

Vet: Not enough awareness on need to control stray animals



Why a mother entrusted her family to people smugglers



Warhol, Pollock, Rothko on rare display in Tehran



Suarez, Neymar humiliate Real in 4-0 'Clasico' romp



BRUSSELS ON LOCKDOWN IN FEAR OF PARIS-STYLE ATTACK

MINISTER WANTS DOOR-TO-DOOR HUNT IN MOLENBEEK



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KAC SUSPENDS BEIRUT FLIGHTS

By Meshaal Al-Enezi

KUWAIT: Kuwait Airways yesterday said it was suspending its Beirut flights "as a precautionary measure", but most other flights were arriving and leaving normally, after Moscow requested airlines avoid an area over the eastern Mediterranean. In a precautionary measure taken to ensure passengers' safety, Kuwait Airways cancelled four flights to and from Beirut over the past two days. The decision was made due to the state of confusion prevailing in Beirut after Russia asked Lebanon's Civil Aviation authority to divert all civilian flight routes because it planned to conduct drills and maneuvers in the Mediterranean.

Lebanese Transport Minister Ghazi Zeaiter said Moscow asked "that planes leaving Beirut airport towards the west avoid overflying an area in Mediterranean territorial waters because of maneuvers on Saturday, Sunday and Monday". There was no confirmation from Moscow, but a Lebanese airport official said departing flights would be directed south over Sidon and Sarafand to "keep them away from the perimeter of the maneuvers".

Lebanon's national carrier Middle East Airlines said most of its flights would be on schedule but "some flights to the Gulf and the Middle East region might take (a) longer time due to a slight change in airways".



BRUSSELS: Soldiers patrol a pedestrian shopping street in the Belgian capital yesterday. — AFP

BRUSSELS: Brussels was on terror lockdown yesterday in fear of a Paris-style attack, with a gunman wanted over the deadly rampage in the French capital a week ago still on the run. The Belgian capital closed its metro system and shuttered shops and public buildings as a terror alert was raised to its highest level over reports of an "imminent threat" of a gun and bomb attack similar to the horror seen in Paris. Investigators are working around the clock to track Brussels resident Salah Abdeslam, one of the gunmen still on the loose after a coordinated wave of attacks on Parisian nightspots that left 130 people dead on Nov 13.

Belgium-based jihadists are increasingly at the heart of the Paris investigation and police have multiplied raids in the city's immigrant districts in a rush to stop a repeat of Islamic State-inspired attacks that have killed hundreds around the world in recent weeks. Belgian Prime Minister Charles Michel said authorities feared a "Paris-style" assault "with explosives and weapons at several locations" as he urged citizens to limit their movements.

The carnage in Paris has put all of Europe on edge amid fears that IS extremists can move operatives freely among target countries in an abuse of the EU's open-border Schengen zone system. In Turkey, police arrested a Belgian of Moroccan origin in connection with the Paris attacks in the resort of Antalya, the site of this week's G20 summit, along with two other suspects, probably Syrians. Ahmet Dahmani, 26, is accused of helping to scout the Paris attacks and then preparing to illegally cross the Turkish-Syrian border to rejoin IS after arriving in Turkey from Amsterdam on his Belgian passport.

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EX-FM DETAILS YOUTH CHALLENGES

UNEMPLOYMENT, LACK OF DEMOCRACY PLAGUE ARAB WORLD

RIVALS CONDEMN TRUMP'S CALL TO REGISTER MUSLIMS

WASHINGTON: Donald Trump's support for registering US Muslims in a database drew criticism Friday from rival Republicans and Democratic presidential frontrunner Hillary Clinton, amid bursts of controversial rhetoric from GOP candidates. Trump, leading the polls for the Republican nomination, has made several belligerent remarks about Muslims and Syrian refugees in the wake of last week's attacks in Paris claimed by the Islamic State extremist group.

Trump was asked by NBC News on Thursday whether he would support creating a database system to track Muslims. "I would certainly implement that. Absolutely," Trump told the network at a campaign stop in Iowa.



Donald Trump

Continued on Page 13

LONDON: The Arab region is plagued by lack of job opportunities, knowledge and real notions of democracy, member of the UN high-level advisory committee Sheikh Dr Mohammad Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah said in a speech late on Friday focusing on challenges facing Arab youth, which was held as part of the 14th Middle East business conference at a British university.

According to numbers from the World Bank, around 54 percent of youth in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) are unemployed, said Sheikh Mohammad, who added that three out of four women in the region were also unemployed. He stressed that Arab governments are now forced to create 100 million jobs till 2020 to counter the alarming unemployment numbers.

Sheikh Mohammad, Kuwait's former foreign minister, called on Arab governments to support the public sector as part of the solution to the problem, adding that the educational system in the region should also be overhauled to

develop youth skills and include them in the process of decision making and reforms. Utilizing recent technologies provided by the Internet and social media, Arab youth between the ages of 15-29 could make a difference in terms of developing their nations, said Sheikh Mohammad, noting that Kuwait since 2009 had launched a one billion dollar fund to support small and medium size enterprises, a launchpad for youth to follow their aspirations.

He also indicated that his country, through the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED), had provided loans worth \$15 billion to some 100 countries to help them develop their projects. Sheikh Mohammad also noted that Kuwait played a crucial part in easing the suffering of refugees, indicating that three donor conferences were held in Kuwait to aid Syrian refugees with \$1.8 billion pledged. Kuwait will also co-organize the fourth conference to be held in London in Feb 2016, he added. — KUNA



Sheikh Mohammad



Members of the Basij, the paramilitary unit of Iran's Revolutionary Guard, gather around a replica of Jerusalem's gold-topped Dome of the Rock mosque as one of them waves an Iranian flag from the top of the dome during a military exercise on Friday. — AP

IRAN GUARDS 'LIBERATE' AQSA MOSQUE IN DRILL

TEHRAN: Thousands of paramilitary forces from Iran's powerful Revolutionary Guard have held a war game simulating the capture of Jerusalem's Al-Aqsa Mosque from Israeli control, state media reported yesterday. It said forces stormed and "liberated" a

replica of the mosque in the exercise. They say that 120 brigades from the Basij, the paramilitary unit of the Guard, participated in Friday's exercise outside the holy city of Qom in central Iran.

Continued on Page 13

OBAMA PUTS HUMAN FACE ON SYRIA REFUGEE DEBATE

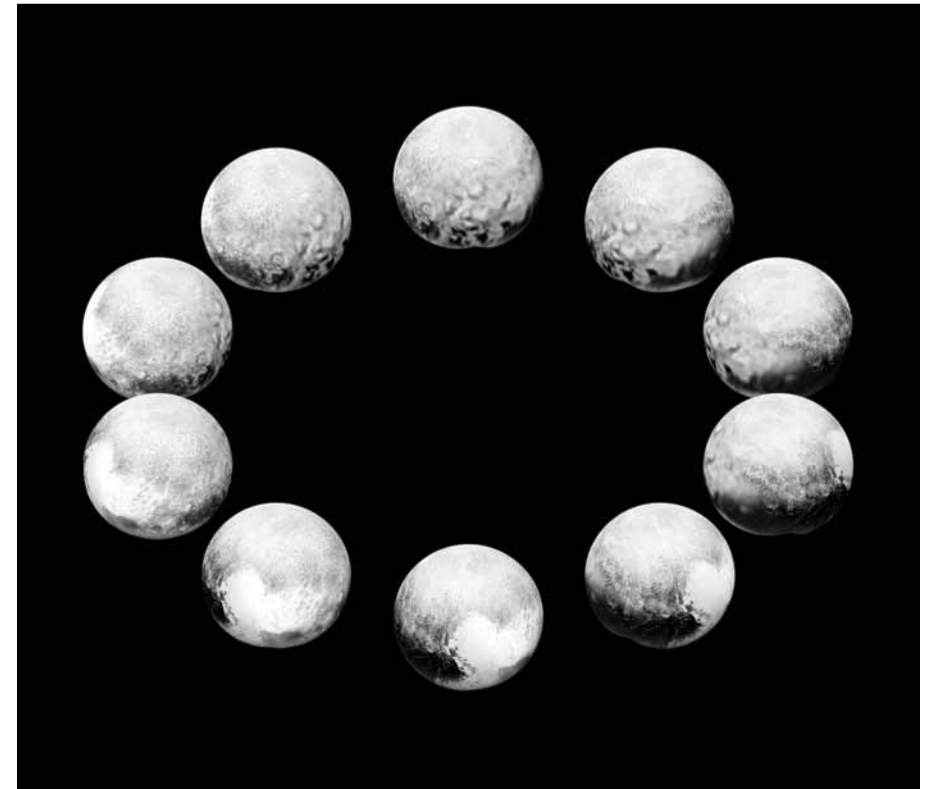


KUALA LUMPUR: US President Barack Obama gets a hug from a 16-year-old refugee from Myanmar after speaking about the refugee situation during a visit to the Dignity for Children Foundation yesterday. — AP

KUALA LUMPUR: Brushing off refugee worries at home, President Barack Obama crouched alongside migrant children yesterday and declared they are the opposite of terrorists wreaking havoc from Paris to Mali. Working to put a human face on the refugee crisis, he said, "They're just like our kids." The refugees Obama encountered at a school for poor children in Malaysia were not from Syria, and unlike the flood of Syrians meeting steep resistance in the US, these migrants had already been cleared to resettle in America. Still, Obama said their faces could have been those of kids from Syria, Iraq and other war-torn regions whose pursuit of a life free from violence led them far from their native homes.

"They were indistinguishable from any child in America," Obama said. "The notion that somehow we would be fearful of them - that our politics would somehow lead us to turn our sights away from their plight - is not representative of the best of who we are." More than mere musings, Obama's comments were intended as a direct rebuke to those demanding a halt to Syrian and Iraqi refugees entering the US in the light of the Islamic State's attacks in Paris.

Continued on Page 13



This photo provided by NASA shows NASA's New Horizons spacecraft capturing Pluto rotating over the course of a full "Pluto day", in an unprecedented flyby in July 2015. — AP



KUWAIT: Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Sheikh Mohammad Al-Khaled Al-Sabah (center) speaks during a visit to the state security department's headquarters.

INTERIOR MINISTER LAUDS STATE SECURITY OFFICERS

KUWAIT: Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Sheikh Mohammad Al-Khaled Al-Sabah recently paid a visit to the state security department's headquarters, where he was received by the ministry's Undersecretary Lieutenant General Suleiman Al-Fahad, Assistant Undersecretary for Domestic State Security Affairs Major General Essam Al-Nahham and senior state security commanders.

The visit was mainly dedicated to thank state security officers for their constant efforts that had recently led to arresting a terrorist cell, the ministry's Relations and Security Media Department said in a statement. Sheikh Mohammad Al-Khaled also conveyed the trust that the political leadership has in state security agents, and

stressed that such trust should serve as an incentive for them to exert more efforts in safeguarding Kuwait's national security.

On Thursday, the Interior Ministry announced busting a six-member international cell that was sending air defense systems and funds to the Islamic State (IS) group.



Cash and passports found with the terror cell members on Thursday.



The items found with the suspects.

YOUNG MAN ARRESTED ON SUSPECTED TERROR CHARGES

By Hanan Al-Saadoun

KUWAIT: A young man was recently arrested and referred to the state security department over suspicions of practicing some illegal activities that might be related to terrorism. Security sources explained that the man, a stateless resident, was arrested in Taima, Jahra after police searched his vehicle at a checkpoint and found a large number of electric devices, electric cables and a small spy copter in the trunk. Police also found a power generator, a remote control, an electric circuit diagram in addition to a piece of paper including some significant locations in Kuwait.

Fatal accident

A 44-year-old citizen was run over and killed along Fahaheel expressway, said security sources, noting that the driver who ran him over was waiting on the scene when police arrived. A case was filed and further investigations are in progress.

Gas station mugging

A man recently filed a complaint accusing another of insulting, assaulting and robbing him of his wallet at a gas station in Fahaheel industrial area, said security sources. A case was filed and investigations are ongoing.

Smuggling attempt foiled

A man was recently arrested on arrival at Kuwait International Airport for attempting to smuggle in a piece of hashish he hid within his clothes. He was taken to the Drug Control General Department for further action.

Illegal exit

Two citizens and two stateless men were recently arrested when both stateless men and one of the citizens tried to exit Kuwait through the Salmi land border exit using the same civil ID of a citizen, said security sources.

KUWAIT SHARPLY CONDEMNS HOSTAGE CRISIS IN MALI

KUWAIT: An official source at the Foreign Ministry yesterday emphatically condemned the taking of hostages at a hotel in Bamako in Mali, which left scores of people dead or wounded. The source reiterated, in a press statement, Kuwait's firm and principled position against all forms and manifestations of terrorism, whatever its source.

The official source offered condolences to the families and governments of the victims, and wished those injured in the incident swift recovery. On Friday, 140 guests and 30 hotel employees were taken hostage at Radisson Blu hotel in Bamako. Around 80 hostages were freed while at least 20 others, including some from Western countries, were killed. — KUNA

KUWAITIS IN BELGIUM URGED TO AVOID CROWDED PLACES

BRUSSELS: Kuwaitis in Belgium were advised to be cautious, after Brussels was put on the country's highest terror alert level yesterday. In a press statement, Kuwait's embassy urged all Kuwaitis, including patients receiving medical treatment there, to avoid visiting crowded public places and shopping centers, as well as public transport in the capital, and to closely follow instructions of security bodies. The embassy also asked them to call it in case of emergency. — KUNA

'ARREST IS BOSSES' IN KUWAIT: MP TAMIMI

STOP DOMESTIC LABOR OFFICES' MAFIA: MP DASHTI

By A Saleh

KUWAIT: MP Abdullah Al-Tamimi highly commended the efforts exerted by the Interior Ministry and state security agents in seizing what he described as 'IS weapons,' describing these weapons as a drop in an ocean of unlimited support some local blocs have been providing to this terrorist organization. Addressing Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Sheikh Mohammad Al-Khaled Al-Sabah, Tamimi urged him to arrest 'IS bosses' in Kuwait, noting that he knows them very well. "If you do not, US reports and reports by other countries probing terrorism have clearly said who IS supporters in Kuwait are," he underlined, warning that waiting longer might help IS to start officially operating from Kuwait after it destroyed some other Arab countries "only to serve Zionist agendas." "History will never forgive you if IS manages to pose more threats like that of the previous bombing," Tamimi added, noting that the very same people who had been funding and hiring terrorists from all over the world to destroy certain countries would be doing the same thing in Kuwait. "International terrorism propagandists and funders are Kuwaitis and the whole world knows them," he claimed, calling for using an "iron security fist" against terrorists. "IS funders in Kuwait are not those arrested. Those are only insignificant followers and tools used by IS leaders, those who appear every now and then on various social media threatening and expressing support of IS," Tamimi concluded.

Domestic helpers

MP Abdulhameed Dashti recently urged the interior minister to act and



MP Abdullah Al-Tamimi

stop what he described as the "greed of the domestic labor offices' mafia," noting that they have become greedy despite passing a law to regulate domestic labor and establishing a special company to hire them. "We urge the Interior Ministry to complete this company's executive charter as soon as possible," he underlined, pointing out that some offices have been demanding hiring fees reaching KD 1,500 per worker although the actual cost is not more than KD 300.

Soldiers' visit

MP Humoud Al-Hamdan filed an inquiry to the Minister of Education Dr Bader Al-Essa over a visit by US soldiers who took part in Kuwait's liberation war to a secondary school for girls on November 2. The lawmaker questioned why a girls' school was specifically chosen for the visit instead of a boys' school.

Clubs' privatization

Chairman of the parliamentary youth and sports committee MP Abdullah Maayouf said that the Public Authority for Youth and Sports (PAYS)



MP Abdulhameed Dashti

was currently working on a law to privatize sports clubs in Kuwait.

Psychiatric medicine

A ministerial committee had finished reviewing the psychiatric medicine and the patients' safety bills suggested and referred to the Cabinet by the Ministry of Health, sources said. The sources added that both bills were ready for discussion and were already listed on the Cabinet's agenda for discussion next month pending final referral to the parliament in January.

Citizen murderer's trial

An Egyptian court is due to convene next Tuesday to pass sentences against an Egyptian man who murdered a female Kuwaiti citizen and her Saudi mother in the southern Egyptian governorate of Minya with assistance from some of his relatives. The deceased citizen's brother Rashed Al-Khamees said that the Egyptian judiciary set a hearing on November 24 to pass a verdict against five people, including two women, charged of murdering his sister.

In my view

LESSON FROM PARIS



By Muna Al-Fuzai

local@kuwaittimes.net

The bloody events in Paris last week claimed the lives of dozens of people and injured scores of others, provoking anger and panic. Despite the large number of news reports and analyses about the terrorists, the perpetrators of the crime and the loss of innocent lives, the sanctity of the dead in France and respect for the grief their parents and friends were maintained. No photos were published of the bodies or faces of the dead, nor did their parents come in front of cameras screaming and threatening reprisals. It is a culture that we do not know in the Middle East. It is a lesson from Paris, the capital of culture.

Why were no pictures or videos about the dead and wounded in Paris published, while their bodies were ripped apart? Why did they refrain from running any images, especially since these are tragic, shocking and painful pictures? The answer is simple - it is related to cultural differences that we don't know anything about in the Middle East.

On Middle East TV channels, hardly a day goes by without a news bulletin buzzing with images of killed and dead people, regardless if they are terrorists who caused the killing of innocents or people who were killed in the bombings. The screams of parents are news headlines. Some presenters even conduct interviews with terrorists, as if they deserve compassion and sympathy.

These souls were important to their families and loved ones, and the French government could have taken advantage of this tragic event and filled the media with images of the dead and wounded to market what they want, as Arabs usually do in these situations. Isn't this what the Arab media did, especially in the past period, with a lot of Syrian refugees fleeing their country?

The French respect their dead and respect the privacy of each individual in their community. They also tend to protect the humanity of the society and individuals to avoid seeing harsh scenes that have negative effects. This is a lesson of culture - I wish we know better than to market our miseries and failures.

When a painful event occurs here, photos of the event immediately become a topic on all tools of social media. Some will rush to publish or re-publish them without any heed of the rights of the victims or their families. Even the so-called intellectuals and educated people will be involved in this brazen act when forwarding pictures of the injured and the dead without consideration of the psychological impact on their loved ones, as well as the recipients of these images.

It's a culture of respect for the dead and their pain - a culture we do not know in the Middle East, as we enjoy publishing pictures of the dead and wounded even if they were involved in road accidents. We do this brazenly without respect for their privacy. Worse, when publishing pictures of terrorists and their families, we are trying to find an excuse for their crimes.

Respect for privacy during and after a painful incident is indeed a different culture we have here in the Arab society. I call on myself first, then others, to take cues from Paris' sad lesson and not send any image related to the killing or wounding of innocent people in order to preserve and respect their privacy. France is teaching us a great lesson even in hard times like these.

NO INJURIES IN JABER HOSPITAL FIRE

By Meshaal Al-Enezi

KUWAIT: A fire broke out yesterday afternoon on the third floor of the Jaber Hospital construction site. Firemen rushed to the site and discovered that the fire had started in some inflammable construction waste, the source said, adding that some construction workers on site had started putting the fire out before firemen arrived. No injuries were reported in the incident.



KUWAIT: The Kuwait Dive Team has lifted 10 tons of discarded harmful waste and a sunken vessel off Fahaheel south of Kuwait City yesterday. The dumped materials including plastic and iron items, pipes, ropes and wood are very much harmful to the marine life, team leader Walid Al-Fadhel said, adding that they have gathered close to the beach following the recent heavy rains. The team, which is affiliated with the Environmental Voluntary Foundation (EVF), has taken part in full-scale coastal areas' clean-up removing 10 tons of abandoned waste materials. — KUNA





KUWAIT: Former Turkish President Abdullah Gul is welcomed upon arrival to Kuwait. —KUNA

PAKISTANI PARLIAMENT SPEAKER IN KUWAIT ON OFFICIAL VISIT

KUWAIT: Speaker of the Pakistani National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq and a delegation with him arrived to Kuwait yesterday on an official visit. The speaker was received at the airport by National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanem, Pakistani Ambassador to Kuwait Mohammad Aslam Khan and Assistant Secretary-General of the National Assembly for Public Relations and Organizations Mahdi Al-Mahdi Al-Mutairat.

Meanwhile, former Turkish President Abdullah Gul arrived yesterday on a four-day official visit to Kuwait. He was received by Deputy Minister of Amiri Diwan Affairs Sheikh Ali Jarrah Al-Sabah and chief of the accompanying mission of honor, Advisor at the Amiri Diwan Khaled Yusuf Al-Fuleij. — KUNA



KUWAIT: National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanem meets Speaker of the Pakistani National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq. —KUNA

CHILD LAW REFLECTS INTEREST IN KEY SOCIETAL CATEGORY: GHANEM

KUWAIT: National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanem said yesterday the adoption of the law on children's rights during the last legislative term was an initial step towards the consecration of interest in the weighty societal category of children.

In a press statement marking the Universal Children's Day, Ghanem said: "The law on children's rights, which was passed by the National Assembly during the last term, encompassed all aspects of educational, psychological, physical, and right care and protection for children." He reiterated the assembly's unshakable interest in

the category of children, which determines and shapes the future of society.

On children's conditions in the Arab world, the speaker, who also doubles as Speaker of the Arab Inter-Parliamentary Union (AIPU), recalled the tragic circumstances experienced by Arab children in regions of armed conflicts in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, Syria, Iraq, Yemen and Libya. He stressed that the AIPU would give a top priority to the issues of particular societal categories in the Arab world such as women, the handicapped and children with a view to promoting and ensuring their alienable rights. — KUNA



BEIRUT: KRCs teams distribute relief aid to Syrian refugees in Lebanon. — KUNA

INCREASING NUMBER OF REFUGEES 'ALARMING'

NEW YORK/BEIRUT: The increasing number of refugees worldwide, namely Syrians, is an alarming factor that requires serious attention from the world, said Kuwait permanent envoy to the UN headquarters in New York Mansour Al-Otaibi.

Ambassador Otaibi's statement came during the UN General Assembly's discussions on the illegal immigrants in the Mediterranean late Friday. "The session reflects the international need to find a solution to the problem with its socio-economic repercussion," said Otaibi who stressed that the current crisis was the worst since War World II with some 60 million refugees and displaced around the world. He noted that the humanitarian crisis in Syria, entering its fifth year, was getting worse with millions losing their lives and some 13.5 million displaced within the country.

Four million

Over four million Syrian refugees are also suffering from the war in their country, said Otaibi who noted that Kuwait continued to support their fellow human being with three donor conferences held to help

the refugees. The Kuwaiti diplomat welcomed the results of the Geneva talks recently which aimed at finding a political solution for Syria.

Kuwait will be partaking and co-organizing the fourth donor conference for Syria to be held in London in February 2016, said Ambassador Otaibi, hoping that the event will help ease the suffering for the Syrian people and also contribute to a solution to the crisis.

Relief operations

Meanwhile, the Kuwait Red Crescent Society has proceeded with its relief operations in Lebanon aiding thousands of Syrian refugees. KRCs teams distributed food, detergents to Syrian families in Kherbet Roha in the Western Bekaa region and same supplies to others in Al-Talil in the northernmost province of Akkar, said Ahmad Al-Fegaan, a delegate of the society. Kuwait is a major supplier of necessities to thousands of refugees in Lebanon and other countries neighboring Syria. The Gulf state had hosted three international donation conferences, raising substantial financial funds for the refugees. — KUNA

MINISTRY OPENS FIRST CAFE ON FAILAKA ISLAND

KUWAIT: The Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor announced yesterday the opening of the first popular cafe on the Failaka Island since the liberation of Kuwait in 1991. The cafe is part of a plan aiming to promote domestic tourism, making the utmost of tourist sites nationwide, said the ministry's Assistant Undersecretary for Social

Development Affairs Ali Al-Roumi. The cafe-offers various services, including traditional foods, besides organizing contests and celebrations, both national and religious, Roumi said. There are plans to hold recreational activities for all ages so that people could enjoy the time they spend on the island, he said. —KUNA

MARRIAGE, DIVORCE CERTIFICATES ISSUED TO ILLEGAL RESIDENTS

KUWAIT: Around 1,439 marriage, divorce, and referral certificates were issued to illegal residents since January till September 30 of this year, the Central Agency for Illegal Residents said yesterday. The issuing of these certificates is done in a smooth and orderly

manner in cooperation with the agency, Justice Ministry official Waleed Al-Mawash said. He noted that issuing the documents came in line with cabinet resolution 409/2011 connected with easing the situation of illegal residents in the country. — KUNA



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Not enough awareness on need to control stray animals in Kuwait: Dr Nelson Gomez

Vet shares life, work experience in Kuwait

By Athoob Al-Shuaibi

KUWAIT: Inside one of the small, well-equipped rooms of the International Veterinary Hospital (IVH), you will find a vet who talks to dogs and cats as if he is talking to human beings. He listens to their growls, barks and meows with full attention in order to understand why they are upset and what is causing them discomfort. Sometimes, his patients get aggressive, but he loves what he is doing.

Meet Dr Nelson Gomez, who travels every morning to the middle of the desert in Wafra, where he works at the IVH to save dogs and cats along with an integrated team of specialists. He shared with Kuwait Times his life and work experiences as a vet in Kuwait.

Good opportunity

Gomez hails from Venezuela, and moved to Kuwait in 2014 as a veterinary doctor specialized in small animal surgeries. "It is a growing hospital and I had a good opportunity to become a part of its team. The job requires no less than five years of experience and recognition from a prestigious university or a master's degree," he said.

"Indeed, it is a complete career for me. I have always wanted be in the medical field. But what seemed to push me was that humans talk too much, and I want do something that does not put me in contact with humans. But at the end, we have to work with humans," Gomez explained.

During his veterinary work in Europe for six to seven years, he noticed that there were no stray cats and street dogs there because governments are taking control. There is also a database of microchip information about all cats and dogs. In addition, microchipping and vaccination is compulsory for pet owners, and whoever breaks the law gets fined.

On the contrary, there is not enough awareness on the importance of controlling the numbers of stray animals in Kuwait. "Many people here believe neutering is against Islamic teachings. There are a lot of street cats that people want to help, but they do not understand that the best help they can give to a street cat is to spay



Dr Nelson examines a cat.

or neuter it, because one female cat can give birth to four to six kittens. So, if you do not fix this problem, you are going to always face it," Dr Gomez said.

Dog lovers

In Kuwait, cat lovers outnumber dog lovers, though the numbers of the latter are on the rise. Interest in pets is growing due to the impact of social media, with its

videos of cute cats and intelligent dogs, and Instagram accounts of famous pets. "The problem here is that many individuals are financially enabled and have access to get whatever they want. Thus, they can get the most expensive dog breed. However, they are not used to having a dog and they don't want to take care of its needs. They don't want it to lick or bark, and are not willing to teach it. Therefore, they depend on housekeepers to take care of the dog or cat," Dr Gomez said.

"This is a big problem because the pet only socializes with the maid or the driver. When they bring the pet to us, we cannot get enough information in order to diagnose. We have no option but to guess what happened, and most of the time, they do not know or they do not want us or the owner to know what happened," he added.

"On the contrary, I am happy that there are a lot of people in Kuwait who are keen to learn about their pets and become proper animal lovers. They are on the right path. At the same time, they must learn the difference between bringing up a puppy and an animal rescued or obtained from a friend. They should always think about themselves and their pets to be as healthy as possible, so as not to transfer viruses or diseases to them or their family members," Dr Gomez noted.

Attention

"Pets need a lot of attention. People should be aware of the fact that even pets have feelings of jealousy. When a new child arrives, people neglect their pets and this makes them jealous. They need to be treated as members of the family and need to be loved," he stressed.

"My colleagues and I start working at 10:30 in the morning until 8:30 pm non-stop. As I am a surgeon, if there's an emergency, I stay until I fix it. I love surgery. Pleasure for me is seeing patients recover and their families happy. Outside work, I train at the gym every day in the morning before going to work. Also, I dine out with my workmates every Friday or Saturday to check out a new restaurant and discover a new taste. In fact, my favorite food now is Arabic food!" he remarked.



Dr Nelson Gomez

Dr Nelson Gomez's biography

- Dr Nelson Gomez graduated from the University Centroccidental Lisandro Alvarado (UCLA) in Venezuela in 2009 as a veterinary doctor.
- In 2011, Dr Nelson completed a Diploma in Small Animal Surgery and Anesthesia at the University Autonoma in Barcelona (UAB) in Spain.
- In 2013 Dr Nelson completed a Diploma in Small Animal Medicine from UAB.
- He worked at various hospitals in Valencia, Spain for five years as a veterinary doctor and surgeon.
- In August 2014, he moved to Kuwait in the position of veterinary doctor specialized in small animal surgeries.
- In November 2016, Dr Nelson will start an advanced course in orthopedic surgery in Madrid, Spain.



The Qout Market

KUWAIT, QOUT MARKET AND OOREDOO ARE BACK TOGETHER!

KUWAIT: This weekend saw the return of the highly popular Qout Market with thousands descending upon its new Murooj venue to snap up local produce and crafts. Local artisans displayed their wares or performed to the public - with the hope of making their big break. Ooredoo Kuwait, a member of the international Ooredoo Group, was once again present as the main sponsor of this, the Qout Market's third season, which will run from November 2015 to April 2016.

Ooredoo is offering an exclusive package that includes an iPhone 6s or iPhone 6s Plus, in addition to a Jawbone fitness tracker, an iPad Mini, a router, and a Macbook starting from KD 40 a month. The offer is available exclusively at Ooredoo's booth in Qout Market.

This weekend, Ooredoo engaged with participants and visitors through a special onsite booth and provided information to the entrepreneurs on how they can avail support from Kuwait's fastest growing and most advanced operator.

Mijbil Alayoub, Director of Corporate Communications at Ooredoo Kuwait said: "Ooredoo has developed a range of activities to support young people and Kuwait's growing community of entrepreneurs. Sponsorship of the Qout Market not only provides a platform for start-ups to test their products and find initial customers, but it also allows our teams to provide advice on the latest technologies that can help take a new concept around the world through the

power of information communications technology and digital commerce."

The 'Qout Market' took place at Murooj - a Sahara Golf Club project - and included local farm produce, artisanal food products and crafts, with a 'street food' section aimed at highlighting the culinary diversity of Kuwait's local food community. The market also offered a section dedicated for children's activities.



Ooredoo's booth at Qout Market



Ooredoo's offers at Qout Market



Ooredoo's team at Qout Market



KUWAIT: Head of Mission of Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus Hilmi Akil hosted a reception on the occasion of his country's national day. Officials, diplomats and media personalities attended the event.

— Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat



KUWAIT: Minister of Information Sheikh Salman Al-Humoud Al-Sabah chairs (right) the meeting of the steering committee of Kuwait Capital of Islamic Culture 2016. — KUNA

STATE AWARD TO BE GIVEN THROUGH TRANSPARENT PROCESS: INFO MINISTER

KUWAIT: The State Award will be given to winners through a transparent process that would take into consideration the high-quality of entries, said Minister of Information, Minister of State for Youth Affairs, and Chairman of the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters, Sheikh Salman Sabah Al-Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah.

This statement came while Sheikh Salman was heading the meeting for the State award committee, the Ministry of Information said in a statement early yesterday. Sheikh Salman said that the State award was in line with the government stance in supporting people who had provided valuable services to Kuwait.

Separately, Sheikh Salman Al-Humoud has affirmed that the national relevant authorities are preparing for distinguished celebrations for the occasion, Kuwait Capital of Islamic Culture 2016. Emerging from a meeting of the steering committee, held late on Friday, Sheikh Salman, who is also the Chairman of the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters, said the concerned authorities would seek to transmit several messages to the world; Kuwait's particular interest in culture and its advocacy of Islam as a religion of tolerance. He expressed deep gratitude to His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah for patronizing the cultural event. The Premier is also president of the organizing commission.

A work plan prepared by the cultural council was examined at the meeting, he said, indicating that it deals with organization of seminars and various other activities during the event schedule. "The discussions dealt with the outlook to promote the humanitarian and philanthropic activities, Kuwait is renowned of, as well as involving the youth in the event activities in addition to marketing the Kuwaiti tourism culture," he said.

The discussions during the meeting also touched on the planned inauguration of the two cultural centers, Jaber Al-Ahmad Cultural Center and Abdullah Al-Salem Cultural Center, in 2016, "that is in addition to selecting some landmarks to be enlisted in the record of the global heritage sites such as Failaka island, Kuwait Towers and Abdullah Al-Jaber Cultural Center," the minister added. He affirmed that the participants in the meeting agreed on the necessity of marketing the event locally and abroad, with a sound and well-pondered media strategy.

The meeting was attended by the cultural council Secretary General, Ali Al-Yoha, other council's officials, Deputy General Director and Chief Editor of Kuwait News Agency Saad Al-Ali and the Assistant Undersecretary of the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs, Daoud Al-Asousi. Other officials from the Ministry of Information and State departments were also present in the meeting. — KUNA

MIDEAST REGION IN TURMOIL: AMBASSADOR

LONDON: The current status quo and turmoil in the Middle East came as a result of instability in a number of states in the region, said Kuwait Ambassador to the UK Khaled Al-Duwaisan late Friday. The diplomat's statement came during the opening session of the 52nd congress of the UK branch of the National Kuwait Student Union (NUKS) held under the auspices of His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah.

The increasing number of terrorist attacks, which recently struck Beirut, Paris, and Mali, is alarming, said the Ambassador noting that Kuwait was also subjected to an act of terrorism

with the bombing that occurred at Imam Al-Sadeq Mosque back in June.

Despite that fact, the Kuwaiti leadership and people stood together to foil the terrorists' plan to destabilize the country, said Duwaisan who added that terrorists failed to consider that even the Iraqi invasion in 1990 could not divide the Kuwaitis. Speaking about the students' conference, Duwaisan said that Kuwaiti students' role was not only to gather knowledge while studying abroad. He stressed that students also make it their mission to connect with British society, building bridges of hope and cultural understanding. — KUNA

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التنبه Al-Anbaa

'OH ISLAM!'

By Nermin Al-Houti

I am not an Islamic preacher, and I did not study fiqh, and did not go deep into Islamic sharia sciences, but I am among a majority of those who say "There is no God but Allah, and Mohammad is the Messenger of Allah." Out of this belief and out of this religion start the words that are full of sadness over what we read, hear and see all day long about Islam.

Every morning, foreign media will not be void of attributing any tragedy that took place or will happen to the religion of Islam, and here we say 'Oh Islam!' Our words will not be in defense of Islam, and our statements are not a fort for our Islamic sharia, but our message today is directed to Islamic media: Where is the role of Arab and Muslim media in defending the banner of our faith "There is no God but Allah, and Mohammad is the Messenger of Allah?"

Each one of us knows the importance of

How many suggestions go to support our civilization and faith, and protect our pure religion?

media and its influence over other societies to spread culture and civilization, but what is going on with our Arab media? There is only a negative image of Muslim civilization, and some people may ask why.

How many suggestions go to support our civilization and faith, and protect our pure religion? For example, where are the programs that have content about Islam, and its respect of other religions and its rejection of terror? Where is the joint Arab production for Arab countries to come out with a movie, even if short, about the forgiveness of the religion of Islam? Where are the dialogue programs that are supposed to have a deterrent answer to those harming Islam? Where are the political and media activists and their statements about the banner of Islam?

A last word: We do not want meetings, we do not want silence - we want positive Arab Muslim media so that we do not become people who only have one phrase: 'Oh Islam!'

— Translated by Kuwait Times



IS network

Al-Jarida

التنبه

Al-Anbaa

DECISIVE STORMS

By Salah Al-Sayer

Coinciding with the current climate changes, violent storms and heavy rain, our Arab region is currently experiencing some serious acute political changes that started unfolding with the fake 'Arab Spring' and climaxed with the appearance of IS that turned into an umbrella for all terrorist or intelligence groups. Developments can now be explained in various multiple ways such as the recent massacres in Paris. Serious developments are rapidly and suspiciously developing as if they were controlled and directed by certain culprits, programs or pretexts. The purpose behind this 'organized chaos' might be to perplex decision makers and confuse their advisors in preparation to commence an even fiercer and harder phase that still to come over the coming few days, especially in view of failing to assess IS' powers, as if this terrorist organization has come out of the blue or from outer space!

Scoping and studying regional incidents and developments, one will unfortunately find them much faster

and mightier than all official reactions and government initiatives with only one exception - the 'Decisive Storm' operation launched by the Arab coalition forces in Yemen. At the same time, more moderate Arab countries are required to steadily carry on with gigantic leaps forward in initiatives that would enable them to control the course of events, which requires more and more decisive storms in various political, educational and economical fields. — Translated by Kuwait Times

The purpose behind this 'organized chaos' might be to perplex decision makers

INTERNATIONAL INVENTION FAIR MIDDLE EAST HONORS ZAIN

KUWAIT: Zain, the leading telecommunications company in Kuwait, successfully concluded its strategic partnership of the 8th International Invention Fair Middle East, organized by the Kuwait Science Club. The event was held under the patronage of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah during 16-19 November 2015.

Head of the organizational committee of the International Invention Fair Engineer Eyad Al-Kharafi along with Chairman of Kuwait's Science Club Engineer Ahmad Al-Manfouhi presented Zain with a token of appreciation during the conclusion ceremony for the company's efforts in supporting the fair. Local and international inventors displayed their cutting-edge inventions during the fair, which drew the participation of the largest number of Kuwaiti and Arab inventors.

Zain's support of this event since its inception is part of the company's keenness to encourage Kuwaiti and Arab

nationals' endeavors in the fields of science and creativity. Zain supports such areas as it believes the opportunity for young Kuwaiti and Arab inventors to exchange knowledge and experience with international inventors is a powerful and fruitful experience.

Zain will continue to foster young talent, believing that the current generation of youngsters holds the keys to the future development of Kuwait and need to be well supported by private and governmental entities.

The 8th International Invention Fair is one of the most significant and largest specialized exhibitions of inventions in the Middle East, and is considered as the second largest such international exhibition in the world. The fair is part of the International Exhibition of Geneva, and offers an opportunity for inventions from different cultures to be exhibited and the strengthening of relationships among inventors and corporations.



Crime

Report

DUO ARRESTED WITH 6,000 TRAMADOL PILLS

KUWAIT: Criminal detectives arrested four persons with possession of 6,000 Tramadol tablets they intended to sell in Khaitan. A security source said that detectives asked an undercover source to buy Tramadol tablets from one of the suspects, and the arrest was made during the exchange. The suspect then told detectives about three other accomplices of his, who were arrested and sent to the Drugs Control General Department.

Ex-con arrested

Capital police arrested an ex-convict after foiling his attempt to escape on foot. The suspect was found wanted on 18 felony and civil cases. He was sent to criminal detectives. A security source said that policemen stopped a vehicle while on a night mission. The driver seemed nervous, so the officers inquired about him and discovered that he is wanted authorities. When the suspect was asked to step out of the car, he came out then started to run away, but was chased down and arrested following a fierce resistance.

Drunk employee

A citizen went furious when he discovered his driver drunk. The citizen heard loud laughs coming from his driver's room and discovered that he had been drinking with another man, so he locked them in and called police. A police patrol went to the house and found the two extremely drunk, so they were taken to the police station and were charged with drunkenness.

Drunk driver caught

Southern roads patrols arrested an ex-convict drinking alcohol in his car, and found three bottles of liquor along with seven cans of beer with his possession. The driver was stopped as he was driving recklessly. The suspect was sent to the Drug Control General Department for further action.

Break in and theft

A beauty salon owner in Jabriya filed a case with local police, saying that unidentified thieves broke into the salon and stole cash and material from inside. Fingerprints were lifted from the scene. The prosecution ordered the case to be registered as a felony. The case was given to detectives to identify the suspects.

Pedestrian mugged

A man impersonating a detective stopped a pedestrian in Fahaheel, then stole his cell phone and KD 260 in cash after beating him up when the victim refused to allow him to search him. The suspect then escaped in a vehicle that carried no license plates, according to the victim's statements he made at the area's police station. Detectives are working on the case. —Al-Rai

AHLI UNITED BANK SPONSORS 6TH FIQH SHURA CONFERENCE



KUWAIT: Out of its pioneering role in supporting Islamic economy and developing Islamic finance industry, Ahli United Bank has announced its sponsorship and participation in the sixth Fiqh Shura Conference for Islamic institutions organized by Shura Sharia Consulting Company from November 16-17, 2015.

On this occasion, Ahmed Zulficar, Senior Deputy Chief Executive Officer Banking Support Group at Ahli United Bank stated in a press release that he appreciates participation in such events which helps support the Islamic economy in Kuwait, its promotion and its product development through the discussion of various issues relevant to Islamic finance. The purpose is to keep pace with the continuous development in financing transactions and their constant updates, deepening them from sharia perspective and deriving sharia rules. This goes in line with the Bank management's concern for and participation in developing Islamic banking to meet banking and economic changes and developments.

Zulficar added: "Ahli United Bank's support for such conferences and events which discuss the development of the Islamic banking industry stems from the Bank's vision of the significance of Islamic financing industry and its growing role in the world. Ahli United Bank converted to Islamic banking in April 2010 due to its belief in Islamic banking and its future growth.

As a result of the conversion, the Bank's success grew under the Islamic sharia performance and has managed over the past 5 years to occupy a prominent position among leading Islamic banks in the region. As a result of this success the Bank has been awarded the highest evaluations from international rating agencies. The Bank also received the 'Best Islamic Bank in Kuwait Award' from the Banker magazine for the third consecutive year."

Zulficar expressed interest in the issues discussed in the conference this year and emphasized that Ahli United Bank saves no effort in supporting the Islamic banking industry with its great potential though not underestimating the real challenges. He urged all parties concerned to support the Islamic financial industry to achieve further sustainable progress.



KUWAIT: The Commercial Bank of Kuwait (CBK) provided special devices to the Al-Noor School for Girls with Special Needs, out of its commitment towards its social responsibility programs.



Storm blankets parts of US Midwest with snow
Page 9

'WE DON'T TARGET CIVILIANS' IN YEMEN: COALITION

ASEAN-United States of America Summit

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia 21 November 2015



KUALA LUMPUR: US President Barack Obama and other leaders pose for a photo at the end of the US-ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) meeting yesterday. —AP

OBAMA: NO SAFE HAVEN FOR EXTREMISTS

MALAYSIA CALLS IS 'NEW EVIL', URGES WORLD TO CONFRONT IT FORCEFULLY

KUALA LUMPUR: President Barack Obama promised yesterday that Islamic extremists would find no safe haven anywhere, while the leader of Muslim-majority Malaysia branded the Islamic State group as a "new evil" that has blasphemed the religion, and urged world leaders to confront it forcefully.

Obama and Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak were speaking separately at an Asian summit taking place against the backdrop of recent violence including the bombing of a Russian jet over Egypt, a suicide bombing in Beirut, a series of attacks in Paris, the slaying of a Malaysian hostage by militants in the Philippines and Friday's attack on a Mali hotel.

Najib said he had planned to begin his speech by talking about the achievements of the 10-nation Association of Southeast Asian Nations, or ASEAN, of which he is the current chairman. "But the events of recent days and weeks have cast a shadow over us all," he said in remarks to open the ASEAN summit. "Be assured that we stand with you against this new evil that blasphemes against the name of Islam." "The perpetrators ... do not represent any race,

religion or creed. They are terrorists and should be confronted as such, with the full force of the law," Najib said in a stirring speech that repeatedly emphasized the tolerance of Islam.

He also cautioned that a military solution alone will not be enough to defeat terrorism. "It is the ideology propagated by these extremists that is the cause of this sadistic violence. ... We must not lose sight of the fact that the ideology itself must be exposed as the lie that it is - and vanquished. For it is not Islamic. It cannot be."

Later, Obama spoke at a business conference on the sidelines of the summit, and referred to the Mali attack that left 20 people dead, including one American. "With allies and partners, the United States will be relentless to those who target our citizens. We will continue to root out terrorist networks. We will not allow these killers to have a safe haven," Obama said, adding that the world is determined "to push back on the hateful ideologies that fuel this terrorism."

Obama and Najib will attend a larger

summit of 18 Asia-Pacific countries today. Among them are Australia, Brunei, Japan, New Zealand, Singapore, Vietnam and Malaysia, which are all members of a new US-led free trade agreement known as the Trans-Pacific Partnership that the Obama administration had pushed hard to achieve.

"This is a prime example of America and our partners working together to shape the world we want for future generations," Obama said. But, he said, TPP is more than a trade pact. It "is a long-term investment in our shared security and in universal human rights ... when trade is done right it can help fuel progress in other areas," he said.

After his speech, Obama visited a school where many of the children are Rohingya Muslim refugees from Myanmar. In an apparent rebuke to those who are against allowing Syrian refugees into the United States, Obama said that the Rohingya children "were indistinguishable from any child in America." "The notion that somehow we would be fearful of them - that our politics would somehow leave them to turn our sights away from their plight - is not representative of the best of who we are," he said.

Refugee problem

Malaysia is home to some 150,000 refugees from various countries. They include the Rohingya, who face discrimination from the Buddhist majority in their native Myanmar, where the government does not recognize them as citizens. Still, the plight of the Rohingya was not discussed during the ASEAN summit. Instead, its centerpiece was the formal establishment of the AESAN Community to create a unified economic entity today. Envisaged in 2002, work on the community began in 2007, and it's already delivering benefits to the region. Najib listed them in his speech:

Tariffs on trade in the region have been reduced to zero, or near zero, helping bring down prices of goods; Unemployment is down to 3.3 percent; Citizens enjoy visa-free travel through nine out of 10 countries; Citizens are allowed to work in other countries in the region in eight major sectors, including tourism. Najib suggested that economic growth has been the bedrock of the region's relative peace and progress. The combined GDP of the 10 nations - a motley conglomeration of 630 million people following Islam, Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Sikhism, Confucianism and Taoism - was

\$2.6 trillion in 2014, an 80 percent increase in seven years.

Despite the good news that Najib delivered, the community falls short in more politically sensitive areas such as opening up agriculture, steel, auto production and other protected sectors. Intra-regional trade has remained at around 24 percent of ASEAN's total global trade for the last decade, far lower than 60 percent in the European Union.

There are also other hurdles, such as

corruption, uneven infrastructure and unequal costs of transportation and shipping. A wide economic gulf divides Southeast Asia's rich and middle income economies - Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore, Brunei, Thailand and the Philippines - and its four less developed members, Communist Vietnam and Laos, Myanmar and Cambodia.

The AEC was envisaged to face competition from China and India for market share and investments. ASEAN's relation-

ship with China is highly complex and ambivalent. Despite being a competitor, China has also played the role of a principal financier in helping ASEAN reach its goals to temper its image as an economic threat. At the same time, it has not hesitated to bully ASEAN countries in staking its claim to most of the South China Sea, where many ASEAN members have competing claims. China has also irked them by creating artificial islands from reefs to bolster its claim. —AP

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WHY A MOM ENTRUSTED HER FAMILY TO PEOPLE SMUGGLERS

TRIPOLI: What drives a woman to get herself deep in debt so she can send her family away? Love, fear and life in a society where the future is bleak at best. Salma is Syrian, married to a Palestinian with a Lebanese passport and living in Libya, a country torn apart by the 2011 revolution and its aftermath. Had her home country not been embroiled in a bitter civil war, the petite 42-year-old mother of six would have considered sending the family to Syria. Why? Because her husband Salim is ill and Salma is now the family breadwinner.

Salma finds it hard to hold back the tears as she tells her story, sitting in a three-room flat in Tripoli with just a mobile phone for company. She came to Libya in the 1990s, looking for work. Salma met and married Salim, and their four boys and two girls aged between seven and 20 were all born there. Her mechanic husband had a successful garage before he got Parkinson's disease.

In itself that would have eventually robbed him of his livelihood, but Salim then had a stroke. "It was in 2000 that I became the head of the family, not out of choice," she told AFP. "My husband's illness was getting worse and it was up to me to take care of the family." That

meant working in an environment dominated by men, not easy for a woman in Libya, especially a foreigner. I also had to be a mother and wife. "I was barely 27," she said, cupping cardamom-scented coffee in tired hands.

Girls were Targeted

Her son Ayman, 17, was abducted twice by neighbourhood thugs and begged his mother to send him to Europe. "I managed to scrape together \$1,000 and decided to let him risk it," she said. That was in September last year. "He now goes to school and a charity is looking after him." Two months later, Salma spent another \$1,000 so her oldest boy, 19-year-old Hadi, could join him. "They both left from Zwara (around 160 km) west of Tripoli and were picked up by the Italian navy," she said. In Sicily, the authorities gave them €75 (\$80) so they could get to Milan by train, and then they went to Germany.

The worsening situation in Libya led Salma to risk everything. "My husband, my daughters May (20) and Mona (16) and sons Omar (12) and Manar (7) left from Zwara in April this year," she said. "The girls had to get out of Libya. It would have been too risky to keep them here, where they were always being

harassed, and not just because they're beautiful," she said. "Because they were 'foreigners' and their father was sick they were very vulnerable." They had to move house more than once after armed men tried to abduct the girls. "We became resigned to keeping them hidden away in the house rather than risk spoiling their future," she said.

'Heart Ripped Out'

Before departing on their perilous trip the girls kept changing their minds, not wanting to leave their mother, friends and the only life they had known. Her youngest Manar would have stayed, but "seeing his tears at the thought of being separated from his father" she gave in. "It was like having my heart ripped out," she said. Then came the waiting, not knowing their fate. "I would have gone too, but I had to stay here so I could pay back the \$4,000 I borrowed to pay for their trip." She does menial jobs that hardly cover the rent, let alone her debt to the people smugglers.

In Germany, Salim and their children are learning the language, and he has access to proper medical care. They hope to be given refugee status. But even there the family is separated. The two boys who went first are in Munich



TRIPOLI: Salma, a Syrian mother of six, checks her phone at her home in the Libyan capital on Nov 15, 2015. — AFP

and Dusseldorf, while the others are in Frankfurt with their father. Salma is able to keep in touch, though, thanks to Skype and Viber.

"Mona and May call me when Omar won't get up to go to school," she said, smiling. "Thousands of kilometres away, and it's still me who has to get him out of bed. If it wasn't for the war in Syria I'd have gone there with my family. Life

here is meaningless without them, but what keeps me going is knowing they are well and have a future. That makes everything worth it." Salma too wants to cross the sea, but the children are telling her to wait until they are properly settled before the family reunion. "It was the worst experience of our lives," May and Mona told their mother of the voyage north. — AFP

'WE DON'T TARGET CIVILIANS' IN YEMEN: SAUDI COALITION

RIYADH: The Saudi-led coalition's combat planning chief yesterday defended the air war in Yemen against widespread international concern about high numbers of civilian casualties. In an exclusive interview with AFP, the Royal Saudi Air Force brigadier general - who cannot be identified under the military's security restrictions - accused rights groups and other critics of "looking through one eye only".

"They are receiving all the information from the adversary," he said of Yemen's Huthi rebels supported by forces loyal to ex-president Ali Abdullah Saleh. "We are sticking to the rules, the international rules and Geneva Convention, first, and law of conflict," said the brigadier. "We don't deviate from those standards," the brigadier told AFP during the first visit by a foreign journalist to the coalition's planning and operations centre at King Salman Air Base in Riyadh. "We don't target civilians," he said, nearly 10 months into the Arab coalition's war in support of Yemen's President Abedrabbo Mansour Hadi.

The United Nations reports more than 5,700 people have been killed in Yemen, about half of them civilians, since March when fighting intensified. In late September and early October, the coalition twice denied it had bombed weddings in Yemen after dozens of civilians were killed. "It is propaganda," the brigadier said. Late last month, the French-based charity Doctors Without Borders (MSF) accused the coalition of bombing one of its hospitals in the rebel-held Saada area, an incident condemned by UN chief Ban Ki-moon.

"The GPS coordinates were regularly transmitted to the coalition," MSF said, but senior coalition intelligence officers denied this to AFP. The officer in charge of the intelligence cell said, however, that there are around 4,800 points on a list not to be targeted, and it is updated daily. These include medical and UN facilities, historical locations and schools. "First of all we are human, and we don't... target anybody who's not in the conflict," the planning chief said.

'They are Professional'

He said targeting is verified many times to ensure that civilians will not be killed. The joint forces commander sends targets to the intelligence section which makes sure the objective is in line with the rules of engagement to avoid civilian casualties, the brigadier said. Intelligence forwards it to the planning section "so they start to study it again", he said, before it is further reviewed by others. They assign the right type of weapon to the appropriate aircraft as a further measure to avoid killing or injuring civilians, the brigadier said.

In June, New York-based Human Rights Watch cautioned that the coalition "should not use explosive weapons with wide-area effect in populated areas because of the inevitable harm they cause to civilians". The watchdog said it had investigated coalition air strikes in Saada city on markets, civilian homes, a school and petrol station that killed dozens of civilians "in apparent violation of the laws of war".

Amnesty International in May said it had gathered eyewitness testimony pointing to "a repeated failure" by the coalition to take adequate precautions against civilian deaths. The brigadier said that the more than 50 people working around the clock in his planning cell have taken courses in the United States, Britain and France. "The people here, they are trained very well and they are professional," he said of the uniformed personnel working at computers outside his office.

On another floor is the operations centre, where officers monitor large screens showing surveillance images from Yemen. The centre is linked directly to the coalition commander. "We know where our aircraft are now over Yemen and what they are doing," the planning chief said. Aircrews also must ensure no civilians are in the area before releasing their bombs, which are guided by GPS or laser for accuracy. "We abort our mission" if civilians are present, the brigadier said. "Because if we don't target today we can target tomorrow or after tomorrow. We are not in a hurry." — AFP



RIYADH: Saudi officers monitor air operations over Yemen at the Command and Control Centre at King Salman Airbase yesterday. — AFP



BAMAKO: Malian President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita speaks to the press during a visit to the Radisson Blu hotel yesterday. — AFP

MALI HUNTS FOR SUSPECTS AFTER DEADLY HOTEL SIEGE

PUTIN SEEKS GLOBAL ANTI-TERRORISM FIGHT

BAMAKO: Mali was hunting yesterday for suspects over the jihadist siege at a luxury hotel that left 19 people dead, mostly foreigners, as the president warned that no-one in the world could hide from terrorism. The government has declared a state of emergency after the bloody nine-hour hostage-taking at the Radisson Blu hotel in the capital Bamako on Friday, exactly a week after the Paris massacre. The Al-Murabitoun group, an Al-Qaeda affiliate led by notorious one-eyed Algerian militant Mokhtar Belmokhtar, nicknamed the "Uncatchable" or "Mr Marlboro", claimed the attack.

Gunmen went on the rampage through the hotel from the early morning, shooting in the corridors and taking 170 guests and staff hostage. The assault, which ended when Malian and international troops stormed the hotel, left 19 people dead as well as two attackers, President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita said. The victims included six Russians, three Chinese, two Belgians, an American and a Senegalese. A Malian military source had said earlier there were at least 27 dead, while at least "three terrorists had been killed or blown themselves up". Authorities are now "actively pursuing" at least three people over the attack in the former French colony, one security source told AFP.

'Value of Life'

Keita, who vowed in an overnight televised address that "terror will not win", visited the site of the carnage yesterday. "Nowhere in the world is one safe from these barbarians from another time," he said, adding that the attackers had "decided to break with humanity". Mali will

begin three days of national mourning today. Security remained tight around the Radisson and other hotels in Bamako and was also boosted at public buildings and banks. The attack came as fears mount over jihadist threats a week after 130 people died in the Paris attacks claimed by the Islamic State group, which also said it had downed a Russian passenger jet in Egypt on Oct 31.

