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Kuwait TV moves to keep up with the times



Maldives arrests vice president over plot to kill president



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Mourinho banished as Chelsea lose again



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## JORDAN, ISRAEL WORKING TO EASE TENSIONS AT HOLY SITE

### KERRY MEETS KING SALMAN, KING ABDULLAH, ABBAS



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#### KUWAITI PAVILION WINS AWARD FOR CONSTRUCTION ART

MILAN: The Kuwaiti pavilion at Expo Milan 2015 has won the international award for construction art; selected as one of the top lucrative display corners at the international fairground, garnering more than double the votes the Italian pavilion got, which came second. The award steering body said on its website that the Kuwaiti pavilion drew admiration of the majority of voters, garnering 20.73 percent of the votes for distinguished architectural design among 54 pavilions.

The Kuwaiti stands got more than a fifth of the votes, more than double those given to the Italian corner, which took 9.67 percent. Brazil, in the weeks-long contest, got 9.35 percent of the votes, coming third, followed by Britain with 7.17 percent and then Bahrain with 4.95 percent. The award for the most impressive pavilion is due to be delivered at the final ceremony on Oct 31. It will be attended by the Italian premier and representatives of 145 participating countries.

The contest is organized by the Italian National Institute of Architecture, the national construction association, the Italian National Association of Architects and Builders, designers of projects

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RIYADH: US Secretary of State John Kerry speaks with Saudi King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud during a meeting at Diriyah Farm yesterday. — AFP

AMMAN: US Secretary of State John Kerry said yesterday that Israel and Jordan have agreed on steps aimed at reducing tensions at a holy site in Jerusalem that have fanned Israeli-Palestinian violence. "All the violence and the incitement to violence must stop. Leaders must lead," Kerry told reporters in the Jordanian capital after meeting King Abdullah II and Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas. The top US diplomat said the steps include round-the-clock video monitoring and Israel's reaffirming of Jordan's special and historic role as custodian of the site, known to Muslims as the Haram Al-Sharif and to Jews as the Temple Mount. The king suggested the monitoring, according to Kerry, and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu accepted.

Israel has pledged to maintain the rules of worship at the site, and Israeli and Jordanian authorities will meet about bolstering security, Kerry said. Netanyahu's office had no immediate comment. The US and Jordan expected him to talk about the situation late Saturday night. Palestinian officials and representatives from the Islamic religious authority that oversees the compound were awaiting details and declined comment. Kerry later flew to Saudi Arabia and met King Salman in Riyadh.

Kerry, who met with Netanyahu in Berlin on Thursday, said the leaders "expressed their strong commitment to ending the violence and restoring the calm as soon as possible." "I hope that based on these conversations we can finally put to rest some of the false assumptions, perceptions" about the holy site, Kerry said. "Those perceptions are stoking the tensions and fueling the violence and it is important for us to end the provocative rhetoric and start to change the public narrative that comes out of those false perceptions."

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# AL-BABTAIN: TERRORISM BELONGS TO NO RELIGION

**OXFORD:** Chairman of Abdulaziz Saud Al-Babtain Cultural Foundation, Poet Abdulaziz Saud Al-Babtain, said that terrorism belongs to no religion and that it exploits discrimination and absence of justice. Al-Babtain made the statement yesterday at the opening of the Foundation's 15th session organized at Oxford in cooperation with the University's Middle East Center and the UN Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC).

He added that the 15th session comes at a time when the world is suffering from an unprecedented wave of terrorism and devastating civil wars that have led the world to be overwhelmed by refugees. It is our responsibility to combat terrorism and dry up its sources through targeting its roots, he stressed, noting that the phenomenon has reached countries that believed they were far from it. He urged the UN and the major countries to intensify cooperation to stem civil

wars and to provide dignified living conditions for the refugees. Al-Babtain called for freedom for the Palestinian people who are facing "horrible tyranny and hateful racism."

Freedom for the Palestinian people is an ethical challenge to the world's conscience and a test to the credibility of countries' respect to human rights, he said. He also expressed pleasure that the event brings together people of various countries, nationalities and faiths under the theme of a "shared world." Meanwhile, the leading poet said that Al-Babtain Cultural Foundation realized more than quarter of a century ago that bridging the gap and extending bridges among the different spheres is a sacred mission and a top necessity that has to see no delay.

#### Amir honored

Abdulaziz Saud Al-Babtain Cultural Foundation honored yesterday His

Highness the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah by publishing a commemorative book documenting His Highness the Amir's and the Kuwaiti people's charitable and humanitarian work. Al-Babtain said the book which is written in English, Arabic, and French languages comes as part of the foundation's tradition at such gatherings to honor humanitarian icons for their huge humanitarian efforts and contributions.

After the session, participants watched a documentary film, filmed last September at the UN headquarter when UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon honored His Highness the Amir. The documentary showcased Kuwait's contributions and humanitarian work for those in need around the world. Later, Al-Babtain Foundation also honored US renowned intellectual Noam Chomsky for his extensive



**Chairman of Abdulaziz Saud Al-Babtain Cultural Foundation, Poet Abdulaziz Saud Al-Babtain**

efforts, support, and stand with peoples' rights and struggles against injustice. The ceremony was attended by senior state officials from around the world, headed by Turkish former president Abdullah Gul. —Agencies

## MOSQUE BLAST TRIAL RESUMES

**KUWAIT:** The Court of Appeals resumes today the trial of defendants involved in the blast of Imam Al-Sadeq Mosque that took place on June 26 and left 26 worshippers killed and 227 others wounded. The Criminal Court had sentenced seven suspects to death, eight to 2-15 years in prison, but acquitted another 15 suspects. The defendants are accused of spreading terror, committing murder, joining an internationally-banned group that promotes toppling the ruling system with illegitimate means, namely terrorism, thus threatening the country's national unity. The court had held its first session on the explosion on August 4th, to look into the cases presented against seven Kuwaiti defendants, five Saudis, three Pakistanis, 13 illegal residents and one fugitive with unidentified nationality.

The Public Prosecution had demanded tough sentences against the defendants, as the prosecution's representative had presented thorough details on the case. They also provided visual evidence on the role of the 29 defendants in the blast, including hiding vital evidence and helping the driver, Abdulrahman Eidan, to escape. The Imam Al-Sadeq Mosque in Kuwait City was attacked by a suicide bomber on June 26th during the weekly Friday prayer in the holy month of Ramadan, killing 26 people and injuring 227 others. The blast sparked wide-scale condemnations from Arab, Muslim and world countries which rejected all forms and manifestations of terrorism. —KUNA



## NBK CELEBRATES WITH 13TH BATCH OF NBK ACADEMY

**KUWAIT:** National Bank of Kuwait (NBK) celebrated the graduation of the thirteenth batch of newly hired young Kuwaitis from NBK Academy. NBK Academy aims to train and develop the professional skills of young Kuwaitis as part of NBK's strategy to attract and develop national human

resources. NBK organized a special ceremony for the graduation of the newly hired young Kuwaitis. The ceremony was attended by Salah Al Fulajj, NBK CEO - Kuwait, along with other NBK officials.

NBK Academy is the first initiative of its kind in

the private sector in Kuwait and is part of NBK's strategy to attract young Kuwaitis by offering them a range of career and professional development opportunities. NBK Academy programs run for four months and are specially tailored to provide trainees with theoretical and practical skills

covering the different aspects of the banking industry. NBK maintains its leading position as one of the country's largest employers in the private sector and is committed to supporting Kuwaiti nationals and empowering them to realize their potentials. Annually, NBK offers many

training programs for employees including Shabab program, and the first of its kind NBK High Fliers Program. NBK also organizes executive training programs in line with the bank's commitment to developing and investing in its key resource and human capital.

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# KTV keeping up with the times

By Nawara Fattahova

Those who were in Kuwait during the Iraqi invasion in 1990 still remember TV anchor and newsreader Yousef Mostafa. Today, he is the Assistant Undersecretary for TV Affairs at the Ministry of Information, and still represents the ministry at various official events. Mostafa spoke to Kuwait Times about various issues, starting with explaining the role and responsibilities of the ministry. "The ministry of information includes various sectors, out of which the TV sector is the largest, with eight channels that broadcast 24 hours a day.

These include KTV 1, KTV satellite, Channel 2, which addresses two-thirds of the local population, two sports channels - one for the youth and the other for sporting events, the Arabi satellite channel for culture and arts, Ithra'a for religious issues and Kuwait Plus, which is parallel to KTV 1. Each of these channels has its own audience depending on their interests," he told Kuwait Times. Mostafa, before assuming his current post two and a half years ago, was the assistant undersecretary for news and political programs for a year. Prior to that, he was the undersecretary for Kuwait Radio for a year and a half. Before that, he was a TV anchor for many years. Mostafa has won many local and regional awards during a career spanning 35 years, which has made him capable to run any department at the ministry of information.

During the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in 1990, Kuwaiti Radio was broadcasting under the slogan 'Here is Kuwait' (Huna Al Kuwait). Mostafa was one of those who soldiered on from Aug 1 till the liberation on Feb 26, 1991. "At that time, Kuwaiti media was much respected around the world. Kuwait Radio didn't stop broadcasting, and we shifted from Kuwait to Saudi Arabia on the fifth day of invasion, and received full support from them. They provided the facilities for us to be able to broadcast. Also, the TV channel was aired from Saudi Arabia during the seven months of the invasion," he recounted. "We announced the liberation of the Kuwaiti islands first and returned to the ministry of information. The studios were damaged by the Iraqis and they had ransacked and stolen the national radio and TV archives. Fortunately, we were able to reconstruct what was destroyed, and we gained international respect," Mostafa recalled. Other excerpts from the interview:

**"Fortunately, we were able to reconstruct what was destroyed, and we gained international respect"**



**Kuwait Times: What do you have to say to some producers of TV programs who have complained of corruption in the ministry and particularly the TV sector?**

**Yousef Mostafa:** This is not true anymore, especially after Sheikh Salman Al-Homoud was appointed minister of information and state minister for youth affairs. Sheikh Salman rectified the mistakes in all the sectors of the ministry and not just the TV department. The change at Kuwait TV is noticeable in all its channels and new content. The executive committee chooses submitted works carefully, as the minister included representatives from various bodies in this committee as members, including finance, planning and development, legal, higher institute for theatre arts and the artists' association. The committee chooses the most suitable works according to the official media

vision, which then receive financial and media support.

**KT: What about censorship?**

**Mostafa:** We have active censorship for TV - a censorship committee monitors all broadcasts. We are glad that families can safely watch all KTV channels without being worried that their children may see any inappropriate content. Whatever is broadcast is in line with our customs and traditions. Censorship of local dramas is done before and during the shooting, after producing them and while showing them. A team from KTV attends the shooting at various locations, and if they notice any violations in the contract or mistakes, the makers will be informed to correct them. They are usually very cooperative, so we don't register any violations.

**KT: What's new at KTV? Tell us about future plans.**

**Mostafa:** Several engineering projects have been executed, as well as establishing broadcast centers and new stations that work with the high definition (HD) system, which is the technology currently used for satellite broadcasting internationally. All Kuwait channels will be broadcast on both Nilesat and Arabsat, so viewers all over the world will be able to watch these channels in

high quality. KTV can compete with the best satellite channels. We will even switch to a system newer than HD soon. According to many surveys, KTV is still one of the leading channels and has many local and Arab viewers because of the various dramas and cultural, religious, touristic and development programs shown.

**KT: What about content for non-Arabic speakers?**

**Mostafa:** KTV 2 has changed its strategy, which was appreciated by non-Arab viewers through their feedback. This channel also broadcasts some programs and news shown on KTV 1. As a new addition, we have started translating and dubbing some local dramas and soap operas to give the opportunity for these viewers to enjoy watching them. Even some folk songs have been translated.



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## KUWAIT KEEN ON BOOSTING COOPERATION WITH FAO

**ROME:** Kuwait's Minister of Oil Dr Ali Al-Omair affirmed Kuwait's keenness on boosting cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and employing its expertise in bolstering food security and executing sustainable development plans in agriculture at the national level. Minister Dr Al-Omair expressed admiration toward FAO's role in resolving global problems such as hunger, malnutrition and poverty as well as encouraging states to devote attention to sustainable development in agriculture and food production for realizing food security.

The minister made this statement to Kuwait News Agency as he concluded his visit to Italy during which he held talks with FAO's Director-General Jose Graziano da Silva. Al-Omair said his cordial meeting with Da Silva was an opportunity to affirm Kuwait's keenness on developing the agricultural sector and achieving food security, noting the State's commitment to aiding countries that suffer from hunger and poverty-in coordination with the international community.

This policy has prompted the UN to designate His Highness the Amir as the "Humanitarian Leader," as well as Kuwait as the "Humanitarian Center." He indicated that the talks with the FAO chief dealt with prospected cooperation deals, adding that Da Silva pledged to visit Kuwait soon to examine the areas where the international organization could contribute and offer aid. There is a plan to call one of the conference halls at the organization's headquarters after the name of His Highness the Amir, Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah.

The minister indicated that he had examined the hall, noting determination to "overcome some obstacles to carry out this initiative that will lift the name of Kuwait aloft at the quarters of one of the oldest international organizations." Dr Al-Omair stated that Kuwait is proud of dealing with FAO which has been seeking to boost food security. "We are also proud of the achievements that have been made by Kuwait, namely His Highness the Amir, the



**ROME:** Minister Dr Ali Al-Omair poses for a group photo with FAO's Director-General Jose da Silva, Ambassador Sheikh Ali Al-Khaled Al-Sabah, Kuwait Petroleum International CEO Bakheet Al-Rashidi, and Permanent Delegate at FAO Eng Yousef Jehail. — KUNA

Government and people, at the level of confronting global challenges namely poverty, poor nutrition, climatic changes and their dire consequences," he said.

Moreover, the minister noted Kuwait's obligations at the level of food security; being in time ahead of others with respect of "achieving the millennium development objectives" in the food sector-three years earlier than 2015. Minister Dr Al-Omair, also tasked with overseeing affairs of Kuwait's Public Authority of Agricultural Affairs and Fish Resources (PAAAFR), said that Kuwait, despite facing challenges in the farming and fish sectors, namely water scarcity, "was able by God's will to realize the aspired goals in record short time." Nevertheless, chal-

lenges remain ahead on the path of realizing food security and overhauling the sector, he acknowledged.

Minister Al-Omair's visit to the FAO headquarters, basically, aimed at enhancing cooperation and discussing measures for opening FAO's first contact office for partnerships in Kuwait. Dr Al-Omair was accompanied in his mission by the State of Kuwait's Ambassador to Italy, Sheikh Ali Al-Khaled Al-Sabah, the Kuwaiti Permanent Delegate at the FAO, (Eng) Yousef Jehail, Kuwait Petroleum International CEO Al-Rashidi, Kuwait's Alternate Permanent Representative at the FAO Manar Sabah Al-Sabah, the manager of the KPI stakeholders' group Adnan Al-Gallaf and other officials. — KUNA

## News

In brief

### Embassy in Mexico warns Kuwaitis over hurricane

**KUWAIT:** Kuwait Embassy in Mexico has warned Kuwaiti nationals of Hurricane Patricia which hit southeastern Mexico. Kuwait's Ambassador to Mexico Sameeh Johar Hayat said that Kuwaiti nationals should follow local authorities' instructions regarding how to deal with the hurricane, urging them also to contact the embassy in case of emergency. The embassy's hotlines are: 005215513632619 and 00525552451714.

### Ministry of Health to hold seminar on breast cancer

**KUWAIT:** The Ministry of Health will organize a seminar on the role of health education and awareness in combating breast cancer on Tuesday. The event, part of the awareness campaign "testing you means safety," is meant to promote preventive culture and encourage early detection, Chairperson of the Ministry's Information Office Dr Ghalia Al-Mutairi said yesterday. "The seminar will gather a number of ladies who survived this serious disease and campaigners against it," she said, noting that publications will be distributed to guide the audience to the specialized clinics and help those willing to undergo free checkups. "A small art gallery will be held as a sideline where Dr Zainab Dashti will deliver a speech on breast cancer from an artistic perspective and the importance of voluntary action to help patients and survivors," Dr Al-Mutairi pointed out. A ceremony to unveil 'Diary of a Saudi woman,' authored by consultant gynecologist Dr Samya Al-Amoudi, will be also held on the fringe of the event.



**KUNA's Deputy Director General Abdulhamid Malak and Director of Communication and IT Adel Al-Sammak seen with AFP's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Emmanuel Hoog. — KUNA**

### KUNA and AFP keen on boosting cooperation

**PARIS:** KUNA is keen to boost existing cooperation with Agence France Presse (AFP) and benefit from its vast experience in media, KUNA's Deputy Director General for Administrative, Finance and Communication Affairs Abdulhamid Malak said yesterday. During his visit to Paris, Malak made his remarks after meeting with AFP's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Emmanuel Hoog, as part of his tour to strengthen media ties between the two agencies. Malak also noted KUNA's constant keenness to benefit from AFP's experience, adding that although media partnership with AFP has been long-standing, KUNA remains committed to enhance further such cooperation and utilize its technological developments. Malak said the past two days of meetings with AFP officials highlighted the possibility of benefiting from AFP's Iris production and distribution system, a system which AFP has been implementing since the past two years in its offices and affiliate bureaus outside France.

### International inventions fair receives 30 requests

**KUWAIT:** An organizer of the 8th International Inventors Fair in the Middle East said yesterday that so far they received more than 30 requests from countries and more than 200 inventors who wish to participate in the event. This was announced by Kuwait Science Club (KSC) Deputy Director and Member of the organizing committee for the 8th International Inventors Fair in Middle East, Talal Al-Kharafi. In a statement, Al-Kharafi said the committee is working tirelessly to examine these applications and elect the most qualified to participate in the fair which will be sponsored by His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. Al-Kharafi said more than 250 inventors registered with the organizing committee will be reviewed by the scientific committee for assessment before showcasing their inventions in the fair, adding only 150 of them will be selected. The committee is keen on presenting this year's exhibition the best way possible, Al-Kharafi added.

### Minister praises efforts by SI society for women

**KUWAIT:** Social Affairs and Labor Minister and Minister of State for Planning and Development Hind Al-Subaih lauded late Friday the efforts by Soroptimist International (SI) society for women worldwide. In a press statement after attending the celebration for Kuwait's branch of the society, Al-Subaih commended Soroptimists' efforts in enabling women to excel in various domains. She also lauded the society's efforts in protecting women's rights. Al-Subaih specifically thanked the Kuwaiti branch for spreading awareness on Thalassemia, a blood disorder passed down through families (inherited). The disorder results in excessive destruction of red blood cells, which leads to anemia. On her part, head of the Kuwaiti branch, Stacy Al-Ghawas said that the society, which currently consists of 27 members, welcomed all women to join its cause for a better future for women. She affirmed that the Soroptimist had various branches abroad including ones in Dubai and Tunis.

### Local spotlight

## THE THREAT OF ISLAMIST GROUPS

By Muna Al-Fuzai



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I have read a lot of studies recently that warn of the danger of Islamist formations and groups that are scattered around the world, even in the world's most poorest and corrupt countries. The question remains about the threat of these organizations to people's security, religious and human rights and stability of countries. Is it possible to eliminate these cells in light of the wave of extremism that is sweeping the world?

While I was writing this article, I hesitated a little because this is a thorny issue and sources of information are limited. The financiers and persons involved with these Islamist groups rarely speak to the media or press, but enlightening the people is essential to alert them to the danger of joining such political organizations, which in my opinion have nothing to do with religion, but money and power. They are only using religion as a stepping stone to achieve their dreams.

Any political group claiming to be seeking Islamic rule and authority tend to be mercenaries and terrorists. They use religion to convince the gullible and intimidate people that those who do not stand with them are against Islam.

Let us recall the Taliban. They are a political organization who dreamt of power and used religion as a political ploy. They turned out to be a curse for their neighbors and the world. They also provided shelter to Osama bin Laden. Women and children were their first victims. Eventually, they proved to everyone they're just a group of mercenaries and criminals. It is ironic that the Taliban wanted to present themselves as the legitimate representatives of Afghanistan, but the United Nations refused to recognize them and they ultimately fell in 2001.

Even today, Afghanistan is facing the threat of Taliban fighters. It is a great pity that violence still continues between tribes, armed groups and militias. Even with the current system of political rule, Afghanistan is still fighting for survival. One of the important lessons is that Islamist groups are not suitable to rule because they are responsible for instability, chaos and killings of innocent people. Look at the crazy group calling itself Boko Haram and its crimes, and the same applies to IS. Both declare themselves as Islamic but have no connection to Islam.

Around 2006-2007, some Western studies appeared to call for the establishment of a new Islamic trend, described as moderate Muslim groups, to face headline currents for a kind of democratic transformation in the Arab world, but they proved to be unable to be a suitable alternative because they lacked support and acceptance in their communities. Another problem with liberals and secularists is that their views are not welcome by Islamist militant movements. For example, in Egypt and with the success of the Muslim Brotherhood in reaching power, the liberals lost. The Palestinian National Authority also lost in 2006 in favor of Hamas. The fall of Islamist organizations is neither quick nor easy.

So how to confront Islamist organizations that are widespread now in the west and east? There is no immediate solution, but there are means to undermine their power within the society and challenge them by spreading democratic ideas, which means essentially rejecting the idea of an Islamic state. Also by cutting all means of cooperation, communication and financial resources on which the militants depend, control everyone and meddle in the land and people. The press is a powerful instrument, and can play a role to help civil governments protect themselves and reshape public opinion.

## PEACE IN MIDEAST THROUGH DIALOGUE AND SETTLEMENT

### KUWAIT CALLS FOR A WEAPON-FREE OUTER SPACE

**MANAMA:** Dialogue and political settlement are keys for bringing peace in the Middle East region, Kuwaiti Ambassador to Bahrain Sheikh Azzam Mubarak Al-Sabah said yesterday. In a statement to KUNA regarding the upcoming 11th International Institute for Strategic Studies' (IISS) Manama Dialogue to be held on October 30th, Sheikh Azzam said that the region is in need for solutions that would lead to peace and security. Countries in the region should work on achieving peace within the main frame of international laws, said the Ambassador, adding that direct dialogue, featured in the Manama event, was an important aspect of the road to tranquility. Organized annually, the IISS Manama Dialogue provides a forum for the national security establishments of the participating states to exchange views on regional security challenges. It is a unique forum in that it is made up of governmental delegations from over 20 countries, including not only the states of the region and the immediate neighborhood, but also the outside powers with security interests in the Gulf.

The 11th meeting will draw together the highest concentration to date of policy-makers involved in regional dialogue, and delegations comprised a measured blend of prime ministers, defense ministers, foreign ministers, national security advisors, and military and intelligence chiefs. The IISS was founded in the UK in 1958 with a focus on nuclear deterrence and arms control.

Today, it is also renowned for its annual Military Balance assessment of countries' armed forces and for its high-powered security summits, including the Shangri-La Dialogue and others.

### Weapon-free space

Law-biding, indiscriminate and inclusive international pact is needed to prevent setting any kind of weapons in outer space, Kuwait affirmed late Friday. Outer space technology is a major contributing factor in sustainability worldwide, as well as preserving natural resources and predicting; and eventually lessening, destructive impacts of natural disasters, which proves significance of such technology," said Mohammad Al-Huwaila, Third Secretary at State of Kuwait Permanent Mission to the UN.

His speech came before the First Committee (Disarmament and International Security), part of the ongoing 70th UN General Assembly session. Kuwait is aware of the fact that the ideal usage of outer space cannot be attained without dealing with it in a holistic manner within multilateral forums, with a focus on international peace and security, the diplomat noted. Without a social-friendly environment with a global perspective on outer space peaceful technology, exceptional challenges might rise, jeopardizing multi-faced development and creating an untrustworthy global environment, Al-Huwaila said. — Agencies



**KUWAIT:** Construction workers of the new National Assembly building are racing against time for the completion and putting the final touches on the building prior to the opening of the new session of the 14th legislative term next Tuesday. — KUNA

## PARLIAMENT SPRUCED UP FOR FRESH SESSION

**KUWAIT:** The National Assembly has spruced up through modern equipment and impressive changes for the fourth session of the 14th legislative term next Tuesday, Secretary-General Allam Al-Kandari said. Preparations and arrangements are in full swing for the launching of the new parliamentary session, Al-Kandari said in a press release yesterday. The parliament's main corridors, chambers and the grant party hall have been magnificently reshaped, he boasted, adding that the

building includes new car parks and gates for guests. Unprecedentedly, senior members of parliament from the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states, together with media personnel from GCC and Arab countries, have been invited to attend the session, he said. His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah will be present in the opening session, Al-Kandari pointed out. — KUNA



**KUWAIT:** The United Nations House, whose foundation stone was laid on this day in 1999 is located in the diplomatic area in Mishref. It is an architecturally distinctive monument and a house reflecting the status of the UN body in the hearts of Kuwaitis. — KUNA

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**BENGHAZI SELECTS NEXT US PRESIDENT!**

By Sami Abdullatif Al-Nisf

The US presidential elections, which will be held in Nov 2016 and the new president-elect will take over in 2017, seem to have started early. The Republican Party has its unconventional candidate Donald Trump, a tycoon with no political experience whatsoever who is known for his 'sharp tongue' against immigrants, his opponents and their families. He almost accused former president and the brother of his opponent Jeb Bush, George W Bush, of being responsible for 9/11 back in 2001 and when asked what he would have done to prevent it if he had been in power then, he said that his strict anti-immigrant policies could have prevented the culprits from entering the US!

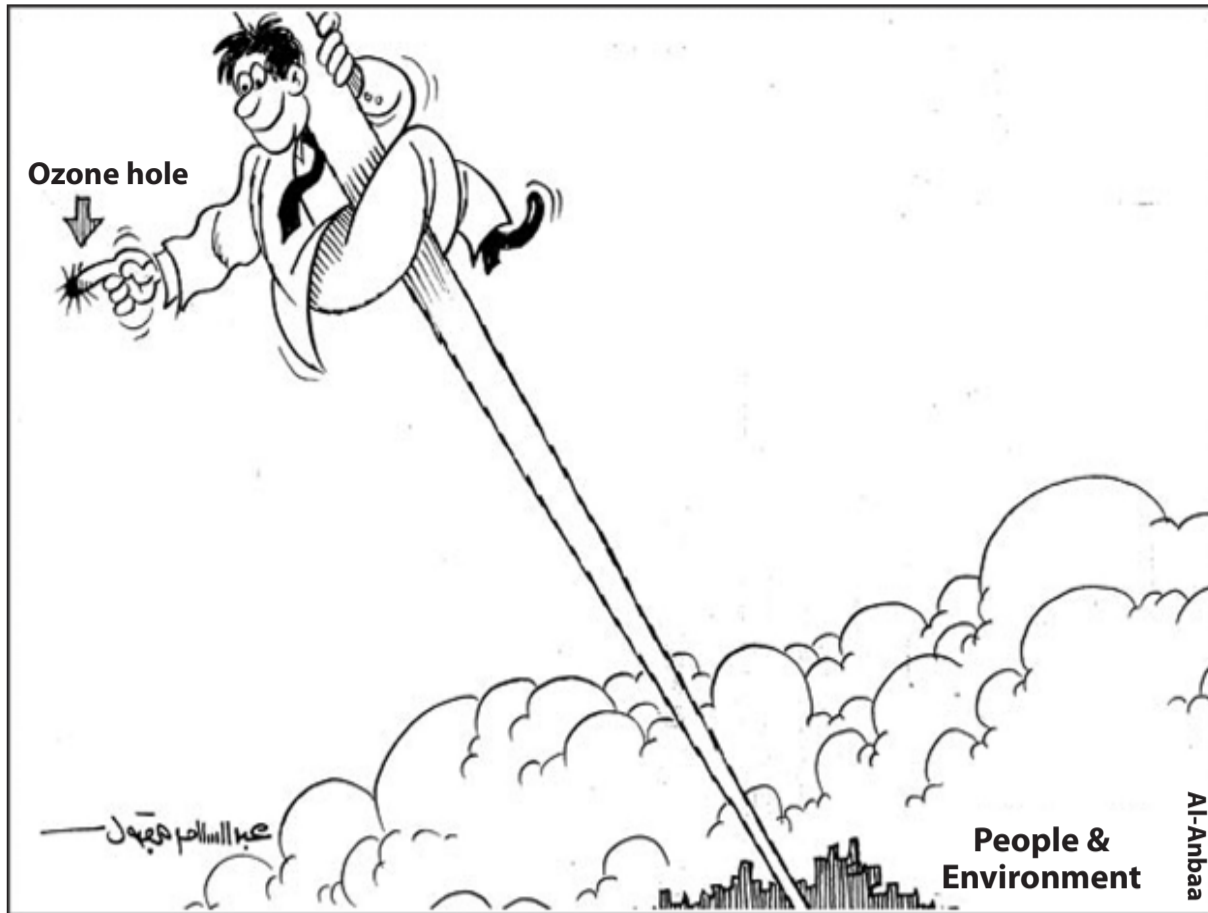
Some people still fail to understand why Trump is achieving success compared to his opponents despite his hot temper, restlessness, impatience and total ignorance about foreign policy and federal and local administration and despite significant contradiction between what says and does. He had slammed moving factories out of the US while all his own are located in China and South Korea. His personal business career is full of bankruptcy and cruelty as he once resorted to demolish one of his buildings to evict its tenants, only to be inhabited by the homeless, alcoholics and drug addicts.

It is also said that Vice President Joe Biden is awaiting the results of an investigation into the murder of US ambassador to Benghazi and his companions to determine how responsible former secretary of state Hillary Clinton was in this regard before he makes up his mind to run for president, though many reports suggest that he is easily capable of beating the Republican candidate Trump because of the vast difference in their political experience, though they are both sharp-tongued and pose potential threats to Arabs. (Biden on Wednesday announced he would not be running). It was Biden who called for dividing Iraq into three states. While Trump asked GCC states to play for US protection they get. Biden was expected to select a woman for vice president in order to win the votes of the supporters of Clinton, who is, by the way, the best option for Arabs if she makes it to the White House.

A Reuters report strongly excluded the chance that a Democrat would win the next presidency because of strong public dissatisfaction with Obama's presidency. In a debate amongst Democratic candidates, Clinton's leftist prime opponent, Bernie Sanders, defended her when she was asked about using her personal email for official correspondence, which had a good impact over the audience. It is also known that Trump openly accuses Sanders of being a communist.

Observers believe that Trump's best chances would be by Sanders winning the Democratic Party nomination along with a woman running for vice president in order to repeat the unrivalled victory achieved by Ronald Regan in 1984 over his democratic opponent Walter Mondale and his VP candidate Geraldine Anne Ferraro, when he won 525 college votes and Mondale got only 13. Just the way the Soviet Union witnessed many radical changes during the Reagan rule, Arab will too when president Trump comes to office!

— Translated by Kuwait Times



Al-Qabas

**IRAN AND THE NEIGHBORING GULF**

By Khalid Al-Tarrah

Editor-in-Chief of the international Asharq Al-Awsat Salman Al-Dousary summarized in a column titled "A Gulf Gift for Iran, the stand of some Gulf states including Kuwait and Qatar towards Iran, with some harshness and brotherly blame. Qatar has its particularity, as well as Kuwait, especially with its distinguished constitutional democratic regime, but this does not mean or justify Kuwait's "goodhearted" stand, which Salman pointed to, rather the truth is in the failure of the GCC in achieving political harmony and integration, and this was clear since years ago, except during the period of Saddam's invasion of Kuwait.

I am almost sure that Salman does not agree for the 'follower and followed' methodology to become dominant, and it is a method that cannot lead to a true partnership in decision and destiny. The choices here are very difficult with regards to Gulf relations with Iran, which can be summarized by: No change in the current situation or equal and fair negotiations, or direct or indirect war with Iran!

I agree with what was said, and I previously wrote about this, which regrettably is a truth that cannot be denied, yet all this should be explained as a "gift",

especially that the Iranian policy, during the latest stage, is not steady and does not reflect a promising friendship with the neighboring Gulf countries, and any danger that affects Saudi Arabia affects Kuwait for sure, especially from a geographical aspect.

We hope that Iran does not interpret the differences in some Gulf countries' stands for its interest or that they may, one day, turn against Saudi Arabia, because this is a grave political mistake. The Iranian policy, especially the accusations and descriptions against Saudi Arabia with regards to the Mina accident, is a rejected stand by Kuwait in the first place.

The difference in the stands of GCC countries has been clear for years as I said, and it needs quick mending and rescue within a joint understanding towards the dangers that are threatening the GCC countries' security, yet Iran should not count on these differences for its interest, especially while Iran continues to declare its "ambitions" and interferences in Gulf neighbors' affairs, in addition to surrounding Arab countries!

We hope for a joint Gulf support for dialogue and negotiations with Iran in the interest of good neighborliness and stability.

