

However, that will only encourage the merchants to bring and trade with more victims, which made me realize that was not the solution. That was merely me thinking it was the only way to deal with the current situation, which if it were up to me, wouldn't exist. I'd rather shut down the zoo and the Friday Market for good rather than have animals trapped in such small cages and opposite climate. I'd like to think that the solution to selling animals to anyone who is willing to pay and seeing dead cats on the street every day is people like MahaMullajuma Al-Khateeb, founder and member of KareQ8, which stands for "Kuwait Animal Rehabilitation and Education." (@KareQ8)

Kare is a non-profit group of animal lovers and volunteers who devote their efforts, time and money trying to save as many lives as they possibly can. Basically, what they do is, rescue stray cats and dogs from the cruel situation they live in no matter where they are in Kuwait and no matter how risky it can be, in order to find them a loving home, usually after treating all their injuries, medical problems and spaying/neutering them if they are old enough. It's worth mentioning that there is no shelter for KareQ8's rescues, so all members and foster volunteers help each other by keeping the cats and dogs that get along well together until a permanent home is found.





I was lucky enough to come across such superheroes when I did, and as much as I always wish there was more I could do for the animals to help KareQ8, I try to remind myself that the least amount of help is most appreciated and acknowledged, otherwise no one would invest their time to volunteer for any cause, I think. KareQ8 also helps people find their lost pets, helps people who can no longer keep their pets to find a new home and they take care of spaying/neutering cats and dogs even if they were not KareQ8's rescues. Needless to say, KareQ8 does not hand over any of their precious cats or dogs to just anyone merely because they are interested, and I don't mean that in a stingy or demanding way, but as a cautious and protective manner.

One of KareQ8's most fundamental principles is eventually spaying/neutering the cat or dog about to be adopted or fostered (if they are still too young for the surgery) and doing the same for any other cats or dogs potential adopters or fosterers already have at home. That's the one and only amount of money to be paid, which is obviously not the price of the pet itself because there is no such thing. Something else the group calls for and is all about would be mercy. After all, it is how we deal with and treat other parts of nature such as its animals, land, air and water that makes us human. Personally, nothing tops the sight of an adult holding a little kid's hand and teaching them to understand and care for a cat, dog or any creature.

If you are interested, there are plenty of ways how you can be involved. KareQ8 organizes two Adoption Days at Petzone (@Petzone1) in Al Rai, close to the Avenues and True Value, on Tuesdays from 4 to 9 pm, and Fridays from 1 to 6 pm. Whether you want to pass by and learn more about them and what they do, volunteer, donate, foster or adopt a new best friend and family member, you are more than welcome!