US President Barack Obama and his Russian and Chinese counterparts Vladimir Putin and Xi Jinping all condemned the hotel siege. "This barbarity only stiffens our resolve to meet this challenge," Obama said of the global terrorist threat. Mali has been torn apart by unrest since the north fell under the control of jihadist groups linked to Al-Qaeda in 2012. The Islamists were largely ousted by a French-led military operation launched the following year, but large swathes of Mali remain lawless. UN chief also condemned Friday's "horrific terrorist attack," suggesting the violence was aimed at destroying peace efforts in the country.

Six employees of Russian regional airline Volga-Dnepr were killed, Russia's foreign ministry said, while six others were rescued. Putin sent a telegram of condolences to Keita and said "the widest international cooperation" was needed to confront global terrorism, according to a statement by the Kremlin.

Dramatic Rescue

The assault began around 0700 GMT, when gunmen pulled up at the hotel and starting shooting their way inside, taking guests and staff hostage. Malian television broadcast chaot-

ic scenes from inside the building as police and other security personnel ushered bewildered guests along corridors to safety. Special forces - including Malian, French and two US soldiers who were also in the area - staged a dramatic floor-by-floor rescue, ending the siege after about nine hours.

In an audio recording broadcast by Al-Jazeera television, Belmokhtar's group claimed responsibility, saying it had worked with Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb. French Defence Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian said Belmokhtar, one of the world's most wanted men, was indeed "likely" the brains behind the assault. The jihadist is also accused of spearheading an attack on an Algerian gas plant in 2013 in which around 40 hostages were killed, most of them Westerners.

Attackers 'Spoke English'

The palatial 190-room Radisson, regarded as one of west Africa's best hotels, is a favourite with entrepreneurs, tourists and government officials from across the world. Guinean singer Sekouba Bambino Diabate, who was among the survivors, told AFP the gunmen spoke English among themselves. "They were firing inside the hotel, in the corridors," Diabate said. France has more than 1,000 troops in its former colony, a key battleground of the Barkhane counter-terror mission spanning five countries in Africa's restive Sahel region. The attack follows a hotel siege in August in the central Mali town of Serevo in which five UN workers and four soldiers were killed. Five people were also killed in an assault on a Bamako restaurant in March. — Agencies

RUSSIA POUNDS IS TARGETS IN SYRIA

BEIRUT: Russia has bombed the Islamic State group in the heaviest strikes in eastern Syria since the war began. The United Nations, meanwhile, passed a motion calling for action against IS, a week after 130 people were killed in Paris, sparking international condemnation and fears of similar attacks elsewhere in Europe.

Russian and Syrian warplanes carried out more than 70 strikes in eastern Deir Ezzor province on Friday, killing at least 36 people including 10 children, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said. The Britain-based group said the raids hit several cities and towns as well as three oilfields, and were the heaviest bombardment of the region since the conflict began in March 2011. Most of Deir Ezzor province, including large parts of its capital, is held by IS. The regime still controls the military airport and several smaller areas.

Yesterday, fighting raged between IS and regime forces around the airport, a day after clashes killed 30 people, 22 of them IS militants, according to the Observatory. Russia began its bombing campaign in support of President Bashar Al-Assad on September 30, and pledged to step up the strikes after IS claimed that a bomb downed a Russian passenger jet over Egypt last month, killing all 224 people on board.

Rebels Capture IS Villages

On Friday, Russia said it had fired cruise missiles from warships in the Caspian Sea and claimed to have killed 600 fighters in recent strikes. The Observatory says Russian strikes have killed more than 1,300 people since they began, a third of them civilians. It says 381 IS fighters have been killed in the strikes, along with 547 rebels from other groups including Al-Qaeda affiliate Al-

Nusra Front. It said 403 civilians have been killed, among them 97 children. Russia's military involvement in Syria has stirred tensions with Turkey, which backs the uprising against Assad and has accused Moscow of failing to respect its border and airspace in the campaign.

The Turkish state-run Anatolia news agency reported yesterday that Syrian Turkmen rebels seized from IS the villages of Harjaleh and Dalha in northern Aleppo province near the Turkish border. It said 70 IS jihadists were killed in the battle for the villages which the Turkmen captured with air support from American and Turkish warplanes. Turkish officials have said a major joint air operation against IS with the United States was planned, with Turkmen forces fighting on the ground. They said the aim is to clear of jihadists a 98-km stretch of Syria's northern border with Turkey still controlled by IS. — AFP



French navy technicians work near a French Rafale aircraft on the flight deck on the aircraft carrier Charles-de-Gaulle in the eastern Mediterranean sea yesterday. — AFP

STORM BLANKETS PARTS OF US MIDWEST WITH SNOW

CHICAGO: The first significant wintry storm of the season blanketed parts of the Midwest with a foot of snow and more was on the way yesterday, creating hazardous conditions as some travelers prepared to depart for the Thanksgiving holiday. While winter has not officially begun, the shovels and snowblowers were out from South Dakota and southern Minnesota, to Iowa, Wisconsin and northern Illinois. The National Weather Service said the snow was to continue in Illinois and Indiana yesterday, as well as move into Michigan before heading northeast into Canada late yesterday.

"In those areas, it is going to be a very tough travel day," said National Weather Service meteorologist Bruce Terry in College Park, Maryland. Chicago's O'Hare International Airport had 4 inches of snow by early Saturday. About 250 flights in and out of the busy airport had been canceled by Saturday morning, according to the tracking website FlightAware.com, while Midway International Airport had canceled about 100 flights.

Roads were slushy due to a rain and snow mix around the Chicago area, which was forecast to get between six and 10 inches. Marengo, about 65 miles northwest of the city, recorded a foot of snow, according to weather service

meteorologist Bruce Sullivan. The Illinois Tollway, which maintains interstate tollways in 11 counties, said it had 185 snowplows ready to go and 84,000 tons of salt stockpiled.

Temperatures plunged behind the front. Sioux Falls, South Dakota, reached 11 degrees Saturday and the town of Estherville in northern Iowa was even colder at 6 degrees with a wind chill of minus 4, the weather service said. Southeastern South Dakota got up to 18 inches of snow on Friday, Terry said. In Iowa, Des Moines received 6 inches by late Friday and amounts of a foot or more were common in northern Iowa. The highest recorded snowfall in the state was 17 inches, the weather service said.

The Iowa Department of Transportation warned people in Des Moines and several other cities not to travel because of the hazardous conditions. Iowa State Patrol Sgt. Nathan Ludwig said troopers in northern and western Iowa were seeing many cars in ditches, especially near Mason City and Council Bluffs, the Des Moines Register reported. It is not unusual for snow to fall in the Midwest before Thanksgiving, Terry said. "Some of those amounts are pretty impressive for this time of year," he added. — AP



SIoux FALLS, South Dakota: A man uses a snow blower to clear the sidewalk near his house during the first snow of the season on Friday. — AP



DES MOINES, Iowa: Republican presidential candidates (from left) Sen Rand Paul, Sen Marco Rubio, Ben Carson and Sen Ted Cruz stand onstage during the Presidential Family Forum on Friday. — AP

REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES TALK RELIGION, SECURITY AT FORUM

HOPEFULS KEEP THE TONE CORDIAL

DES MOINES, Iowa: Republican presidential candidates gathered Friday in Iowa avoided talking about registering Muslims, comparing some Syrian refugees to rabid dogs or even attacking each other. Instead, they held a civil conversation and focused their criticism on US President Barack Obama. Seven of the 2016 candidates took on a cordial tone and almost universally agreed about protection of religious liberty during a forum put on by an evangelical conservative group that drew more than 1,000 people. But they differed in style and tone as potential commanders in chief in light of the attacks in Paris by the Islamic State.

The emerging rivalry between Texas Sen Ted Cruz and Florida Sen Marco Rubio was seen in the candidates' description of their approach to the Islamic State. Cruz, a favorite among evangelical conservatives, won instant applause in defending his call for giving preference to Christian refugees leaving Syria. "It is neither offensive nor un-American to embrace the simple commonsense proposition that, of course, we should defend this nation and not invite in people who the administration cannot guarantee are not terrorists here to murder innocent Americans," he said.

Rubio, seeking to appeal to both mainstream and religious conservatives, tried to project com-

petence as a potential commander in chief. "Paris occurred and the ISIS attacks are occurring because ISIS has a safe haven in Syria and Iraq and increasingly in Libya from where they are training fighters and coordinating these attacks abroad," he said. "We should not allow these safe havens to exist. They should be targeted now."

Also attending the roundtable-style conversation moderated by Republican pollster Frank Luntz were retired neurosurgeon Ben Carson, Kentucky Sen Rand Paul, former Arkansas Gov Mike Huckabee, former Pennsylvania Sen Rick Santorum and former technology executive Carly Fiorina. Christian conservative voters traditionally wield significant influence in the Iowa caucuses because they tend to be organized and motivated to participate. Carson has led some recent Iowa polls and has a strong evangelical following. The soft-spoken Carson was a less active part of the conversation than many of the others on the stage, especially on issues of foreign policy. He cited the rise of "political correctness" as a key problem in public discourse, saying it is "used as a control mechanism and it's used for intimidation".

Discussions

The wide-ranging discussion also dealt with

religious liberty, foreign policy and education. Immigration policy was not discussed, and no specific questions were asked about the concept of a government database to track Muslims in the United States, which drew condemnation from several Republican candidates after rival Donald Trump expressed support for the idea.

Questions about faith at the forum were aimed at illustrating the candidates' beliefs, not pointing up any differences among them. "All the people on this stage ... love our nation, love our country, and love God," Fiorina said. "People of faith make better leaders. Faith gives us humility," Paul repeated a call for Republicans to push Democrats on whether they support any restrictions on abortion access. "We're going to make them defend that 7 pound babies have no rights a minute before they're born," he said.

Protesters opposing the deportation of millions of immigrants in the country illegally interrupted the beginning of the forum and were removed by police. Like-minded demonstrators continued to interrupt the event now and then and were removed. Huckabee said he wasn't troubled by the ruckus. "I realize it's a reminder that we live in the greatest country on earth and we allow people to disagree with us," he said. — AP

DEMOCRATS PUSH TO PREVENT GUN SALES TO TERROR SUSPECTS

WASHINGTON: Congressional Democrats are trying to build support for an effort to bar gun purchases by terror suspects, hoping to take advantage of the same public anxieties about security that gave Republicans a ringing House victory. The Democratic push seems likely to fall victim to opposition from the National Rifle Association and congressional gun-rights backers, chiefly Republicans, who have smothered firearms curbs for years. If the Republicans who control Congress block votes on the proposal, Democrats hope to profit politically by winning sympathy from angry voters.

Surveillance

Gun dealers are prohibited from selling to 10 categories of people, including many convicted criminals or those with severe mental illness. But people appearing on the government's terror watch lists - including those kept off from airlines - are not automatically disqualified from buying weapons from gun dealers. The FBI is notified when a background check for the purchase of firearms or explosives generates a match with the watch list, and agents often use that information to step up surveillance on suspects.

By law, people can try persuading the Justice Department to remove their names from terror lists or can file

which claimed at least 130 lives and for which the Islamic State, which has also threatened the US, has claimed responsibility. "It is appalling that anti-gun politicians are exploiting the Paris terrorist attacks to push their gun-control agenda and distract from President Obama's failed foreign policy," Baker said.

Feinstein's measure echoes legislation that the late Sen Frank Lautenberg proposed repeatedly over the last decade and that Rep Peter King has long pushed. None of those measures has ever received a vote. Feinstein introduced her bill in February. But last week's mass killings in Paris have injected new life into terrorism and public safety as top-tier political issues.

Just Thursday, Republicans took advantage of voters' security jitters and muscled legislation through the House preventing Syrian and Iraqi refugees from entering the US until the administration tightens restrictions on their entry. Forty-seven Democrats voted for the bill, ignoring a veto threat by President Barack Obama, who said the current screening system is strong and accused Republicans of playing on panicked voters. House Speaker Paul Ryan did not respond directly when asked Thursday if he favored barring people on terror lists from buying guns. "We are just beginning this process of reassessing all of our security stances," he said.

Donald Stewart, spokesman for Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said McConnell has not said whether he would be open to a vote on Feinstein's bill. But opposition from Republicans and some Democrats to curbing firearms runs deep, and such legislation would require support from 60 of the 100 senators. Democrats could not attain that margin even when they had a Senate majority in the months after the 2012 massacre of 20 first-graders and six adults in Newtown, Connecticut.

Though the Senate had showdown votes on gun curbs in early 2013, it did not revisit the issue as the 2014 elections approached and Reid opted to protect vulnerable Democrats from potentially angering constituents. The GOP-run House has held no votes on major gun control measures since the Newtown killings. Feinstein's bill isn't the only gun-related measure Democrats may pursue. A measure by Sen Dick Durbin would bar gun sales to foreigners in the US from the 38 countries from which visitors need not have visas. — AP



WASHINGTON: In this June 2, 2015 file photo, Sen Dianne Feinstein speaks with reporters on Capitol Hill. — AP

"By leaving this terrorist loophole open, Republicans are leaving every community in America vulnerable to attacks by terrorists armed with assault rifles and explosives purchased legally, in broad daylight," Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid said Friday in a written statement. The bill by Sen Dianne Feinstein would have the attorney general compile names of known and suspected terrorists, likely drawing from huge lists the government already keeps. Federally licensed gun dealers would be barred from selling firearms to people on that list if government officials believed they planned to use the weapons for terrorism.

lawsuits challenging their inclusion. The lists are overwhelmingly composed of foreigners. Between 2004 and 2014, people on one terror watch list underwent background checks to buy guns 2,233 times and were allowed to make the purchase 91 percent of the time, according to a March report by the Government Accountability Office, an investigative agency of Congress.

NRA spokeswoman Jennifer Baker noted that there have been numerous instances of innocent people mistakenly added to terror lists. She also accused Democrats of trying to take advantage of heightened public alarm following last week's attacks in Paris,



KUWAIT
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29 November - 2 December 2015
Jumeirah Messilah Beach Hotel and Spa, Kuwait

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السيد/ نزار العدساني
نائب رئيس مجلس الإدارة
والرئيس التنفيذي لمؤسسة البترول الكويتية

تقيم شركة نفط الكويت
**مؤتمر ومعرض الكويت للطاقة
المستدامة**

29 نوفمبر - 2 ديسمبر
**فندق ومنتجع جميرا شاطئ المسيلة
الكويت**



WHO WERE THE PARIS ATTACKERS? ONE REMAINS AT LARGE

PARIS: French police and prosecutors, friends and families, and journalists have unveiled details about the men accused of carrying out the attacks in Paris. Altogether, authorities say that three teams participated in the bloody assault. At least one suspected participant remains at large. Here's what's known about the suspects:

SUSPECTED MASTERMIND * ABDELHAMID ABAAOUD, 28

French investigators identified Belgian-born Abaaoud of Moroccan descent as the architect of the Paris attacks. A US official briefed on intelligence matters said Abaaoud was a key figure in an Islamic State external operations cell that US intelligence agencies have been tracking for months.

Officials initially believed he had coordinated the assaults against a soccer stadium, cafes and a rock concert from Syria, but he died during a police raid Wednesday on a Paris apartment that was a 15-minute walk from the Stade de France. Abaaoud was also suspected of involvement in several thwarted attacks this year, including on a church in the Parisian suburb of Villejuif, and possibly an attempted attack on a high-speed train when three Americans tackled a heavily armed man.

Abaaoud is believed to have gotten to know some of the attackers responsible for the Paris massacre in the Molenbeek neighborhood of Brussels where he grew up. How and when Abaaoud entered France before his death remained unclear. He had bragged in the Islamic State group's English-language magazine that he was able to slip in and out of Europe undetected.

Abaaoud was wanted in Belgium, where he was sentenced in absentia this year to 20 years' imprisonment for serving as an IS recruiter and kidnapping his younger brother, Younes. Belgian authorities say Abaaoud brought the boy, then 13, to Syria last year to join him in IS-controlled territory.

BATACLAN KILLERS

Three suicide bombers - two who blew themselves up and one shot by police - have been identified as targeting concert-goers at the Bataclan music venue:

* ISMAEL OMAR MOSTEFAI, 29

Police say Mostefai blew himself up at the theater. Tall, quiet and conservatively dressed, Mostefai appears to have aroused little suspicion at the housing block he shared with his family in the French cathedral city of Chartres or at the nearby Anoussra Mosque. Arnauld Froissart, a 34-year-old bank employee who lives in the area, said Mostefai was "very discreet" and his family was "very nice."

French police believe Mostefai traveled to Syria in the past few years, although it's not clear what he did there. At the Anoussra Mosque, Islamic association leader Ben Bammou confirmed that Mostefai was a regular mosque-goer until about two years ago. He said he saw no sign of fanaticism. "He was a reserved young man who played soccer with his colleagues; he was a baker who was coming to pray daily," he told The Associated Press.

SAMY AMIMOUR, 28

The Frenchman was charged in a terrorism investigation in 2012. He had been placed under judicial supervision but dropped off the radar and was the subject of an international arrest warrant. Amimour, who had a short career as a bus driver, had already run into trouble with the law. French officials quizzed him on Oct. 19, 2012, over links to a network of terror sympathizers and an abortive trip to Yemen. Amimour's father traveled to Islamic State-held territory in June 2014 in an effort to convince his son to leave Syria but was rebuffed, according to Le Monde newspaper. "He was with another guy, who never left us alone," the father said.

A third theater attacker remains unidentified.

STADIUM KILLERS

Authorities say three suicide bombers were set to attack the Stade de France, though they were unable to get into the stadium and they killed only one bystander:

AHMAD AL-MOHAMMAD, 25

That's the name written on a Syrian passport found near one of the suicide bombers. The document describes Al-Mohammad as a 25-year-old from the rebel-held Syrian city Idlib. French officials said in a statement that the bomber's fingerprints match a set taken in

Greece in October. A Greek official says the person holding Al-Mohammad's passport went through administrative processing on the Greek island of Leros after setting out from Turkey, staying there for five days before arriving by ship in Athens. He later entered Serbia, where authorities took fingerprints that match those given in Greece, and he then crossed into Croatia the next day, according to a Serbian



BRUSSELS: Mohammad Abdeslam (left), the brother of Paris attackers Salah and Brahim Abdeslam, lights candles with an unidentified man on the balcony of his house during a candlelight vigil in the town square of Molenbeek, Belgium. — AP

security official who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because he is not authorized to speak to the press. It's not known whether Al-Mohammad is the man's real name.

BILAL HADFI, age unclear.

A police official who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not allowed to speak publicly identified Hadfi, a French citizen, as one of the three stadium bombers. Belgian police said Friday they were keeping in custody a person linked to Hadfi in an investigation not directly related to the Paris attacks.

An official in the Belgian federal prosecutor's office said raids related to Hadfi targeted people in his "entourage."

The third stadium bomber hasn't been named, but French officials said Friday he entered Greece at the same time as Al-Mohammad.

CAFE ATTACKER

Authorities believe there was one attacker on the cafe Comptoir Voltaire:

BRAHIM ABDESLAM, 30 or 31

Abdeslam, elder brother of fugitive Salah Abdeslam, blew himself up outside the cafe. A person in Belgium familiar with the investigation told The Associated Press that Brahim

Her father, who was born in Marrakech, and her older sister moved to Morocco.

Aitboulahcen is listed on company registration documents two years ago as manager of a construction company based in the Paris suburb of Epinay-sur-Seine that went bankrupt less than 10 months later. Because her name came up in a drug-trafficking case, Aitboulahcen was under surveillance, and her movements may have led authorities to the Saint-Denis flat.

She, Abaaoud and one other as-yet-identified person were killed in the apartment raid. Authorities are investigating whether she had a role in the Paris attacks.

ON THE LOOSE

SALAH ABDESLAM, 26

Abdeslam, a Brussels-born man, is the brother of Brahim, who blew himself up outside the cafe Comptoir Voltaire. Salah Abdeslam is sought as a suspected accomplice in the attacks and is described by French police as highly dangerous. He is the suspected driver of a group of gunmen during the attacks. Authorities identified him as the renter of a Volkswagen Polo that carried hostage-takers to the Paris theater. Officials said Abdeslam entered Austria from Germany Nov. 9 with two unidentified companions and they were stopped for a routine traffic check. They said they were planning a vacation in Vienna.

The Abdeslam brothers booked a hotel in the southeastern Paris suburb of Alfortville and rented a house in the northeastern suburb of Bobigny several days before the attacks. Hours after he was linked to the attacks, Abdeslam and two travelers were stopped in their car near the Belgian border. Four French officials acknowledged that police had Abdeslam in their grasp, but officials let him go after checking his ID. Two men arrested in Belgium admitted driving to France to pick up Salah Abdeslam the morning after the attacks: Mohammed Amri, 27, and Hamza Attou, 21, are being held on charges of terrorist murder and conspiracy.

Salah's other brother, Mohamed Abdeslam, said all three siblings grew up in Belgium and seemingly were content with life in the West. "We are an open-minded family. We never had any problem with justice," he said. — AP



Migrants heading to Germany during a snow shower at the German-Austrian border near Wegscheid, Germany, yesterday. — AP

MERKEL'S 'WELCOME CULTURE' FOR REFUGEES UNDER FIRE

BLOCKED MIGRANTS PROTEST AT GREEK-MACEDONIA BORDER

MUNICH: A prominent ally of Chancellor Angela Merkel stepped up his criticism of her refugee policy yesterday, demanding an end to the "Willkommenskultur" that has encouraged record numbers of migrants to seek asylum in Germany. A day after criticizing Merkel as she stood unapologetically beside him on stage for refusing to put a cap on the number of refugees entering Germany, Bavarian leader Horst Seehofer called for "a culture of reason, not a culture of welcome."

"No one can be forced to shoulder more than they can carry," Seehofer said at a congress of his Christian Social Union (CSU) in Munich, where he was later re-elected as party chairman. The CSU is the sister party of Merkel's Christian Democratic Union (CDU) and is a member of her coalition government in Berlin, but

Seehofer has emerged as her most high-profile domestic critic in recent months. Thousands of migrants are entering Germany every day, the vast majority flowing into Bavaria over the Austrian border, and roughly a million are expected to arrive this year alone.

Merkel agreed in September to suspend EU asylum rules and allow thousands of migrants camped out in precarious conditions in Hungary through to Germany.

Scenes of German volunteers applauding refugees and offering them food as they descended from trains in Munich station sparked the feel-good term "Willkommenskultur" ("welcome culture").

But the mood has since shifted, with critics saying Germany's welcome has only encouraged more to risk the harrowing journey from war-torn countries such as Syria and Iraq. Merkel, who marks her 10-year anniversary

in office on Sunday, has rebuffed calls from the Greek-Macedonian border for three days, saying it would be impossible to enforce.

The scene on the stage in Munich on Friday underscored how politically vulnerable she has become in recent months as the tide of refugees continues, straining the resources of local communities. A poll last week showed that 60 percent of Germans are unhappy with Merkel's refugee policies. "Seehofer humiliates Merkel," read a headline in top-selling daily Bild. "Horst Seehofer treated the chancellor like a school girl at the CSU congress," the paper's deputy editor wrote in an editorial.

In what some may interpret as another slap at Merkel, Seehofer also announced plans to travel to Moscow soon to meet Russian President Vladimir Putin.

The attacks in Paris last week that killed 129 people have created a sense in some Western capitals that cooperation with Moscow in fighting militants should be prioritized and differences over Ukraine given less importance.

Meanwhile, migrants who have been blocked at the Greek-Macedonian border for three days, protested Saturday against being prevented from entering Macedonia after new restrictions were imposed, an AFP journalist said. Many of the migrants, who are stuck on the Greek side of the border at Idomeni, are from Iran, Pakistan and Bangladesh and are angry after Serbia and Macedonia decided to only allow passage to people fleeing conflict zones. More than 1,000 people of different nationalities were at the border crossing, called Gevgelija in Macedonia, yesterday.

Some carried banners calling for the border to be opened, while others read "We are sorry for France but we are not dangerous" in an apparent reference to some of the suspects in last week's Paris attacks having used Europe's migrant crisis to slip into the continent.

The protest comes a day after migrants sat on railway tracks hampering trains between Greece and Macedonia. Greece's junior interior minister for migration Yiannis Mouzalas went to Idomeni yesterday for talks with local officials on the situation. Hundreds of thousands of migrants fleeing conflict and poverty have travelled to Greece and up through the Balkans this year, aiming to start new lives in more prosperous northern European countries. But on Thursday countries along the migrant route began tightening restrictions by accepting only those fleeing war, causing a backlog of hundreds of people. — Agencies

VATICAN INDICTS 5 IN VATILEAKS CASE

MILAN: A Vatican judge yesterday indicted five people, including two journalists and a high-ranking Vatican monsignor, in a scandal involving leaked documents that informed two books alleging financial malfeasance in the Roman Catholic church bureaucracy. Two former members of the pope's financial reforms commission and a newly identified assistant were indicted on charges of disclosing confidential Vatican information and documents, while two journalists were indicted on a charge of soliciting and exerting pressure to obtain the information, according to the indictments released by the Vatican.

Two of those indicted, Monsignor Lucio Valjejo Balda and Francesca Chaouqui, both chosen by Pope Francis to help overhaul Vatican finances, were arrested by the Vatican earlier this month. Balda, who was secretary of the commission, is being held while Chaouqui, a public relations specialist, was released after agreeing to cooperate with the investigation. The indictment also identifies for the first time an assistant to Balda, Nicola Maio, as under suspicion.

The three Vatican insiders also face an additional charge of forming a criminal organization. Journalists Gianluigi Nuzzi and Emiliano Fittipaldi both published books this month citing Vatican documents and detailing waste, mismanagement and greed at the Vatican and the resistance Pope Francis faces in trying to clean it up. Reporters without Borders this week issued a

statement saying the journalists "just exercised their right to provide information in the public interest and should not be treated as criminals in a country that supposedly respects media freedom."

Nuzzi, who refused a Vatican summons for questioning over his book, "Merchants in the Temple," was defiant in a message on Twitter. "You can do what you want but as long as the world exists, there will be journalists who report uncomfortable news," he wrote. Fittipaldi, author of "Avarice," appeared for questioning but refused to give any answers, citing Italian law on protecting sources. "This is not a trial against me, today the Vatican is putting on trial the freedom of the press," he said in a message on Facebook. If the Vatican tribunal ultimately convicts the two authors, it will come down to a political question as to whether the Holy See will request their extradition from Italy - and whether Italy will oblige. Leaking Vatican documents carries a possible sentence of six months to two years in prison and a 2,000 euro (\$2,100) fine under a Vatican law enacted after an earlier scandal during Benedict XVI's papacy. If it is determined that the leaks harmed the Vatican's fundamental interests, the sentence can be raised to eight years in prison. The Vatican criminal code applies the sanctions whether or not the crimes occur within Vatican City, and no matter whether the offender is a citizen of the city-state. — AP



MILAN: This combo of file photos shows journalists Emiliano Fittipaldi, left, during a presser in Rome, on Nov 17, 2015 and Gianluigi Nuzzi during the presentation of his new book "Via Crucis" ("Merchants in the Temple", in the English language edition) in Milan on Nov 16, 2015. — AP

'NOT IN MY NAME': MUSLIMS HOLD PEACE RALLIES IN ITALY

ROME: Hundreds of Muslims rallied in Rome and Milan yesterday to show solidarity with the victims of jihadist attacks, condemning violence in the name of religion and chanting "we are not the enemy." The message is clear, terrorism cannot continue to attack everywhere in the name of Muslims. We want the whole world to listen," Abdellah Redouane, head of the Islamic Cultural Centre in Rome, said at the demonstration in the capital.

"The Koran is against violence," "Islam is peace" and "Solidarity with Paris victims" read banners held up by members of the Muslim community, who gathered in the rain in a square in central Rome under a heavy police

guard. The rally, under the slogan "Not in my name," began with a minute's silence for the victims of the attacks on Parisian nightspots last week which left 130 people dead.

In Milan, where security has been ramped up following fears of an attack on landmarks like the famous Scala opera house, people chanted "No to Isis," referring to the Islamic State group which claimed the France attacks. "No to terrorism, yes to mosques," said Davide Piccardo from Caim, an umbrella organization of Islamic societies, calling for a greater understanding and openness in Italy towards moderate Islam and "a crackdown on nuzzing Islamophobia". — AFP

GREEKS: 'NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE' TO FIND JIHADISTS AMONG MIGRANTS

LESBOS, Greece: As the hunt for jihadists widens after last week's Paris attacks, authorities in Greece warn it was virtually impossible to pick out dangerous extremists among arriving migrants, without prior intelligence. "If they are not already registered in the database, it's nearly impossible," says Dimitris Amountzias, police captain in charge of Moria, Greece's main registration camp on the island of Lesbos. At the camp, dozens of migrants and refugees queue to give their fingerprints, have a photo taken and be quizzed by agents from European border agency Frontex. It's a seemingly detailed security check, but jihadists have already proven they can bypass it with ease.

The suspected architect of the Paris attacks that killed 130 people, 28-year-old Abdelhamid Abaaoud, escaped from Europe to Syria and returned without being detected. French Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve this week suggested Abaaoud, who was killed in a police raid in Paris on Wednesday, had passed through Greece. Athens denied this on Friday. "Until today, no source has provided any evidence to confirm this claim," the Greek citizen's protection ministry said in a statement. Greek police were looking for Abaaoud in Athens in January, after a Belgian police raid in the eastern town of Verviers broke up a cell planning attacks. At the time, a cell-

phone was found to have made calls to the Verviers group from Greece. Greece extradited to Belgium a 33-year-old Algerian man arrested in a raid in the Athens district of Pangrati, but Abaaoud was never found. "The unchecked flow poses an unequalled challenge for European security," said a European security expert speaking on condition of anonymity.

'We don't really know'

Still, it was thanks to Greece's fingerprints database and a passport found near the scene of the attack that French and Greek authorities were able to determine that one of the men who blew himself up outside the Stade de France on November 13 had registered himself as Syrian refugee Ahmad al-Mohammad on the island of Leros on October 3.

On Friday, French prosecutor Francois Molins said a second Stade de France bomber had passed through Greece posing as a migrant. The Greek police did not immediately react to the announcement. Amountzias insists his officers are doing their best under the current guidelines. "There isn't a single officer here who would let a migrant through without first taking their fingerprints," he insists. Junior interior minister Nikos Toskas took a similar stance on Friday during an emergency ministerial meeting in Brussels. — AFP



KUALA LUMPUR: Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi speaks at the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Business and Investment Summit in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. — AP

INDIA BLOCKS US OFFICIALS' VISIT DESPITE WARMER TIES

HUMAN TRAFFICKING ISSUE STILL REMAINS A THORN IN TIES

WASHINGTON/NEW DELHI: Despite a much-heralded fresh start in US-India ties under Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, a diplomatic source said on Friday the United States has run into problems arranging visits by two senior officials, recalling a diplomatic spat that soured relations two years ago. Washington has been seeking to send Susan Coppedge, its newly appointed anti-people trafficking ambassador, and Randy Berry, its special envoy for LGBT rights, to New Delhi this month.

Human trafficking has caused friction between the United States and India. The countries also disagree on gay rights, which the Obama administration promotes, while homosexuality in India is illegal. The source, who did not want to be identified, said the visits had run into problems. "These visits were planned, they were meant to be here around this time. But there were some issues," the source said. The State Department declined formal comment but a department official said the two sides were "working to coordinate the best timing."

India's Foreign Ministry did not respond to

request for comment and Indian Ambassador Arun K Singh did not offer clarification when asked on Thursday about Coppedge's plan to visit, which was revealed at a Nov 4 congressional hearing by Karl Johnstone, principal deputy director of the State Department's trafficking office.

"We'll see," Singh told reporters. "When you ask a US official when somebody will be given a visa, they always say 'we will assess when visa is applied for.' ... I can do no better than to reiterate the US position." The human trafficking issue blew up in 2013 over the arrest of an Indian diplomat, Devyani Khobragade, for visa fraud and underpaying a domestic worker who was later given a US "T visa" issued to trafficking victims.

Khobragade's arrest and strip search provoked an outcry in India and the issue has festered, although US-India relations have strengthened since Modi came to power in May 2014, with both sides stressing shared strategic interests. US officials say Indian citizens who have been issued US T visas have been subject

to restrictions, including long delays in renewing passports at Indian consulates in the United States. Between July 2014 and March 2015, the crackdown was harsher, with authorities at Indian airports confiscating at least 20 passports stamped with US T visas. This prevented trafficking victims who went home to collect their families from returning to the United States.

Berry is Washington's first gay-rights ambassador and a US official said no trafficking czar had visited India for the past eight years. The India ambassador played down the impact of the trafficking issue on US-India relations, saying these were "at a very good stage now," with two visits by Modi to the United States, and Obama becoming the first US president to visit India twice while in office.

"These are all reflections of where the relationship is headed," he said. India was happy to work in an international framework to tackle the problem of trafficking, but rejected "unilateral assessments" of another country," he said.

"We will never accept it," he said. — Reuters

GUNMEN SEIZE 14 FROM BUS IN AFGHANISTAN

KANDAHAR: Unidentified gunmen in Afghanistan yesterday kidnapped 14 bus passengers believed to be from the Hazara ethnic minority, 10 days after the killing of seven Hazaras by militants sparked one of the biggest protests in Kabul in years. Gunmen stopped three night buses in Zabul province, on the main road between Kabul and the southern city of Kandahar, and kidnapped passengers, said provincial police chief Mirwais Noorzai.

He said he did not know how many people had been taken or their identity but the manager of a bus company and a provincial official said the gunmen had taken at least 14 Hazara people. "The gunmen asked for identity documents and when people showed them, they took away only Hazaras," Sayed Mohebbullah, a manager for the Ahmad Shah Abdali bus company, told Reuters.

He said he believed the gunman had also taken people from other buses. Asadullah Kakar, a member of the Zabul provincial council, said he believed 20 people, all but two of them Hazaras, had been taken away. The Hazara are a Persian-speaking,

mainly Shia minority who have long faced persecution in Afghanistan, with thousands massacred by the Taliban and al Qaeda in the 1990s, but a series of murders and kidnappings this year has stoked a mood of growing despair.

Militants killed seven Hazara people, including women and children, in Zabul early this month and dumped their partially beheaded bodies. The murders fuelled a growing sense of insecurity since the Taliban briefly seized control of the key northern city of Kunduz in late September and heightened the risk of sectarian hatred further poisoning relations in the ethnically diverse country.

No militant faction claimed responsibility. Thousands of angry Hazaras took to the streets of Kabul on Nov. 11 to demand government action and justice for the seven. The protesters attempted to scale the walls of the presidential palace before police dispersed them with warning shots. Seven people were wounded. President Ashraf Ghani appealed for calm and promised more security along highways. — Reuters

MOB TORCHES FACTORY IN PAKISTAN FOLLOWING BLASPHEMY ACCUSATION

LAHORE: An angry mob in Pakistan's Punjab province torched a factory after one of its employees was accused of committing blasphemy, police officials said yesterday. Hundreds of people surrounded a chipboard factory in Jehlum city on Friday night and set the facility ablaze after reports surfaced that one employee had allegedly desecrated the Holy Quran.

"The incident took place after we arrested the head of security at the factory, Qamar Ahmed Tahir, for complaints that he ordered the burning of the holy book," Adnan Malik, a senior police official in the area, told AFP. According to police, Tahir belongs to the Ahmadi sect, a group who have been declared non-Muslims by the Pakistani government because of their belief in a prophet after Muhammad (PBUH). The Ahmadi are frequent victims of discrimination and violent assaults.

Yesterday, another mob gathered in the town of Kala Gujran near Jehlum and torched the homes of several Ahmadi families and an Ahmadi mosque. Military troops have been sent in to patrol the area and bring the situation under control. Blasphemy is a hugely sensitive issue in Pakistan, an Islamic republic of some 200 million, where even unproven allegations frequently stir mob violence and lynching.

Critics including European governments say the country's blasphemy laws are often misused to settle personal scores. According to police, another employee at the factory had reported that Tahir was overseeing the burning of the holy book in the facility's boiler and intervened to stop the act.

"We registered a blasphemy case against Tahir, who is Ahmadi by faith, and arrested him after confiscating the burnt material, which also included copies of the Quran," police official Malik said. Following the arrest, a mob reportedly descended on the factory, setting it alight. A spokesman for the local Ahmadi community said three of their members were arrested in the incident's wake.

"Three members of our community have been arrested by police under the charges of blasphemy. There is an accusation of burning the pages of the Quran," Saleem Ud Din told AFP.

District police chief Mujahid Afsar said that authorities were trying to negotiate with the communities and calm down the situation but Din said that the atmosphere was still violent. Eleven Ahmadi were murdered for their faith in 2014 and authorities failed to apprehend any of the killers, a report said in April, highlighting growing intolerance toward the sect. — AFP

PAKISTAN TO EXECUTE PARAPLEGIC MAN WITHIN DAYS, SAYS FAMILY

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's only paraplegic death-row inmate will be executed in the coming days at a high-security prison in the industrial city of Faisalabad, his mother and an international rights group said yesterday.

Abdul Basit, 43, has been paralyzed from the waist down and uses a wheelchair since contracting meningitis in prison in 2010. According to his lawyer and family, he has been on death row since 2009 after being convicted of killing a man over a financial dispute in Punjab province.

yesterday, Basit's mother Nusrat Perveen said jail officials asked her to have a final meeting with her son on Tuesday before he is hanged the following morning. "I am in a state of shock. I appeal to the president and prime minister of Pakistan to pardon my son on medical and humanitarian grounds," she told The Associated Press.

The decision has been widely condemned by rights groups. "It is bewildering that Pakistan has revived its appalling plans to hang a man who is unable to stand," said Maya Foa, director of the death penalty team at Reprieve, an international human rights organization.

"Nothing has changed since Basit's execution was halted earlier this year, on the grounds that his disability could mean that he might suffer from a prolonged, needlessly cruel execution," she said.

Sara Belal, a lawyer at the Justice Project Pakistan legal aid group, also condemned the decision to once again schedule Basit for execution. Basit's mother said she sent a mercy petition to the president weeks ago to pardon her son but received no reply. "In September, jail officials were taking my son toward the gallows on his wheelchair when his execution was halted on medical grounds," she said.

Perveen said she saw rope scars on the wrists of her son when she met with him a week after the halting of his execution. "I am again waiting for a miracle to happen," she said.

Pakistan's president has the constitutional authority to pardon any convicted person. Pakistan has hanged nearly 300 people, most of them convicted criminals and not Taliban or other insurgents, since it lifted a 2008 moratorium on executions in December after a deadly Taliban attack on a school killed 150 people, mostly children. — AP

AFGHAN PROBE FINDS LEADERSHIP FAILURE BEHIND FALL OF KUNDUZ

KABUL: Weak leadership, misuse of resources and lack of coordination between Afghan security services were the main reasons a strategic northern city briefly fell to the Taliban, the head of an investigative team said yesterday.

Without US air support, government forces would have been unable to take back the city of Kunduz, said Amrullah Saleh, head of the investigating team and a former intelligence agency chief. Taliban gunmen overran Kunduz, capital of the province of the same name, on Sept. 28. They held the city for three days before a government counter-offensive was launched. It took two weeks for troops to bring the city back under government control. Saleh's investigation into Kunduz is the first to release results to the public, in the form of a 30 page summary. The investigators were appointed by President Ashraf Ghani, and submitted their full 200-page report a month ago.

The report says that army, police and intelligence agency soldiers left their posts as the Taliban advanced on the city. The large-scale desertion enabled the insurgents to enter the city almost unopposed.

The government held Kunduz airport and the adjacent military barracks, where many of the deserters, as well as city officials, fled for safety. Kunduz is a strategic city on the northern Afghan plain. It sits on a national crossroads that connects to every border, including Tajikistan to the north. It is a major wheat-producing region, as well as a nexus for smuggling routes for drugs, weapons and alcohol, officials have said. Taliban-led insurgents had been massing around



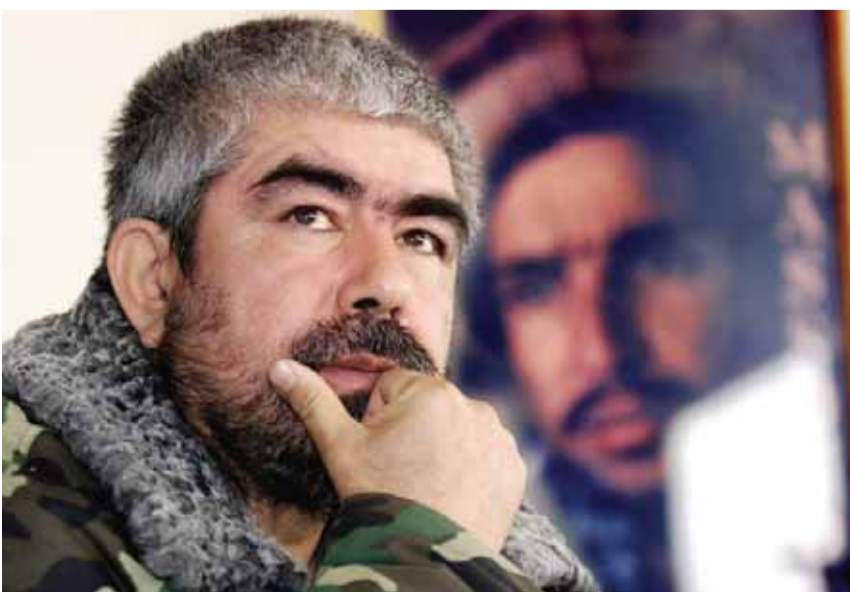
KUNDUZ: A Taliban fighter sits on his motorcycle adorned with a Taliban flag in a street in Kunduz, Afghanistan. — AP

Kunduz for the past year, and had tried on at least three earlier occasions to take the city of 300,000. Officials have said the Taliban absorbed other insurgent groups for the Kunduz assault, notably members of the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan.

At a press conference, Saleh pointed to the "influence of a number of individuals" working against gov-

ernment interests in the city, including wealthy businessmen, local warlords and senior officials "in whose interests it was to ensure the government remained weak." He referred to these groups as "grey networks." "The collapse of Kunduz city was not due simply to a Taliban assault, it had been in the planning stages for over a year," he said. — AP

DOSTUM UNITES FRIENDS, FOES IN ANTI-TALEBAN FIGHT



Ethnic Uzbek warlord Abdul Rashid Dostum looks on during an interview with an Agence France Presse correspondent in Kabul. — AFP

MAIMANA, Afghanistan: As the Taliban expand into his old stomping grounds in northern Afghanistan, former warlord General Abdul Rashid Dostum - who boasts of having a PhD in killing militants - is galvanising legions of devout followers and erstwhile foes for battle. The fearsome Uzbek general, who holds no formal military post, recently launched an offensive with loud, bellicose declamations against the Taliban, who are making surprising inroads into Faryab province as the insurgency's centre of gravity shifts north from its southern strongholds.

But the much-hyped campaign, which saw the vice president in military uniform touring the frontlines in a tank with his two sons, failed to stem the insurgent advance as the Taliban came close to overrunning the provincial capital and besieged major districts. In a desperate effort to defend his home territory, he is activating private anti-Taliban militias in a risky gambit now commonplace across the embattled north. More significantly, the battle-hardened general, who has repeatedly switched loyalties over 40 years of conflict, is joining

forces with a longtime rival in an unprecedented alliance.

Uzbek militiamen loyal to his Junbish-e-Milli party are fighting alongside and sharing weapons and intelligence with Jamiat-e-Islami, the Tajik-dominated party of the other main northern strongman - Atta Mohammad Noor, the powerful governor of Balkh province. The union of Junbish and Jamiat brings together large bands of armed men who share a bitter history of rivalry and clashes, a potential master stroke in the game of factional Afghan politics that offers the local population new hope of vanquishing the ascendant Taliban.

"General Dostum is not an engineer, General Dostum is not a doctor, General Dostum has a PhD in eliminating the Taliban," the ex-warlord said about himself earlier this year in comments cited in the local media. "I will bring the Taliban to its knees." The tactical alliance, whether or not long-lasting, is already having a visible impact on the ground. When the Taliban attempted to overrun provincial capital Maimana on the night of Oct 4 - emboldened by their audacious brief capture

of neighbouring Kunduz city - the coordination between militiamen from both sides in part helped repel the insurgents. "Before this they fought each other, hurt each other. The result was zero," said Hafizullah Fetrat, the local head of the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission. "Their unity has reduced human rights abuses. It gives people hope as they overcome past rivalries to fight a common enemy that is stronger than ever before."

'People Worship Him'

Dostum, who has a catalogue of war crimes attached to his name, is deified as a hero in Faryab, where the streets are festooned with life-size posters of the mustachioed general. "Many of those posters were taken down on the night the Taliban raided Maimana," a local resident told AFP, as people hastened to hide or erase anything that could attract the wrath of insurgents who recently pilloried Dostum as a "poor imbecile general." "But people have faith that Dostum will save our endangered land. Ordinary people are selling their cattle to buy weapons to fight for him." — AFP

NEW ZEALAND COPTER CRASH KILLS 2 AUSTRALIANS, 4 BRITONS

WELLINGTON: Two Australian and four British tourists, along with their pilot, were killed when their helicopter crashed into a heavily crevassed glacier in New Zealand during bad weather yesterday, police said.

The sightseeing helicopter plunged into the Fox Glacier, a popular tourist site on the west coast of the South Island, with weather conditions reported to be heavily overcast and raining at the time. A paramedic and alpine rescue team who looked over the crash site confirmed there were no survivors.

"A helicopter carrying seven people including the pilot has crashed at the top of the Fox Glacier," inspector John Canning said. "We have been to the site and there is no sign of life and tomorrow we hope to recover the bodies of those involved."

Canning said the recovery effort could take time because of the atrocious weather.

"I'm not going to risk any more lives, we've lost seven," he said. "The terrain at the top of the glacier is very rough, as you can imagine it's icy and there are crevas-

es-it's quite dangerous."

Grey District Mayor Tony Kokshoorn described weather conditions around the glacier at the time of the accident as "terrible" with heavy rain and poor visibility.

"It wouldn't be a good day to be flying helicopters," he said. A statement later posted to the police website said two Australians and four Britons were killed, while Canning confirmed the pilot was a local man. Their names have yet to be released.

"Police have been liaising with the embassies of the countries concerned to ensure the next of kin are advised of the situation," the statement said. Debris from the wrecked helicopter was spread over several hundred metres with the main part of the aircraft wedged between house-sized blocks of ice.

The alarm was raised late yesterday morning when an emergency locator beacon was activated.

The New Zealand Rescue Co-Ordination Centre sent four helicopters to the glacier where they found a deep scorch mark

leading to the helicopter about 2,500 feet (762-metres) up the glacier. A spokesman for Alpine Adventures, which operated the single-engine Squirrel helicopter, confirmed it was on a scenic flight with six passengers.

New Zealand's Transport Accident Investigation Commission said it would investigate the cause of the crash and had sent four investigators to Fox Glacier. Alpine Adventures advertises itself as an "experienced helicopter flight-seeing company providing visitors with a diverse range of South Island

scenic helicopter flights and private charters in some of the most spectacular alpine and coastal regions of New Zealand".

Five years ago, nine people including four tourists were killed when a plane carrying a party of skydivers crashed on take-off at Fox Glacier airport.

Fox Glacier is 13 kilometres (eight miles) long and is listed as one of the most accessible glaciers in the world, attracting thousands of tourists each year. — AFP



The wreckage of a helicopter carrying tourists is seen crashed in a crevasse on Fox Glacier, a scenic glacier in South Island, New Zealand yesterday. — AP



KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak (centre) and US President Barack Obama (second left) walk to attend a dinner for East Asia Summit Leaders at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre in Kuala Lumpur yesterday on the sidelines of his participation in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Summit. — AFP

OBAMA STRUGGLES TO KEEP FOCUS ON ASIA

VISIT ECLIPSED BY JIHADIST ATTACKS

KUALA LUMPUR: US President Barack Obama voiced his determination to put Asia front and center in his foreign policy yesterday, even as a two-nation visit to the region was eclipsed by jihadist attacks in France and Mali. America's self-styled "Pacific president" has been frustrated to see a trip to Malaysia and the Philippines—designed to highlight his stated re-focus on Asia—overshadowed once again.

After years of talking about the need to deepen trade, security and diplomatic ties with the region, White House officials had hoped the trip would be a victory lap. Twelve countries recently agreed to Obama's Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) trade pact, and the US pledged to boost security assistance to its ally the Philippines, which is in a confrontation with China over maritime territory. During the week-long Asia swing, Obama has touted his years growing up in Southeast Asia, vowed to become the first president to visit Laos, and chatted with audience members in Bahasa Indonesia.

But at a Southeast Asian business forum yesterday, Obama had to begin by talking about events half a world away in Mali, where at least 21 people died in an attack by gun-toting jihadists. Obama condemned

the "barbarity" and stressed the need to combat violent jihadism globally. Later Saturday Obama made a long-planned visit to a refugee centre that took on a domestic political hue, thanks to a bitter debate over Syrian and Iraq migrants in the United States.

During his stop at the Dignity for Children Foundation, Obama knelt down to chat to children aged between seven and nine years about their art work and hopes for the future. Many at the small, well-appointed centre, complete with a pet bunny, were members of Myanmar's persecuted Rohingya Muslim minority, which was at the centre of a dramatic boatpeople crisis earlier this year.

He later said the kids were "the face of not only refugees from Myanmar—that's the face of Syrian children and Iraqi children". "When I sat there and talked to them, they were drawing and doing their math problems; they were indistinguishable from any child in America," he said.

Thwarted pivot

Trying to get back on message, Obama made the case to the region, if not the distracted American public, that "security and prosperity of the Asia Pacific

is vital to the national interests of the United States."

"When I became president, I made a strategic decision that after a decade in which the United States had focused so heavily elsewhere, especially the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, that we would rebalance our foreign policy and play a larger and long-term role here in the Asia Pacific." "While I've been in office, we've boosted our exports across Asia by more than 50 percent, to record levels," he said. "We've strengthened our alliances. We've modernized our defence posture. More US forces are rotating through more parts of the region for training and exercises."

With the TPP deal yet to navigate its way through a hostile Congress, Obama also made the case for US ratification. US allies are skittish that the deal may not be signed into law before Obama leaves office in early 2017. "A new trade deal like TPP can be a tough sell," he admitted, before insisting "TPP is a win for the United States. I'm not going to be shy about this." Positioning himself as the salesman-in-chief for US industry, Obama even took to boosting a host of sectors including farmers—"there is no steak like American steak," he said. — AFP

CHINA SLAMS MALI ATTACK WITH 3 CHINESE AMONG THE DEAD

BEIJING: Chinese President Xi Jinping condemned yesterday the "cruel and savage" attack by Islamist militants on a hotel in Mali's capital that killed 19 people including three executives from a Chinese railway company.

Gunmen shouting Islamic slogans attacked the Radisson Blu hotel in Bamako on Friday, before Malian commandos stormed the building and freed 170 hostages, many of them foreigners.

Xi called for the relevant departments to boost security work "outside China's borders".

"China will strengthen cooperation with the international community, resolutely crack down on violent terrorist operations that devastate innocent lives and safeguard world peace and security," the Foreign Ministry quoted him as saying in a statement on its website.

The three Chinese citizens killed in the hotel attack were executives from the state-owned China Railway Construction Corp., the company said in a statement on its website.

"China Railway Construction Corp is deeply saddened by the deaths of the three employees, and we express our deep condolences to the victims' families and strongly condemn the atrocities com-

mitted by the terrorists," it said. Zhou Tianxiang and Wang Xuanshang, general manager and deputy general manager of the company's international division, and Chang Xuehui, general manager of its West Africa division, were killed, the statement said.

The Foreign Ministry said four other Chinese nationals were among the rescued hostages.

The attack on the hotel was claimed by jihadist group Al-Mourabitoun and Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), and is the latest in a series of deadly raids this year in Mali, which has battled Islamist rebels based in its desert north for years. China vowed this week to bring to justice those responsible for killing one of its citizens after Islamic State said it had killed a Chinese captive.

A man who worked for a Belgian regional parliament and an American aid worker were also killed. Moscow said Russians were also among the victims. Beijing has repeatedly denounced Islamist militants and urged the world to step up coordination in combating Islamic State, though it has been reluctant to get involved on the ground in Syria and Iraq where the group largely operates. — Reuters

N KOREA 'CATEGORICALLY' REJECTS UN RESOLUTION

SEOUL: North Korea yesterday rejected a UN resolution on its human rights violations as a product of the hostile policy by the United States seeking to topple its socialist regime. A UN General Assembly committee Thursday adopted by a record majority a resolution condemning "systematic, widespread and gross" human rights violations in the Stalinist state.

For the second consecutive year, it encourages the Security Council to consider referring Pyongyang to the International Criminal Court for crimes against humanity, a move that is likely to be blocked by the North's closest ally China which has veto power in the council.

"We categorically reject 'the human rights resolution', a vivid expression of the US hostile policy toward the DPRK (North Korea) and a typical example of politicization of human rights... and double-standards, as it is a serious politically-motivated provocative document", a foreign ministry spokesman was quoted as saying by the North's official KCNA news agency.

The move proved the "absurdity of 'the human rights campaign' of the hostile forces including the US which is

aimed at overturning the social system in the DPRK", he said. He stressed ongoing chaos and bloodshed in the Middle East came as the countries in the region failed to fend off outside interference being made "under the pretexts of human rights and democracy". "The miserable situation in several regions of the world eloquently proves that human rights precisely mean sovereignty and it is quite right for the DPRK to respond to any plot to overthrow the socialist system in the DPRK with a tough stand."

"Now that the UN is being abused as a theatre for hurling slanders at the DPRK under the manipulation of the US and the West, the DPRK will take corresponding measures", the spokesman said, without elaborating.

Professor Yang Moo-Jin of the University of North Korean Studies in Seoul said the North was unlikely to respond by carrying out major provocative acts. "North Korea has never reacted to what they call human rights offensives with such major provocative acts as missile launches or nuclear tests in the past, which it thinks would be too disproportionate a reaction," Yang said. — AFP

SINGAPORE WOMAN, SON REUNITED AFTER AP'S 'MCREFUGEE' STORY

HONG KONG: After being tricked into selling her Singapore home and traveling to China to invest the proceeds, Mary Seow eventually found herself homeless in Hong Kong, having lost touch with her family. Nearly five years after she was reported missing, and after her story was told this month in

an Associated Press article about people who sleep at 24-hour McDonald's outlets in Hong Kong, she has been reunited with her son and was on her way back to Singapore yesterday.

Seow, 60, said she did not expect to be heading back to Singapore so soon after the story broke on

Nov 12. "Until now, I'm still like dreaming," she said at Hong Kong's airport as she prepared to board a flight to Singapore with her 28-year-old son, Edward Goh.

Seow's family members had reported her missing, but her whereabouts were a mystery until she was quoted in the AP story about people known as "McRefugees." Until then, Seow had been just one of an untold number of homeless and working poor spending their nights at the fast-food chain's 120 restaurants that are open round the clock in Hong Kong.