— Translated by Kuwait Times

**Crime**

Report

**Police officer injured**

**KUWAIT:** A police officer sustained several fractures and bruises when someone refused to stop at a checkpoint outside a husseiniya in Jabriya, said security sources, noting that after being asked to pull over at a checkpoint, the suspect drove off, knocking the officer down. The officer was rushed to Mubarak Hospital for treatment and a search is on for the suspect. In another development a traffic policeman filed a complaint against a citizen who insulted him on being ticketed for a traffic violation. The policeman provided the citizen's vehicle license plate number and said that he sped away after insulting him. A case was filed and the citizen is being summoned for further investigations.

**Kuwaitis arrested**

Two citizens with criminal records were arrested in Khaitan for multiple robberies and assaults, mainly against expats, said security sources.

**Gambling in parking space**

Three Asians were arrested while gambling in a public parking space, said security sources, noting that a police patrol noticed the suspects playing, and that they tried to flee the scene when the patrol approached them.

**Maid tries to flee**

An Asian housemaid broke her leg in an attempt to flee her sponsor's house in Fintas, said security sources, noting that while trying to climb down from the second floor, the maid fell and broke her leg.

**Ranch guard attacked**

A citizen reported that his ranch guard told him that four robbers attacked him, stole his mobile phone and seven sheep, said security sources. — Al-Rai

**News**

in brief

**Kuwait MoH considers regulating abortions**

**KUWAIT:** Health Ministry Assistant Undersecretary for the Private Sector Dr Mohammed Al-Khashti said that the ministry is currently considering amending law number 25/1981 pertaining the practice of medicine. Khashti added that the articles proposed for amendment include those regulating abortions and the penalties imposed on those violating them, be they doctors or officials at any health facilities. However, Khashti preferred not to go into further details until the study is completed.

**Allow expats to own houses: Kuwait MP**

**KUWAIT:** Municipal Council member Ali Al-Moussa has made a proposal to attract foreign investors to Kuwait and allowing expats settled in Kuwait to own houses here. "Foreign investors must be allowed to own houses in new areas," said Moussa, pointing out that many non-Kuwaiti merchants are eager to settle in Kuwait, urging the municipal council to allocate land to build houses to be owned by expats.

**Fuel prices may go up by 69-88%**

**KUWAIT:** High-ranking oil sources said if subsidies are gradually lifted, a proposal was made to the subsidies committee suggesting increasing petrol prices to 110 fils per liter for 'special' fuel compared to the current price of 65 fils - a 69 percent increase; and increasing the ultra gas price to 170 fils per liter compared to the current price of 90 fils - an 88 percent increase. The sources added that if the committee decides lifting subsidies completely, fuel prices would jump to 250 fils per liter, as previously suggested by the oil ministry. The sources said fuel prices would be variable on a monthly basis according to oil prices, adding to this was the proposal most likely to be put into practice and stressed that the government would partially lift subsidies to avoid rapid inflation. "The committee will submit its final report by the end of December," stressed the sources. — Agencies



Fawzi Al-Majdali, Secretary General at MGRP pictured along with Gulf Bank's representatives during the event.

**GULF BANK PARTICIPATES IN THE KUWAITI DINAR JOB FAIR**

**KUWAIT:** Gulf Bank recently participated in the Kuwaiti Dinar Job Fair which took place at Salwa Al Sabah Conference Center on 18 - 19 October 2015 - presenting youth with exciting job opportunities at the bank. Recent Kuwaiti graduates and young professionals interested in working in the banking sector visited Gulf Bank's stand at the job fair, where the bank's Human Resources executives were present to give them advice on career opportunities in various departments at the bank. They also highlighted Gulf Bank's Graduate Development

Program as well as the 'DURRAT ALKHALEEJ' training center, which produces a range of specialist packages and training programs as part of its policy of investing in the development of staff. Gulf Bank always places the importance of its human capital at the forefront of its business investment, focusing on opening up opportunities to young Kuwaitis, creating meaningful roles and challenges for Kuwait's youth that allows them to build a career, and in doing so, to contribute to the country's economic progress.

**KUWAIT UNIVERSITY'S CSE, ITS COMPANY SIGN DEAL**

**KUWAIT:** The Dean of the College of Computer Sciences and Engineering, Prof Fawaz S Al-Anzi, emphasized Kuwait University's vision on developing Kuwaiti youth for the business market. The College of CSE builds comprehensive student growth plans that aim to fulfill all requirements to help ensure employment after graduation by means of crafting contracts with successful companies of good reputation. Therefore, the College of Computing Sciences and Engineering signed a cooperation agreement with ITS to build bridges between the academic circles of university education and business market requirements.

At the beginning of his speech, Nasr Al-Bikawi the CEO of ITS, underscored ITS's reputation in the global market as a pioneer in the field of integrated information technology and software services for over 35 years in the Middle East and

GCC. ITS provides creative solutions that support companies and organizations to quickly adapt to advanced global technologies, giving companies their competitive edge. Moreover, ITS boasts of its reputation of providing high-end quality services with world-class specifications in various sectors including banking, e-government, education and oil sectors, Al-Bikawi added.

Henceforward, the cooperation agreement was concluded between the two parties to bridge the gap between university education and business market requirements, and most importantly to benefit the society as a whole, including but not limited to, general fields of cooperation such as: Joint industry and research activities; Exchange visits between experts to conduct research and training; Concentrated training programs for students; Sponsorship of the



graduation projects; Exchange of information on scholarships including research papers and academic thesis indexes; Books and magazines of relevant topics and potential joint projects whenever possible and appropriate; Extend invitations to attend academic and technical meetings as well as national and international conferences and Linking talents to available jobs.

At the conclusion of his thank you speech, the Dean of the College of Computing Sciences and Engineering, Prof Fawaz S Al-Anzi, expressed his best wishes for a successful and fruitful cooperation in light of the numerous major future projects for the college; projects which will enable the university to reach higher and exceed expectations in the field of educational mansion for which we, as a society, place great hopes.

**GULF BANK - GOLD SPONSOR OF 'FIGHT LIKE A GIRL' BREAST CANCER AWARENESS**

**KUWAIT:** Gulf Bank yesterday announced its gold sponsorship of the "Fight Like A Girl" awareness event, which is being organized under the patronage of the US Embassy in Kuwait and in partnership with the American Women's League of Kuwait. The event is being held to raise awareness about the seriousness of breast cancer, the importance of testing, and the benefits of early detection.

The event is scheduled to take place on Monday, 26 October 2015 at the Regency Hotel. Attending the event will be the US Ambassador Douglas A Silliman and wife Silliman; President of The International Women's Group - Michele Blackett; the President and Judge of the American Women League - Linda Greenstone and the wives of the Armenian, Swiss, South African, Hungarian, Indian and Brunei Ambassadors, along with numerous others dignitaries.

This event will feature Kuwaiti specialists Dr Fahed Al Mulla, Dr Noha Al Saleh, and Dr Nour Al Huda Karamani, who will give advice on early detection, treatment, and prevention of breast cancer. Supporting this event is part of Gulf Bank's corporate social responsibility strategy and is part of the Bank's annual "Pink...Because We Care" awareness campaign" which includes a number of activities throughout the month of October to raise awareness about breast cancer. For more information on Gulf Bank's corporate social responsibility initiatives and activities, please visit our website at <http://www.e-gulfbank.com> or our social media channels.



Clinton in full command after 'quite a week'

## ONE KILLED IN IS ATTACK ON BANGLADESH SHIITE SHRINE

## MALDIVES ARRESTS VEEP OVER PLOT TO KILL PRESIDENT



MALE: In photo taken on Oct 7, 2015, Maldives Vice President Ahmed Adeeb speaks to the media. —AP

**MALE, Maldives:** Maldives Vice President Ahmed Adeeb was arrested yesterday over last month's alleged attempt to assassinate President Abdulla Yameen in a bomb blast on board his speedboat, the government said. Adeeb's dramatic arrest at the Maldives' main international airport followed "extensive investigations by both local and international agencies," the government said in a statement posted on the website of its high commission in New Delhi. "The charges are extremely serious, and the government has had to act decisively," it said, without saying whether the vice president had been formally charged.

Home Minister Umar Naseer earlier posted on Twitter that Adeeb was in detention on Dhoonidhoo prison island. "Charges: high treason," he tweeted. Adeeb, 33, was arrested at around noon local time (0700 GMT) yesterday as he returned home from Singapore, where he had stopped over after attending an investment forum in China. Maldivian police confirmed his detention was linked to an investigation into the Sept 28 blast aboard Yameen's speedboat, which left the leader unhurt but his wife and two others slightly injured.

Adeeb was unceremoniously escorted away by police as he disembarked from a Singapore Airlines flight, with a coastguard boat taking him to the nearby prison island of Dhoonidhoo. Dozens of Adeeb's supporters who had arrived at the official jetty in Male to greet him were turned back by police in the tiny 2.5-sq-km capital island.

By afternoon, the authorities had deployed soldiers and police to maintain calm, while special police units carried out searches at houses and offices frequented by the detained vice president. "Security in Male has been tightened," police spokesman Abdulla Nawaz told reporters in the capital where more than a dozen people were arrested for disturbing public order. "Police won't allow any violence in the capital city. Both police and the army will be deployed to patrol the streets of Male."

Official sources said four of the vice president's associates were arrested shortly before Adeeb's detention and were also being held on the prison island. Yameen appointed Adeeb as his deputy three months ago after impeaching his original running mate Mohamed Jameel on charges of treason. He had changed the Maldives' constitution to reduce the permissible age of a vice president from 35 to

30 so that Adeeb could be given the job. Adeeb, who had a meteoric rise in politics, was also a hate figure for the country's main opposition, which accused him of sending underworld gangs to launch attacks against dissidents.

### 'Purge' of Ministers

Hours before the arrest yesterday, the president sacked his police chief Hussain Waheed, the latest in a series of firings seen by some as a purge of individuals whose loyalties may be in doubt. Defence Minister Moosa Ali Jaleel was sacked 10 days ago, while on Thursday Yameen also fired his main government spokesman Mohamed Shareef, a minister in his cabinet. Shareef, who fled to nearby Sri Lanka soon after the Sept 28 blast, said the explosion may have been a mechanical issue, but the authorities later declared it to be an assassination attempt.

The ruling Progressive Party of Maldives - of which Adeeb is deputy leader - said in a statement it backed the president in the "challenging times". Yameen will not be able to sack Adeeb unless he gets the support of opposition legislators in the national parliament. Earlier in October authorities arrested two security personnel who had access to Yameen's boat but have yet to disclose what caused the explosion.

The Maldives has seen its image as a peaceful holiday destination for well heeled honeymooners dented by political turmoil since the toppling of the country's first democratically elected leader Mohamed Nasheed in Feb 2012. Yameen, who came to power in November 2013 following a highly controversial election, jailed Nasheed for 13 years in March and faces international censure over his crackdown on dissent.

A UN panel last month asked Yameen to free Nasheed and pay him compensation for his wrongful incarceration, a demand the president rejected. Yameen's half brother, former Maldivian strongman Maumoon Abdul Gayoom who is now a senior leader of the PPM, cancelled a scheduled visit to India following Adeeb's arrest. —AFP

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A Wonderful World

# CLINTON IN COMMAND AFTER 'QUITE A WEEK'

**ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA:** It's been a great week for Hillary Clinton. First, Democratic rival Joe Biden abandoned his presidential dreams. Then she emerged unscathed from a marathon congressional grilling over the 2012 Benghazi attacks that threatened to sabotage her campaign - but now looks to be a boost. Throw in her star turn at the first Democratic debate 10 days ago, when she gave a command performance and received a political gift from rival Bernie Sanders who declared America had heard enough about her "damn emails", and Clinton appears to be on a glide path to the party's presidential nomination.

In addition to the vice president opting out, low-polling candidates Jim Webb and Lincoln Chafee also stepped aside this week, and Clinton has seen her poll average surge seven points in October, after a months-long slide. Adding to the bounty, on Friday she earned the endorsement of AFSCME, a 1.6-million-member labor union. The bouquet of political successes came as welcome relief for the former secretary of state aiming to become America's first female commander-in-chief, and she appeared to exult in her decidedly improved position Friday.

"Whoa," she exclaimed as she received a hero's welcome at a women's leadership forum in Washington. "It's been quite a week, hasn't it?" No question. Even her one-time rivals see the writing on the wall, with Chafee using the same forum to announce he was quitting the race. "There is no one left," said David Parker, a

professor of American politics at Montana State University, dismissing democratic socialist Sanders as unelectable and former Maryland governor Martin O'Malley as failing to gain any traction. "There is no doubt in my mind that Clinton will be the nominee," he told AFP.

President Barack Obama's first secretary of state topped off her wonder week by basking in the warmth of a receptive crowd at a rally outside Washington, brimming with renewed confidence. "A lot of things have been said about me but 'quitter' isn't one of them," she said, after highlighting her 11-hour testimony the previous day. And she stressed that her campaign - while acknowledging the successes of Democratic predecessors - was all about the future.

"I'm not running for President Obama's third term, I'm not running for Bill Clinton's third term. I'm running for my first term!" she said to a loud roar. Her campaign team wasted no time pushing the post-Benghazi-hearing narrative of Clinton the "fighter". "Republicans and others have tried to test her and Hillary Clinton is battle-ready," spokesman Brian Fallon told reporters. When asked whether the grueling hearing was a waste of time, Clinton told MSNBC Friday that she agreed to participate "because if there is anything new, which is unlikely after the eight prior investigations that have been held, we should know about it." Afterwards, "I had my whole team come over to my house, and we sat around eating Indian food and drinking wine and beer" she said.

## 'Coming Back'

Ripping a page from husband Bill's never-say-die playbook, Clinton - who led Obama early in their 2008 rivalry only to see him snatch the nomination - may be proving that she too can be the comeback kid. Just a few weeks ago, her poll numbers were worryingly low-she was tied with Sanders in Iowa, the state that votes first in the 2016 primary race, and trailing him by double digits in New Hampshire, which votes second.

Bill Clinton suffered early voter rejection in 1992, losing 10 of the first 11 primaries before turning things around to win the nomination and then complete a stunning upset over incumbent president George H W Bush. Hillary Clinton, 67, appears to be repairing damage before the first primary votes. She has closed the Sanders gap in New Hampshire and, according to a Quinnipiac University poll released Friday, has opened an 11-point lead over Sanders in Iowa.

She is riding high after her performance Thursday, when House Republicans interrogated her over her role in responding to the 2012 attacks in Benghazi, Libya that left four Americans dead. Clinton maintained her cool and emerged unscathed - to the relief of Democrats at the Virginia rally. "I agree that it was kind of a rough summer, but she's kind of coming back. She appeared very presidential," said Jeremy Dickie, 24, who works for a non-profit in Washington.



**ALEXANDRIA, Virginia:** Democratic Presidential hopeful Hillary Clinton speaks during a campaign rally on Friday. —AFP

Some Republicans even conceded that Clinton had performed admirably. New Jersey Governor Chris Christie, running near the back of the Republican presidential pack, panned lawmakers as "ineffective" at dinging Clinton. "She helped herself yesterday. They didn't uncover anything new," he told Fox News.

Clinton Friday also shook off recent comments by Republican congressman Mo Brooks, who said the former US chief diplomat should be impeached on her first day in office if she is elected president. "Isn't that pathetic? It's just laughable. It's so totally ridiculous," Clinton told MSNBC. —AFP



**JABBOUL, Syria:** Syrian government forces walk in this village on the eastern outskirts of the northern Syrian city of Aleppo after taking control of the village from Islamic State (IS) yesterday. — AFP

## RUSSIA OFFERS AIR COVER FOR ANTI-ASSAD REBELS

### MOSCOW WANTS DAMASCUS TO PREPARE ELECTIONS

**MOSCOW:** Russia said yesterday it was ready to provide air support for Western-backed moderate rebels battling both jihadists and Syrian President Bashar Al-Assad as Moscow presses on with its diplomatic offensive over the conflict. Speaking after a surprise summit between Syria's embattled leader and Russian President Vladimir Putin at the Kremlin this week, Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov urged moves towards presidential and parliamentary polls in the war-torn country.

Representatives of Syria's Western-backed opposition sounded incredulous, saying Russia should first stop bombing moderate rebels and that talk of elections was premature. On the ground, Syrian troops backed by Russian air strikes battled fighters from the Islamic State (IS) group in a bid to restore a key supply line to second city Aleppo, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said. At least 28 IS fighters and 21 troops and pro-regime militia have been killed in the battle for

the road leading to the government-held part of Aleppo, it said. The monitors also reported Russian strikes in northern Hama province and said six people, including three children, were killed in what was believed to be a Russian strike on the village of Al-Barqun in Aleppo province. Russia and the West have been at loggerheads over Assad's fate, a major sticking point in efforts to solve a crisis that has killed more than 250,000 people since 2011 and sparked an exodus of around four million refugees.

Seeking to shake off months of Western isolation over the Ukraine conflict, Putin last month launched air strikes in Syria and has since launched negotiations with the war's key regional players, including some of Assad's worst enemies, such as Saudi Arabia and Turkey. But Washington has accused Moscow of seeking to buttress Assad by bombing moderate rebels in Syria, and refused to share intelligence over Syria.

## A Shift in Russia's Position?

Analysts say Lavrov's offer of support for the anti-Assad opposition in the fight against IS could point to a shift in the Kremlin's position. "We are ready to also support patriotic opposition, including the so-called Free Syrian Army, from the air," Lavrov said in an interview with the Rossiya 1 television channel. Russia has previously only used the words "patriotic" or "healthy" to describe groups backing Assad.

Moscow says it has struggled to identify areas controlled by moderate rebels and has urged the West to help build bridges. The Russian government released the transcript of the interview after Lavrov and US Secretary of State John Kerry agreed in Vienna on Friday to explore new ways of trying to reach a political settlement. Lavrov, who spoke to Kerry again yesterday, also said the huge influx of migrants to Europe - many of them Syrian refugees - had helped shift EU politicians' thinking, which could potentially lead the way to fresh talks on Syria's future. "Of course, it's necessary to prepare for both parliamentary and presidential polls," Lavrov added.

## 'We Don't Understand Russia'

Western-backed Syrian rebels rejected Russia's offer of help under current circumstances. "Russia is bombing the Free Syrian Army and now it wants to cooperate with us, while it remains committed to Assad?" said Lieutenant Colonel Ahmad Saoud, a spokesman for the Division 13 rebel group. "We don't understand Russia at all!" But things could be different if Assad quits power, he suggested. "In the event that Assad leaves, there is a transitional government, a ceasefire and the formation of a national army to serve its country, we will try to forget the pain in order to build our country."

Samir Nashar, a member of the Syrian National Coalition, the opposition's main political body, said the proposal of new elections was absurd and accused Moscow of trying "to circumvent the demands of the Syrian people for Assad's departure". Syria last held presidential elections in June 2014, with Assad re-elected for a seven-year term with 88.7 percent of the vote. The election was dismissed by the opposition and condemned internationally.

## 'Things Resolve Themselves'

Some analysts say Moscow may not be married to the idea of Assad staying in power indefinitely, with others suggesting the Kremlin may be nudging the disgraced leader to share power. Jeremy Binnie, Middle East editor at IHS Jane's Defence Weekly, said Putin wants to see a settlement in Syria and is "prepared to retire Bashar al-Assad to achieve that goal". Washington and its allies say there is no role for Assad in the future, although some of them have said recently his resignation need not be immediate. Putin has stressed that Assad's fate should be decided by the people and said Russia's possible support for the moderate rebels was agreed with the Syrian leader. —AFP

## CHECKPOINTS STIR PALESTINIAN ANGER IN EASTERN JERUSALEM

**JERUSALEM:** Until recently it took Abu Amr four minutes to drive his son to school. Now, because of security checkpoints aimed at combating a wave of attacks on Israelis, it takes 40. Concrete blocks and partitions have been set up around his Palestinian neighborhood of Jabal Mukaber, which came under the spotlight earlier this month when police said the killers of three Israelis were residents of the area. To pass through these new obstacles in occupied east Jerusalem, Abu Amr must abandon his car and go on foot, but only after identity and other checks.

Men must lift their shirts to show they are not carrying a weapon or a bomb. Women must open their bags to be searched by police. Responding to attacks in which eight Israelis have died so far this month, Israeli security forces have deployed into Palestinian areas and erected obstacles to control residents' movements. The United Nations says that 38 barriers, including 17 checkpoints, have sprung up in nine Palestinian neighborhoods, disrupting the daily lives of at least 138,000 Palestinians.

On a recent day, Abu Amr, 34, needed to pick up the boy from school and take him to a doctor's appointment. He was running late and fuming at "the collective punishment which is the manifestation of the racist discrimination" by Israel in east Jerusalem. The mainly-Arab eastern sector was seized by Israel during the 1967 Six Day War and later annexed in a move never internationally recognized. Since the beginning of October, Palestinian-Israeli unrest has spiked across the occupied territories but it is in east Jerusalem where Palestinians "pay the highest price," Abu Amr says. The Israelis "believe that the solution will be imposed by force, but more force will only bring more violence," he adds.

## 'Late for Everything'

Jabal Mukaber was home to three Palestinians who allegedly killed three Israelis in two separate attacks in Jerusalem before being killed by security forces. Israeli authorities started building a wall there this week to create a buffer for an adjacent Jewish neighborhood where "there is a history of stone and firebomb throwing at Jewish homes and cars," the municipality said. Work on the barrier, which was to have run for 300 m, soon ground to a halt amid internal Israeli political squabbles but Palestinian residents remain fearful. "What do they want to do with the wall if not to isolate

our neighbourhood?" asks Tareq Auisat.

The 24-year-old bus driver says that the section already erected stops him taking passengers more than 500 m. "I drop them at a checkpoint then they take another bus," from the other side to east Jerusalem's city centre. "Normally the journey takes 25 minutes," he adds. "Now with the roadblocks and searches you need to allow an hour or 90 minutes."

In the Issawiya neighbourhood stand identical concrete blocks and armed soldiers block all roads in. "Every day we're late for university or school," says 19-year-old student Mumen Rabi. "We're late for everything. It's a punishment inflicted on all the residents of Issawiya." It comes, locals say, on top of decades of discrimination and marginalization of Palestinians in Jerusalem, where more than 300,000 of them live. Construction is almost impossible because building permits are issued by Israel in a trickle, while demolition of unlicensed Palestinian homes increases. Among them live 200,000 Israeli settlers, encouraged to build because Israel considers Jerusalem as its "eternal and indivisible capital".

## 'Stuck in the 15th Century'

The Israeli municipal council officially manages all of the city but its services actually stop at the edge of the Palestinian neighborhoods. The Palestinians living there are almost entirely designated as residents rather than citizens. They do not have the vote in national Israeli elections nor do they hold Israeli passports, travelling instead on documents issued by neighboring Jordan. "We pay taxes... but no one is interested in us," says Abu Amr. "Infrastructure in the east (of the city) is zero! We have no social care, no education, no development, no economy. We don't have job security either."

Mohammed Abu Al-Homos, a member of the Issawiya neighborhood council, points to the street sweepers busy at work in the neighboring Jewish colony of French Hill. "Here, they do nothing at all, while there, they clean the pavements." Palestinian cartographer Khalil Tufakji says the two sides of the holy city occupy parallel universes. "West Jerusalem lives in the 21st century, but east Jerusalem is stuck in the 15th century," he tells AFP. To move from one side to the other, he says, is to cross "a cultural divide". "One passes from one world to another which is totally different." — AFP



**JERUSALEM:** Israeli border guards check the documents of a Palestinian at a roadblock set up on a road close to the Palestinian neighborhood of Jabal Mukaber in east Jerusalem on Oct 15, 2015. — AFP

## ISLAMIST CANDIDATE IN EGYPT ELECTIONS SHOT DEAD IN SINAI

**CAIRO:** Gunmen shot dead an Islamist candidate in Egypt's parliamentary elections in North Sinai yesterday, officials said, where jihadists are waging an insurgency against the government. Mostafa Abdel Rahman, a candidate for ultraconservative Salafist Al-Nour party which is seen as pro-government, was gunned down by two assailants on a motorbike outside his home in the town of El-Arish, police officials said. Nour Party secretary general Galal Al-Murra confirmed his death to AFP.

Nour was the only prominent Islamist party to emerge unscathed from a crackdown on Islamists following the military overthrow of Islamist president Mohamed Morsi in 2013, having supported his ouster by then army chief Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi. With Morsi's Muslim Brotherhood blacklisted, and thousands of its activists killed or detained, the Nour party remained as the main Islamist grouping contesting the parliamentary elections that began on Oct 18.

Sisi, who is now president, is contending with a fierce insurgency in the Sinai Peninsula by Islamic State group affiliated militants who have branded his government as apostate, and elections as a heretical practice. Police officials say they believe jihadists targeted the candidate to undermine the elections. Abdel Rahman, who also acted as the North Sinai secretary general for the party, would be the first politician killed by militants in the two-year insurgency since Morsi's overthrow.

Jihadists have focused most of their attacks on the military, police and judiciary. Yesterday, the Islamic State group claimed credit for two roadside bombings in El-Arish over the past 48 hours that killed four

policemen. It also said it had planted a bomb at a Cairo intersection flanked by hotels near the pyramids, which wounded four people when police tried to defuse it on Friday.

## Attacks Follow Army Op

The attacks came despite a massive army operation to quell the insurgency in the peninsula bordering Israel and the Gaza Strip, and which the army claimed in September had killed scores of jihadists. Hundreds of policemen and soldiers had been killed in attacks since Morsi's overthrow, which unleashed a deadly crackdown on his supporters in which hundreds of protesters have been killed. Egypt had tightened security for the multi-stage election, which runs from Oct 18 to Dec 2.

The election was part of a promised transition to democracy by Sisi after he overthrew Morsi, the country's first freely elected leader whose divisive year in power prompted massive rallies demanding his resignation. The poll comes following a constitutional referendum and the 2014 presidential elections that Sisi won. Turnout in the first round on Oct 18 was relatively low, with only 26.6 percent of registered voters casting ballots, according to an electoral commission official. That was a sharp drop from the 62 percent registered in the first stage of the last parliamentary poll, held in 2011 months after the ouster of longtime president Hosni Mubarak. Morsi's Muslim Brotherhood won most seats, followed by the Nour party, creating an Islamist-dominated parliament eventually disbanded by a court order in 2012. — AFP



# SUPER STORM WEAKENS AS IT SOAKS MEXICO

**PUERTO VALLARTA, MEXICO:** Hurricane Patricia, one of the strongest storms ever recorded, crashed into western Mexico with rain and winds of up to 266 kph, hammering coastal areas but causing less damage than had been feared as it skirted cities and major tourist resorts. Mowing down trees, flooding streets and battering buildings, Patricia plowed into Mexico as a Category 5 hurricane on Friday evening before grinding inland. It rapidly lost power in the mountains that rise up along the Pacific coast and was downgraded to a tropical depression yesterday morning as it headed through central Mexico.

Thousands of residents and tourists along the coast had fled the storm's advance and ended up in improvised shelters. But there were no early reports of deaths and many felt they had escaped lightly. It appeared major damage was averted because the powerful storm did not hit large population centers. Patricia's edges brushed the major port of Manzanillo. Port director Jorge Bustos said the facility was still closed, but he expected it to be open again by yesterday afternoon. "We didn't have any major damage," he said. "Sure, gates, doors, some windows, volatile or light roofs, that sort of thing, but nothing that was a risk to our operations."

Further north, around 15,000 tourists had been hastily evacuated from the busy beach resort of Puerto Vallarta. But many were able to leave shelters and return to their hotels on Friday night. "I don't think there's going to be a big problem with the water," said Dario Pomina, 43, manager of the Posadas de Roger hotel in the center of Puerto Vallarta. "Things are more or less okay." The city woke to light rain yesterday and workers removed boards from windows. Public buses were up and running.

But residents of Las Juntas, a village where the Ameca and Mascota rivers meet about 10 km from Puerto Vallarta, were being evacuated yesterday after a rapid rise in water levels overnight caused flooding, emergency services spokeswoman Veronica Diaz said. Patricia's center hit land on Friday evening near the area of



PUERTO VALLARTA, Mexico: View of a breakwater after the arrival of hurricane Patricia yesterday. — AFP

Cuixmala, located between Manzanillo and Puerto Vallarta and home to one of Mexico's most exclusive getaways, the US National Hurricane Center said.

The resort at Cuixmala was founded by Anglo-French financier Sir James Goldsmith and has played host over the years to a colorful assortment of world leaders, musicians and eccentric billionaires. Maria Pavon, a Cuixmala reservations booker based in the inland city of Colima, said there were no guests staying when

the storm hit as they all been evacuated. But there was no word yet on the state of the resort. She and colleagues had been unable to make contact as phone lines were down, Pavon said.

The area around Cuixmala is sparsely populated, but there are small towns, and it was not clear yet how much damage they had suffered. At one point generating sustained winds of up to 322 kph, Patricia was the strongest hurricane ever recorded in the Western Hemisphere. Even though it lost some power before coming

ashore, it was still a Category 5 storm, the strongest on the five-step Saffir-Simpson scale. Such storms are relatively rare and are capable of causing devastating destruction. Patricia's ferocious core was relatively small, with hurricane force winds extending 55 km from the center, the Hurricane Center said. This meant Puerto Vallarta and Manzanillo were spared the worst.

In Puerto Vallarta, Brian Shelley, a tourist from Chicago, rode out the storm eating burg-

ers with other guests at a boutique hotel on a hill. After talking one of his panicked traveling companions into staying, he was glad Patricia turned out to be less punishing than was feared. "I've seen bigger waves on normal days," he joked. In Manzanillo, Ramona Delgado, 45, who manages an apartment block, spent the night in darkness at home with her two children, but said yesterday morning the lights were back on. "It scared us a lot, we thought Manzanillo was going to disappear," she said. "There are only fallen trees on our block."

### Rapidly Loses Power

Once inland, Patricia rapidly lost power. By mid-morning yesterday morning it had been downgraded to a tropical depression with its maximum winds down to about 55 kph, the Miami-based Hurricane Center said. The storm was located about 155 km northeast of the central city of Zacatecas, heading rapidly northeast at 39 kph, the center said. However, Patricia could still pose a flood threat. It was expected to produce total rainfall accumulations of 20 to 30 cm, with isolated maximum amounts of 50 cm, over the Mexican states of Nayarit, Jalisco, Colima, Michoacan, and Guerrero through yesterday, the center said.

In a brief televised address on Friday, President Enrique Pena Nieto said that "initial reports confirm that damage has been less than would be expected of a hurricane of this magnitude." But he urged Mexicans not to lower their guard yet. The government cautioned that ash and other material from the volcano of Colima, some 210 km from Puerto Vallarta, could combine with heavy rainfall to trigger liquid-cement-style mudflows.

Patricia became a tropical storm on Thursday and strengthened with stunning speed as it closed in on the Mexican coast. Meteorological authorities compared it to Typhoon Haiyan, which killed over 6,300 people in the Philippines in 2013. The strongest storm on record was Cyclone Tip which hit Japan in 1979. — Reuters

## NEW YORK CITY COULD SET NEW TIPPING TREND

**NEW YORK:** The centuries-old tradition of tipping at New York restaurants predates the Statue of Liberty and seems woven into the fabric of a city that often sets social trends for the rest of the country. But now Restaurateur Danny Meyer, owner of tourist hotspot Shake Shack, upscale Union Square Cafe and The Modern, is tipping the tables on gratuities, saying he will eliminate them at 13 of his New York City restaurants and increase base wages for cooks and servers while raising base prices.

Gratuities generate tens of billions of dollars a year for servers, and the practice is not expected to disappear overnight. Some restaurants have already discontinued tipping while others ended discretionary tipping by including a base tip on the check. But tips on merit are still widespread. Experts said such a move by a man like Meyer is sure to start the industry rethinking a practice that is as much a given as cutlery on the table. "He's taking the first, very visible step in going in that direction," said Cydna Bougae, clinical assistant professor at New York University's Tisch Center for Hospitality and Tourism. Even so, she observed, "there's going to be a lot of wait and see with the industry."

Meyer has portrayed the new policy as part of a growing national movement to assure a minimum hourly wage of \$15 for workers at fast-food restaurants and other service businesses. The National Restaurant Association, a trade group that is opposed to the \$15-an-hour initiative, said restaurants should decide their own tip policy. "It's vital that restaurants continue to have the freedom to choose what works best for their business and their workforce to keep the industry thriving as a leading jobs creator for our country," the association said in a statement. "The no-tip model remains a limited concept with a handful of restaurants testing it nationwide. We have found the practice of tipping has traditionally attracted millions of employees to our industry and still has strong support from American diners."

Meyer, whose Union Square Hospitality Group has 1,800 employees, said last week he would implement the policy next month at The Modern, a high-end eatery near the Museum of Modern Art, and phase it in at other restaurants over the next year. Meyer said in a statement that he decided to do away with tips partly to attract and retain talented cooks and other kitchen staff who generally receive no tips. "For our teams, the change will be significant," Meyer said. "We will now have the ability to compensate all of our employees equitably, competitively, and professionally."

Meyer's restaurant group did not respond to interview requests. But in an interview with food critic Ryan Sutton for website Eater NY, Meyer said he plans on raising menu prices between 21 percent and 25 percent and distributing the extra revenue among kitchen staff and servers. Meyer said he expected workers who had been previously tipped to earn the same or more under the new policy.

Restaurant Opportunities Centers United (ROC), which lobbies for fast food restaurant workers to earn \$15 per hour, supports Meyer. "Eliminating the two-tiered wage system is essential to ensuring a fair and just future for the nation's 11 million restaurant workers," it said. Melissa Fleischut, president and chief executive of the New York State Restaurant Association, has said restaurant owners would closely watch Meyer's actions to decide their own. Whether hospitality industry leaders follow suit depends on how the policy affects Meyer's bottom line, if eliminating gratuities affects service, and how employees view the change, NYU's Bougae said.

As for restaurant workers, the sentiment is mixed. Cameron Holmes, a bar manager at Brooklyn's Bar Lunatico, said when he heard of the no-tips plan he initially thought service staff revenue would drop. But, he said, after looking closer at the model, which included shared revenue, it seemed fair, especially to cooks who are legally not allowed to share in gratuities. "As long as it's not just a redistribution and it's going to be a revenue share, it could be a tremendous thing for everyone," he said. — Reuters



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## 'ARSON ATTACK' GUTS PLANNED REFUGEE HOME IN SWEDEN

**STOCKHOLM:** A planned refugee home in Sweden was torched in a suspected arson attack, police said yesterday, the latest incident apparently targeting new arrivals in Europe's migrant crisis. Firefighters were called to the blaze in Eskilstuna, 90 kilometres (50 miles) west of Stockholm, around 11:00pm (2100 GMT) on

Friday, but the building was almost totally destroyed.

Police have launched an arson inquiry into the attack on the building, a former holiday camp which had been set to house around 60 people seeking asylum in Sweden. The incident adds to around a dozen similar attacks since the start of the year and

came a day after a man armed with a sword killed two people in a racist attack at a Swedish school with many immigrant pupils.

"If it's because of the fact that some people think this type of lodging should not exist—then that's really terrible," local official Tryggve Lundh said of the migrant hostel fire on SR public

radio. Sweden, a country of 9.8 million, expects to receive up to 190,000 asylum applications this year—putting it among the EU states with the highest proportion of refugees per capita as the continent struggles with a massive influx of migrants.

Support for the far-right has grown as Sweden's ability to house and inte-

grate the new arrivals comes under strain. Anti-immigration attitudes have been rising across Europe, as more than 600,000 migrants and refugees—most fleeing violence in Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan—have made the dangerous journey to the continent this year, according to the UN. — AFP



**DOBOVA:** Volunteers distribute some food to migrants, in the registration camp in Dobova, yesterday. Thousands of migrants marched across the border between Croatia into Slovenia as authorities intensify their efforts to attempt to cope with Europe's largest migration of people since World War II. — AFP

## BALKAN COUNTRIES MAY CLOSE BORDERS IF GERMANY DOES

### HUGE INFLOW OF MIGRANTS INTO SLOVENIA CONTINUES

**SOFIA:** Bulgaria, Serbia and Romania said yesterday they would close their borders if Germany or other countries do the same to stop refugees coming in, warning they would not allow the Balkan region to become a buffer zone for stranded migrants.

Bulgarian Prime Minister Boiko Borisov announced the decision after meeting his Serbian and Romanian counterparts in the capital Sofia ahead of a planned summit of European Union leaders today. It is an indication of the divisions that have opened up between European Union states over how to deal with an influx of hundreds of thousands of migrants, many fleeing conflict in Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan. "The three countries, we are standing ready, if Germany and Austria close their borders, not to allow our countries to become buffer zones. We will be ready to close borders," Borisov told reporters.

"We will not expose our countries to the devastating pressure of millions that would come," Romanian Prime Minister Victor Ponta said this would be the three countries' common position at an extraordinary meeting of some European leaders on Sunday to tackle the migrant crisis in the western Balkans. Thousands trying to reach Germany are already trapped there in deteriorating conditions.

"We carry out our obligations, we are in solidarity with all of Europe," Ponta said. "But the responsibility cannot be put with just some countries. If there are countries which close their borders, or build fences, then we have the right to defend ourselves in a timely manner."

Romania's neighbor Hungary has built a fence to keep out migrants and closed its border with Croatia, prompting Slovenia to consider following suit with its own fence.

European Commission chief Jean-Claude Juncker has invited to today's mini-summit the heads of state or government of Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Macedonia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Romania, Serbia and Slovenia, plus key organizations involved. The aim of the meeting is to agree "common operational conclusions which could be immediately implemented".

It comes as crowds of refugees and other migrants camp by roads in western Balkan countries in worsening autumn weather after Hungary sealed its borders, causing a chain reaction in other overwhelmed states. "It is important for the people to know that it is not a problem to register (refugees), or build bigger centres, nothing of this is a problem for Serbia," Serbian Prime Minister Aleksandar Vucic told reporters.

#### Inflow continues

A huge inflow of migrants and refugees to Slovenia continued yesterday as thousands of people arrived to the tiny Alpine state on their way to Austria and Germany. Since last Saturday 58,000 migrants, many fleeing the war in Syria, have arrived in Slovenia, shifting their route to the west after Hungary sealed off its borders.

As a percentage of Slovenia's tiny population that is the equivalent of almost 2.3 million people entering

Germany or 1.8 million arriving in Britain in a week. Police said about 9,000 migrants were still in Slovenia yesterday with more on the way.

"We want to go to the Netherlands. I just want this ordeal to stop. There is no way back and I am ready to do anything to secure a future to my son," said 20-year-old Hamrein from Syria, holding her feverish 6-month-old son against her chest. She was one of about 2,000 migrants who were waiting in a muddy field near the Slovenian village of Rigonce to cross to nearby migrant camp, braving cold and foggy weather. Many put up fires and wrapped themselves into blankets and aluminium foil to try to keep warm with morning temperatures being close to zero.

They hope to be able to reach Austria later on Saturday but many more are behind them with about 8,500 migrants entering Serbia over the past 24 hours in order to continue their way to Croatia, Slovenia and then Austria. Serbia, Bulgaria and Romania said yesterday they would close their borders if Germany would do so, so as to prevent the Balkans becoming a buffer zone for stranded migrants.

Slovenia had said on Friday it would consider putting up a fence on its border with Croatia unless a solution is found at a today's meeting of regional heads of states with European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker. Croatia has so far insisted that walls or fences are not the solution, but rather a common EU approach tackling the situation on the border between Greece and Turkey, where most migrants and refugees enter the EU. — Agencies

## 'HOPELESSNESS' IN FRENCH SUBURBS A DECADE ON FROM RIOTS

**PARIS:** Ten years on from the riots that shook France's suburbs, many residents say almost nothing in their lives has changed, and they feel excluded from the country's narrative and abandoned by politicians. President Francois Hollande paid a rare visit to one of the infamous "banlieues" this week—Courneuve, north of Paris—where he vowed that under the egalitarian principles of the French Republic, "no areas are left behind."

But the whistles of disapproval that accompanied his speech underlined the disillusionment of locals, even though many of them voted for him in 2012.

"This could explode once again, because the social injustices are still there and there is a deep hopelessness among the young," warned Mehdi Bigaderne, the 32-year-old deputy mayor of Clichy-sous-Bois, the Paris suburb where the 2005 riots began and then spread to other parts of the country.

Bigaderne was a social worker in the area on October 27, 2005, when news broke that two teenagers had died while running away from the police. Bouna Traore, 15, and Zyed Benna, 17, were returning home from playing football and had done nothing wrong.

But accustomed to harassment, they chose to run when they saw a police car. They scaled a fence to hide in an electricity substation and were both electrocuted.

Protests over their deaths quickly turned violent. Police fought running battles against stone-throwing youths, cars were set alight and public buildings vandalized. "They had had enough of constantly being stopped by police, of the town being neglected," said Karim, who was 16 at the time and took part in the riots. "The death of Zyed and Bouna was the last straw."

"It was a spontaneous social and urban revolt—a self-mutilation," said Bigaderne. The violence spread to neighboring estates such as Clichy, home to many poor first- and second-generation migrants—and then all over the country. The peak came on the night of November 6 when 274 areas were affected.

Three nights later, the government called a state of emergency. By the time calm was restored on November 17, 10,000 cars had been burned, 300 buildings destroyed or vandalized, two policemen

shot and injured, and 6,000 people arrested.

#### 'Apartheid'

Since then, successive governments have launched initiatives to tackle the deep-rooted challenges in these areas, often seen as "ghettos" that are all but cut off from the cities they surround. In Clichy-sous-Bois, some parts are unrecognisable: new and well-appointed apartment blocks have replaced the shabby towers that made life so easy for drug dealers and so difficult for the police.

An employment agency, health centre, police station and swimming pool have appeared.

But many see the changes as cosmetic. It can still take an hour and 40 minutes to reach Paris even though the capital lies just 15 kilometres (nine miles) away. Politicians took renewed interest after the jihadist attacks on Charlie Hebdo magazine and other Paris targets in January that left 17 dead raised fears that the suburbs were becoming breeding grounds for radical Islam.

Prime Minister Manuel Valls went as far as talking of "a territorial, social and ethnic apartheid".

One official report found unemployment was 23 percent in the suburbs, compared to nine percent countrywide, in 2013. Among people aged 15 to 24, the figure rose to 42 percent. Experts say the problems of the "banlieues" have deep roots, one of which is urban planning.

Many estates were thrown up in 1960s and 1970s to house waves of North African and sub-Saharan African workers who provided cheap labour for what was then a booming economy.

These concrete complexes typically lie outside the historic city centre. Transport links and shopping can be poor, reinforcing a sense of isolation and injustice. The 2008 financial crisis triggered "a considerable impoverishment of a large part of the population," said sociologist Didier Lapeyronnie. "We see a reinforcement of the social and racial segregation."

And the rise of the far-right National Front (FN) in recent years has only added to the tensions and the sense of separation. The situation, said Clichy mayor Olivier Klein, "is even more negative today than it was 10 years ago." — AFP



**LESBOS:** Refugees and migrants arrive on the Greek island of Lesbos after crossing the Aegean sea from Turkey yesterday. — AFP

## SCHOOL STABBING HIGHLIGHTS RACIAL TENSIONS IN SWEDEN

**TROLLHATTAN, SWEDEN:** The southern industrial city of Trollhattan has become a focal point for underlying racial tensions in Sweden, a country known for its generous attitudes to migrants. On Thursday, a 21-year-old

local man with racist motives rampaged through a school, stabbing two people to death and seriously wounding two others before being fatally shot by police. Authorities say he methodically selected dark-skinned

victims at Trollhattan's Kronan school, where most students are foreign-born.

The attacker, who killed a teacher and a student, has not been named by police. Many in this nation of 10 million were horrified by the violence but not

surprised at its eruption, as the migrant surge across Europe has increased anti-immigrant attitudes. A teacher at a nearby school, Jo-Anne Frampton, said it was "just a matter of time."

Hundreds of people lit candles Friday in the yard of a Swedish school where police said a 21-year-old masked man with a sword and a knife went on a rampage a day earlier, stabbing two to death and seriously wounding two others before being shot by police.

Police described the Thursday attack as a carefully organized, racist hate crime by a young man who methodically selected his victims in Trollhattan's Kronan school, where most of the students are foreign-born.

The Scandinavian nation of 10 million, known for its welcoming attitude toward migrants, was shocked by the violence in the southern industrial town near Sweden's second largest city, Goteborg.

"This is a black day for Sweden," Prime Minister Stefan Lofven said of the country's deadliest school attack. "It is a tragedy that hits the entire country."

Although violent crime is relatively rare in Sweden, there has been a spate of arson attacks on asylum centers in recent weeks as an influx of refugees has surged. Immigration officials estimate some 190,000 asylum-seekers will arrive this year, second only to Germany in Western Europe. — AP



**TROLLHATTAN:** Saman Nazar, cousin a victim of Thursday's attack, reacts, outside the Kronan school in Trollhattan, Sweden, in Trollhattan, yesterday. — AP

## ASSANGE: USE SNAIL MAIL TO THWART SPIES

**BRUSSELS:** WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange has urged journalists to use regular postal services to thwart government spying.

"My recommendation, for people who don't have 10 years' experience in cryptography, is to return to old methods (and) use the traditional postal service," Assange said in an interview published yesterday.

"Journalists are treated by intelligence services as spies," he told the Belgian daily Le Soir. "The same methods used against spies are used against journalists, and now journalists must learn counter-espionage methods to protect their sources."

On Thursday WikiLeaks released a second instalment of documents from CIA

director John Brennan's hacked personal email account, including his contacts list. Assange, in another interview with the Belgian daily L'Echo, reiterated that WikiLeaks would release more of Brennan's documents on Monday, which he described as "documents awaited by many human rights activists and lawyers, but also people who were tortured."

He added that WikiLeaks would soon post information about the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP). In August, WikiLeaks offered 100,000 euros (\$110,000) for a copy of the trade deal.

Assange is to contribute by videoconference to a debate tomorrow on "political transparency and protection of privacy" to be held in Brussels. — AFP



**DHAKA:** Bangladesh Rapid Action Battalion (RAB) personnel stand guard as Shiite Muslims prepare to perform a ritual at a religious procession during the Ashura mourning period in Dhaka yesterday. — AFP

# ONE KILLED IN IS-CLAIMED ATTACK ON DHAKA SHRINE

## 80 HURT AS BOMB HITS ASHOURA MOURNERS

**DHAKA:** The Islamic State group claimed responsibility for the bombing of the main Shiite shrine in the Bangladeshi capital yesterday that killed one person and wounded nearly 80, as thousands gathered for the annual Ashura procession. The rare attack on Bangladesh's tiny Shiite Muslim community comes just weeks after an Italian aid worker and a Japanese farmer were shot dead in attacks also claimed by the Islamic State (IS) jihadist group-although authorities reject the claims.

Officers said a 14-year-old boy died on the spot after three small bombs were thrown at the complex of the Hossaini Dalan, the main Shiite site in the old Mughal quarter of Dhaka, at about 2 am yesterday (2000 GMT Friday).

"There were some 20,000 people in and outside the building at that time. They were preparing to hold the annual Muharram mourning procession when the three (bombs) were exploded," deputy commissioner of Dhaka Police Mofiz Uddin Ahmed told AFP. The IS group later claimed the killing on Twitter, according to the SITE Intelligence Group, a US monitoring organization, but police said they had found no evidence to show the jihadists were behind the blasts. "So far we have not found any link to any militant group in the attack," Dhaka police spokesman Muntashirul Islam told AFP.

The attacks come as Shiites around the world mark the holy month of Moharram. Pakistan's Shiites have also suffered sectarian violence this week after

two suicide blasts killed at least 27 people. In Bangladesh, television showed live footage of the chaos in the aftermath of the blasts with fleeing people holding flags and ambulances taking the injured to hospital.

Police said around 80 people were injured in the attack on the 17th century religious site, at least one critically. The Rapid Action Battalion, the country's elite security force, said it believed the bombs used were improvised explosive devices (IEDs).

"We've recovered similar IEDs from the Islamist militants in the past," RAB deputy spokesman Major Maqsudul Alam said.

### Blast hit Ashura mourners

Authorities have yet to make any arrests in connection with the blasts but three people have been taken in for questioning, police inspector Mohammad Murad said. Home Affairs minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal told local media that authorities had video footage of the blasts and he hoped they could quickly track down the attackers.

Ashura marks the climax of the holy month of Muharram when Shiites hold processions and gatherings to mourn the martyrdom of the Prophet Mohammed's grandson Imam Hussain at the Battle of Karbala in Iraq in 680 AD. Witnesses told the mass-circulation daily Prothom Alo that many mourners fell to the ground as loud explosions went off at the main gate of the Hossaini Dalan, the most

important prayer and congregation site for Bangladesh's Shiites.

Roni, who uses one name, said mourners dressed in black were holding prayers just before the procession when he heard 8-10 explosions and saw a fire. Security was stepped up at Shiite mosques across the country immediately after the attack and mourners in Dhaka's Mohammadpur neighborhood banned women and children from the procession.

Defying the attack, about 20,000 Shiites continued the procession in Dhaka, police and an AFP photographer at the scene said, cutting their bodies with knives and iron chains in a religious ritual. "We've been observing this mourning procession here for centuries. But we've never seen any incident like this. We demand a quick and fair investigation into the blasts," a leader of the Shiite community at Hossaini Dalan told reporters.

The explosions come as tensions run high in Bangladesh after the Islamic State group claimed its first attacks in the mainly moderate Sunni Muslim-majority country of 160 million people.

While the blasts are believed to be the first attack on Shiites in Bangladesh, in the past two years banned Islamist militant groups have killed more than a dozen Sufi Muslims and attacked Hindus and Christians. The killing of four atheist bloggers this year has also undermined government efforts to play down the threat posed by hardliners, experts say. —AFP

# DEATH TOLL FROM PAKISTAN BLAST RISES TO 24: MINISTER

**KARACHI:** The death toll from a suspected suicide blast which targeted Shiite Muslims in the southern Pakistani city of Jacobabad has risen to 24, a provincial minister said yesterday.

The officials had earlier confirmed that at least 16 people were killed and many more injured in the attack outside the residence of a local Shiite leader, which came as devotees were setting off towards a main procession in the city. Jam Mehtab Dahar, provincial minister for health in the southern province of Sindh where the attack took place, said more wounded people had succumbed to their injuries.

"The death toll has risen to 24 now," Dahar told AFP, adding that two of at least 20 wounded were still in a critical condition. Regional police chief Sain Rakhio Mirani told AFP that at least six of the victims were children. Mirani also said that

"initial evidence" suggested a suicide bomber was responsible for the blast. Pakistan is on high alert and has deployed some 10,000 troops and 6,000 paramilitary members to prevent sectarian violence during the mourning days of Ashura in the holy month of Moharram, a flashpoint in previous years.

Moharram, which began last week, sees Shiites hold processions and gatherings to mourn the martyrdom of the Prophet Mohammed's grandson Imam Hussain at the Battle of Karbala in Iraq in 680 AD. Hussain is equally revered by Sunnis, but hardliners oppose the public mourning of his martyrdom.

Sectarian violence in particular by Sunni hardliners against the Shiites that make up roughly 20 percent of Pakistan's 200 million people has claimed thousands of lives in the country over the past decade. —AFP



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**For further questions please contact us on 24345555, interphone: 2249 or Fax no. 24722431**

# TALEBAN FIGHTERS MAROONED ON RIVER ISLAND: AFGHANISTAN

**KABUL:** Dozens of Taliban fighters were stranded on a river island on the border between Afghanistan and Turkmenistan yesterday after fleeing army troops led by the Afghan vice president, the government said, though the Taliban denied they were stuck.

Taliban fighters fled on Thursday to the banks of the Amu River, one of the longest in Central Asia, deserting motorbikes and using fishing boats to reach the island, said Sultan Faizy, spokesman for Vice President General Abdul Rashid Dostum. "They have no choice but to surrender or starve," he said, adding that Afghan troops had not advanced so as not to enter Turkmenistan.

A Taliban spokesman denied its fighters were marooned, saying they were basing themselves on the Afghan side of the island to stage their fight against government forces. Afghanistan's vice president has been leading about 2,000 Afghan troops in the northern province of Jawzjan against the insurgents making a broad push across the north of the country. The clashes come just weeks after the Taliban briefly took control of provincial capital of Kunduz province in the movement's biggest victory in the 14-year war.

Afghan forces had cleared most of Khamab district on Thursday, which had fallen under Taliban control for nearly

three weeks, seizing militants' heavy arms and vehicles and forcing the fighters to retreat to the island, Faizy said. The Jawzjan operation is part of the expanding fight by Afghan troops against the Taliban, which has launched sustained attacks on district and provincial centres since the withdrawal of most foreign troops at the end of last year.

The geographic spread of the insurgency's attacks has strained the limited resources of Afghan forces during a long year of fighting that is expected to last through the winter.

Many districts across the country are now fully or partially under Taliban control in the fluid power struggle between the militants and government forces that can change daily. In the northern province of Faryab, next door to Jawzjan, the bodies of 13 police, including the district's police chief, were recovered by security forces on Friday in Ghormach district, which fell to Taliban forces last week, said Faryab's security chief Col. Baryalai Basharyar Parwani.

It was not the only attack on government officials during the week. On Thursday, Mohammad Daud Gulistani, the head of Jaghatu district in the embattled central province of Ghazni, was ambushed by armed gunmen and killed, according to the province's deputy governor. The Taliban claimed responsibility. —Agencies

# INDIA PAVES WAY FOR WOMEN IN ARMY COMBAT ROLES

**NEW DELHI:** The Indian government gave its nod yesterday for women to fly fighter jets, paving the way for them to assume combat roles for the first time in one of the world's largest militaries. The federal defense ministry gave the green light to a proposal for recruiting female fighter pilots in the Indian Air Force (IAF), where women already fly transport aircraft and helicopters. "With this decision to open up induction of women in the fighter stream, women have become eligible for induction in all branches and streams of the IAF," a defense ministry statement published yesterday said. "This progressive step is in keeping with the aspirations of Indian women and is in line with contemporary trends in Armed Forces of developed nations," it said, adding that after training, selected women "would enter a fighter cockpit by June 2017".

The latest move not only marks the maiden entry of women in combat roles in the IAF but in any branch across the Indian armed forces. Many countries like the United States, Israel and even arch-rival neighbor Pakistan already allow women as fighter pilots.

But India has kept them out of such roles, reportedly fearing women would be more vulnerable to sexual attacks, and worries over lodging and physical fitness. Air Chief Marshal Arup Raha expressed his reluctance to change tack last year when he said "women are by nature not physically suited for flying fighters for long hours". Since then, increasing numbers of female officers have brought court cases demanding better work conditions and permanent commissions instead of temporary terms of five to ten years. The ministry said it had carried out a review in connection with how to increase roles of women in the forces. "Once finalized more and more branches would be opened up for induction of women to give them the space which they deserve in the Armed Forces of the country," it said. Women form some five percent of around 1.32 million active personnel and 2.14 million reservists in the defense forces, according to government figures. —AFP



## Eye on Events

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## SECOND ROUND OF REUNIONS FOR KOREAN FAMILIES

**SEOUL:** A second round of highly-charged family reunions brought together relatives split for six decades by the Korean War yesterday, with around 250 mostly elderly South Koreans crossing into the North. After passing the heavily militarized border in a convoy of buses, the group of South Korean families were driven to the North Korean resort of Mount Kumgang for the first day of emotional encounters with sons, daughters and siblings divided by the conflict.

Among them was Jung Gun-Mok, 64, who was abducted by the North in 1972 aboard a South Korean fishing boat in the Yellow Sea, and his mother, who last saw him as a young man.

"Your son is alive. Don't cry, mother," Jung said, hugging 88-year-old Lee Bok-Soon while wiping away her tears with a handkerchief, according to reports. Jung was among 500 South Koreans kidnapped by North Korea after the 1950-53 Korean War. Koo

Sang-Yeon, 98, was the eldest South Korean present, and met his two North Korean daughters. As a former North Korean soldier, he was captured during the war and released later from a prison camp to live in the South.

### Fortunate minority

The meetings came two days after hundreds of other families wrapped up the first round of reunions. This week's events are only the second set of such encounters in the past five years—the result of an agreement the two Koreas reached in August to ease tensions that had pushed them to the brink of armed conflict. But interaction was tightly controlled—limited to six, two-hour sessions, including meetings in a communal hall, with more limited private one-on-one time without TV cameras.

For the families, the 12 hours total together was heartbreakingly short. But given there are more than 65,000 South Koreans currently on the waiting list for a reunion spot, those selected represent a very fortunate minority. Millions of people were displaced by the sweep of the Korean conflict, which separated brothers and sisters, parents and children, husbands and wives. Because the conflict ended with an armistice rather than a peace treaty, the two Koreas technically remain at war and direct exchanges of letters or telephone calls are banned.

Among the South Korean generation that actually experienced the division, the



South Korean Jo Soon-jeon, 83, right, looks the family photos with her North Korean sisters during the Separated Family Reunion Meeting at the Diamond Mountain resort in North Korea yesterday. —AP



North Korean son Jong Kun Mok (left) wipes tears of his South Korean mother Lee Bok-soon during the Separated Family Reunion Meeting at the Diamond Mountain resort in North Korea yesterday. — AP

vast majority died without ever having any contact with their relatives in the North—and, in many cases, without knowing if they were even alive. With the mortality rate of reunion candidates increasing with every passing year, many accept they may never be selected and have resorted instead to taping video messages and providing DNA samples that might allow for some posthumous contact in the future.

The reunion program began in earnest after a historic North-South summit in 2000, and was initially an annual event. But

Pyongyang has long manipulated the reunion issue as a tool for extracting concessions from Seoul, and sees its agreement to hold the meetings as an act of diplomatic largesse that merits reward.

South Korea's presidential security advisor Kim Kwan-Jin said Thursday that Seoul would push for fresh talks with Pyongyang on arranging family reunions regularly.

"If the two Koreas make progress, we can hold family reunion events on a regular basis and check whether or not they are alive," he said. —AP

## A TENSE NEW FRONT IN SINO-US RIVALRY SEEN

US PATROLS IN SOUTH CHINA SEA COULD RAISE STAKES WITH BEIJING

**HONG KONG:** US plans to send warships or military aircraft within 12 nautical miles of China's artificial islands in the disputed South China Sea, possibly within days, could open a tense new front in Sino-US rivalry. A range of security experts said Washington's so-called freedom of navigation patrols would have to be regular to be effective, given Chinese ambitions to project power deep into maritime Southeast Asia and beyond.

But China would likely resist attempts to make such US actions routine, some said, raising the political and military stakes. China's navy could for example try to block or attempt to surround US vessels, they said, risking an escalation. Given months of debate already in Washington over the first such patrol close to the Chinese outposts since 2012, several regional security experts and former naval officers said the US government might be reluctant to do them often.

US allies such as Japan and Australia are unlikely to follow with their own direct challenges to China, despite their concerns over freedom of navigation along vital trade routes, they added. "This cannot be a one-off," said Ian Storey, a South China Sea expert at Singapore's Institute of Southeast Asian Studies. "The US navy will have to conduct these kinds of patrols on a regular basis to reinforce their message."

The Obama administration has said

it would test China's territorial claims to the area after months of pressure from Congress and the US military. It has not given a timeframe. "I think we have been very clear - that we intend to do this," State Department spokesman Mark Toner told reporters last Monday.

Chinese Foreign Ministry officials said this month that Beijing would "never allow any country to violate China's territorial waters and airspace in the Spratly islands in the name of protecting navigation and overflight". Under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, 12-nautical mile limits cannot be set around man-made islands built on previously submerged reefs.

Four of the seven reefs China has reclaimed over the last two years were completely submerged at high tide before construction began, legal scholars say.

China claims most of the South China Sea. Other claimants are Vietnam, the Philippines, Malaysia, Brunei and Taiwan.

### "NO-GO ZONE"

Bonnie Glaser, a security expert at Washington's Center for Strategic and International Studies, said US missions would likely be regular, with the navy wanting to ensure it did not become effectively shut out of the area. "I know the US does not want that outcome. Nobody wants to give the Chinese a new no-go zone and an effective terri-

torial sea they are not entitled to," she said.

Glaser said she believed China would be careful about interfering with a US patrol, despite past frictions. Myles Caggins, a spokesman for the White House National Security Council, declined to comment when asked whether a US show of force might be more symbolic than substance unless there was a sustained naval effort, or whether the administration was factoring in further Chinese assertiveness.

He said US thinking was illustrated by President Barack Obama's statement at a news conference with Chinese President Xi Jinping in Washington last month that "the United States will continue to sail, fly and operate anywhere that international law allows". Despite Xi's comment at the news conference that the man-made islands would not be militarised, some mainland Chinese analysts believe the reclamations will form the heart of a new military screen protecting Chinese submarines on southern Hainan Island, as well as boasting extensive civilian facilities.

These submarines will soon carry nuclear weapons and represent the core of China's nuclear deterrence, giving it a second strike capability.

### "DANGEROUS ESCALATION"

While China's outposts are seen as

vulnerable in a conflict, up until that point they will allow Beijing to extend both civilian activities, such as fishing and oil exploration, as well as military patrols. One airstrip is finished and two others are being built.

Zhang Baohui, a Chinese security expert at Hong Kong's Lingnan University, said he feared a "dangerous escalation", with China likely to react to any attempt to make the patrols routine.

Rather than freedom of navigation, Zhang said he believed Beijing saw the issue as one of great power rivalry. "It is all about power, and that is what makes this so dangerous," he said.

China had never formally declared a 12-mile territorial zone around the reclamations, so any US show of force was premature, he added.

Sam Bateman, an adviser to Singapore's S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies and a former Australian naval officer, also noted the lack of any formal declaration, adding Washington risked underestimating China's angst over being contained in the South China Sea.

"There is a real risk of a confrontation between China and the US that the US might have to withdraw from," he said, urging more diplomacy instead. "I'm not sure what their end-game is." — Reuters



LONDON: Human rights demonstrators stand beneath a protest banner bearing an image of Chinese President Xi Jinping on Parliament Square outside the Houses of Parliament, where he was giving a speech in London. —AP

## CHINESE DISSIDENTS PROTEST UK'S TREATMENT OF ACTIVIST

**BEIJING:** Veteran Chinese pro-democracy campaigners have protested Britain's treatment of an activist detained during Chinese President Xi Jinping's pageant-filled visit to the country, saying London was putting economic ties over rights concerns.

Shao Jiang was arrested in London on Wednesday after scaling barriers and standing in front of Xi's motorcade holding placards. His home was searched and computer equipment taken away.

Veteran dissidents Wang Dan and Wu'er Kaixi said in a statement yesterday that Britain appeared to have jettisoned human rights concerns in favor of securing business deals. "Britain is sadly lending legitimacy to a regime with no rule of law, no freedom of speech, and with geopolitical ambitions that threaten the security of its neighboring nations - and perhaps the world," the statement said.

"Trade takes priority over basic human rights, and exiled protesters with legitimate grievances with the Beijing government are now no longer safe even the democracies that gave them refuge," it said, describing Britain's actions as "shameful".

Wang and Kaixi were top student leaders of the 1989 pro-democracy movement centered on Beijing's Tiananmen Square that was brutally suppressed by China's army. Like Shao, also a veteran of the movement, they now live in exile. Speaking to Britain's The Independent newspaper, Shao said he was surprised by the extent of the actions taken by police, but hoped his arrest would raise awareness of human rights in China. "I was protesting peacefully," the Independent quoted him as saying. "And when I was arrested I couldn't believe that this country was no longer protecting freedom of expression. It's just like China now."

Xi's state visit sparked a series of protests over China's human rights record and other issues.

Two Tibetan activists, Sonam Choden and Jampel Lhamo, were also arrested for attempting to unfurl Tibetan flags as Xi's motorcade passed.

Chinese state media provided blanket coverage of Xi's visit, with an emphasis on the ostentatious ceremonies laid on for Xi and the respect their country's leader commanded.

However, reports on the visit by international broadcasters such as CNN and the BBC were blacked out in China for several minutes at a time, apparently because Chinese censors objected to their reporting on human rights and other sensitive issues.

### Conspiracy suspects

London's Metropolitan Police confirmed that three people were arrested "to prevent a breach of the peace" and on suspicion of conspiracy to commit threatening behavior. They were later released on bail and have not been charged. Lucy D'Orsi, commander of the police operation for the state visit, said in a statement that police had worked "tirelessly" to facilitate peaceful protests, but that tight security was needed to ensure the safety of Xi and his wife, as well as the British royal family and prime minister.

"The assertion that political manipulation of the command team or, indeed, the broader Metropolitan Police took place is wrong and doesn't reflect the facts," D'Orsi said.

Xi, who also heads China's Communist Party, which brooks no opposition, returned to China on Friday after a carefully orchestrated visit that included a stay at Buckingham Palace and an address to Parliament. Organized crowds waving Chinese flags greeted Xi throughout, outnumbering pro-Tibet and human rights protesters concerned about the lavish welcome accorded to Xi. The two countries signed more than \$46 billion in economic agreements during the trip. — AP

## SUU KYI URGES ACTION ON ILLEGAL USE OF RELIGION IN ELECTION CAMPAIGN

**KAWHMU, MYANMAR:** Myanmar opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi yesterday urged the government to take action against people using religion to stir tensions as campaigning intensifies for landmark polls next month. The former junta-ruled nation has seen sporadic outbursts of deadly unrest in recent years, largely targeting minority Muslims who face increasing political exclusion as the influence of Buddhist nationalist monks grows.