Her tale caught the attention of family members, Singapore's government and concerned citizens. They worked swiftly to reunite the widow with her son and only child, whom she had raised on her own after her husband died of a heart attack two decades ago. Seow had a surprise reunion on Friday with her son, who had flown to Hong Kong to find her and bring her back home. She said her ordeal began when she was swindled by people from China whom she met at a church in Singapore. They had persuaded her to sell her house and go with them to mainland China to invest the money in their transport business, but when she arrived she realized it was all a scam. She decided to stay in China and try to earn back some of her lost money, including by working as a street sweeper. — AP



HONG KONG: A group of people sleep at night in a 24-hour McDonald's branch in Hong Kong. A Singaporean woman who went missing nearly five years ago has been reunited with her son after her plight was reported in an Associated Press story about people who sleep at 24-hour McDonald's outlets in Hong Kong. — AP



KUALA LUMPUR: Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (R) greets delegation members during the ASEAN Plus Three (Japan, China and South Korea) Leaders' Interface with the East Asia Business Council at the 27th (ASEAN) Summit in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. — AFP

RIVALS CONDEMN TRUMP'S CALL TO REGISTER...

Continued from Page 1

"There should be a lot of systems, beyond databases." As to how he would get Muslims registered, he said it could be done at "different places", not just mosques. "It would be just good management," he said. Trump was later asked whether there was a difference between requiring Muslims to register today and Jews registering with Germany's Nazis in the 1930s. "You tell me," Trump responded.

Clinton slammed Trump's remarks as "shocking rhetoric." "It should be denounced by all seeking to lead this country," she wrote on Twitter. Republican candidate Jeb Bush, who has suggested Christian refugees should be prioritized over Muslims, laid into Trump, saying Americans do not have to abandon their values to fight extremism. "You talk about internment, you talk about closing mosques, you talk about registering people, and that's just wrong," Bush told CNBC Friday. "That's not strength, that's weakness." Ohio Governor John Kasich said forcing someone to register with the government because of their religion "strikes against all that we have believed in our nation's history".

By mid-day Friday, Trump appeared to walk back his remarks, although he stood firm on the need for vigilance in tracking extremists. "I didn't suggest a database - a reporter did," Trump tweeted to his five million followers. "We must defeat Islamic terrorism & have surveillance, including a watch list, to protect America."

In an interview on Fox News Channel Friday evening, Trump tried to clarify his position, saying, "I want a watch list for the Syrian refugees that Obama's going to let in if we don't stop him as Republicans". He said he'd had trouble hearing the NBC reporter's questions. But he didn't disavow the idea of a general registry for Muslims living in the country or say decisively he wouldn't support it. "I want to have watch lists. I want to have surveillance. I mean, we're not a bunch of babies," he said.

Ben Carson, a top Republican presidential contender,

pushed back against Trump. "If we're just going to pick out a particular group of people based on their religion, based on their race... that's setting a dangerous precedent," he told reporters in New Hampshire. Carson made his own controversial comments after the Paris attacks, including Thursday when he equated the threat of extremists slipping into the country as refugees with the threat of a "rabid dog".

Senator Ted Cruz, who has been reticent to directly attack Trump on the campaign trail, is opposed to Syrian Muslim refugees reaching US shores. But Cruz said he opposed a Muslim database on the grounds it would infringe on American religious liberty. "I'm not a fan of government registries of American citizens," he said. "What I do think is important is that the federal government be far more vigorous going after radical Islamic terrorists."

The Republican candidates' unified criticism of Trump was striking. His rivals have vacillated in their handling of other inflammatory comments from him, wary of alienating his supporters while increasingly concerned that he's maintained his grip on the GOP race deep into the fall. Civil liberties experts said a database for Muslims would be unconstitutional on several counts, while the libertarian Cato Institute's Ilya Shapiro said the idea also violates basic privacy and liberty rights.

Marci Hamilton, a Yeshiva University legal expert on religious liberty, said requiring Muslims to register appears to be a clear violation of the Constitution's protection of religious freedom. "What the First Amendment does and what it should do is drive the government to use neutral criteria," Hamilton said. "You can use neutral criteria to identify terrorists. What it can't do is engage in one-religion bashing. That won't fly in any court." Meanwhile, the Anti-Defamation League in New York called Trump's proposal "deeply troubling and reminiscent of darker days in American history when others were singled out for scapegoating." — Agencies



French soldiers patrol the Trocadero place near the Eiffel Tower in Paris yesterday. — AP

OBAMA PUTS HUMAN FACE ON SYRIA REFUGEE...

Continued from Page 1

Obama said the US had shown it can welcome refugees while ensuring security. "There's no contradiction," he said.

Many Americans seem to disagree. Democrats in large numbers have abandoned their president and his opposition to stiffer screening measures; forty-seven of them voted against Obama on Thursday. Having secured a veto-proof majority in the House, supporters are now hoping for a repeat in the Senate, while Obama works to shift the conversation to milder visa waiver changes that wouldn't affect Syrian refugees.

In a modest classroom where refugee children were learning English, Obama zigzagged among art projects, puzzles and a caged class rabbit as he asked children in crisp white uniforms and neckties about their aspirations for the future. Later, as he met with older refugees who will soon relocate to the US, he said these children "deserve love and protection and stability and an education." "You will see the degree to which they represent the opposite of terror, the opposite of the type of despicable violence we saw in Mali and Paris," the president said.

Victim

He singled out one refugee from Myanmar - a petite 16-year-old in a bright yellow dress - and said she had been a victim of human trafficking until the UN intervened. Obama said the girl now hopes to advocate for those who have suffered a similar plight. The White House declined to name the girl out of concern for the safety of her parents still in Myanmar. "This is who we want to help," Obama said. "This is the face of people around the world who still look to the United States as a beacon of hope."

Of the some 150,000 refugees in Malaysia, many if not most are Rohingya, a Muslim ethnic group. Tens of thousands of Rohingya have fled persecution by Myanmar's Buddhist

majority and landed in Malaysia, where Obama was attending a regional economic summit. Obama's administration has played a central role in Myanmar's emergence from brutal military rule, a transformation Obama considers a key foreign policy success. Yet the continued persecution of Rohingya remains a stain on the country's record, and even opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi, an Obama ally whose party triumphed in recent elections, has been sharply criticized for looking the other way.

Driving the debate about accepting Syrian refugees in the US, as in Europe, are concerns that terrorists could exploit the system to enter the country and carry out more attacks. It's unclear whether that was a factor in the Paris attacks that killed 130, although Obama has insisted that's not a legitimate security threat. Unlike in Europe, refugees don't set foot in the US until they undergo a vetting process that typically takes 18 to 24 months.

Since Paris, the refugee issue has reverberated on the 2016 presidential campaign trail, where fears about Muslims in the US have been voiced with a level of openness not seen since 9/11. Obama has accused Republicans of politically driven fear-mongering, but strong support in Congress for tighter vetting measures has underscored how pervasive some of those concerns have become. "It is wrong to condemn a strong screening process using the language of charity and morality," said House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy.

Obama also met in Kuala Lumpur with representatives of civil society groups, where he called for tolerance and universal freedoms while avoiding direct criticism of Malaysia's government. He also attended a summit with Southeast Asian leaders, where he called for reaching an "ambitious and durable" climate agreement in Paris in the coming weeks and praised efforts to create a "code of conduct" to address maritime disputes in the South China Sea. Before departing for Washington today, Obama planned to meet separately with the leaders of Laos and Singapore. — AP

BRUSSELS ON LOCKDOWN IN FEAR...

Continued from Page 1

Soldiers were on guard in parts of Brussels, including at the institutions of the European Union headquartered in the city. Brussels is also home to the headquarters of NATO. "The result of relatively precise information pointed to the risk of an attack along the lines of what took place in Paris," Michel told a news conference yesterday. "We are talking about the threat that several individuals with arms and explosives would launch an attack perhaps in several locations at the same time," Michel said. He declined to elaborate, but said the government would review the situation today afternoon.

The crisis centre said weekend games in Belgium's two professional divisions should now be postponed, but most outside Brussels appeared set to go ahead. The metro system is to remain closed until then, in line with recommendation of the government's crisis center. Major shopping centers and stores did open yesterday morning, with soldiers deployed outside shops. However, many began closing their doors from around midday.

The crisis center advised the public to avoid places where a lot of people come, such as shopping centers, concerts, sports events or public transport hubs. The city's museums were shut and concert venues cancelled planned evening events. The agency has called on local authorities to cancel large events and postpone soccer matches, as well as stepping up the military and police presence. Foreign Minister Didier Reynders said that 1,000 troops were now available for patrols, double the level of a week earlier.

The alert level for all of Belgium was raised following the Paris attacks to level three out of four, implying a "possible or probable" threat. Previously, only certain sites, such as the US embassy, were at level three. Belgium, and its capital in particular, have been at the heart of investigations into the Paris attacks - which included suicide bombers targeting a France-Germany football match - after the links to Brussels emerged. Three people detained in Brussels are facing terrorism charges. Federal prosecutors said yesterday that weapons had been found at the home of a person charged on Friday.

France has been shaken to its core by a dramatic

week which began with the attacks and saw a violent shootout on Wednesday between police and jihadists holed up in a Paris apartment. Suspected attack ring-leader Abdelhamid Abaaoud was killed in the police assault along with his cousin Hasna Aitboulahcen and an unidentified suicide bomber. French police yesterday released seven people arrested during the raid, but kept hold of Jawad Bendaoud, who has admitted lending the apartment to two people from Belgium "as a favor".

Abaaoud was a notorious Belgian jihadist thought to be fighting in Syria and his presence in Europe raised troubling questions about a breakdown in intelligence and border security. The European Union agreed Friday to rush through reforms to the passport-free Schengen zone by the end of the year as France extended a ban on public gatherings until Nov 30 and the start of a UN climate summit.

Seven attackers were killed or blew themselves up during their assault on Paris. Belgian-born Salah Abdeslam, 26, is believed to have fled to Belgium and a huge manhunt is under way to find him. Abdeslam, whose brother Brahim blew himself up outside a Paris bar, may be equipped with a suicide belt, according to Hamza Attou, one of two suspects charged by Belgian authorities for allegedly helping Abdeslam return to Belgium after the attacks. Attou's lawyer Carine Couquelet told French TV channel LCI that her client has described Abdeslam as very nervous on the journey. "There are many possible theories: was (Salah) a logistical support, was he supposed to blow himself up? Was he not able to do it? We don't know."

Abdeslam, who was from the same Brussels neighborhood of Molenbeek as Abaaoud and is said by officials to have known Abaaoud in prison, was pulled over three times by French police but not arrested as he was driven back to Brussels early last Saturday by two of the men now in custody. As well as Abdeslam's brother, a second man from Molenbeek, Bilal Hadfi, was also among the Paris suicide bombers. Belgian Interior Minister Jan Jambon told reporters he wanted a register of everyone living in Molenbeek because it was not clear at present who was there, with authorities conducting door-to-door checks of every house. "The local administration should knock on every door and ask who really lives there," Jambon said. — Agencies

IRAN GUARDS 'LIBERATE' AQSA MOSQUE IN DRILL

Continued from Page 1

The symbolic operations were backed up by Guard helicopters, drones and Tucano planes that bombed hypothetical enemy positions before ground troops captured the replica of the mosque set up at the top of a mountain. In a common mistake, the Guard set up a replica of the gold-topped Dome of the Rock mosque instead of the nearby gray-domed Al-Aqsa mosque. Official photos showed one of the troops going to the top of the dome and waving an Iranian flag and a red flag, a symbol of martyrdom.

The hilltop compound, which is holy to Jews and Muslims, has been at the heart of weeks of unrest between Israel and the Palestinians. Muslims call the spot the Noble Sanctuary, and the mosque is Islam's third holiest site after Makkah and Madinah in Saudi Arabia. Jews revere the spot as the Temple Mount - home to the biblical Temples and the holiest site in Judaism. The current round of fighting was sparked in part by rumors that Israel

was plotting to take over the site - a charge that Israel vehemently denies. Clashes outside the mosque erupted in September and quickly spread across Israel and into the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Gen Amir Ali Hajizadeh, who heads the Guard's aerospace division, said his force deployed Shahed-129, or Witness-129, drones during the war games. The drone, unveiled in 2013, has a range of 1,700 km, a 24-hour non-stop flight capability and can carry eight bombs or missiles. Even so, the exercise appeared to be largely for show. Iranian commanders have not said how they would be able to deploy large numbers of forces against Israel, located 1,600 km away, or overcome Israel's powerful and technologically advanced military.

Iran, Israel's arch-enemy, frequently expresses solidarity with the Palestinians and holds an annual "Jerusalem Day" each year on the last Friday of the fasting month of Ramadan. Iran does not recognize Israel, has called for its destruction and supports anti-Israel militants across the Middle East. — AP

Kuwait Times

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Focus

IN FIGHT ON TERROR, ENCRYPTION IS A DOUBLE-EDGED SWORD

By Rob Lever

Encryption can be a terrorist's tool. But it's also a key for those hunting attackers, and for many others. The technology for encryption can keep data and conversations private, making it a double-edged sword that can equally be used by democracy campaigners, law enforcement or violent extremists. The Nov 13 attacks in Paris spurred calls for better tools for investigators to track criminals who rely on encrypted communications. But no solution is readily available that would avoid major impacts on privacy, civil liberties and a wide range of online communications including electronic commerce.

The US government is both a supporter of encryption - funding projects aimed at helping pro-democracy activists - while at the same time pressing for ways to gain access to encrypted data for certain investigations. "That schizophrenia is inherent in the NSA (National Security Agency) itself," said Sascha Meinrath, who heads the digital rights group X-Lab. "The NSA is tasked both to secure our communications and to survey our communications." Interest in encryption has been growing since revelations in documents leaked in 2013 by former US intelligence contractor Edward Snowden describing the NSA's vast abilities to sweep up data. But officials from the CIA, NSA and FBI as well as lawmakers and local law enforcement leaders have complained that they are "going dark," unable to tap into new encrypted apps and smartphones which may be locked down with keys available only to users.

'We Need Silicon Valley'

Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton joined the debate, saying "we should take the concerns of law enforcement and counterterrorism professionals seriously." "They have warned that impenetrable encryption may prevent them from accessing terrorist communications and preventing a future attack." Clinton said Thursday that "we need Silicon Valley not to view government as its adversary." "We need to challenge our best minds in the private sector to work with our best minds in the public sector to develop solutions that will both keep us safe and protect our privacy," she said. But technology specialists in the private sector argue that any "back door" allowing authorities to gain access to encrypted data, could also be exploited by a hacker, or used by repressive regimes as well as democratic ones. "Anytime you introduce a back door you can't just program it so only one entity can grab that data," said Mike Janke, chief executive of Silent Circle, an app featured on a "safe" list recently circulated by the Islamic State organization. "Hackers can get into it better than anybody."

Pressure to Act

Technology players defend the principles of encryption, saying it is legitimately used to keep data confidential by Fortune 500 companies, government leaders, journalists and dissidents around the world. Meinrath said encryption "is one of the world's most used technologies for routing around censorship. It enables millions of people to access information and news that they would otherwise not see." The US government has acknowledged this need by funding projects for secure and encrypted communications through the Open Technology Fund led by Radio Free Asia, and which Meinrath has advised. Illustrating the complexity of the issue, however, the fund provided more than \$1.3 million to the Open Whisper project - whose Redphone and Signal apps have been deemed "safe" by IS for its members to use.

The US military also created the Tor network for encrypted communications, which was developed for secret military communications but is also used now for underground "Darknet" markets. Under pressure to act following the Paris attacks, Silent Circle and others took some steps to make it harder for terrorists to use their services. Janke told AFP the Swiss-based company was "enacting more aggressive back-end payment technology to reduce the likelihood of evildoers" like IS using the service. Telegram, a secure communications app created by Russian Internet guru Pavel Durov, said it had blocked dozens of accounts associated with IS that were reportedly being used to spread extremist propaganda. Activists say the current debate revises the 1990s "crypto war" battle when the government sought a special "key" for Internet communications, before throwing in the towel.

For Good or Evil

Encryption backers say it is like any other technology - whether it is a car, telephone or gun - which can be used for good or evil. "Encryption is a security tool we rely on every day to stop criminals from draining our bank accounts, to shield our cars and airplanes from being taken over by malicious hackers, and to otherwise preserve our security and safety," said Dean Garfield of the Information Technology Industry Council, which represents major tech firms. "We deeply appreciate law enforcement's and the national security community's work to protect us," he said. "But weakening encryption or creating back doors to encrypted devices and data for use by the good guys would actually create vulnerabilities to be exploited by the bad guys, which would almost certainly cause serious physical and financial harm across our society and our economy." —AFP

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Washington Watch

WE HAVE GONE TEMPORARILY MAD, AGAIN

By Dr James J Zogby

It's not the first time that such a wave of intolerant hysteria has swept over our nation. We've done it before, and each time we've submitted to fear and bigotry, we've done damage to countless numbers of immigrants and stained the pages of our history. During last century's two World Wars, we did it to the Italians, the Germans and the Japanese. In peacetime, we persecuted Blacks, Jews, Asians, and Latinos. And because this is not the first time that Syrians have been victims of bigotry and intolerance, for me this is personal.

During World War I, my grandfather was forced to take his family from their ancestral home in the hills of Lebanon seeking refuge from preying Ottoman armed forces. My grandfather died in exile leaving my grandmother alone with seven children. At the end of the war, they returned to their village and began preparations to join the massive wave of immigrants making their way from Syria and Lebanon to America. They were economic and political refugees seeking freedom and opportunity.

En route, my father was waylaid in France where he found work, hoping to earn enough to continue his onward journey. By the time he was ready to depart, Congress had voted to cancel visas to the US for all "Syrians" (since that is what Syrians and Lebanese were called back then). They were termed a "public menace," who brought "foreign ways" and "nothing of value" to the US. Senator David Reed of Pennsylvania, in making his case for Syrian exclusion, said "we don't need any more Syrian trash coming to America".

Desperate to rejoin his family, my father got a job on a ship sailing from Marseille to New York. On arrival, he

disembarked and entered the US illegally. Eventually he connected with his mother and siblings and he never looked back. After years in hiding, fearing deportation and separation from his family, my father took advantage of a 1930s amnesty program and in 1942, he was sworn in a citizen of the United States of America.

During the past nine decades, my extended family has done well in their new home. They have produced doctors, lawyers, teachers, veterans of every war, and public servants in every branch of government. In 2013, President Obama appointed me to the US Commission on International Religious Freedom. With the appointment comes what is called "a parchment" - a handwritten declaration, signed by the president, making a formal announcement of the appointment. On the wall in my office, my parchment hangs next to my father's naturalization certificate. To me, it tells a wonderful story about what makes America great - how it can change from exclusion and intolerance to acceptance and opportunity.

Values

The extraordinary thing about my family's story is that it is so ordinary, because it is a story shared by millions of others Americans. It defines the essential quality that makes us a good nation. There have always been two voices competing for the soul of America: One has been welcoming and respectful of diversity, while the other has been intolerant and fearful of those who were different. The tension between them has defined our nation's history from its beginning. While we were born in sin, marked by the twin evils of slavery and genocide against indigenous peoples, our founders also elevated the virtue of religious freedom and the notion that all were created equal. Over the last two

and one-half centuries, these two Americas have been in locked in battle. In times of national hysteria, like the one we are going through, I believe it is imperative that we understand what is at stake in the outcome of this contest.

One speaks to the values to which we aspire, the other to our darker impulses and fears. The former is rational, the latter is irrational. If left unchecked, the dark side can, for a time, win out. And because runaway fears can so easily trump right reason, they must be confronted. We could make all of the arguments about the rigorous vetting process and the security checks in place to insure that the refugees we receive do not present a threat to our country. Or we could cite the fact that since 9/11 we have welcomed 784,000 refugees into our country and not a single one of them has committed a violent act that would endanger us. But I know that when hysteria is in the air, rational arguments are not heard against the voices of intolerance and fear.

And so when Republican candidates call for shutting mosques, closing our doors to all Muslim immigrants, or creating special ID's for those who are here, then it is time to push back. What we must do in response is stand up to the bullies, as our president has done. If our history teaches us anything, it is that the voices of our better angels will ultimately be heard and they will win in the end. We have confronted and defeated our demons before and we can do so again. How long it will take and how much damage is done before we come to our senses will be determined by the degree to which we demonstrate strong and assertive leadership to challenge and overcome the fear and temporary madness that is in the air.

NOTE: Dr James J Zogby is the President of the Arab American Institute

FRANCE ECONOMY TO SHAKE OFF PARIS SHOCK

By Eleonore Dermey

France can withstand the financial shock of the Paris attacks, analysts say, despite people deserting big stores, shunning concert halls and cancelling hotel bookings. Beyond the incalculable human cost, the experience of attacks in New York in 2001, Madrid in 2004, London in 2005, and Mumbai in 2008 shows the economic impact may be fleeting. The Nov 13 jihadist shooting and bombings in the French capital, which killed 130 people and wounded hundreds more, led to an immediate 80-percent plunge in concert ticket sales, an association of promoters said. Shoppers also fled Paris' iconic department stores Printemps and Galeries Lafayette, which reported customer numbers tumbling by between 30 and 50 percent. Hotels, too, reported a slump in bookings. Such reactions are likely to be transitory, however, analysts said. After the March 11, 2004 Madrid train bombings, which killed 191 people and wounded nearly 2,000, the capital's Complutense University estimated the cost to the city's economy at 0.16 percent of annual economic output and the cost to the country at 0.03 percent of output.

In Britain, consumer confidence took a hit when four coordinated suicide attacks on three London underground trains and a bus killed 56 people. But a budding economic recovery continued, said analysts at BNP Paribas. "In the similar attacks in Madrid and London, the impact on country-wide statistics and overall consumer confidence was relatively small," said a report by Goldman Sachs.

'Massive Human Cost'

The Paris attacks differed, however, because they came only 10 months after gunmen attacked satirical weekly Charlie Hebdo,

stormed luxury hotels, the main railway station and other sites in November 2008, killing 166 people, businesses reported a plunge in profits and a wave of cancellations by tourists. "The business climate was affected for several months," said Ashutosh Data, economist at IIFL Institutional Equities. "But the situation returned to normal after three to six months because, as terrible as the attacks may be, there was not a feeling that the country was becoming unstable," he said.

'A Major Risk'

Investors, too, are unlikely to shun France, said Muriel Penicaud, managing director of Business France, which promotes French



Two men holding signs reading "Free hugs" stand at Place de la Republique (Republic Square) in Paris yesterday as people gather to pay tribute to the victims of the Nov 13 terror attacks. —AFP

business. "An investment is always a long-term decision linked to corporate strategy," Penicaud said. "The risk of an attack is a big concern in Europe and beyond Europe," she added. "The need to invest in countries with talent, infrastructure, markets, remains very important to companies' strategies."

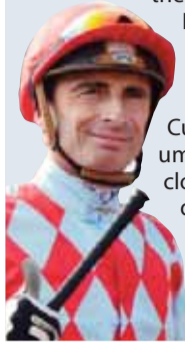
Consumption is recovering after the Paris attacks but the impact on tourism may last longer, said Philippe Gudin, analyst at Barclays. "Attacks against civilians in a European country are likely to weigh on consumer confidence, a major risk in a situation where the main driver of growth in Europe is consumer demand, with other components of demand still very subdued," Gudin said in a report. "Tourism could be hurt more durably," he said, with a likely impact on economic activity in the final quarter of 2015. "Longer term impacts are more uncertain," he added.

It is still too early to draw conclusions about the longer term impact, the analyst cautioned, citing an apparently growing international threat of attacks by Islamic State jihadists. Gudin noted in particular the twin bombing in Beirut this month that killed 44 people and the bomb attack on a Russian passenger jet over Sinai last month that claimed the lives of all 224 people aboard, both claimed by the Islamic State jihadist network.

"In addition to the Paris attacks, other recent terrorist attacks including the attacks in Beirut and its suspected downing of a Russian passenger airliner in Egypt show that the threat from ISIS is intensifying and spreading and that geopolitical risk is a growing downside risk to global growth," Gudin said. "Therefore, any comparison with previous terrorist attacks such as in Madrid in 2004 and London in 2005 is not necessarily relevant." —AFP

RUSSIA'S KULIZHNIKOV BREAKS WORLD 500 RECORD - AGAIN

SALT LAKE CITY: Russia's Pavel Kulizhnikov broke the world 500-meter record for the second time in a week Friday, finishing in 33.98 seconds in a World Cup speed-skating event. Kulizhnikov set the previous mark of 34.00 on Sunday in Calgary, Alberta, breaking the record of 34.03 set by Canada's Jeremy Wotherspoon in 2007. "I understood the ice was faster here, so I wanted to skate faster," Kulizhnikov said through an interpreter. Kulizhnikov grinned ear-to-ear during a post-race ceremony to honor the moment. The Utah Olympic Oval has an enormous plaque at the entrance that lists the world records and those set at the Oval. Kulizhnikov stood on a lift and removed his name with the old record and replaced it with the new mark. American Mitchell Whitmore was a career-best second in an American-record 34.19. It was the 25-year-old's first podium finish since starting World Cup competition at 18 years old. "I didn't really think about podiums so much until maybe three years ago when I started getting close," Whitmore said. "Then the last two years, really, I've been hundreds off multiple times. It was awesome to finally get there." The Netherlands' Kjeld Nuis won the 1,500 in 1:42.14. American Joey Mantia was second in 1:42.45, and teammate Shani Davis third in 1:42.90.—AP



PAKISTAN'S BATSMAN HAFEEZ REFUSES TO PLAY IN AMIR TEAM

DUBAI: Senior Pakistan batsman Mohammad Hafeez yesterday became the first cricketer to refuse to play alongside Mohammad Amir. The tainted but cleared paceman will feature for Chittagong Vikings in the Bangladesh premier league starting from Wednesday—a team Hafeez said also asked him to join. "I was approached by my agent to play for the Chittagong team but when I knew that Amir was also in that team so I refused it point blank," Hafeez said. "I have no personal issues with Amir or Chittagong, it's my personal opinion that I can't share the dressing room with someone who hurt my country's integrity." Hafeez added: "If any other team makes me an offer then I will play the league and I have no problems facing Amir as I have played against him in the domestic matches but can't be in the same team," said Hafeez, a former Pakistan Twenty20 captain. Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chairman Shaharyar Khan had admitted some senior players were against Amir and other two-Salman Butt and Mohammad Asif. The trio was caught in a spot-fixing scandal on Pakistan's tour of England in 2010 and were subsequently banned for five years. They were also jailed in Britain.—AFP

RED CADEAUX PUT DOWN AFTER MELBOURNE INJURY

MELBOURNE: Three-time Melbourne Cup runner-up Red Cadeaux has been euthanized following injuries the gelding received in this year's race, Victoria Racing said yesterday. The English 10-year-old, trained by Ed Dunlop, failed to finish in Australia's biggest race at Flemington on November 3 after fracturing his left fore fetlock. Initial fears about Red Cadeaux's welfare appeared to have been allayed following immediate veterinary treatment and surgery. But it was announced yesterday that because of a loss of blood flow to Red Cadeaux's foot on the left foreleg and no prospect of correcting the issue, the decision was made to put down the chestnut galloper. The horse's final resting place will be at Melbourne's Flemington Racecourse, following a request from owner Ronnie Arculli, Victoria Racing said. "This is my saddest day in racing. Red Cadeaux was a much-loved member of our family and my thoughts are with his owner Mr Arculli and my staff, who spent every day caring for this horse," Dunlop said in a statement. "Unfortunately the complication was irreversible and the decision to euthanize the horse, whilst terribly hard, was made in his best interests.—AFP



US AMATEUR CHAMPION DECHAMBEAU ON A HIGHER PLANE

MELBOURNE: If lacking in knowledge of advanced biomechanics, a degree in physics might help when chatting with American amateur Bryson DeChambeau, who believes his successful use of a single-length set of clubs might ultimately change the way players approach the game. The 22-year-old casually drops complex equations into the usual golf jargon when discussing his swing, a finely calculated invention inspired by "The Golfing Machine," the Homer Kelley manual heavy on science in decoding one of the game's most elusive and confounding skills.

Years of slavish experimentation has produced a bag of identical length clubs with large grips that allow him to produce a consistent

plane on his swing, whether driving off the tee or hitting off a fairway. Heathen to traditionalists, the approach drew plenty of skepticism from instructors and colleagues. That was until the Southern Methodist University senior won the US Amateur title in August. That followed his NCAA Championship in June, making him only the fifth player to win both the United States' amateur titles in the same year.

Arnold Palmer once remarked that golf is "deceptively simple and endlessly complicated." Physics major DeChambeau describes his approach as simply "fun". He and his long-time instructor Mike Schy started working on it when DeChambeau was 15. "We looked

through the book (The Golfing Machine) and worked out what would work where," he told Reuters in an interview at Melbourne's Huntingdale Golf Club yesterday, where he was competing in the Australian Masters tournament.

"It was complete experimentation. We finally figured out what worked really well for me and lucky enough that there was a special component called the zero shifting motion where I was able to swing on the same plane. We built the swing around that and built the clubs around that." It's taken until now, I guess you could say. You're still trying to improve every day. It's kind of a fun thing, which I hope can help the game of golf. "In regards to the

swing, it's very personal, but the single-length set I think it could be very applicable to many people out there. I think it could change how starters, beginners play the game."

Apart from same-length clubs, DeChambeau is also fastidious about the balls he uses, rolling them in a salt solution to check on their centre of gravity. "The heavy side will go to the bottom if it's off ... I do it with every ball," he said. DeChambeau was grouped with Australia's Adam Scott in his opening round and the former world number one had no hesitation branding the Californian a potential "superstar" of the future.

DeChambeau plans to turn professional after playing next year's US Masters and said

he was enjoying his "internship" as an amateur, having delayed finishing his studies. He was level with tournament favorite Scott on a two-under total of 211 after three rounds at Huntingdale Golf Club, five strokes behind the leader Matthew Millar, a local journeyman. DeChambeau had to grind out a one-over 72 in windy conditions yesterday and found at times that no amount of science could help in choosing the right clubs to play on the storied sandbelt course. "I just didn't get much out of it today," he said. "A couple of errors on a couple of holes, not getting the right clubs." More detailed analysis was bound to happen later in the evening. "I look at the imperfections of myself and what I can do better."—Reuters



DETROIT: Detroit Red Wings center Brad Richards (17) collides with Los Angeles Kings defensemen Alec Martinez (27) and Brayden McNabb (3) in front of the net during the second period of an NHL hockey game on Friday, Nov 20, 2015. —AP

NHL results/standings

Toronto 2, Carolina 1 (SO); Columbus 4, Nashville 0; Detroit 3, Los Angeles 2; Montreal 5, NY Islanders 3.

Western Conference						
Central Division						
	W	L	OTL	GF	GA	PTS
Dallas	16	4	0	71	50	32
St. Louis	13	6	1	54	48	27
Nashville	11	4	3	53	44	25
Chicago	11	7	2	54	49	24
Minnesota	10	5	3	53	51	23
Winnipeg	9	9	2	54	63	20
Colorado	7	11	1	53	54	15
Pacific Division						
Los Angeles	12	7	0	48	41	24
San Jose	11	8	0	51	47	22
Arizona	10	8	1	53	56	21
Vancouver	7	7	6	56	54	20
Anaheim	7	9	4	38	50	18
Calgary	8	12	1	50	75	17
Edmonton	7	12	1	55	63	15
Eastern Conference						
Atlantic Division						
Montreal	15	4	2	74	48	32
Ottawa	9	5	5	57	57	23
Detroit	10	8	2	45	49	22
Tampa Bay	9	9	3	48	50	21
Boston	9	8	1	60	56	19
Florida	8	8	3	50	48	19
Buffalo	8	9	2	43	52	18
Toronto	7	9	4	48	56	18
Metropolitan Division						
NY Rangers	14	3	2	58	34	30
Washington	12	5	1	54	41	25
Pittsburgh	12	7	0	44	43	24
NY Islanders	10	7	3	57	49	23
New Jersey	10	8	1	47	48	21
Philadelphia	6	8	5	35	54	17
Columbus	8	13	0	52	66	16
Carolina	6	10	3	36	55	15

Note: Overtime losses (OTL) are worth one point in the standings and are not included in the loss column (L)

FLAMES OVERWHELM CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS

CALGARY: Johnny Gaudreau had a high-light-reel goal 1:38 into overtime and the Calgary Flames beat the Chicago

Blackhawks 2-1 on Friday night to remain perfect in overtime games. Calgary has won five of six games that went to extra

time, with the loss coming in its only shootout. The Flames solved goalie Scott Darling with their sixth shot of the period. Gaudreau chased down his own rebound and then went backhand-to-forehand before beating Darling from in tight. Sean Monahan also scored, and Karri Ramo made 18 saves to help Calgary win consecutive games for just the second time this season. The Flames have won four straight at the Saddledome. Artem Anisimov scored his eighth, and Darling made 35 saves for Chicago. Patrick Kane's points streak ended at 14 games.

CANADIENS 5, ISLANDERS 3

Jeff Petry had his first two-goal game and Montreal beat New York in goalie Carey Price's return from a lower-body injury. Price, the NHL's reigning MVP and Vezina Trophy winner, missed eight games. He made 33 saves to help Montreal win for the second time in three games. Tomas Fleischmann, Nathan Beaulieu and Brendan Gallagher also scored to help the Canadiens improve to 15-4-2. Montreal is tied with Dallas for the NHL lead with 32 points. Brock Nelson scored twice, and Travis Hamonic added a goal for New York.

BLUE JACKETS 4, PREDATORS 0

Sergei Bobrovsky made 39 saves for his 12th career shutout, and Boone Jenner and Ryan Johansen each had a goal and an assist in Columbus' victory over Nashville. Gregory Campbell and Scott Hartnell also scored to help Columbus win for the fourth

time in five games. Bobrovsky got his sixth win in seven starts. Nashville's Pekka Rinne surrendered goals on Columbus' first two shots 1:41 apart, and the Blue Jackets scored three times on their first nine shots.

MAPLE LEAFS 2, HURRICANES 1, SO

Joffrey Lupul beat Cam Ward to the glove side in the fifth round of the shootout to lift Toronto past Carolina. Brad Malone scored for the Hurricanes 7:47 into the third period, and Toronto's Nazem Kadri tied it with 3:33 left. Toronto's James Reimer stopped 33 shots, and Ward made 24 saves. Toronto has won five of six games, and Carolina has lost five straight.

OILERS 5, DEVILS 1

Leon Draisaitl and Taylor Hall each had a goal and two assists and Edmonton beat New Jersey to snap a three-game losing streak. Oscar Klefbom, Jordan Eberle and Mark Letestu also scored, and Anders Nilsson made 19 saves to help the Oilers win for the second time in seven outings. Kyle Palmieri scored for New Jersey.

RED WINGS 3, KINGS 2

Mike Green and Dylan Larkin put Detroit ahead with second-period goals and Petr Mrazek made 35 saves in the Red Wings' victory over Los Angeles. Tomas Tatar also scored for the Red Wings, and Justin Abdelkader and Henrik Zetterberg each had two assists. Jeff Carter scored twice for Los Angeles. The Kings dropped to 5-2 on the road.—AP



NEW YORK: Montreal Canadiens right wing Brendan Gallagher (11) knocks the puck away from New York Islanders center John Tavares (91) during an NHL hockey game on Friday, Nov 20, 2015. —AP

BADMINTON

TOP SEED MARIN CRUISES INTO HONG KONG FINALS

HONG KONG: Two-time world champion Carolina Marin of Spain beat Chinese former world number one Wang Yihan yesterday for a place in the finals at the Hong Kong Open. The current world number one dismissed Yihan in straight sets 21-18, 21-16 taking her a step closer to her sixth big title of the year. Marin fell in the semi-finals at last year's tournament, but has since had a strong year, taking the world title in August and shooting up the rankings to number one after starting 2015 ranked eighth. "A lot of things I (have) changed in my game, in my mind and, of course, how I see the tournament—that I want to win the title," Marin said after she booked a place in her eighth final of the season. "I think the important thing is I keep my focus on all my training. This is the key of my game."

Marin will face either Thailand's Ratchanok Intanon—who was the youngest ever world champion when she took the title in 2013 — or Nozomi Okuhara of Japan in today's final. Okuhara beat Marin in the semi-finals of last year's Hong Kong Open, but then failed to take the title, while Ratchanok has overcome the Spaniard in all of their previous four meetings. In the men's competition, Malaysia's Lee Chong Wei faces giant-slayer Angus Ng later to fight for a place in the final.

Hong Kong youngster Ng downed Lee's nemesis Chinese badminton legend Lin Dan in the second round, making him an overnight hometown hero. Former world number one Lee is on a winning streak after taking back-to-back titles in China and France as he has made a strong comeback to the circuit following an eight-month doping ban earlier this year. China's Tian Houwei, ranked tenth in the world, secured his place in the finals, beating little-known qualifier Ginting Anthony of Indonesia 18-21, 21-11, 21-6. Tian has a strong record against both of his potential co-finalists. He beat Lee in their only previous meeting in 2013, and has downed Ng three times in as many matches.—AFP

UK CLOSE TO REDEMPTION AFTER PLUMBING DEPTHS

LONDON: John Lloyd will be in the commentary box when Britain face Belgium in next week's Davis Cup final, presumably sitting more comfortably than he was five years ago in Vilnius when the country's fortunes were sinking to a new low. Then, as captain and with his team heading for a fifth-straight defeat, this time 3-2 against Lithuania, he could only squirm as a gloating fan goaded him about his job prospects.

"There was one chap who weighed about 20 stone and sat on three seats and had a very nice voice, but he started singing from very early on 'John Lloyd you'll be sacked in the morning,'" Lloyd said in a BBC radio program charting Britain's fall and rise in the prestigious team event this week. "At one stage I wanted to get a ball and aim it at his head. I wouldn't have thought we had many worse matches than that." There have been plenty to choose from, too, in the 37 years since Britain last reached the final, against the US when former Australian Open runner-up Lloyd was demolished by a rising force named John McEnroe.

There was a 5-0 defeat in Slovakia in 1995 that sent Britain into a Group Two relegation playoff against mighty Monaco and a home defeat by Ecuador in 2000 when rookie Giovanni Lapentti, playing his first match on a grasscourt, sealed their fate. Or even the humiliating 4-1 home defeat by Zimbabwe in 1997. Take your pick. Captains have come and gone and a succession of willing but limited players have tried and failed to put Britain on

the tennis map they dominated until 1936 when they won their ninth, and most recent, Davis Cup title. Even Tim Henman and Greg Rusedski, both top-10 players, could not inspire a Davis Cup challenge and until Britain beat the US in 2014 they had gone 28 years without a World Group win.

It has been an interesting journey through the tennis wilderness though, nowhere more so than in Odessa in 2006 when the visiting British team, which included Andy Murray, was given a changing room that doubled as a brothel. "The only one who I had to explain it to was Greg (Rusedski)," Lloyd recalled of that win in Ukraine. "He didn't know why there were mirrors on the ceiling and all that stuff." Since then, Murray has gone on to become one of the best players in the world, winning Wimbledon and the US Open, and has led Britain almost single-handedly to next week's Davis Cup final in Ghent where they start as favourites.

Intrepid bats

Tennis hacks and success-starved fans are still pinching themselves because not so long ago the idea that Britain would be challenging the likes of Spain, France, Switzerland and the United States would have seemed laughable. Yet, despite all the tales of woe, the intrepid bunch who call themselves BATS (British Association of Tennis Supporters) have stayed loyal, following the team through thick and thin, and often playing unexpected roles.—Reuters



CALIFORNIA: Julius Randle (2R) and Roy Hibbert (right) of the Los Angeles Lakers and DeMarre Carroll (2nd left) of the Toronto Raptors chase down a loose ball during their NBA match on November 20, 2015 at Staples Center in Los Angeles. The Raptors defeated the Lakers 102-91.—AFP

WARRIORS EYE RECORD AFTER BEATING BULLS, STAY PERFECT

OAKLAND: Stephen Curry scored 27 points and the defending champion Golden State Warriors moved within one victory of matching the best start in NBA history, holding off the Chicago Bulls 106-94 on Friday night to improve to 14-0. The league's last undefeated team ran its franchise-record home winning streak to 26 games by beating a Chicago team that is the last to win at Oracle Arena during the regular season, way back in late January. Golden State equaled the 1957-58 Celtics as the only defending champions to win their initial 14 games. The Warriors are one of five teams in NBA history to begin 14-0, and will travel to Denver looking to keep it going Sunday. Harrison Barnes added 20 points and nine rebounds for the Warriors in a game featuring 18 lead changes and 17 ties. Jimmy Butler had 28 points, nine rebounds and seven assists for the Bulls.

SUNS 114, NUGGETS 107

Brandon Knight scored a career-high 38 points, Eric Bledsoe had 22 and Phoenix overcame a 17-point deficit to beat Denver. The Suns trailed most of the game but went ahead early in the fourth quarter with an 11-0 run. Jon Leuer's 3-pointer made it 89-88, Knight hit another 3, and Mirza Teletovic's putback made it 94-88. Teletovic and Knight had consecutive 3-pointers to make it 102-92 with 4:26 remaining. Knight scored 17 points in the fourth to lead the comeback. Rookie guard Emmanuel Mudiay led Denver with a career-high 26 points, and Gary Harris also set a career best with 20.

PELICANS 104, SPURS 90

Anthony Davis had 20 points and 18 rebounds in his return from a sore shoulder, and New Orleans beat San Antonio for its second victory of the season. Ryan Anderson hit six 3-pointers and scored 30 points for the second straight game. Ish Smith had 17 points and 13 assists for New Orleans (2-11), which snapped a five-game skid. Kawhi Leonard scored 22 points for San Antonio, which lost for only the third time this season and had its six-game winning streak snapped. LaMarcus Aldridge left briefly in the first quarter after twisting his left ankle, but returned and finished with 20 points and 11 rebounds. Eric Gordon scored 11 points for New Orleans, including a 3-pointer that gave the Pelicans a 100-88 lead with 2:59 remaining.

TRAIL BLAZERS 102, CLIPPERS 91

Damian Lillard had 27 points, including three key 3-pointers down the stretch, and Portland beat Los Angeles to snap a seven-game losing streak. Lillard's 3-pointer with 3 1/2 minutes left gave Portland a 90-85 lead. Blake Griffin answered with a basket on the other end, but Lillard made another 3, and added the third with 1:46 remaining. CJ McCollum added 18 points for the Blazers, and Mason Plumlee added 18 points and 10 rebounds. Griffin led Los Angeles with 21 points. Jamal Crawford made five 3-pointers and finished with 20.

KNICKS 93, THUNDER 90

Carmelo Anthony scored 25 points and New York beat Oklahoma City for its third straight victory. The Thunder rallied from a 16-point deficit in the

fourth quarter, but Dion Waiters' potential tying shot rattled out at the buzzer. Arron Afflalo scored 14 points, and Lance Thomas added 12 for the Knicks. Russell Westbrook led Oklahoma City with 34 points, seven rebounds and seven assists, but the NBA's No 3 scorer made just 11 of 29 shots and went 2 of 10 on 3-pointers. Oklahoma City fell to 2-3 without Kevin Durant. He sat out with a strained left hamstring.

HORNETS 113, 76ERS 88

Al Jefferson had 26 points and 10 rebounds and Charlotte beat winless Philadelphia. The 76ers dropped to 0-13 and haven't won since last March 27. They have dropped 23 in a row overall and are nearing the NBA record for longest losing streak that they already share. The Hornets improved to 7-6, and are now 5-1 at home after winning their last five home contests. Point guard Kemba Walker added 20 points and seven assists for Charlotte. Nerlens Noel led the Sixers with 16 points on 7-of-9 shooting.

MAVERICKS 102, JAZZ 93

Deron Williams scored a season-high 23 points, Dirk Nowitzki had 19 and Dallas beat Utah for its sixth straight victory. The Mavericks led 92-87 when Williams hit his fourth 3-pointer of the game. He then grabbed a defensive rebound and assisted on a jumper by Nowitzki. Williams, who played his first 5 1/2 NBA seasons with the Jazz, also had eight assists and a season-high six rebounds. Nowitzki was 8 of 12 from the field and made all three of his 3-point attempts.

Gordon Hayward scored 22 points for Utah.

GRIZZLIES 96, ROCKETS 84

Mike Conley scored 26 points, Marc Gasol had 16 points, 11 rebounds and 11 assists, and Memphis beat Houston. Matt Barnes finished with 12 points and Mario Chalmers added 10 to help Memphis win its fourth straight. James Harden led the Rockets with 22 points, but missed six of his seven shots from beyond the arc. Trevor Ariza had

19 points, and Dwight Howard had 12 points and 15 rebounds. The Rockets have lost five of their last six, going 1-1 since Kevin McHale was fired and J.B. Bickerstaff took over as interim coach.

RAPTORS 102, LAKERS 91

Kyle Lowry had 25 points, DeMar DeRozan scored seven of his 18 in the final 3:34, and Toronto beat Los Angeles to snap a three-game skid. Raptors starting center Jonas Valanciunas broke a bone in his left (non-shooting) hand when Kobe Bryant fouled him under the Toronto basket in the final minute of the first half. Terrence Ross, who signed a three-year, \$33 million contract extension with the Raptors on Nov 2, had eight points in 14 minutes after missing six games because of a sprained ligament in his left thumb. Julius Randle had 18 points for the Lakers.

PISTONS 96, TIMBERWOLVES 86

Andre Drummond had 21 points and 11 rebounds to help lift Detroit past Minnesota. Marcus Morris had 16 points and 11 rebounds and the scuffling Pistons grinded out a victory after losing four of their previous five games. Reggie Jackson scored 18 points, including two tough drives to the in the final 3 minutes to help hold off a late charge from Minnesota. Andrew Wiggins scored 21 points and Karl-Anthony Towns had 18 points and seven rebounds for the Timberwolves. They are 0-6 at home.

CELTICS 120, NETS 95

Avery Bradley scored 21 points and Isaiah Thomas added 18 points and nine assists in Boston's victory over Brooklyn. The Celtics shot 62 percent in the first half and ran away with the game in the second quarter when they went 18 for 21 from the field (86 percent) and closed with a 26-7 run. Thomas scored all 14 of his first-half points - including four 3-pointers - during that stretch. Jae Crowder had 19 points for Boston. Thaddeus Young had 14 points and 10 rebounds for the Nets. Brook Lopez also scored 14 points.—AP

SCOREBOARD

Charlotte 113, Philadelphia 88; Boston 120, Brooklyn 95; Memphis 96, Houston 84; Detroit 96, Minnesota 86; New Orleans 104, San Antonio 90; NY Knicks 93, Oklahoma City 90; Dallas 102, Utah 93; Phoenix 114, Denver 107; Portland 102, LA Clippers 91; Golden State 106, Chicago 94; Toronto 102, LA Lakers 91.

Eastern Conference				Western Conference			
Atlantic Division				Northwest Division			
	W	L	PCT		W	L	PCT
Boston	7	5	.583	Oklahoma City	7	6	.538
Toronto	8	6	.571	Utah	6	6	.500
NY Knicks	7	6	.538	Denver	6	7	.462
Brooklyn	2	11	.154	Minnesota	5	8	.385
Philadelphia	0	13	0	Portland	5	9	.357
Central Division				Pacific Division			
Cleveland	9	3	.750	Golden State	14	0	1.000
Chicago	8	4	.667	Phoenix	7	5	.583
Indiana	7	5	.583	LA Clippers	6	6	.500
Detroit	7	5	.583	Sacramento	4	9	.308
Milwaukee	5	7	.417	LA Lakers	2	10	.167
Southeast Division				Southwest Division			
Atlanta	9	5	.643	San Antonio	9	3	.750
Miami	7	4	.636	Dallas	9	4	.692
Washington	5	4	.556	Memphis	7	6	.538
Charlotte	7	6	.538	Houston	5	8	.385
Orlando	6	6	.500	New Orleans	2	11	.154



LONDON: Serbia's Novak Djokovic returns to Spain's Rafael Nadal during the men's singles semi-final match on day seven of the ATP World Tour Finals tennis tournament in London yesterday.—AFP

MURRAY EYES DAVIS CUP RELIEF FOR LONDON PAIN

LONDON: Andy Murray hopes the chance to make Davis Cup history with Great Britain will ease the pain of his frustrating ATP Tour Finals exit. Murray crashed out of the season-ending event on Friday after a 7-6 (7/4), 6-4 defeat against Stan Wawrinka denied him a place in the semi-finals. The world number two has never won the Tour Finals, but he will have to wait another year to lift the trophy at London's O2 Arena.

Instead, Murray's thoughts will immediately turn to international duty as Britain prepare for their first Davis Cup final in 37 years next week. It is a welcome situation for Murray, who couldn't hide his disappointment at failing to make the Tour Finals last-four for the first time since 2012 as he smashed a racquet as the match against the French Open champion slipped away. "This is obviously a big event, one that I would have liked to have done better over the years. It just hasn't quite happened for me," Murray said.

"When you're playing and competing against the best players, obviously it's very important to do well. "I do enjoy playing here. Great crowds, good atmosphere. It's a really nice venue to play in. "So that's why I'm disappointed with the losses the last two days. I wish I could have done better. Obviously the only positive for me this week is I've come away from it injury-free. "Now I have a couple more days to get ready for Belgium (Britain's Davis Cup final opponents)." Murray admitted he could have few complaints about his Tour Finals failure after a lacklustre effort against Rafael Nadal and then an error-strewn loss to Wawrinka.

He insisted his inconsistent efforts weren't the result of spending most of the week before the Tour Finals practicing on clay courts at Queen's Club to prepare for the surface that will be used in next week's Davis Cup final in Ghent. "There's no excuses. To be honest I made too many errors. It was tough. I couldn't quite get the balance," Murray said. "My timing wasn't there certainly the last few days. It's disappointing. "I felt like my timing would get better as the event

went on, and it didn't actually, it got worse. So that is nothing to do with not having enough time to prepare."

Murray had already made it clear before the Tour Finals that his main priority at the end of the season was helping Britain win the Davis Cup for the first time since 1936. And the former Wimbledon champion is confident the prospect of victory at the end of a memorable Davis Cup campaign, which has already included wins over the United States, France and Australia, will quickly make him forget his London exit. "I didn't find it difficult not thinking about the Davis Cup Final, to be honest," he said. "It's a great opportunity for everyone. We look forward to it."—AFP



LONDON: Andy Murray of Britain reacts after losing a point against Stan Wawrinka of Switzerland during their singles tennis match at the ATP World Tour Finals at the O2 Arena in London on Friday, Nov 20, 2015.—AP

THE YEAR MCENROE MAULED BRITAIN'S DAVIS CUP HOPES

LONDON: The tennis world was already abuzz with the name John McEnroe well before Britain arrived to play the United States in the 1978 Davis Cup final in the Californian desert. He had, after all, reached the Wimbledon semi-finals the year before as an 18-year-old qualifier, losing to Jimmy Connors, and repeated the feat at the 1978 US Open. But the wild-eyed left-hander had never been exposed to a Davis Cup singles rubber for the US and eyebrows were raised when he ousted Arthur Ashe from the team to face Britain—who had reached their first final since their heady days of 1936.

Not only that but McEnroe was drawn to play the opening rubber of the tie at Mission Hills against Britain's John Lloyd. Lloyd's team mate Mark Cox, who was to lose the doubles with David Lloyd, remembers what followed vividly from the safety of his position on the court-side bench. "I remember we were all quite excited to be facing McEnroe; he was the new young kid on the block," Cox, who will be watching in Belgium next week when Britain try to win the title for the first time

since 1936 said. "I thought he might be tight, maybe a bit nervous. But he served an ace on the first point. Kind of launched himself into the fray in quite spectacular fashion.

"He came out all guns blazing." There was even a glimpse of the famous McEnroe temper which earned him the "Super-Brat" nickname after he was distracted by the voice of iconic British commentator Dan Maskell. "Dan was talking from a balcony above the court and it wasn't enclosed and his lovely tones were drifting out to court," Cox said. "That caused something of a confrontation between Dan and McEnroe, Dan got the full Mac glare! "Dan was the voice of Wimbledon and for this brash youngster to get into a confrontation with him was quite something."

'Up against genius'

Unless Belgium have been hiding away a potential world beater, Britain will have less to fear when they arrive in Ghent next week for their first Davis Cup final since losing to the McEnroe-inspired Americans 37 years ago. World number 16 David

Goffin is a sweet ball-striker and their number two player Steve Darcis once beat Rafael Nadal at Wimbledon, but the task facing captain Leon Smith's side, boasting world number two Andy Murray, does not compare with the challenge facing Paul Hutchins' team in 1978. McEnroe crushed Lloyd 6-1 6-2 6-2 and was equally ruthless when he demolished Buster Mottram 6-2 6-2 6-1 to give his team a winning 3-1 lead in the second singles.

"Reaching the Davis Cup final was the highlight of my career," Lloyd, who went on to captain the side, recalled in a BBC Radio interview this week. "And to go up against McEnroe and get annihilated and be up against genius. I saw shots that I didn't think could be hit by another human being." Hutchins, who captained the British 31 times and masterminded their run to the final, past a Czech team including a young Ivan Lendl and then arch-rivals Australia in the semis at Crystal Palace, said McEnroe already had an aura. "I knew he would be really good but never imagined that good," he told Reuters. "Brash, confident and so talented were my thoughts sitting on the side of the court."—Reuters

GUANGZHOU EVERGRANDE RECLAIM ASIAN CROWN

GUANGZHOU: A moment of magic from Brazil's Elkeson earned China's Guangzhou Evergrande their second AFC Champions League title in three years yesterday after a tense second leg of their final against Al Ahli. The striker's instinctive turn and toe-poke on 54 minutes finally unlocked the Emirati team's defense to earn a 1-0 win for Luiz Felipe Scolari's side after the first leg in Dubai ended goalless. The victory was wildly celebrated at a packed Tianhe stadium as the 2013 champions regained the Asian title and earned a spot at next month's Club World Cup in Japan. It was also a personal victory for Scolari, who led Brazil to a humiliating 7-1 defeat to Germany in last year's World Cup semi-finals but who has kept Evergrande unbeaten since his arrival in June.

Al Ahli proved worthy opponents but their challenge was fatally holed when defender Salmin Khamis saw red for a stamp on 66 minutes, and was so incensed he had to be restrained pitchside. Evergrande nearly got a dream start when Elkeson fed fellow Brazilian Ricardo Goulart in the box, but his close-range shot was well saved at the near post by Ahmed Ashoori. Al Ahli nearly stunned Evergrande on the break but Jose Lima's shot from the edge of the area, with passes available, was straight down the throat of goalkeeper Zeng Cheng.

Evergrande suffered a blow when Zeng

injured himself and had to be replaced by Li Shuai after he leapt to punch a cross clear and landed awkwardly on the ankle of team-mate Huang Bowen. Zheng Long went close with a near-post header after a well-worked move from the right, but overall the expensively assembled Chinese domestic champions failed to impose themselves in the first half. However, Evergrande finally broke through after 144 goalless minutes against Al Ahli when Elkeson, receiving the ball with his back to goal, flicked it past a defender and stretched to slot it home.

Al Ahli's hopes faded further when a furious Khamis earned his straight red card for an apparent stamp on Zheng Long, and had to be restrained by three officials who wrestled him away from the pitch. But Evergrande still needed heroics from South Korean defender Kim Young-Gwon who made a superb last-ditch challenge on Lima when the Brazilian was one-on-one with substitute 'keeper Li. Man-of-the-match Elkeson nearly made it 2-0 for Evergrande in the fourth minute of injury time but he sliced his shot clear when it looked easier to score. As captain Zheng Zhi lifted the trophy to the strains of "We Are The Champions", gold ticket tape fluttered down and the players sprayed champagne and bounced Scolari up and down in celebration.—AFP



GUANGZHOU: Members of the Guangzhou Evergrande team celebrate after winning the championship game of the AFC Champions League in Guangzhou in southern China's Guangdong Province yesterday. Guangzhou Evergrande beat UAE Al Ahli, 1-0. —AP



HAMBURG: Hamburg players celebrate after winning the German first division Bundesliga soccer match between Hamburger SV and Borussia Dortmund in Hamburg on Friday, Nov 20, 2015. — AP

TUCHEL SLAMS DORTMUND'S 'DRAMATIC' DROP IN FORM

BERLIN: Borussia Dortmund coach Thomas Tuchel admits his side showed a 'dramatic' drop in performance in a shock 3-1 defeat at Hamburg on Friday that dented their Bundesliga title chances. Goals from Pierre-Michel Lasogga, Lewis Holtby and a Mats Hummel own-goal put hosts Hamburg 3-0 up before Gabon striker Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang netted a late consolation for Dortmund, his 15th goal in 13 league games.