Campaigning in her rural constituency of Kawhmu yesterday, Suu Kyi addressed the thorny issue of minority rights when a Muslim villager expressed a wish for equality if the National League for Democracy (NLD) sweeps to power as is widely tipped. "As our party respects the rule of law, I can say that we will treat all equally," Suu Kyi said after her speech to some 1,000 party supporters gathered in the village of Upper Wartheinkha.

The Nobel laureate repeated recent claims that her political opponents were using religion in the Buddhist-majority nation to divide people ahead of the November 8 polls. But this time she went a step further by questioning why the army-backed ruling Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP) was not enforcing the law banning the use of religion in political campaigns.



YANGON: Members of the National League for Democracy (NLD) party campaign for the upcoming November 8 general election in Bago, 90 kilometers from Yangon, yesterday. —AFP

"The government needs to safeguard the law for people to be able to live peacefully. We have to question the ruling authorities on why they're not taking

proper action," she said. The USDP has recently pushed through controversial "religious protection" bills proposed by influential headline Buddhist nationalists including restrictions on religious conversion and inter-faith marriage.

In March it also revoked temporary identity documents, stripping hundreds of thousands of minority Rohingya Muslims in the western state of Rakhine of voting rights. On its campaign trail in recent weeks the USDP has urged voters to pick it as the party which safeguards religious rights, at a time when radical monks are preaching the message that Muslims threaten the social fabric of Myanmar.

Suu Kyi herself has faced accusations of bowing to religious hardliners. Her party has fielded no Muslim candidates for the polls-part of a wider loss of political representation for a minority that makes up around five percent of the population.

International powers including the US have raised fears that surging religious tensions in Myanmar could spark conflict ahead of polls seen as a crucial test of its transition towards democracy after decades of military rule. — AFP

## THAI POLICE ARREST 4 JAPANESE MEN OVER DRUGS, BRIBERY

**BANGKOK:** Four Japanese men have been charged over drug trafficking and bribery in Bangkok after they were busted in an undercover operation, Thai police said yesterday. The four accused, aged between 34 and 50, were arrested on Friday after a tip-off that one of the group was smuggling drugs out of Thailand. "Our undercover agent bought 2.3 kilos (5 lbs) of ice" from one of the Japanese nationals in central Bangkok, said a police statement yesterday, adding that the man was arrested and charged with drugs trafficking.

He was also charged with bribery for offering

police 1.7 million baht (\$48,000) for his release, it added. Another three Japanese nationals were also later charged with bribery for offering police some \$28,000 to release the original arrested man, the statement said.

Thailand is a known gateway to the lucrative Southeast Asian drugs market. Seizures of "ice", a form of methamphetamine, have quadrupled across the Asia-Pacific region over five years, the United Nations said in May. Much of the increase is down to an explosion in production of the usually less pure meth tablets, known in parts of Asia as "yaba". — AFP

## INDONESIA'S ACEH PROVINCE ENACTS ISLAMIC CRIMINAL CODE

**BANDA ACEH, INDONESIA:** Indonesia's conservative Aceh province has enacted a strict Islamic criminal code, local government officials said late on Friday, criminalizing adultery, homosexuality, and public displays of affection outside of a legally recognized relationship.

Aceh is the only province in the Muslim-dominated country to adhere to sharia, Islamic law, which puts it at odds with other provinces where the vast majority of the population practices a moderate form of the religion. "Non-Muslims can choose whether to be tried under sharia law or the regular Indonesian criminal code," said Syahrizal Abbas, head of the sharia legal department in the provincial government.

The new law also criminalizes rape and sexual harassment. Those found guilty could face 40 lashes or more, according to a copy of the legislation

seen by Reuters.

Rights groups warned the new law could criminalize consensual sex and create hurdles to reporting rape. "To punish anyone who has had consensual sex with up to 100 lashes is despicable," Josef Benedict, Amnesty International's South East Asia campaigns Director, said in a statement.

"This is a flagrant violation of human rights and must be repealed immediately."

Aceh was granted special autonomy in 2005 as part of an agreement with Jakarta to end decades of separatist violence - and was then able to introduce sharia. Earlier this year, a district in Aceh enacted a bylaw requiring schools to teach boys and girls separately, and another banned women from straddling motorcycles when riding with a driver. — Reuters



KUWAIT: Shiites attend an Ashoura commemoration late Friday. — Photos by Yasser Al-Zayyat

JORDAN, ISRAEL WORKING TO EASE TENSIONS...

Continued from Page 1

Outlining the series of understandings, Kerry said: Israel "fully respects" Jordan's "special role" as custodian of the site. Israel will continue to enforce its policy of religious worship, including "the fundamental fact" that it is Muslims who pray there and non-Muslims who visit. Israel has no intention of dividing the site and rejects any attempt to suggest otherwise. Israel welcomes increased coordination between Israeli authorities and Jordan to ensure that visitors and worshippers "demonstrate respect and restraint". Noting the video monitoring, Kerry said it would provide "comprehensive visibility and transparency, and that could really be a game-changer in discouraging anybody from disturbing the sanctity of this holy site". On Friday, Israel lifted restrictions on Muslim worshippers after having barred younger Muslim men - seen by police as the main potential troublemakers - from entering the compound on Fridays, the main day of prayer in the Muslim religious week. The bans had, at times, targeted men up to the age of 50 and fueled Palestinian fears that Israel was trying to change long-standing understandings under which Jews are allowed to visit, but not pray, at the shrine. Those fears have also been fueled by a rise in visits to the shrine by Jewish activists demanding prayer

rights, including senior members of Netanyahu's coalition government. Israel has repeatedly denied Palestinian allegations that it is trying to change the status quo and accused Palestinian political and religious leaders of lying and inciting to violence. In the meetings with Abdullah, Abbas and Jordanian Foreign Minister Nasser Judeh, and earlier with Netanyahu, Kerry explored ways to address the violence that began in mid-September initially at the shrine, but has spread to the rest of Jerusalem, as well as the West Bank and Gaza strip. In the past five weeks, 10 Israelis have been killed in Palestinian attacks, mostly stabbings, while 49 Palestinians have been killed by Israeli fire, including 28 said by Israel to be attackers and the rest in clashes. Yesterday, Israeli forces shot a knife-wielding Palestinian dead after he ran toward a crossing between Israel and the West Bank and tried to stab security personnel, the Israeli military said. Describing what he has heard in the talks with the leaders, Kerry said that "all of them expressed their strong commitment to ending the violence and restoring the calm as soon as possible". He said the US "strongly condemns terrorist attacks against innocent civilians. There is absolutely no justification for these reprehensible attacks". He added: "It is important to stop the back and forth of language that gives anybody an excuse to somehow be misinterpreted or misguided into believing that violence is a viable option." — Agencies

KUWAITI PAVILION WINS AWARD...

Continued from Page 1

and cities, and the Italian association of construction companies. Judges base their rulings on the success of blending distinctive architectural techniques with genuine innovative shapes and structures. The Kuwaiti pavilion, designed by the renowned Italian architect Italo Rota, depicts the challenge of nature in Kuwait, blending heritage with manifestations of modernization. In remarks to Kuwait News Agency (KUNA), Rota expressed pride for earning the international award, noting that his past visit to Kuwait proved fruitful, enabling him to fathom the Kuwaitis' traditions, their genuine personalities and accomplishments, namely their successful investment in human resources. Mazen Al-Ansari, the top person in charge of the Kuwaiti corner, echoed identical sentiments of pleasure, expressing gratitude to the strategists who selected such a talented and well-known architect to build the stands and structures, showing Kuwait from attractive perspectives. The architect Rota, Ansari said, succeeded in narrating the exceptional Kuwaiti history, the bedouins' simple life, the renaissance and the modern

life, noting that the sails' panorama at sundown has drawn many visitors. The Kuwaiti pavilion, themed "Challenges of Nature", is situated at a vantage location close to the German and US showplaces. The Kuwaiti location occupies a 1,423-sq-m section with a 1,100-sq-m facade. The three-storey structure is 12 meters in height. It has attracted more than 1.5 million visitors, some two weeks ahead of the fair's closure. Number of daily visitors often exceeds 11,000, much higher than its accommodation capacity. Kuwait has exerted great efforts to ensure its successful participation in this international public relations event. Top officials have visited the Kuwaiti corner where the structure and shapes, along with briefings by the staff, provide a clear picture about Kuwait, its history, heritage and struggle of its people in old and modern times. Among the basic themes portrayed at the fair is the Kuwaitis' success to build a modern state and provide all necessities for inhabitants, including water resources largely by desalinating seawaters, as the country is located along the coast in the northernmost part of the Gulf. Expo Milan 2015, themed "Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life" opened on May 1. — KUNA

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## Focus

## IN RACE FOR WHITE HOUSE, GUNS NO LONGER A TABOO

By Sebastien Blanc

In the race for the White House, the hot button issue of guns is no longer a taboo, despite its potential to backfire at the ballot box. President Barack Obama - in his initial 2008 presidential campaign, and again during his bid for re-election in 2012 - shied away from the explosive subject fearing a backlash from voters bent on safeguarding their means of self-defense. But since then, much innocent blood has been spilled. Obama is now openly calling for America to change its stance on gun control. And the first debate featuring Democratic presidential hopefuls that took place in Las Vegas last week unexpectedly turned to the topic.

"I was very gratified to see all the candidates at the Democratic debate address guns and gun violence in America because heretofore that's the subject no one wants to bring up and that night it was at the forefront," Andy Parker, whose 24-year-old daughter, a reporter, was shot dead during a live television broadcast in August, told AFP. "There is going to be a clear choice in the presidential election. That's a referendum on guns," added Parker, who in a matter of weeks has become one of the most high-profile advocates for gun control in the United States.

Recent shootings have also pushed candidates to position themselves. Earlier this month, following a summer that saw a rise in homicides in major US cities, a community college in Oregon was the scene of a gun-related rampage that left nine dead. The perpetrator, a 26-year-old male, committed suicide.

### Clinton at the Forefront

Democratic frontrunner Hillary Clinton has unveiled a plan to tighten the nation's gun laws, the cornerstone of which is to expand the background check system for weapons purchases to keep arms from getting into the wrong hands. "It's time the entire country stood up against the NRA," the powerful gun lobby, she told the nearly 16 million watching the televised Las Vegas debate.

The National Rifle Association, reputed to have many members of Congress in its pocket, paints every arms control proposition as an attack against the Second Amendment of the US Constitution. By positioning herself as a leader on gun control in the camp of Democratic presidential hopefuls, Clinton hopes to widen her lead over her main rival, US Senator Bernie Sanders. Sanders seems uncomfortable with the subject and has in the past defended gun lobby positions.

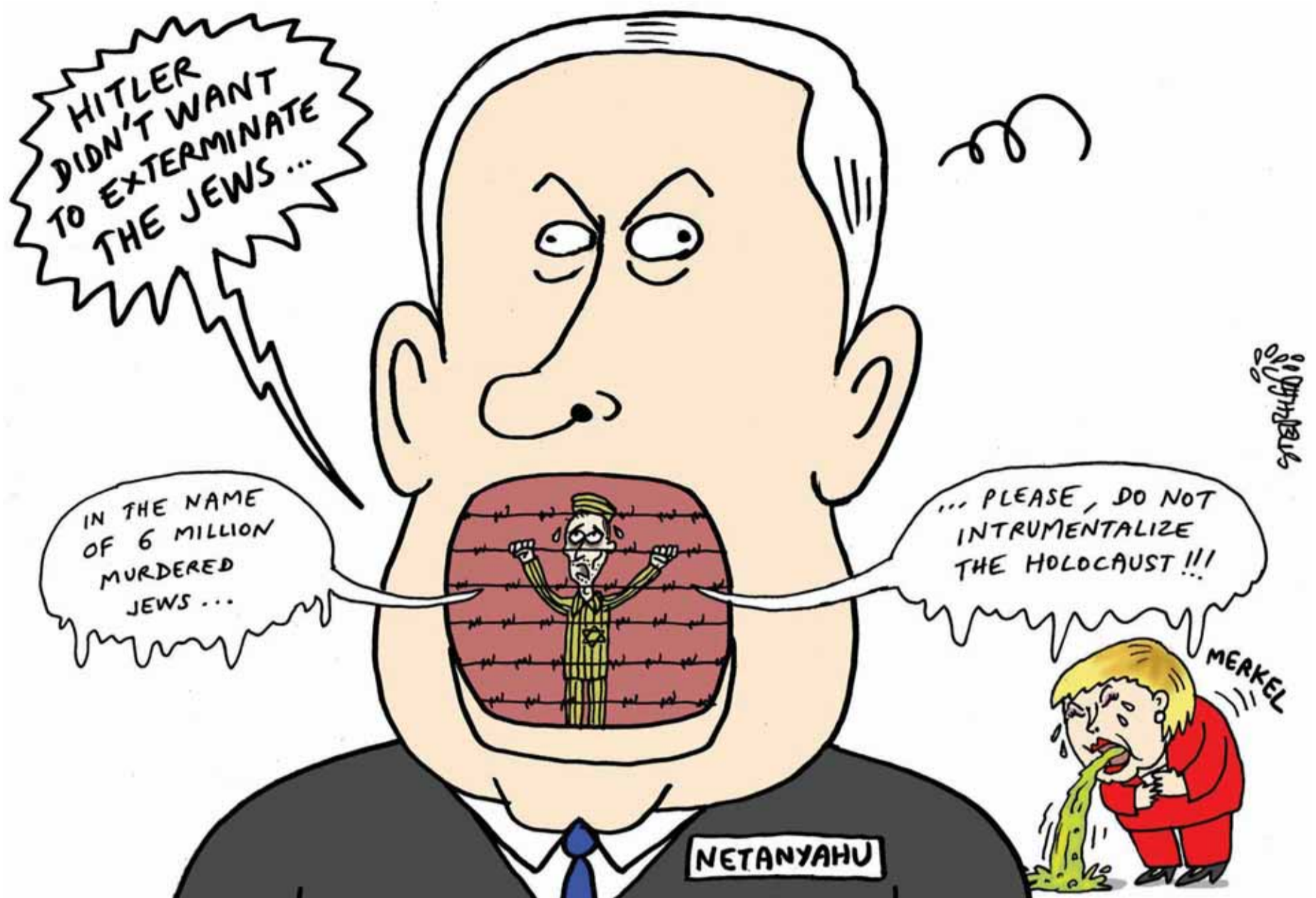
Representing the state of Vermont that is home to a numerous hunters, Sanders has in recent days been taken to task by Democrats for his support of pro-gun ownership views - a stance traditionally seen as being more in line with Republican thinking. But the injection of guns into the campaign has been well received by many in the GOP, convinced their opponents will get burned.

### Trump Feels Better Armed

The Republican frontrunner Donald Trump, for one, recently said he feels "much better being armed". Taking up an old, pro-gun lobbying strategy that has proven successful, he suggested that the Obama administration was planning to confiscate guns from US homes, something the president has never put forward. Still, some experts agree that, over time, traditional supporters of the NRA - older whites who live in rural areas and are relatively uneducated - will decline.

On the opposite end of the spectrum, there's a growing part of the population that is largely reticent when it comes to the possession of weapons. Asians and predominantly Hispanics, who make up 17 percent of the population at the moment. "With continued high-profile incidents of mass shootings in the US... and with the increasing diversity of the American voter (more immigrants, more minorities, few whites from a European background), Democrat candidates are feeling more confident to returning to a traditional issue they have supported since the 1960s - gun control," said Gregg Carter, a professor at Bryant University in Rhode Island. —AFP

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## Washington Watch

## STRANGLING JERUSALEM

By Dr James J Zogby

We have been witnessing an epidemic of violence in Jerusalem. There have been killings and near fatal attacks in Israel and elsewhere in the occupied Palestinian lands, but it is Jerusalem that has been the epicenter of the violence. This tragedy has been compounded by the fact that most US analysts and political leaders have been dead wrong in their simplistic, myopic, or, at times, even bigoted assessments of what is happening and why.

For example, The Atlantic's Jeffrey Goldberg says the violence has been caused by Palestinian "paranoia" and their refusal to acknowledge "the national and religious rights" of Jews. Bret Stephens, writing in the Wall Street Journal, accuses the Palestinians of "blood lust". For their part, Members of Congress have been jumping all over each other to see who can issue the harshest denunciations of the Palestinian Authority for incitement and/or not doing enough to control the situation.

In reality, the roots of the violence in Jerusalem are deeper and far more complex. For decades now, Israel has been strangling East Jerusalem denying its Palestinian inhabitants freedom, opportunity, dignity, and hope, with devastating impact. Before Israel closed Jerusalem off from the rest of the West Bank in 1994, the city had served as the hub of Palestinian life. Not only was the city important for its religious role, all of the major Palestinian economic, social, cultural, educational, medical, and service institutions were located in the city.

Jerusalem was Palestine's heart, and the flow of people in and out was its lifeblood. Jerusalem's people and its businesses and institutions were sustained by Palestinians from the West Bank who entered daily to work or shop, to visit or take advantage of the services it provided. And Palestinians from the rest of the West Bank were, in turn, nourished by all that the city had to offer. The choking impact of the closure was felt almost immediately. It became so difficult and humiliating to pass through checkpoints to get into Jerusalem, that people stopped making the effort. This was compounded by Israeli orders requiring Palestinian institutions to leave the city and reopen in Ramallah.

Israel didn't stop with closure. They also intensified the hardships faced by the Arab population of the city. Palestinian residents who couldn't find work in Jerusalem were forced to look elsewhere for employment. But when Israelis discovered that an Arab was not permanently residing in the city, they revoked his or her residency - denying

their right to return to Jerusalem. 14,000 such revocation orders have been issued.

In the past several decades, Israel has also confiscated one third of Palestinian-owned land in and around Jerusalem to build Jewish-only colonies and a network of highways connecting them to Israel. These colonies now house over 200,000 Jewish settlers. At the same time, Israeli authorities in Jerusalem have routinely denied building permits to Palestinians thus forcing them to build, without permission, new housing for their growing population. The Israelis have, at will, issued demolition orders against these "illegal" homes. Thousands of such orders have been issued, and in the past decade alone more than 2,000 Palestinians in Jerusalem have been rendered homeless by demolitions.

Further compounding this state of affairs has been the effort by ultra-nationalist Israeli groups, supported by American Jewish "charities", to seize homes and properties in the heart of older Arab neighborhoods in Jerusalem and the Old City and to populate them with extremist settlers. These seizures often occur in the dark of night under the protection of the Israeli military. In recent years 119 of these provocative "projects" have been settled by almost 2,000 hardliners. Because they are in the heart of Arab neighborhoods and are guarded by Israel forces, they result in nightmarish disruptions to daily life.

### Impact

The impact this has had on East Jerusalem's Palestinian population can be seen in ways both physical and spiritual. Arab Jerusalemites have become impoverished, with three-quarters of them living below the poverty line. Unemployment is in the 40 percent range, with most of Palestinians from East Jerusalem only able to find menial jobs in West Jerusalem. Educated young Palestinians are given a stark choice - either accept employment as a waiter or a taxi driver or give up residency in Jerusalem to find a job in their field outside of Palestine.

This has taken a profound toll on the soul of Arab Jerusalemites, young and old. Denied dignity and hope, both despair and anger have set in. While some older Palestinians in the city have become cynical and resigned, younger Palestinians have become angry, seeking revenge. They are resentful of and feel humiliated by the settlers who have moved into their neighborhoods, closing off streets and moving about with a sense of entitlement. While Palestinian attacks on Israelis are reported in great detail, the attacks on

Palestinians by settlers (140 in October, alone) have largely been ignored.

Young Palestinians see their parents in despair and know that their futures are, at best, devoid of promise for a better life. All of this has set the stage for the epidemic of violence that has now unfolded in Jerusalem. To be sure, the provocative invasions of the Haram Al-Sharif by hardline Israeli ministers and their extremist followers have aggravated the situation. But to identify the root cause of the violence as either Palestinian "incitement", "blood lust" or "paranoia" and to ignore the profoundly unsettling existential incitement faced by Palestinians is unconscionable.

Make no mistake, the stabbings cannot be justified and should be condemned. They accomplish nothing other than to take lives or cause bodily harm to others. But the Israeli response which has been to bring down even more harsh and repressive measures on an already much violated captive people is no solution. And neither are the lame appeals to "restore calm". More repression will not cure an ailment that has been caused by too much oppression. And "restoring calm" is embarrassingly hollow since it promises nothing more than a return to the pre-existing state of affairs than spawned the violence, in the first place.

### Tragedy

In many ways, the tragedy unfolding in Jerusalem reminds Palestinians of what has occurred in Hebron. First, settlements and checkpoints choked off Hebron from its surroundings. Then heavily guarded compounds of fanatics entered the heart of the city, shutting down the main street killing its commerce. The final blow came after an extremist settler massacred 29 Muslims at prayer in Hebron's mosque. The Israeli response was to divide the mosque into Jewish and Muslim sides. While Jews were able to enter freely, Muslims were forced to endure humiliating security before entering - with the mosque being declared closed to Muslims, whenever the Israelis decide.

Stephens, Goldberg, and company see only Israeli victims. They limit their focus to the stabbings and the rock throwing youth and blame them. But there is a deeper story and that is that these young Palestinians are also victims of decades of oppression and the denial of hope. Until it is understood that these Palestinian lives matter and concrete steps are taken to provide them with freedom, opportunity, and hope, the tragedy will continue.

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

## SOCIAL MEDIA IS SOURCE OF NEWS - AND ANGER

By Daniel Estrin

Four dailies, eight TV stations, and scores of radio stations report on the current wave of Israeli-Palestinian violence in the Palestinian territories. But they are background noise for many Palestinian youth, whose No. 1 source of news comes from Facebook groups that pump out a minute-by-minute stream of bloody images and pro-violence slogans.

Many Palestinians say such sites only hold up a mirror, or camera, to incessant Israeli violence and pent-up Palestinian fury - that social media reflects reality, not creates it. But Israeli officials argue the medium is the message - that Palestinian social media news sites, some with millions of followers, and the content they post are the driving force in the current wave of violence.

"We are seeing a situation in which Osama Bin Laden meets (Facebook founder) Mark Zuckerberg," Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said this week. "The incitement on the social networks is what is causing the wave of terror." It was a message Netanyahu repeated in meetings this week with US Secretary of State John Kerry and other world leaders trying to find a way to calm the current tensions. The incitement, Israeli officials say, includes caricatures and video reenactments demonizing Israelis, graphics with instructions on "how to stab a Jew", and youth calling for martyrdom on Facebook before carrying out stabbings. Hashtag slogans label the violence an intifada, or uprising, and accuse Israel of endangering Islam's third-holiest spot - a claim that has fueled recent violence.

### Occupation

Palestinians say such claims miss the point, and that the violence is the natural result of nearly 50 years of Israeli military occupation and, after years of failed peace efforts, the lack of hope for gaining independence anytime soon. They note that Israeli Facebook pages also post graphic images and hateful messages that contribute to the tense and sometimes vengeful atmosphere.

Leaders on both sides have also blamed each other for contributing to violence with their words. Netanyahu accused Palestinian

President Mahmoud Abbas of incitement when he made an erroneous claim that Israel had killed a Palestinian teen when he was actually being treated in an Israeli hospital. The same accusation has been leveled at Netanyahu for speeches linking Abbas to the Islamic State group and suggesting a World War II-era Palestinian leader was the one who persuaded Hitler to exterminate European Jews.

Israeli officials say they convinced Google's YouTube service and Facebook to remove some Palestinian videos, and an Israeli legal group is preparing a class-action lawsuit against Facebook to force the site to remove certain pro-Palestinian pages. Facebook in the past has removed some Palestinian news sites, but they simply popped up again under a different guise. Over time, they have become essential sources of news for Palestinians.

The Quds News Network, which operates one of the most prominent Palestinian Facebook news sites, has about 3.7 million Facebook followers and says it relies on a network of some 300 stringers throughout Israel, the West Bank and Gaza. It breaks news so rapidly that it tends to beat out traditional Palestinian media outlets - even providing those outlets with video and photos.

The site says it is independent, but has a reputation for being affiliated with Islamic Jihad, a Palestinian militant group. Another active Facebook site, run by the Shehab News Network, has about 4.2 million followers and is regarded by Palestinians as being linked with Hamas. Both militant groups oppose Israel's right to exist, and have killed scores of Israelis in suicide bombings and shootings over the years.

### Message

"Our message is twofold. Number one is to support the resistance. Second, expose the aggressive acts of the Israeli occupation," said Ahmed Yousef, 25, an editor at Quds News Network. Sitting in a baklava shop on a recent afternoon, he coordinated coverage with other editors in a Facebook chat group on his cell phone. Yousef said his site does not encourage violence, but only reflects the attitude of the streets. "During this uprising we have to match the mood of the people," he said.

Ten Israelis have been killed over the last month, mainly in stabbing attacks. On the Palestinian side, 49 people have been killed by Israeli fire, 28 of them labeled by Israel as attackers, the others killed in clashes with Israeli forces. The violence has been fueled by rumors that Israel is plotting to take over a sensitive Jerusalem holy site revered by both Jews and Muslims. Israel says it is committed to a longstanding status quo, but Palestinians point to the growing number of religious Jewish visitors to the site, as well as calls from activist groups and senior politicians for expanded Jewish prayer rights.

Palestinians say the violence is also rooted in frustration at decades of living under Israeli occupation. Israel says the reason is much simpler: Palestinian leaders are inciting the unrest with incendiary accusations, and Facebook posts are fanning the flames. Israeli social media have also spread graphic images, including security camera footage of attacks released by police. One popular Israeli Facebook news site, 0404, has a following of about 370,000 and provides a constant feed of news and images, including photos of dead Palestinians after being shot by Israeli forces, though it blurs graphic images. It also praises Israeli soldiers as "our brothers" for thwarting attacks.

But the reach of these sites seems to pale in comparison to the Palestinian Facebook groups, whose audiences dwarf those of more traditional news sources. The Al-Ayyam daily, a major Palestinian newspaper, estimates its daily readership at about 120,000, while the top TV channel viewed by Palestinians, Al-Jazeera, is seen by about 22 percent of Palestinian adults, according to a survey last month by pollster Khalil Shikaki.

In the first intifada, or uprising, in the 1980s, militant groups called for demonstrations by scrawling announcements on cement walls; today, those calls are made on Facebook walls. About half of Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza use the Internet, and among young people, the percentages are much higher. Some 1.5 million Palestinians use Facebook. Electronic media, including Facebook and Twitter, are the No. 1 source of news for young Palestinians, said Ghassan Khatib of the Jerusalem Media and Communications Center, a research and polling center. —AP

## BERDYCH IN STOCKHOLM FINAL

**STOCKHOLM:** Defending champion Tomas Berdych advanced to the Stockholm Open final after his opponent Marcos Baghdatis was forced to withdraw from their semi-final due to injury trailing by a set.

"It's not the way you want to finish the match," the 30-year-old Berdych told Swedish TV after Baghdatis had left the court, adding that the Cypriot had told him it was a recurrence of a long-standing injury. The Czech top seed powered through the first set in 26 minutes, his strong serving and hard accurate baseline strokes regularly wrong-footing 2009 winner Baghdatis.



Looking sluggish after his hard-fought quarter-final win over Gilles Simon on Friday, there was little to suggest that Baghdatis was capable of a comeback before he informed the umpire and his opponent that he was unable to continue.

In today's decider, Berdych will meet American Jack Sock, who had a far more satisfying end to his semi-final against second-seeded Frenchman Richard Gasquet.

Seventh seed Sock's powerful and precise service returns helped him notch four breaks as he cruised past Frenchman Gasquet and into his second ATP singles final, rounding off a 6-4 6-2 victory with an ace on match point. —Reuters

## US TO HOST COPA AMERICA

**MIAMI:** The United States will host the centenary Copa America in 2016 despite the original deals for the competition featuring in the Department of Justice's (DOJ) indictments against soccer officials in the region. The decision paves the way for the biggest official international tournament in the U.S. since the 1994 World Cup and could see top players such as Argentine Lionel Messi and Brazilian Neymar in action at NFL stadiums.

Confirmation of the June 3-26 event was announced in a joint statement on Friday from CONCACAF, the soccer confederation for North and Central America and the Caribbean and CONMEBOL, the South American confederation.

A U.S. Soccer statement also said the tournament would go ahead in "venues across the United States". The move was made possible by the two confederations reclaiming the broadcast and sponsor rights for the competition from Datsis, a marketing firm that featured in the DOJ indictments.

Suspended CONCACAF president Jeffrey Webb, who had been a key player in creating the 2016 tournament, was arrested in May along with Eugenio Figueredo and Nicolas Leoz, both ex-presidents of CONMEBOL. The three were among 14 soccer officials and sports marketing executives who were indicted for racketeering, conspiracy and corruption by the DOJ in May. —Reuters

## MARINERS HIRE NEW COACH

**NEW YORK:** The Seattle Mariners named Scott Servais as their new manager on Friday with hopes the former Los Angeles Angels assistant general manager can end his new Major League Baseball team's lengthy playoff drought. Servais, a former catcher who spent 11 years in the major leagues with four different teams, replaces Lloyd McClendon, who was fired two weeks ago after failing to make the postseason during his two years in charge.

"It has long been my goal to manage a big league team," Servais, who is the 17th full-time manager in Mariners history, said in a statement.

"We have a terrific core of players and I'm looking forward to bringing in a coaching staff that will help me establish a winning culture here as we work toward putting a championship-caliber team on the field for the fans of the Northwest." Prior to his stint in Los Angeles, where he worked on all aspects of baseball operations, Servais spent six seasons as the senior director of player development for the Texas Rangers. The 48-year-old was also a scout for the Colorado Rockies in 2005 after spending the prior two years as a roving catching instructor for the Chicago Cubs. —Reuters



## NHL Results/Standings

Montreal 7, Buffalo; Boston 5, Ny Islanders; Tampa Bay 4, Winnipeg (OT); Calgary 3, Detroit (OT); Washington 7, Edmonton; Los Angeles 3, Carolina.

Western Conference						
Central Division						
W	L	OTL	GF	GA	PTS	
Dallas	6	1	0	25	15	12
Nashville	6	1	0	24	14	12
St. Louis	5	2	0	21	17	10
Minnesota	4	1	1	17	17	9
Winnipeg	4	2	1	23	17	9
Chicago	4	3	0	17	16	8
Colorado	2	3	1	16	17	5
Metropolitan Division						
Washington	6	1	0	29	18	12
NY Rangers	5	2	1	22	16	11
NY Islanders	4	2	1	24	20	9
Philadelphia	3	2	1	13	16	7
New Jersey	3	3	1	16	20	7
Pittsburgh	3	4	0	11	15	6
Carolina	2	5	0	12	20	4
Columbus	0	8	0	15	37	0
Pacific Division						
Los Angeles	4	3	0	13	15	8
San Jose	4	3	0	18	16	8
Vancouver	3	2	2	18	14	8
Arizona	3	3	1	19	18	7
Edmonton	3	5	0	19	24	6
Calgary	2	5	0	15	27	4
Anaheim	1	4	1	6	17	3
Eastern Conference						
Atlantic Division						
Montreal	8	0	0	30	9	16

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

## CANADIENS STOP BUFFALO CHARGE

**BUFFALO:** Andrei Markov had a goal and four assists and the Montreal Canadiens beat the Buffalo Sabres 7-2 on Friday night to run their season-opening winning streak to eight games.

The Canadiens are two victories away from matching the NHL record set by the Toronto Maple Leafs in 1993-94 and matched by the Sabres in 2006-07.

Brendan Gallagher and Dale Weise each scored twice, and Max Pacioretty and Torrey Mitchell also scored. Mike Condon made 34 saves, and P.K. Subban and Tomas Plekanec each had three assists. Matt Moulson and Ryan O'Reilly scored for Buffalo, and Cody Franson had two assists. Chad Johnson allowed all seven goals.

### CAPITALS 7, OILERS 4

Evgeny Kuznetsov had three goals and two assists to help Washington beat Edmonton for its fifth straight victory. Kuznetsov opened the scoring on a backhand at 3:05 of the first period, gave Washington a 4-3 lead with another backhand at 6:17 of the second, and completed his first career hat trick with a snap shot on a power play with 3:01 left in the third period.

Nicklas Backstrom, Marcus Johansson, Andre Burakovsky and Justin Williams also scored for Washington, and Philipp Grubauer made 19 saves in his first start of the season. Rookie star Connor McDavid scored his fifth goal of the season for Edmonton. Benoit Pouliot, Rob Klinkhammer and Ryan Nugent-Hopkins also scored.

### KINGS 3, HURRICANES 0

Jonathan Quick made 40 saves in his 38th career shutout and Tyler Toffoli scored twice in Los Angeles' fourth consecutive victory.

Anze Kopitar also scored and Milan Lucic had two assists. The Kings have followed an ugly season start by allowing just three goals during four gritty victories.