The win saw Hamburg move up to eighth, but defeat leaves second-placed Dortmund facing the prospect of finishing the weekend eight points behind leaders Bayern Munich if they beat Schalke. The start of Friday's game was delayed for safety reasons, adding to the tension just three days after a bomb scare caused Germany's friendly with the Netherlands in Hanover to be postponed and a week after the Paris terror attacks. Tuchel slammed his side for a poor first-half display which left them 2-0 down at the break.

"Especially in the first half, the difference between our usual standards, how we perform as a team, and reality was dramatic," fumed Tuchel. "We deserved to be punished for it. I have no explanation for it, but it was obvious from the first minute that we lacked the necessary body language and attitude. It wasn't the performance we imagined and we also didn't see it coming. It was far too little to achieve a good result in the Bundesliga. There was no indication beforehand. We were very diligent and worked hard in the international break. Even during the final training session today (Friday) or during the team meeting, there was no hint of such a performance. The lesson is simple: with that body language, with that sort of performance and with so little attention being paid, you're never going to get anything (out of a game)."

Meanwhile, Hamburg coach Bruno Labbadia praised his side's performance. "Beating Dortmund is never easy. Given the quality of their side we weren't sure of the victory, even at 3-0 up," he added.

Dortmund goalkeeper Roman Burki said the performance was his team's "worst" of the season, surpassing their 5-1 rout at Bayern's Allianz Arena at the start of October. Defeat in Hamburg ended their seven-match winning streak and defender Marcel Schmelzer said lessons must be learnt. "We played very badly in the first half and couldn't implement what we had planned," said Schmelzer. "We didn't move enough in front of their goal and we made individual mistakes. It's not enough in the Bundesliga if you don't put in 100 percent and now we need to go away and scrutinize ourselves and calmly analyze what happened."—AFP

Live Matches on TV (Local Timings)

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

Tottenham v West Ham 19:00
beIN SPORTS

SPANISH LEAGUE

Valencia v Las Palmas 0:00
beIN SPORTS 7 HD
Coruna v Vigo 0:05
beIN SPORTS 9 HD
Gijon v Levante 14:00
beIN SPORTS
Villarreal v Eibar 18:00
beIN SPORTS
Granada v Bilbao 20:15
beIN SPORTS
Betis v Atletico 22:30
beIN SPORTS

ITALIAN LEAGUE

Hellas Verona v Napoli 14:30
beIN SPORTS
Atalanta v Torino 17:00
beIN SPORTS
Lazio v Palermo 17:00
beIN SPORTS
Genoa v Sassuolo 17:00
beIN SPORTS
Fiorentina v Empoli 17:00
beIN SPORTS
Carpì v Verona 17:00
beIN SPORTS
Udinese v Sampdoria 17:00
beIN SPORTS
Inter v Frosinone 22:45
beIN SPORTS

GERMAN LEAGUE

Hertha Berlin v Hoffenheim 17:30
beIN SPORTS
Ingolstadt v Darmstadt 19:30
beIN SPORTS

FRENCH LEAGUE

Caen v Angers 16:00
beIN SPORTS
Stade Rennes v Girondins 19:00
beIN SPORTS
Saint Etienne v Marseille 23:00
beIN SPORTS

NICE HAMMER LYON AS LIGUE 1 RESUMES AFTER PARIS ATTACKS

PARIS: Nice beat second-placed Lyon 3-0 as Ligue 1 resumed on Friday as scheduled, a week on from the Paris terror attacks that left 130 people dead and more than 350 injured. Valere Germain and Vincent Koziello struck either side of a Mapou Yanga-Mbiwa own goal on an emotional evening at the Allianz Riviera as tributes were paid to the victims of last week's attacks in the French capital. "I told my players they had the chance to give happiness to those who were watching us. Everyone was up to the mark tonight, the Nice fans and the two teams," said Nice coach Claude Puel. Lyon counterpart Hubert Fournier had no qualms about the defeat, adding it was "deserved" while also praising the "dignified and respectful" behavior of the Nice supporters.

A moving rendition of the French national anthem, 'La Marseillaise', was played before kick-off and was followed by a minute's silence, during which fans held aloft candles. A Nice supporters group had urged fans to come dressed in black to honor victims of last Friday's attacks, while players wore black armbands as a traditional mark of respect. Sports Minister Thierry Braillard, along with French football officials, had taken the decision on Tuesday to allow Ligue 1 and Ligue 2 matches to go ahead under heavy security, but without away fans. League president Frederic Thiriez said security forces across the country were too stretched to allow fans to travel.

Mathieu Valbuena was named in the Lyon team just hours after giving evidence in the sex tape blackmail affair in which his France colleague Karim Benzema has been charged. Valbuena, who was seen leaving a Versailles court, on the outskirts of Paris, at around 12:45pm local time (1145 GMT) then travelled to the Cote d'Azur, almost 1,000 kilometers away, on a private jet laid on by the club. Lyon should have taken an early lead when Claudio Beauvue was left unmarked 10 yards out, only for the striker to blaze over the crossbar. The visitors, unbeaten on their last five trips to Nice, went even closer on the quarter hour as last year's leading scorer Alexandre Lacazette fired against the base of the post.

Having initially rode their luck early Nice made the breakthrough 20 minutes in as Valere Germain gathered Jean-Michael Seri's pass and glided into the box before lifting a superb dinked finish over Lyon goalkeeper Anthony Lopes for his sixth goal of the season. The hosts stretched their lead three minutes after half-time when Lyon defender Mapou Yanga-Mbiwa inexplicably diverted Jeremy Pied's low cross into his



NICE: Nice's Hatem Ben Arfa (right) challenges for the ball with Lyon's Da Silva Rafael during their French Ligue One soccer match on Friday, Nov 20, 2015 in Nice stadium. — AP

own net. Twenty-year-old Vincent Koziello rounded off the victory on 71 minutes with a thumping finish into the roof of the net as Nice climbed to third in the table, just a point behind

Lyon. Reigning champions Paris Saint-Germain traveled to Lorient yesterday with a chance to further increase their healthy 10-point cushion at the top.—AFP

FIFA ETHICS INVESTIGATORS CALL FOR SANCTIONS AGAINST BLATTER, PLATINI

BERNE: FIFA ethics investigators called yesterday for sanctions against president Sepp Blatter and European soccer boss Michel Platini, dealing a fresh blow to Platini's bid to succeed Blatter as head of world soccer's governing body. Both men were suspended from their posts for 90 days on Oct. 8 pending a full investigation, engulfed by a deepening corruption scandal as the sport faces criminal probes in Switzerland and the United States. The investigatory chamber of FIFA's ethics committee - acting independently of the organization's leadership - said yesterday it had completed its inquiry, but did not say why it was recommending sanctions nor what those sanctions should be.

Its report will now be passed to the committee's adjudicatory chamber, which will decide whether investigations should be pursued and on any potential sanctions. "The investigatory chamber of the independent Ethics Committee has submitted its final reports containing requests for sanctions against Joseph (Sepp) Blatter and Michel Platini to the adjudicatory chamber chaired by Hans-Joachim Eckert," the ethics panel said the statement. "For reasons linked to privacy rights and the presumption of innocence until proven guilty, the

chamber will not publish details of the concluded reports and the requested sanctions against the two officials."

Blatter has been FIFA president since 1998. Platini has been head of European soccer's governing body UEFA since 2007 and, until he was suspended, had been favorite to replace Blatter in FIFA's Feb. 26 presidential election. Platini's hopes of standing were put on hold because of his suspension. He has appealed to the Court of Arbitration of Sport against his provisional ban but, even if he wins and is allowed to stand, his plans would be scuppered if Eckert's adjudicatory chamber accepts the investigation's recommendations. The adjudicatory chamber said in a separate statement it would decide whether to open formal proceedings and, if necessary, on sanctions "in due course."

FIFA's electoral committee has said Platini's registration will not be processed while he is suspended, although it could reconsider its position if he wins an appeal. Platini's appeal was rejected in the first instance by FIFA's Appeal Committee this week. Blatter also faces criminal investigation in Switzerland over a 2 million Swiss franc (\$2 million) pay-

ment from FIFA to Platini. The payment was made in 2011 for work Platini had completed nine years earlier, the Swiss attorney-general's office has said, adding Platini was considered "between a witness and an accused person." Both men have denied wrongdoing. The ethics committee said its chief investigator Cornel Borbely was not involved in its

investigation of Blatter as both men are Swiss. "As the two proceedings are closely related and to avoid any appearance of a conflict of interests, Dr Borbely also withdrew from the proceedings against Michel Platini," it added. Instead, Robert Torres from Guam submitted the report on Blatter and Trinidadian Vanessa Allard compiled the report on Platini. — Reuters



A combination of photos shows FIFA president Sepp Blatter (left) and UEFA leader Michel Platini. The FIFA ethics committee probing allegations of corruption against president Sepp Blatter and his would-be successor, Michel Platini, has requested that sanctions be leveled against both men. — AFP

ROMA MISS A CHANCE TO GO TOP; BOLOGNA SNATCH POINT

MILAN: There were three second-half penalties as AS Roma drew 2-2 at Bologna after conceding a late equalizer yesterday, missing the chance to top Serie A after a contest heavily affected by rain and a waterlogged pitch. Mattia Destro came back to haunt his former club with an 87th minute equalizer from the penalty spot for the hosts after substitute Vasilis Torosidis, duped by the run of the ball on the wet pitch, brought down Emanuele Giaccherini.

Bologna had taken the lead after 14 minutes when Adam Masina fired past Wojciech Szczesny as Roma's defenders

failed to clear their lines following a set piece, but the visitors fought back through two penalties. Miralem Pjanic equalized in the 52nd minute, squeezing the ball beneath Antonio Mirante, after Anthony Mounier handled Alessandro Florenzi's cross, and Edin Dzeko gave Roma the lead 20 minutes later when Juan Iturbe was felled by Luca Rossetini. The draw takes Roma up to second, level on 27 points with leaders Fiorentina and third-placed Inter Milan, who play Empoli and Frosinone respectively today. Bologna move up to 15th place on 13 points.— Reuters

WOLFSBURG HAMMER WERDER BREMEN 6-0

BERLIN: Germany striker Max Kruse netted twice in Wolfsburg's 6-0 rout of Werder Bremen in the Bundesliga yesterday to warm-up for Wednesday's Champions League clash at CSKA Moscow. Kruse said he was glad to get back to football after the horror scenes from Paris and the postponed Germany-Holland friendly in Hannover last Tuesday due to a bomb scare. "Of course you have a few thoughts after a week like that, but we have to go out as role models and try and be as bold as possible and not be put off by what has happened," said Kruse. "Today was a lot of work, but a step in the right direction."

In Europe, Wolfsburg are third in Group B, but just a point behind leaders Manchester United ahead of their penultimate group game at bottom side CSKA Moscow. There was a minute's silence at all Bundesliga grounds this weekend—the players also wore black armbands-out of respect for the Paris victims. Stuttgart's 4-0 thumping at home to Augsburg was delayed by 15 minutes due to the tightened security checks at stadiums across the country. There were no such problems at Wolfsburg's Volkswagen Arena as Bremen gifted their hosts the opener when defender Alejandro Galvez slid the ball into his own net on 11 minutes.

Kruse put Wolfsburg 2-0 up at the break by heading home a free-kick then Portugal international Vierinha netted on 56 minutes. The floodgates opened when French defensive midfielder Josuha Guilavogui, on for the injured Brazil star Luiz Gustavo, stabbed home his shot on 67 minutes. Kruse then set up Netherlands striker Bas Dost on 78 minutes before completing the scoring three minutes from time by converting a cross. The result leaves Wolfsburg five points behind second-placed Borussia Dortmund, who lost 3-1 at Hamburg on Friday, while leaders Bayern Munich played at Schalke yesterday evening.



WOLFSBURG: Wolfsburg's Brazilian defender Naldo (right) and Bremen's Austrian midfielder Zlatko Junuzovic (2nd right) head for the ball during the German first division Bundesliga football match VfL Wolfsburg vs Werder Bremen yesterday. — AFP

CELTIC HELD BY KILMARNOCK

GLASGOW: Celtic remain six points clear at the top of the Scottish Premiership despite being held to a goalless draw with Kilmarnock at Parkhead yesterday. The Hoops dominated possession but lacked the creative spark to get behind an organized Kilmarnock defense. Leigh Griffiths forced Jamie MacDonald into a couple of decent saves and Dedryck Boyata sent a powerful header crashing off the bar in stoppage as Celtic were left frustrated. It is the second time this season the Hoops have failed to beat Killie after they were held to a 2-2 draw with the Rugby Park side in August.

"It was very frustrating as over the 90 minutes we had 70 per cent possession," Celtic manager Ronny Deila fumed. "Today we had a lack of tempo, creativity and timing in the last third of the pitch. We didn't create enough but we still should have won the game." Kilmarnock manager Gary Locke was pleased to pick up a point. "The game plan we worked on all week worked a treat and we probably could have nicked it in the end with a couple of chances on the counter attack," Locke said. "I could not be happier with the performance." Hearts missed out on the chance to close the gap at the top after they were held to a 1-1 draw by Dundee at Tynecastle although Aberdeen could move to within five points of the Hoops if they defeat Hamilton on Sunday.

Celtic had been given a pre-match boost with the return of captain Scott Brown after an absence of four weeks but an illness ruled out Kris Commons. The Hoops skipper came in for some close attention from the Killie players early on with Josh Magennis seeing yellow for his crude challenge on the midfielder. After a low-key start, the first real opportunity of the match

fell to top-scorer Griffiths who did well to control a long ball over the top of the Killie defense but then fired a weak effort straight at MacDonald. Australian international Tom Rogic dragged a shot wide and James Forrest had his effort blocked as the Killie defense continued to frustrate Celtic.

Celtic started the second half in determined fashion and MacDonald had to be alert to push a fierce free-kick from Griffiths round the post in the 48th minute. The Hoops striker then fired just over after the ball broke to him in the box as the Scottish champions tried to find an opener. Celtic dominated possession and remained camped in the Kilmarnock half but a combination of some rugged organization and desperate defending kept the Hoops at bay. Kilmarnock had rarely managed over the half way line but came close to an opener in the 83rd minute when Greg Kiltie fired a fierce strike at Craig Gordon which the keeper managed to turn round the post. Magennis had his header held from the resultant corner before Tope Obadeyi had an angled shot stopped by Gordon. Skipper Brown looked to drive Celtic forward and unleashed a powerful shot that MacDonald did well to keep out. The Hoops were inches away from a winner in stoppage time as Boyata's header rattled the crossbar as the Belgian defender connected with a Griffiths free-kick swung in from the right. Elsewhere, St Johnstone came from behind to earn a 2-1 victory over bottom of the table Dundee United at Tannadice, Partick Thistle earned a 2-1 win against Inverness Caledonian Thistle and Ross County ended a three game losing streak as they earned a 3-0 win over Motherwell, who slip to second bottom.—AFP



SOUTHAMPTON: Stoke City's Bojan Krkic scores his side's first goal, during the English Premier League soccer match between Southampton and Stoke City yesterday. — AP

STOKE ENDS SAINTS' UNBEATEN RUN



SOUTHAMPTON: Bojan Krkic scored the only goal of the afternoon to continue Stoke City's impressive run with their first win at Southampton in 25 years yesterday. Southampton had not lost a home league game to Stoke since October 1980, but that statistic fell early when Spanish striker Bojan flicked in an Erik Pieters cross for his third goal of the season. Mark Hughes' side have lost just once away this term and climb to tenth, a point behind Southampton who suffered their first defeat in their last seven league matches.

In an evenly-matched tie in St Mary's, Southampton's Jordy Clasie had the first shot at goal but sent wide with Dusan Tadic also off target. Bojan missed a chance on nine minutes but a minute later made no mistake following a

charge by Swiss winger Xherdan Shaqiri down the right to play to Marko Arnautovic. Austrian Arnautovic passed to full-back Pieters, whose cross was flicked in at the near post by the unmarked Bojan. Saints had little to offer in attack, with Tadic missing a couple of chances and Virgil van Dijk heading Steven Davis' free-kick over.

Sadio Mane came on with 20 minutes to go and came close only for Potters goalkeeper Jack Butland to save his curling effort from outside

the box. Ibrahim Afellay and Charlie Adam both missed chances to add to Stoke's tally late in the game with a header from Saints' Jose Fonte coming close to getting the equalizer. After a slow start to this season Stoke are hitting form with five wins in their last seven league games, including their 1-0 defeat of champions Chelsea, losing just once in seven away games this season at Arsenal. Ronald Koeman's Saints drop to eighth after their third defeat at St Mary's this season. — AFP

EPL results/standings

English Premier League table after yesterday's matches (played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, goals against, points):

Leicester	13	8	4	1	28	20	28	Stoke	13	5	4	4	11	12	19
Man Utd	13	8	3	2	19	9	27	West Brom	13	5	2	6	12	17	17
Man City	13	8	2	3	27	13	26	Watford	13	4	4	5	12	14	16
Arsenal	13	8	2	3	23	11	26	Swansea	13	3	5	5	14	18	14
Tottenham	12	5	6	1	20	10	21	Chelsea	13	4	2	7	17	23	14
West Ham	12	6	3	3	23	16	21	Norwich	13	3	3	7	16	24	12
Everton	13	5	5	3	24	16	20	Newcastle	13	2	4	7	13	25	10
Southampton	13	5	5	3	19	14	20	Bournemouth	13	2	3	8	14	27	9
Liverpool	13	5	5	3	17	15	20	Sunderland	12	1	3	8	13	26	6
Crystal Palace	12	6	1	5	14	12	19	Aston Villa	13	1	2	10	10	24	5

PSG STRETCH THEIR LEAD

PARIS: Reigning champions Paris Saint-Germain stretched their lead in Ligue 1 to 13 points yesterday after claiming a 2-1 victory away to Lorient with security tight after the attacks in Paris. Playing for the first time since the attacks, the capital club extended their winning run to eight matches through first-half goals from Hervin Ongenda and Blaise Matuidi at the Stade du Moustoir. Benjamin Moukandjo netted his league-best 10th goal to set up a nery finish but Lorient ultimately suffered their first defeat in six outings. "It's very positive in the sense that we continue our very satisfying run," said PSG coach Laurent Blanc.

"Even if the context in which we prepared for this match was difficult, I think we can be pleased tonight. "I'm not to hide from you that I really want to get back to Paris and be with my family though," he added. Tightened security checks were in place in Brittany, much like the rest of the country, just eight days after terrorist attacks in Paris and by the Stade de France left 130 people dead and more than 350 injured. As on Friday prior to Nice's 3-0 victory over Lyon, France's national anthem, 'La Marseillaise', rang out around the ground before a minute's silence was observed in memory of the victims.

Eleven doves of peace were released into the sky ahead of kick-off, while PSG players wore shirts adorned with the words "Je suis Paris" (I am Paris) below the club crest. Blanc had admitted it would not be easy for his team to focus on football following last week's atrocities but said none of his players had asked him to be left out of yesterday's squad. However, the league leaders were without Javier Pastore, Marco Verratti, Angel Di Maria and Ezequiel Lavezzi due to injury while David Luiz was rested to protect his knee from Lorient's artificial surface.

PSG had won on each of their last four visits to Lorient and duly grabbed a 26th-minute lead through academy product Ongenda who poked home Gregory van der Wiel's cross for his first goal in the French top flight. Ongenda had a hand in the visitors' second goal six minutes later, releasing Zlatan Ibrahimovic with the Swede then squaring for Matuidi to guide past Lorient goalkeeper Benjamin Lecomte from close range. Sylvain Ripoll's hosts had lost just once since August and nearly find a way back into the contest when Raphael Guerreiro sent an effort just wide of Kevin Trapp's right-hand post early into the second half.

Lorient did eventually pull one back on 82 minutes as Cameroon striker Moukandjo, who now has five goals in his last three matches, headed in substitute Romain Philippoteaux's cross but it served as nothing more than a consolation. Nice climbed to third on Friday Valere Germain and Vincent Koziello struck either side of a Mapou Yanga-Mbiwa own-goal to move them to within a point of second-placed Lyon. Monaco host Nantes later on while the Corsica derby between Bastia and Gazelac Ajaccio has been rescheduled for Sunday due to strong winds. Marseille travel to Saint-Etienne for today's late kick-off with fourth-placed Caen at home to fifth-placed Angers.— AFP



LORIENT: Paris Saint-Germain's Swedish forward Zlatan Ibrahimovic kicks the ball during the French L1 football match Lorient against Paris Saint Germain yesterday. — AFP

FANS BRAVE UNPRECEDENTED EL CLASICO SECURITY CHECKS

MADRID: Sniffer dogs, mounted police, helicopters, security forces in their hundreds and countless identity checks greeted fans for yesterday's El Clasico at the Santiago Bernabeu stadium. Supporters flocking to see the showpiece clash between Real Madrid and Barcelona in the Spanish capital were confronted with an unprecedented security display for what is widely regarded as the biggest game in world football, just over a week after the deadly Paris attacks. "In 20 years that I've been coming here, it's the first time I've seen something like this. There's always police, but nothing like today," said student Borja Jimenez, standing with a drink before entering the mythic stadium ahead of the game, which started later with a minute of silence for the Paris victims as a large French flag was unfurled.

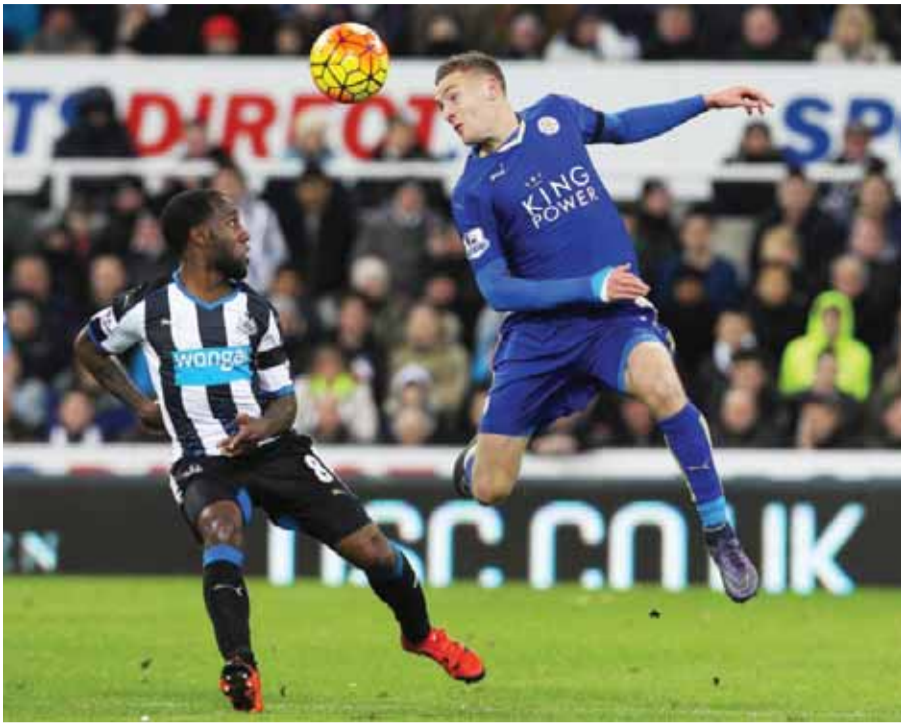
"It's super secure, there's no way anyone can bring in a bomb here," added the Real Madrid supporter, who had to go through three checks before he was able to enter the ring of security laid out by authorities in streets adjacent to the ground. Some 1,000 police have been deployed to protect the stadium and another 1,400 security guards are also keeping a watchful eye on a game that has an estimated global television audience of 500 million. Spanish authorities have labeled the game a "high risk" one after the Stade de France was one of a number of targets struck during the Paris attacks last week that left 130 people dead and more than 350 injured.

'Show of resistance'
In Madrid, as supporters queued to enter the

81,000-strong stadium and have their pockets and bags searched, armed police stood watch every few meters, security forces on horseback passed by and still others walked around with sniffer dogs. But the heightened security appeared not to have dampened the excitement of the thousands who flocked to the stadium, some from as far away as Tajikistan... or from France, like Melanie Bezzazi, whose relatives were worried about her travelling to Madrid for the game.

"We can't deprive oneself of everything, cancel everything... They cancelled quite a lot of stuff in France, quite a lot of events so we came here hoping to enjoy things a bit," said the 25-year-old, a French flag wrapped around her. Preparations for the game started hours before the 1715GMT kickoff, with police going over every square inch of the area surrounding the stadium.

But authorities attempted to ease concerns ahead of a clash dominated by security fears. "There isn't a REAL threat to the Madrid-Barca game at the weekend. Entrust us with your security and ENJOY IT!" Spain's national police tweeted on Friday. In a comment piece, the La Vanguardia daily said the game had taken on a "special dimension." "This is a sporting event, but at the same time it's also a show of resistance to terror," the newspaper wrote. "Fans will go to the pitch, like so many other times, to cheer on their teams, wanting to enjoy a great game. But at the same time, they will also go to say loud and clear that terror will not change our habits nor our lifestyles." — AFP



NEWCASTLE: Newcastle United's Dutch midfielder Vurnon Anita (left) vies with Leicester City's English striker Jamie Vardy during the English Premier League football match between Newcastle United and Leicester City at St James' Park yesterday. — AFP

RECORD-EQUALING VARDY KEEPS LEICESTER FLYING HIGH



NEWCASTLE: Jamie Vardy scored for the 10th successive game to equal Ruud van Nistelrooy's Premier League record and keep Leicester flying high in the English top tier with a 3-0 win at Newcastle yesterday. Vardy struck in first-half stoppage time to move level with former Manchester United striker Van Nistelrooy's streak of scoring in consecutive fixtures. Fittingly, the Leicester forward could eclipse Van Nistelrooy's record against the Dutchman's old club when United visit the King Power Stadium next weekend.

If he manages that, Vardy can set his sights on the all-time English top-flight record for goals in an unbroken run of 12 club matches set by Jimmy Dunne of Sheffield United in the old First Division during the 1931/32 season. While Vardy stole the headlines, the England international wasn't Leicester's only hero in their eighth win in 13 league matches. Leonardo Ulloa laid on Vardy's record-equaling effort before heading home himself and Japan

forward Shinji Okazaki came off the bench to wrap up the points.

Vardy's remarkable rise from playing non-league football just a few years ago has run hand in hand with Leicester's ascent and their dominant display at St James' Park left them top of the Premier League, although Manchester City could regain first place. Vardy threatened for the first time when Riyad Mahrez skipped beyond Vurnon Anita and found his teammate six yards out. Goalkeeper Rob Elliot's left foot denied Vardy on that occasion, but the moment everyone was waiting for soon arrived. France international Moussa Sissoko lost the ball inside Leicester's half and it found its way to Vardy. He rolled a pass into Ulloa and drifted off the flank as he stayed outside and collected the return ball, knocked it past Sissoko and rifled inside Elliot's near post for an historic goal. It was his 13th of the campaign and a strike which earned him a warm round of applause from even Newcastle's fans as he walked off at the break. Leicester's second goal came in the 62nd minute when Mahrez was given time to cross to the far post, where an unmarked Ulloa headed home. Vardy came off with 13 minutes to go, but there was still time for Leicester to score once more. Danny Simpson's effort from Marc Albrighton's pass was saved by Rob Elliot and Okazaki slammed home from close-range.—AFP



WEST BROMWICH: West Brom's Solomon Rondon (right) battles with Arsenal's Mathieu Flamini (front left) and Arsenal's Per Mertesacker during the English Premier League soccer match between West Bromwich Albion and Arsenal at the Hawthorns yesterday. — AP

ARSENAL LOSE GROUND IN WEST BROM DEFEAT



WEST BROMWICH: Arsenal missed the chance to go top of the Premier League as they suffered a 2-1 loss away to West Bromwich Albion yesterday. France international Olivier Giroud headed his ninth goal in 11 matches from a Mesut Ozil free-kick to give Arsene Wenger's visitors hope of a sixth win in seven league matches. But two lax pieces of defending before half-time, and a late Santi Cazorla penalty miss, allowed West Brom to claim victory—their first over Arsenal at the Hawthorns since 2005. James Morrison got free to turn in Chris Brunt's free-kick with his shin, before Mikel Arteta diverted a cross into his own net via his arm and his thigh.

It was not the result Arsenal wanted ahead of Tuesday's must-win Champions League tie against Dinamo Zagreb. Giroud, along with France team-mate Laurent Koscielny, was named in Arsenal's starting line-up after the trauma of being caught up in the Paris attacks eight days ago, in which 130 people died. Wenger had noted in the build-up to the match

that Koscielny, in particular, had been deeply affected by the attacks, which included a number of explosions outside the Stade de France, where France were playing Germany in a friendly. Arsenal's French manager, though, was satisfied that the central defender was in the right frame of mind to play. The injury-hit visitors suffered an early setback as midfielder Francis Coquelin limped off after jarring his knee in a challenge with Claudio Jacob. They did, though, have the better of the opening half-hour, with Alexis Sanchez's floated free-kick well held by keeper Boaz Myhill, and were first to score. Albion's defense switched off as Ozil's free-kick, swung in from the right, was glanced in by an unmarked Giroud.

Brief lead

Arsenal's advantage lasted just five minutes, however, as they were undone by a set-piece at the other end. Brunt lifted in a free-kick from just inside the visitors' half, and Morrison sneaked in behind Hector Bellerin to volley the equalizer from seven yards. It got worse for Arsenal five minutes before half-time, with the excellent James McClean doing the damage. McClean, who had caused problems with an early low ball that whizzed across goal, burst past Bellerin on to Salomon Rondon's pass, and drove in a delivery that was turned into his own net by Arteta, on as a substitute for the injured Coquelin.—AFP

COSTA DOWNS NORWICH TO EASE CHELSEA CRISIS



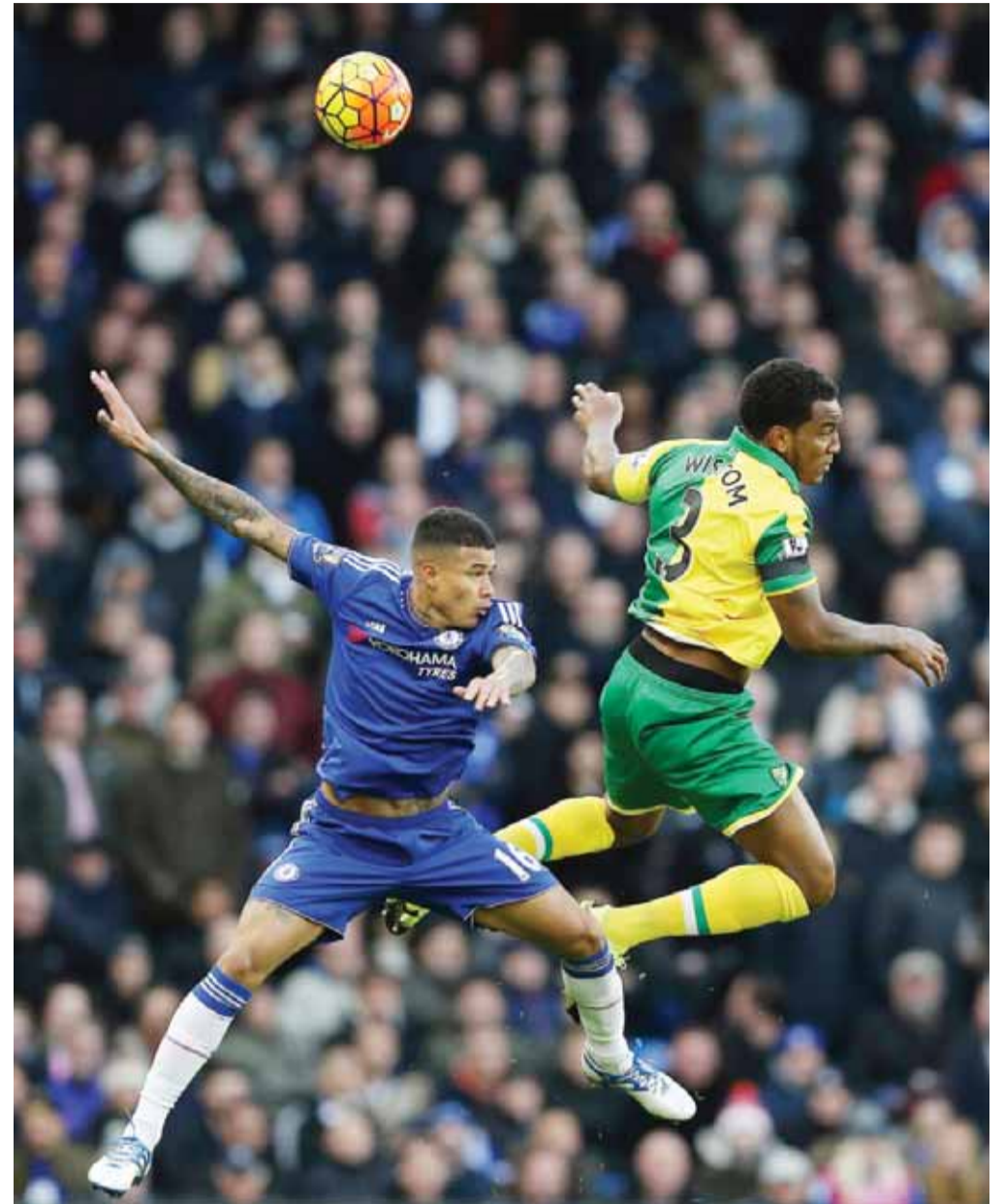
LONDON: Diego Costa's second half strike brought relief to Stamford Bridge as Chelsea halted a run of three straight Premier League defeats with a 1-0 victory over Norwich yesterday. It will take more to turn the reigning champions' season around, but this win at least stopped the rot and eased the pressure on manager Jose Mourinho. There were certainly positives for Mourinho, who this week received the public backing of the club's hierarchy for the second time this season, with Costa rescuing an indifferent display with his first goal in seven games and Eden Hazard again showing signs of a return to form.

But it is clear Chelsea, who moved above Norwich into 15th position, remain a shadow of the side that dominated the title race last season as they struggled to overcome the lowly Canaries. Mourinho maintains Chelsea's performances have been deserving of greater reward in recent weeks, particularly in the defeat at Stoke City last time out. That has strengthened the manager's belief his side are on the verge of drawing a line under their disastrous start. But with the gap to the top four growing ever wider, Mourinho knew his side must quickly resolve the problems at both ends of the pitch that have contributed to their demise this season.

And in the first half, the signs were the Blues are still some way short of finding the answers. Mourinho could have no complaints with the way his side approached the game, with Cesc Fabregas and Nemanja Matic providing the midfield platform that allowed the home side to push Norwich backwards. Less satisfactory was Chelsea's efforts inside the visitors' penalty area, with Costa in particular guilty of spurning a succession of good chances that confirmed the Spain striker is still operating way below the standards he set last season.

Dismal run

Coming into this game, the Brazil-born forward had scored just twice in 10 Premier League starts. And while he had the opportunity to add to that tally before the break, his finishing lacked conviction, suggesting his confidence has been affected by Chelsea's dismal run. Costa wasn't the only culprit in the first half with Fabregas and Willian also failing to make the most of good chances. But more is expected from Costa and the way he shot high over the bar after being picked out by Pedro's cut-back was a sign of things to come. A more glaring miss came in the final moments of the first half when Chelsea broke quickly with Kenedy eventually finding



LONDON: Chelsea's Brazilian striker Kenedy (left) challenges Norwich City's English defender Andre Wisdom during the English Premier League football match between Chelsea and Norwich City at Stamford Bridge yesterday. — AFP

Costa in time and space on the right hand side of the Norwich box, only for the forward to shoot too close to keeper John Ruddy.

And prior to that, Costa failed to read Hazard's intentions when the midfielder sent a low ball across the face of goal, waiting instead for a pull-back on the edge of the box. Mourinho's reaction on the touchline spoke volumes and the manager again remonstrated with Costa following a carbon-copy move early in the second half. Costa produced the ideal response, however, in the 64th minute when he offered a glimpse of his undoubted quality and conjured the goal Mourinho will hope triggers a resurgence in his form.

Chelsea's pressure had been building after

the break and Norwich cracked when they lost concentration as Fabregas took a quick free-kick on the halfway line. The midfielder's chip allowed Costa to break free behind the backtracking defenders and this time the striker showed great composure to curl the ball beyond Ruddy and inside the near post. Mourinho's side may have deserved their lead on the balance of play but Norwich could easily have found themselves ahead in the first half. Willian was fortunate referee Craig Pawson allowed the Brazilian's clumsy challenge on Robbie Brady to go unpunished inside the area and it took an excellent block by John Terry to deny Sebastien Bassong's close-range shot.—AFP

RAMPANT EVERTON ROUT ASTON VILLA



LIVERPOOL: Remi Garde suffered his first defeat as Aston Villa manager as Everton ran riot in a 4-0 victory at Goodison Park yesterday. After an encouraging goalless draw against high-flying Manchester City in his opening game before the international break, this was a chastening reality check for Garde as doubles from Ross Barkley and Romelu Lukaku left Villa rooted to the bottom of the Premier League. England midfielder Barkley opened the floodgates when he put the Toffees ahead in the 17th minute.

Belgian striker Lukaku then headed home in the 28th minute before poor Villa defending allowed Barkley to add another three minutes before half-time. Lukaku notched his second just before the hour to complete Villa's heaviest defeat of a miserable season and leave them five points from safety. The extent of the challenge facing former Lyon manager Garde, who replaced the sacked Tim Sherwood, was laid bare as Villa's winless league run in the league extended to 12 matches with a 10th defeat.

In contrast, it was another encouraging afternoon for Everton boss Roberto Martinez after the 6-2 thumping of Sunderland in their previous home game. Everton dominated possession from the off and it was not long before they broke the deadlock. A flowing move started with Barkley delightfully flicking a John Stones pass

to Lukaku, and the ball then moved slickly on to James McCarthy and out to Gerard Deulofeu. He sent it goalwards and Villa goalkeeper Brad Guzan was only able to parry it into the path of Barkley, who converted with ease.

Guzan was beaten again as Deulofeu tried to play Lukaku in, Micah Richards' block saw the ball break wide to Seamus Coleman and his chipped cross was headed in by the Belgium striker. It was Lukaku's 10th goal of the season in

all competitions and saw him become only the fifth player to reach 50 Premier League goals before turning 23. Martinez's side struck again when Guzan saved at Arouna Kone's feet, but he couldn't hold on to the ball and despite the presence of several Villa defenders, Barkley was able to fire into the net. Garde's misery was complete in the 59th minute when Deulofeu fed Barkley and his tee-up found Lukaku, who lifted the ball past Guzan.—AFP



LIVERPOOL: Everton's Romelu Lukaku scores his side's fourth goal of the game during the English Premier League match between Everton and Liverpool at Goodison Park yesterday. — AP

AYEW, SHELVEY INSPIRE SWANSEA'S FIGHTBACK



SWANSEA: An Andre Ayew and Jonjo Shelvey-inspired fightback earned Swansea a come-from-behind 2-2 draw with Bournemouth at the Liberty Stadium yesterday. Joshua King and Dan Gosling put struggling Bournemouth firmly in command before Ayew reduced the deficit, with the Ghana international then going on to earn a penalty, converted by Shelvey. The stalemate

left Bournemouth, without a win now in eight outings, third from bottom and their hosts, winless since the end of August, four points above them in 14th.

Bournemouth got off to a dream start when Junior Stanislas pounced on a defensive mix-up to cross the ball to King, the Norwegian international coolly slotting the ball right-footed into the bottom left corner from six yards out. It was his first goal since February and his first since joining Bournemouth. The action quickly moved down to the other end where Wayne Routledge's attempt for a quick equalizer was denied by Cherries goalkeeper Adam Federici. An entertaining first period saw King going close to getting a double. On 26 minutes Gosling did stretch the visitors' lead, rifling a fine shot high past Lukas Fabianski and into

the top corner after enterprising work from Matt Ritchie.

Within two minutes Ayew silenced the travelling fans' celebrations when he latched on to Shelvey's header to foil Federici with a neat close-range back heel. Six minutes from the break, Swansea were back level, when Simon Francis was judged to have felled Ayew, Shelvey stepping up to drive home the ensuing penalty. Bournemouth began the second half as they had the first, in spirited fashion, with Swansea keeper Fabianski denying Harry Arter's long-range attempt and Steve Cook missing the target with a far-post volley. As the final 20 minutes of an enthralling encounter approached Ayew had a shot blocked, but neither side could break the deadlock in a result that arguably flattered the hosts.—AFP

Sports

Elkeson makes the magic as Evergrande reclaim Asian crown



Costa downs Norwich to ease Chelsea crisis



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MADRID: Barcelona's Chilean goalkeeper Claudio Bravo (left) and Barcelona's midfielder Sergio Busquets (center) vie with Real Madrid's Portuguese forward Cristiano Ronaldo during the Spanish league 'Clasico' football match Real Madrid CF vs FC Barcelona at the Santiago Bernabeu stadium yesterday. — AFP

BARCA HUMILIATE REAL IN 4-0 'CLASICO' ROMP

SUAREZ, NEYMAR ON SONG AS BARCELONA CRUSH ARCH RIVALS

MADRID: Barcelona dealt a stinging blow to Real Madrid's title hopes when Luis Suarez and Neymar continued their scintillating form to fire the champions to a stunning 4-0 victory in the La Liga 'Clasico' yesterday. Suarez struck twice either side of goals from Neymar and captain Andres Iniesta as Barca humiliated their arch rivals with an imperious performance at the Bernabeu to surge six points clear at the top after 12 matches and ratchet up the pressure on under-fire Real coach Rafa Benitez.

Barca's dominance, which prompted the angry Real fans to roundly whistle their own team and chant for

president Florentino Perez to step down, was all the more remarkable considering coach Luis Enrique had started with a fit-again Lionel Messi on the bench. The Argentina captain, who has been out for nearly two months with a knee injury, came on for Ivan Rakitic just before the hour and promptly sent Suarez clear to score the European champions' fourth. An utterly dominant Barca could easily have added to their tally in the closing stages and Real's humiliation was complete when substitute Isco was shown a straight red card for a wild lunge at Neymar six minutes from time.

"We played what was quite honestly a complete

match in every sense," Iniesta, who was given an ovation by the home fans when he was substituted late on, told Spanish television. "There is a long way to go, it's not decisive at all but we are going away very, very satisfied," the Barca captain added. Chasing a sixth La Liga title in eight years, Barca have 30 points, with Real, who lost 3-2 at Sevilla in their previous outing, on 24. Atletico Madrid can climb back to within four points of Barca and leapfrog Real into second with a win at promoted Real Betis today.

Goals from Imanol Agirretxe and Xabi Prieto earlier yesterday gave Real Sociedad coach Eusebio Sacristan a

winning start in a 2-0 success at home to stuttering Sevilla. Eusebio, a former Celta Vigo and Barcelona B coach, took over from David Moyes this month after the Scot was sacked with Sociedad hovering just above the relegation places. Yesterday's victory at the Anoeta stadium in San Sebastian thanks to Agirretxe's goal in the 73rd minute and Prieto's effort four minutes later lifted the Basque club to 14th on 12 points from 12 matches. Europa League holders Sevilla, who play at Borussia Moenchengladbach in the Champions League on Wednesday, are 10th on 15 points pending the rest of the weekend's results.— Reuters

LIVERPOOL PUNISH SLUGGISH CITY



MANCHESTER: Roberto Firmino scored his first Liverpool goal and made two more as Jurgen Klopp's team stopped Manchester City recapturing the Premier League summit with a brilliant 4-1 away win yesterday. City were bidding to return to first place after being usurped by Leicester City earlier in the day, but they were left in third after a sloppy and unfocused display at the Etihad Stadium culminated in their third defeat of the campaign.

Raheem Sterling, playing against Liverpool for the first time since his acrimonious close-season exit, had been the focus of the pre-match build-up, but it was Firmino, a £29 million (\$44.1 million, 41.4 million euros) capture from Hoffenheim, who stole the headlines. The Brazil international created an own goal by Eliaquim Mangala, teed up Philippe Coutinho and scored himself, all inside the first 32 minutes, and although Sergio Aguero marked his return from a seven-game lay-off with a hamstring injury by replying, Martin Skrtel slammed home Liverpool's fourth late on.

Klopp's side, beaten 2-1 at home by Crystal Palace in their previous outing, have now won away at Chelsea and City, although they rose just one place in the standings to ninth. Prior to kick-off several Tricolores were held aloft during the playing of the French national anthem, in tribute to the victims of last week's Paris attacks, and City's France internationals Bacary Sagna and Eliaquim Mangala were both shown singing along on the stadium's big screens. The pair could have been forgiven for having their minds elsewhere and that appeared to be the case as a sequence of glaring errors in City's defence allowed the visitors to take control of the game.

Liverpool went ahead in the seventh minute after Coutinho dispossessed Sagna and found Firmino, whose low cross was inadvertently scuffed in at the near post by the back-peddalling Mangala. City manager Manuel Pellegrini had changed both his centre-backs, Mangala and Martin Demichelis starting in place of Nicolas Otamendi and injured skipper Vincent Kompany, and it was from a mix-up between the two newcomers that Liverpool added a second goal in the 23rd minute. As both players converged on a loose ball, Demichelis contrived to head it past Mangala and Firmino squared for Coutinho to steer a shot between the legs of Joe Hart.

Liverpool were playing with an aggressivity and purpose that has characterised their approach since Klopp's arrival and they swelled their lead yet further after a sweeping counter-attack. Coutinho initially saw a shot parried by Hart, but an audacious back-heel by Emre Can gave the Brazilian a second bite at the cherry and he rolled square for Firmino to tap home.

Firmino twice went close to compounding City's misery, first seeing an effort blocked by Hart and then hooking inches wide from Coutinho's flick. Each misplaced pass from a player in sky blue drew a flurry of invective from the home fans, but shortly before half-time Aguero gave them hope. The Argentine picked up the ball midway inside the Liverpool half, resisted the attentions of Adam Lallana and arced a right-foot shot around Simon Mignolet from 25 yards. Pellegrini took reparative action at half-time, sending on Fabian Delph and Fernando in a bid to go toe-to-toe with Liverpool's three-man midfield. — AFP

DEENEY'S JOY TURNS TO DESPAIR AS MAN UNITED BEAT WATFORD



WATFORD: Watford captain Troy Deeney experienced the highs and lows of football in quick succession after his stoppage-time own-goal gave Manchester United a 2-1 win at Vicarage Road yesterday. Deeney had powered home an 87th-minute penalty after Marcos Rojo had brought down Odion Ighalo but was left with his head in his hands after deflecting Bastian Schweinsteiger's effort into the home side's net. Victory took United to the top of the English Premier League table, although cross-town rivals and previous leaders Manchester City were one of several teams who had the chance to leapfrog them in matches kicking-off later.

This win also meant Louis van Gaal's side extended their unbeaten run in all competitions to eight games. "In football you always have 90-93 minutes," Schweinsteiger told BT Sport. "You always have to believe. There was a bit of luck but we are happy to get the three points," the Germany midfielder added. United had led early through Memphis Depay before Deeney's goal ended a record of 10 hours and two minutes without conceding. In common with all Premier League matches this weekend, the French national anthem La Marseillaise was played prior to the kick-off following the Paris terror attacks of November 13. This was well observed although some United supporters sang "Ooh ah Cantona" to the tune, referencing

their former French forward Eric Cantona. United manager van Gaal did not include any out and out forwards in his line-up, with Wayne Rooney absent through illness. That meant Dutch winger Depay led the line, with compatriot van Gaal looking on as his side dominated the opening exchanges. The visitors were ahead with just 11 minutes on the clock when Depay met an exquisite Ander Herrera cross to volley past Heurelho Gomes for his fifth goal of the season. Watford struggled to get out of their own half but United nearly gifted them a way back in with former Vicarage Road favourite Ashley Young, who had been given a good reception before kick-off, losing the ball to Etienne Capoue who in turn fed Ighalo. But the Nigerian took too much time and fired wide.

Van Gaal was forced into an early change as Herrera went off with a suspected hamstring injury to be replaced by Rojo, United switching to a back three in the process. The visitors continued to create chances with Morgan Schneiderlin volleying over wastefully while Deeney cleared on the line to keep out Schweinsteiger's header. At the other end, Capoue powerfully struck over from the edge of the area but Depay came close to a second as Gomes saved well following his surging run and shot from 25 yards.

United continued to attack at the start of the second half with Gomes saving to foil Jesse Lingard, while Schweinsteiger headed over from Juan Mata's corner. David de Gea came to United's rescue at the other end as he kept out Deeney's piledriver from Ighalo's header down. Depay could have sealed the game for the visitors midway through the second half when his shot from the left went just wide after good work from Lingard and Mata. — AFP

For Rent

FINTAS AREA

BLOCK 2

- 3 Bedroom With 3 Bathroom With Maids Room.
- Laundry Room, Huge Living Room.
- Open Kitchen With Huge Balcony.
- 2 Bedroom Penthouse With 2 Bathroom And Maids Room.
- Very Huge Living Room and Balcony Seaview.

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ALGHANIM AUTOMOTIVE WINS 2 AWARDS FOR DIGITAL MARKETING



TEHRAN: A picture taken yesterday shows a general view of the extraordinary ministerial meeting of Gas Exporting Countries Forum (GECF) in the Iranian capital, Tehran. Iran is due to hold a third summit of Gas Exporting Countries Forum (GECF) in Tehran tomorrow. —AFP

OPEC NOD NOT NEEDED TO BOOST OUTPUT: IRAN

TEHRAN DOES NOT EXPECT POLICY CHANGE AT DEC 4 MEETING

TEHRAN: Iran's oil minister said yesterday he did not expect OPEC to change its output policy when it meets next month, and had told the exporting group of its own plans to boost production, for which it did not need permission. "To increase Iran's oil production in the global market after the lifting of sanctions, we don't need permission from the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) or any other organization," Iran's oil minister, Bijan Zanganeh was quoted as saying by IRNA on the sidelines of the meeting of the Gas Exporting Countries Forum (GECF) in Tehran.

Asked if he expected OPEC to maintain its strategy at the meeting on Dec 4, he said: "I don't expect to receive any new agreement." It is expected that 2016 will be a tough year for the producer group when international sanctions on Iran are expected to ease, allowing it to boost oil produc-

tion and exports.

Crude futures have already lost around 60 percent of their value since mid-2014 as supply exceeds demand by roughly 0.7 million to 2.5 million barrels per day to create a glut that analysts say will last well into 2016. Brent futures ended at \$44.66 a barrel on Friday.

Tehran's determination to reclaim its position as OPEC's second largest producer has caused new tensions within the group. Zanganeh also said OPEC needed to manage the return of Iranian oil production within its current ceiling.

"OPEC is producing more than its ceiling and I asked them to reduce production and respect the ceiling, but it doesn't mean that we don't produce more because it is our right to return to the market and to preserve our rights and our share in the market," he said.

Zanganeh was quoted by the ISNA news agency as saying: "Most of the OPEC members believe the fair oil price is \$70. Iran aims to raise oil output by 500,000 bpd as soon as sanctions are lifted in early 2016 and by one million bpd in March.

Price flexibility

Iran's new oil and gas contracts will have flexible terms that take into account oil price fluctuations and investment risks, a senior Iranian official told Reuters yesterday. Iran is trying to lure back international oil companies to develop its vast oil and gas reserves once sanctions are lifted under a deal with world powers. Iran will announce a new development contract model at conferences in Tehran on Nov 28-29 and in London in February.

"What we are offering is very flexible model of contracts, it is integrated exploration, development, production all those terms," Mehdi Hosseini, head of Iran's oil and gas contracts restructuring committee, told Reuters. "The fee per barrel that is paid as profit to the company is flexible based on the risk which is considered ... Higher risk, higher reward, lower risk, lower reward," he said in an interview on the sidelines of a gas conference in Tehran.

"Anything will be adjusted, depending on the different stages of the operations..." Iran will offer some 52 oil and gas projects - both brown and green fields - including around 20 for exploration, he said. The contracts last for 20 years and "in some special cases it could also be extended to 25 years," he said, not including a period for exploration deals.

"We are offering some projects in the Caspian sea and also very low-risk areas in the Gulf," he said. Hosseini said there have been consultations with oil companies about the terms of new contracts where there will be no ceiling on the capex, one of the main points raised by some oil companies as a disadvantage in buy-back contracts Iran had offered in the past. "Everything depends on the behavior of the fields, and the period of time. If things change then they (oil companies) would have the chance annually in the annual work program and budget to revise the scope of the work, may revise the cost. We are very open," he said. At the upcoming contracts conference in Tehran, the details of the deals will be discussed further. The new deals would be awarded either through bidding rounds or direct negotiations, Hosseini said. —Reuters

HOME VALUES POINT TO A SHARP WEALTH DIVIDE WITHIN US CITIES

WASHINGTON: It's still possible in Boston for a mail carrier, an accountant and a Harvard-trained psychiatrist - basically, the crowd from "Cheers" - to live as neighbors. That finding by the real estate brokerage Redfin makes the capital of Massachusetts a rarity at a time when neighborhoods in most US cities are increasingly isolated from each other by income and home values.

Redfin analyzed home sales over the past 24 months in 20 major US cities, breaking down the data by neighborhood. Many of the cities reflect home values that have outpaced wages over the past 15 years and contributed to a widening wealth gap among neighborhoods that mirrors a national trend.

San Francisco, for example, enjoys the benefits of tech fortunes, but its homes are largely unaffordable for the police officers, firefighters and teachers the city needs. And while housing in Baltimore seems affordable, low and unstable incomes there have depressed home ownership rates. Ribbons of highways have also ferried the middle class out of cities such as Detroit, leaving behind concentrations of poverty.

Redfin said its analysis is a first step in examining changes over time in neighborhoods and in economic mobility. "Our argument is the shape of the American city is the shape of American life," said Glenn

Kelman, CEO of Redfin. "When the only time you meet someone wealthy is when you're handing them a croissant, the likelihood that your kids are going to attend a good school and know how to pursue a career go down."

More than half of Boston contains a mix of high-end and affordable homes, compared with a national average of 13 percent. Boston's most economically mixed neighborhoods tend to be centered around its Roxbury district, a section that has been predominantly working class, black and Latino in a city with a long history of racial and ethnic divisions. Its growing economic diversity reflects the changing character of Roxbury, where many middle-income homebuyers are settling after being priced out of other sections of Boston.

The trend has unfolded in Roxbury neighborhoods such as Highland Park and Egleston Square. Real estate broker Christopher Buono said higher prices over the past five years in other areas of Boston have led more buyers into these neighborhoods. And the steady flow of students each year to the 35 colleges in Boston has made many homes attractive to investors seeking to rent them out.

Pockets of Roxbury were close to abandoned during the 1970s, said broker Deborah Bernat. But renovations and

development have introduced condos and townhomes with such luxury features as gas fireplaces and balconies. The result has been a mixture of blue-collar residents with startup executives. "Sustainable integration is the goal," Bernat said. "It's one of the things that I love about the neighborhood."