Toffoli scored a goal in his career-best fourth consecutive game, getting a power-

play score in the first period and a clincher on a pretty 2-on-1 rush with Lucic in the final minutes. He has six goals this season, while the rest of the Kings have seven combined. Cam Ward stopped 25 shots in a duel between Stanley Cup champion goalies and Conn Smythe Trophy winners.

### FLAMES 3, RED WINGS 2

Mark Giordano scored his second goal of the game in overtime and Calgary rallied to beat Detroit to snap a four-game losing streak. Joe Colborne tied it for the Flames with 1:12 left in the third period. Giordano scored 3:12 into overtime to give Calgary its first win in five home games this season.

Jonas Hiller made 27 saves for the Flames. Gustav Nyquist and Brendan Smith scored first-period power-play goals for Detroit. The Red Wings have lost four straight.

### BRUINS 5, ISLANDERS 3

David Pastrnak broke a tie late in the second period and Boston beat New York. Brett Connolly, Joonas Kemppainen and Ryan Spooner also scored for Boston. The Bruins improved to 3-0 on the road this season to go along with an 0-3

1 mark at home. Jonas Gustavsson, starting in place of the struggling Tuukka Rask, finished with 23 saves to improve to 2-0. David Krejci had an empty-netter with 2:25 remaining for his league-leading 12th point (five goals, seven assists), giving him a point in seven straight games. Josh Bailey, Casey Cizikas and Thomas Hickey scored for the Islanders.

### LIGHTNING 4, JETS 3

Ondrej Palat scored 36 seconds into overtime to lift Tampa Bay past Winnipeg. Palat scored off a 3-on-1 rush, converting a tap in after a tic-tac-toe play with Steven Stamkos and Victor Hedman. Braydon Coburn, Cedric Paquette and Vladislav Namestnikov also scored, and Ben Bishop made 33 saves. Nikolaj Ehlers, Drew Stafford and Blake Wheeler scored for Winnipeg. —AP



**KANSAS:** Kansas City Royals catcher Salvador Perez (left) and relief pitcher Wade Davis celebrate after defeating the Toronto Blue Jays in Game 6 of baseball's American League Championship Series. —AP

## ROYALS BACK IN WORLD SERIES

**KANSAS CITY:** The Kansas City Royals advanced to the World Series for a second straight year after some daring base-running helped them beat the Toronto Blue Jays 4-3 in Game Six of the American League Championship Series on Friday. Lorenzo Cain scored from first base on a single down the right field line by Eric Hosmer with no outs in the bottom of the eighth to snap a 3-3 tie and set up a 'Fall Classic' against National League champions the New York Mets.

The best-of-seven Major League Baseball championship series will begin on Tuesday in Kansas City. Royals shortstop Alcides Escobar was named most valuable player of the series after batting .478 (11-for-23), scoring six runs, driving in five and playing sterling defense.

While Cain made a mad dash around the Kauffman Stadium bases, Toronto outfielder Jose Bautista pirouetted after reaching the ball and fired toward second to keep Hosmer at first, not thinking Cain would try to race home on the play. Toronto threatened in the ninth with similar aggression on the basepaths as pinch-runner Dalton Pompey stole second and third with no one out and Kevin Pillar walked to put men on

first and third with Royals closer Wade Davis on the mound.

"It got pretty bad there, pretty quick," said Davis, who came into the game at the top of the eighth and waited an hour to return to the mound for the ninth because of a rain delay. "I kept telling myself, 'We can get out of it, keep making pitches, just get this win for the team.'" Davis struck out pinch-hitter Dioner Navarro and Ben Revere before getting Josh Donaldson to ground out to third to secure a 4-2 series triumph with a nail-biting victory that unleashed wild celebrations on the diamond.

### 'FANTASTIC YEAR'

Kansas City had led 3-1, aided by a controversial home run for Mike Moustakas in the second inning, going into the top of the eighth when Bautista belted a two-run blast off reliever Ryan Madson to tie the game.

Bautista also supplied the first run of the game for Toronto with a towering home run in the fourth inning to halve a then 2-0 Kansas City lead. Rain forced a delay of some 40 minutes before the bottom of the eighth and Cain's dash

to the plate for the winning margin.

Cain said he just kept on going after seeing third base coach Mike Jirschele windmilling his arm to send him home. "I'm struggling to get to third and I saw Jirschele signal me," said Cain. "Now we're going back to the World Series. Couldn't get any better than this."

Kansas City will be trying for their first World Series title in 30 years, while the Mets seek their first Fall Classic crown in 29 years after most recently losing to their cross-town rival Yankees in the Subway Series of 2000. "Last year at this time we were so excited to be here," said Royals manager Ned Yost. "This year, from the first day of spring training we expected to be here."

Blue Jays manager John Gibbons gave credit to Kansas City, the AL Central winners who earned top seeding with the league's best regular season record.

"I want to congratulate the Kansas City Royals for a wonderful year," said Gibbons. "They set the tone last year and they had a fantastic year this year. They are going to be a heck of a representative for the American League, that's for sure." —Reuters

## PATRIOTS FACE JETS WHILE LONDON CALLS BILLS, JAGUARS

**NEW YORK:** While the visiting New York Jets try to topple the unbeaten New England Patriots today, the Buffalo Bills and Jacksonville Jaguars meet in the NFL's latest London showcase matchup.

Week seven of the campaign also finds all three of the NFL's 6-0 teams—Cincinnati, Green Bay and Denver—enjoying a week off to recover from their sizzling starts while New England and Carolina, both 5-0, look to match them for the best record this season.

The Jets (4-1) bring the NFL's sternest defensive unit—surrendering only 15 points a game—to New England, where star quarterback Tom Brady guides the NFL's top scoring attack at more than 36 points a contest. "He's one of the best quarterbacks in the league," said Jets defensive end Leonard Williams. "It's going to be great to get my hands on him and mess him up a little bit."

Four-time Super Bowl champion Brady, who will set a Patriots record with his 212th career start, has guided the attack to an NFL-best 50.8 percent success rate on third-down conversions and knows how to deal with imposing defenders.

"They want to be aggressive. They don't want to be dictated to," Brady said. "They want to see if you can block them. It's a big challenge for us. They are very tough to beat."

The reigning Super Bowl champion Patriots

want to avoid falling into the tie for the AFC East division lead with the Jets.

"This is going to be another win for us," Jets defensive lineman Sheldon Reed said. "They have run this division for a while so I am kind of happy we get next. We are licking our chops." Jets cornerback Darelle Revis leads the NFL with six takeaways, three fumble recoveries and three interceptions. He helped the Patriots win the Super Bowl last February but New England did not pick up a \$20 million contract option for 2015 and in March, Revis joined the Jets in a five-year deal worth \$70 million.

"It's going to be a battle," Revis said. "The Patriots have been playing lights-out on offense and we've been playing lights-out on defense. It should be very exciting." Brady is excited, having seen Revis in every practice last season on the path to a championship.

"He has been an incredible playmaker. He covers the top guys every week," Brady said. "I got a firsthand look at that last year every day in practice and it was great to have him play a part here, but he moved on, so now he's our competition again."

At London, the Jaguars share the NFL's worst record at 1-5 and will try to snap a four-game losing streak against injury-hit Buffalo (3-3), which lurks just outside the playoff positions in the American Conference as mid-sea-

son looms. The Bills are without quarterback Tyrod Taylor due to a knee injury and top receivers Percy Harvin and Sammy Watkins with hip and ankle injuries respectively. That will put more pressure on reserve passer E.J. Manuel, making just his 16th NFL start, and running back LeSean McCoy.

The game is part of the NFL's long-term strategy to boost its international appeal, but also gives the league a valuable additional early morning slot for US television viewers.

It would be a fourth television slot for most NFL fans and one that has been dominated and largely created by coverage of English Premier League football matches.

Another unbeaten risks its perfect record when the Carolina Panthers entertain NFC East co-leader Philadelphia, 3-3, while divisional co-leader New York Giants (3-3) try to stay on top by beating Dallas (2-3).

Carolina boasts the third-best rushing team in the NFL, with quarterback Cam Newton running for 225 yards and three touchdowns, while the Eagles' defensive unit spends more than 34 minutes a game on the field and could face another long day chasing Newton. The Cowboys will use a third starting quarterback in six weeks as Matt Cassel gets the nod thanks to Tony Romo's broken collarbone and three Dallas losses in a row under backup Brandon Wheeden. —AFP



**LOS ANGELES:** Los Angeles Kings goalie Jonathan Quick makes a glove save during the first period of an NHL hockey game against the Carolina Hurricanes. —AP



AUSTIN: Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton, of Britain, steers his car during the third practice session for the Formula One US Grand Prix auto race at the Circuit of the Americas. —AP

## HAMILTON READY TO SCALE HIS OWN EVEREST

AUSTIN: Lewis Hamilton will achieve the dream of a lifetime if he secures his third Formula One world championship in Austin today but he will then face a question as big as Texas: What next?

Like a mountaineer one step away from conquering the highest peak, the Mercedes driver knows he also stands on the edge of uncertainty as he goes into the US Grand Prix.

Without wanting to preempt anything, go into 'ifs' and 'buts' or even acknowledge that the weekend felt in any way out of the ordinary, Hamilton recognised that he would have to refocus his career ambitions. "I could imagine that, for me it would be like getting to the top of Mount Everest. I mean,

what do you do next?" he said of the prospect of matching the three titles of his boyhood hero, the late Brazilian Ayrton Senna.

The answer for most would simply be win more championships and races, but Senna's triple has a particular resonance for Hamilton.

The 30-year-old, who has already overtaken the Brazilian's tally of race wins, has always wanted to win three. Not seven like Michael Schumacher, or four like Sebastian Vettel, but to do what Senna did.

As he said in Japan two weeks ago, he never aspired to be like any other driver. "There's no higher mountain but there are equally tough challenges in maybe lower mountains. Things just change, so I

really don't know," said the Briton, as he continued to ponder how he might react. "I am going to keep on wanting to win. That is never going to change in me. That competitiveness I have in me is just in my blood. "The other day we were bowling with some people, and we had some girls with us and I could not for the life of me let them win. That competitiveness will always be there. I can't even fathom what's beyond it

"I never thought beyond three (titles). I didn't even think I would have two." Hamilton won his first title with McLaren in 2008, with his father present, and took his second with Mercedes last year in the final race—again with father and family present.

This time, he just has his pet bulldog 'Roscoe' for company and he said he was not expecting any family to join him. "At the moment it just feels like another weekend. It really, really does. Which I'm actually happy about," he told British reporters.

"Last year, the last race was an intense period—I might have it or might not have it. But now I'm in a good position with four races (to go).

"I've set up my mind up knowing I've got these four races to win the championship. My goal is to cross the line in Abu Dhabi as champion, not cross the line in Austin as champion. If it happens, then great but otherwise no extra pressure."

The Briton has won nine races in 15 this season

and could become the first champion to win 10 or more in successive years, as well as Britain's first back-to-back champion.

So will that make him a 'legend', one of the greats who transcends the sport? "I hope at some stage I might be. I think that would be a positive," said the sport's first black world champion. "I mean, I'm doing not too bad.

"When you look at those people who have done wonders in their sports and really stood out, I hope at some stage when I come to the end hopefully people will say I did stand out. I do stick out like a sore thumb compared to the other drivers." —Reuters



MOSCOW: Russia's Stevtlana Kuznetsova kisses her trophy after winning the Kremlin Cup tennis tournament in Moscow. —AP

## KUZNETSOVA WINS KREMLIN CUP

MOSCOW: Stevtlana Kuznetsova swept aside a tired Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova 6-2, 6-1 to win the Kremlin Cup yesterday. Kuznetsova dominated throughout against a fellow Russian who acknowledged being exhausted as she played her 10th match in 12 days.

For the two-time Grand Slam winner Kuznetsova, it is her first title in her home country and comes at her 11th attempt at the Kremlin Cup. "Playing in Moscow's really hard for me because it's the one I want most. It's pretty much the same emotions as at Roland Garros," she said.

Kuznetsova hailed Pavlyuchenkova, who was struggling for fitness after she won the Generali Ladies tournament in Austria last week, as "a real fighter" for playing through the pain.

Pavlyuchenkova held serve with difficulty in the early stages but struggled to move around the court and was soon overwhelmed.

From 2-2 in the first set, Kuznetsova won the next nine games as she cruised to victory in 1 hour, 19 min-

utes. "It was painful that the final turned out like that but I'm happy that I made the final," Pavlyuchenkova said. "I couldn't put any pressure on my left leg when serving, so the serve wasn't working at all. Plus Sveta was playing great. It seemed everything was going her way." It was Kuznetsova's 15th career title and her first since the Citi Open in Washington in 2014. Pavlyuchenkova had been bidding to become only the second woman to retain the Kremlin Cup title, matching the 2004 achievement of Anastasia Myskina, who is now Kuznetsova's coach.

Top-seeded Marin Cilic of Croatia reached the men's final with a straightforward 6-3, 6-1 win over Russian wild-card entry Evgeny Donsky. The big-serving Cilic faced just one break point as he held serve throughout, hitting 10 aces and landing 70 percent of first serves. In Sunday's final, he faces second-seeded Roberto Bautista Agut of Spain, who beat fourth-seeded German Philipp Kohlschreiber 6-4, 6-4. —AP



## KUWAIT LADIES EXCEL IN SHOOTING

By Abdellatif Sharaa

KUWAIT: Kuwait's lady shooters excelled during the second day of competition in HH The Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Tournament and 13th Gulf Championship being held at Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Shooting Complex Friday. They propelled Kuwait to second place in total medals won. Kuwait's ladies won nine medals out of 10, four gold three silver and three bronze.

Shooter Mariam Irzouqi won the gold medal in the 10m air rifle event following fierce competition with Qatar's Siham Al-Hasani, while Heba Irzouqi ended with bronze. Meanwhile in the teams event, Mariam and Heba Irzouqi along with Ayat Al-Duwaikhi won first place and the gold medal followed by Qatar and Bahrain.

In the 10m air pistol, Bahrain's Mouza Abdallah won first, followed by compatriot Lubna Ahmad and Qatar's Hanadi Salem. Kuwait's team won the bronze medal through shooters Israa Bahman, Awatif Al-Qallaf and Huthama Al-Baghli. Meanwhile the gold medal was won by Bahrain and silver to Oman.

Kuwait's Khalid Al-Subaie won the 50m prone silver medal as Qatar's Ali Al-Muhannadi won gold and Saudi Arabia's Abdelrahman Al-Juhaidli won the bronze. In the team's event Bahrain won first place, followed by Oman and Qatar. The women's trap event Kuwait's Shahad Al-Hawal won gold followed by Sarah Al-Hawal and Qatar's Khulud Al-Khalaf won bronze. In the team's event Shahad and Sarah Al-Hawal with teammate Fatima Abdelmalik won the silver medal for Kuwait while first place went to Qatar and Oman took the bronze.

The gold medal in the women's team skeet event went to Kuwait by Iman Al-Shammaa, Sheikhha Al-Rashidi and

Afrah Mohammad, while Qatar was in second place and Bahrain third. Meanwhile Sheikhha Al-Rashi won the bronze behind Qatar's Hajar Mohammad and Sarah Mohammad. Bahrain maintained its medal lead with (5 gold, 3 silver and 2 bronze), followed by Kuwait (4 gold, 6 silver and 4 bronze), Qatar (4 gold, 4 silver and 3 bronze), Oman (1 gold, 2 silver and 4 bronze), Saudi Arabia (1 gold and 2 bronze), UAE (1 gold, 2 bronze).

Meanwhile, President of Kuwait and Arab Shooting Federation Eng. Duaij Al-Otaibi said the Gulf Organizational meeting, that was held here in Kuwait Friday decide to hold the next Gulf Championship in UAE. He said all those attending the meeting thanked HH The Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah for his patronage of the shooting sport in Kuwait in particular and GCC countries in general, they also thanked H.H. The Crown Prince for his kind patronage of the 13th Gulf tournament, as well as HH the Prime Minister.

Al-Otaibi said that the meeting approved holding training courses in order to pay more attention to women's shooting in particular and elevate their levels in the GCC countries. He said the meeting recommended the continuation of cooperation in the interest of referees, and meet all their requirements as officiating in a very important element in improving Gulf shooting. Kuwait's shooter Mariam Irzouqi said the Gulf tournament is considered a successful training camp to prepare for Asia's championship, in which there will be strong competition and there will be outstanding champions in Asia which requires extra efforts and special preparation. Irzouqi said the final round of the 10m rifle was the decisive round, and was a special challenge for her, as Oman's team was the expected to win the gold while being 20 points ahead of us, but we were able to overcome that and took first place at the end.







**COLOMBO:** Sri Lanka's Dhammika Prasad unsuccessfully appeals for the wicket of West Indies' Kraigg Brathwaite during the third day of their second Test cricket match. —AP

## RAIN STOPS WEST INDIES CHASE

**COLOMBO:** Rain stopped play after tea as West Indies chased 224 to win and level the two-match series against Sri Lanka in Colombo yesterday, day three of the second Test.

West Indies were on 20-1 at the close and the match is due to start 15 minutes earlier on Sunday to make up for some of the time lost due to rain.

West Indies had progressed to 20 when Dhammika Prasad beat Kraigg Brathwaite's forward grope. He was ruled plumb in front for three. Shai Hope, who had failed in all three previous outings in the series, was 17 not out at the break.

Sri Lanka's bid for an unassailable second innings total was stifled by Brathwaite who took six for 29 as the hosts slumped to 206 all out after lunch. That set the visitors a target of 244 to win.

Brathwaite said he believed West Indies could win the Test. "We can do the job," he said of his team's chances. "Being patient is the key."

He said he was happy to have taken six wickets and added: "Jermaine Blackwood

did a good job taking four catches." The West Indies have two days' play remaining provided there is no further rain to record their first Test win on Sri Lankan soil.

After lunch Rangana Herath, who added 30 runs for the seventh wicket with captain Angelo Mathews, was caught by Jermaine Blackwood at slip for 17 off Brathwaite's bowling.

Dilruwan Perera, who hit a six off Brathwaite, was caught two balls later by Kemar Roach at deep mid wicket trying to hit a repeat six.

Skipper Mathews tried a reverse sweep and fell to the combination of Blackwood-Brathwaite. The Sri Lankan captain made 46.

Last man Nuwan Pradeep was caught first ball by Blackwood off Brathwaite leaving Dhammika Prasad not out on one. Jerome Taylor and Jomel Warrican finished with two wickets each.

Sri Lanka were 202 runs ahead of the West Indies after scoring 200 in the first innings and getting the tourists bowled out for 163 on Friday.—AFP

### SCOREBOARD

**COLOMBO:** Scores at close on the third day Saturday of the second cricket Test between Sri Lanka and West Indies played at the P Sara Oval in Colombo yesterday.

Sri Lanka 1st Innings		Bowling: Prasad 151 (Taylor), 10-163 (Warrican)	
Dimuth Karunaratne lbw b Holder	13	12-3-34-4, Pradeep 11-3-24-0, Herath 20-5-39-1, Dilruwan Perera 11.2-3-28-3, Siriwardana 10-2-26-2.	
Kaushal Silva c Ramdin b Taylor	0		
Kusal Mendis c Ramdin b Roach	13		
Dinesh Chandimal b Taylor	25		
Angelo Mathews c Brathwaite b Holder	14		
Milinda Siriwardana c Taylor b Warrican	68		
Kusal Janith Perera ct & b Warrican	16		
Dilruwan Perera st Ramdin b Bishoo	5		
Rangana Herath not out	26		
Dhammika Prasad c Ramdin b Warrican	7		
Nuwan Pradeep lbw Warrican	0		
Extras: (b10 lb3)	13		
Total: (all out 66 overs)	200		
Fall of wickets: 1-1 (Silva), 2-34 (Karunaratne), 3-34 (Mendis), 4-59 (Mathews), 5-90 (Chandimal), 6-127 (K Perera), 7-149 (D Perera), 8-173 (Siriwardana), 9-200 (Prasad), 10-200 (Pradeep) Bowling: Taylor 15-2-50-2, Roach 12-4-30-1, Holder 11-1-22-2, Warrican 20-2-67-4, Bishoo 8-0-18-1.			

West Indies 1st Innings		Bowling: Prasad 151 (Taylor), 10-163 (Warrican)	
Kraigg Brathwaite c Kusal Janith Perera b Siriwardana	47		
Shai Hope lbw b Prasad	4		
Devendra Bishoo c Kusal Janith Perera b Prasad	13		
Darren Bravo b Prasad	2		
Marlon Samuels a Mathews b Siriwardana	13		
Jermaine Blackwood c Kusal Janith Perera b Prasad	16		
Denesch Ramdin b Herath	14		
Jason Holder c Mathews b Dilruwan Perera	1		
Kemar Roach not out	17		
Jerome Taylor lbw Dilruwan Perera	1		
Jomel Warrican c and b Dilruwan Perera	1		
Extras (b9 lb3 w1 nb1)	14		
Total: all out (64.2 overs)	163		
Fall of wickets: 1-7 (Hope), 2-33 (Bishoo), 3-37 (Bravo), 4-76 (Samuels), 5-89 (Brathwaite), 6-105 (Blackwood), 7- 137 (Ramdin), 8-149 (Holder), 9-			

## CRITICISM GROWS FOR USE OF PINK BALL

**MELBOURNE:** Australia batsman Adam Voges has added his voice to the growing chorus of criticism of the pink ball set to be used in cricket's first day-night test match against New Zealand.

Voges was unimpressed with the ball's performance in the 50-over day-night tour match in Canberra on Friday and was highly sceptical it could last the 80 overs required in a test match.

"There wasn't much pink left on it by the end of the game," Voges told local media after New Zealand's 102-run win over the local Prime Minister's XI side.

"The one that got hit onto the roof (by New Zealand batsman Martin Guptill) and didn't come back was 28 overs old and it looked like it was 68 overs old to be fair.

"It looked as though the lacquer had come off and it was turning green basically. There were bits of pink left, but it was more green than pink by the end.

"I know that it stopped swinging, there was no reverse-swing or anything like that because both sides get chunked up equally, but the older it gets, I can't see it being any easier to see."

New Zealand's batsmen had little trouble seeing the ball during the day at Manuka Oval, scoring over 300 in their innings, and their bowlers found ample swing early to rattle through the hosts' top order. But Voges said the ball quickly lost its venom. "Those first 10 overs were a real challenge but once the ball stopped swinging it was a lot easier and both balls got chewed up pretty quickly after that."

Fast bowler Peter Siddle echoed his team mate's comments but added that the hard Canberra pitch may not have been the best wicket to gauge its performance.

"Obviously the Manuka pitch here is a bit more abrasive than most pitches going around, but that was the most disappointing thing, was the ball sort of changing colour," he said on Melbourne radio station Triple M.

"And it's a little bit hard to shine. It's not really like a traditional red ball where you can sort of buff it up and get it nice and shiny—you can't really do that with this ball." Cricket Australia have said the ball was ready for the day-night test match starting in Adelaide from Nov. 27.—Reuters

# PAKISTAN TURN THE SCREW AFTER ENGLAND'S COLLAPSE

**DUBAI:** Misbah-ul-Haq and Younus Khan made half-centuries as Pakistan ambled to 222 for three at the close on day three of the second Test yesterday, 358 runs ahead of England after Wahab Riaz and Yasir Shah had scuttled the tourists lower order before lunch.

It was a truly abject day for England who lost their final seven wickets for 36 runs to be all out for 242, wrecking their chances of becoming the first team to defeat Pakistan in a test series in the UAE.

That collapse meant England needed to bowl out Pakistan cheaply to stand any chance of a remarkable comeback and Alastair Cook's men got off to the best possible start.

Opener Shan Masood (one) had been fortunate as a diving Jos Buttler spilled his nick off Stuart Broad, but England's wicketkeeper made amends, snaffling another Masood edge off James Anderson the following over.

The hosts were one for one and Shoaib Malik (seven) lasted little longer, edging a full Mark Wood ball on to his stumps which reduced Pakistan to 16 for two.

But if England were hoping to spark a collapse similar to their own earlier surrender they were left disappointed as Pakistan's batsmen proved more obdurate.

Captain Cook used seven bowlers in the search for another breakthrough and Mohammad Hafeez (51) eventually fell after edging Wood to Joe Root at slip.

Starting their partnership at 83 for three, Younus and skipper Misbah were sensible, waiting to punish errant deliveries and taking minimal risks.

Younus passed 9,000 test runs and Pakistan's record scorer reached his 30th test half-century with a four to fine leg. Misbah got to his 31st test 50 after slogging the hapless Adil Rashid for two sixes in the same over. Younus reached the close on 71 not out with Misbah on 87.

### MORNING COLLAPSE

Broad had predicted that the first hour could decide the test and his words proved prescient but in the opposite way that he would have hoped.

England started the day on 183 for three, Root and Jonny Bairstow seeking to extend their partnership of 55 against the contrasting threat of Wahab's scorching pace and Yasir's canny leg-spin.

After three scoreless overs, England's batsmen registered 24 runs in the next three and seemed at ease. But Wahab (4-66) removed Root (88), Ben Stokes (four) and Buttler (nought), all caught by wicketkeeper Sarfraz Ahmed, as the 30-year-old's devastating four-over spell yielded three wickets for just one run. Only Bairstow offered any sustained resistance.

The support batsmen were too easily panicked in scenes reminiscent of Pakistan's 3-0 whitewash of England in 2012, also in the UAE.

Yasir (4-93) dismissed Rashid (nought), caught by Hafeez in the covers, and Bairstow (46) lbw in the same over as England slumped to 223 for eight.

Wood (one) was Yasir's final victim via Younus at slips and Anderson (four) was last out, looping a catch to Sarfraz off Imran Khan. Abu Dhabi's first test was drawn. Sharjah will host the final game in the series from Nov. 1.—Reuters



**DUBAI:** Pakistan batsman Younis Khan celebrates his 9000th run in Test cricket during the Pakistan and England Test match at the Dubai International Stadium. —AP

### SCOREBOARD

**DUBAI:** Scores at close on the third day of the second Test between Pakistan and England at Dubai stadium yesterday:

**Pakistan 1st Innings** 378 (Misbah-ul-Haq 102, Asad Shafiq 83, Younis Khan 56, Shan Masood 54; M. Wood 3-39, Moeen Ali 3-109)

**England 1st Innings** (overnight 182-3)

A. Cook c sub (Shehzad) b Shah 65  
Moeen Ali c Masood b Riaz 1  
I. Bell c Ahmed b Khan 4  
J. Root c Ahmed b Riaz 88  
J. Bairstow lbw b Shah 46  
B. Stokes c Ahmed Riaz 4  
J. Buttler c Ahmed b Riaz 0  
Adil Rashid c Hafeez b Shah 0  
S. Broad not out 15  
M. Wood c Younis b Shah 1  
J. Anderson c Ahmed b Khan 4  
Extras: (b4, lb1, nb4, w5) 14  
Total: (all out; 75.2 overs) 242

Fall of wickets: 1-5 (Ali), 2-14 (Bell), 3-127 (Cook), 4-206 (Root), 5-212 (Stokes), 6-216 (Butler), 7-218 (Rashid), 8-223 (Bairstow), 9-223 (Wood)

**Bowling:** Khan 13.2-4-33-2, Riaz 19-5-66-4 (nb4, w5), Babar 10-2-35-0, Shah 29-4-93-4, Malik 4-1-10-0

**Pakistan 2nd Innings**

Mohammad Hafeez c Root b Wood 51  
Shan Masood c Butler b Anderson 1  
Shoaib Malik b Wood 7  
Younis Khan not out 71  
Misbah-ul-Haq not out 87  
Extras: (b4, lb1) 5  
Total: (for three wkts; 61 overs) 222

Fall of wickets: 1-1 (Masood), 2-16 (Malik), 3-83 (Hafeez)

**Bowling:** Anderson 8-5-9-1, Broad 6-1-16-0, Wood 8-1-22-2, Ali 7-0-39-0, Stokes 12-2-35-0, Rashid 17-1-70-0, Root 3-0-26-0.



**ZIMBABWE:** Afghanistan's players pose with the series trophy after they won the fifth and final One Day International (ODI) cricket match against Zimbabwe at the Queens Sports Club. —AP

# AFGHANISTAN CELEBRATE HISTORIC SERIES TRIUMPH

**BULAWAYO:** Afghanistan made history yesterday when they became the first Associate nation to defeat a Test-playing country in a one-day series with a comprehensive 73-run win over Zimbabwe.

The victory gave Afghanistan a 3-2 series win after the two sides had shared the first four games at the Queen's Sports Club.

Chasing a 246-run winning target, Zimbabwe were skittled out for 172 in the 45th over despite Sean Williams making a

fine 102 off 124 balls with three boundaries and four sixes. Fast bowler Dawlat Zadran finished with a career best 4-22 in his 10 overs.

Earlier, opener Noor Ali Zadran made 54 and Mohammad Nabi, who hit a maiden century in the second match of the series, chipped in with 53 as Afghanistan reached 245-9 in their 50 overs.

"Simply an awesome display of cricket by our lads. We created a history, congrats everyone," tweeted Afghanistan batsman

Samiullah Shenwari.

Scores in the fifth and final one-day international between Zimbabwe and Afghanistan at the Queen's Sports Club on Saturday:

Afghanistan 245-9 in 50 overs (Noor Ali Zadran 54, Mohammad Nabi 53) v Zimbabwe 172 all out in 44.1 overs (Sean Williams 102; Dawlat Zadran 4-22)

**Result:** Afghanistan won by 73 runs  
**Series:** Afghanistan won 3-2. —AFP

Preview

## KLOPP SETS SIGHTS ON FIRST LIVERPOOL VICTORY

**LIVERPOOL:** Jurgen Klopp's arrival as Liverpool manager has created a frenzy of interest among fans and media alike, but has not as yet succeeded in shedding his club's growing reputation as draw specialists. Six of their last eight matches have ended in stalemate, a total that rises to seven with the inclusion of last month's unim-

pressive penalty shoot-out victory over League Two side Carlisle, which had ended 1-1 after 120 minutes.

The concern for Klopp ahead of his third match in charge, at home to Southampton in the Premier League today, is a lack of ruthlessness in front of goal.

While a 0-0 draw at Tottenham last Saturday marked a solid start to the former Borussia Dortmund manager's reign, Thursday's 1-1 Europa League draw at home to a 10-man Rubin Kazan side was more of a disappointment. As Klopp put it: "Some of the players were so stiff in their mind. They think: 'We shoot now?'" "We have to make better decisions in the box. But I have only been here for a short time and I think, at this stage, it's pretty normal."

Liverpool's performance against their Russian opponents lacked the pace they showed against Tottenham - and the energy for which Klopp's teams have become famed.

Klopp has not been helped in his early matches, though, by a lack of attacking options. Christian Benteke has been absent with a hamstring strain for a month, Roberto Firmino for around the same length of time with a back injury, while Daniel Sturridge has missed the last two matches with a knee injury sustained in training.

The news on Benteke and Firmino is good; both returned as substitutes against Rubin Kazan, and ought to be available to play at least some part on Sunday.

For Sturridge, the diagnosis is more of a concern. Klopp had hoped to bring him back against Southampton, but the striker now requires another scan on his knee.

"It's not much better at the moment," Klopp said. "With Daniel's injury, we have to see day by day. "If he can train completely normally late yesterday, then it's no problem and he's an option. But I have to wait for this. "He needs treatment and a scan because there's a little fluid in the knee. We have to see." Benteke is likely to start if he is anywhere near fit enough to do so; if not, then Divock Origi - yet to score in five appearances for Liverpool - may be asked to lead the attack for a third successive game.

Southampton manager Ronald Koeman is concerned the attention surrounding Klopp could prove a distraction as his side try to recover from squandering a two-goal lead in a 2-2 draw against Leicester City last weekend.

"I think you have to be focused in your job as a manager to prepare your team for the game and the players to prepare to play on the level what we expect of the players," he said.

"We know Liverpool's a big team, a big history and they will get always more attention than Southampton. That's normal.

"Managers don't win and managers don't lose, it's the players between the white lines who make decisions and put the quality in. "I think it's too much talking about managers. Talk about the players, because they are more important."—AFP



MUNICH: Bayern's Jerome Boateng (right) and Cologne's Yannick Gerhardt challenge for the ball during the German Bundesliga soccer match. —AFP

## BAYERN RACK UP 1000TH WIN

**BERLIN:** Arjen Robben netted on his return from injury as Bayern Munich romped to a 4-0 home win against Cologne yesterday to claim their 1000th victory in the Bundesliga.

With second-placed Borussia Dortmund hosting Augsburg on Sunday, league leaders Bayern took their chance to extend the gap at the top to 10 points in picking up their 10th straight league win of the season. Pep Guardiola's side became the first team to record 1000 Bundesliga victories as Netherlands captain Robben scored in his first match since August while Arturo Vidal, Robert Lewandowski and Thomas Mueller also got on the scoresheet.

The Bavarian giants bounced back from the disappointment of Tuesday's 2-0 defeat at Arsenal in the Champions League—their first loss of the season—in emphatic style.

"This is for all the coaches, fans, players and employees who made this victory possible," said Guardiola, whose side fired in 26 shots to Cologne's four. "1000 victories is outstanding."

Having been named in the starting line-up after a groin injury, Robben netted after 35 minutes before Vidal doubled their lead five minutes later when he converted Kingsley

Coman's superb pass from the flank. "I'm pleased for him," said Guardiola. "We have missed his quality. Arjen has a professionalism, a charisma and a mentality, especially in the one-on-ones.

"He still needs more time, but no one has his nose for goal." Poland striker Lewandowski cemented his place as the league's top scorer when he headed home on 62 minutes for his 13th goal in nine league games this season.

Mueller made it 4-0 on 77 minutes when he converted a penalty after Lewandowski was fouled in the area. Wolfsburg stayed fourth with a 1-0 win at Darmstadt as Daniel Caligiuri hit their 78th minute winner. Fresh from their 4-4 draw at home to Roma in the Champions League on Tuesday, Bayer Leverkusen had to come from 2-0 down before beating Stuttgart 4-3 in another thriller.

The first half was goalless, but Stuttgart took a 2-0 lead through Martin Harnik and Daniel Didavi. Germany winger Karim Bellarabi made it 2-1 on 57 minutes before midfielder Lukas Rupp netted for the visitors' to make it 3-1 with an hour played.

Two goals in two minutes from Poland

defender Sebastian Boenisch and Mexico striker Javier Hernandez levelled the scores before Swiss striker Admir Mehmedi netted the 89th-minute winner.

The victory lifted Leverkusen to fifth while Stuttgart remain in the bottom three. Nigeria striker Anthony Ujah scored twice as Werder Bremen broke their five-match losing streak with a 3-1 win at Mainz where Japan striker Yoshinori Muto scored the hosts' consolation goal in the 90th minute.

The result lifted Bremen out of the relegation zone and up to 14th while Mainz dropped to 13th. Midfielder Marc Stendera was Eintracht Frankfurt's star with both of their second-half goals in a 2-1 comeback victory at Hanover 96, who hang just above the relegation places.

Hertha Berlin are fifth after their 1-0 win at Bavarian side Ingolstadt on Saturday night when ex-Bayern Munich midfielder Mitchell Weiser scored the winner after just 11 minutes.

Ten-man Hoffenheim are second-from-bottom after their 1-0 defeat to Hamburg on Friday thanks to Pierre-Michel Lasogga's late winner. Hoffenheim's Bosnian defender Ermin Bicakic was sent off for a second yellow card.—AFP

### Live Matches on TV (Local Timings)

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE	
Sunderland v Newcastle	15:00
Man United v Man City	17:05
Bournemouth v Tottenham	17:05
Liverpool v Southampton	19:15

SPANISH LEAGUE PRIMERA	
Levante v Sociedad	14:00
Las Palmas v Villarreal	18:00
Barcelona v Eibar	20:15
Atletico v Valencia	22:30

ITALIAN LEAGUE	
Sampdoria v Verona	14:30
Udinese v Frosinone	17:00
Milan v Sassuolo	17:00
Juventus v Atalanta	17:00
Lazio v Torino	20:00
Fiorentina v Roma	20:00
Verona v Napoli	22:45

GERMAN BUNDESLIGA	
Dortmund v Augsburg	17:30
Monchengladbach v Schalke	19:30

FRENCH LEAGUE	
Reims v Monaco	16:00
Lille v Marseille	19:00
Girondins v Troyes	19:00
Paris Saint v Saint Etienne	23:00

Preview

## SCHWEINSTEIGER KEEN FOR MANCHESTER DERBY KICKS

**MANCHESTER:** The Manchester derby is no longer a clash of warring Mancunian tribes, but today's 170th instalment at Old Trafford carries a fascination for overseas players like Manchester United's Bastian Schweinsteiger.

Twenty years ago both teams boasted Manchester-born players, with Nicky Butt, Paul Scholes and the Neville brothers lining up for United against City's homegrown cohort of Richard Edgill, Garry Flitcroft and Nicky Summerbee, son of former Maine Road great Mike Summerbee.

There will not be one Mancunian on the pitch at kick-off this weekend, as Premier League leaders City cross town to third-place United, but what the game has lost in local connections it has gained in worldwide renown. "I think it is something very special and we should be very happy that we have two big clubs in one city that are also playing in the Champions League," Germany midfielder Schweinsteiger told United's match-day programme.

"I remember when I was in (Bayern) Munich we were always looking for that, but the other team at 1860 Munich didn't play so well! Here, we can play lots of derbies and I am very happy about that."

The game's global pull was demonstrated on Friday when City received a visit from no less a figure than the Chinese president Xi Jinping, a reputed United fan, who was in Britain on a state trip. For both City and United-founded, respectively, by a pair of church wardens and a group of railwaymen in the latter part of the 19th century—it was a reminder of the extraordinary reach that they now exert.

Both feature in the top five of Forbes magazine's list of the world's most valuable football clubs, but it is for the earthy intensity of their on-pitch encounters that their rivalry enjoys such a broad appeal.

Another player set for his derby bow is City's Belgian forward Kevin De Bruyne, who continued his excellent start to life in Manchester with an injury-time winner against Sevilla in the

Champions League on Wednesday.

De Bruyne's last game at Old Trafford came in August 2013, in a 0-0 draw with Chelsea that was to be his last league start for the London club.

Back in England via a storming spell at Wolfsburg, De Bruyne has urged City not to abandon the attacking approach that has seen them amass 11 goals in their last two league games.

"We shouldn't play defensive because our main strength lies in going forward, though we need to stay disciplined," he told the City website.

"We know it will be difficult. Man United have been a top team for a long time and the rivalry between us and them obviously runs deep, but the season is very long.

"That said, we know what it means to our supporters and it would be nice if we could go there and get three points." While City-two points above United in the table-played at home in the Champions League this week, United had to endure a long trip back from Russia following their 1-1 draw at CSKA Moscow. But any extra freshness in City legs will be counterbalanced by an injury list that means they will be without Sergio Aguero, David Silva, Samir Nasri, Fabian Delph and Gael Clichy.

United, in contrast, are close to full-strength, with broken leg victim Luke Shaw the only long-term first-team absentee, and impressively won 3-0 at Everton on their last league outing.

United prevailed 4-2 when the teams last met in April, but City had won six of the previous seven league encounters stretching back to their giddy, title-inspiring 6-1 triumph at Old Trafford four years ago this weekend. Both United manager Louis van Gaal and his City counterpart Manuel Pellegrini have played down the significance of the match in the context of the title race, citing the season's embryonic state, but with so much emotion invested in the game, there are points to be scored.—AFP



Manchester United's manager Louis van Gaal

## RONALDO ON TARGET, REAL END CELTA RUN

**MADRID:** Real Madrid inflicted Celta Vigo's first defeat of the season to move three points clear at the top of La Liga thanks to a 3-1 win at Balaídos yesterday.

Cristiano Ronaldo and Danilo struck within the first 23 minutes for Madrid, who were also grateful to another spectacular goalkeeping display from Keylor Navas to keep Celta at bay.

Celta were reduced to 10 men just 12 minutes into the second-half when Gustavo Cabral was dismissed for a second bookable offence, but they still pushed Madrid all the way as Nolito set up a grandstand finish five minutes from time when he fired into the top corner.

However, Marcelo rounded off the scoring with the final kick of the game. Victory takes Madrid three points clear of Celta and Barcelona, who entertain Eibar today.

"We had a lot of chances to finish the game before," said Madrid boss Rafael Benitez. "In the end we had to suffer because we needed the third goal, but we have to take the positives which is to come to such a difficult place after playing PSG on Wednesday and get a great result."

Meanwhile, Nolito admitted that Navas had just been too good. "We have to congratulate him because he stopped three of four clear goals which I don't know how he saved," he told Canal Plus.

Both sides' unbeaten record this season was on the line, but despite their exertions against Paris Saint-Germain in the Champions League in midweek and a host of injuries to key players, it was Madrid who started the brighter.

That early dominance was rewarded on eight minutes when Lucas Vazquez's cut-back trickled through to Ronaldo who smashed home his 12th goal in as many games this season.

Celta had thrashed Barcelona 4-1 last month and going behind appeared to shock the Galicians back into their early season form as Fabian Orellana forced Navas into his first and arguably best save of the afternoon as he flew to his right to turn the Chilean's volley behind.

The hosts' attacking intent worked against them midway through the half, though, as Jese Rodriguez picked out Danilo in acres of space on the counter-attack and the Brazilian took his time before dispatching his first goal for the club beyond Sergio Alvarez.

Navas then took centre stage at the other end of the field as he made stunning saves from Iago Aspas and Pablo Hernandez just before the break to continue his amazing start to the season.

Celta started on the front foot after the break too as Orellana curled just wide from the edge of the area. However, any hope of a comeback from the hosts was extinguished when Cabral saw a stupid second yellow card for protesting towards referee Clos Gomez.

Madrid should have taken advantage of the extra man when Ronaldo fired straight at Alvarez before the Celta keeper did brilliantly to turn Isco's effort onto the bar.

Even when Celta did eventually beat Navas, Marcelo was on hand to clear Nolito's goalbound effort off the line. Yet, Nolito brought the game to life once more with a stunning effort into the top corner for his seventh goal of the season five minutes from time.

And Celta should have been level seconds later when substitute John Guidetti shot wide when unmarked just six yards out. Instead, it was Marcelo who scored for the second consecutive league game when he slotted home at the near post to make it 3-1.—AFP



SPAIN: Real Madrid's Cristiano Ronaldo (left) fights for the ball with RC Celta's Sergio Gomez during a Spanish La Liga soccer match. —AFP

## English Premier League results/standings

LONDON: Collated English Premier League results yesterday:

Arsenal 2 (Giroud 36, Koscielny 38) Everton 1 (Barkley 44); Aston Villa 1 (J. Ayew 62) Swansea 2 (Sigurdsson 68, A. Ayew 87); Leicester 1 (Vardy 59) Crystal Palace 0; Norwich 0 West Brom 1 (Rondon 46); Stoke 0 Watford 2 (Deeney 43, Abdi 69); West Ham 2 (Zarate 17, Carroll 79) Chelsea 1 (Cahill 56)

## Playing today

Bournemouth v Tottenham (1405 GMT), Liverpool v Southampton (1615 GMT), Manchester United v Manchester City (1405 GMT), Sunderland v Newcastle (1200 GMT)

Arsenal	10	7	1	2	18	8	22	Swansea	10	3	4	3	12	12	13
Man City	9	7	0	2	24	8	21	Liverpool	9	3	4	2	8	10	13
West Ham	10	6	2	2	22	13	20	Watford	10	3	4	3	8	10	13
Man Utd	9	6	1	2	15	8	19	Stoke	10	3	3	4	9	12	12
Leicester	10	5	4	1	20	17	19	Chelsea	10	3	2	5	15	19	11
Crystal Palace	10	5	0	5	12	11	15	Norwich	10	2	3	5	14	21	9
Tottenham	9	3	5	1	11	7	14	Bournemouth	9	2	2	5	11	17	8
West Brom	10	4	2	4	8	11	14	Newcastle	9	1	3	5	12	19	6
Southampton	9	3	4	2	15	12	13	Aston Villa	10	1	1	8	9	17	4
Everton	10	3	4	3	13	13	13	Sunderland	9	0	3	6	8	19	3

## VARDY MAINTAINS HOT STREAK TO SINK PALACE



**LEICESTER:** Leicester striker Jamie Vardy maintained his red-hot form as he scored in a seventh successive Premier League game to clinch a 1-0 win over Crystal Palace yesterday.

Vardy bagged his 10th league goal of the season in the second half at the King Power Stadium to give Leicester their fifth top-flight win of the campaign and cement their surprising climb to fifth place.

The 28-year-old is the Premier League's top scorer and his latest heroics continued a meteoric rise for the England international who was playing non-league football with Fleetwood only three years ago. Now he is part of a select group of eight players, including Alan Shearer, Thierry Henry, Ian Wright and Ruud van Nistelrooy, to have netted in seven successive Premier League games.

Buoyed by yet another dramatic comeback, a Vardy-inspired 2-2 draw at Southampton last weekend, Leicester made a vibrant start against Palace and almost took the lead on three occasions in

the space of two minutes.

Marc Albrighton's scuffed shot bounced off a post with Palace goalkeeper Wayne Hennessey wrong-footed before Riyad Mahrez dragged the rebound wide.

Vardy then stole possession from Brede Hangeland by the corner flag and hooked over a cross that was cleared from under the bar by Palace defender Adrian Mariappa.

Palace had already won three away games in the Premier League this term, including a shock success at champions Chelsea.

Yet Pardew's team were well below their best and it took 37 minutes before Yohan Cabaye brought Leicester goalkeeper Kasper Schmeichel into action.

Although Leicester lost some momentum early in the second half, Palace still couldn't stop Vardy extending his sublime streak in the 59th minute.

Hangeland gifted possession to Mahrez and he picked out Vardy, who dinked the ball over Hennessey and slotted into the empty net.

That was the signal for Palace to spring into life at last and Schmeichel was at full stretch to keep out a Patrick Bamford header before Scott Dann's header was nodded off the line by Christian Fuchs. Palace's final fling came when they appealed for a penalty after Wilfried Zaha tumbled under a challenge from Fuchs, but referee Mike Dean booked the winger for diving.—AFP



**NORWICH:** West Bromwich Albion's Salomon Rondon (left) heads the ball to score, during the English League soccer match against Norwich City.—AP

## WEST BROM STROLL PAST NORWICH



**NORWICH:** West Brom moved up to eighth in the Premier League yesterday after club record-signing Salomon Rondon's powerful header lifted the Baggies to a deserved 1-0 win at Norwich.

Tony Pulis's side arrived at Carrow Road in 13th but jumped five places on 14 points with

Norwich remaining 16th. An entertaining first period ended goalless but not for the lack of opportunities at both ends. West Brom midfielder Chris Brunt had Canaries goalkeeper John Ruddy at full stretch to block his early long range effort.

Shortly after Ruddy's opposite number Boaz Myhill did well to deny Nathan Redmond with a fine low save as the Baggies' defence came under pressure, with Matt Jarvis proving a handful.

The first half ended in a flurry of activity with West Brom left to rue missed headers from Craig Dawson and Venezuelan striker Rondon.

But the former Zenit St Petersburg attacker only had to wait a handful of seconds after the

restart before making up for that wasted opportunity.

Saïdo Berahino was at the root of the game-winning move, finding James McClean who crossed the ball for Rondon to head home past Ruddy.

With a quarter of an hour remaining Rondon, who moved to the Premier League in August in a £12 million (\$19 million) signing, made way for Rickie Lambert, his work done.

Despite Norwich, routed 6-2 by Newcastle last weekend, facing a third straight Premier League defeat it was the Baggies who looked the more likely to score again. West Brom meanwhile were celebrating their sixth clean sheet in 10 games.—AFP

## WATFORD BLANK STOKE



**STOKE-ON-TRENT:** Troy Deeney scored his first Premier League goal as Watford ended a run of three league games without victory by winning 2-0 at in-form Stoke City yesterday.

In manager Mark Hughes's 100th game at the helm, Stoke were seeking to record a fourth consecutive league win for the first time since December 2011 in what was the two teams' first top-flight encounter since April 1985.

But it was Quique Sanchez Flores's side who prevailed at the Britannia Stadium as goals from Deeney and Almen Abdi gave Watford their first ever away win in the Premier League in the month of October. Further spoiling Hughes's day, he saw Watford move above Stoke, who fell three places to 14th in the table.

Deeney went into the game having had more attempts at goal without scoring than any other player in the division and he was quick to make a nuisance of himself, forcing Glen Johnson into a last-ditch block. Stoke were forced into an early change when Geoff Cameron went off in the 10th minute with an apparent thigh injury, which saw Marc Wilson come on, but they made most of the early running.

Charlie Adam twice went close from range, while Xherdan Shaqiri picked out Marko Arnautovic, only for his cross to strike the Austrian forward on the shoulder and fly over the crossbar.

But shortly before half-time, Watford sprang



**LONDON:** Stoke City's Xherdan Shaqiri (left) and Watford's Nathan Ake vie for the ball, during the English Premier League soccer match.—AP

to life when Odion Ighalo and Deeney hit the bar in quick succession, and in the 42nd minute they went ahead.

Ighalo's flick was collected by Deeney on the edge of the box and the Watford skipper took a touch before steering a low shot into the bottom-right corner.

Ighalo, Watford's leading scorer with five goals, took an accidental boot to the head from Adam early in the second half, but after leaving

the pitch for treatment he was able to continue.

The visitors continued to attack, with Ighalo and Ikechi Anya denied penalties, before Ighalo robbed Wilson and teed up Abdi to fire home at the near post in the 69th minute and double Watford's advantage.

Only a save by Stoke goalkeeper Jack Butland prevented Juan Carlos Paredes making it 3-0, while Jon Walters, back after a groin injury, shot wide at the other end.—AFP

## SHERWOOD FEELS HEAT AFTER VILLA LOSE AGAIN



**BIRMINGHAM:** Aston Villa manager Tim Sherwood acknowledged that his position was potentially at threat after his side's slump continued with a 2-1 home defeat by Swansea City yesterday. Sherwood saw his side take a 62nd-minute lead through Jordan Ayew at Villa Park, but goals from Gylfi Sigurdsson and Andre Ayew, Jordan's elder brother, saw Swansea prevail. It was Villa's sixth consecutive league defeat, their eighth in 10 games to date this season, and left last season's beaten FA Cup finalists second from bottom in the Premier League table, four points from safety. "Am I going to be in the job next week? I'm not the person to ask. I feel like the club is in a hole," Sherwood told the BBC.

"I am disappointed with the result. We didn't deserve to lose the game. We can't carry anyone because we're getting done. At the moment we are short. If people don't give everything, we'll come up short. There's no shortage in desire, but the quality is not quite there. We're not world-beaters. Our league position suggests we're not and today wasn't our day," Sherwood, 46, was appointed last February following the dismissal of Paul Lambert. He helped Villa avoid relegation and led them to a first FA Cup final appearance since 2000 after a 2-1 defeat of Liverpool in the semi-finals, only for the Midlands club to lose 4-0 to Arsenal in the final.—AFP



**BIRMINGHAM:** Aston Villa's Leandro Bacuna (left) vies for the ball with Swansea City's Sung Yeung Ki, during the English Premier League soccer match.—AP

**LONDON:** Leicester City's Jamie Vardy (left in the air) collides with Crystal Palace goalkeeper Wayne Hennessey during the English Premier League match.—AP

## GERMANY SEEKS RIGHT OF REPLY OVER 'CASH-FOR-VOTES' ROW

**BERLIN:** The German Football Association (DFB) has reportedly requested a right of reply in magazine Spiegel to refute the cash-for-votes allegations surrounding the awarding of the 2006 World Cup to Germany. According to the website MEEDIA, the DFB's lawyer Christian Schertz has sent four demands for a right of reply to the Hamburg-based publication. The DFB was unavailable for comment yesterday. The DFB is in crisis over claims in a recent Spiegel report that the 2006 World Cup bidding committee accepted a 10.3 million Swiss francs (6.7 million euros at the time) loan from ex-Adidas chief Robert Louis-Dreyfus. Spiegel alleges that the loan was used to buy the votes of four Asian members of FIFA's 24-strong executive committee to ensure the 2006 World Cup was awarded to Germany.

DFB president Wolfgang Niersbach has always been categorical that there had been nothing shady about the 2002 payment. "There was no slush fund, there was no vote buying," he has said.

Under German media law, any individual or organisation has the right to refute any claims made against them by an outlet in

print or online. All four demands submitted by the DFB are directed towards parts of the Spiegel article where they insist there is no evidence or details to back up the allegations made and they are set to be included in next Saturday's edition. On Thursday, Niersbach claimed the 6.7 million-euro payment was made to FIFA as an upfront payment transferred in order to secure a 170 million euro subsidy from world football's governing body. However, FIFA quickly refuted Niersbach's version in a strongly-worded statement and called on the DFB to cooperate with its investigation.

Ex-DFB president Theo Zwanziger has told Spiegel he was certain that there was a slush fund, contradicting Niersbach's claims and accusing him of lying. "It is clear that there was a slush fund in the German World Cup bidding process," he said in an interview published yesterday. "It is also clear that the current DFB president (Niersbach) knew of this already in 2005, and not only a few weeks ago as he claimed," added Zwanziger, who headed the German Football Association from 2006 to 2012. "The way I see it, Niersbach is lying," he claimed.—AFP

# Sports

Pakistan turn the screw after England's collapse



Ronaldo on target, Real end Celta run



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KLOPP SETS SIGHTS ON FIRST LIVERPOOL VICTORY

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LONDON: Arsenal's Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain (right) is challenged by Everton's Brendan Galloway (left) and Aaron Lennon during their English Premier League soccer match at the Emirates Stadium. — AP

## ARSENAL DOWN EVERTON TO CLIMB ON TOP



**LONDON:** Arsenal moved to the top of the Premier League for the first time since February 2014 after first half goals from Olivier Giroud and Laurent Koscielny secured a 2-1 victory over Everton yesterday. Arsene Wenger's side climbed one point above Manchester City, 24 hours before the previous leaders face neighbours United in the Manchester derby. And while Everton threatened to deny Arsenal top spot when Ross Barkley struck just before the interval, Wenger's side com-

fortably claimed a fourth successive win. A frustrating afternoon for Everton at Emirates Stadium was complete when Gareth Barry was sent off in the closing moments after collecting a second yellow card.

The result extended Everton's 19-year wait for a victory at Arsenal, while for Wenger's men, the result was further confirmation that their campaign is at last gathering pace.

A crucial Champions League success against Bayern Munich on Tuesday undeniably provided a major lift after a season until recently marked by Arsenal's familiar inconsistencies.

Wenger had already come in for heavy criticism, particularly after the home defeats to West Ham and Olympiakos, but the manner of the midweek win against the German champions demonstrated the strengths of his squad.

And Wenger was keen to point out in the

build-up to this game that his side are now more mature and less fragile than the team of two years ago that failed to sustain their title challenge.

Like Wenger, Everton boss Roberto Martinez also focused on his side's mentality before kick-off, warning his players they would have to adjust their mindset if they were to bring an end to their dismal away record at Arsenal and other top clubs.

Old Trafford and Anfield have proven to be equally unhappy venues for the Merseysiders although their record this season-Martinez's side were unbeaten on the road coming into the game-suggested they had a chance of turning things around.

The visitors managed to contain Wenger's team during the opening half hour, although there were signs of the weakness that would cost them when Giroud and Gabriel Paulista both easily won headers from Santi Cazorla corners.

Arsenal eventually exploited their aerial advantage to take control of the game with two goals in two minutes. First, Mesut Ozil hoisted a beautifully flighted cross towards Giroud in the 36th minute, allowing the striker—who had drifted away from Phil Jagielka—to flick a backward header over the stranded Tim Howard.

The Everton keeper had been caught in two minds, but Howard had little chance moments later when Cazorla delivered a superb free-kick towards the edge of six-yard box.

Jagielka was again caught napping as Koscielny was able to reach the ball first and the centre-back needed only to make slight contact to divert the ball past Howard.

A previously tight game was now tilted emphatically in Arsenal's favor, but Everton brought themselves back into it two minutes before the break through the

excellent Barkley and a huge slice of luck. The England international was sent clear by a sweeping pass from Gerard Deulofeu and his left-foot shot caught Petr Cech out after taking a heavy deflection off Gabriel.

The goal provided Everton with the perfect boost before the interval, but rather than lifting the visitors, it appeared to inspire Arsenal to step up their efforts and ensure they did not squander the points. Arsenal dominated from the opening moments of the second period, yet they struggled to find the third goal that would provide them with breathing space.

Howard reacted well to smother an opportunity for Alexis Sanchez and then saved well from Giroud's acrobatic volley before the France striker hit the bar. A Romelu Lukaku header struck the woodwork to hand Arsenal a late scare but Wenger's side stood firm. — AFP

## MOURINHO BANISHED AS CHELSEA GLOOM DEEPENS



**LONDON:** Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho was banished to the stands amid more furore over refereeing decisions as his side slumped to a 2-1 defeat at West Ham United yesterday. Nemanja Matic was sent off in the first half for two bookable offences with Mourinho's men already trailing to Mauro Zarate's goal. The second yellow came directly after a disallowed Chelsea goal that had seemed legitimate and following an earlier incident when goal-line technology ruled out another effort that did not quite cross the line. Mourinho has already earned himself a fine and a suspended stadium ban for repeatedly claiming officials have a vendetta against him and his team. And he was sent to the stands for the whole of the second half by referee Jon Moss, who had earlier expelled first-team coach Silvino Louro from the technical areas. Gary Cahill equalised early in the second half,

but substitute Andy Carroll won it for West Ham, who moved up to second place on the final whistle. Last season's champions can now be found down in 15th place after a fifth defeat in 10 matches. West Ham opened the scoring in the 17th minute. Asmir Begovic did well to tip over Dimitri Payet's free-kick, but Diego Costa could only divert the resulting corner to where Zarate was lurking on the right of the box and the Argentinian drove home.

Upton Park erupted, the home fans serenading Mourinho with the inevitable chants of "You're getting sacked in the morning!" and "You're not special any more!"

Cesar Azpilicueta was booked for fouling Zarate before Ramires failed to atone for his error by blasting another long-ranger well over.

The champions penned in their hosts for a spell that saw home goalkeeper Adrian make a diving save to keep out Willian's free-kick and Manuel Lanzini hook away a header from Kurt Zouma. The goal-line technology replay showing that only a tiny portion of the ball had not crossed the white paint of the line. Matic was shown his first yellow card for tugging Cheikhou Kouyate down to end a storming counter-attack. Lanzini should have made it 2-0 when he chipped over with only Begovic to beat and a raised flag denied Cesc Fabregas when he accepted Willian's pass and beat Adrian.

It was assistant referee Andrew Halliday's call



**LONDON:** Chelsea's English defender Gary Cahill (top) vies for the ball against West Ham United's Senegalese striker Diafra Sakho during the start of the English Premier League football match. — AFP and television replays suggested the goal should have stood. Suddenly Harry Lennard, the other linesman, was the focal point, signalling to Moss that Matic's foul on Diafra Sakho right in front of him was enough to warrant a second yellow card. The Serb departed a minute before the break, with Mourinho merely smiling ruefully. But Louro's temper was already at boiling point and he was sent to the stands for a furious verbal volley at the officials, while Fabregas and Costa were also booked for complaining. — AFP

## GAZELEC HALT NICE AS TECH BAILS OUT RENNES

**PARIS:** Gazelec Ajaccio recorded the club's first ever victory in France's top flight yesterday as they stunned in-form Nice 3-1 in Corsica.

Gazelec, playing in Ligue 1 for the first time after winning back-to-back promotions, had picked up just three points coming into the weekend before chalk-ing up their first win at the 11th attempt.

The result enabled the Corsicans to climb off the foot of the table, ahead of winless Troyes, while denying Nice a chance to move into the European places. Gregory Pujol gave the islanders a first-minute lead but Nice equalised when skipper Roderic Filippi turned into his own net.

However, Filippi atoned for his gaffe with a 32nd-minute strike that restored Gazelec's advantage before Damjan Djokovic added a third just before half-time as Nice's four-match winning streak was brought to an end.

Goal-line technology was used to award a goal in Ligue 1 for the first time as Kamil Grosicki scored for Rennes against Lorient in a 1-1 draw.

Poland international Grosicki saw his 68th-minute free-kick pushed away by Lorient goalkeeper Benajmin Lecomte,

but a goal was given after a signal was sent to the referee's wristband, with replays indicating the entire ball had just crossed the line.

Raphael Guerreiro had given Lorient a first-half lead but the technology ensured Rennes picked up a point, although Philippe Montanier's men are now without a win in six.

Promoted Angers stayed second following a 0-0 draw at home to Guingamp, while Montpellier notched just their second win this term as goals from Ryad Boudebouz and Casimir Ninga helped them beat Bastia 2-0.

Leaders Paris Saint-Germain will have a chance to extend their lead to seven points when they host Saint-Etienne at the Parc des Princes on Sunday, while Monaco visit Reims and 16th-placed Marseille travel to Lille. On Friday, Lyon bounced back from their midweek Champions League defeat to brush aside struggling Toulouse 3-0 at the Stade Gerland through goals from Sergi Darder, Mathieu Valbuena and Maxwell Cornet. Meanwhile, Nantes sent third-placed Caen to their fourth defeat of the season with a 2-0 win in Normandy. — AFP

# Kuwait Times BUSINESS

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## KSE PRICE INDEX ADVANCES MODESTLY



**DALIAN:** Chinese customers browse products at the opening of a new Apple store in Dalian, China's Liaoning province yesterday. US technology giant Apple will keep investing in China despite slowing growth in the world's second-largest economy, chief executive Tim Cook said, as the company prepares to open its newest store in the mainland. —AFP

## CHINA CB SEES 'VERY NORMAL' GROWTH OF 6-7%

### YI GANG SEEKS TO COOL INVESTOR JITTERS, ASSURES ON LEVEL OF GROWTH

**BEIJING:** China will be able to keep annual economic growth at around 6-7 percent over the next three to five years, a top People's Bank of China (PBOC) policymaker said yesterday, a day after the bank cut interest rates for the sixth time in less than a year.

The comments from Yi Gang, vice governor of the People's Bank of China, appeared to be aimed at reassuring investors this level of growth, China's slowest pace in two decades but still faster than other major economies, is the Chinese economy's "new normal".

"China's future economic growth will still be relatively quick. Around seven, six-point-some-

thing. These will all be very normal," he told a conference in Beijing. As well as cutting interest rates on Friday, the PBOC lowered the amount of cash that banks must hold as reserves.

Both moves were bids to jumpstart growth in China's slowing economy, a drag on global growth that has been of major concern in emerging markets and other leading economies.

Monetary policy easing in the world's second-largest economy is at its most aggressive since the 2008/09 financial crisis, as growth looks set to slip to a 25-year-low this

year of under 7 percent.

Yi said China in the future would lower the reserve requirement ratio for banks, the amount of cash that major lenders need to keep on hand - at a "normal" pace. "Our reserve requirement ratio is still at a relatively high level so there is still room to lower the RRR. In future, we will proceed to lower the RRR at a normal pace," he said.

Yi said the PBOC planned to keep interest rates at a reasonable level to reduce the corporate debt burden, and noted that interest rate liberalization does not mean that the central bank would reduce regulation of rates. China

will also continue to set benchmark lending and deposit rates for some time, he said, but these rates would not restrict market pricing.

Data released on Monday showed China's economy in the July-to-September quarter grew 6.9 percent from a year earlier, dipping below 7 percent for the first time since the global financial crisis.

Yi noted that China's stock market, which has fallen sharply since June, had completed most of its adjustments and that the yuan, which was buffeted in the wake of a surprise devaluation in early August, had "basically" stabilized. "Following Aug. 11, our original inten-

tion was to pursue market reforms. But after that, we realized there was a relatively big depreciation pressure (on the yuan), and so we decided to resolutely stabilize the yuan," he said.

The PBOC was looking into leverage levels in the debt market, Yi noted. He said that China did not have exceptionally high debt levels, and while the bank was not overly anxious about cutting the level of leverage in the economy, the overall strategy is to stabilize leverage levels. "I want to especially mention this: I am now also focused on the leverage level in China's debt market," he said. —Reuters

## AMERICAN AIRLINES Q3 PROFIT SOARS ON CHEAPER JET FUEL

**FORT WORTH, Texas:** American Airlines plans to offer a version of the low-fare, no-frills approach to flying that is boosting profit margins at discount carriers. Officials at American, the world's biggest airline, say they need to fight back against small but fast-growing rivals including Spirit Airlines and Frontier Airlines, which are known for cheap fares, lots of extra fees, and poor service.

American has many frequent fliers who will pay more for premium service, said Scott Kirby, the airline's president. But 87 percent - accounting for half of American's revenue - fly the airline no more than once a year, and they buy airline tickets based on price, he said.

"We have to compete for them," Kirby said. "We can't just walk away from that size of the business."

So beginning next year American will offer tickets with "less frills" but a "really cheap price" where it competes on nonstop flights with discount carriers, Kirby said. He declined to provide more details.

Kirby also said that American will change its AAdvantage frequent-flyer program next year, but he declined to give details on that either. Other airlines have changed their plans from miles to points - a way of rewarding high spenders at the expense of customers who buy cheap tickets.

American disclosed its plans as executives discussed the company's record-breaking third-quarter profit. American Airlines Group Inc. reported that net income jumped 80 percent to \$1.69 billion thanks to a huge drop in fuel spending.

But American's shares fell 4.7 percent - apparently on concern that price-cutting to compete with Spirit and Frontier might erode profits - before they recovered most of the loss. Spirit's stock took a bigger hit - it fell 9 percent during intraday trading. Frontier shares are not publicly traded.