To assess affordability, Redfin compared sales prices to median incomes. Other cities with above-average levels of economic diversity include Denver, Seattle and Washington, DC, which have benefited from an influx of educated workers and technology companies.

But high-tech can also widen the wealth gap. Almost all of San Francisco - the hub for the most prominent software and computer firms - consists of homes worth more than what a middle-income family there can afford. Other cities, such as Baltimore and Philadelphia, contain small clusters of wealthy neighborhoods along with large swaths of relatively low-priced homes, but many residents lack the stable income and savings to buy. In some cases, the data suggest that better-off residents work in a city but live in the suburbs, so that only a small share of the city itself is economically diverse. A mix of high-end and affordable housing exists, for example, in less than 10 percent of San Antonio, Memphis, Jacksonville, Detroit, Indianapolis and Columbus, Ohio.

Home values began to climb faster than incomes in late 1999. Housing prices had long hewed closely to gains in average hourly earnings. But a gap developed between the two during the housing boom, narrowed slightly during the Great Recession and then widened again once the economy began to recover roughly six years ago. The separation of neighborhoods by income has prevented children from progressing economically, according to research published last year by economists at Harvard University and the University of California, Berkeley. Boston ranked fourth in upward mobility. By contrast, Jacksonville, Detroit, Indianapolis and Columbus each ranked toward the bottom.

Many families face financial obstacles to send their children to schools that could enhance their economic prospects. A minority of the country can afford to buy homes in ZIP codes with high-quality schools, according to a report released Thursday by RealtyTrac, a real estate data company.

Homes are too expensive for average wage earners in 65 percent of ZIP codes with elementary schools where students performed above average on standardized tests. The median sales price for homes in ZIP codes with these schools was \$411,573 - nearly double the median for homes in areas with lower-performing schools. —AP

BREXIT COULD SPARK 'LAND GRAB' FOR LONDON FX TRADE: EXPERT

LONDON: A British vote to leave the European Union could see Frankfurt make a "land grab" for a slice of London-based foreign exchange trade in the euro, the chief investment officer of Columbia Threadneedle Investments EMEA said on Friday. Britain is due to vote on EU membership in an in-out referendum by the end of 2017 and some analysts have said leaving could threaten London's position as a global financial center.

"It could be very bad news for the financial services industry because much of forex trade in the euro that takes place here, were we to be outside the zone, I think there would be a land grab and I wouldn't blame Frankfurt for doing that," Mark Burgess told the Reuters Global Investment Outlook Summit. Some 40 percent of daily turnover in the euro is traded in London, according to Bank of England data.

Looking to investment recommendations for next year, Burgess said a combination of central bank cash and shareholder-friendly actions by companies, including share buybacks and a focus on return on equity, made Japanese stocks the top pick. Burgess, whose firm has 311 billion pounds (\$473 billion) of assets under management, said he remained overweight equities in Japan, Europe and in the United States but "very underweight" in the rest of Asia and in emerging markets.

"I still have quite high conviction in the outlook for the Japanese equity market. We do think the combination of a huge amount of QE plus an increasing focus on the shareholder is a very heady cocktail," he said at the summit in Reuters' London office. —AFP

IFSB TO DEVELOP STANDARDS FOR ISLAMIC CAPITAL MARKETS

BOARD TO BOOST REGULATORY CONSISTENCY

KUALA LUMPUR: The Kuala Lumpur-based Islamic Financial Services Board (IFSB) plans to develop guiding principles for capital markets and insurance, seeking to encourage regulatory consistency across new and established markets, its secretary general said. The new guidelines from the 188-member IFSB, one of the main standard-setting bodies for Islamic finance, will complement existing ones which cover commercial banking.

A wider set of standards could assist the International Monetary Fund which plans to include Islamic finance in its surveillance work, known as the Financial Sector Assessment Program (FSAP).

"Before the FSAP there has to be a set of core principles and that really is the instrument that we feel is going to point the way and facilitate consistency across borders," IFSB secretary-general Jaseem Ahmed told Reuters. The standards on capital markets and Islamic insurance (takaful) would complement regulatory guidance from the

International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO) and the International Association of Insurance Supervisors (IAIS).

The plans will be submitted to the IFSB's council in December as part of its second strategic performance plan for 2016-2018, said Ahmed. Such efforts come at a time when Islamic finance is gaining wider prominence as the industry takes a greater share of the financial sector in several majority-Muslim countries.

Islamic finance, which bans interest payments and pure monetary speculation, is now systemically important in 10 countries where Islamic banks hold over 15 percent of banking assets, including Kuwait, Malaysia and Qatar. Countries like Morocco are introducing Islamic finance for the first time, so comprehensive regulatory guidance would aid in convergence between new and mature markets, said Ahmed.

"In the absence of guidelines, practices can develop which are not informed. This is not desirable." Founded in 2002, the IFSB's

initial efforts have focused on winning a wide membership base, leaving implementation and enforcement to national regulators to decide. Now, however, the IFSB is issuing more detailed guidance in response to the global financial crisis, and a trend towards tightening regulation of conventional financial markets.

This month the IFSB released draft guidelines on Islamic reinsurance and a joint paper with the IAIS on Islamic microinsurance. A study by the IFSB found that there is strong demand among regulators for support to implement its standards, while the degree of implementation is linked to a range of factors. It noted Bahrain as having one of the most detailed consultations for introducing standards, while in Indonesia implementation relies on input from the private sector. In Pakistan the industry is substantially dependent on units of conventional banks known as Islamic windows, while IFSB standards say little about how they should be applied to them. —Reuters



TEHRAN: Iranian Oil Minister Bijan Namdar Zanganeh attends the extraordinary ministerial meeting of Gas Exporting Countries Forum (GECF) in the Iranian capital, Tehran, yesterday. —AFP



TEHRAN: Russia's Energy Minister Alexander Novak (centre) attends the extraordinary ministerial meeting of Gas Exporting Countries Forum (GECF) in the Iranian capital, Tehran, yesterday. —AFP

KUWAIT OIL PRICE DROPS TO \$35.69PB

KUWAIT: Kuwait oil price dropped in Friday's trades by 41 cents reaching \$35.69 per barrel compared to \$36.10pb in Thursday's trades, Kuwait Petroleum Corporation said yesterday. Crude contracts had lost 60 percent of their value since middle of 2014 due to the supply excess, estimated at 0.7 percent, amounting to 2.5 million barrels per day. The market glut may persist throughout next year.

KSE indices fall

Meanwhile, last week's opening session at Kuwait Stock Exchange (KSE) witnessed a drastic fall of the main indices amid hefty stock sell-offs, thus causing liquidity to shrink, Al-Oula Al-Wasata (Brokerage) Company said in a report. Geo-political factors, namely turbulence at the regional and international levels, negatively affected the KSE trades over

the past week. Profit pocketing and suspension of some companies from trading due to their failure to make financial disclosures on time fueled further the bearish trend of the national bourse. The bourse closed Thursday's session with hike of the top indexes; 27.3 for the benchmark reaching 5,725 points, 2.92 for the weighted index and 7.73 by Kuwait-15 index.

News about Saudi Telecom's bid to purchase Viva telecom's stocks, which it does not own, lifted the KSE performance in general. Bulk of trades focused on cheap chips with quick earnings. However on Monday, in particular, investors focused on the blue-chips, with the Kuwait-15 luring up to 50 percent of the traded liquidity. These stocks were largely sold in the Wednesday session, thus sashing the liquidity to KD 10 million. —KUNA

MALAYSIA, INDONESIA TO SPEND \$5M EACH ON JOINT PALM COUNCIL

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia and Indonesia will invest \$5 million each on the initial operations of a new joint palm oil body aimed among other things at stabilising prices and managing stock levels, the countries announced yesterday.

The council's secretariat will be located in Jakarta and its membership will be extended to all oil palm cultivating countries, including Brazil, Colombia, Thailand, Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines and Uganda. Formation of the new joint council took place at the ASEAN summit in Kuala Lumpur. It was witnessed by Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak and Indonesia's President Joko Widodo.

Malaysia and Indonesia first announced the Council of Palm Oil Producer Countries in October with the aim of ensuring further industry cooperation, establishing a global framework for sustainable palm oil, stabilising prices and managing stock levels.

The world's top two producers, who supply 85 percent of global palm oil, are trying to tackle various industry challenges from high stockpiles to weak prices and a polluting haze caused by smoldering forest fires. —Reuters

SRI LANKA UNVEILS FOREIGNER-FRIENDLY BUDGET

COLOMBO: Sri Lanka's new government Friday used its first full budget to lift taxes on foreign investors and vowed to reverse "isolationist" policies of the former regime, which faced international censure over its human rights record. Finance Minister Ravi Karunanayake said the previous administration of strongman Mahinda Rajapakse had left Sri Lanka "on the brink" of receiving Western sanctions by refusing to address rights issues.

"The foreign policy of Sri Lanka was blemished and we were on the brink of receiving stringent economic sanctions and almost left to fend for ourselves," Karunanayake, said while presenting the 2016 budget in parliament. The finance minister laid out several foreigner-friendly proposals including the lifting of restrictions on foreign ownership of land.

Former president Rajapakse banned foreigners owning property in November 2012 and ordered that any real estate leased to non-nationals will be subjected to a 100 percent tax payable upfront for the entire duration of the lease. The new government proposed removing the lease tax on non-nationals.

The finance minister also announced removing exchange control laws that had been an impediment to direct foreign investment. He said foreign investment approvals will be granted within 50 days under a new regulatory body known as the Agency for Development.

"This will certainly be a game changer in promoting investments," he added. He reintroduced a resident visa scheme for foreign nationals who wish to make Sri Lanka their second home.

Karunanayake also used his speech to attack Rajapakse on numerous fronts including "adopting an isolationist foreign policy" and being guilty of large-scale corruption and cronyism.

Rajapakse, along with his family, faces several investigations, including allegations of murder.

"Law and order of the country was turning medieval and the country was gradually converting to a feudal entity," the minister said. Karunanayake criticised the former president for not ensuring accountability for atrocities committed by both sides in Sri Lanka's 37-year civil war, although he gave him credit for ending the conflict with the crushing of Tamil Tiger rebels.

Karunanayake also used Friday's budget to raise the threshold for paying personal tax three-fold, reduce corporate income tax and announce an

exemption for small businesses such as corner shops.

He reduced levies on hotels and the travel industry, as Colombo looks to revive the key growth sectors following the end of the conflict that claimed 100,000 lives between 1972 and 2009. But he sharply increased taxes on gambling and casinos as well as motor vehicles and liquor, favourite targets of successive governments to raise revenue. Sri Lanka still needs huge foreign and local loans to bridge the budget deficit for the calendar year 2016, estimated at 5.9 percent of the country's GDP, down from 6.0 percent in 2015.

"At present, the public debt to GDP ratio stands at around 72 percent, which is high, by accepted international standards," the minister said. "Our focus and strategy would be to comply at all times." —AFP

S&P CUTS OMAN CREDIT RATING AS BUDGET DEFICIT WIDENS

DUBAI: Credit rating agency Standard & Poor's has downgraded Oman's sovereign debt in a sign of growing pressure on the finances of some Gulf Arab oil exporters. "We project that a period of sustained low oil prices will impair Oman's fiscal and external balances more than we had previously expected," S&P said late on Friday as it lowered its long-term local and foreign currency ratings to BBB-plus from A-minus. S&P kept a negative outlook for Oman, citing risks over the next two years. "We could assess Oman as having insufficient fiscal and external strength to offset the concentration of its economy in the hydrocarbons sector and the resulting volatility."

Moody's Investors Service has an A-1 rating for Oman, three notches above S&P, with a negative outlook. It warned in August that Oman's high levels of government spending would not be sustainable over a multi-year period of low oil prices.

S&P took its action after Omani finance ministry data released this week showed the government posted a budget deficit of 2.93 billion rials (\$7.62 billion) in the first nine months of 2015, against a 136.1 million rial surplus a year earlier.

The Omani government's original 2015 budget plan envisaged expenditure of 14.1 billion rials and a deficit of 2.5 billion rials, assuming an average oil price of \$75 per barrel. Brent crude is now trading below \$45.

Oman has minimal overseas debt and the government remains able to sell rial

bonds without difficulty to local banks and investors, so the downgrade is likely to make little difference to Omani finances or markets for now. But it could cost Oman if a protracted domestic borrowing program eventually squeezes funds available in the domestic banking system, forcing the government to raise money abroad.

Pressure has grown in the past few months on the credit ratings of Gulf countries whose finances are seen as relatively weak. They face the same problems as Oman: a plunge in oil revenues, political and economic obstacles to cutting expenditure, and difficulty in increasing non-oil revenues through measures such as taxes. Last month S&P cut its ratings for Saudi Arabia's long-term foreign and local currency sovereign credit by one notch to A-plus/A-1. High yields at a \$1.5 billion bond sale by the Bahraini government this week showed many investors are pricing in an expected downgrade of Bahrain, currently rated BBB-minus by Fitch Ratings.

By contrast, the three other rich oil-exporting countries of the Gulf - the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait and Qatar - have much larger financial reserves relative to their populations and face no imminent risk of downgrade. The ratings agencies maintain stable outlooks for them and credit default swaps markets, used to insure against a debt default, have barely moved in the last few months, indicating investors do not think that will change. —Reuters

EXCHANGE RATES

AL-MUZAINI EXCHANGE CO.

ASIAN COUNTRIES	
Japanese Yen	2.474
Indian Rupees	4.615
Pakistani Rupees	2.890
Sri Lankan Rupees	2.149
Nepali Rupees	2.887
Singapore Dollar	215.940
Hongkong Dollar	39.328
Bangladesh Taka	3.846
Philippine Peso	6.471
Thai Baht	8.501

GCC COUNTRIES	
Saudi Riyal	81.323
Qatari Riyal	83.771
Omani Riyal	792.100
Bahraini Dinar	809.880
UAE Dirham	83.029

ARAB COUNTRIES	
Egyptian Pound - Cash	38.550
Egyptian Pound - Transfer	38.994
Yemen Riyal/for 1000	1.423
Tunisian Dinar	150.890
Jordanian Dinar	429.510
Lebanese Lira/for 1000	2.032
Syrian Lira	2.173
Morocco Dirham	30.757

EUROPEAN & AMERICAN COUNTRIES	
US Dollar Transfer	304.800
Euro	327.660
Sterling Pound	466.340
Canadian dollar	230.910
Turkish lira	107.040
Swiss Franc	301.780
Australian dollar	220.070
US Dollar Buying	303.600

	GOLD	
20 gram	220.34	
10 gram	112.87	
5 gram	57.12	

UAE EXCHANGE CENTRE WLL			
COUNTRY	SELL DRAFT	SELL CASH	
Australian Dollar	203.93		
Canadian Dollar	233.57		
Swiss Franc	304.38		
Euro	329.59		
US Dollar	305.00		
Sterling Pound	468.71		
Japanese Yen	2.51		
Bangladesh Taka	3.863		
Indian Rupee	4.607		
Sri Lankan Rupee	2.152		
Nepali Rupee	2.883		
Pakistani Rupee	2.888		
UAE Dirhams	0.08300		
Bahraini Dinar	0.8106		
Egyptian Pound	0.03886		
Jordanian Dinar	0.4338		
Omani Riyal	0.7920		
Qatari Riyal	0.08409		
Saudi Riyal	0.08130		

DOLLARCO EXCHANGE CO. LTD		
Rate for Transfer	Selling Rate	
US Dollar	305.050	
Canadian Dollar	230.525	
Sterling Pound	464.005	

Euro	325.969	
Swiss Frank	311.675	
Bahrain Dinar	809.645	
UAE Dirhams	83.350	
Qatari Riyals	91.385	
Saudi Riyals	82.070	
Jordanian Dinar	429.845	
Egyptian Pound	38.846	
Sri Lankan Rupees	2.145	
Indian Rupees	4.603	
Pakistani Rupees	2.890	
Bangladesh Taka	3.861	
Philippines Peso	6.477	
Cyprus pound	581.030	
Japanese Yen	3.480	
Syrian Pound	2.615	
Nepalese Rupees	3.875	
Malaysian Ringgit	72.040	
Chinese Yuan Renminbi	48.085	
Thai Bhat	9.480	
Turkish Lira	107.940	

BAHRAIN EXCHANGE COMPANY		
COUNTRY	SELL CASH	SELLDRAFT
Europe		
British Pound	0.457753	0.466753
Czech Korune	0.004100	0.016100
Danish Krone	0.039777	0.044777
Euro	0.319779	0.327779
Norwegian Krone	0.031462	0.036662
Romanian Leu	0.087435	0.087435
Slovakia	0.009118	0.019118
Swedish Krona	0.031109	0.036109
Swiss Franc	0.293458	0.303658
Turkish Lira	0.102421	0.112721
Australasia		
Australian Dollar	0.212777	0.224277
New Zealand Dollar	0.194402	0.203902

Canadian Dollar	0.223132	0.231632
US Dollars	0.300700	0.305200
US Dollars Mint	0.301200	0.305200
Asia		
Bangladesh Taka	0.003514	0.004114
Chinese Yuan	0.046314	0.049814
Hong Kong Dollar	0.037226	0.039976
Indian rupee	0.004414	0.004804
Indonesian Rupiah	0.000018	0.000024
Japanese Yen	0.002398	0.002578
Kenyan Shilling	0.003168	0.003168
Korean Won	0.000254	0.000269
Malaysian Ringgit	0.067553	0.073553
Nepalese Rupee	0.002920	0.003090
Pakistan Rupee	0.002743	0.003023
Philippine Peso	0.006414	0.006694
Sierra Leone	0.000068	0.000074
Singapore Dollar	0.212766	0.218766
South African Rand	0.015902	0.024402
Sri Lankan Rupee	0.001769	0.002349
Taiwan	0.009257	0.009437
Thai Baht	0.008221	0.008771
Arab		
Bahraini Dinar	0.801276	0.809276
Egyptian Pound	0.037487	0.040317
Iranian Riyal	0.000084	0.000086
Iraqi Dinar	0.000208	0.000278
Jordanian Dinar	0.425910	0.433410
Kuwaiti Dinar	1.000000	1.000000
Lebanese Pound	0.000153	0.000253
Moroccan Dirhams	0.022169	0.046169
Nigerian Naira	0.001261	0.001896
Omani Riyal	0.785268	0.790948
Qatar Riyal	0.083010	0.084223
Saudi Riyal	0.800643	0.813443
Syrian Pound	0.001292	0.001512
Tunisian Dinar	0.145768	0.153768
Turkish Lira	0.102421	0.112721
UAE Dirhams	0.082005	0.083154
Yemeni Riyal	0.001378	0.001458

FORD WORKERS RATIFY NEW UNION CONTRACT

DETROIT: Workers at US auto giant Ford narrowly ratified the company's four-year labor deal with the United Auto Workers, the labor union announced late Friday. Final results showed that members voted to ratify by a 51.4 percent majority after a last minute push by union leaders put the contract over the top at the company's giant Rouge manufacturing complex in Dearborn, Michigan, just outside of Detroit.

UAW President Dennis Williams said in a statement that "our UAW members have ratified the national agreement after a long process and much debate. "The voice of the majority has secured a strong future that will provide job security and economic stability for themselves and their families," Williams said.

A defeat for the contract could have left Ford facing a strike for the first time in 39 years.

A similar deal was ratified last month by workers at Fiat Chrysler Automobiles, one of Detroit's so-called Big Three automakers along with Ford and General Motors.

The UAW had been looking to claw back some concessions made in order to help the US car makers survive the recession.

The agreement guarantees legacy workers hired before 2007 a three percent pay increase in the first and third year of the contract and a four percent lump-sum bonus in the second a fourth year of the contract. In addition, workers also will collect a one-time ratification bonus of \$8,500.

The contract also phases out a two-tier pay system that had prevailed at Ford since 2007. Workers hired after 2007 will reach parity with older workers, who now earn 29 dollars per hour after eight years of service with company.

Many of the second-tier workers hired since 2010 will reach parity within the next four years, said company officials, who said the contract also secured more than \$9 billion in new investment in Ford plants in the US. Earlier on Friday, the UAW announced that it had finally ratified



The Ford logo on a truck in Manhattan Beach, California. — AFP

a new labor agreement with GM, covering more than 52,000 workers.

The contract discussion between GM and the UAW had re-opened after workers in the skilled trades' classifi-

cations rejected the contract.

Discussion with GM led to adjustments in the contract that will protect the job classifications of skilled trades from further consolidation, the UAW said in a statement.

The adjustments allowed the union's executive board to rule the contract had been ratified since an overall majority of UAW members employed by GM had voted earlier this month to approve the contract. The economic provisions in the GM contract are virtually identical to the union's contract with Ford.

"General Motors is pleased that the UAW membership ratified the 2015 UAW-GM National Agreement, which is good for employees and the business," Katie McBride, GM spokeswoman said in a statement.

"We will continue to work with our UAW partners to implement the agreement, and engage our employees in improving the business and building great vehicles for our customers," she said. — AFP

US HOME RENTAL PRICES RISE AT SLOWER PACE

WASHINGTON: US home rental prices rose at a slower pace in October, a possible sign that apartment costs are testing the upper reaches of renters' incomes.

Real estate data firm Zillow said Friday that median rents increased a seasonally adjusted 4.5 percent from a year ago. This marks a steady deceleration from annual price gains of 5.3 percent in September and 6.2 percent in August. Zillow recently updated its methodology for averaging rental prices, showing that past growth rates were higher than previously reported.

Housing costs have consistently exceeded income growth. Average hourly wages rose just 2.5 percent over the past year to \$25.20, according to the Labor Department. Rents in metro San Francisco, San Jose, Denver and Portland, Oregon - areas that have attracted younger, educated workers - each rose by more than 11 percent from a year ago. But not all areas of the country are seeing dramatic escalations in rent. Between September and October, rents fell slightly in Chicago, Philadelphia, Detroit,

Minneapolis, Baltimore and Pittsburgh, among other cities.

The median rental payment nationwide was \$1,382 in October. That works out to roughly 30 percent of the median US family income of \$53,657, a level that the government has historically identified as being financially burdensome.

The price increases have consistently surpassed apartment-dwellers' ability to pay. More than half of renters spend at least 30 percent of their income on housing. Government figures show that share has steadily crept upward. Only 24 percent faced burdensome high rents in 1960.

Some of the demand for rental properties has also come from former homeowners who lost their properties to foreclosure during the Great Recession. Millions are now unable to afford buying a home, so they have become renters instead. More than 36 percent of the country rents their home, up from 30.8 percent during the formation of the housing bubble in 2004, according to the Census Bureau. — AP

SQUARE'S STOCK SOARS 45% IN FIRST DAY OF TRADING

SAN FRANCISCO: Square bounced back in its stock market debut after the once-hot mobile payments service slashed the price of its initial public offering to get the deal done.

The 6-year-old company's shares gained \$4.07, or 45 percent, to close at \$13.07. The surge helped ease the pain of a mortifying markdown in Square's IPO price. The San Francisco company sold 25.7 million shares at \$9 apiece after money managers leery of Square's unprofitable history refused to pay \$11 to \$13. The concession appeared to attract bargain hunters betting that Square is worth the price that its management team had been demanding in the IPO. Even with Thursday's rally, Square's stock remains below the \$15.46-per-share price that the company fetched a year ago when it raised \$180 million as a privately held startup.

Most of the investors who participated in last year's fundraising will be issued additional shares to compensate them for the reduced IPO price.

Another technology company, Match Group Inc., the owner of dating sites and apps Match.com, OkCupid and Tinder, gained 23 percent to close at \$14.74 Thursday. It had priced its IPO at the low end of its anticipated range.

Investors' skittishness toward Square, known for its debit and card readers that plug into mobile devices, reflects uncertainty about the direction of the global economy as the Federal Reserve

prepares to raise short-term interest rates for the first time in nearly a decade, said James Gellert, CEO of the research firm Rapid Ratings.

"Large, institutional investors taking a risk on technology want a discount now," Gellert said. "There is a lot of concern about more market volatility in the year ahead."

Square has been rapidly growing as

millions of merchants have processed \$32.4 billion in credit and debit cards through its readers and terminals during the year ending Sept. 30.

The company's cut from the payment processing fees generated revenue of \$893 million during the first nine months of this year, a 49 percent increase from the previous year. But Square has never turned a profit, accumulating losses totaling \$527 million since its inception. Some investors are also worried about the distractions and demands facing Square's co-founder and CEO Jack Dorsey. Besides running Square, Dorsey is serving as CEO of Twitter at a time that the short messaging service is struggling to expand its audience and produce the first profit in its nine-year history.

Dorsey, who turned 39 Thursday, has most of his wealth tied up in Square. His stake in Square is worth \$930 million and his Twitter stake will be worth about \$400 million after he turns over 6.8 million shares of his stock in that company to its employees. The drop in Square's market value over the last year could signal trouble ahead for other technology startups. With interest rates hovering near zero, venture capitalists and other investors have

been pouring tens of billions of dollars into startups involved in transportation, data analysis, security, home rentals, finance and a wide assortment of other mostly mobile applications.

Dozens of these startups have been minted with market values of \$1 billion or more in their fundraisings, a financial breed that has become known as "unicorns." Many of them, though, are about to be exposed as "the donkeys that they really are," predicted Edison Investment Research analyst Richard Windsor. "In the long-term, a reset of valuations to realistic levels is a good idea but the journey to get there is always very painful." — AP



NEW YORK: Shoppers are seen outside Macy's Herald Square in midtown Manhattan in New York. Retail executives are having a lackluster outlook on holiday shopping with the warm weather that has depressed sales of cold-weather apparel; a drop in international tourists due to the strong dollar; and the preference of consumers to spend extra money from lower gas prices on other items, such as home improvement goods and cars. — AFP

ARGENTINA RUNOFF ELECTION COULD BRING BIG CHANGES IN ECONOMY

BIG STAKE FOR SECTORS FROM AGRICULTURE TO BANKING

CAPILLA DEL SENOR, Argentina:

Marcelo Cervigni watches a huge tractor planting soybeans on his farm while flipping through smartphone photos of neighboring canola fields pummeled by a hail storm the night before. The damage will cost him about \$80,000, a painful blow from nature but one he says is minor compared to the taxes and export restrictions put on farmers by outgoing President Cristina Fernandez. He hopes they will be lifted by the new president being elected today.

"It's not good to be in a business where profits are getting closer to zero," said Cervigni, a fourth-generation farmer outside Capilla del Senor, a town about 50 miles (80 kilometers) northwest of Buenos Aires. For sectors ranging from agricultural to banking, there is a lot at stake for Latin America's third-largest economy in today's runoff election.

Fernandez and her late husband Nestor Kirchner, who was president before her, unabashedly increased the role of the state. They spent heavily on programs for the poor while sharply increasing taxes and adding regulations aimed at keeping prices low at home for things like bread and bus rides.

Today, the largely protectionist economy is suffering many ills: inflation around 30 percent, an enormous informal sector that doesn't allow the government to collect badly needed tax revenues and a stagnating gross domestic product that has brought job creation to a halt.

"We are talking about an economy that has not grown over the last four years. Clearly it's spent," said Federico Thomsen, a Buenos Aires-based economist. Some businesses, such as those in the agricultural sector, are hoping for a big overhaul from the next president. But other industries, particularly textiles, are nervous about potential changes, fearing they could lose tariffs and other limits on imports that help insulate them from foreign competition.

Every sector would be affected by reform of the currency markets, which would likely go hand-in-hand with a sharp devaluation of the Argentine peso. Restrictions on



BUENOS AIRES: Members of the Argentine Postal Service load a truck with ballot boxes for today's general elections in Buenos Aires on Friday. — AFP

buying US dollars have created a booming black market in which many businesses are forced to buy dollars at a much costlier rate.

Opening up the economy could also pave the way for millions more dollars of foreign investment in "Vaca Muerta," or "Dead Cow," the moniker given to the big shale oil reserve in southern Argentina that has been largely untapped. In attempts to attract independent voters, the two candidates in Sunday's runoff election have tailored their messages to the center. But in essence they represent starkly different economic visions.

Daniel Scioli, the governor of sprawling Buenos Aires province who is backed by the president, presents himself as the continuation of the majority of the current administration's policies, with small tweaks where needed. Mauricio Macri, the opposition mayor of Buenos Aires, wants to liberalize the economy, from lifting the currency restrictions to scrapping many export and import taxes.

Not surprisingly, the litmus test for industries to decide who to support comes down to how they have fared under Fernandez, who is barred by the constitution from seeking a third consecutive term.

Clothes and shoe manufacturers, toy producers and thousands of small businesses have benefited from import restrictions that limit cheap Asian imports. Many of their leaders fear Macri would return to the neoliberal policies of the 1990s, a period that many Argentines say set the stage for country's 2001-2002 financial meltdown.

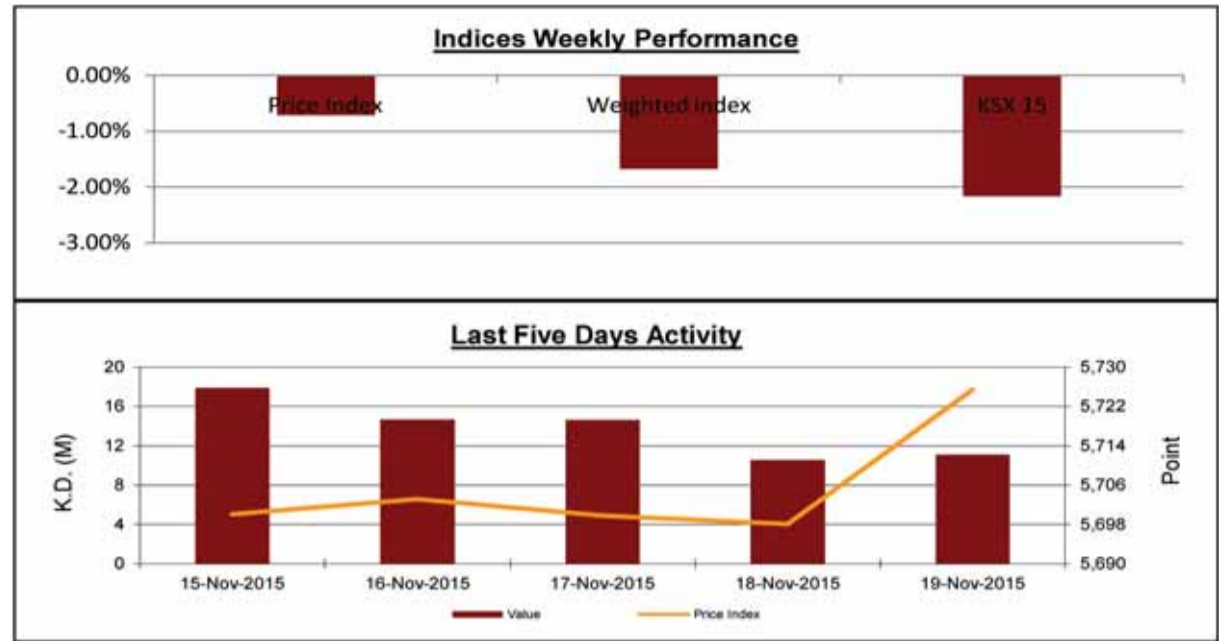
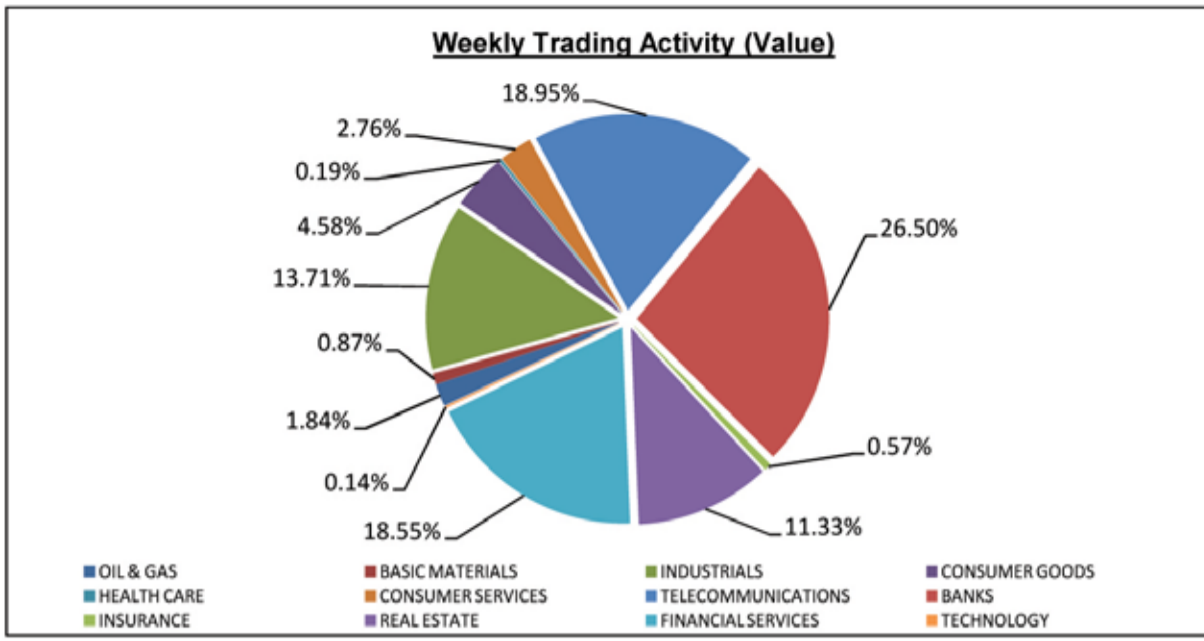
The view is different on farms across Argentina, a nation with millions of acres of fertile land good for everything from raising cattle to producing huge quantities of soybeans. Fernandez's administration restricted exports of grains like corn and wheat, along with eggs and milk, in attempts to keep prices low for domestic staples. Farmers argue it had the opposite effect: Many dedicated fewer acres to those

crops and instead focused on soybeans. Prices for soybean oil soared between 2008 and 2013, but have come down sharply the last few years. The Kirchners saw a cash cow in soybeans: They added a 35 percent tax, based on world prices, to exports. Infuriated farmers in recent years have periodically gone on strike while stockpiling millions of tons of crops in hopes of selling later at higher prices and lower taxes. Both Scioli and Macri have promised to scrap export taxes and quotas on corn and wheat and gradually reduce soybean taxes. Their similar proposals may be based on the reality that the incoming government will badly need revenues. The Scioli camp estimates that nearly \$13 billion of stockpiled crops are waiting to be sold.

"The last 12 years have been terrible," said Carlos Altieri, who owns a 250-acre farm dedicated to wheat, soybeans and milk outside Cepilla del Senor. "No matter who wins, we'll be better off than we are now." — AP



BRUNSWICK: New automobiles being shipped through the Port of Brunswick sit in a vast parking lot at the Colonel's Island terminal in Brunswick, Ga. Despite losing business this year from an automaker lured to neighboring Florida, the Georgia Ports Authority has approved \$12.7 million to expand its storage space for new cars and trucks. — AP



KSE EQUITIES COME UNDER SELLING PRESSURE

BAYAN WEEKLY MARKET REPORT

KUWAIT: Kuwait Stock Exchange (KSE) ended last week in the red zone. The Price Index closed at 5,725.41 points, down by 0.71 percent from the week before closing, the Weighted Index decreased by 1.68 percent after closing at 390.84 points, whereas the KSX-15 Index closed at 933.99 points down by 2.16 percent. Furthermore, last week's average daily turnover decreased by 15.21 percent, compared to the preceding week, reaching KD 13.77 million, whereas trading volume average was 132.61 million shares, recording a loss of 8.90 percent.

The stock market witnessed negative performance due to the random selling operations that included many of the traded stocks during the week, which came as a result to many negative factors such as the worrying political situation that the world is living during this period, in addition to the noticeable current decline in the oil prices, which pushed the market to record noticeable decreases for the three indices, especially the Weighted and KSX-15 indices which recorded strong losses due to the profit collection operations that concentrated on the large-cap and the operational stocks, especially in the Banks sector; as well many of the small-cap stocks witnessed random selling operations, concentrated on the stocks that disclosed negative financial results for the third quarter of the current year, especially the investment companies that mostly witnessed varied losses by the end of the week, and negatively affected the Price Index performance to close in the red zone for the fourth consecutive week.

In addition, the stock market initiated the week's trading activity with strong losses in the first session, as it witnessed a violent selling trend included lots of leading and

MARKET ACTIVITY			
	Last Week	Previous Week	Ch. %
Volume	663,043,274	727,839,639	-8.90%
Value (K.D)	68,868,647	81,218,162	-15.21%
Deals	16,424	17,127	-4.10%

MARKET CAPITALISATION (K.D.)			
	Last Week	Previous Week	Weekly Ch. %
	25,961,935,093	26,358,161,092	-1.50%
			-7.22%

TOP GAINERS OF THE WEEK				
Company	Last Week Closing	Previous Week Closing	Ch. (fils)	Ch. %
IKARUS	102.00	86.00	16.0	18.60%
GFH	40.00	34.50	5.5	15.94%
ASIYA	42.00	37.00	5.0	13.51%
ALDEERA	37.50	34.00	3.5	10.29%
OSOUL	38.50	35.00	3.5	10.00%

TOP LOSERS OF THE WEEK				
Company	Last Week Closing	Previous Week Closing	Ch. (fils)	Ch. %
ZIMAH	104.00	120.00	-16.0	-13.33%
YIACO	126.00	144.00	-18.0	-12.50%
ABAR	89.00	100.00	-11.0	-11.00%
JEERANH	57.00	64.00	-7.0	-10.94%
CATTL	132.00	142.00	-10.0	-7.04%

small-cap stocks, which caused the three indices to record different losses by the end of the session, and came in parallel with the strong losses that hit many of the interna-

KSE INDICES				
		Price Index	Weighted Index	KSX 15
Weekly	Last week	5,725.41	390.84	933.99
	Previous week	5,766.37	397.50	954.64
	Change (Point)	-40.96	-6.66	-20.65
Annual	Last year	6,535.72	438.88	1,059.95
	Change (Point)	-810.31	-48.04	-125.96
	Change (%)	-12.40%	-10.95%	-11.88%

penated a part of its previous losses, as the three indicators closed in the green zone after a fluctuated performance, before it return to the red zone on Tuesday and Wednesday's sessions as a result to the return of the random selling operations in controlling the market trading activity, which negatively affected the three indicators' performance, especially the Weighted and KSX-15 indices that were affected by the decline of the heavy stocks' prices. Also, the market was able by the end of the week session to realize good growth for the three indices supported by the random purchasing operations that included many stocks and concentrated on some leading stocks, among limited growth in the trading value.

Moreover, the market cap for Kuwait Stock Exchange reached by the end of last week KD 25.96 billion, declining by 1.50 percent compared to its level in a week earlier, which was KD 26.36 billion. However on the annual level, the market cap for the listed companies in KSE declined by 7.22 percent from its value at end of 2014 where it reached then KD 27.98 billion.

As far as KSE annual performance, the Price Index ended last week recording 12.40

percent annual loss compared to its closing in 2014, while the Weighted Index decreased by 10.95 percent, and the KSX-15 contracted by 11.88 percent.

Sectors' indices

Six of KSE's sectors ended last week in the green zone, while the other six recorded declines. Last week's highest gainer was the Telecommunications sector, achieving 2.93 percent growth rate as its index closed at 594.07 points. Whereas, in the second place, the Consumer Services sector's index closed at 1,013.94 points recording 2.14 percent increase. The Consumer Goods sector came in third as its index achieved 1.05 percent growth, ending the week at 1,114.75 points.

On the other hand, the Financial Services sector headed the losers list as its index declined by 3.58 percent to end the week's activity at 627.54 points. The Banks sector was second on the losers' list, which index declined by 2.47 percent, closing at 928.07 points, followed by the Oil & Gas sector, as its index closed at 776.64 points at a loss of 0.56 percent.

Sectors' activity

The Financial Services sector dominated a total trade volume of around 259.57 million shares changing hands during last week, representing 39.15 percent of the total market trading volume. The Real Estate sector was second in terms of trading volume as the sector's traded shares were 26.45 percent of last week's total trading volume, with a total of around 175.37 million shares.

On the other hand, the Banks sector's stocks were the highest traded in terms of value; with a turnover of around KD 18.25 million or 26.50 percent of last week's total market trading value. The Telecommunications sector took the second place as the sector's last week turnover was approx. KD 13.05 million representing 18.95 percent of the total market trading value. — Prepared by the Studies & Research Department, Bayan Investment Co.

SECTORS' WEEKLY TRADING ACTIVITY				
Sector	Volume	To Market %	Value	To Market %
OIL & GAS	29,544,514	4.46%	1,265,200	1.84%
BASIC MATERIALS	1,958,890	0.30%	596,837	0.87%
INDUSTRIALS	74,515,409	11.24%	9,440,401	13.71%
CONSUMER GOODS	11,579,351	1.75%	3,152,624	4.58%
HEALTH CARE	1,011,747	0.15%	129,428	0.19%
CONSUMER SERVICES	13,833,013	2.09%	1,903,936	2.76%
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	49,152,771	7.41%	13,050,653	18.95%
BANKS	43,653,254	6.58%	18,253,253	26.50%
INSURANCE	1,416,267	0.21%	394,624	0.57%
REAL ESTATE	175,374,471	26.45%	7,804,724	11.33%
FINANCIAL SERVICES	259,570,423	39.15%	12,777,526	18.55%
TECHNOLOGY	1,433,164	0.22%	99,441	0.14%

SECTORS INDICES PERFORMANCE				
Sector	Last Week Closing	Previous Week Closing	Weekly Ch. %	Annual Ch. %
OIL & GAS	776.64	781.01	-0.56%	-26.94%
BASIC MATERIALS	1,032.49	1,032.96	-0.05%	-8.74%
INDUSTRIALS	1,048.87	1,051.03	-0.21%	-2.01%
CONSUMER GOODS	1,114.75	1,103.18	1.05%	-9.07%
HEALTH CARE	960.44	951.51	0.94%	2.15%
CONSUMER SERVICES	1,013.94	992.71	2.14%	-6.25%
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	594.07	577.17	2.93%	4.14%
BANKS	928.07	951.54	-2.47%	-7.66%
INSURANCE	1,123.57	1,112.80	0.97%	-4.57%
REAL ESTATE	962.31	967.13	-0.50%	-14.84%
FINANCIAL SERVICES	627.54	650.85	-3.58%	-24.59%
TECHNOLOGY	888.65	883.72	0.56%	-3.02%

US STOCKS RISE, ENDING THEIR BEST WEEK SO FAR THIS YEAR

WALL STREET WEEKLY REPORT

NEW YORK: The stock market closed out its best week of the year Friday as big gains by retailers and technology companies pushed major indexes upward. Stocks faded as Friday wore on, but they still finished higher. The S&P 500 index climbed almost 3.3 percent this week. By just a hair, that was its biggest weekly gain in 2015. Stocks climbed Monday and Wednesday as the US market didn't seem to be affected by a string of unsettling international events, including last Friday's terrorist attack in Paris. Instead, investors responded to signs the US economy remains strong.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 91.06 points, or 0.5 percent, to 17,823.81. The Standard & Poor's 500 index added 7.93 points, or 0.4 percent, to 2,089.17. The Nasdaq composite index gained 31.28 points, or 0.6 percent, to 5,104.92. The Dow turned positive for the year by a fraction of a point.

"Throughout the week we got more and more news that the Federal Reserve was assessing the economy favorably," said Erik Davidson, chief investment officer at Wells Fargo Private Bank.

Davidson said investors have slowly gotten used to the idea that the Federal Reserve is going to raise interest rates. That prospect worried them greatly a few months ago, but now, stocks are rising because investors are taking heart that the Fed believes the economy is on solid footing. Meanwhile, new economic stimulus in Europe could strengthen the global economy.

Retailers rallied after solid earnings reports from discount chain Ross Stores and footwear seller Foot Locker. Retail stocks got pummeled this month after weak reports from Macy's and Nordstrom caused investors to worry that the holiday shopping season would be a bust. But some retailers are doing well.

Ken Perkins, president of the research firm Retail Metrics, said shoppers are looking for discounts and turning to lower-priced retailers like TJ Maxx and Ross Stores and to "fast fashion" retailers who keep up with the latest trends.

"All that doesn't bode well for mall-based retailers," Perkins said. Ross Stores gained \$4.64,

or 10 percent, to \$50.84 while Foot Locker rose \$3.49, or 5.7 percent, to \$65.02. Gap advanced \$1.89, or 7.5 percent, to \$26.98 and Urban Outfitters rose 71 cents, or 1.2 percent, to \$23.

Athletic apparel and footwear maker Nike said it will raise its dividend, buy back \$12 billion of its own shares and split its stock. Nike, which

has nearly tripled over the last five years, rose \$6.87, or 5.5 percent, to \$132.65. Alphabet, the parent company of Google, led a rally in tech stocks and made its biggest gain in almost a month. The company said Wednesday that former VMware CEO Diane Green will run Google's commercial technology business. That suggests

Google wants to strengthen its enterprise business, which is a big profit center for Amazon and Microsoft but an area where Google has lagged. Alphabet shares rose \$17.06, or 2.2 percent, to \$777. HP Enterprise, which sells commercial computer systems, software and tech services, rose 43 cents, or 2.1 percent, to \$14.21. Web domain-name registration company VeriSign added \$3.70, or 4.3 percent, to \$90.30.

TurboTax maker Intuit climbed after it reported strong quarterly revenue and gave a forecast for the current quarter that was better than analysts expected. The stock added \$5.78, or 5.9 percent, to \$103.20.

Chipotle Mexican Grill sustained its biggest one-day loss in three years. The shares dropped \$75.32, or 12.3 percent, to \$536.19 after the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said an E. coli outbreak linked to Chipotle locations has been found in three more states around the country. In October Chipotle briefly closed all its restaurants in Oregon and Washington to stem the outbreak.

US crude lost 15 cents to \$40.39 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange. Brent crude, used to price international oils, rose 48 cents, or 1.1 percent, to \$44.66 a barrel in London. This week US crude dipped under \$40 a barrel for the first time in almost three months. Wholesale gasoline was unchanged at \$1.29 a gallon. Heating oil was also little changed at \$1.371 a gallon. Natural gas fell 13 cents to \$2.145 per 1,000 cubic feet. Bond prices fell. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note rose to 2.26 percent from 2.25 percent late Thursday. The euro fell to \$1.0657 from \$1.0731. The dollar edged up to 122.87 yen from 122.86 yen. Metals prices continued to slide. The price of gold fell \$1.60 to \$1,076.30 an ounce. Silver slipped 12.6 cents, or 0.9 percent, to \$14.10 an ounce. Copper declined 2.2 cents, or 1 percent, to \$2.06 a pound. — AP



NEW YORK: Traders gather at the post of specialist John McNierney, background center, at the end of the trading day, on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange on Thursday. — AP



First Generation Prius rear logo image.



Prius on the road image



Pre-World War II image

A NEW ERA OF AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY—PRIUS

The internal combustion engine has been the dominant power source for cars for over a hundred years, leading to our reliance on cars as the most favored means of transportation.

We can use our cars to go anywhere we like, anytime we like. When it's hot outside, we'd rather get in a comfortable air-conditioned vehicle to drive to the local store than endure a long, sweaty walk. But gasoline engines burn fossil fuels and release greenhouse gases, especially CO₂, into the atmosphere. Ultimately, these gases contribute to global warming.

But what if you could halve your fuel consumption? Not only would you be helping save the environment, you would be going to fill your tank less often, saving time and money. You would be getting a lot more for less. That's why the Prius is so important—it doubles fuel economy.

The breakthrough that took more than a century

Early inventors experimented with various ways to power cars. Steam and electricity weren't practical then, so manufacturers went with the gasoline engine which had been invented in 1876 and outperformed them. The internal combustion engine caught on in a big way, and over the years was improved. Manufacturers worked hard to improve both performance and fuel efficiency.

But fuel economy posed a problem. Progress was slow, with incremental improvements of only a few percent at a time. It would be many years before it became possible to make the drastic improvements necessary.

The much-awaited breakthrough finally came in 1997, with the arrival of the Prius and its new hybrid system. A magical solution had been found, and the Prius became the world's first mass-produced hybrid, cutting fuel consumption in half for drivers the world over.

Hybrid pioneer-venturing forth into unknown territory

Let's take a trip back in time to twenty years ago.

Back in early 1995, the G21 Project team was working on developing a next-generation passenger vehicle. Although under strict instructions to 'double the fuel economy', they knew that improving the gasoline

engine by itself would at best yield an improvement of 1.5 times. The only way they could achieve this highly ambitious target was to adopt a hybrid system—which hadn't actually been developed yet.

Around the same time, another project was being run in parallel with the G21 Project. A small team of elite members had been set up to study the potential of hybrid technology. The team had been working on

The hybrid system was still only an idea, so the concept car was equipped with a 'pre-prototype' system.

The Elegant Solution: THS (Toyota Hybrid System)

Unlike conventional vehicles that have just one power source, a hybrid system is composed of multiple power sources such as a gasoline engine and electric motors.

combine the best features of both with a "series-parallel" hybrid.

Basically, around town you will mostly be using the electric motor, and on the highway mostly the gasoline engine. When accelerating, you use both. This allows you to halve your gasoline consumption without sacrificing performance in any situation.

THS is simply the most elegant solution to the widest range of needs.

to overcome inertia. That is why city driving with the stop-start of heavy traffic, traffic lights and stop signs can consume so much fuel. With the Prius, you are mostly using the electric motor in the city. Driving is smooth and effortless. But you get maximum torque when you need it because torque is not dependent on engine revolutions. That is why elevators and electric trains start so smoothly.

Since you can draw on both power sources at the same time, you also get excellent acceleration. At low speeds, the electric motor powers the vehicle. When the Prius accelerates, both the electric motor and the gasoline engine drive the wheels.

Add to this "regenerative braking". The electric motor assists with braking, saving wear and tear on the regular brakes. It is used to absorb energy in deceleration and also to drive the generator used for charging the battery.

Two years of herculean efforts

Once all the technological elements are in place, it normally takes at least three to four years to develop a new vehicle. The first hybrid was developed in just two years—a miraculous achievement. Looking back, one developer says, "The development period was crazy short—overall, it was a crazy project! The Prius development project followed a truly unprecedented path. While developing the vehicle itself, the team had to simultaneously develop the hybrid system, which was still at the research stage.

The Power Control Unit is equivalent to the engine of a conventional vehicle. Being comprised of components such as an electric motor and inverter/converter, it would normally be developed by an electrical equipment manufacturer. But the Prius development team realized that entrusting this key technology to an external supplier could put Toyota's future at risk as an automaker. They decided that it should be developed in-house and all members of the team strived as one, working 24/7 to make this new technology a reality.

In spite of the seemingly impossible challenge, the team felt confident and were committed to meeting the deadline. They were totally dedicated to fulfilling their mission to create this new technology. You can imagine their satisfaction when the world's first mass-produced hybrid—the Prius rolled off the production line in December 1997. They knew the next one hundred years belonged to this vehicle.



First generation Prius image

creating a unique hybrid system, and simulations had showed that it could actually be capable of doubling the fuel economy.

At the time, however, it was still just an idea. A physical prototype hadn't even been produced yet. Nonetheless, seeing that the hybrid system clearly had the potential to achieve their aims, the G21 Project team decided to stake everything on adopting this new approach.

With so-called "series" hybrids, the gasoline engine drives a generator, which in turn drives the electric motor used for driving the wheels. "Parallel" hybrids, as the name suggests, are driven by an electric motor and gasoline engine simultaneously. However, they cannot generate electricity when the electric motor is driving the wheels, and vice versa. Each of these has advantages and disadvantages, so the Prius development team decided to com-

The fourth generation Prius essentially has the same yet more advanced Hybrid system than the first generation, which basically comes with gasoline engine, power split device, electric motor, generator and battery.

How the Prius does it

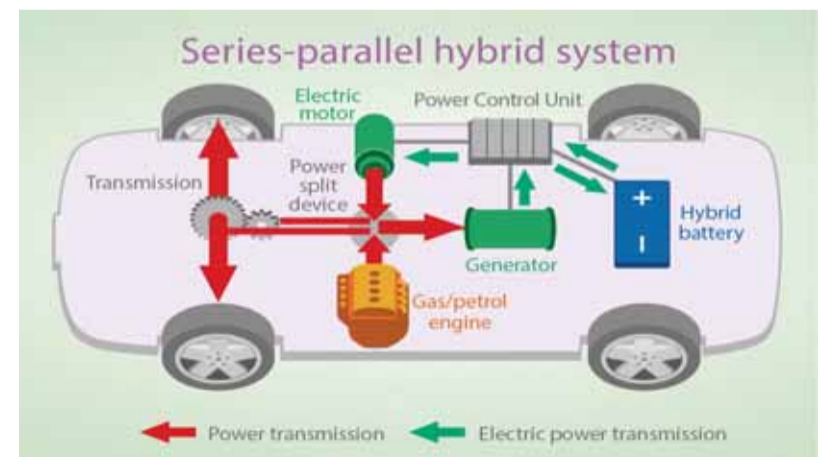
Fuel consumption is not just relative to how fast your wheels turn. When you start or accelerate, for example, you use more gasoline



After World War II image



Recent years image



Series Parallel Hybrid System image



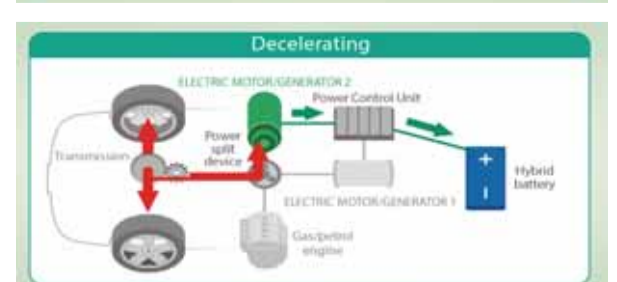
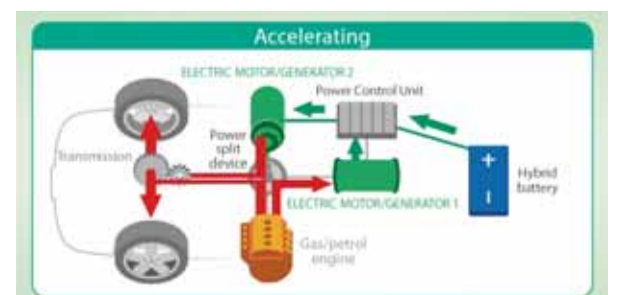
(1st Generation Prius Engine image)



Prius concept car (Tokyo Motor Show 1995)



Series Parallel Hybrid System image





ALGHANIM AUTOMOTIVE WINS 2 AWARDS FOR DIGITAL MARKETING IN MIDEAST FROM GM

KUWAIT: Alghanim Automotive, the exclusive distributor of Chevrolet and Cadillac vehicles in Kuwait, was recognized by General Motors for its outstanding performance in 2015 as it was awarded two distinguishing accolades in digital marketing during a ceremony hosted by General Motors Middle East Operations. The awards included the coveted "Best Use of Social Media" and "Best Maintained Website" categories.

The ceremony was held in Dubai on October 11th, 2015, and was attended by 10 General Motors dealers from the Middle East region that competitively demonstrated their creative proficiency and passion.

The ceremony was attended by representatives from Alghanim Automotive where they offered a detailed presentation about the company's digital marketing effort and strategy, as well as the company's strategic and professional implementation of various social channels and digital marketing tools.

It's worth mentioning that the company devotes a considerable attention to its digital marketing strategy and strives hard on connecting with its customers through various social media channels, events and initiatives, and sometimes in collaboration with prominent social media influencers.