Big airlines like American, Delta and United chase high-dollar business travelers with amenities such as lie-flat seats and fancy food in premium cabins and route networks that span the globe. But discounters, which include Mexico's Volaris and Norwegian Air Shuttle, are growing rapidly by appealing to consumers who want to fly as cheaply as possible.

Spirit has been possibly the most suc-

cessful of the so-called ultra-low-cost carriers in the US. It draws the highest rate of complaints among airlines tracked by the federal government - followed closely by Frontier, which began imitating Spirit's no-frills approach last year - but has had higher profit margins than the giants. When other airlines decided not to match Spirit's low

fares, it grew to become bigger than United or Delta in Dallas-Fort Worth and bigger than Delta in Chicago, Kirby said.

American isn't the only big airline worried about the low-cost outfits. Late last year, Delta Air Lines began selling a "basic economy" ticket that doesn't allow seat selection or ticket changes and may not offer full frequent-flyer benefits. It was introduced in a few markets and seen as a



**MIAMI:** The tails of four American Airlines passenger planes parked at Miami International Airport, in Miami. American Airlines reported quarterly financial results Friday. —AP

response to Spirit. Some analysts are skeptical about chasing bargain travelers. Wolfe Research analyst Hunter Keay told American executives they were "blowing up yourself" by selling cheap walk-up fares to business travelers who would never board a discount airline. He has said it would be as if high-end steak-

house Ruth's Chris started a dollar menu to compete with McDonald's.

### Destinations

The low-cost carriers have more influence on prices as they add new destinations and routes. Kirby estimated that prices on 85 percent of American's routes are affected directly or indirectly by the discount airlines.

That is helping to push down US airfares, which rose faster than inflation for several years. This year, airlines have taken advantage of cheaper fuel to increase flights or use bigger planes. They have cut prices to fill the growing number of seats.

American doesn't disclose average fares, but yield, or the amount that passengers pay for each mile they fly, fell 9.2 percent from a year ago. That contributed to a 3.9 percent decline in third-quarter revenue.

But cheaper fuel saved the quarter. American's fuel bill plunged 43 percent, a savings of \$1.46 billion. American said that excluding special items related to its merger and other items such as technology help, adjusted profit was \$1.9 billion - the highest in any quarter in American's history. At \$2.77 per share, the results beat the average forecast of \$2.72 per share by 15 analysts surveyed by FactSet and nine analysts surveyed by Zacks Investment Research.

Fort Worth-based American also announced a \$2 billion addition to its program of buying back its own stock over the next 15 months, a move that usually pleases shareholders by making existing shares more valuable. That raises the amount authorized this year for buybacks to \$6 billion. The company also declared a quarterly dividend of 10 cents per share.

Shares of most US airlines ended trading higher, but American was down 32 cents to \$45.67 - it hit a low of \$43.81 during the day - and Spirit Airlines Inc. tumbled \$3.25, or 7.6 percent, to \$39.79. —AP

## NEW DEPUTY OF IG METALL SAYS GOOD WORK WON HER FANS

**FRANKFURT:** Christiane Benner has to think long and hard about how she became the most powerful woman in German trade unionism. "I think my good work won them over. That's the only way to do it," she says at last, as though considering the question for the first time, in an office filled with bouquets sent in tribute to her historic election.

Benner, 47, was picked this week as deputy leader of IG Metall, Germany's biggest trade union, which represents 2.3 million engineering and metal workers at companies including Volkswagen and Siemens. Her election is a sign of the times; not only is she the first woman elected to such high office in a predominantly male trade union, but her speciality is information technology.

Benner has concentrated on IT for almost two decades, and focuses on "click-workers": contractors who work remotely, often from home, doing project work such as processing Internet data, paid on a piece-rate basis. It's not the kind of work commonly associated with heavy industry but, as more and more industrial research and development work is moved onto Internet platforms, IG Metall needs to reach out to such workers, Benner says.

"IG Metall will transform itself," she told Reuters in an interview on Friday. "We know exactly what's going on. There will be upheaval."

The digitisation of industry will be a central issue for IG Metall over the next years, with new leader Joerg Hofmann, 59, concentrating on the prospects for traditional factory workers whose tasks are being taken over by robots and more automation.

IG Metall is campaigning for these workers to be trained in higher IT functions to save them from becoming redundant. Benner almost didn't make it into the ranks of IG Metall's top officials at all: two years ago, the union planned to reduce its executive board to five from seven members, but the motion was unexpectedly rejected and Benner was voted in.

Trained as a sociologist, Benner was active in union work at her then employer, mechanical engineering firm Carl Schenck AG, in her early 20s. She took a break to study and travel before returning to Germany and becoming a full-time union official. —Reuters

# INTERVIEWS BUT NO JOB OFFERS

Your CV is complete and professional enough to land you an interview with top employers, but somehow you lose focus or fail to attract or engage the employer sufficiently during the interview process. As a result, you don't get the job! So what can you do about this?

The following tips, written by the Bayt.com career experts, will help you go beyond the interview stage and receive a job offer for your dream job.

Do your research. Study the company and industry before you arrive at the interview and have some intelligent questions ready that pertain to the role you are targeting. In fact, 20 percent of employers in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region find poor preparation to be the most common mistake job-seekers make in an interview, as stated in the Bayt.com 'Hiring

## BAYT.COM WEEKLY REPORT

Practices in the MENA' poll released in January 2012.

Be punctual and on time. Being punctual is extremely important to create a good impression. Arrive before the stipulated time so that you can acquaint yourself with the surroundings. Look at the directions the day before your interview. Remember, it's important to respect everyone's time, especially the hiring manager's! Arrive on time and dressed professionally with a copy of your CV, recommendation letters and portfolio in hand. According to the Bayt.com 'Influence of Physical Appearance on Hiring Decisions' poll, March 2013, 76.4 percent of MENA professionals believe that an employ-

er's decision to hire you is largely influenced by your physical appearance. Be optimistic. Maintain a positive, confident and pleasant attitude and demeanor throughout the interview, and do not interrupt unnecessarily. Show the employer that you are genuinely and sincerely interested in the role and the company.

Be true to yourself. Answer questions honestly and in detail, bearing in mind the exact skills, qualifications and relevant experience the employer is seeking for the role. Remember that you have to prove that your set of skills, achievements and qualifications are directly relevant to the role at hand, and that you can hit the

ground running should they decide to hire you.

Show your work through results. Use exact details and numbers to prove your past achievements, for e.g. money and/or time saved, sales and profits made, clients gained, and tasks/projects initiated.

Be passionate. Show that you can and will commit to the role and that you understand what is required and will excel in that capacity in a superlative fashion. Bear in mind that you are competing with top professionals from all over the world at any point in time and the employer is not considering your CV in isolation. An average job posted on Bayt.com, for example, can usually get hundreds of applications and you need to demonstrate that you are better equipped than the next candidate in terms of character, skills and qualifications.

# \$30BN WORTH OF PROJECTS AWARDED SO FAR IN KUWAIT

**KUWAIT:** The total value of projects awarded in Kuwait in 2015 climbed to KD 9 billion (\$30 billion) by the end of the third quarter. Kuwait's project market, which has lagged behind other GCC countries in the past, is second only to Saudi Arabia in terms of the value of contracts awarded so far this year. An exceptional Q3 saw the contracts awarded for the New Airport Terminal, the New Refinery at Al-Zour, as well as over a \$1 billion worth of road upgrades in southern Kuwait.

According to MEED Projects, the total value of Kuwait's projects market (planned and active) grew to over KD 74.3 billion (\$246 billion) by the end of September 2015.

Below is a breakdown of developments relating to Kuwait's major projects so far this year. The detailed status of selected strategic projects is also included in Table 2 on the final page of this brief.

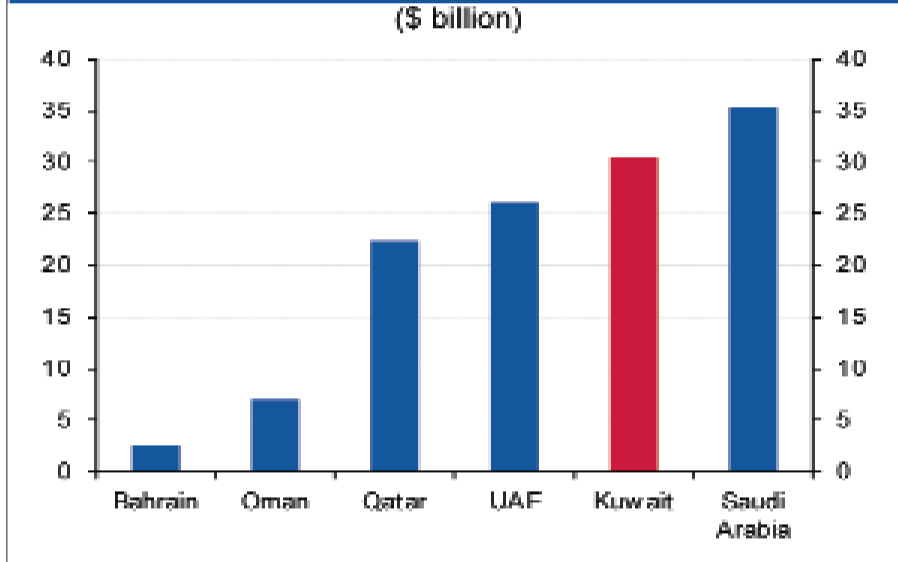
### Oil & gas

The contract signing ceremony for Kuwait National Petroleum Company's (KNPC) KD 3.9 billion New Refinery Project at Al-Zour was rescheduled for 13 October after a decision by Kuwait's oil ministry to postpone the ceremony. Although the delay might affect investor confidence, the authorities insisted that the contracts be reviewed for any potential loopholes before being signed, sometime in the next few weeks. Businesses in Al-Zour (south of Kuwait) have already vacated the area, ahead of the planned site preparation work. Among those handed eviction notices by the Ahmadi governorate was Saudi-Chevron (according to press reports), the company responsible for operating Saudi Arabia's 50 percent share of the Wafra oilfield in the divided Neutral Zone.

The new Al-Zour refinery is expected to be completed in 45 months. Once operational, the refinery will have a capacity of 615,000 barrels per day (b/d). Along with last year's award of the Clean Fuels project, Kuwait's refineries will be

## NBK ECONOMIC REPORT

Chart 1: Value of Awarded contracts in 2015 (\$ billion)



Source: MEED Projects

able to meet Euro 4 emission standards by 2020.

Due to the ongoing disagreement between Saudi Arabia and Kuwait over concessions in the Neutral Zone, production has been halted. As a result, upstream oil operator Kuwait Oil Company (KOC) has decided to restart previously stalled projects. While the company has been able to compensate for lost Neutral Zone output by ramping up production from other fields, KOC has begun the tendering process for the development of the Jurassic oil and gas fields in the north.

The company has invited prequalified companies to bid on three BOT contracts totaling KD 353 million (\$1.17 billion) for the development of

the East Raudhatain, West Raudhatain, West Sabriya and Umm Niqa oil fields. The project is divided into three packages, with each package having a production target of 40,000 barrels of oil equivalent a day (oil and gas).

According to MEED Projects, the Ministry of Public Works (MPW) issued a Request for Prequalification (RFQ) for the Al-Jahra Ministerial Complex, a new government center to be created in the north. The contract for KD 347 million is scheduled to be tendered next year. Meanwhile, work is underway at the KD 388 million Al-Jahra hospital which is managed by the Amiri Diwan. The Public Authority for Housing (PAHW) has commenced distributing plots in South Al-Mutlaa City. Set for completion in 2018 with 29,000 residential units, the city is designed to be the largest in northern Kuwait. Government plans to develop Boubyan Island and Madinat Al-Hareer (City of Silk) north of the city, remain uncertain, however.

The PAHW, which is in a race against time to provide housing for 110 thousand applicants, signed a KD 46 million construction contract with Turkey's Limak in early October. The contract for infrastructure work in the West Abdullah Mubarak area should see the creation of 5,200 residential units by October 2017, the scheduled completion date. In September, the Kuwait Authority for Partnership Projects (KAPP) revived the South Al-Jahra Labor City project. The project aims to house 20,000 workers. A request for proposal for the project's transaction advisory contract was issued in September, with a bid deadline of 29 October 2015.

### Power & Water

A site visit to the Al-Zour North IWPP-Phase 1, Kuwait's flagship PPP project, revealed that the project is ahead of schedule, with three of the

Table 1: Kuwait's strategic projects

Project	Sector	KD bn
Khairan City	Construction	4.2
New Refinery (Al-Zour)	Oil & Gas	3.9
Clean Fuels	Oil & Gas	3.7
Al-Zour North IWPP	Power & Water	2.5
Kuwait National Railroad	Transport	2.4
Mubarak Al-Kabeer Port	Transport	2.3
Kuwait Metro	Transport	2.1
Kuwait Airport Expansion	Transport	1.7
Jaber Al-Ahmad Causeway	Transport	0.7
Umm al-Hayman Wastewater Treatment Plant	Power & Water	0.4
Al-Jahra Hospital	Construction	0.4
Mutlaa City	Construction	0.2

Source: MEED Projects, NBK

### Construction

In accordance with Kuwait's development plan, the government has shifted its focus to developing the country's northern region, where it hopes to create a new urban center to help ease some of the country's congestion problems.

plant's five turbines already operating. Moreover, KAPP began tendering Phase 2 of the project, which aims to supply an additional 1800 MW of power and 464,100 cubic meters of desalinated water a day. Prequalified companies have until 17 January 2016 to submit their bids.

## JORDAN'S ARAB BANK NET PROFIT FOR JAN-SEPT FLAT

**AMMAN:** Jordan's largest lender, Arab Bank Group, said its January-September net profit came to \$615.1 million, barely changed from \$614.2 million in the same period last year. It said its loans book and customer deposits had continued to grow despite exchange-rate fluctuations. Total loans rose 2 percent to \$23.6 billion as of the end of September, while deposits had grown 5 percent to \$34.8 billion compared with the same period last year. The bank, with a balance sheet of \$46.4 billion, gave no figure for net profit in the third quarter alone. CEO Nemeah Sabbagh said the ratio of non-performing loans to net loans stood at 4.8 percent at the end of September and that its provisions coverage ratio for non-performing loans stood in excess of 100 percent.

Sabbagh said liquidity continued to be robust with a loan-to-deposit ratio of 63 percent and a capital adequacy ratio of 14.02 percent at end of September.

Chairman Sabih Masri said in a statement the bank had seen a positive impact from an out-of-court settlement reached last August with hundreds of Americans who accused it of facilitating militant attacks in Israel after a US jury found the bank liable. He did not give details of the settlement.

The verdict marked the first time a bank was held liable in US court for violating the US Anti-Terrorism Act, which permits US citizens to pursue claims arising from international terrorism. Arab Bank, which operates in 30 countries, owns 40 percent of Saudi Arabia's Arab National Bank ANB. — Reuters

## GULF BANK'S MONTHLY SALARY ACCOUNT, RED ACCOUNT DRAWS ON MARINA FM

**KUWAIT:** Gulf Bank has announced that it will be holding its monthly Salary Account draw and Red Account draws, simultaneously, October 28, 2015 at 13:00pm, live on Marina FM's famous Diwaniya show. The draws will be held under the supervision of a Ministry of Commerce representative, where six winners will be announced.

The bank's Salary Offer guarantees a cash prize up to KD150 upon salary transfer plus a chance to win cash prizes and cars in monthly, quarterly and annual mega draws.

Gulf Bank customers who have transferred their salaries are eligible to be part of those draws and win many attractive prizes. The bank's monthly cash draw will have six winners, each to get up to KD 1,500 (First prize is KD 1500, second prize is KD 1,000, third prize is KD 800, fourth prize is KD 600, fifth prize is KD 400, sixth prize is KD 200). Annually, two salary customers will get the chance to win a cash prize of KD25,000 each. Both new Red Account or Salary Account customers who open an account and transfer their student allowance or salary will also be eligible to enter the monthly cash draws for a chance to also win up to KD 1,500. In addition, the quarterly car draw will be for 1 lucky winner who will have a chance to win a new Cadillac SRX 2015 or Camaro LT Coupe 2015.

Through the bank's red program, customers can also watch movies at all Kuwait National Cinema Company (KNCC) cinemas during weekends (every Thursday, Friday and Saturday) for KD 1.750 instead of KD 3.5, which is a 50 percent discount on the normal price.

## EXCHANGE RATES

### AL-MUZAINI EXCHANGE CO.

ASIAN COUNTRIES	
Japanese Yen	2.496
Indian Rupees	4.675
Pakistani Rupees	2.901
Sri Lankan Rupees	2.156
Nepali Rupees	2.932
Singapore Dollar	218.060
Hongkong Dollar	39.112
Bangladesh Taka	3.896
Philippine Peso	6.532
Thai Baht	8.568

GCC COUNTRIES	
Saudi Riyal	80.870
Qatari Riyal	83.304
Omani Riyal	787.680
Bahraini Dinar	805.370
UAE Dirham	82.566

ARAB COUNTRIES	
Egyptian Pound - Cash	39.250
Egyptian Pound - Transfer	37.792
Yemen Riyal/for 1000	1.415
Tunisian Dinar	152.310
Jordanian Dinar	427.380
Lebanese Lira/for 1000	2.021
Syrian Lira	2.161
Morocco Dirham	31.247

EUROPEAN & AMERICAN COUNTRIES	
US Dollar Transfer	303.100
Euro	337.500
Sterling Pound	467.830
Canadian dollar	232.080
Turkish lira	104.340
Swiss Franc	312.470
Australian dollar	221.260
US Dollar Buying	301.900

GOLD	
20 gram	235.90
10 gram	121.64
5 gram	61.01

### UAE EXCHANGE CENTRE WLL

CURRENCIES	TELEX TRANSFER PER 1000
Australian Dollar	210.32
Canadian Dollar	235.65
Swiss Franc	320.95
Euro	345.92
US Dollar	302.70
Sterling Pound	470.95
Japanese Yen	2.57
Bangladesh Taka	3.886
Indian Rupee	4.659
Sri Lankan Rupee	2.159
Nepali Rupee	2.922
Pakistani Rupee	2.899
UAE Dirhams	0.08236
Bahraini Dinar	0.8044
Egyptian Pound	0.03855
Jordanian Dinar	0.4305
Omani Riyal	0.7860
Qatari Riyal	0.08346
Saudi Riyal	0.08074

### DOLLARCO EXCHANGE CO. LTD

Rate for Transfer	Selling Rate
US Dollar	302.750
Canadian Dollar	234.300
Sterling Pound	469.260
Euro	344.035
Swiss Franc	290.555
Bahrain Dinar	803.530
UAE Dirhams	82.725
Qatari Riyals	90.700

Saudi Riyals	81.460
Jordanian Dinar	426.600
Egyptian Pound	37.593
Sri Lankan Rupees	2.153
Indian Rupees	4.659
Pakistani Rupees	2.897
Bangladesh Taka	3.883
Philippines Peso	6.548
Cyprus pound	576.640
Japanese Yen	3.530
Syrian Pound	2.600
Nepalese Rupees	3.905
Malaysian Ringgit	72.000
Chinese Yuan Renminbi	47.945
Thai Bhat	9.515
Turkish Lira	104.195

### BAHRAIN EXCHANGE COMPANY

CURRENCY	BUY	SELL
<b>Europe</b>		
British Pound	0.458020	0.467020
Czech Korune	0.004445	0.016445
Danish Krone	0.041094	0.046094
Euro	0.329354	0.337354
Norwegian Krone	0.032560	0.037760
Romanian Leu	0.086803	0.086803
Slovakia	0.009016	0.019016
Swedish Krona	0.031819	0.036819
Swiss Franc	0.303324	0.313524
Turkish Lira	0.099759	0.110059
<b>Australasia</b>		
Australian Dollar	0.211028	0.222528
New Zealand Dollar	0.199141	0.208641
<b>America</b>		
Canadian Dollar	0.224756	0.233256
US Dollars	0.298500	0.303000

US Dollars Mint	0.299000	0.303000
<b>Asia</b>		
Bangladesh Taka	0.003485	0.004085
Chinese Yuan	0.046345	0.049845
Hong Kong Dollar	0.036942	0.039692
Indian rupee	0.004379	0.004769
Indonesian Rupiah	0.000018	0.000024
Japanese Yen	0.002431	0.002611
Kenyan Shilling	0.003145	0.003145
Korean Won	0.000258	0.000273
Malaysian Ringgit	0.068398	0.074398
Nepalese Rupee	0.002899	0.003069
Pakistan Rupee	0.002834	0.003114
Philippine Peso	0.006457	0.006737
Sierra Leone	0.000067	0.000073
Singapore Dollar	0.215294	0.221294
South African Rand	0.016676	0.025176
Sri Lankan Rupee	0.001859	0.002439
Taiwan	0.009232	0.009412
Thai Baht	0.008212	0.008762

<b>Arab</b>		
Bahraini Dinar	0.795235	0.803235
Egyptian Pound	0.037803	0.040633
Iranian Riyal	0.000084	0.000085
Iraqi Dinar	0.000199	0.000259
Jordanian Dinar	0.422792	0.430292
Kuwaiti Dinar	1.000000	1.000000
Lebanese Pound	0.000151	0.000251
Moroccan Dirhams	0.020462	0.044462
Nigerian Naira	0.001248	0.001883
Omani Riyal	0.779554	0.785234
Qatar Riyal	0.082405	0.083618
Saudi Riyal	0.080057	0.080757
Syrian Pound	0.001282	0.001502
Tunisian Dinar	0.149425	0.157425
Turkish Lira	0.099759	0.110059
UAE Dirhams	0.081406	0.082555
Yemeni Riyal	0.001367	0.001447

## FRENCH FAMILY DEFIANT AS AIRPORT DEVELOPERS PUSH TO EVICT THEM

**VIGNEUX-DE-BRETAGNE, FRANCE:** A family of four, who have lived through years of sometimes violent protests at the site of a controversial airport in western France say they have no plans to move, despite a court ruling which could see them evicted within a month. Bailiffs arrived at the home of Virginie Olmos and Sebastien Martin on Wednesday morning with a cheque for 18,000 euros (\$20,000) in compensation for their moving expenses. But the couple did not accept the money.

"We refused to take it. They must be joking," said Virginie Olmos. "Everything's happened so quickly. They say we have 30 days to leave, but we're staying!"

If they refuse, the airport developers, who own the house they rent, would have the right to begin formal expulsion proceedings. The house stands on a 1,650-hectare (4,000-acre) site of protected swampland called Notre-Dame Des Landes, just outside the western city of Nantes where developers want to build an

airport they say will provide a major boost to tourism in western France.

Approved in 2008, the 580-million-euro (\$747 million) project was due to start in 2014 but its start has been repeatedly delayed due to fierce opposition by environmental protesters. The airport developers call the area the 'Zone d'aménagement differe (ZAD)' a technical term meaning the site as been earmarked for construction.

But a resolute group of anti-airport protesters who have occupied the area have re-baptized it the 'Zone a Defendre (ZAD)' or zone to defend. Today, everyone in this part of France simply refers to the site as the ZAD.

### Shattering the fairytale

Olmos and her family moved into the house in 2000 after her father, the local postman, came across the property while on his rounds. When the couple signed their tenancy agreement, they say plans to build the airport

were on stand-by and they didn't expect the situation to change.

Their second son, now 12, was born in what Olmos refers to as her "magic house". The house, which covers 150 square metres, looks like something out of a fairy tale. With a small turret on one corner, it stands in the middle of a hectare (2.5 acres) of land filled with birds and animals including emus, parrots, a baboon, goats, ducks and geese.

For more than a decade, life in their woodland hideaway was very calm. But that came to an abrupt end in November 2012 when a series of violent clashes between French riot police and environmentalists protesting against the airport exploded right outside her door.

From that point, the family was "stuck behind the barricades" set up by the protesters. There were no more school buses and rubbish collection services were halted. They were forced to do everything on foot, walking

through the woods and fields to reach the nearest shops which were almost a kilometre away. It took some time but eventually they learned to live alongside the protesters and today have a good relationship with the so-called 'ZADists'.

A community of eco-activists who promote alternative models of economic development, the protesters have built a network of tree houses, cabins, and collective farms across the site where the future airport is slated to be built.

### Learning self-sufficiency

"They taught us to be more self-sufficient and to have a better relationship with nature," Olmos said.

"But everything will stop if the airport is built." Pointing to the surrounding trees and fields, she says the area is earmarked for a huge car park.

Martin says he still can't believe that the

developers resumed the eviction procedures that had been suspended for three years on the orders of President Francois Hollande, while the appeals were being held. The respite came to an end after a court in July rejected all the protesters' objections to the airport.

"Unless we find another house, we're not leaving," Martin said. And so far they've seen nothing. "We've visited five or six houses but we've never found anything equivalent to here, with land for the animals," he said. Olmos works as a hairdresser and Martin as a self-employed builder and the couple say they do not earn enough to be able to buy a new house, even though the developers have not charged them rent on their current home for the past three years.

So, for the time being, they are going nowhere. "When the police come back to try and move us out, I'm sure there'll be a lot of people here to help us," insists Olmos, feisty to the end. — AFP

## ECONOMIC WOES FUEL PUERTO RICAN EXODUS TO US

**MIAMI:** Maritza Alameda saw no future in Puerto Rico, so she and her family moved to Florida, joining what has become a mass exodus as migration from the Caribbean island hits levels unseen in half a century. Puerto Rico is a territory of the United States although not a state. Its people are US citizens and they have not missed out on the chance, faced with the island's economic woes, to seek a better life elsewhere.

After losing his job, Maritza's husband Abimael Rivera moved to Florida to try his luck. When he got a job as a truck driver, his wife and two children came to join him.

At home in Puerto Rico "there is no work, but prices rise. So how can we live?" Maritza Alameda asked AFP. But she admits this first year in Florida has been tough. "I cried every night," said the 42-year-old. Puerto Rico has been in recession for nearly a decade, fuelling the exodus to the US mainland which in turn is further depressing the local economy.

Last year 83,800 people left for the United States, a level not seen since the so-called great migration of the 1950s when nearly half a million people emigrated to the mainland, according to a recent report from the Pew Research Center.

### What kind of life is this?

Laura Homar says she emigrated in 2013, after falling out of love with the island. "Everyone tells me I did the right thing by leaving," said the 55-year-old, who said she is happy now working as a translator helping Latinos in hospitals and prisons in Minneapolis, Minnesota, where she lives with her elder daughter, her boyfriend and their dog.

"The economic crisis triggers more crime, brings more problems. A lot of doctors are leaving Puerto Rico, and to get health care it is very difficult," she said. "The cost of food, health insurance and electricity are ridiculously expensive. Basic utilities are extremely expensive."

Puerto Ricans are saddled with a huge \$73 billion debt load that has earned the island the nickname "America's Greece". US officials have urged Congress to push through new laws to reform Puerto Rico's finances, warning that without swift action it will run out of money. Governor Alejandro Garcia-Padilla himself has acknowledged the debt is too big to pay back. He says territory may soon have to choose between paying its creditors and providing basic services to its people.

### Vicious cycle

The exodus from Puerto Rico to the United States hit record levels last year, but the flow has been building steadily for a decade, said Jorge Duany, a professor at Florida International University and an expert on the migration pattern. In 2006 it was observed for the first time that there were more Puerto Ricans living off the island than on it. Today some 3.5 million live on Puerto Rico, and five million on the continental United States. The trend shows no signs of stopping. The latest census forecasts the island's population to slump to three million or fewer by 2050.

This is a bad thing for Puerto Rico in more ways than one, experts say. Fewer inhabitants means less consumption, Duany said. "It is a kind of vicious cycle, because with less consumption there is less economic activity, and more incentive to leave the country."

The exodus is also modifying the social makeup of the island. Because those who leave tend to be young, the population is getting older. Puerto Rico has seen a decline in the number of kids in school, and its fertility rate is lower than on the mainland, said Jens Manuel Krogstad, who wrote the Pew report.

"As population has declined in Puerto Rico all these problems have cropped up," Krogstad said. "It can become a very difficult cycle to break." — AFP

## VENEZUELA SUES BLACK MARKET CURRENCY WEBSITE IN US

**CARACAS:** Venezuela's Central Bank filed a lawsuit on Friday with allegations of "cyber-terrorism" against a US-based website that tracks the OPEC member's currency black market.

The DolarToday site (dolaratoday.com) has enraged President Nicolas Maduro's government by publishing a rate in Venezuelan bolivars for the greenback far higher than the three official levels under Venezuela's 12-year-long currency controls. The rate has become an unofficial marker in the crisis-ridden economy, with some Venezuelans using it in private transactions or to fix prices of imported goods.

The lawsuit, in the US District Court for the District of Delaware, named three Venezuelans in the United States as being behind the site: Gustavo Diaz, Ivan Lozada and Jose Altuve.

A representative of DolarToday could not immediately be reached by email or telephone for comment. The Central Bank requested both an injunction and damages, accusing the site of fanning inflation in Venezuela, the world's highest, and enriching themselves by illegal trading.

"Defendants conspired to use a form of cyber-terrorism to wreak, and in fact they have wreaked, economic and reputational harm on the Central Bank by impeding its ability to manage the Republic's economy and foreign exchange system," the lawsuit said.

DolarToday, which takes an aggressively anti-Maduro stance in its publications and says it calculates its rate based on trades on the Venezuela-Colombia border, quoted the dollar at 820 bolivars on Friday.

That is 130 times the strongest official rate of 6.3 bolivars and four times the government's weakest rate of 200. Maduro, a former bus driver and foreign minister who won election to replace Hugo Chavez in 2013, frequently lambastes DolarToday as part of an international capitalist conspiracy to sabotage the economy and undermine socialism in Venezuela.

"Arbitrarily manufacturing currency exchange rates creates further turmoil in a country that is working to overcome the obstacles it already faces," said Adam Fox, a lawyer for US law firm Squire Patton Boggs, which represents the bank.

Critics say Venezuela's economic mess, with Gross Domestic Product shrinking and shortages widespread, is the result of hardline state policies such as currency controls.

The Central Bank estimated a million people visit the DolarToday site daily. Its Twitter account has 1.93 million followers. "Defendants have been playing 'a cyber cat-and-mouse game' to circumvent government blocks, it said. Central Bank officials in Caracas had no immediate comment. — Reuters

## ALAFCO POSTS NET PROFIT OF KD 16M FOR YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2015

### SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY INCREASED 11%

**KUWAIT:** The Vice Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Alafco Aviation Lease And Finance Company (ALAFCO), Ahmad A Alzabin, announced that the company earned a net profit of KD16 million for the fiscal year ended 30 September 2015. This translates into Earnings Per Share of 19.6 fils. Shareholders' equity increased 11 percent to 219 million Kuwaiti Dinars. Total assets amounted to 704 million Kuwaiti Dinars. The Board of Directors has recommended a cash dividend of 5 fils per share subject to approval by the

General Assembly of the company and related authorities.

Alzabin stated in a press statement that the company's earnings were in line with its plans and strategy. He said ALAFCO leased aircraft portfolio consists of 53 aircraft, of which 50 are owned and 3 are managed for investors. Alzabin also stated that the company is on track to expand its portfolio to 100 aircraft by the end of this decade and has on firm order 117 new aircraft from Boeing and Airbus valued at around US \$14.9 billion at list prices. The order book comprises of

85 A320NEO, 20 B737 MAX and 12 A350-900WB aircraft that shall be delivered between 2017 and 2021.

ALAFCO plans to increase its presence in the MENA region, Europe, Asia and expand into North and Latin American markets in order to achieve its growth plans.

Alzabin also stated that he is grateful to the Board of Directors for its unwavering support and guidance. He also thanked ALAFCO's management and staff for their outstanding performance and commitment to the advancement of the company.



Ahmad A Alzabin



YANGON: A man walks with a plastic bucket containing syringes as men inject drugs in a tent near the jade mines surrounding Hpakant, in Kachin state, some 720 kilometers (600 miles) north of Yangon. — AP

## MYANMAR ANTI-DRUG CRUSADERS UNCOVER \$500K LEDGER OF PAYOFFS

**HPAKANT, MYANMAR:** Residents of this town in northern Myanmar's opium country became their own drug investigators out of frustration with authorities' failure to keep heroin and methamphetamine addiction from consuming their villages. Now they say they have an explanation for officials' poor performance, thanks to a woman charged with drug-dealing who kept careful track of her expenses.

When the community-based Kachin Anti-Drug Committee made a citizen's arrest of the suspect, it found two notebooks listing a combined \$500,000 in payoffs to authorities in Kachin state including an army commander, top police officials, anti-drug officers, township officials and others.