Alghanim Automotive would like to thank its

customers and fans on behalf of the company's win as it was only made possible by the customers' trust-a trust that the company prides itself for and strives to maintain. In the end, the company's main goal is to meet and exceed customers' satisfaction by improving its services throughout all its showrooms and service centers in Kuwait.

To catch up on the company's latest announcements and offers, customers are encouraged to follow us on Snapchat, Instagram and Twitter via the handle @AlghanimAuto, and through our Facebook and YouTube channels: AlghanimAutomotive, or visit our website www.alghanimauto.com

ETIHAD AIRWAYS WINS 'NATIONALIZATION INITIATIVE OF THE YEAR' AWARD 2015

ABU DHABI: Etihad Airways, the national airline of the United Arab Emirates, was named winner of the 'Nationalization Initiative of the Year' award at the Middle East HR Excellence Awards 2015.

The award was presented during a gala reception held in Dubai, attended by senior professionals from across the Middle East HR sector. The airline was also shortlisted in two other categories, including HR Team of the Year and Innovation in Executive & Leadership Development.

The Middle East HR Excellence Awards recognize the outstanding achievements of individuals, teams and organizations that have contributed to the development of the HR profession in the region. The awards showcase best practice in HR and talent management in the Middle East, and honor HR professionals in the public and private sectors for their contributions in creating a high-performing workforce.

Ray Gammell, Etihad Airways' Chief People and Performance Officer, said: "It's an honor to be recognized by the Middle East HR Excellence Awards. Our People and Performance team of more than 300 professionals has worked exceptionally hard this year, and I'm delighted to see the

efforts of the team acknowledged by our peers in the human capital sector.

"We continue to invest in developing UAE nationals into future aviation leaders through our highly successful training, business exchange and educational opportunities, which is our top priority. This year alone we welcomed more than 1,000 UAE national employees, and we are delighted to be appreciated for the way in which we source and develop our local workforce.

"UAE nationals are now ranked the number one nationality group within the airline, as well as amongst employees at manager level, executive level and within the pilot community." More than 2,700 Emiratis are employed by the airline across a range of positions, within the UAE and in 45 cities in 25 countries. Under plans to accelerate its employment of UAE nationals over the next five years, Etihad Airways is expected to recruit more than 6,000 UAE nationals by 2020. As one of the fastest growing airlines in the world, Etihad Airways has over 25,000 employees worldwide and prides itself on offering exciting opportunities for personal development and internal progression to its workforce, through a culture of performance, recognition and reward.



Wissam Hachem, Etihad Airways' Vice President Learning and Development (left), with colleagues Ahmed Al Khaja, Etihad Airways' Manager Talent Acquisition Emiratization (second right), and Majed Al Balooshi, Etihad Airways' UAE National Development Performance Manager (right), at the Middle East HR Excellence Awards 2015.

KIA'S SORENTO WINS 'PUBLIC CAR OF THE YEAR' TITLE

KUWAIT: National Agencies Group, authorized distributor for KIA Motors in Kuwait, and subsidiary of Abdulaziz Al-Ali Al-Mutawa Group, has announced that the all-new Sorento has received the coveted Public Car of the Year honour for the SUV segment, at the prestigious 2015 Middle East Car of the Year (MECOTY) Awards.

The KIA Sorento received the highest number of public votes from across the region amongst all nominated vehicles. The results were announced at a gala award ceremony in Dubai on 29th October.

The accolade comes soon after KIA Motors' milestone of exporting its 15 millionth vehicle in August 2015, coincidentally a 2016 Sorento destined for the GCC market.

Commenting on the Sorento's Public Car of the Year award, Alex Chung, President of KIA Motors Middle East and Africa Regional Headquarters, said: "The people have spoken! The incredible vote of confidence from the Middle East customers themselves is a fantastic achievement for all of us at KIA, and will inspire us all to try even harder to satisfy the precise needs of car buyers in this region."

Chung added: "Receiving this award is a joyous

milestone for KIA as it signifies our cutting-edge innovativeness as a manufacturer."

MECOTY is regarded as the most prestigious award in the Middle East's automotive industry. Leading global car brands competed in different categories including Group A (Sedan/ Executive), Group B (SUV/Truck) and Group C (Performance). The winners were determined by a judging panel comprising prominent automotive journalists from across the Middle East. Members of the jury panel represented countries such as Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Lebanon, Jordan, Qatar and Saudi Arabia.

Included in the judging criteria was determining whether the nominated vehicles met the demands of customers in the region. The Sorento is not the only award winning KIA to make headlines recently. Last month, the SOUL was named a winner at the 12th annual Active Lifestyle Vehicle (ALV) of the Year awards, while the Grand Carnival was honored with the "Ultimate Minivan" title by Cars.com and Motorweek. In Kuwait, National Agencies Group has established KIA Motors as one of the leading automotive brands through innovative offers and excellent service standards in-line with KIA's 'Family-Like Care' service philosophy.



ATOCKON OPENS ULTIMATE DESTINATION FOR FINEST CAR ACCESSORY BRANDS IN KUWAIT

KUWAIT: Car lovers and enthusiasts in Kuwait who are looking to further enhance the look of their favorite ride can now do so through Atockon's newly opened one-stop-shop destination for all of the world's finest car accessory brands. 'Atockon' is the Sister company of 'Apex Technology' the exclusive distributor of LLumar Films in Kuwait.

During the formal opening of the showroom, some of the high profile guests included Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah - Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs, Sheikh Abdul Aziz Al-Sabah and all the leading brand representatives.

Located in Block 1, Street 8, showroom 9 at the Shuwaikh Industrial Area, the latest Atockon shop offers the best cleaning, car wrap, window tint, paint protection, spray and detailing products and services in the country. In addition, Atockon sells and distributes Qugo, an electric motor powered scooter/bike designed, developed and produced in the Netherlands. Made in Holland, designed, developed and produced in The Netherlands

"Atockon is a pioneering concept in the car accessories scene in Kuwait, with so many car lovers and enthusiasts wanting to beautify their cars with street legal accessories, or car care products and services that will keep their cars looking like new all the time, we provide this market with Atockon's brand of service excellence that will surely keep them coming back for more," said Ali Al-Shatti, Executive Manager of Atockon.

Among the world's leading car wrap, spray film and paint protection products available at Atockon are GrafiWrap and Foliatic. GrafiWrap products have been used for a number of years for making commercial vehicle and road signs. But GrafiTyp are now taking self-adhesives a step further with GrafiWrap Automotive & Deco films. They are smooth cast self-adhesive films that embellish one's vehicle and gives it an exclusive look and touch. Mirrors in carbon, a matt black boot lid, a leather or carbon-look interior, the complete body in brushed aluminium, or sport strips that change color and look of a vehicle depending on the viewing angle, all these products from GrafiWrap are available for purchase and installation at Atockon.

On the other hand, Foliatic's Spray Film from Germany is a best-selling product all over the world. Foliatic's spray films can be used on wheels, motorbikes or as paint protection. It can even be used at home or in the garden to protect furniture. Available at Atockon, Foliatic Spray Films come in more than 20 colors, two sizes, and as single cans or in sets. And since

2014, it also comes in a NEON variant. More importantly, Foliatic's range has its own accessories and is continually expanded.

Atockon also offers the total paint rectification solution for today's body shop with brands such as Concept, Xpert60 and Zirconite.

"Concept is globally recognized as the leading brand for detailing product solutions across the automotive, marine, commercial and transportation industries. Concept products combine the latest technologies to deliver innovative,

Films for automotive use is capable of cutting off ultraviolet radiation by 99 percent, infrared radiation by 94 percent and visible light transmittance by 73 percent. It can also reduce solar heat gain by 50-90 percent.

"Qugo is the way to go to private and professional users who seek fast and flexible means of individual transportation, Qugo is the answer to today's need for a sustainable means of transportation. It is conveniently portable with its folding handle bar and low weight and is street



high quality and efficient solutions for the professional user.

On the other hand, Xpert-60 presents professional technology for everyday use of professional, semi-professional and enthusiast. Combining Concept product technologies in smaller pack sizes, all Xpert-60 products have been designed to be easy and quick to use but still deliver professional quality results. Meanwhile, Zirconite's Paint, Fabric and Leather products utilizes advanced technologies and apply an invisible protective coating to treated surfaces which enhance appearance without altering the OEM finish," further added Majid Mahmood, Business Development Director at Atockon.

Atockon also has LLumar Window Film, a product of Eastman Chemicals USA, the world's largest manufacturer of quality glass treatment films. Scratch resistant and backed by 10 years manufacturers guarantee, LLumar Window



legal and chargeable wherever you are. With no helmet required in most countries, it is easy to operate and stable to ride. And because it is 100 percent electric, it produces no harmful emissions and noise," said Majid Mahmood Business Development Director at Atockon.

Equipped with a compact hub motor in the front wheel, the Qugo's efficient electric motor is powered by a modern 48V lithium battery pack, which is integrated in the aluminium frame.

Three disk brakes always assure enough stopping power. The backlit digital dashboard displays speed, odometer and a battery indicator. With the controls and switches on the handle bar, the rider controls its speed, the lights and the horn. It is also equipped with a very powerful 55W halogen dipped beam and front/rear LED position lamps and brake lamp. The Qugo comes in two variations, the Qugo Road and the Qugo Crossroad.



GULF BANK ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF AL-DANAH DAILY DRAWS

KUWAIT: Gulf Bank held its Al-Danah daily draws on 15 November 2015 announcing the names of its winners for the week of 8 November - 12 November 2015. The Al-Danah daily draws include draws each and every working day for two prizes of KD1,000 per winner.

The winners are:

- (Sunday 8/11): Abdulreda Abdullah Ali Abdulrahman Ashkanani, Khaled Ghazi Bader Al-Qunaey
 - (Monday 9/11): Rahaf Khaled Abdulnabi Behbehani, Mohammed Abdullah Jassim Al-Arbeed
 - (Tuesday 10/11): Rajaa Mohammed Khalifa Bahman, Abdullah Mohammad Abdullah Al-Qalaf
 - (Wednesday 11/11): Ali Abdulaziz Mahmoud Al-Dashti, Jasem Mohammed Ali Al-Mutawa
 - (Thursday 12/11): Abdulaziz Madid Raden Al-Qahtani, Sayed Ali Yaqoub Sayed Ali Ghareeb
- Gulf Bank's Al-Danah 2015 draw lineup includes daily draws (2 winners per working day each receive KD1,000). The final Al-Danah draw for one million dinars will be held on 7 January 2016. The Al-Danah millionaire will be announced alongside winners of KD250,000 and KD50,000 cash prizes.

Five reasons why the Al-Danah account is the best:

- 1) Kuwait's single biggest yearly cash prize of KD 1 million
 - 2) Kuwait's biggest quarterly cash prizes, up to KD500,000
 - 3) Two winners of KD1,000 every working day
 - 4) The most opportunities to win (64 draws a year, and up to 532 winners)
 - 5) Only Bank that transfers your chances to win from year to year
- Open an account and Deposit now to win big, live big, with Al-Danah 2015.
- Al-Danah also offers a number of unique services including: the Al-Danah Deposit Only ATM card which helps account holders deposit their money at their convenience; as well as the Al-Danah calculator to help customers calculate their chances of becoming an Al-Danah winner.
- Gulf Bank's Al-Danah account is open to Kuwaitis and all residents of Kuwait. Customers who open an account and/ or deposit more will enter the draw within two days. To take part in the Al-Danah 2015 upcoming yearly draw, customers must have an Al-Danah account containing at least KD 200. To be part of the Al-Danah draws, customers can visit one of Gulf Bank's 56 branches, transfer on line, or call the Customer Contact Center on 1805805 for assistance and guidance.

MICROSOFT'S HAIDER SALLOUM TALKS SUPPORTING SME'S IN GULF REGION

KUWAIT: The following is an interview with Haider Salloom, SME Director, Microsoft Gulf, in which he talks about solutions that Microsoft offers to support small and medium enterprises in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states, the SME market in the region and other topics:

Q1. What are some of the basic solutions that Microsoft offers SMBs?

A. Microsoft provides innovative, affordable technology to SMBs such as Office 365, Dynamics CRM, Azure and Windows. Over the years we have helped SMEs grow and enhance their business by developing IT solutions and services that are both, cost efficient and scalable; two critically important components for any business hoping to achieve ambitious growth goals.

Microsoft is proud to work closely with SMEs in Kuwait including (mention a few client examples) in order to better understand their business needs. We have a very strong partner ecosystem which enables us to scale our solutions to every business. Our partners in Kuwait are world class Microsoft solution specialists who help SMEs become technology leaders by guiding them through our portfolio of solutions and ultimately helping the decision maker find the right solution for their business, whether that be a hybrid cloud solution or a cloud solution like Office 365.

Q2. How will these solutions support the growth of SMBs?

A. At Microsoft, we are empowering SMBs to achieve their business goals by giving them the opportunity to harness the power of the cloud. SMEs across Kuwait are particularly well positioned to benefit from the cloud because of its flexible financial models.

Whether people work for large or small companies, nowadays they regularly work from multiple locations and on multiple devices during their day. Whether it's checking their emails or accessing files for an important meeting; they need information instantly. BCG further highlights that 62 percent of small business employees use mobile devices such as smartphones and tablets to access their email. This is where Office 365 comes in, as it enables a business to empower its employees to work from wherever they need to, and on any device

across any platform. This enables true mobility, whether in terms of physical location or choice of device.

Today's employees need instant access to their work as well as business insights, whether they are in the office or working remotely, in order to keep pace in today's competitive environment. They also want to better connect with their customers by tracking, monitoring and prioritizing opportunities. This positive customer experience is an increasingly important ingredient for SMBs to win and retain customers. Turning data into intelligent information is a corner stone of business innovation and transformation. Dynamics CRM helps companies deliver amazing customer experiences by building long-term customer relationships that are personalized, proactive, and predictive across marketing, sales, and services.

Q3. What is the expected growth in its Market share with its solutions to Support the SMBs here?

A. SMEs gear up with aggressive plans to grow their business, the need for affordable, efficient IT solutions is a priority and will play a major role in their development. Microsoft stands at the forefront to support SMBs with its solutions, across the entire Gulf region. Here are some examples of our initiatives taken to boost SMB growth:

Kuwait

We have partnered with Zain to provide O365 syndication for SMEs across the country, with a focus on those with up to 100 employees, providing easy, low-cost access to cloud-based technology with zero infrastructure costs. Office 365 is transformational for businesses of all sizes, but levels the playing field for small and mid-sized businesses (SMBs) in particular because it makes enterprise-grade tools affordable and easy to set up and manage. We are pleased to work with Zain to provide Kuwait's SMBs with communication and collaboration tools which have been designed to enhance productivity, promote collaboration and reduce operational costs.

UAE

Last year we launched the "SME Toolkit" with DED providing O365 services and hosting

facilities to help SMEs grow web presence, eCommerce, and cloud computing. In partnership with du, we offer Office 365 cloud-based productivity applications and services directly to small and medium business (SMB) customers in the country. The offering provides SMBs with increased accessibility to cloud-based productivity tools starting from just AED 20/month added to their monthly phone bill.

Bahrain

Our work with Tamkeen has provided funding and cloud services (Azure + O365) to over 120 SMBs, helping them become more competitive and productive.

Qatar

In partnership with ictQATAR, we provide cloud services to SMEs to support entrepreneurs at critical stages of their development, helping grow web presence, all elements of the "SME Toolkit". We also have developed a strong Microsoft partner channel, which enables Microsoft to support every business at every stage of their journey; whether they are starting out or experiencing exponential growth. Our partners help SMEs achieve their business goals every day. We expect our partner channel to continue to experience significant growth, as more and more IT solution companies seek to partner with Microsoft in offering the best solutions to the SME community.

Q4. Compared to earlier, what is the proportion of savings in expenditure by adopting Microsoft's Solutions for SMBs?

A. The need to reduce or effectively manage ever-changing IT infrastructure costs is important for any SME. As a result, SMEs worldwide have started to adopt cloud-based solutions to cut their overall CAPEX by transferring their on-premise infrastructure to a cloud, and effectively to an OPEX model. Cloud-based solutions also enable businesses to reduce their storage costs considerably.

Office 365 saves small businesses time by reducing the work required to manage an IT infrastructure. With Office 365 and CRM Online, businesses can easily add and manage user accounts using a new web-based management portal specifically designed for organizations with even less than 10 users. At the same



**Haider Salloom,
SME Director, Microsoft Gulf**

time, there's no need to install on-premise servers, manage software licenses, or worry about securing your system. As a result, this leads to a huge reduction in IT expenses. A McKinsey & Company study shows that SMEs save up to 25 per cent by using SaaS-based CRM Solutions instead of traditional on-premise applications.

In addition to that, applications such as "Skype for Business" help replace in-person meetings with web conferences, and provide an effective way to share complex information. One can also set up a central portal for document storage through Sharepoint online and this empowers employees to find critical information in real-time, aiding decision-making.

One of the obvious benefits of moving everyday business to the cloud is that it can provide SMEs with significant savings. For instance, virtualization increases the value of physical server hardware and lets businesses do more with less. As a result, they will see a decline in rack space, power usage, and IT complexity, which means lower installations, maintenance, hardware and support costs.

Q5. What has been the market growth in the past years and this year? Is there any market study or research on how much did SMEs spend on Microsoft solutions in Kuwait?

A. While estimates of the overall spending

by SMBs on Microsoft solutions may vary considerably, the consensus is that spending on cloud computing is one of the largest growing trends amongst SMEs globally. McKinsey estimates that the combined market size for cloud computing, both public and private, is growing from \$11bn in 2010 to between \$65bn and \$85bn in 2015. Public cloud alone is expected to grow from \$9bn in 2010 to \$50bn in 2015, with 65 per cent of that driven by SMEs.

The way that IT is being consumed is changing; businesses can have a service that they can scale up or down depending on how much they have to spend. This is particularly beneficial to SMEs. They need only spend half of what they estimate if they consider an Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS) model. For example, Microsoft Azure provides an easy-to-use solution that is reliable and scalable, and allows businesses to grow while cutting costs.

The cloud gives businesses of any size access to a flexible, scalable and affordable choice of productivity apps, traditionally reserved for large multi-nationals. This enables entrepreneurs to collaborate and work remotely - leveling the playing field in terms of operational efficiency and innovative collaboration. SMEs and their employees are realizing that their competitive advantage comes from what they do with technology in and out of the office. This new line of thinking encourages Microsoft to increase flexibility, allowing SMBs to use specific elements of Office 365 exactly how they want to. Office 365 gives small businesses a leg-up because it offers the same powerful tools that large companies use, while being affordable and easy for small businesses to set up and manage.

Given the importance of the SME sector (there are more than 148 million SMEs worldwide), the economic opportunity is colossal. Microsoft has a history of working with SMEs by developing solutions and services that are affordable and designed to help a business achieve more. A survey done on 4,000 SMEs by BCG revealed that 95 per cent of all technology leaders use Microsoft Office - this means that Microsoft is the company that SMBs turn to and trust. Our solutions and services are empowering businesses and individuals to do more and achieve more in this mobile-first, cloud-first world.

FACEBOOK CEO ZUCKERBERG TO TAKE TWO MONTHS OF PATERNITY LEAVE

SAN FRANCISCO: Facebook Inc Chief Executive Officer Mark Zuckerberg said on Friday he will take two months of paternity leave after his daughter's birth, a strong statement from one of the busiest and most powerful US executives on the importance of family time.

Silicon Valley technology firms have rushed to extend parental leave allowances and other benefits in an attempt to recruit and retain talent, but many workers do not take advantage for fear of falling behind at work or missing out on promotions. Facebook, the world's biggest online social network, allows its US employees to take up to four months of paid maternity or paternity leave, which can be used all at once or throughout the first year of their child's life, a policy which is generous by US standards. Zuckerberg announced in July that he and his wife, Priscilla Chan, were expecting a baby girl.

21 percent

A 2015 study by the Society for Human Resource Management found that 21 percent of employers it surveyed offered paid maternity leave, and 17 percent provided paid paternity leave. "This is a very personal decision," Zuckerberg wrote on his Facebook page, along with a picture of a stroller, a yellow baby carrier

and his dog, Beast. "Studies show that when working parents take time to be with their newborns, outcomes are better for the children and families."

Zuckerberg, 31, did not say who would be running the company while he is out. Facebook did not immediately respond to an inquiry.

It is likely that chief operating officer Sheryl Sandberg, who oversees all of Facebook's advertising, will assume leadership. Zuckerberg largely oversees products, but will likely rely on chief product officer Chris Cox while he is out.

Unusual decision

Zuckerberg's decision is unusual among high-level tech executives, especially men. Yahoo Inc CEO Marissa Mayer took two weeks off after her first child's birth in 2012, and when she announced she was pregnant with identical twin girls in September, she said she would be taking limited maternity leave and "working throughout."

Zuckerberg's post generated more than 50,000 'likes' in one hour and nearly 3,000 comments. Many of the comments lauded his decision and said it sent a positive message about US parental leave policies. Sandberg commented and congratulated Zuckerberg and his wife. Noting the baby's upcoming birth, she wrote in her post: "I can't wait to meet her." — Reuters

STARWOOD WARNS OF DATA BREACH AT 54 OF ITS HOTELS

NEW YORK: Starwood said hackers were able to see debit and credit card information of some people that dined or shopped at 54 of its hotels, including some Sheraton, Westin and W locations. The hotelier said Friday that malware was found in payment systems at restaurants, gift shops, bars and other retail areas within hotels, but not at the front desk where guests pay for their stay. Stamford, Connecticut-based Starwood said the malware exposed names on the cards as well as card numbers, security codes and expiration dates. Contact information and PINs were not exposed, the company said, and its loyalty program wasn't affected. Other hotel companies have announced this year that they were hacked, including The Trump Hotel Collection and Mandarin Oriental.

Most of the affected Starwood hotels are in the US, including a St Regis in Bal

Harbour, Florida, and Sheraton, Westin and W locations in Los Angeles, New York, Boston and several other cities. Two were in Canada and another hotel was in Puerto Rico. Starwood posted a list online of the hotels and dates malware was found at www.starwoodhotels.com/paymentcardsecuritynotice. Starwood said the malware, which has since been removed, infected payment systems since as early as November 2014.

The announcement comes on the same week that Bethesda, Maryland-based Marriott International Inc. said it planned to buy Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide Inc. for \$12.2 billion. The deal, which is expected to be completed in the middle of next year, would create the world's largest hotelier by combining Starwood's 1,275 properties with Marriott's more than 4,300. — AP



NEW YORK: In this Wednesday, July 31, 2013, file photo, the logo for the W Hotel, owned by Starwood Hotels and Resorts Worldwide, is seen in New York's Times Square. — AP



MOUNTAIN VIEW: In this November 12, 2015 photo, a man walks past a building on the Google campus in Mountain View, California. — AP

GOOGLE SEARCHES ITSELF TO BUILD MORE PRODUCTIVE TEAMS

MOUNTAIN VIEW: Google coddles its employees with free food, massages and other lavish perks, yet some of its best engineers still grouse about their jobs and bosses as they struggle to get assignments done. The Internet company tackled the puzzling problem with a study that concluded how teams work together is more important than who is on a team.

That's not exactly rocket science, but it's an example of how companies are spending more time trying to understand how to build the most productive and cohesive teams. It's a high priority because the best products and ideas increasingly are springing from people working together.

"It's becoming difficult to think of companies that aren't depending on teams," says Amy Randel, a professor of management at San Diego State University. "And usually nothing is more important than having a goal that inspires and organizes people's efforts."

Data analysis

Google's study, based on data analysis, found that teams work best when their members feel like they can take risks, can count on each other, have clear goals and believe their work matters. Some of those findings were reinforced by a recent study published in the Academy of Management Journal by Jasmine Hu, an assistant professor of management at Notre Dame University and Robert Liden, a management professor at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

That analysis of 67 different teams working at six different companies found employees excel when they feel their work will help the colleagues, customers and community.

"The social aspect of teams is very important because many times people are just not motivated to work for money alone," Hu says. "They want to have the opportunity to achieve a positive impact on the lives of others." All of Google's 60,000 employees work on at least one team, and some are on two or more.

Google itself was born from one of technology's most famous partnerships between former Stanford University graduate students, Larry Page and Sergey Brin. They followed in the footsteps of other legendary duos such as Microsoft co-founders Bill Gates and Paul Allen and Apple co-founders Steve Jobs and Steve Wozniak.

Today, Google's teams range in size from three to 70 people and are usually project oriented. For two years the company has studied more than 200 teams, identifying what motivates the most effective groups while looking for the ideal mix of traits and skills.

Although most industries are embracing teamwork, Silicon Valley is at the forefront of the trend. Technology firms are typically more collaborative, in part because people writing different parts of software code or building machines need to do one part of a larger project.

Good coaches

Google's first workplace study, which it

released in 2014, showed effective managers are good coaches who empower rather than micromanage. That research, called Project Oxygen, is now taught in MBA programs and has been adopted by companies hoping to emulate the innovative culture of Silicon Valley. The research released Tuesday has already reshaped Google's workforce through training, reviews and new standards.

The transformation is helping to enrich Google, already one of the world's most profitable companies. The revenue produced by sales teams, who market advertising, apps and partnerships, varied by nearly 50 percent based on their own reported feelings of psychological safety, according to Abeer Dubey, a Google director. "So is this a Google truth or a universal truth?" asked Dubey. "We personally feel this is fungible." In a region where innovation is driving a booming economy, retaining and motivating the workforce is critical to business, and because engineers almost always work in teams, understanding how to boost their performance is crucial.

"Team work matters, and if you want to have the best team of employees possible, you will manage them intelligently," said Lindy Greer, who teaches at Stanford University's business school. "If you just put people together they're going to crash and burn unless they have conflict resolution training, a manager who can coordinate roles and opportunities to learn with one another." — AP

GREEN CAMPAIGNER READIES TO SWIM THE PACIFIC

VANCOUVER: Never mind the sharks or the swirling ocean debris that await him, Benoit Lecomte is counting the days until his long-distance swim from Tokyo to San Francisco - to raise awareness of environmental threats in the Pacific. In the Canadian port city of Vancouver, he watches the loading of the Rolano, an 80-foot (24-m) fishing vessel bristling with cameras on her masts, and stocked with six months of curry dinners.

The old ship is making final preparations before sailing from Canada to Tokyo next month, to serve as the support platform and science deck for Lecomte's project, dubbed "The Longest Swim." In 1998, the French-born architect and environmentalist became the first person to swim across the Atlantic without a kick board. Now aged 48, the naturalized American says he is so worried about the future of his two children, eight and 14, that he's returning to the water to raise awareness of the dire problems in the Pacific, hoping to become the first person to cross the ocean without a flotation device.

Lecomte's team includes six crew members on the Rolano, publicists and managers

on land, and scientists at several American institutions, including the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute, who will collect data, including plankton species and radiation levels. He and the Rolano's six-person crew aim to leave Tokyo by the end of the year, covering the 8,850 km to the US West Coast at a rate of 2.5 nautical miles per hour. They expect the journey to San Francisco will take six months, aided by the Pacific Kuroshio Current. Lecomte said his speed and strength may have waned since his Atlantic crossing, but his endurance has increased. "It's mind over matter," he said.

Sharks, Radiation and Debris

In addition to the arduous of a grueling six-month swim, expected hazards on the journey include sharks and other predators, radiation from Japan's Fukushima nuclear plant, and debris in the Pacific Garbage Patch, where the ocean's gyre has funneled plastics from around the world. Repeatedly delayed, this Pacific swim was originally planned for spring 2012 with the assistance of a catamaran. Instead, Lecomte will be accompanied by

a boat with a rich history of its own.

The wooden fishing vessel was seized in World War II by the Germans, fitted with a massive U-boat submarine engine, and has since been pressed into jobs from fishing to hosting a sushi restaurant. The Rolano will play a key role in the swim, to publicize environmental issues and conduct ocean and medical research. "We'll probably experience a hurricane out there," said ship captain Richard Idiensi with a shrug and a grin.

The old ship has seen better days, and Idiensi keeps rolls of duct tape on hand to patch it up where needed. Its guts, however, still include the massive, fuel-efficient U-Boat engine. Its hold can sleep 12 and has locker room for science gear and food for six months on blue water. On Thursday, the ship and crew will make the six-hour trip from Vancouver to Vancouver Island for final repairs and upgrades, then set sail to Japan. Lecomte returns next week to Texas for some family time before heading next month to Tokyo, to start the long slog back across the Pacific, with the Rolano at his side for every stroke. — AFP



VANCOUVER: (Left to right) Canadian fishing Captain Richard Idiensi, US swimmer Ben Lecomte and chef Vikram Vij, of Vij's Foods in Vancouver, load six months of food on to the Rolano on Nov 17, 2015 for Lecomte's swim from Tokyo to San Francisco. — AFP



NOTRE-DAME-DES-LANDES, France: An opponent of the project of the international airport near Nantes take part in a gathering yesterday while opponents take the direction of Paris on their bikes a week before the COP 21. The 21st Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP21/CMP11), also known as "Paris 2015" will take place from Nov 30 to Dec 11, 2015. — AFP

CARBON CAPTURE: GREEN TECH SHACKLED BY COSTS

PARIS: Every credible plan to save humanity from global warming reserves a key role for a green energy technology called carbon capture and storage. But there's a problem: No one has figured out a viable way to pay for it. Usually just called CCS, the technology can take carbon dioxide - the dominant greenhouse gas - from major pollution sources like power plants or steel mills and pump it deep underground, out of harm's way.

CCS is crucial to many scenarios - including from the United Nations' climate science panel - for keeping global warming under 2 degrees Celsius, considered the redline for catastrophic climate impacts. But despite decades of testing, only a handful of the projects are actually in service. One of the main reasons, experts say, is a very hefty price tag that has kept nervous investors at bay. "There are 22 large-scale (CCS) operations in the world," said Isabelle Czernichowski-Lauriol, president emerita of CO2GeoNet, a European research network. "We need to have over 1,000," she told AFP. "There has been a delay in regards to what was expected, but it has mostly been due to the lack of an economic model." Catching, transporting and storing just a fraction of the world's carbon emissions would require the construction of a massive new industry.

'Cost is Main Barrier'

CCS works by compressing a gas, CO2, into a liquid form and pumping it into the ground. Scientist and analyst Vaclav Smil, a respected voice on environmental and energy matters, has

calculated that a CCS infrastructure - to capture and store 20 percent of the world's CO2 from burning fossil fuels - would need a capacity 70 percent larger than the petroleum flow handled by the global crude oil industry. The scale of effort needed for any substantial reduction of emissions and the operating costs "combine to guarantee very slow progress," he wrote.

At the moment, Canada's Boundary Dam power station in Saskatchewan is the world's only commercial-scale coal-fired power plant that uses carbon capture to keep its emissions out of the air. It is designed to grab 90 percent of the plant's CO2 gases - the equivalent of the pollution from 250,000 cars - which are then sold and pumped to nearby facilities for use in squeezing oil out of the ground.

Sale of the gas provides extra revenue for the station, which cost 1.5 billion Canadian dollars to build. About a sixth came from government subsidies. "Cost is one of the main barriers to CCS," said Samuela Bassi, a policy analyst at the London School of Economics and Political Science. "Building these plants is expensive." Adding carbon capture technology to coal-fired power plants pushes up their cost by 40-80 percent, and by up to 50 percent for natural gas-burning stations.

Death of Projects

One reason carbon capture is so expensive is the technology is relatively new as a climate change solution - about a decade old - and some of the projects are one-of-a-kind. A developing

technology without a proven, viable business model is also seen as risky by investors, driving up the cost of borrowing money, analysts said. Further handicapping CCS, a lot of government subsidies - and regulatory support - are going to competing technologies such as wind and solar. "For CCS you don't yet have this type of system in place, except in the UK," said Bassi. "But in the rest of the world you don't have that kind of economic support."

Analysts say the cost of CCS-equipped power plants will come down significantly as more projects get built and the technology is refined. However, just two carbon capture-equipped, industrial-scale power plants - both in the United States - are due to come online next year, and there are a dearth of big projects on the drawing board. There are 22 large-scale CCS projects that are either in operation or are slated to be up and running by 2017.

Another 23 big projects currently in various stages of development are "maybes," according to a spokesman for the Global Carbon Capture and Storage Institute, an industry group. That total number of industrial-scale projects - 45 - is an 18-percent decrease over the 55 listed in the institute's 2014 report. EU targets have called for the equivalent of 11 large-scale, CCS-equipped power plants by 2030, which would cost up to \$35 billion (\$40 billion), according to the Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment. So far \$1.3 billion in public funds have been, or are being, spent on developing these projects. — AFP

US KIDS' LAWSUIT OVER CLIMATE GATHERS STEAM

MIAMI: A lawsuit over climate change filed by 21 young Americans has gained the attention of the fossil fuel industry, which is joining the US government to oppose the kids' demands for sharper pollution cuts. The plaintiffs, aged eight to 19, include the granddaughter of renowned climate scientist James Hansen, formerly of NASA and a well-known advocate of reducing the greenhouse gases that are causing the planet to heat up.

The plaintiffs want the government to commit to significantly reduce carbon dioxide emissions and implement "a science-based climate recovery plan" that protects the Earth for future generations, according to the Oregon-based group, Our Children's Trust. "This case will put indisputable science about climate change squarely in front of the federal judiciary," said the group, which filed its lawsuit against President Barack Obama's administration in August, and has filed multiple state lawsuits over the past several years.

They are calling on the US District Court of Oregon - the state where most of the plaintiffs live - to order the government to "swiftly phase down carbon dioxide emissions" so that atmospheric CO2 concentrations "are no more than 350 parts per million by 2100." Atmospheric CO2 concentration is currently around 400 ppm, a level unprecedented in modern history and one that has raised alarm among many climate scientists.

Meanwhile, the planet is on track for its hottest year since 1880, amid key climate talks later this month in Paris that will reveal how much world leaders are prepared to do to save the environment. In a sign that the kids' lawsuit is causing some concern to industry interests, powerful oil and coal companies filed earlier this month for permission to join the US government in opposing it. They include the American Fuel and Petrochemical Manufacturers - which represents ExxonMobil, BP, Shell, Koch Industries and more - the American Petroleum Institute

and the National Association of Manufacturers. "The fossil fuel industry doesn't want additional pressure on the federal government to run a stricter climate change program," said Cornell University law professor Gerald Torres, an expert on environmental law who is not involved in the case. "It does suggest they are taking this lawsuit seriously. And I think it ought to be taken seriously," Torres told AFP.

Dangers Ignored

The plaintiffs say the federal government has known about the danger of carbon emissions since 1965, but has not done enough to stem them. Specifically, pledges in the 1990s by Congress and the Environmental Protection Agency to significantly reduce CO2 emissions and stop global warming were "never implemented." This lack of action shows that the "federal government has violated the youngest generation's constitutional rights to life, liberty, property, as well as failed to protect essential public trust resources," Our Children's Trust has said.

In other words, the government has jeopardized such vital natural resources as the air, seas, coastlines, water and wildlife. Instead, the US government has "continued to permit, authorize and subsidize fossil fuel extraction, development, consumption and exportation - activities producing enormous quantities of CO2 emissions that have substantially caused the rise in the atmospheric concentration of CO2," said the legal documents.

The political atmosphere in the United States is also contentious, with many Republican lawmakers skeptical of - or outright denying - the existence of human-caused climate change. "At the national level, the debate is pretty much stuck," said Torres, adding that he thinks the kids' case "is legally sound." He said it raised "the fundamental question which every person in a democracy ought to ask every day when they wake up: What is government for?" — AFP

NASA CALLS ON SPACEX TO SEND ASTRONAUTS TO ISS

MIAMI: SpaceX received orders Friday from the US space agency to send astronauts to the International Space Station in the coming years, helping restore US access to space, NASA said. The announcement was a formal step in a process that began earlier this year when Boeing was given the nod by NASA to send crew to the orbiting outpost by late 2017.

Both Boeing and SpaceX have received billions in seed money from NASA to restore American access to the ISS, after the US space shuttle program was retired in 2011. The announcement of \$4.2 billion for Boeing and \$2.6 billion for SpaceX was made in Sept 2014. Boeing announced in January that it would be the first, sending a piloted mission aboard its CST-100 Starliner capsule by late 2017.

However, in Friday's announcement, NASA said that "determination of which company will fly its mission to the station first will be made at a later time". SpaceX is already flying cargo missions to the ISS, and is working on a crew version of its Dragon capsule to carry astronauts. The announcement marked the "second in a series of four guaranteed orders NASA will make under the Commercial Crew

Transportation Capability (CCtCap) contracts," the US space agency said. "The Boeing Company of Houston received its first crew mission order in May."

Kathy Lueders, manager of NASA's Commercial Crew Program, said "it is important to have at least two healthy and robust capabilities from US companies to deliver crew and critical scientific experiments from American soil to the space station throughout its lifespan." The ISS is expected to remain operational until 2024. Since the shuttle program ended in 2011, the world's astronauts have relied on Russia's Soyuz capsules for transport at a price of some \$70 million per seat.

"The authority to proceed with Dragon's first operational crew mission is a significant milestone in the Commercial Crew Program and a great source of pride for the entire SpaceX team," said Gwynne Shotwell, president and chief operating officer of SpaceX. "When Crew Dragon takes NASA astronauts to the space station in 2017, they will be riding in one of the safest, most reliable spacecraft ever flown. We're honored to be developing this capability for NASA and our country." — AFP

AMAZON FORESTS MAY LOSE THOUSANDS OF TREE SPECIES

WASHINGTON: A first-of-its-kind examination of the Amazon's trees found that as many as half the species may be threatened with extinction or heading that way because of massive deforestation. Among the more than 5,000 tree species in deep trouble: the ones that produce Brazil nuts and mahogany. An international team of 158 scientists found that depending on the degree to which deforestation comes under control in the next 35 years, between 36 and 57 percent of the 16,000 tree species in the tropical rainforest area would be considered threatened. Their study is published in Friday's edition of Science Advances.

The range rests on whether cutting down the region's forest continues at the rate of the late 20th and early 21st centuries or slows down to lesser levels proposed in 2006, study authors said. If deforestation continues at the same pace, nearly 8,700 tree types are in trouble, but the

number of species at risk could be as low as 5,500 if nations are able to cut back as planned, said study co-author Nigel Pitman from the Field Museum in Chicago. "We've never had a good idea of how many species are threatened in the Amazon," Pitman said Friday. "Now with this study, we have an estimate."

About 15 years ago, the Amazon was losing about 30 million sq km of forest a year, said Tim Killeen, a scientist from Agteca Amazonica in Bolivia. But that figure has dropped to about 10 million sq km a year, he said. Killeen said the tree that produces Brazil nuts is seriously under threat, while "mahogany is commercially extinct throughout the Amazon." He said that means there's no more industry harvesting the wood, but some trees exist. Duke University ecologist Stuart Pimm, who was not part of the study, praised the work as sensible and important. — AP



NEW YORK: In this April 23, 2002 file photo, specimens from the Brazil nut, Lecythidaceae family, are displayed inside the Herbarium at The New York Botanical Garden in the Bronx borough. — AP

DIETICIAN AT GOSH OFFERS TIPS ON WORLD ANTI-OBESITY DAY

MOVE TO HELP FAMILIES COMBAT CHILDHOOD OBESITY

LONDON: Niamh Landy, a dietician at Great Ormond Street Hospital, knows that educating parents on healthy eating could be the key to combating childhood obesity. Making sure children have a healthy diet is important because it can reduce rates of obesity, hypertension and diabetes as well as decrease the risk of coronary artery disease," she said. To help parents look after their children's health, Niamh has put together a series of top tips for families to adopt today.

When eating with the family, Niamh suggests that families should avoid rushing mealtimes, turn off the television and sit at a table for a meal. "When you slow down, it allows the brain to 'realise' that the stomach is full so that you know you've had enough and don't overeat. Giving your child small portions is also important. Remember to check if your child is actually full before offering them more food," she explained.

When out and about, it is always a good idea to bring snacks from home. This will avoid the need to buy high calorie convenience food such as chocolate and crisps or fizzy drinks when out on a trip or shopping. "Snacks such as fruit, vegetables, crackers, nuts, plain biscuits and unsalted popcorn are good choices," Niamh suggests. Choosing healthier options to eat and drink every day is also important. Rather than offering a fizzy drink give diluted fruit juice, weak squash, milk or water. Always make sure your child has a drink available to them to make sure they do not get dehydrated.

Ensuring they have a drink before they



leave for school and in their school bag is also a good idea. If going for a takeaway, Niamh suggests choosing a lighter option such as fish coated in breadcrumbs, thin base pizzas with vegetable or lean meat toppings and grilled burgers made from lean meat with salad. "Of course, eating five fruit or vegetable portions a day is also essential to being healthy. These can be fresh, tinned, frozen or dried. Remember though that juices and smoothies only count as one of your 5-a-day."



Parents should encourage their children to exercise. "Making time for the family to get involved in physical activities is important," Niamh said. "Being a good role model is essential to encouraging good habits in your child." Niamh suggests activities such as cycling, walking, playing tag, jumping rope, as well as swimming and dancing as good activities to encourage your child to participate in. Joining in with other families in soccer or softball games is also a fun way of encouraging children to participate. Reducing the time children spend in front of a screen, such as a computer, television or video game consoles, is also a good idea," she added.

Landy is a specialist paediatric dietician for the Ketogenic Diet Therapy team at Great

Ormond Street Hospital. Her undergraduate degree was a BSc (Hons) Human Nutrition at the University of Ulster and she went on to qualify as a dietician in 2006 with a PgD in Dietetics from King's College London. After starting as a clinical dietician for adults Niamh soon turned to paediatric dietetics. Niamh worked for five years in New Zealand and returned to the UK to take up a specialist paediatric dietician post at Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children in January 2013. The dietetic department has a rotation system and Niamh has worked in many areas including gastroenterology, haematology and oncology, endocrinology, immunology and metabolic medicine.

Great Ormond Street Hospital in London is

recognised as one of the few truly world-class hospitals for children. As a global leader, GOSH has top clinical and research experts working every day to find new and better ways to treat children. While breakthroughs and medical expertise are essential to the treatment of patients, GOSH also places great emphasis on the support and care provided for children by nurturing an open and supportive atmosphere, ensuring that parents and patients are well informed and closely involved in the treatment process. Children receive the highest standards of care and attention from the expert team of medical and support staff during their stay at GOSH, and are always treated with respect, trust, concern and openness.



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LULU HYPERMARKET LAUNCHES 'DISCOVER AMERICA 2015'

Lulu Hypermarket, the leading hypermarket for the best savings, launched the 'Discover America 2015' a festival highlighting the best of US foods on Thursday, 19 November at its Al-Qurain outlet. US Ambassador to Kuwait Douglas A Silliman inaugurated the festival in the presence of The Emke Group Executive Director M A Ashraf Ali, who was the chief guest of the

function, and top Lulu management and customers. Students from the American united school of Kuwait welcomed the Ambassador to the fest and sang the national anthems of Kuwait and US.

Speaking on the occasion, the American Ambassador said, "I am very happy to inaugurate the 'Discover America 2015' fest and am pleased to see such a variety

of US brand products here."

The festivities were enhanced by the décor that included displays of popular US tourist attractions from Disneyland to the Statue of Liberty.

The promotion, from 18 to 28 November, aims to entice guests on a journey of discovery, during which US branded products will be on special offer. The promo-

tion includes popular food brands, such as McCormick, Ragu, Organiqelle, Herra, Folgers, Quaker, Duncan Hines, Eggo, Orelda and many more. Lulu Hypermarket's promotion of a country's food industry has always been well received by customers who are eager for the chance to experience new food cultures made available at competitive prices.



TWO-DAY IIK PROPERTY SHOW SHOWCASES INDIAN REAL ESTATE PROJECTS IN KUWAIT

Greetings



Happy Birthday to Mohammad Zabidul Islam
Sobug, who celebrates his 13th birthday today. We wish you good health and happiness throughout your life. Best wishes from father Mohammad

Jalaluddin (RTV), mother Bethée Begum, uncle Abdul Motaleb, Alauddin, Alamin Rana, Alamin Sawpon, Abdul Khader Mollah, Chunoo Mollah, Alamin and all family members and all friends, relatives in Bangladesh and Kuwait.

Indian Ambassador to Kuwait Sunil Jain yesterday inaugurated the 'IIK India Property Show 2015' at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. The Show is organized by IndiansinKuwait.com, a leading property portal in Kuwait. Prominent personalities including Asad Khan, Dr Amir Ahmad, TA Remesh, Rajshekar, Anis Ahmad etc, along with IIK officials attended the inauguration ceremony. The two-day real estate fair is an ideal opportunity for NRIs who are looking for investment in Indian real estate, as they have access to first-hand information on upcoming and current real estate projects as well as a range of property options, from residential apartments, plots and bungalows to commercial properties. The exhibition facilitates visitors to meet and interact with some of the top Indian builders and real estate

developers, giving them an opportunity to view hundreds of projects, ranging from affordable apartments to luxury villas from some of India's top developers including Godrej Properties, L&T, SNN, Expat properties, Puravankara, Provident, Ozone, etc. Developers will highlight real estate in cities across India and will present special offers on limited properties during the two-day show.

Indian Ambassador to Kuwait Sunil Jain, who opened the exhibition with IIK Officials, told that this is the best time to buy property in India. "I'm highly impressed by this exhibition that has brought together Indian property companies offering the best properties in the Indian market. I think now is a good time to invest in the Indian real estate market given the strength of the Kuwaiti

dinar and the fact that properties in India are consistently gaining in value. I believe all Indians should have at least one property back home," added Jain. With real-estate investment once again on the rise, the IIK Property Show is an ideal venue for Non-Resident Indians (NRI) in the country to explore the potential of buying properties or making investments in this highly rewarding sector. The IIK Property Show will continue tomorrow (Saturday) also at Al Afra Hall Crowne Plaza Hotel, Frawniya. The entry to the property show is totally free and loads of free gifts are waiting for the pre-registered visitors. TikTok and Schneider sponsors number of free gifts to the visitors to the exhibition. A lucky visitor also gets a chance to win two free air tickets to India sponsored by Air India.

THE PALESTINIAN CULTURE EXHIBITION AT BAYT LOTHAN, NOVEMBER 23-26, 2015

OPEN INVITATION: FOR JERUSALEM

The Palestinian Culture Center holds the second of its two annual exhibitions for 2015 at Bayt Lothan. The show includes a large collection of textile-based traditional handmade cross-stitch as well as pottery from Hebron, posters and books about Palestine in English and Arabic. It aspires to reaffirm the Palestinian national identity by its handicrafts and support education and families. The Palestinian Culture Center is a non-profit organization that was established in Jordan in 1993. It aims to (1) preserve the rich heritage and culture of Palestine, (2) help empower women and their families in the refugee camps become economically independent, and (3) sustain needy Palestinians in their homeland and in the Diaspora.

This year was an active year for the Center due to the effects of the global financial crisis which placed a further strain on the poor. Furthermore, the violent and aggressive Israeli military onslaught on Gaza, Jerusalem and the rest of occupied Palestine, have made the situation in Palestine dire, and the need for aid more urgent. As a result, the Center has worked to increase the salaries of

the 550 or so women who do the embroidery work as well as pay for their transportation (from the camps). We motivate the ladies by granting bonuses for excellent quality work. We also provide support to Palestinians in the homeland by providing financial aid to needy families, health care, and university scholarships.

Some of the Center's accomplishments included support of some of the vital institutes such as Almagasad hospital in Jerusalem which was established in 1968 with substantial financial support from the State of Kuwait. The Center is also working on providing the necessary financing of the Water Desalination Project in Gaza for producing potable water and assisting Gaza area hospitals that were bombarded by Israel, such as Alshefa Hospital, to produce and store oxygen for medical purposes.

Exhibition Highlights

Traditional cross-stitch embroidery of dresses, linens, shawls, cushions, table runners, cards, frames, coasters, belts, purses, bookmarks and more:

- Handmade ceramics from Hebron.

- Books, posters, key chains, kafiya's and DVDs as well as posters from Palestine.
- Food sale of traditional Palestinian food such as thyme, sumaq, baked goods and other traditional plates.
- Palestinian folklore "Dabkah" will be performed on and Thursday at 6:30 pm.

Palestinian embroidery using needle and silk thread is a manifestation of the Palestinian identity as it has evolved over the ages. An age old art, all Palestinian ladies, young and old, would spend hours embroidering their trousseau, dresses, shawls and cushions. Using geometric shapes at first, and then evolving to depicting images from nature surrounding them, the dresses are famous for their flowery designs and bold natural colors of indigo and red. Symbols of the ubiquitous cypress trees surrounding the orange groves, roses, jasmine and the famous olive tree are typical motifs in these dresses.

The exhibition will be held at Bayt Lothan, Salmia, It will be held for 4 days starting Monday the November 23rd through Thursday 26th. It is open to the public from 10:00 am to 1:30 pm and 4:30 to 8:30 pm.



1st Korean Ambassador's GCC Taekwondo Championship 2015

Gyeonggi for 5 player team competition

Nov 26 - 28, 2015
Al-Qadisia Sporting Club, Kuwait





GUST HOSTS SKYPE SEMINAR WITH DR GREGORY GAUSE III

Gulf University for Science and Technology (GUST), in collaboration with the US Embassy in Kuwait, organized a Skype seminar open to the public, whose aim was to raise awareness among students about the risks of extremist violence and how terrorists are using the internet and social media to advance their aims. The seminar is part of a wider initiative lead by the US Department of State and the Peer to Peer (P2P): Challenging

Extremism initiative facilitated by EdVenture, an organization dedicated to developing innovative industry-education partnership programs.

Leading the seminar was Dr Gregory Gause III, who is the current Head of the International Affairs Department at the Bush School of Government and Public Service, Texas A&M University and a non-resident senior fellow at the Brookings Center in Doha, Qatar. He is an expert on terrorism

and the author of three books and numerous articles on the politics of the Middle East, with a particular focus on the Arabian Peninsula and the Arabian Gulf. The topics covered were varied as he touched upon the origins of ISIS, how they rose to prominence, and coverage of ISIS and Muslims in US media. To end, a lively Q&A session was held where students asked Dr Gause pertinent questions on how the Arab and Muslim world are portrayed in the US and what can

be done to change negative perceptions.

Professor Donald Bates, GUST President, said, "To have Dr Gause join us, albeit virtually, is a thoroughly enriching experience for our students. It is important that we as a university find new ways to engage our students and expose them to the ideas and thoughts of academics that they would not normally get a chance to meet."

Also on the day, a short video created by GUST students was screened to highlight

the importance of tackling hate speech. This video is part of the "Raise Your Words" campaign, which is part of the Challenging Extremism Initiative co-sponsored by the US Department of State.

The Skype seminar with Dr Gause is part of a series of organized by GUST. On the same week, a similar event was organized whereby Hugh Naylor from the Washington Post discussed media reporting in the Middle East.



NISSAN JUKE INSPIRES RUNNERS AT COLOR RUN PRESENTED BY DAMAN'S ACTIVE LIFE

For the second year in a row, Nissan Middle East and Arabian Automobiles, its exclusive dealer in Dubai and the Northern Emirates, has thrown its support behind The Color Run presented by Daman's ActiveLife, a fun-filled 5km fun run dubbed the "Happiest 5k on the Planet."

As part of its support, Nissan will be sponsoring all three of the regional run events that take place in Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Doha. For The Color Run in Dubai, which is taking place at the Dubai Autodrome on Saturday 21st November, the official vehicle is the new Nissan Juke, the Japanese auto maker's stunning compact SUV.

Fadi Ghosn, Chief Marketing Officer of Nissan Middle East, says: "Following the success of the event last year, we decided to extend our sponsorship to this year's edition of The Color Run presented by Daman's ActiveLife. At Nissan we believe that Motoring should be fun and exciting, not just getting from A to B. That's certainly what the Nissan Juke is all about and why we believe The Color Run is the perfect event to support."

The Color Run presented by Daman's ActiveLife is a five-kilometer, un-timed fun run in which thousands of participants are doused from head to toe in different colors at each kilometer.

This is followed by a huge color festival

where more colored powder is brought into play as part of the fun and to create countless color combinations. Organizers say there are only two rules - wear white at the start line and finish plastered in color.

The Color Run is passionate about giving back to the community, so \$1 of each entry is donated to charity through JustGiving, the world's largest fundraising platform. Runners can also make additional donations from their personal fundraising initiatives.

Salah Yamout Director of Sales and Marketing at Arabian Automobiles Company commented: "As Nissan's exclusive distributor in Dubai and the Northern Emirates, we come to look forward in sponsoring the most awaited event 'Color Run'. With this fundraising event, we aim to contribute to society and to encourage more people to include physical activities as part of a healthier lifestyle."

To add to the fun activities at The Color Run, Nissan will also showcase some engaging activations at the event, designed to inspire runners to share their creative and colorful snaps on social media.

Selected local artists will demonstrate their creativity by painting outlines on a mural wall board, where runners will be able to throw color powder to create a picture. By sharing their images of the mural using #TAKEASTAND, runners will be celebrated by Nissan for their creativity.

BURGAN BANK CONCLUDES SPONSORSHIP OF 'NUQAT' CREATIVE CONFERENCE

Burgan Bank recently concluded its sponsorship of the 'Nuqat' Creative Conference for the third consecutive year. The conference was held from 12 - 18 November 2015 at the Amricani Cultural Centre, under the theme: "Copy & Paste Syndrome" and helped on highlighting how imitation both inspires and limits creative production.

The event witnessed vast participation by professionals in the creative fields, students, and the general public through the organized series of lectures, workshops, and cultural entertainment programs.

Burgan Bank highlighted that its role in sponsoring such events is sprung from its belief that the current generation are the major contributors to today's successful and vibrant business, social, and cultural environment. During the event, Burgan Bank was recognized for its significant role as a bronze sponsor, wherein Hessa Al-Najadah - Burgan Bank's Senior Public Relation Officer received a token of appreciation from the organizers. Supporting the involvement of creativity in all its forms and shapes is one of Burgan Bank's main pillars as a leading financial institution.



OOREDOO OFFERED DOWN SYNDROME FAMILIES A 'WONDERFUL WEEKEND'

Thousands of Kuwaiti families who suffer from Down Syndrome converged on Discovery Mall last weekend for Wonderland for a Cause's third fun-packed weekend of activities. Funds raised at the event was used to raise awareness and support families of children with Down Syndrome, a genetic anomaly that effects many families in Kuwait.

At the conclusion of festivities, Wonderland for a Cause thanked Ooredoo Kuwait for its participation as the event's main sponsor and also for contributing to the activities and excitement.

Mijbil AlAyoub, Director of Corporate Communications for Ooredoo Kuwait said: "We are humbled to be thanked by our customers - this was a worthy initiative and one which we felt very deeply to be associated with. We thank everyone who participated in the initiative for creating such a successful gathering and for raising so much for those who need it most." Wonderland for a Cause took place in the garden and parking lot of Discovery Mall and all proceeds are donated to Abeer 2 Center, a center specialized in helping families of children with Down Syndrome.



FOCC CALENDAR 2015-16

FOCC (Friends of CRY Club) is proud to announce the calendar for the upcoming events for the year 2015-16. CRYchess: Nov 13, 2015; CRYwalk (Abassiya) Nov 27, 2015; CRYwalk (Mahboula) Dec 18, 2015; CRYwalk (Salmiya) Jan 22, 2016; CRYcket Apr 08, 2016. All the events take place on Friday. Notices and press releases will be issued approximately one month in advance. But don't wait! Get yourselves in gear, right away. For more information and inquiries contact the following numbers - 99364073, 99578073, 66810338, 97990162, 66204295.

WHAT'S ON - SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

All photos submitted for What's On should be minimum 200dpi. Articles must be in plain text and should include name and phone numbers. Articles and photos that fail to meet these requirements will not be published.

Please send them to
news@kuwaittimes.net





- 00:50 Gator Boys
01:45 Call Of The Wildman
02:15 Call Of The Wildman
02:40 Bondi Vet
03:35 Tanked
04:25 Ten Deadliest Snakes
05:15 Gator Boys
06:02 Treehouse Masters
06:49 Gangland Killers
07:36 Call Of The Wildman
08:00 Call Of The Wildman
08:25 Dog Rescuers
09:15 Ten Deadliest Snakes
10:10 Treehouse Masters
11:05 Tanked
12:00 Dog Rescuers
12:55 Bondi Vet
13:50 Bondi Vet
14:45 Ten Deadliest Snakes
15:40 Treehouse Masters
16:35 Tanked
17:30 Gangland Killers
18:25 Austin Stevens: Snakemaster
19:20 Biggest And Baddest
20:15 Tanked
21:10 Shamwari: A Wild Life
21:35 Shamwari: A Wild Life
22:05 Treehouse Masters
23:00 Biggest And Baddest
23:55 Austin Stevens: Snakemaster



- 00:20 Fast N' Loud
01:10 Deadliest Catch
02:00 Outback Truckers
02:50 Manhunt With Joel Lambert
03:40 Auction Hunters
04:05 Garage Gold
04:30 Baggage Battles
05:00 Backyard Oil
05:30 How It's Made
06:00 Alaskan Bush People
06:50 Classic Car Rescue
07:40 Fast N' Loud
08:30 Auction Hunters
08:55 Garage Gold
09:20 Baggage Battles
09:45 Backyard Oil
10:10 How It's Made
10:35 Deadliest Catch
11:25 Outback Truckers
12:15 Manhunt With Joel Lambert
13:05 Auction Hunters
13:30 Garage Gold
13:55 Baggage Battles
14:20 Alaskan Bush People
15:10 Classic Car Rescue
16:00 Fast N' Loud
16:50 Backyard Oil
17:15 How It's Made
17:40 Ed Stafford: Into The Unknown
18:30 Kings Of The Wild
19:20 Dual Survival
20:10 Garage Gold
20:35 Baggage Battles
21:00 Ed Stafford: Into The Unknown
21:50 Boy To Man
22:40 River Monsters
23:30 Classic Car Rescue



- 00:40 Storm Chasers
01:30 You Have Been Warned
02:20 Home Factory
02:45 Home Factory
03:10 NASA's Greatest Missions
04:00 Mythbusters
04:48 NASA's Unexplained Files
05:36 Home Factory
06:00 Home Factory
06:24 NASA's Greatest Missions
07:12 You Have Been Warned
08:00 Storm Chasers
08:50 Food Factory
09:15 Food Factory
09:40 How It's Made
10:05 How It's Made
10:30 NASA's Unexplained Files
11:20 Race To Escape
12:10 NASA's Greatest Missions
13:00 Mythbusters
13:15 How It's Made
14:15 How It's Made
14:40 Food Factory
15:05 Food Factory
15:30 Race To Escape
16:20 NASA's Greatest Missions
17:10 You Have Been Warned
18:00 How It's Made
18:25 How It's Made
18:50 Food Factory
19:15 Food Factory
19:40 You Can't Lick Your Elbow
20:05 You Can't Lick Your Elbow
20:30 What Could Possibly Go Wrong?
21:20 Mythbusters
22:10 NASA's Unexplained Files
23:00 You Can't Lick Your Elbow
23:25 You Can't Lick Your Elbow
23:50 What Could Possibly Go Wrong?



- 11:30 Barefoot Contessa: Back To Basics
12:00 Chopped
13:00 Guy's Big Bite
13:30 Guy's Big Bite
14:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives
14:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives
15:00 Guy's Grocery Games
16:00 Chopped
17:00 The Kitchen
18:00 Jenny And Reza's Fabulous Food Academy
18:30 Trisha's Southern Kitchen
19:00 Chopped
20:00 Guy's Grocery Games
21:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives
21:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives
22:00 Man Finds Food



- 01:05 Harry At 30
02:00 Emmerdale
02:25 Eggheads
02:55 Coronation Street
03:25 Agatha Christie's Partners In Crime
04:20 The Jonathan Ross Show
05:15 Take On The Twisters
06:10 Harry At 30
07:05 Coronation Street
07:30 Agatha Christie's Partners In Crime
08:25 The Jonathan Ross Show
09:20 The Chase: Celebrity Specials
10:15 Harry At 30
11:10 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway
12:20 Hank Zipzer
12:45 Gravity Falls
13:10 Good Luck Charlie
13:35 I Didn't Do It
14:00 Dog With A Blog
14:30 H2O: Just Add Water
14:55 Lollipop
15:20 Austin & Ally
15:45 Girl Meets World
16:10 Violella
17:00 The Next Step
17:25 Make Mermaids
17:50 Girl Meets World
18:15 Dog With A Blog
18:40 Gravity Falls
19:05 H2O: Just Add Water
19:30 Violella
20:20 The Next Step
20:45 Good Luck Charlie
21:10 Good Luck Charlie
21:35 Wizards Of Waverly Place
22:00 Binny And The Ghost
22:25 Sabrina: Secrets Of A Teenage Witch
22:50 Sabrina: Secrets Of A Teenage Witch
23:10 Wolfblood
23:35 Wolfblood



- 04:30 The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon
07:00 Late Night With Seth Meyers
11:00 The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon
17:00 Late Night With Seth Meyers
19:00 Hot In Cleveland
20:00 The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon
22:00 Sex & Drugs & Rock & Roll
23:30 Late Night With Seth Meyers



- 00:00 Salem
01:00 Quantico
02:00 Homeland
06:00 Parenthood
12:00 Emmerdale
12:30 Coronation Street
13:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show
16:00 Emmerdale
16:30 Coronation Street
17:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show
19:00 The Voice
21:00 Blood & Oil
22:00 Downton Abbey
23:00 Tyrant



- 07:00 Emmerdale
07:30 Coronation Street
10:00 Emmerdale
10:30 Coronation Street
12:00 Castle



- 00:00 I Am Legend
02:00 Insidious: Chapter 2
04:00 Rush Hour 2
05:00 Betrayed-
08:00 Gone In Sixty Seconds
10:15 Last Passenger
12:00 Special ID
14:00 I Am Legend
16:00 Getaway
18:00 Rage
20:00 Last Passenger
22:00 The Legend Of Hercules



- 00:00 Insidious: Chapter 2-PG15
02:00 Rush Hour 2-PG15



- 00:00 Bulletproof
01:45 Renaissance Man
04:00 The Nutty Professor (1996)
06:00 Napoleon Dynamite
08:00 Roommates
10:00 The Nutty Professor (1996)
11:45 Renaissance Man
14:00 The Love Punch
16:00 Roommates
18:00 A Valentine's Date
20:00 Delivery Man
22:00 Behaving Badly



- 01:00 Draft Day-PG15
03:00 For Greater Glory-PG15
05:30 Stash House-PG15
07:30 Yellow Rock-PG15
09:00 The Last Days On Mars-PG15
11:00 Stash House-PG15
13:00 Breathless-PG15
15:00 Song For Marion-PG15
17:00 The Last Days On Mars-PG15
19:00 Two Men In Town-PG15
21:00 Devil's Knot-PG15
23:00 Only Lovers Left Alive-18



- 01:30 The Invisible Woman
03:30 The Alamo
06:00 Evita
08:30 A Secret Promise
10:30 The Alamo
13:00 Se Pude... Dirijal
15:00 Half Of Yellow Sun
17:00 A Secret Promise
19:00 We Gotta Get Out Of This Place
21:00 Awakenings
23:00 Cold Creek Manor



- 01:00 Non-Stop-PG15
03:00 Hercules-PG15
04:45 Miss Julie-PG15
07:00 Chef-PG15
09:00 The Signal-PG15
11:00 A Gift Of Miracles-PG15
13:00 Non-Stop-PG15
15:00 Need For Speed-PG15
17:15 The Signal-PG15
19:00 If I Stay-PG15
21:00 Adore-PG15
23:00 Revenge For Jolly-PG15



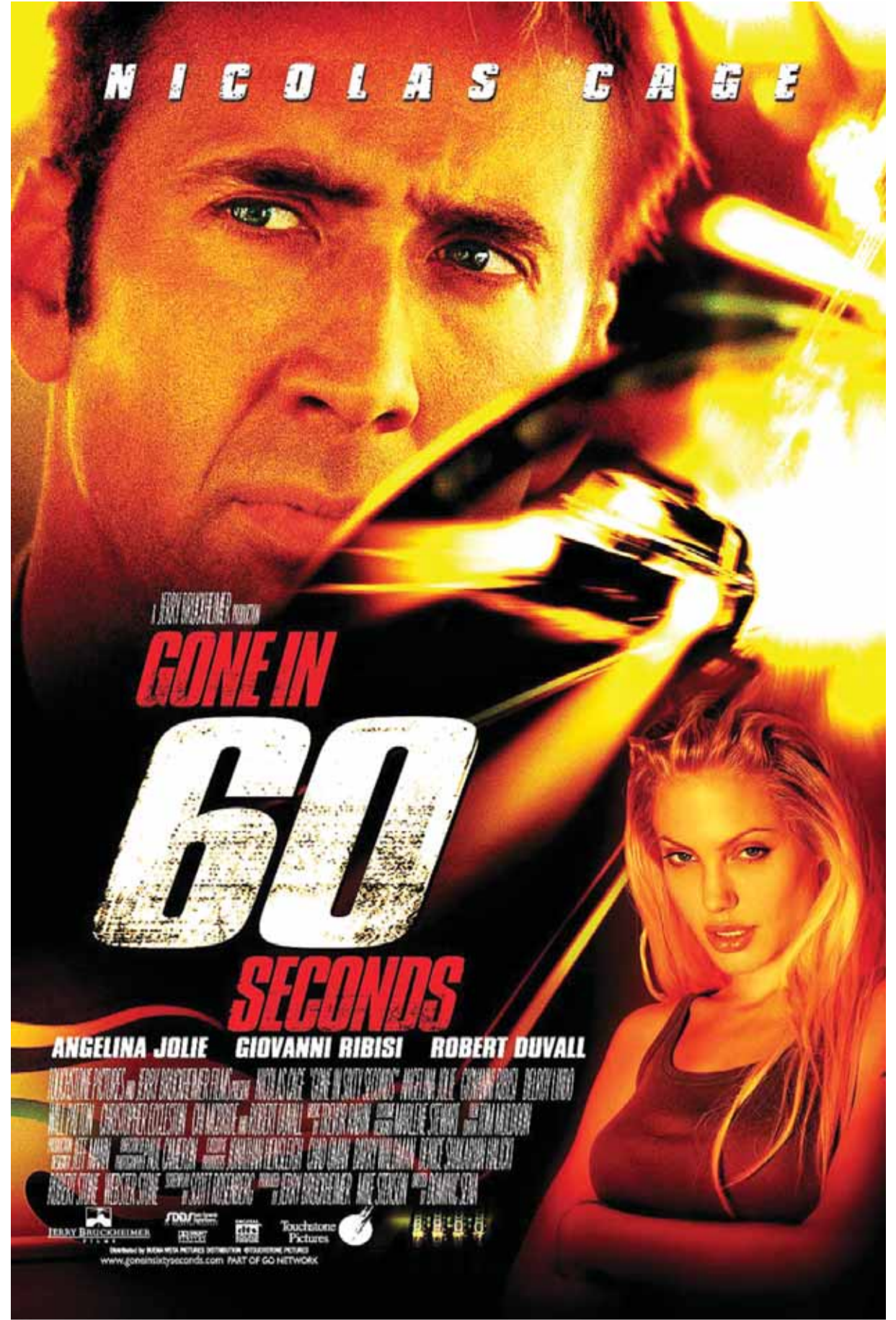
- 01:00 Hammer Boy
02:45 Miffy The Movie
04:30 Marco Macaco
06:00 Scooby-Doo! Frankencreepy
08:00 Egon And Donci
10:00 Worms
11:30 Christmas Is Here Again
13:00 Miffy The Movie
14:30 Hiroku: Defenders Of Gaia
16:00 The Olsen Gang In Deep Trouble
18:00 Worms
20:00 The Elf Who Stole Christmas
22:00 Hiroku: Defenders Of Gaia
23:00 The Olsen Gang In Deep Trouble



- 00:00 Deliverance Creek-PG15
02:00 Lucy-PG15
04:00 Planes: Fire And Rescue-PG
06:00 40 Days And Nights-PG15
08:00 Maleficent-PG
10:00 Recoll-PG15
12:00 Fatal Instinct-PG15
14:00 10 Years-PG15
16:00 Maleficent-PG
17:45 Ender's Game-PG15
19:45 Snowpiercer-PG15
22:00 300: Rise Of An Empire-18



- 03:14 Grojband
03:35 Johnny Test
05:05 Total Drama: All Stars
05:27 Total Drama: All Stars
05:50 Regular Show
06:00 The Amazing World Of Gumball



GONE IN 60 SECONDS ON OSN MOVIES HD ACTION

- 07:00 Uncle Grandpa
07:25 Adventure Time
07:50 Teen Titans Go!
08:35 Ninjago: Masters Of Spinjitzu
09:00 Ben 10 Omniverse
09:45 Regular Show
10:30 Clarence
10:55 Dreamworks Dragons: Riders Of Berk
11:20 Total Drama World Tour
11:40 Total Drama World Tour
12:05 Johnny Test
12:50 New Steven Universe
13:02 Steven Universe
13:15 Uncle Grandpa
13:40 Regular Show
14:25 Adventure Time
15:10 New The Amazing World Of Gumball
15:21 The Amazing World Of Gumball
15:35 The Amazing World Of Gumball
16:00 Ben 10 Omniverse
16:45 Ninjago: Masters Of Spinjitzu
17:10 Ninjago: Masters Of Spinjitzu
17:30 Teen Titans Go!
18:20 Regular Show
19:05 New The Amazing World Of Gumball
19:16 The Amazing World Of Gumball
19:30 The Amazing World Of Gumball
19:51 Adventure Time
20:15 New Steven Universe
20:27 Steven Universe
20:40 Uncle Grandpa
21:00 Teen Titans Go!
21:50 Ben 10 Omniverse
22:40 Adventure Time
00:10 Regular Show
01:40 Total Drama: Revenge Of

- The Island
02:03 Total Drama: Revenge Of The Island
02:26 Total Drama: Revenge Of The Island
02:51 Grojband
03:10 True Crime With Aphrodite Jones
04:00 California Investigator
04:25 California Investigator
04:45 Who On Earth Did I Marry?
05:10 Who On Earth...
05:30 The Haunted
06:20 Forensic Detectives
07:10 True Crime With Aphrodite Jones
08:00 Nightmare Next Door
08:50 On The Case With Paula Zahn
09:40 Fatal Encounters
10:30 Murder Shift
11:20 Forensic Detectives
12:10 True Crime With Aphrodite Jones
13:00 The Will
13:50 I Almost Got Away With It
14:40 California Investigator
15:05 Nightmare Next Door
15:55 Fatal Encounters
16:45 On The Case With Paula Zahn
17:35 Murder Shift
18:25 I Almost Got Away With It
19:15 Forensic Detectives
20:05 True Crime With Aphrodite Jones
20:55 California Investigator
21:20 The Will
22:10 Who On Earth...
22:35 Who On Earth...
23:00 Deadly Affairs
23:50 Deadly Women
00:40 Who On Earth...
01:05 Who On Earth...
01:30 The Haunted
02:20 Ghost Lab

- 12:25 Doc McStuffins
12:55 Loopdidoo
13:10 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse
13:35 Sheriff Callie's Wild West
14:00 Sofia The First
14:30 Henry Hugglemonster
14:45 Calimero
15:00 Doc McStuffins
15:30 Zou
15:45 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse
16:15 Sofia The First
16:45 Jake And The Never Land Pirates
17:10 Aladdin
17:40 Adventures Of The Gummi Bears
18:10 Chip N Dale Rescue Rangers
18:40 Jake And The Never Land Pirates
18:55 Cars Toons
19:00 Miles From Tomorrow
19:30 Sofia The First
19:55 Doc McStuffins
20:15 Jake And The Never Land Pirates
20:45 Sheriff Callie's Wild West
21:05 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse
21:35 Sofia The First
22:00 Aladdin
22:30 Adventures Of The Gummi Bears
23:00 Chip N Dale Rescue Rangers
23:30 Lilo & Stitch
00:00 Nina Needs To Go
00:05 Henry Hugglemonster
00:20 Calimero
00:35 Zou
00:50 Loopdidoo
01:05 Art Attack
01:30 Henry Hugglemonster
01:45 Calimero
02:00 Zou
02:15 Loopdidoo
02:30 Art Attack
02:55 Henry Hugglemonster



- 03:45 Predator CSI
04:40 Animal Fight Club
05:35 The Pack
06:30 Dangerous Encounters
07:25 Predator CSI
08:20 The Incredible Dr. Pol
09:15 Unlikely Animal Friends
10:10 Expedition Wild
11:05 Swamp Men
12:00 Monster Fish
12:55 World's Deadliest Animals
13:50 Dangerous Encounters
14:45 Predator CSI
15:40 The Incredible Dr. Pol
16:35 Unlikely Animal Friends
17:30 Expedition Wild
18:25 Swamp Men
19:20 Predator CSI
20:10 The Incredible Dr. Pol
21:00 Unlikely Animal Friends
21:50 Expedition Wild
22:40 Swamp Men
23:30 Monster Fish
00:20 World's Deadliest Animals
01:10 Dangerous Encounters
02:00 Brutal Killers
02:50 World's Deadliest Killer Three



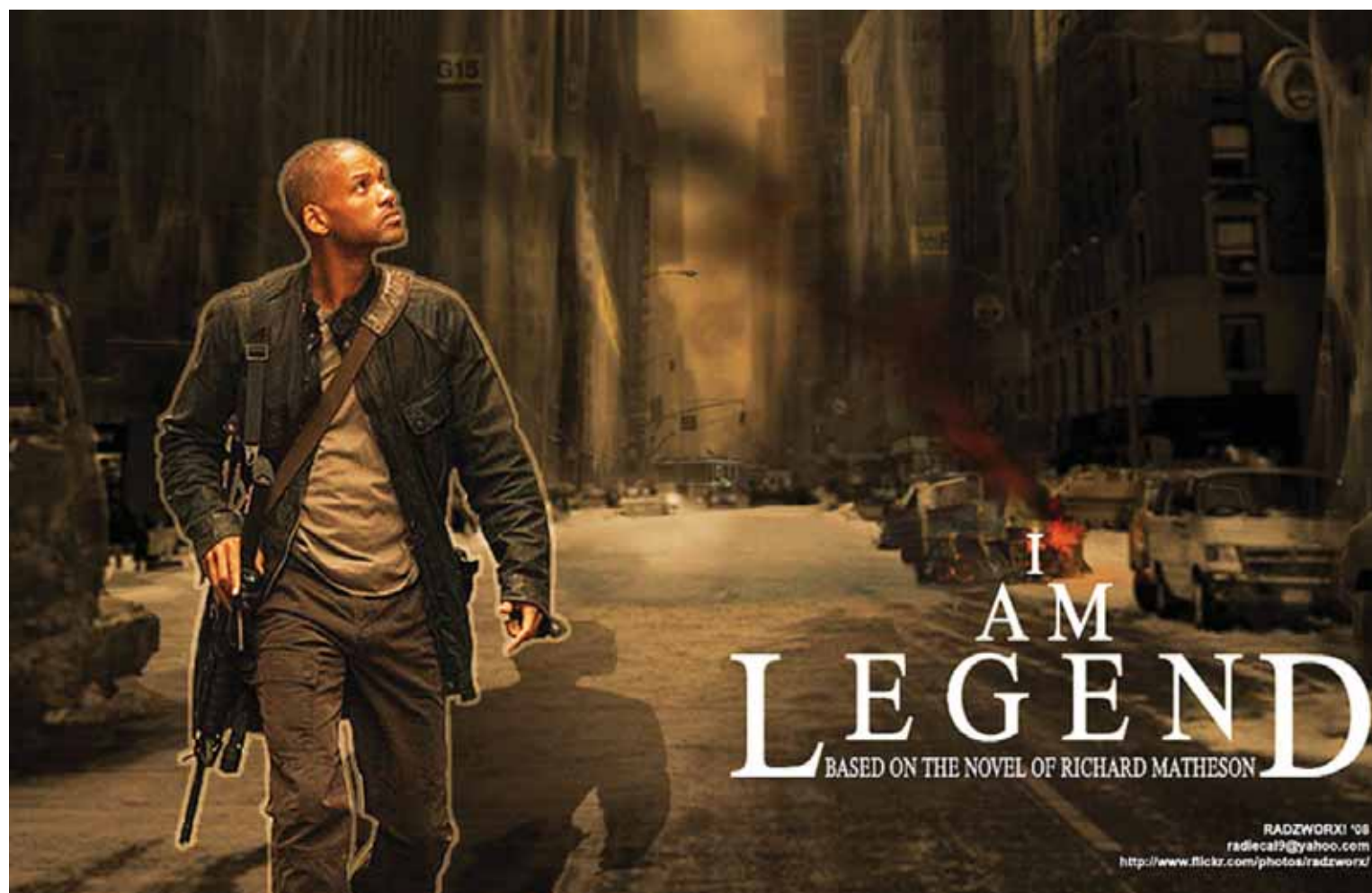
- 03:40 Ultimate Shopper
04:30 Jon & Kate Plus 8
05:00 Little People, Big World
05:30 Cake Boss
06:00 Say Yes To The Dress
06:25 Bakery Boss
07:15 Toddlers & Tiaras
08:05 Perfect Look
08:55 Our Little Family
09:20 Our Little Family
09:45 Jon & Kate Plus 8
10:10 Little People, Big World
10:35 Sister Wives
11:25 Cake Boss
11:50 Perfect Look
12:40 Bakery Boss
13:30 Oprah: Where Are They Now?
14:20 Oprah's Master Class
15:10 Jon & Kate Plus 8
15:35 Little People, Big World
16:00 Toddlers & Tiaras
16:50 Sister Wives
17:40 Cake Boss
18:05 Say Yes To The Dress
18:30 Ultimate Shopper
19:20 Say Yes To The Dress: Randy Knows Best
19:45 Say Yes To The Dress: Randy Knows Best
20:10 Bakery Boss
20:35 Diagnose Me
21:50 My Baby Has Two Heads: Body Bizarre
22:40 Psychic Matchmaker
23:05 90 Days To Wed
23:55 Diagnose Me
00:45 My Baby Has Two Heads: Body Bizarre
01:35 Psychic Matchmaker
02:00 90 Days To Wed
02:50 Sister Wives



- 03:05 Calimero
03:20 Zou
03:30 Loopdidoo
03:45 Art Attack
04:10 Henry Hugglemonster
04:20 Calimero
04:35 Zou
04:45 Loopdidoo
05:00 Art Attack
05:25 Henry Hugglemonster
05:35 Calimero
05:50 Zou
06:00 Loopdidoo
06:15 Art Attack
06:35 Henry Hugglemonster
06:50 Calimero
07:00 Zou
07:20 Loopdidoo
07:35 Art Attack
08:00 Calimero
08:10 Zou
08:25 Limon And Oli
08:35 Jake And The Never Land Pirates
09:05 Sofia The First
09:30 Miles From Tomorrow
10:00 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse
10:30 Doc McStuffins
11:00 Sofia The First
11:30 Jake And The Never Land Pirates
11:55 Miles From Tomorrow



- 07:00 Penn Zero: Part Time Hero
07:25 Supa Strikas
07:50 Supa Strikas
08:15 K.C Undercover
08:40 Lab Rats
09:10 Star vs The Forces Of Evil
09:35 Kirby Buckets
10:00 Annedroids
10:30 Phineas And Ferb
10:55 Rocket Monkeys
11:20 Boyster
11:45 Super Matrak
12:10 Super Matrak
12:40 Mighty Med
13:05 Ultimate Spider-Man
13:30 Supa Strikas
14:00 Kickin' It
14:25 Pokemon: XY
14:50 Phineas And Ferb
15:15 Rocket Monkeys
15:40 Penn Zero: Part Time Hero
16:10 Star vs The Forces Of Evil
16:35 Kirby Buckets
17:00 Mighty Med
17:25 K.C Undercover
17:55 Supa Strikas
18:20 Lab Rats: Bikini Island
18:45 Mighty Med
19:10 Annedroids
19:40 Kickin' It
20:05 K.C Undercover
20:30 Supa Strikas
20:55 Lab Rats
21:25 Kirby Buckets
21:50 Kickin' It
22:15 Mighty Med



I AM LEGEND ON OSN MOVIES ACTION

CLASSIFIEDS

Flight Schedule

Directorate General of Civil Aviation Home Page (www.kuwait-airport.com.kw)

Arrival Flights on Sunday 22/11/2015			Departure Flights on Sunday 22/11/2015		
Airlines	Flt	Route	Airlines	Flt	Route
MSC	405	Sohag	AIC	988	Hyderabad/Chennai
NIA	251	Alexandria	OMA	648	Muscat
JZR	239	Amman	JAD	302	Amman
JZR	267	Beirut	FDB	072	Dubai
JZR	539	Cairo	JAI	573	Mumbai
FDB	069	Dubai	MSC	404	Asyut
RJA	642	Amman	MSC	406	Sohag
THY	772	Istanbul	UAL	981	IAD
MSR	614	Cairo	NIA	152	Cairo
ETH	3402	Addis Ababa/Riyadh	MSR	615	Cairo
DLH	635	Doha	THY	773	Istanbul
ETH	620	Addis Ababa	DLH	635	Frankfurt
PGT	858	Istanbul	ETH	621	Addis Ababa
JZR	555	Alexandria	ETH	3403	Addis Ababa
UAE	853	Dubai	UAE	854	Dubai
GFA	211	Bahrain	PGT	859	Istanbul
OMA	643	Muscat	OMA	644	Muscat
FDB	067	Dubai	FDB	068	Dubai
MSR	612	Cairo	MSR	613	Cairo
CEB	7694	Manila	ETD	306	Abu Dhabi
QTR	1076	Doha	KKK	6508	Istanbul
KKK	6507	Istanbul	QTR	1077	Doha
THY	1464	Istanbul	LMU	511	Cairo
ETD	305	Abu Dhabi	THY	765	Istanbul
KAC	544	Cairo	CEB	7695	Manila
LMU	510	Cairo	JZR	560	Sohag
DHX	170	Bahrain	FDB	070	Dubai
THY	770	Istanbul	THY	1465	Istanbul
THY	764	Istanbul	JZR	164	Dubai
FDB	5061	Dubai	RJA	643	Amman
BAW	157	London	THY	771	Istanbul
QTR	8516	Doha	FDB	5062	Dubai
KAC	412	Manila/Bangkok	GFA	212	Bahrain
QTR	1086	Doha	FDB	054	Dubai
FDB	053	Dubai	QTR	8517	Sialkot/Doha
KAC	302	Mumbai	QTR	1087	Doha
SWA	512	Riyadh	BAW	156	London
KAC	382	Delhi	SWA	513	Riyadh
OMA	641	Muscat	OMA	642	Muscat
KAC	354	BLR	KAC	171	Frankfurt
KAC	352	Kochi	KAC	787	Jeddah
KAC	206	Islamabad	ABY	126	Sharjah
KAC	346	Ahmedabad	UAE	856	Dubai
UAE	855	Dubai	KAC	541	Cairo
KAC	332	Trivandrum	KAC	117	New York
KAC	362	Colombo	KAC	561	Amman
ABY	125	Sharjah	KAC	501	Beirut
KAC	284	Dhaka	KAC	671	Dubai
ETD	301	Abu Dhabi	ETD	302	Abu Dhabi
QTR	1070	Doha	FDB	056	Dubai
FDB	055	Dubai	JZR	482	Istanbul
IRA	665	Shiraz	IRA	664	Shiraz
IRC	528	Ahwaz	KAC	677	Abu Dhabi/Muscat
IRC	6507	Shiraz	QTR	1071	Doha
GFA	213	Bahrain	IRC	529	Ahwaz
UAE	873	Dubai	GFA	214	Bahrain
SYR	341	Damascus	IRC	6508	Shiraz
JZR	165	Dubai	JZR	776	Jeddah
AGY	682	Asyut	SYR	342	Damascus
MEA	404	Beirut	KAC	103	London
SAW	701	Damascus	UAE	874	Dubai
FDB	075	Dubai	AGY	683	Alexandria
JZR	561	Sohag	MEA	405	Beirut
UAE	871	Dubai	KAC	785	Jeddah
MSR	610	Cairo	FDB	076	Dubai
FDB	057	Dubai	JZR	786	Riyadh
QTR	1078	Doha	KAC	792	Madinah
AXB	393	Kozhikode	SAW	702	Damascus
SWA	500	Jeddah	JZR	176	Dubai
KNE	472	Jeddah	MSR	611	Cairo
KAC	672	Dubai	UAE	872	Dubai
KAC	788	Jeddah	KAC	673	Dubai
GFA	221	Bahrain	QTR	1079	Doha
OMA	645	Muscat	FDB	058	Dubai
KAC	562	Amman	AXB	394	Kozhikode
ABY	127	Sharjah	KNE	473	Jeddah
UAE	857	Dubai	SWA	503	Madinah/Jeddah
QTR	1072	Doha	GFA	222	Bahrain
JZR	787	Riyadh	KAC	617	Doha
FDB	051	Dubai	KAC	773	Riyadh
ETD	303	Abu Dhabi	KAC	741	Dammam
KAC	542	Cairo	ABY	128	Sharjah
RJA	640	Amman	OMA	646	Muscat
SWA	510	Riyadh	JZR	266	Beirut
KAC	502	Beirut	ETD	304	Abu Dhabi
GFA	215	Bahrain	JZR	238	Amman
KAC	678	Muscat/Abu Dhabi	FDB	052	Dubai
JZR	777	Jeddah	QTR	1073	Doha
UAE	875	Dubai	UAE	858	Dubai
FDB	063	Dubai	JZR	538	Cairo
KAC	791	Madinah	RJA	641	Amman
UAL	982	IAD	SWA	511	Riyadh
JZR	177	Dubai	GFA	216	Bahrain
KAC	786	Jeddah	JZR	184	Dubai
ABY	123	Sharjah	JZR	124	Bahrain
QTR	1080	Doha	FDB	064	Dubai
KAC	742	Dammam	ABY	124	Sharjah
KAC	774	Riyadh	UAE	876	Dubai
KAC	166	Paris/Rome	UAL	982	Bahrain
GFA	217	Bahrain	GFA	218	Bahrain
KAC	618	Doha	KAC	283	Dhaka
JZR	483	Istanbul	KAC	361	Colombo
KAC	674	Dubai	QTR	1081	Doha
KAC	102	New York/London	KAC	351	Kochi
OMA	647	Muscat	FDB	062	Dubai
FDB	061	Dubai	OMA	648	Muscat
MSR	606	Luxor	MSR	619	Alexandria
FDB	5053	Dubai	DLH	634	Doha
JAI	572	Mumbai	DHX	171	Bahrain
DLH	634	Frankfurt	FDB	5054	Dubai
MEA	402	Beirut	JAI	571	Mumbai
ETD	307	Abu Dhabi	KAC	381	Delhi
ALK	229	Colombo	JZR	502	Luxor
UAE	859	Dubai	ETD	308	Abu Dhabi
GFA	219	Bahrain	KAC	301	Mumbai
QTR	1082	Doha	MEA	403	Beirut
JZR	125	Bahrain	ALK	230	Colombo
KLM	417	Amsterdam	GFA	220	Bahrain
AIC	981	Chennai/Ahmedabad	UAE	860	Dubai
ETD	309	Abu Dhabi	QTR	1083	Doha
FDB	059	Dubai	KLM	417	Dammam/Amsterdam
KAC	172	Frankfurt	KAC	205	Islamabad
JZR	239	Amman	ETD	310	Abu Dhabi
JZR	185	Dubai	FDB	060	Dubai
UAL	981	Bahrain	KAC	411	Bangkok/Manila
PIA	205	Lahore	KAC	415	Kuala Lumpur/Jakarta
FDB	071	Dubai			
JAI	574	Mumbai			

DIAL161 FOR AIRPORT INFORMATION

NEED INDIAN COOKS

- Experience in Burger's Grilling
- Speak English
- Reference needed and past work place
- Transport and accommodation provided
- Good Salary

TEL:

98722132

SITUATION VACANT

Driver needed for Kuwaiti Family, full time. Call: 6062330 (C 5080) 21-11-2015

MATRIMONIAL

Christian Orthodox Parents of specialist Doctor (innocent divorce) invite proposals for their son 35/180 cms, working in London Hospital (UK). Contact: drproposal2015@gmail.com (C 5081)

NRI Orthodox parents invite proposals for their daughter, MSc Nurse, 30/150, born & brought up in Kuwait, Asst. Professor in Bangalore, shortly joining MOH, from parents of professionally qualified, well settled Orthodox boys. Contact: kurien_v@yahoo.com (C 5083) 22-11-2015

CHANGE OF NAME

Farida D/o Ismail, holder of Indian Passport No. J1328035 hereby change my name to Farida Pakawala, 16-Rituvan Collectorate, Paricer Ratlam, Madhya Pradesh. (C 5082) 22-11-2015

Prayer timings

Fajr:	04:54
Shorook:	06:17
Duhr:	11:34
Asr:	14:31
Maghrib:	16:51
Isha:	18:11

REQUIRED

A reputable 4 Star Hotel in Kuwait City is looking for candidates to fill-up the following positions:

- ◆ Sales Manager
- ◆ Sales Executive
- ◆ Front Desk Receptionist (Female)
- ◆ Waitress

All applicants must have hotel experience with transferable visa. Driver's license is required for Sales Manager & Sales Executive positions.

For interested applicants, please send your updated resume to hotelhr15@gmail.com

Required for a Private American School

Teacher Assistants

Fluent in English (Written and Spoken)
 Preferable Nationalities: Filipino, Indian, Pakistani

Interested applicants please send cover letter and resume To: recruitment@abs.edu.kw

Required for a Private American School

Secretary

Must be a Native English Speaker
 Excellent Computer skills

Interested applicants please send cover letter and resume To: recruitment@abs.edu.kw

WANTED

- Pastry Chefs
 - Bakers
 - Baristas
- to work in cafe

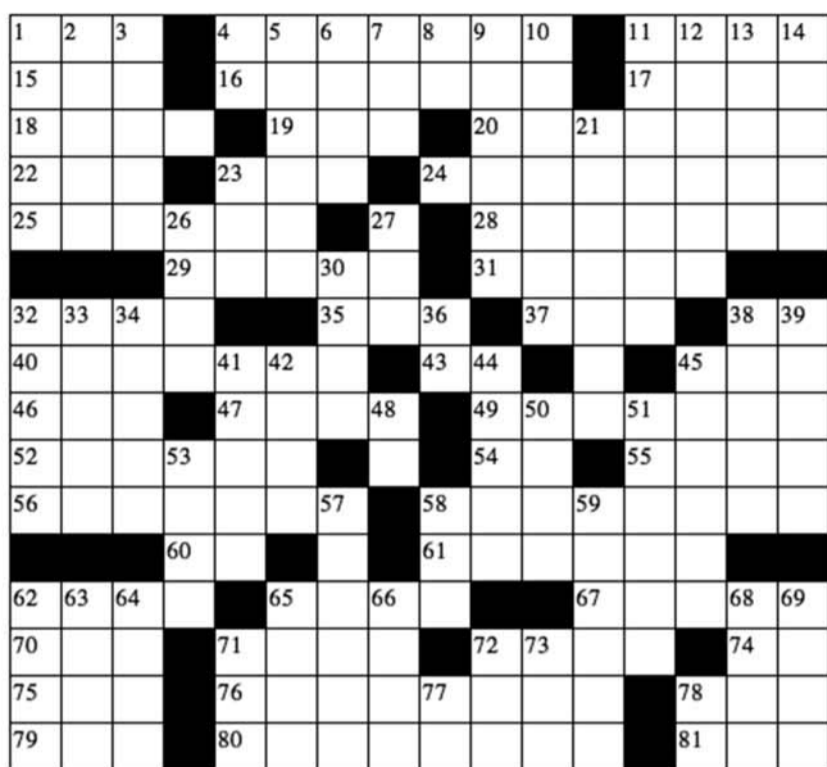
Email: gust1202102003@gust.edu.kw
 Mobile: 966 77 197



KNCC PROGRAMME FROM THURSDAY TO WEDNESDAY (19/11/2015 TO 25/11/2015)

Event	Time	Event	Time	Event	Time
SHARQIA-1 THE FORGOTTEN SPECTRE	12:45 PM	FIELD OF LOST SHOES	5:45 PM	AVENUES-2 PINOCCHIO	12:00 PM
THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY-PART 2	2:45 PM	THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY-PART 2	7:45 PM	PINOCCHIO	2:15 PM
SPECTRE	4:45 PM	FIELD OF LOST SHOES	10:30 PM	PINOCCHIO	4:30 PM
THE FORGOTTEN SPECTRE	7:45 PM			PINOCCHIO	6:45 PM
THE FORGOTTEN SPECTRE	9:45 PM			ATOMIC EDEN	9:00 PM
THE FORGOTTEN SPECTRE	12:45 AM			ATOMIC EDEN	11:15 PM
				ATOMIC EDEN	11:15 AM
SHARQIA-2 THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY-PART 2	1:15 PM	FANAR-2 SPECTRE	11:45 AM	AVENUES-3 THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY-PART 2	1:00 PM
GOOSEBUMPS	1:30 PM	SPECTRE	2:45 PM	THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY-PART 2	4:00 PM
THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY-PART 2	4:00 PM	SPECTRE	5:45 PM	THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY-PART 2	7:00 PM
THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY-PART 2	6:45 PM	SPECTRE	8:45 PM	SAT+SUN+TUE+WED	
THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY-PART 2	9:30 PM	SPECTRE	11:45 PM	AMAR AKBAR ANTHONY-Malayalam	7:00 PM
THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY-PART 2	12:15 AM			THU-FRI-MON	
				THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY-PART 2	10:00 PM
SHARQIA-3 THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY-PART 2	11:30 AM	MARINA-1 FIELD OF LOST SHOES	12:45 PM	FIELD OF LOST SHOES	1:00 AM
PREM RATAN DHAN PAYO	2:15 PM	THE FORGOTTEN	2:45 PM	THE FORGOTTEN	10:15 PM
PREM RATAN DHAN PAYO	5:30 PM	FIELD OF LOST SHOES	4:45 PM	THE FORGOTTEN	12:30 AM
PREM RATAN DHAN PAYO	8:45 PM	PINOCCHIO	6:45 PM		
SPECTRE	12:05 AM	THE FORGOTTEN	8:45 PM		
		FIELD OF LOST SHOES	10:45 PM		
MUHALAB-1 FIELD OF LOST SHOES	11:30 AM	THE FORGOTTEN	12:45 AM		
THE FORGOTTEN	1:30 PM				
FIELD OF LOST SHOES	3:30 PM				
THE FORGOTTEN	5:30 PM				
SPECTRE	7:30 PM				
THE FORGOTTEN	10:30 PM				
FIELD OF LOST SHOES	12:30 AM				
MUHALAB-2 FIELD OF LOST SHOES	11:45 AM	MARINA-2 SPECTRE	12:30 PM	360° 1 FIELD OF LOST SHOES	11:45 AM
SPECTRE	1:45 PM	SPECTRE	3:30 PM	SPECTRE	2:00 PM
PREM RATAN DHAN PAYO	4:45 PM	SPECTRE	6:30 PM	SPECTRE	5:00 PM
PREM RATAN DHAN PAYO	8:00 PM	SPECTRE	9:30 PM	SPECTRE	8:00 PM
SPECTRE	11:30 PM	SPECTRE	12:30 AM	SPECTRE	11:00 PM
MUHALAB-3 THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY-PART 2	12:45 PM	MARINA-3 THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY-PART 2	1:00 PM	360° 2 TIGER HOUSE	12:45 PM
THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY-PART 2	3:30 PM	THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY-PART 2	3:45 PM	TIGER HOUSE	2:45 PM
THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY-PART 2	6:15 PM	THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY-PART 2	6:30 PM	TIGER HOUSE	4:45 PM
THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY-PART 2	9:00 PM	THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY-PART 2	9:15 PM	TIGER HOUSE	6:45 PM
THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY-PART 2	11:45 PM	THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY-PART 2	12:05 AM	TIGER HOUSE	8:45 PM
				ARBAA KOTCHINA	10:45 PM
				TIGER HOUSE	12:45 AM
FANAR-1 FIELD OF LOST SHOES	11:45 AM				
FIELD OF LOST SHOES	1:45 PM				
FIELD OF LOST SHOES	3:45 PM				

CROSSWORD 1087



ACROSS

1. An honorary degree in science.
4. 1 species.
11. A piece of information about circumstances that exist or events that have occurred.
15. The 21st letter of the Greek alphabet.
16. Mail sent by a sender at one time.
17. Title for a civil or military leader (especially in Turkey).
18. A British peer ranking below a Marquess and above a Viscount.
20. Genus of mainly American more-or-less succulent herbs.
22. A constellation in the southern hemisphere near Telescopium and Norma.
24. Arrange in a series of rings or chains, as for spores.
25. A member of a Caddo people formerly living in north central Texas.
28. Noisy talk.
29. Wild sheep of northern Africa.
31. A heading that names a statute or legislative bill.
32. Any of a number of fishes of the family Carangidae.
35. A compartment in front of a motor vehicle where driver sits.
37. Lacking self-confidence.
40. A member of the majority people of Punjab in northwestern India.
43. A radioactive element of the actinide series.
46. The universal time coordinated when an event is received on Earth.
47. An informal term for a father.
49. A holder attached to the gunwale of a boat that holds the oar in place and acts as a fulcrum for rowing.
52. Of or relating the leg from the knee to the foot.
54. A hemoprotein composed of globin and heme that gives red blood cells their characteristic color.
55. Type genus of the Alcidae comprising solely the razorbill.
56. English writer (1840-1893).
60. A white metallic element that burns with a brilliant light.
61. According with custom or propriety.
62. An accidental hole that allows something (fluid or light etc.) to enter or escape.
67. The capital city of Vietnam.
70. A white linen liturgical vestment with sleeves.
74. Unknown god.
75. (British) A waterproof raincoat made of rubberized fabric.
76. A horizontal bar that goes across something.
79. The part of the nervous system of vertebrates that controls involuntary actions of the smooth muscles and heart and glands.
80. A great raja.
81. The cry made by sheep.

DOWN

1. Express in speech.
2. An African river that flows northwest into Lake Chad.
3. English theoretical physicist who applied relativity theory to quantum mechanics and predicted the existence of antimatter and the positron (1902-1984).
4. Before noon.
5. Large tropical butterfly with degenerate forelegs and an unpleasant taste.
6. Being three more than fifty.
7. (Norse mythology) One of the Aesir known for his beauty and skill with bow and skis.
8. Destruction of heart tissue resulting from obstruction of the blood supply to the heart muscle.
9. Constituting the undiminished entirety.
10. Kauri pine.
11. To a faint degree or weakly perceived.
12. Related on the father's side.
13. Rescue equipment consisting of a device that fills with air and retards your fall.
14. An animal trainer who tames wild animals.
21. An animal skin made smooth and flexible by removing the hair and then tanning.
23. The 19th letter of the Greek alphabet.
26. A pilgrimage to Mecca.
27. A federal agency established to regulate the release of new foods and health-related products.
30. Harsh or corrosive in tone.
33. The act of carrying something v 1.
34. (Babylonian) Consort of Anu.
36. A soft silvery metallic element of the alkali earth group.
38. Joint capital (with Riyadh) of Saudi Arabia.
39. Large dark brown North American arboreal carnivorous mammal.
41. A city in southern Turkey on the Seyhan River.
42. With no effort to conceal.
44. Fatty pinkish flesh of small salmon caught in the Pacific and Great Lakes.
45. The second wife of Henry VIII of England and mother of Elizabeth I.
48. A public promotion of some product or service.
50. Make amends for.
51. 1 species.
53. A lump of hard consolidated mineral matter.
57. The second great battle of the American Civil War (1862).
58. The compass point midway between south and southeast.
59. A member of the Semitic speaking people of northern Ethiopia.
63. A feeling of strong eagerness (usually in favor of a person or cause).
64. The elementary stages of any subject (usually plural).
65. A genus of Mustelidae.
66. Large genus of erect or climbing prickly shrubs including roses.
68. Long green edible beaked pods of the okra plant.
69. The United Nations agency concerned with atomic energy.
71. The smallest multiple that is exactly divisible by every member of a set of numbers.
72. A loose sleeveless outer garment made from aba cloth.
73. A pilgrimage to Mecca.
77. A soft silver-white or yellowish metallic element of the alkali metal group.
78. The blood group whose red cells carry both the A and B antigens.

Yesterday's Solution



STAR TRACK



Aries (March 21-April 19)

You might believe you can accomplish anything you choose today, but you must be careful that you do not overstate your case or overstep your boundaries. Nevertheless, even if you promise more than you can deliver, your over-commitment could be good news in disguise. This is your chance to catalyze change by getting the truth out into the open. Ambition is the first step to success; the second step is action.



Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Your charm can lead to plenty of trouble today, especially in the realm of partnerships. The truth is you may be actively seeking trouble just to rattle someone's cage. But keep in mind that your common sense is wildly distorted now, so don't jump into a commitment before you think it through completely. Tiptoe carefully around any potential emotional traps such as guilt or jealousy. Like quicksand, it's easier to get into a murky situation than to get out of it.



Gemini (May 21-June 20)

It seems as if you're living in a different world now that the Sun is shining in your 7th House of Relationships. Everything has changed but strangely, it's all the same. Your point of view is shifting because you can see your current circumstances from someone else's perspective. But you're still confused about your various options. You are accelerating through a star gate and will emerge in some distant galaxy soon enough. Make good choices today so you have no regrets tomorrow.



Cancer (June 21-July 22)

Your passions are more manageable today since you can envision new possibilities ahead of you. Although you are aware of your feelings, you might not know the best way to deal with the intensity. You may wonder how to share your emotions without scaring away the very same people you want to attract. Rather than worrying about divulging too much, just let your own judgment guide you as to what should and should not be revealed. Ultimately, it's not what you say; it's how you say it.



Leo (July 23-August 22)

Although you appear ready to roll with the incoming waves of revolution, you may feel more stuck than anyone realizes. Your resistance is growing now, so your irrational opinions are not up for negotiation. You know what's in your heart and that's the end of the story. Nevertheless, your willingness to discuss the origins of your emotions can transform a challenging interaction into a positive experience. When you change the way you look at things, the things you look at change.



Virgo (August 23-September 22)

A fresh breeze is blowing through the caverns of your mind, lifting your thoughts as they ride the winds of change. However, you may be confronted with a problem as your awareness shifts, for you don't necessarily want to leave all of your prior concerns behind. Your newly acquired optimism won't substantially alter the nature of the conflict you now face. Accept your new attitude with gratitude, but don't run away from your past.



Libra (September 23-October 22)

You are attempting to cultivate a more detached relationship with someone now, so that you can remain on the sidelines of an unpleasant situation. It's wise not to get caught up in a battle that isn't yours. However, if another person questions your values, defend your beliefs without blowing everything out of proportion. If you temporarily lose perspective, you'll attract additional problems. Nevertheless, you can't change what you refuse to confront. Delivering a rational message is your safest bet for a drama-free response.



Scorpio (October 23-November 21)

It might seem as if an era is coming to an end and you nostalgically long for whatever you are leaving behind. Although the Sun is emphasizing your 2nd House of Possessions, it's not necessarily about anything material. In true Scorpio style, you may try to control time itself as it continues to march forward. As much as you attempt to hold onto the present moment, it isn't yours to keep. Take the changes in stride by focusing on one step at a time as you head into your future. Fortune favors the bold.



Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)

The rowdy Sagittarius party is just getting started, but the mood could suddenly turn serious later today. Thankfully, the heaviness should quickly pass if you already paid your dues. Practice wishcraft; this is your time to celebrate while the Sun shines in your sign for the next four weeks. There's no need to only blow out candles on your birthday. Do it often, but don't ask for more than your fair share. If you can keep your desires in check, the power of manifestation is yours.



Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

You are seriously considering a variety of strategies that would allow you to go into hiding today. However, reality has something completely different in mind for you. There's just too much activity for you to sneak off into a cave without being missed right away. But you won't get any peace once your absence is noticed anyway, so you may as well go with the social flow for now. Make plans to retreat later on when you're less in demand and it's safe to escape.



Aquarius (January 20- February 18)

Family and friends are spicing up your calendar, even more than the holiday season would suggest. This is good news, for you are especially eager now to mix and mingle with groups of like-minded people. It's advisable to watch your energy level, for it may be difficult to contain your excitement. However, if you limit your activities just a touch, you will have the endurance you need to go the distance. Spreading joy is its own delightful reward.



Pisces (February 19-March 20)

It's as if a new circuit in your brain is activated now, awakening you from a deep sleep. Instead of struggling to handle your obligations in the real world, you're suddenly looking forward to demonstrating your competence. However, you must be careful about your newfound exhilaration; you can easily overdo it and find yourself too tired to complete whatever you start. Instead of trying to finish everything today, make a strategic plan for the entire week. Establishing a pace you can sustain is your key to success.

WORD SEARCH

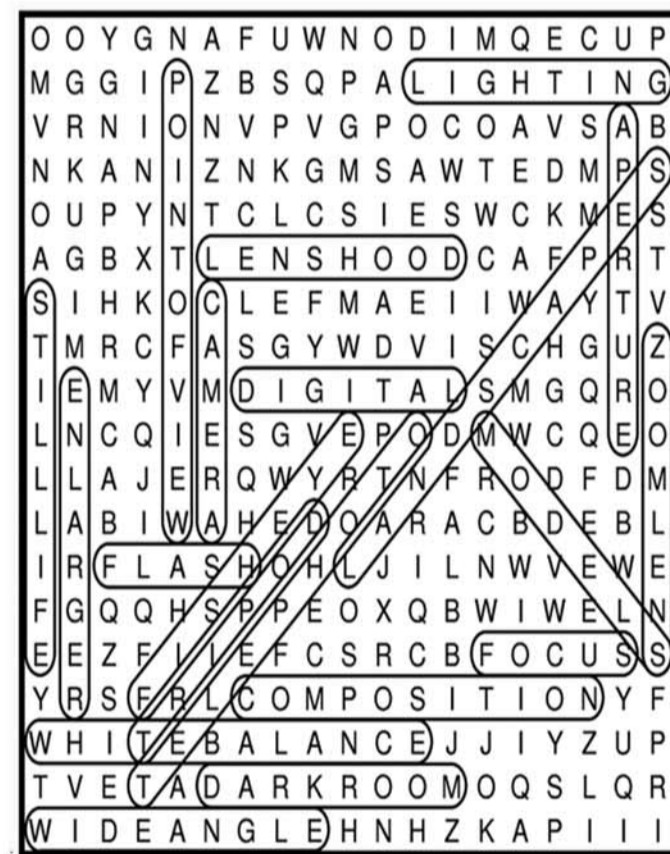
WORLD RELIGIONS WORD SEARCH PUZZLE



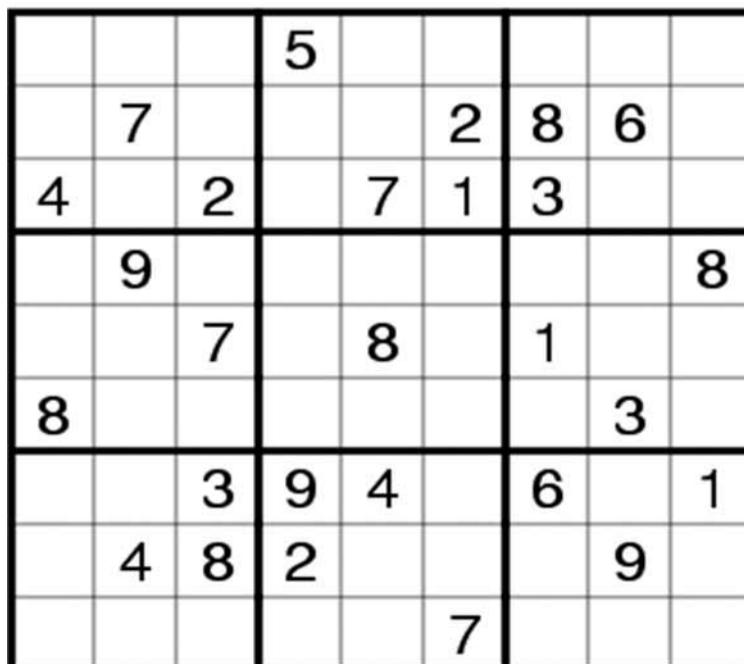
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|--------------|-------------------|-----------|-------------|
| BAHA'I | HOA HAO | MORMON | SIKHISM |
| BUDDHIST | ISLAM | MUSLIM | TAOISM |
| CANDOMBLE | JAINISM | RASTAFARI | TENRIKYO |
| CHRISTIANITY | JEHOVAH'S WITNESS | SANTERIA | UNITARIAN |
| HINDU | JUDAISM | SHINTO | ZOROASTRIAN |

Yesterday Solution

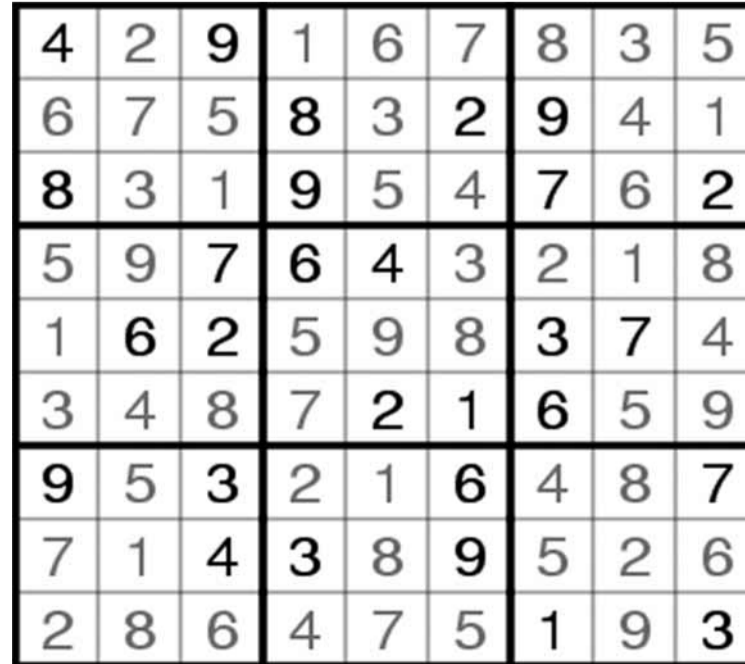
SOLUTION TO PHOTOGRAPHY PUZZLE



Daily SuDoku



Yesterday's Solution



For labor-related inquiries and complaints:
Call MSAL hotline 128

Hospitals

Sabah Hospital	24812000
Amiri Hospital	22450005
Maternity Hospital	24843100
Mubarak Al-Kabir Hospital	25312700
Chest Hospital	24849400
Farwaniya Hospital	24892010
Adan Hospital	23940620
Ibn Sina Hospital	24840300
Al-Razi Hospital	24846000
Physiotherapy Hospital	24874330/9

Clinics

Kaizen center	25716707
Rawda	22517733
Adaliya	22517144
Khalidiya	24848075
Kaifan	24849807
Shamiya	24848913
Shuwaikh	24814507
Abdullah Salem	22549134
Nuzha	22526804
Industrial Shuwaikh	24814764
Qadisiya	22515088
Dasmah	22532265
Bneid Al-Gar	22531908
Shaab	22518752
Qibla	22459381
Ayoun Al-Qibla	22451082
Mirqab	22456536
Sharq	22465401
Salmiya	25746401
Jabriya	25316254
Maidan Hawally	25623444
Bayan	25388462
Mishref	25381200
W Hawally	22630786
Sabah	24810221
Jahra	24770319
New Jahra	24575755
West Jahra	24772608
South Jahra	24775066
North Jahra	24775992
North Jleeb	24311795
Ardhiya	24884079
Firdous	24892674
Omariya	24719048
N Khaitan	24710044
Fintas	23900322



PHARMACIES ON 24 HRS DUTY

GOVERNORATE	PHARMACY	ADDRESS	PHONE
Ahmadi	Sama Safwan Abu Halaifa Danat Al-Sultan	Fahaee Makka St Abu Halaifa-Coastal Rd Mahboula Block 1, Coastal Rd	23915883 23715414 23726558
Jahra	Modern Jahra Madina Munawara	Jahra-Block 3 Lot 1 Jahra-Block 92	24575518 24566622
Capital	Ahlam Khaldiya Coop	Fahad Al-Salem St Khaldiya Coop	22436184 24833967
Farwaniya	New Shifa Ferdous Coop Modern Safwan	Farwaniya Block 40 Ferdous Coop Old Kheitan Block 11	24734000 24881201 24726638
Hawally	Tariq Hana Ikhlas Hawally & Rawdha Ghadeer Kindy Ibn Al-Nafis Mishrif Coop Salwa Coop	Salmiya-Hamad Mubarak St Salmiya-Amman St Hawally-Beirut St Hawally & Rawdha Coop Jabriya-Block 1A Jabriya-Block 3B Salmiya-Hamad Mubarak St Mishrif Coop Salwa Coop	25726265 25647075 22625999 22564549 25340559 25326554 25721264 25380581 25628241

INTERNATIONAL CALLS



Afghanistan	0093	Luxembourg	00352
Albania	00355	Macau	00853
Algeria	00213	Macedonia	00389
Andorra	00376	Madagascar	00261
Angola	00244	Majorca	0034
Anguilla	001264	Malawi	00265
Antigua	001268	Malaysia	0060
Argentina	0054	Maldives	00960
Armenia	00374	Mali	00223
Australia	0061	Malta	00356
Austria	0043	Marshall Islands	00692
Bahamas	001242	Martinique	00596
Bahrain	00973	Mauritania	00222
Bangladesh	00880	Mauritius	00230
Barbados	001246	Mayotte	00269
Belarus	00375	Mexico	0052
Belgium	0032	Micronesia	00691
Belize	00501	Moldova	00373
Benin	00229	Monaco	00377
Bermuda	001441	Mongolia	00976
Bhutan	00975	Montserrat	001664
Bolivia	00591	Morocco	00212
Bosnia	00387	Mozambique	00258
Botswana	00267	Myanmar (Burma)	0095
Brazil	0055	Namibia	00264
Brunei	00673	Nepal	00977
Bulgaria	00359	Netherlands	0031
Burkina	00226	Netherlands Antilles	00599
Burundi	00257	New Caledonia	00687
Cambodia	00855	New Zealand	0064
Cameroon	00237	Nicaragua	00505
Canada	001	Nigar	00227
Cape Verde	00238	Nigeria	00234
Cayman Islands	001345	Niue	00683
Central African	00236	Norfolk Island	00672
Chad	00235	N. Ireland (UK)	0044
Chile	0056	North Korea	00850
China	0086	Norway	0047
Colombia	0057	Oman	00968
Comoros	00269	Pakistan	0092
Congo	00242	Palau	00680
Cook Islands	00682	Panama	00507
Costa Rica	00506	Papua New Guinea	00675
Croatia	00385	Paraguay	00595
Cuba	0053	Peru	0051
Cyprus	00357	Philippines	0063
Cyprus (Northern)	0090392	Poland	0048
Czech Republic	00420	Portugal	00351
Denmark	0045	Puerto Rico	001787
Diego Garcia	00246	Qatar	00974
Djibouti	00253	Romania	0040
Dominica	001767	Russian Federation	007
Dominican Republic	001809	Rwanda	00250
Ecuador	00593	Saint Helena	00290
Egypt	0020	Saint Kitts	001869
El Salvador	00503	Saint Lucia	001758
England (UK)	0044	Saint Pierre	00508
Equatorial Guinea	00240	Saint Vincent	001784
Eritrea	00291	Samoa US	00684
Estonia	00372	Samoa West	00685
Ethiopia	00251	San Marino	00378
Falkland Islands	00500	Sao Tone	00239
Faroe Islands	00298	Saudi Arabia	00966
Fiji	00679	Scotland (UK)	0044
Finland	00358	Senegal	00221
France	0033	Seychelles	00284
French Guiana	00594	Sierra Leone	00232
French Polynesia	00689	Singapore	0065
Gabon	00241	Slovakia	00421
Gambia	00220	Slovenia	00386
Georgia	00995	Solomon Islands	00677
Germany	0049	Somalia	00252
Ghana	00233	South Africa	0027
Gibraltar	00350	South Korea	0082
Greece	0030	Spain	0034
Greenland	00299	Sri Lanka	0094
Grenada	001473	Sudan	00249
Guadeloupe	00590	Suriname	00597
Guam	001671	Swaziland	00268
Guatemala	00502	Sweden	0046
Guinea	00224	Switzerland	0041
Guyana	00592	Syria	00963
Haiti	00509	Serbia	00381
Holland (Netherlands)	0031	Taiwan	00886
Honduras	00504	Tanzania	00255
Hong Kong	00852	Thailand	0066
Hungary	0036	Toga	00228
Ibiza (Spain)	0034	Tonga	00676
Iceland	00354	Tokelau	00690
India	0091	Trinidad	001868
Indian Ocean	00873	Tunisia	00216
Indonesia	0062	Turkey	0090
Iran	0098	Tuvalu	00688
Iraq	00964	Uganda	00256
Ireland	00353	Ukraine	00380
Italy	0039	United Arab Emirates	00976
Ivory Coast	00225	United Kingdom	0044
Jamaica	001876	Uruguay	00598
Japan	0081	USA	001
Jordan	00962	Uzbekistan	00998
Kazakhstan	007	Vanuatu	00678
Kenya	00254	Venezuela	00582
Kiribati	00686	Vietnam	0084
Kuwait	00965	Virgin Islands UK	001284
Kyrgyzstan	00996	Virgin Islands US	001340
Laos	00856	Wales (UK)	0044
Latvia	00371	Yemen	00967
Lebanon	00961	Yugoslavia	00381
Liberia	00231	Zambia	00260
Libya	00218	Zimbabwe	00263
Lithuania	00370		

STATE OF KUWAIT
DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION
METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

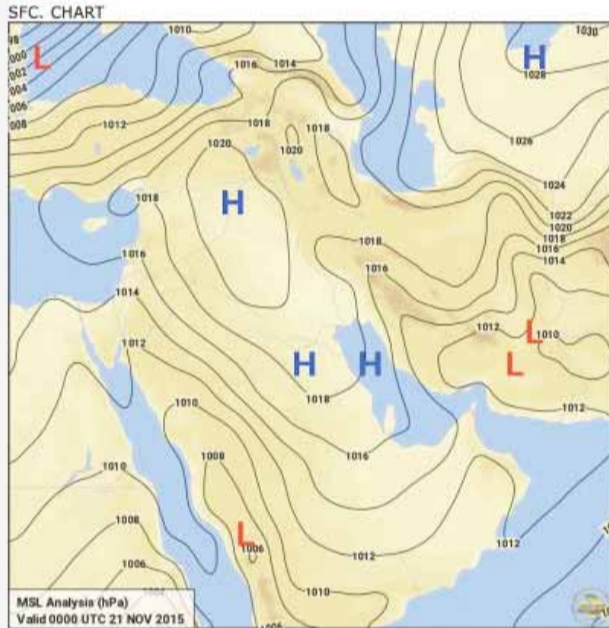


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Fax: (+965) 24348714
www.met.gov.kw

Expected Weather for the Next 24 Hours
Issued 21/11/2015-07:00 LT UTC +3hr

MAX Temperature 24 °C

By Day : Sunny with light to moderate north westerly wind, with speed of 10 - 32 km/h and some high clouds will appear later on
By Night : Clouds will increase gradually with light to moderate north westerly wind, with speed of 08 - 32 km/h



Four-Day Forecast

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Expected Weather	partly cloudy to cloudy + rain might be thuner at times at night	Cloudy + rain might be thuner at times	Cloudy to partly cloudy+rain might be thunder at times	sunny
Min Temp °C	13	14	15	12
Max Temp °C	23	19	20	23
Wind Direction	north westerly to northerly	north westerly to light variable	variable wind changing to light to moderate north westerly	north westerly
Wind Speed km/h	08 - 28	08 - 40	08 - 35	12 - 32

All times are local time (GMT+3) unless otherwise stated

Warnings
NO CURRENT WARNINGS

Kuwait Forecast

Station	MIN °C	REC	Max °C	EXP
KUWAIT CITY	16		25	
KUWAIT AIRPORT	15		24	
ABDALY	11		25	
BUBYAN	14		24	
JAHRA	15		25	
FAILAKA ISLAND	16		23	
SALMIYAH	17		23	
AHMADI	17		23	
JAL ALIYAH	12		24	
QAROH ISLAND	20		22	
UMM AL-MARADEM	20		23	
NUWAISIB	15		25	
WAFRA	13		25	
MANAGISH	12		23	
SALMY	11		23	
MUTRIBA	11		26	

Recorded Yesterday at Kuwait Airport

Max Temp (°C)	24
Min Temp (°C)	11
Max Rel Hum (%)	92
Min Rel Hum (%)	27
Max Wind Speed (km/h) and Direction	32 NW
TOTAL RAINFALL IN 24 HR	0 mm

Sunrise	06:17
Sunset	16:51

Prayer Times

Fajr	04:54
Sunrise	06:17
Zuhr	11:34
Asr	14:31
Sunset	16:51
Isha	18:11



PRIVATE CLINICS

Ophthalmologists	
Dr. Abdallah Al-Mansoor	25622444
Dr. Samy Al-Rabeea	25752222
Dr. Masoma Habeeb	25321171
Dr. Mubarak Al-Ajmy	25739999
Dr. Mohsen Abel	25757700
Dr. Adnan Hasan Alwayl	25732223
Dr. Abdallah Al-Baghly	25732223
Ear, Nose & Throat (ENT)	
Dr. Ahmed Fouad Mouner	24555050 Ext 510
Dr. Abdallah Al-Ali	25644660
Dr. Abd Al-Hameed Al-Taweel	25646478
Dr. Sanad Al-Fathalah	25311996
Dr. Mohammed Al-Daory	25731988
Dr. Ismail Al-Fodary	22620166
Dr. Mahmoud Al-Booz	25651426
General Practitioners	
Dr. Mohammed Y Majidi	24555050 Ext 123
Dr. Yousef Al-Omar	24719312
Dr. Tarek Al-Mikhaezem	25736920
Dr. Kathem Maarafi	25730465
Dr. Abdallah Ahmad Eyadah	25655528
Dr. Nabeel Al-Ayoobi	24577781
Dr. Dina Abdallah Al-Rafea	25333501
Urologists	
Dr. Ali Naser Al-Serfy	22641534
Dr. Fawzi Taher Abul	22639955
Dr. Khaleel Abdallah Al-Awadi	22616660
Dr. Adel Al-Hunayan FRCS (C)	25313120
Dr. Leons Joseph	66703427

Plastic Surgeons	
Dr. Mohammad Al-Khalaf	22547272
Dr. Abdal-Redha Lari	22617700
Dr. Abdel Quttainah	25625030/60
Family Doctor	
Dr Divya Damodar	23729596/23729581
Psychiatrists	
Dr. Esam Al-Ansari	22635047
Dr Eisa M. Al-Balhan	22613623/0
Gynaecologists & Obstetricians	
DrAdrian arbe	23729596/23729581
Dr. Verginia s.Marin	2572-6666 ext 8321
Dr. Fozeya Ali Al-Qatan	22655539
Dr. Majeda Khalefa Aliyami	25343406
Dr. Ahmad Al-Khooly	25739272
Dr. Salem soso	22618787
General Surgeons	
Dr. Amer Zawaz Al-Amer	22610044
Dr. Mohammad Yousef Basher	25327148
Internists, Chest & Heart	
Dr. Adnan Ebil	22639939
Dr. Mousa Khadada	22666300
Dr. Latefa Al-Duweisan	25728004
Dr. Nadem Al-Ghabra	25355515
Dr. Mobarak Aldoub	24726446
Dr Nasser Behbehani	25654300/3

Paediatricians	
Dr. Khaled Hamadi	25665898
Dr. Abd Al-Aziz Al-Rashed	25340300
Dr. Zahra Qabazard	25710444
Dr. Sohail Qamar	22621099
Dr. Snaa Maarouf	25713514
Dr. Pradip Gupare	23713100
Dr. Zacharias Mathew	24334282
Dermatology	
Dr. Mohammed Salam Bern University	23845955
Dentists	
Dr Anil Thomas	3729596/3729581
Dr. Shamah Al-Matar	22641071/2
Dr. Anesah Al-Rasheed	22562226
Dr. Abdallah Al-Amer	22561444
Dr. Faysal Al-Fozan	22619557
Dr. Abdallateef Al-Katrash	22525888
Dr. Abdallah Al-Duweisan	25653755
Dr. Bader Al-Ansari	25620111
Neurologists	
Dr. Sohal Najem Al-Shemeri	25633324
Dr. Jasem Mola Hassan	25345875
Gastrologists	
Dr. Sami Aman	22636464
Dr. Mohammad Al-Shamaly	25322030
Dr. Foad Abdallah Al-Ali	22633135

Endocrinologist	
Dr. Abd Al-Naser Al-Othman	25339330
Dr. Ahmad Al-Ansari	25658888
Dr. Kamal Al-Shomr	25329924
Physiotherapists & VD	
Dr. Deyaa Shehab	25722291
Dr. Mused Faraj Khamees	22666288
Rheumatologists:	
Dr. Adel Al-Awadi	25330060
Dr. Khaled Al-Jarallah	25722290
Internist, Chest & Heart	
DR.Mohammes Akkad	24555050 Ext 210
Dr. Mohammad Zubaid MB, ChB, FRCP, PACC Assistant Professor Of Medicine Head, Division of Cardiology Mubarak Al-Kabeer Hospital	25339667
Consultant Cardiologist	
Dr. Farida Al-Habib MD, PH.D, FACC	2611555-2622555
Inaya German Medical Center	Te: 2575077 Fax: 25723123

Psychologists /Psychotherapists	Soor Center Tel: 2290-1677 Fax: 2290 1688	info@soorcenter.com www.soorcenter.com	Kaizen center 25716707	Noor Clinic 23845955	William Schuilenberg, RPC 2290-1677 Zaina Al Zabin, M.Sc. 2290-1677
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Kate Beckinsale 'secretly' splits from Len Wiseman

The British actress, who married the director in 2004, reportedly secretly separated from him several months ago, but they remain on good terms. A source close to the duo told PEOPLE.com: "They are still friendly and spend time together in LA when Kate is there. There has been no drama. "It's just not Kate's style. They have both had complicated schedules and have grown apart." A spokesperson for the pair, who have both regularly been photographed without their wedding rings in recent months, has yet to comment on reports they are no longer together. Rumors first began swirling the 'Underworld' star's marriage was on the rocks earlier this year, and Len, 42, has been spotted partying with 24-year-old model CJ Franco several times in the past month. Another source said: "[They] have a genuine connection based on a friendship." While the filmmaker appears to have moved on, both he and Kate, 42, are determined to protect her 16-year-old daughter, Lily, with former partner Michael Sheen.



Gwen Stefani had never heard of Shelton before

While the pair have recently started dating after splitting from their respective spouses, Gwen, 46, admitted she had no idea who the 39-year-old country music superstar was. Speaking to chat show host Ellen DeGeneres, she explained: "I didn't even know who [Blake] was. "Before I was on 'The Voice' I never heard of him before. I'm an OC girl! Like, what would I know?" While Gwen wouldn't be drawn on if her boyfriend is a good kisser, she was full of praise for his musical knowledge. Gwen said: "He knows every single Eighties song. He literally is a musical

jukebox. He knows everything about music, it's crazy." Meanwhile, it was recently claimed that Blake has invited Gwen and her sons, Kingston, nine, Zuma, seven, and Apollo, 20 months, to spend Thanksgiving with him in Oklahoma. And they are also considering spending part of the Christmas holidays together, although the No Doubt frontwoman might also spend part of it with her ex Gavin Rossdale, 50, in order to keep things "as normal as possible" for the children.



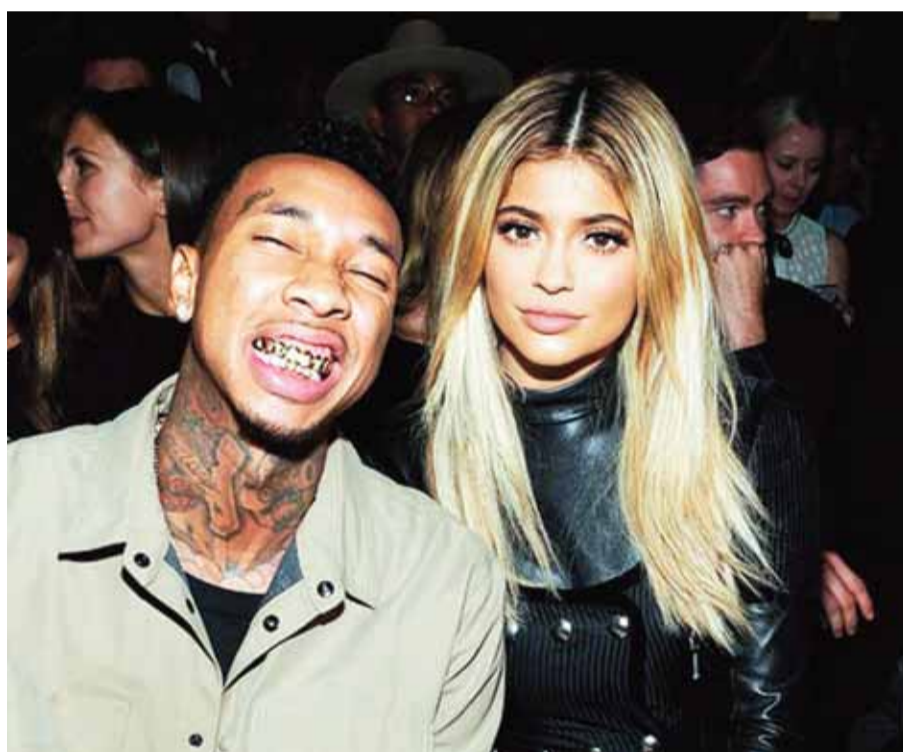
Tyra Banks quits her daytime talk show

The former model, who turned to TV presenting after retiring from the catwalk in 2005, has made the "very difficult decision" to leave the ABC series after just two months at the helm in order to focus on her cosmetics company. In a statement, the 41-year-old star, who co-hosted the show alongside Chrissy Teigen, Leah Ashley, Lauren Makk and Joe Zee, said: "This is a very difficult decision, but necessary. I will be devoting more time to my new, growing cosmetics company, TYRA Beauty, which is expanding faster than anticipated, as well as overseeing

my company's other entertainment ventures. "I will however continue to support the growth and success of 'FABLife', and greatly admire my fellow co-hosts and the talented production team behind the show." But a source told PEOPLE.com: "The show wasn't what Tyra wanted. [She] was disappointed with the direction that the producers were taking. It wasn't right for her. She hopes it will be successful for the other cast members but she has to move on."

Kim Kardashian wants a \$1 m push present

The reality TV star is due to give birth to the couple's second child - a son - next month and revealed she would love a choker similar to the stunning Lorraine Schwartz one she recently wore to the Art + Film Gala in Los Angeles. Writing on her website, Kim explained: "I like the idea of a push present - after nine months of pregnancy it's a sweet and well-deserved thank you. We women go through an entire pregnancy carrying a baby ... of course it only makes sense that we get something amazing to show how amazing we are! LOL! "This pregnancy, I would love a Lorraine Schwartz diamond choker like the ones I've worn before to the LACMA Art + Film Gala. Too much? LOL! (sic)." Kim recently admitted being pregnant is "awful" but said she is thrilled to have finally conceived again, after fertility struggles following the birth of her daughter North, two. She said: "I just don't think pregnancy and me really agree with each other. "You know, it was really hard for me to get pregnant so I do feel really blessed that I am pregnant and, at the end of the day, it is a million times worth it.



Kylie Jenner ends her relationship with Tyga

The 18-year-old reality TV star, who started dating the rapper in August 2014, pulled the plug on their romance on his 26th birthday yesterday after they got into a furious argument upon her return to Los Angeles from a promotional trip to Australia with model sister Kendall Jenner, 20. A source close to the 'Stimulated' hitmaker told gossip website TMZ.com: "It's something Tyga did." The insider also claims the 'Keeping Up with the Kardashians' star abruptly made the decision after coming under "pressure from the Kardashians." Kylie was noticeably absent from Tyga's birthday celebrations in West Hollywood last night. The rapper, who has three-year-old son King Cairo with former fiancé Blac Chyna, 27, was spotted having dinner at The Nice Guy restaurant before partying at 1 OAK with friends such as ASAP Rocky and Wiz Khalifa, Jamie Foxx, Leonardo DiCaprio and Christina Milian.

Kanye, Kardashian's Bel Air mansion up for sale

The couple bought the sprawling home in Los Angeles for \$9 million in 2013 and spent \$2 million on renovations but never moved into the property. Now, TMZ reports, they have decided to list the mansion for more than \$20 million. Despite splurging on the Bel Air property, Kim and Kanye then bought another palatial mansion in Hidden Hills, which they have decided to make their LA base. The duo purchased the house, which features two swim-

ming pools, a vineyard, eight bedrooms and 10 bathrooms, in August 2014 after getting tired of waiting for the extensive renovations on their Bel Air home to be completed. Earlier this year, they also bought a \$2.925 million house next door to the property in case they want to expand their home further in the future. And they are said to be desperate to show off their home in the prestigious Architectural Digest magazine. A source close to the duo said: "Kanye

wants to show off the Hidden Hills mansion now that they've finished renovations. Kanye considers himself to have an eye for interior design and fashion, and wants to show off what he considers some of his greatest work, the mansion. Kanye thinks the house will influence a generation of how young, hip, urban couples with families will want to decorate their residences."





Angelina Jolie getting her 'baby fix' on set

The 40-year-old actress has six children - Maddox, 14, Pax, 11, Zahara, 10, Shiloh, nine, and seven-year-old twins Knox and Vivienne - with husband Brad Pitt but now that they are getting older she is thrilled that her new movie 'First They Killed My Father' requires hundreds of young kids. She told PEOPLE: "I'm surrounded by toys. We have 250 children in a scene, so I filled the house, my car, my trailer with toys. It's my 'I love babies' fix." However, Angelina admitted the project - about the Khmer Rouge Regime in Cambodia - "is going to be the hardest movie" on her maternal side as it features children in labor camps. She explained: "They have to go through a labor camp. They have to cry and scream. My instinct is to want to cut and hug everyone." Meanwhile, it was previously revealed that Angelina has given Maddox his first speaking role in the upcoming Netflix drama. "[Maddox] has been desperate to get into acting. This is a dream come true for him. He's read the book the film's based on and speaks the language - it's a perfect fit." The teenager, who was adopted by the filmmaker from an orphanage in western Cambodia in 2002, had a non-speaking part in 51-year-old Brad's film 'World War Z'.



Khloe is recovering from staph infection

The reality TV star is being treated with intravenous antibiotics after picking up the infection while at the hospital bedside of her estranged husband Lamar Odom and is slowly getting better. Kourtney told E! News: "She's good. She's OK. She's not feeling well, but she's OK." Khloe's illness reportedly sent her mother Kris Jenner "into a panic and left her freaked out" as Kris's father Robert Houghton died of a staph infection that he picked up after a car crash in 1975. Khloe's sister Kim Kardashian West has been ordered not to visit her younger sibling because she is eight months pregnant and doctors have deemed it too dangerous. Meanwhile, Khloe blamed her recent Twitter rant on "antibiotics and painkillers". The 'Keeping Up With The Kardashians' star hit out at critics on social media who said she should choose between her current boyfriend James Harden and estranged husband Lamar Odom but later claimed the medication she is currently taking for her infection had influenced her rant.

Caitlyn Jenner urges people to support the trans community

The 66-year-old reality TV star - who was known as Bruce Jenner before her gender transition - recorded a video message on Thursday in which she encouraged people to accept transgender people into their lives. She said: "Listen to trans people's stories, hire a trans person in your company, support a trans student in your school, love your trans child. Let's all take action to put an end to hate and violence. No one should be killed simply because they are transgender." Caitlyn was joined by transgender advocate Chandii Moore, who also called on people to make the world safer for her community. She said:

"Today, take a moment to learn about the women who lost their lives to hate. Tomorrow, please commit to making the world a safer place for all trans people." Caitlyn's message comes after Rose McGowan blasted her over a joke she made at Glamour's Women of the Year Awards earlier this month. The 42-year-old actress lashed out at the 'I Am Cait' star after she quipped the hardest thing about being a woman was deciding what to wear when she picked up her gong at the event in New York.

Sofia Vergara, Joe Manganiello kick off their wedding weekend

The couple welcomed their loved ones to Florida on Thursday with a cocktail party on a private beach at The Breakers Palm Beach. 350 to 400 people have been invited to the wedding - which will take place today, including Sofia's 'Modern Family' co-stars Jesse Tyler Ferguson and Ariel Winter and a number of Pittsburgh Steelers players. Sofia's 23-year-old son Manolo will reportedly walk his mother down the aisle. Sofia previously said that the pair are pulling out all the stops for their guests. She said: "I want a wedding where the guests are going to have fun...It's about creating memories that you're always going to cherish. That's what's important." The bride will wear a Zuhair Murad gown for the ceremony and a Mark Zunino design for the reception. Sofia has also joked that she has been "beyond" a control freak when it comes to details about the wedding. She said: "I think I am beyond that. I am very detail-oriented so I am kind of like a nightmare. I have a very good memory. If you show me swatches of things, I can in two months exactly remember, 'What happened with the one with the little border that had the little print?' I'm like, really bad."



Seth Meyers and Ashe expect their first child

The late-night chat show host and his lawyer spouse, who tied the knot in a romantic Martha's Vineyard ceremony in 2013, will welcome a baby next year, their rep confirmed to Us Weekly. Seth and Alexi first revealed the news to friends at the American Museum Of Natural History gala on Thursday. A source told PEOPLE: "The couple was sharing the exciting news with friends and cast member at the event. Everyone was coming up and congratulating the couple and giving them hugs. Seth and Alexi were beaming about the news of their baby!" Seth proposed to Alexi in July 2013 after five years of dating and they married just two months later. Their star-studded wedding was attended by his former 'Saturday Night Live' co-star Jason Sudeikis and his fiancée Olivia Wilde; Kristen Wiig, Rose Byrne, Jake Gyllenhaal and his then girlfriend Alyssa Miller; 'Girls' actress Allison Williams and '30 Rock's Jack McBrayer.



Justin Bieber serenaded Selena Gomez in a hotel

The on/off couple were spotted at the Montage Hotel in Beverly Hills where Justin sang songs including 'My Girl' and his own tune 'Sorry' to the former Disney star. Instagram user @eatprayphoto spotted the interaction and posted some videos, captioning one "When you're having a drink at an empty hotel bar and @justinbieber appears out of nowhere and begins to sing on the piano" and writing "@justinbieber singing my girl to @selenagomez....is this real? Pure magic (sic)" alongside another. She also posted a pic-

ture, taken by Selena, 23, of her and some friends with Justin and revealed the bad boy singer couldn't have been nicer. Alongside the picture of a smiling Justin, 21, she wrote: "Photo cred: @selenagomez. He asked to sit at our table to chat, so impressed by the kindness (and realness!) of this guy tonight. Now a #belieber (sic)." Justin and Selena last split up in October 2014 after almost four years of on/off dating but he recently admitted he will always love the singer.



Ellen DeGeneres says Dory role helped her

While the 57-year-old star is now happily married to Portia de Rossi and has a successful daytime talk show, she admitted that after her sitcom 'The Ellen Show' was cancelled in 2002 she struggled to find work. However, being offered the role of Dory proved to be her salvation. She told 'Entertainment Tonight': "I hadn't worked at all. People don't know that, because it took three years to do 'Finding Nemo'. In the time that [The Ellen Show] was cancelled, while I was doing nothing, [writer/director] Andrew Stanton had heard my voice on TV and how rambling I was and how I never stayed on topic,

and he wrote Dory with me in mind. "By the time Nemo was coming out, I had just gotten 'The Ellen DeGeneres Show', but during that time nothing had happened. So [Dory's motto] 'just keep swimming' certainly applies to me and to a lot of people out there." Ellen - who is starring in the sequel 'Finding Dory' - also admitted she was angry that her first sitcom 'Ellen' was cancelled after she revealed her sexuality.





Murgh Anari Tikka



Nalli Meat



Kukkad Tandoori

Oriental brings leading chef Sweety from India to Kuwait



Harjinder Singh

Dining out is a favorite pastime for citizens and residents in Kuwait, and cuisines from all over the world find their place comfortably in the minds and tastes of the people from Kuwait. Oriental is a name that is well-etched in the minds of food-lovers in the country, who make Oriental their first choice when choosing to eat out. Centrally located in Sharq with ample parking space around it, Oriental becomes a preferred dine-out destination for Kuwaitis and non-Kuwaitis alike. Quality and taste of food, superior personalized service, soothing ambience and value for money all together make it a complete package for a great evening out for Indian and Chinese cuisines.

Now Oriental brings leading chef, Harjinder Singh, popularly known as Sweety Singh from India to Kuwait. Sweety Singh has been conducting Punjabi Food Festivals for the last 15 years. With his expertise in cooking for the last 19 years, he has brought unique blends in the Punjabi cuisine. This experience has gained him many awards and accolades. His culinary art emphasizes on Punjabi food which has also been covered in various newspapers, publications, magazines and dailies from time to time.

He was promoted by the corporate chef of India's ITC Group, Chef Manjeet Singh Gill who discovered the cooking talent in him. After tasting his food continuously for a week at his Dhaaba, he offered him to conduct food festivals in ITC Group of Hotels. He has never looked back since. Chef Sweety Singh has been covered by Discovery

Channel for a show named "Rhodes Across India" by Gary Rhodes for dishing out some great Punjabi food recipes. He was also part of a food program called "Feeding Frenzy" for NDTV Good Times and "Khana Khazana" for Zee Network. Chef Sweety Singh has also made Punjabi food for the big corporate tour groups in Sydney, Malaysia, Singapore, Italy, Switzerland, Bali, Dubai, Prague, Venice etc.

When asked about his first visit to Kuwait, Chef Sweety Singh was quite excited about displaying his culinary magic to Punjabi food-lovers in Kuwait. He said that this profession is not just a source of income, but also a source of immense passion and pleasure for him. He cooks from his heart with the intention of touching the hearts of his guests. He further says, that spices to him are like magical instruments with which he crafts thrilling recipes that are bound to produce the desired magic in the palates of everyone that eats his creations. He claims that his uniquely crafted dishes are very much like home-cooked food providing not only delicious dishes but also healthy and balanced.

Think of Punjab and you can imagine its earthy heritage of lush green fields and robust lifestyle. What makes Punjab different from other states in India is its culinary treasure. It is a state synonymous with food. Punjabi food is a lot like Punjabis - rich, robust and full of life. Bold textures and hearty ingredients are what make Punjabi cuisine so popular all across North India. One of the most impressive things about Punjabi food is its variety.

While meat lovers can never have enough of the evergreen Butter Chicken, Bhuna Gosht, Tandoori Chicken and Amritsari Fish, vegetarian fare is equally delightful: Sarson ka Saag, Chole Bhature and Daal Makhni are just a handful of vegetarian Punjabi specialties with fans across the globe.

Chef Sweety Singh is looking forward enthusiastically to serve the best of Punjabi food ever, only at Oriental in Kuwait. He promises to win the hearts of Punjabi food lovers with his rich heritage of scrumptious Punjabi specialties. Chef Sweety Singh will be serving his Punjabi dishes at Oriental in Sharq, Mubarak Al-Kabeer St, Jaaza building, from Nov 18 until 28, 2015; and at their Salmiya restaurant, Hamad Al-Mubarak St from Dec 2 until 12, 2015.

Oriental promises a great ambience, simple yet elegant, with attentive service which is the hallmark of the all Oriental restaurants. A place where you will get good value for money, cherish the dining experience and personalized service, and return again and again to relive the experience with your friends and family! Be there to experience the great Punjabi food, only at Oriental restaurants (Sharq and Salmiya) - you can't afford to miss this unique opportunity! Think about good food, Think about Oriental whether in Sharq or in Salmiya, and relish the best...

Oriental tickles the palate!

Dining out is a favorite pastime for citizens and residents in Kuwait, and cuisines from all over the world find their place comfortably in the minds

and tastes of the people from Kuwait. Oriental is a name that is well-etched in the minds of food-lovers in the country, who make Oriental their first choice when choosing to eat out. Oriental has two restaurants in Kuwait city and Salmiya, both featuring a rich menu of Indian, Chinese and Continental specialties. In Kuwait city, the restaurant is centrally located on main Fahad Al-Salem street close to the JW Marriott hotel, whereas in Salmiya it is on Hamad Al-Mubarak Street, which is the hub of eateries in the district. In addition, Oriental has a number of confectionaries strategically located in various parts of the country.

At the restaurants, take your pick from a wide variety of soups, sizzlers, cocktails, main course dishes and desserts whether from the Indian sub-continent or Chinese variety - all of which have found themselves a favorite of many. Their sizzlers definitely deserve a special mention, as they are unique in their variety and taste, incomparable to any other in the region! The ambience of the restaurants is simple yet elegant, and the presentation of the food is stylish and classy. Attentive service is the hallmark of the all Oriental restaurants. A place where you will get good value for money, cherish the dining experience and personalized service, and return again and again to relive the experience with your friends and family! Be there to experience the great food - it's a tradition in Kuwait.



Cars drive past a billboard with a poster showing Pope Francis in downtown Nairobi. — AFP

'Popemania' hits East Africa, with mouse pads, key rings

A week before Pope Francis lands in Uganda on the second leg of his Africa tour, the country's Catholics and souvenir-sellers alike are getting excited. As "Popemania" builds, images of the pontiff are giving the ubiquitous pictures of strongman President Yoweri Museveni a run for their money in the capital Kampala. On the glass shelves of Jude Color Solutions-a self-declared "one stop centre for promotional items"-four dollar (four euro) computer mouse pads with the pope's picture sit side-by-side with the usual bestseller bearing the presidential portrait.

"I'm very excited," said Catholic shop manager Bernard Ssenyondo, 32, when asked about the papal visit from November 27 to 29. Francis will be the second pope Ssenyondo has seen, after John Paul II's visit in 1993, "when I was in primary school". In pride of place on a high shelf sits Ssenyondo's prized possession: a trophy for "The Best Branding, Printing and Promotional Items Exhibitor in Uganda". And next to it, a Pope Francis vase. Only one of these items is for sale.



A street artist works on a painting of Pope Francis in Nairobi. Pope Francis will visit Kenya, Uganda and the Central African Republic from November 25 to November 30, 2015.

Mass excitement

"We are earning money from this!" said Ssenyondo, whose company began printing thousands of key rings, mugs, T-shirts and other souvenirs earlier this month, after being chosen as official trinket supplier by the local Catholic Church. "I get international exposure, and our tourism industry is going to earn more," he predicted. Uganda is the second of three African countries the pontiff will visit, after spending two days in neighboring Kenya.

Kenya too is busy preparing for the visit, cleaning the streets and trimming trees, with giant billboards erected to welcome the pope. Bishop Alfred Rotich, who is heading the church's preparations in Kenya, has said they are planning for a tenth of all Kenyan Catholics to see the pope around a million people. After two days in Uganda, he will travel to Central African Republic, where his trip will end on November 30, according to a Vatican itinerary.



A street artist displays his paintings of Pope Francis in Nairobi. — AFP photos

Security concerns

The three countries-which have significant Catholic communities-have been troubled by civil conflicts and violence, leading to increased security concerns surrounding the pope's visit. Both Kenya and Ugandan troops are fighting the Al-Qaeda linked Shebab insurgents in Somalia, and the Islamists have carried out a string of attacks in revenge. Those include the 2010 Kampala bombings in which 76 people died, and in Kenya, an April massacre at Garissa university in which 148 people were killed, and a 2013 assault on Nairobi's Westgate shopping mall that killed 67.

Acting president of the Central African Republic Catherine Samba Panza has said she hopes the pope will go ahead with his visit to the conflict-hit country this month despite security concerns. In Uganda, around two-fifths of people are Catholic. "Pope Francis is down to earth," said John Paul Guminkiriza, 25, among many Ugandans named after John Paul II, following that previous pope's visit. Guminkiriza's family is staunchly Catholic and he has six nuns for aunts. His mother took him to wave at God's representative on earth back in 1993 but, being only three years old, "I don't have a lot of memories about that visit," he said.

Guminkiriza plans to rectify that by going to the Namugongo martyrs' shrine to hear a lecture from the pope, and hopes he might even have the chance to meet him. "I am so grateful and happy for his visit, Uganda is really blessed," said Guminkiriza. The chairperson of Catholic organization, the Uganda Episcopal Conference, Archbishop John Baptist Odama, said preparations-including road improvements, better street lighting, a massive security presence and tourism marketing-were "going well". Odama said the pope's message for Uganda to "keep on living in peace" would help many to "keep their faith" and make Catholicism in Uganda "stronger". — AFP

Review

Adele's '25' lives up to all of its expectations

Can Adele even sing a B-level song? Every track on her highly anticipated "25" sounds grand, from the piano tune "Remedy" to "Water Under the Bridge," which is layered and full of echoes and sounds as if it was created just to be performed live. And even when the singer collaborates with producers who at times sound formulaic and radio friendly, she brings them to new levels. Max Martin, who has created pop anthems for Katy Perry, Britney Spears and Taylor Swift, sounds unrecognizable on "Send My Love (To Your New Lover)," which has Adele on guitar.

Bruno Mars and his producer cohorts, Philip Lawrence and Christopher Brody Brown, work more than magic on the R&B-flavored "All I Ask," another piano tune that immediately grabs your attention. And that's just it: "25" not only meets incredibly high expectations, it exceeds them. Adele's growth is best heard on "Million Years Ago," a touching, soft song that is majestic and unforgettable. "Sometimes I just feel it's only me, who never became who they thought they'd be, I wish I could live a little more, look up to the sky, not just the floor," she sings in her top-notch tone.

The 11-track album is not a far stretch from "21," the singer's best-selling 2011 album that helped her reach nearly impossible heights in contemporary music. "Love In the Dark," written with Sia collaborator Samuel Dixon, is reminiscent of "Turning Tables" from "21"; she's looking back on "When We Were Young," which sounds like a pop classic; and the drum-filled "I Miss

You" is eerie and moody - in a good way. Even the top-selling single, "Hello," continues to sound better and better after each listen. "Hello, can you hear me?" she sings. Yes, Adele. And we're so glad we do. — AP



Singer Clementine dedicates Mercury Prize to Paris

Benjamin Clementine, the experimental singer and poet with deep roots in Paris, on Friday won Britain's Mercury Prize and dedicated the award to the attack-stricken city. The 26-year-old, who was born in London but spent years in the French capital as a street musician, beat out veteran artists with his debut album "At Least For Now." Clementine offered his award to Paris, which a week earlier was hit by coordinated attacks that killed 130 people, but broke down in tears as he spoke.

"I know this is about music, but I dedicate it to what happened about four or five days ago in Paris," he said in a quiet voice as he expressed surprise at winning. The Mercury Prize, which has often served as a critical boost for up-and-coming artists, is awarded each year by the music industry to the album judged to be the best in Britain or Ireland. Clementine won over 11 other nominees who included Florence and the Machine, the theatrical but introspective rockers who have

become coveted festival headliners, and the innovative electronic composer Aphex Twin.

Clementine is known for his powerful, high-pitched voice and highly poetic lyrics, with a crowd-rousing delivery that has brought comparisons to Nina Simone. The singer moved at age 19 to Paris, where he would play, and often sleep, on the streets and gradually developed a performance style that defies traditional song structure. Ahead of the award ceremony, Clementine told the BBC that he had traveled to Paris the day after the attacks to commiserate. "Sometimes when someone passes away, and they're not part of your family, you send your condolences. But if they're part of the family, who do you send your condolences to?" he asked. "That's how I felt-like a part of my family had been stolen from me." — AFP

California State University revokes Bill Cosby degree

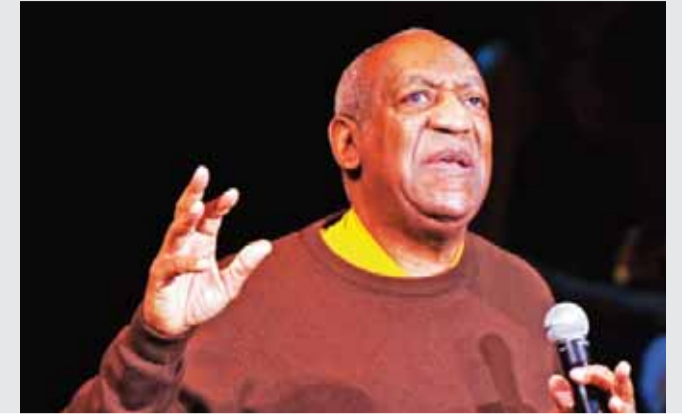
A California university on Friday joined a growing number of schools in stripping disgraced US comedian Bill Cosby of his honorary degree over the sex scandal engulfing him. "Cosby's conduct is contrary to the values of the California State University and inconsistent with the criteria and high standards that honorary degree recipients are expected to exemplify," the university said in a statement. "The CSU has been awarding honorary doctorate degrees since 1963, and this is the first time in 52 years

that the Board of Trustees has voted to rescind a degree."

It said the board voted on the measure Wednesday. Cosby, once one of America's most beloved actors, has seen his reputation destroyed as some 50 women have come forward to accuse him of sexual assault. Last week, two other universities—Drexel in Philadelphia and Bryant in Rhode Island—rescinded honorary degrees awarded to Cosby. CSU said it had decided to follow suit in order to uphold the institu-

tion's high standards and reputation. "The board took action to revoke the previously awarded honorary degree in order to maintain the prestige, reputation and credibility of the CSU," it said. — AFP

In this file photo, Comedian Bill Cosby performs onstage during 'A Celebration of Paul Newman's Hole in the Wall Camps' at Avery Fisher Hall, Lincoln Center in New York. — AFP



Justin Bieber performs on NBC's 'Today' show at Rockefeller Plaza on Wednesday, Nov 18, 2015 in New York. — AP

Justin Bieber's album smashes Spotify record

Justin Bieber's new album has smashed the record for first week streaming on Spotify, the online music site said Friday. "Purpose," the Canadian pop star's first album in three years, was streamed 205 million times since its release a week earlier, with 77 million of the streams in the United States. The figure was far above the previous first-week record set three months ago by another Canadian, the R&B singer The Weeknd.

Spotify announced the record the same day that English singer Adele released her hotly

anticipated "25," which the music industry expects to be the best-selling album in years. But amid high confidence in sales, Adele's label did not make "25" available on streaming services, which provide unlimited on-demand music. Streaming companies, led by Swedish site Spotify, have rapidly grown in size in recent years, although some artists have voiced concern at their level of compensation.

Bieber released "Purpose," on which the often-troubled 21-year-old reflects on life in the public eye, the same day that British boy band

One Direction—whose fan base is seen as overlapping with Bieber's—put out its own album "Made in the AM." Spotify said that "Made in the AM" also beat The Weeknd's previous record but did not match Bieber. Billboard, the pre-eminent US sales chart, also expects Bieber's "Purpose" to debut at number one and surpass "Made in the AM," which One Direction has said will be its last before a hiatus. — AFP

Hou targets Golden Horse as stars gather

Some of the biggest stars in Asian cinema gathered in Taipei today for this year's Golden Horse film awards, with Taiwanese director Hou Hsiao-hsien shooting for more glory after triumphing at Cannes. Taiwanese film-maker Ang Lee, Japanese actor Satoshi Tsumabuki and Korean actress Ha Ji-won were among the celebrities to grace the red carpet at the awards, dubbed the Chinese-language "Oscars". Hundreds of excited and screaming fans braved the rain to see their idols arrive at the Sun Yat-sen Memorial Hall in downtown Taipei yesterday evening.

This year's awards list is dominated by Taiwan, with around 40 percent of nominations, one of the best homegrown showings in recent years when Hong Kong and China have outshone Taiwanese competitors. Arriving at the event, Taiwanese film director Chen Kuofu, who is also the chair of this year's Golden Horse awards jury, said the country's film industry had experienced ups and downs in recent years but that he was "especially happy and excited this year". Hou's "The Assassin" leads the field with 11 nominations for the awards.

The movie's nominations include best film, best director, best leading actress, best adapted screenplay and best cinematography. Set in ninth-century China, "The Assassin" is a slow-burning minimalist movie with Taiwanese megastar Shu Qi playing a highly trained female assassin sent back to her home province to kill its governor, who is also the man she loves. "I'm really glad director Hou gave this opportunity to challenge myself," Shu Qi said. Hou won the best director gong for the film at Cannes in May and has since said he is hoping the movie will garner an Oscar.

Also up for best film are "Thanatos, Drunk" from Taiwanese director Chang Tso-chi a drama about two sons of an alcoholic mother and their dysfunctional lives; Hong Kong director Philip Yung's crime thriller "Port of Call"; black-and-white movie "Tharlo," the tale of a shepherd by Tibetan director Pema Tsenden; and "Mountains May Depart," a family saga from Chinese director Jia Zhang-ke. Film critics have praised the strong field, but Hou is favorite to win. "I'm not saying the other films are not good—they are all good, but not good enough to take on 'The Assassin'," Kelly Yang, a Taipei-based cinema critic said.

Hou's foray into ancient China tapped "fundamental human nature, which is universal," says Yang. "(He) tries to present abstract Zen philosophy through his characters and does a brilliant job." Hou will also be awarded

Outstanding Taiwanese Film-maker of the Year, for what organizers describe as his "achievement and uncompromised perseverance". The Golden Horse best actress category will see a battle between Shu Qi of "The Assassin" and Hong Kong star Karen Lam, who plays a woman struggling to cope after her fiancé is killed in a car accident in "Zinnia Flower".

Best actor contenders include 25-year-old Lee Hong-chi, who plays one of the sons in



Taiwan director Hou Hsiao-hsien displays a trophy after winning the Best Director during the 52nd Golden Horse Film Awards in Taipei yesterday. — AFP

"Thanatos, Drunk", and China's Feng Xiaogang—better known as a director-for his role as an ageing street kingpin in the film "Mr. Six". In addition to Hou, Chang Tso-chi and Pema Tsenden are among the favourites for the best director award. Thirty-nine films were nominated for the 52nd edition of the Golden Horse Film Awards. While they are styled on the US Academy Awards, the winners are decided by a jury, along the lines of the Cannes film festival. — AFP

Warhol, Pollock, Rothko on rare display in Tehran

Some of the world's most expensive and rarely seen modern art, including works by the Americans Jackson Pollock and Andy Warhol, went on display Saturday in a major exhibition in Iran. They are part of a collection bought in the 1970s by dealers acting for Farah, the wife of Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, who fled into exile in 1979, heralding Iran's Islamic revolution later that year. Ever since the themes of many of the Western works have been considered too risqué to be publicly shown and have spent much of the past 36 years languishing in storage in the basement of Tehran's Museum of Contemporary Art. Among the 42 Western works featured in the museum's three-month exhibition is Pollock's "Mural on Indian Red Ground", completed in 1950 and considered one of his best drip paintings.

Five years ago, experts at Christie's said that, were it put on the market, it would fetch \$250 million. Also featured is Warhol's "Suicide", a 1963 acrylic of a man leaping to his death from a building. A similar work from Warhol's "Death

and Disaster" series sold at Sotheby's in New York for \$105 million in 2013. The American artist Mark Rothko's "Sienna Orange and Black on Dark Brown" oil on canvas and Irish-born British painter Francis Bacon's "Reclining Man with Sculpture" are also on show. They are part of a joint exhibition also featuring 130 works by famed Iranian artist Farideh Lashai. A painter, writer, translator and visual artist, she died in 2013.

'First step'

Iran's Culture Minister Ali Jannati attended a preview on Friday night in a demonstration of official support from President Hassan Rouhani's government. Jannati told AFP that the Islamic republic's recent nuclear deal with world powers had opened up potential for international cooperation in art as well as business and other fields. "This is a first step and we hope to have more mutual cooperation to showcase outstanding Iranian artists as well as displaying more works from our foreign art collection," he said.

The international works went underground after Iran's revolutionary leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini railed against "Westoxification", denouncing Western moral and sexual depravity which he said had infected the Islamic world. Many films were banned from cinemas in Iran as was music and many books. The Tehran museum did not hold a major exhibition of foreign art until 1999, a decade after Khomeini's death.

Iran was then under the reformist 1997-2005 government of president Mohammad Khatami. The current exhibition was jointly curated by Iran's Faryar Javaherian and Italy's Germano Celant, who said he was astonished at the museum's collection. "Many of them I had only seen before as reproductions but here we have the real thing," Celant said, noting that the basement held around 300 original pieces in storage. Those include more than a dozen works by Warhol, including his Mao series of the Chinese communist leader, as well as Bacon's Triptych, part of which features two naked men lying on a bed.

When it was publicly shown in Tehran in 2005, it was quickly taken down, reportedly on orders from the ministry of culture and Islamic guidance. Jannati was not the minister at the time. Celant, an art historian, critic and former senior curator at the Guggenheim Museum in New York, acknowledged that works such as nudes were out of bounds but said many others shouldn't be. More cultural exchanges could bring greater global prominence to Iranian artists such as Lashai, he said. "For me, it's very important to start this kind of collaboration with Iran. This is a truly great international collection and it can help start a better connection between Iran and an outside audience." — AFP



An Iranian woman walks by a painting titled 'Sienna, Orange black on Dark Brown' by American artist Mark Rothko during the opening ceremony of an exhibition of modern art at Tehran's Museum of Contemporary Art (TMOCA) in the Iranian capital, on November 20, 2015.



Visitors stand next to paintings (left to right) by Irish-born British painter Francis Bacon "Reclining Man with Sculpture" and American artist Franz Kline "untitled" during the opening ceremony of an exhibition of modern art at Tehran's Museum of Contemporary Art (TMOCA).



Italian art historian and curator Germano Celant poses for a picture next to a painting titled 'light in August' by Dutch American abstract expressionist Willem de Kooning. — AFP Photos



Photo shows Ryota Mouri competing in Men's Nanquan during the 13th World Wushu Championships in Jakarta. Wushu - a broad term for the martial arts disciplines from China - is still often called kung fu and pits fighters against one another in hand-to-hand combat or intricate acrobatics focusing on flair and weapon work. — AFP photos

Martial artists look beyond kung fu fighting to Olympic glory

Twirling spears, swords and clubs at frightening speeds, the brightly clad fighters performing backflips and flying kicks could be mistaken for extras in a kung fu movie being shot in the Indonesian capital Jakarta. They are not actors, however, but athletes hoping not just to win gold at the World Wushu Championships but to elevate the Chinese martial art-made famous by Jet Li and Jackie Chan-from an ancient warrior code to a modern-day Olympic sport.

Wushu-a broad term for the martial arts disciplines from China-is still often called kung fu and pits fighters against one another in hand-to-hand combat or intricate acrobatics focusing on flair and weapon work. Competitors dressed in elaborate costumes scream as they soar through the air brandishing staffs and blades, landing on one foot and holding a complex pose before launching into a dizzying spin. Others, armed with a sword in each hand, fend off attackers bearing spears in a choreographed routine marked on technique and accuracy.

The moves are similar to the impressive fighting techniques popularized in kung fu films of the 1980s and 90s, a genre that inspired a generation of today's wushu champions to master the demanding routines. "I was interested in how

they move, how they fly, how they use different weapons," Russian wushu athlete Daria Tarassova said of the kung fu superstars she watched in films as a teenager. "I wanted to do those beautiful movements," she said in Jakarta between her events.

Kung fu effect

The sport has come a long way since a rising martial artist named Jet Li-years before he found fame in Hollywood-demonstrated wushu on the White House lawn for former president Richard Nixon. Wushu has transformed from a centuries-old, exclusively Chinese combat discipline into a professional sport with a world federation and global participation. Li remains a major drawcard as wushu's official global ambassador-he was mobbed during a brief appearance in Jakarta. But recent blockbuster movies like "Kung Fu Panda" and "The Last Airbender" have driven remarkable growth outside Asia, particularly in Europe and the Americas where younger fighters are signing up to learn the ancient ways.

"I'm starting to see younger athletes coming in who have seen it in the movies," Mario Martinez, US national team coach

and long-time wushu fighter said, adding the sport had grown "immensely" in the US recently. "I think wushu is starting to have a worldwide presence." This year's world championships, which ran from November 13 to 18, featured a record number of around 600 athletes, with thousands tuning in worldwide to watch the drama live online, a first for wushu as it tries to take the sport global and attract new fans.

Many of those rising to the medal dais-including Tarassova and compatriot Vladimir Maximov, who won two golds-hail from emerging wushu nations, including some from outside Asia, which has traditionally dominated the sport. Wushu features several disciplines. Fighters in "sanda"-a type of kick boxing which allows wrestling and throwing-spar on a raised mat. By contrast, "taolu" more closely resembles gymnastics with weapons, where traditional routines based on attack and defense techniques are performed individually and in teams.

Fighting for Olympic glory

Now wushu is hoping to go a step further by following other martial arts, like Japan's judo and Korea's taekwondo, by becoming an Olympic sport. The International Wushu

Federation's efforts suffered a setback when wushu was dropped from a shortlist of sports being considered for the Tokyo 2020 Games, but the organization has not been put off and is confident of inclusion in 2024. "We were disappointed but we were not too surprised," federation executive vice president Anthony Goh said.

Extra money is a particular attraction of gaining Olympic status, with federations outside major wushu hubs in Asia - and emerging powerhouses like Russia and Iran-struggling due to limited sponsorship. Martinez said many of the US athletes on his squad worked full time to fund their travel for wushu tournaments abroad and still managed to train four hours per day. "It's a huge, huge sacrifice for them," he said. But he was confident wushu was destined to be an Olympic sport: "It has fighting, it has weapons, it has all the fast-moving action of martial arts condensed into one." —AFP



Hanieh Rajabi of Iran competes in Women's Daoshu during the 13th World Wushu Championships in Jakarta.



Liu Xuxu of Hong Kong competes in Women's Daoshu during the 13th World Wushu Championships in Jakarta.



Agatha Christenzen Fernandez Wong competing in Women's Compulsory Taijiquan during the 13th World Wushu Championships in Jakarta.



Amy Li of the US competes in Women's Daoshu during the 13th World Wushu Championships in Jakarta.