The committee showed The Associated Press photos of the ledger but did not provide line-item details on payoffs and recipients, saying it is trying to get authorities to improve drug enforcement and is using the notebooks as leverage. The group Global Witness, which campaigns against corruption and for transparency and protection of people's rights in use of mining, logging and other resources, viewed the document and agreed with the committee's description of the contents. "For us, this book is useful for negotiating to try to get the government officials and police involved in our project," Naw Lawn, secretary of the committee, told the AP. "Our society is being destroyed by drugs. We have many young people who are addicts, and this is destroying our future."

### Poor response

Officials with the state anti-drug police force failed to respond to repeated requests for comment. Naw Lawn and other community leaders set up their group last year to fight the surge in drug use in Kachin, an ethnically diverse, mostly Christian region where the Kachin Baptist Convention is the most influential local institution. With Myanmar's government attempting to end a decades-long insurgency by members of the ethnic Kachin minority, authorities have accepted the committee's assistance.

Isolated by a lack of paved roads or other modern transport and by fighting between rebel insurgents and government forces, Hpakant is a frontier region marked by huge jade-mining operations that have spoiled the environment and left most local residents destitute, with scant options for jobs or other

means of survival. Young people shoot up from dawn to dark near the jade mines surrounding Hpakant, some 720 kilometers (600 miles) north of Yangon, Myanmar's biggest city.

Addicts, their arms dotted with constellations of needle marks, squat under makeshift tarp shelters or sometimes just shoot up in open daylight. Overdoses are increasingly common, and crime is a growing problem among addicts desperate for drug money.

Committee members say they were attacked by drug dealers in a raid early this year, and now conduct operations only in huge groups of 300 or more, with one or two police officers accompanying them. They say they have also been threatened and harassed by some police who view them as interfering.

Committee members say the woman arrested with the ledger in June is among Hpakant's biggest drug dealers. Naw Lawn said the group also confiscated \$3 million in cash and a "huge amount" of drugs during the arrest. The suspect is awaiting trial.

### Financial ties

The financial ties to local officials allegedly revealed in the notebooks tell only part of the story of the Myanmar drug trade's ties to the powerful.

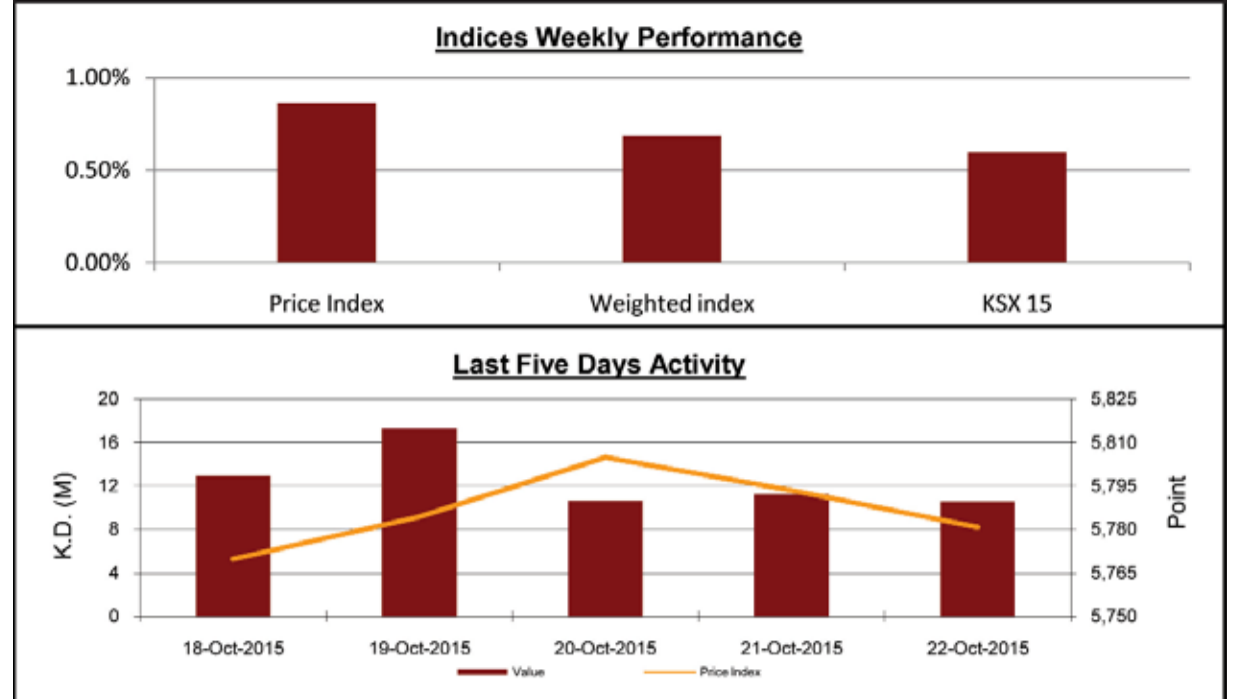
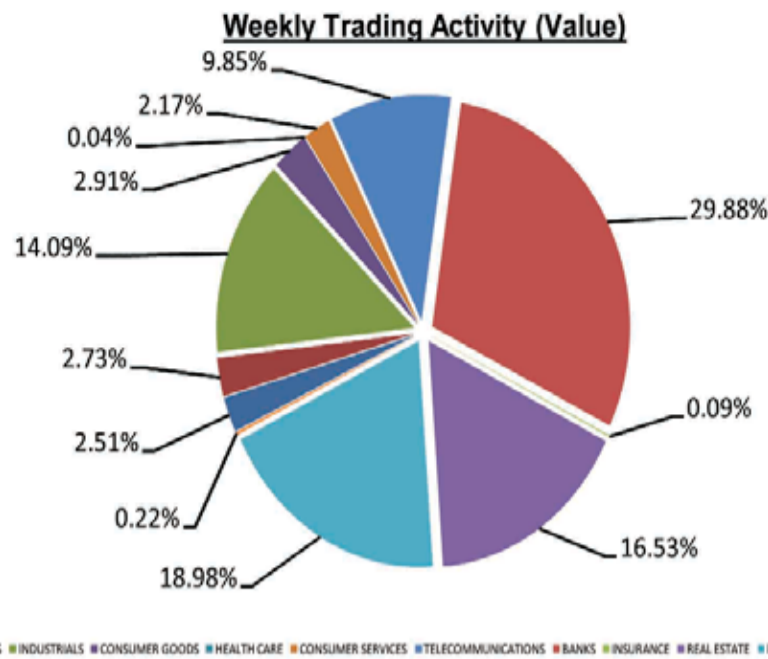
Myanmar trails only Afghanistan in production of opium, the main ingredient in heroin. Its opium poppies are grown mostly in Kachin and Shan states, where the government has long fought rebel groups seeking more autonomy for their respective ethnic groups. Both the military and rebel groups have used the opium trade to further their causes. The Kachin Women's Association of Thailand said in a 2014 report that Myanmar's military uses the drug trade as a weapon of war, authorizing border guards and local militias to grow opium and produce heroin and meth. AP reporters have seen opium farms protected by army-controlled militia groups. The government has attempted to stop opium-growing with eradication programs intended to compel farmers to switch to legal crops, but those efforts have fallen well short of expectations. — AP



YANGON: A man lies beneath a tarp nearby tents where addicts inject drugs near the jade mines surrounding Hpakant, in Kachin state, some 720 kilometers (600 miles) north of Yangon. — AP



ROQUES: Climbers of the environmental group Greenpeace hang a giant banner reading "Pesticides pour sur tous!" under the logo of French retail group Leclerc in Roques, near Toulouse, to denounce the abusive use of pesticides in farming and mass-market retailing. — AFP



# KSE PRICE INDEX ADVANCES MODESTLY

## BAYAN WEEKLY MARKET REPORT

**KUWAIT:** Kuwait Stock Exchange (KSE) ended last week in the green zone. The Price Index closed at 5,780.76 points, up by 0.86 percent from the week before closing, the Weighted Index increased by 0.68 percent after closing at 389.81 points, whereas the KSX-15 Index closed at 929.05 points up by 0.60 percent. Furthermore, last week's average daily turnover increased by 8.24 percent, compared to the preceding week, reaching KD 12.53 million, whereas trading volume average was 150.04 million shares, recording a growth of 18.11 percent.

As far as the KSE daily activity, the stock market initiated the first session of the week realizing a grouped gain for the three indices, especially the Price Index which increased by 38.45 point to close at 5,769.71 point level, supported by the active purchasing power on the small-cap and leading stocks. The market witnessed such performance among an increased trading volume by 25.15 percent.

The stock market continued its positive performance in the second session of the week to close in the green zone, among a continued increasing speculative purchasing activity that included many small-cap stocks and purchasing and collection operations executed on some large-cap stocks of which expected to announce gains for the third quarter of the current year,

KSE INDICES				
		Price Index	Weighted index	KSX 15
Weekly	Last week	5,780.76	389.81	929.05
	Previous week	5,731.26	387.16	923.53
	Change (Point)	49.50	2.65	5.52
	Change (%)	0.86%	0.68%	0.60%
Annual	Last year	6,535.72	438.88	1,059.95
	Change (Point)	-754.96	-49.07	-130.90
	Change (%)	-11.55%	-11.18%	-12.35%

which pushed the liquidity level to increase by 33.85 percent compared to the previous session, crossing by this the KD 17 million level.

Also, the positive performance of the KSE continued on Tuesday's session, and the market was able to realize gains for the three indices for the third consecutive session, supported by the purchasing & collection operations on leading stocks, in addition to the active speculative operations executed on the small-cap stocks, whilst the market witnessed such performance among a declined trading activity, where the liquidity level dropped by around KD 7 million and by 38.56 percent.

On the pre-final session of the week, the stock market recoded declines for the three indices as a result to the increased selling opera-

tions executed on many listed stocks of both large-cap and small-cap in a financial position correction operation, especially after the Constitutional Court's refusal to the appeal on CMA article 122, which negatively affected all the indices performance.

The stock market ended the last session of the week with a grouped decline to its three indices on Thursday's session, affected by the continued selling operations executed on many previously traded stocks during the week, whereas the Price Index lost around 12.65 point, in a decreased trading activity compared to the previous session.

On the other hand, the market cap for KSE reached by the end of last week KD 25.86 billion, up by 0.75 percent from its level in a week earlier, which was around KD 25.67 billion.

However on an annual level, the market cap for KSE listed companies recoded a decline of 7.56 percent compared to its level in 2014, where it reached then KD 27.98 billion.

As far as KSE annual performance, the Price Index ended last week recording 11.55 percent annual loss compared to its closing in 2014, while the Weighted Index decreased by 11.18 percent, and the KSX-15 contracted by 12.35 percent.

### Sectors' Indices

Six of KSE's sectors ended last week in the green zone, and six recorded declines. Last week's highest gainer was the Basic Materials sector, achieving 3.64 percent growth rate as its index closed at 1,025.09 points. Whereas, in the second place, the industrial sector's index closed at

MARKET ACTIVITY			
	Last Week	Previous Week	Ch. %
Volume	750,215,939	381,113,716	96.85%
Value (K.D)	62,627,495	34,716,178	80.40%
Deals	17,964	9,076	97.93%

MARKET CAPITALISATION (K.D.)			
Last Week	Previous Week	Weekly Ch. %	Annual Ch. %
25,864,774,376	25,672,449,315	0.75%	-7.56%

TOP GAINERS OF THE WEEK				
Company	Last Week Closing	Previous Week Closing	Ch. (fils)	Ch. %
NAFAIS	162.00	128.00	34.0	26.56%
MTCC	72.00	60.00	12.0	20.00%
NRE	88.00	77.00	11.0	14.29%
GFC	96.00	86.00	10.0	11.63%
SANAM	43.00	39.00	4.0	10.26%

TOP LOSERS OF THE WEEK				
Company	Last Week Closing	Previous Week Closing	Ch. (fils)	Ch. %
UFIG	140.00	160.00	-20.0	-12.50%
ADNC	28.50	31.50	-3.0	-9.52%
SENERGY	14.00	15.00	-1.0	-6.67%
ZIMAH	76.00	81.00	-5.0	-6.17%
FACIL	186.00	198.00	-12.0	-6.06%

1,090.05 points recording 1.86 percent increase. The Consumer Goods sector came in third as its index achieved 1.66 percent growth, ending the week at 1,087.65 points.

On the other hand, the Technology sector headed the losers list as its index declined by 2.42 percent to end the week's activity at 871.29 points. The Telecommunications sector was second on the losers' list, which index declined by 1.30 percent, closing at 565.08 points, followed by the Consumer Goods sector, as its index closed at 996.12 points at a loss of 0.78 percent. The Insurance sector was the last declined during last week, as its index recorded a weekly loss of 0.22 percent, closing at 1,057.32 point.

### Sectors' Activity

The Real Estate sector dominated a

total trade volume of around 253.84 million shares changing hands during last week, representing 33.84 percent of the total market trading volume. The Financial Services sector was second in terms of trading volume as the sector's traded shares were 30.93 percent of last week's total trading volume, with a total of around 232.08 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 18.71 million or 29.88 percent of last week's total market trading value. The Financial Services sector took the second place as the sector's last week turnover was approx. KD 11.89 million representing 18.98 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	30,999,615	4.13%	1,572,647	2.51%
BASIC MATERIALS	4,040,813	0.54%	1,712,827	2.73%
INDUSTRIALS	109,224,699	14.56%	8,824,239	14.09%
CONSUMER GOODS	5,510,359	0.73%	1,820,457	2.91%
HEALTH CARE	189,579	0.03%	24,827	0.04%
CONSUMER SERVICES	11,240,276	1.50%	1,359,203	2.17%
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	45,157,635	6.02%	6,165,892	9.85%
BANKS	55,409,639	7.39%	18,712,392	29.88%
INSURANCE	214,197	0.03%	56,553	0.09%
REAL ESTATE	253,837,702	33.84%	10,350,531	16.53%
FINANCIAL SERVICES	232,075,551	30.93%	11,889,377	18.98%
TECHNOLOGY	2,315,874	0.31%	138,549	0.22%

SECTORS INDICES PERFORMANCE					
Sector	Last Week Closing	Previous Week Closing	Weekly Ch. %	Annual Ch. %	
OIL & GAS	793.01	799.13	-0.77%	-25.40%	
BASIC MATERIALS	1,025.09	989.08	3.64%	-9.39%	
INDUSTRIALS	1,090.05	1,070.18	1.86%	1.84%	
CONSUMER GOODS	1,087.65	1,069.85	1.66%	-11.28%	
HEALTH CARE	947.11	950.04	-0.31%	0.73%	
CONSUMER SERVICES	996.12	1,003.96	-0.78%	-7.90%	
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	565.08	572.50	-1.30%	-0.94%	
BANKS	934.78	929.08	0.61%	-7.00%	
INSURANCE	1,057.32	1,059.63	-0.22%	-10.20%	
REAL ESTATE	956.11	941.74	1.53%	-15.39%	
FINANCIAL SERVICES	652.41	648.88	0.54%	-21.60%	
TECHNOLOGY	871.29	892.87	-2.42%	-4.91%	

# STOCKS RETURN TO BLACK AFTER SUMMER SWOON

## WALL STREET WEEKLY REPORT

**NEW YORK:** Maybe you shouldn't have put your money under a mattress after all. The stock market is back in the black for the year after a bruising late-August tumble that had investors worrying about their money in a way they hadn't in four years.

A three-week surge in stocks has now lifted the Standard & Poor's 500 index above where it was at the beginning of 2015 for the first time since the summer.

The S&P 500 fell 12 percent from its mid-July high to its depths in late August, as investors worried that slowing growth in China, along with continued economic weakness in Europe and Japan, would crush any hopes of stronger global growth. It was the first correction in four years, and it looked like investors in the US stock market could be on track for their first annual losses, including dividends, since 2008. Then central bankers and stronger corporate profits helped turn things around. The world's three biggest economies, the US, China and Europe, moved to push interest rates down or postpone expected rate increases. That gave investors more money to buy stocks and other assets, which in turn pushed up prices.

And what was thought to be a bleak US corporate earnings season started to look a lot brighter in recent days, especially when tech giants Amazon and Google parent company Alphabet posted surprisingly strong profits this week.

"The tone of the market has changed from where we were a week ago or certainly a month ago," said Erik Davidson, chief investment officer for Wells Fargo Private Bank.

While investors could have hoped for fatter returns by this point in 2015, they are now better off than if they had done nothing with their money. Here's a look at how \$10,000 invested back in January in the stock market and in other common investments would have fared.

### STOCKS

Investments in the S&P 500 through an index mutual fund or exchange-traded fund are up 2.4 percent for the year, including dividends that companies pay throughout the year. If you had put \$10,000 into the SPDR S&P 500 ETF, your investment would be worth \$10,244 today.

### BONDS

Like the stock market, bonds have seen-sawed throughout the year and are almost unchanged from the end of 2014. An investor who put money into a broad portfolio of bonds measured either by the Barclays Aggregate Bond Index or a bond market fund like the Vanguard Total Bond Market Index Fund would have earned 1.4 percent this year, including interest. Their \$10,000 would have turned into \$10,142.

### THE BIG APPLE

Investors have made Apple the world's most valuable company, and they've done pretty nicely in Apple stock in 2015. The company reported blockbuster sales and profits over the last year, thanks to the popularity of its new, larger-screen iPhones.

But investors have fretted over Apple's ability to maintain its prodigious growth, especially amid economic uncertainty in China. Apple shares slumped in August and again in late September, but they spent less time down in the dumps than the S&P 500. If you invested \$10,000 in Apple at the start of this year, you would have \$10,925 now.

### FOOL'S GOLD?

Gold is often touted as one of the safest of all investments, because it rises along with inflation and allows investors to retain buying power. So far this year, gold has been nothing but dull. A \$10,000 investment in the largest exchange-traded gold fund would be worth \$9,817 now.

### CASH MONEY

Banks are paying almost nothing on savings accounts, CDs or money market funds because the Federal Reserve has kept its own rates so low. Fidelity Cash Reserves, an enormous mon-

ey market fund, has risen 0.01 percent this year. That's one thin dollar on your \$10,000 investment. And if you just put \$10,000 under your mattress, you'd have \$10,000 and a lumpy bed. This story has been corrected to show the

return on the Fidelity Cash Reserves Fund is 0.01 percent, not 0.1 percent. AP Business writers Alex Veiga in Los Angeles, Brandon Bailey in San Francisco and Ken Sweet and Stan Choe in New York contributed to this story. —AP



NEW YORK: Traders Edward Curran (left) and Robert Arciero work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. The markets have rallied since late September. —AP



## Special report

## STRATEGIC APPROACHES TO HRM CAN ENHANCE PERFORMANCE

By Nada Borisly

Contemporary business practice has transformed the role of human resource manager as a strategic one owing to the level and scope of contribution that the function adds to the organization through addressing several underlying issues in the organization. Today we look into detail as to how human resource management has evolved as a strategic function in the contemporary businesses taking into account the trend of key challenges appearing to exist in the business environment in line with the unpredictable stakeholders emerging preferences. The different views such as the resource based view, contingency view and the Universalist perspective are critically discussed to support the discussion that human resource management function nowadays contributes effectively when collaborating with strategic management of the organization. Through playing a major role by seeking to enhance performance through effective decision making and proper execution of future strategic directives evolving in the methodology of the 5 year and 10 year preventative planning defined as the 2040 State strategies.

## HRM as a strategic function

For a business function to be classified as a strategic one it has to perform two major activities: strategy formulation and strategy execution. Earlier on, human resource management performed the function of staffing whereby only filling jobs. It only looks to forecast vacancies judging from the trends in turnovers, assess employee performances by conducting performance appraisals and developing intervention plans and training & development plans to improve employee performance based on conducting the necessary assessments so as to make sure that the employee performance standards meet those required by the organization. All this constitutes planning and forecasting, decision making and executing, which apply both strategy formulation and execution. Ultimately the case evolved into further influences which began to appear and affect the overall strategy formulation of the organization on a broader view (Boxall,

1998). From a general perspective in terms of the outlook on human resource management as a strategic function, several factors have accounted for the shift in the scope of human resource management in the contemporary business practice. According to Barney (1991), the elements of research, planning, organizing, managing and controlling in human resource management add to the strategic function it performs. The heart of strategic human resource management lies in the "manpower planning" element. This element pertains to the pro-activeness in the approach adopted by the contemporary human resource managers (Monks & McMackin, 2001). An example of this is the forecast of the manpower requirements which is undertaken beforehand and the recruitment accordingly is executed before the actual vacancies arise which result in fewer or no affects upon the overall organizational performance due to turnovers and shortfall in manpower and employees in the company. Human resource management allows the organization to perceive the strengths that lie in terms of manpower and based on that organizations make their observations through a source of competency and structured decision making accordingly. This thus, allows human resource management function to be directly associated with the corporate strategy building and not just in implementation (Desler, 2008).

Another driver of the shift in the scope of human resource management is the technical and research oriented tools and tactics applied in human resource management that aid in planning, forecasting and monitoring and controlling operations related with recruitment and selection, man power planning, performance management, performance measurement, performance appraisal, etc. (Boxall, 1998). The heavy reliance on the complex and structured systems and tools in the human resource management process that aligns employee performance and requirements with the overall goals and strategy of the organization have resulted in the strategic scope of the business function in the modern business environment (Barney, 2001). Human resource management takes into account the key challenges faced by the organization and

develop framework of understanding to match these challenges with the competencies of employees and manpower and how these can be used, enhanced and managed to generate the effective performance outcomes required to meet those challenges (Kamoche, 1996). Based on this very alignment with the corporate strategy, human resource management shares contribution in development of the competitive strategies of the organization of which manpower competency is a crucial component.

## HR professionals

Organizations now make use of specialized human resource departments that have entire teams performing specialized roles related with several activities of human resource management. The function of human resource management has evolved in scope and with the need for a separate department with department heads and supervisory staff together with teams working for separate activities has become crucial for effective performance of the human resource management function (Monks and McMackin, 2001). The function is not just responsible for hiring and recruiting staff but also for the development of strategies and plans regarding the policies, procedures, practices, tools and methods to apply to ensure that the performance targets of the organizations are achieved (Boxall, 1998). From the performance targets of the organizations, the human resource professionals derive strategies and objectives to ensure that those performance targets are acquired through managing number, staffing, hiring, performance, morale and motivation of the employees. The strategic role of human resource management is tied with how it develops plans and strategies that affect the organization's performance in the long run and in a large magnitude and for that an entire department filled with staff is infused in the hierarchy to perform the necessary functions.

## HR policies and practices

Human resource managers develop policies and practices to ensure that the organizational targets relating to employee performance that aids in the profitability of the

organization are attained. However, this is a rigorous process but is often the most crucial underpinning the effectiveness of the human resource management function as a strategic one as through policies and practices the function is tied with the corporate strategy of the organization. Each of the policies and practices is linked with the corporate values, vision and strategy (Boxall, 1998).

## Employee behaviors and competencies

The major shift in the role of human resource managers was the attention given to managing employee behaviors and influencing and shaping their competencies. This aided in transforming the role of human resource management as a strategic function. This is done primarily to allow organizations to achieve its productivity targets that are tied with each individual employee. The human resource department and management function in particular performs several different activities under long term strategies to manage employee behaviors (Monks & McMackin, 2001). This involves looking after the workplace relationships, work related attitude, job satisfaction, motivation, morale, ethical behavior of each employee, employer-employee relationships, etc. human resource managers apply the use of technical tools such as performance measurement tools, performance appraisal tools, etc. to measure employee performance and assess their job satisfaction and job related attitudes timely to ensure that their behaviors are aligned with the corporate strategy and culture of the organization and identify areas of weaknesses that need rectification and supervision and attention of immediate supervisors and managers (Boxall, 1998). Human resource managers develop recruitment plans, staffing plans, appraisal plans and techniques, training and development plans and compensation plans that all are tied with enhancing employee contributions towards the overall organizational performance. Human resource management allows the organization to know of the strengths that lie in terms of manpower and based on that organizations see this as a source of competency and base decision making regarding other plans on that (Spector, 1985).

## GOOGLE OPENS ALPHABET ERA WITH Q3 REPORT THAT LIFTS STOCK

**SAN FRANCISCO:** Google received an "A" from investors for its third-quarter report that ushered the Internet search leader into a new era under Alphabet, its recently formed parent company. The numbers released Thursday indicated that Google is making significant strides in the increasingly important mobile-device market, with its earnings surging 45 percent to nearly \$4 billion, or \$5.73 per share.

Ruth Porat, Alphabet's chief financial officer, cited improvements in mobile search and more mobile traffic on Google's YouTube video site as keys to the quarter. Alphabet, which replaced Google as a publicly traded stock earlier this month, won extra credit by announcing plans to spend nearly \$5.1 billion buying its own shares over an unspecified period. Buying back stock is something Google never did in its 11-year history as a publicly traded company.

The third-quarter gains also reflected the financial discipline that has been imposed by Porat, who made it clear she intended to curb spending shortly after joining Google in May. Google's operating expenses in the third quarter rose at slightly slower pace than net revenue, helping to fatten profit margins. Google's revenue for the three months ending in September totaled \$18.7 billion. After subtracting ad commissions, revenue totaled \$15.1 billion, a 15 percent increase from last year. Both the third-quarter earnings and revenue topped the analysts' projections that steer investors' expectations. Alphabet's Class C stock soared \$62.86, or 9 percent, to \$744. If the shares hit that level in Friday's regular session, it will be a new high for the stock.

The report covered a three-month period ending marked Google's final quarter as a public company. Google now is a subsidiary of Alphabet, which was created to oversee the hodgepodge of businesses that have been launched with the tens of billions of dollars that Google has made as the Internet's dominant search engine.

In January, Alphabet will report Google's financial numbers separately from a group of peripheral businesses that experiment with self-driving cars, invest in startups, make Internet-connected thermostats and search for cures to health problems.

That breakdown is expected to reveal how much money Google would have been making in recent years if it hadn't been diverting billions of dollars to finance risky projects that Alphabet CEO Larry Page calls "moon shots." Page, Google's co-founder, had been the company's CEO until Alphabet's birth. Google's new CEO, Sundar Pichai, assured analysts during a Thursday conference call that the company is "just beginning to scratch the service ... Our vision is for Google to remain a place of incredible creativity and innovation that uses a unique technical expertise to tackle big problems."

Google's profit margins have been squeezed by the shift to mobile devices from laptop and desktop computers during the past five years. The company was better prepared for the upheaval than most of its technology peers because it had the foresight to build and develop Android, a mobile operating system that features Google's search engine, maps, email and YouTube video site. — AP



**DALIAN:** Apple store employees gather to celebrate the opening of a new store in Dalian, China's Liaoning province yesterday. US technology giant Apple will keep investing in China despite slowing growth in the world's second-largest economy, chief executive Tim Cook said, as the company prepares to open its newest store in the mainland. — AFP

## TECH SPATS SPARK FEARS OF 'DIGITAL PROTECTIONISM' TENSIONS IN EU OVER PRIVACY, ANTITRUST AND OTHER ISSUES

**WASHINGTON:** As American tech giants extend their global reach, fears are growing on their side of the Atlantic over trade barriers some see as "digital protectionism." While China has long been a difficult market for US firms to navigate, tensions have been rising with the European Union on privacy, antitrust and other issues, impacting tech firms such as Google, Facebook and Uber.

In recent weeks, Europe's highest court struck down an agreement that allowed US firms to transfer personal data out of the region without running afoul of privacy rules.

In parallel, Brussels is looking to create a new "digital single market" simplifying rules for operating across EU borders-but which could also include new regulations for online "platforms".

Some see this as a job at US retailers like Amazon, "sharing economy" services like Airbnb or even news outfits. Ed Black, president of the Computer and Communications Industry Association, said the platform proposal "has the potential to be troublesome." "Nobody has defined what a platform is," Black told AFP. "It feels like a proposal to solve a non-problem."

After the European Court of Justice invalidated the so-called "Safe Harbor" data-sharing agreement this month, Secretary of Commerce Penny Pritzker said Washington was "deeply disappointed."

For the past 15 years, the key transatlantic accord allowed tech firms like Facebook to operate on both sides of the ocean without running afoul of EU privacy laws. The ruling, Pritzker said, "creates significant uncertainty for both US and EU companies and consumers and puts at risk the thriving transatlantic digital economy."

## Undercurrent of fear

"We're waiting to see which way Europe goes," says Daniel Castro, vice president at the Information Technology & Innovation Foundation, a Washington think tank. Castro detects "an undercurrent of fear" in Europe because of the popularity of services such as Google and Facebook but argues that the US and EU "need to be on the same side when it comes to free trade."

Another source of friction is Europe's effort to enforce the "right to be forgotten," allowing individuals to remove online content from searches that are outdated or inaccurate. France has ordered Google to carry this out worldwide, not just in Europe but US firms see this as a form of censorship, effectively enabling people to rewrite history to hide embarrassing data. "You're talking about Europe imposing its

version of how the world should be on everyone else," Castro said.

President Barack Obama expressed concerns about digital trade barriers in an interview earlier this year with Re/code. "We have owned the Internet. Our companies have created it, expanded it, perfected it in ways that (European firms) can't compete," Obama said in response to a question about European actions in the digital sphere.

"And oftentimes what is portrayed as high-minded positions on issues sometimes is just designed to carve out some of their commercial interests."

## Buy time for Europe

That view was echoed by Kati Suominen, who heads the Future of Trade initiative for the Center for

Strategic and International Studies, a think tank. Europe sees it is lagging and is moving on policies in order "to buy time," she argued. "Europe is seeking to build its own digital economy by complicating the operations of foreign companies on European soil. In that sense, it is protectionism," she said.

Rather than throw up new barriers, she argued, Europe should be tearing them if it wishes to foster a digital economy-notably to enable better access to venture capital. Last month Guenther Oettinger, the EU commissioner for the digital economy and society, brushed aside suggestions of protectionism. "Our rules on a European level are relevant for everybody, for European producers and players, for Asian players, and for American players as well," he said during a visit to San Francisco. — AFP



**MOUNTAIN VIEW:** The Google logo outside the company's headquarters in Mountain View, California. Alphabet Inc, parent company of Google, reported quarterly financial results on Thursday. — AP

## DORSEY'S TWITTER STOCK GIFT WELL-TIMED TO STEM BRAIN DRAIN

**SAN FRANCISCO:** Twitter Chief Executive Jack Dorsey's novel move to give a third of his company stock to an employee equity pool is a smart gesture to restore confidence in a company that lost its way, according to recruiting and compensation experts. Beyond its generosity, the gift is a

strategic effort to retain and attract key talent at the social media company, roiled by months of leadership uncertainty and questions over its long-term growth.

"It's a deliberate and wise and somewhat necessary move to shore up the talent you want to keep," said recruiter Jason Hanold, who places executives and top managers in the technology industry. Twitter co-founder Dorsey, who was named permanent CEO earlier this month, made a surprise announcement late on Thursday that he would give shares worth \$206 million to the company for free, in order to "reinvest directly in our people."

Shares of Twitter, which have fallen 44 percent in the past six months, closed up 3.9 percent on Friday. The move was designed "to instill confidence in investors and employees to show he's trying to do the right thing for the company," said Dan Marce, director of content and marketing communications at executive compensation data firm Equilar.

A top priority is to keep key employees happy after Twitter announced it would lay off about 8 percent of its staff earlier this month, soon after Dorsey took the job on a permanent basis.

The transfer of 6.8 million shares of common stock is subject to stockholders in 2016 approving an equity incentive plan for the shares to be granted "over time" to Twitter employees. The board has approved the deal. — Reuters



**ST LOUIS:** Twitter co-founder Jack Dorsey answers a question during the opening session of the Clinton Global Initiative at Washington University in St. Louis. According to regulatory filing, Dorsey is relinquishing stock worth more than \$200 million so the messaging service can award the shares to its employees. — AP

## EX-RABOBANK TRADERS TO TESTIFY IN LIBOR TRIAL

**NEW YORK:** Two former Rabobank traders from Britain facing US charges that they engaged in a scheme to manipulate Libor interest rates plan to testify in their own defense, their lawyers said on Friday. Their disclosure came as prosecutors said they were prepared to rest by Monday in presenting their case in Manhattan federal court against the two traders on trial, Anthony Allen and Anthony Conti. The traders are the first to face trial in the United States following a global investigation into whether various banks submitted artificial rate estimates to bolster profits on trading derivatives tied to Libor.

Allen, Rabobank's former global head of liquidity and finance, and Conti, a senior trader, were indicted in October 2014, a year after the Netherlands-based bank reached a \$1 billion deal resolving related US and European probes. Both have pleaded not guilty to charges including conspiracy and wire fraud over alleged roles to help manipulate US dollar and yen Libor rates to benefit the Netherlands-based bank's trading positions. Michael Schachter, Allen's lawyer, told US District Judge Jed Rakoff that after prosecutors rest, the defense would call expert witnesses and that they intended to call Allen.

Aaron Williamson, Conti's lawyer, confirmed in a brief interview that his client also planned to testify. Schachter said Allen, a British citizen, would testify to

how he voluntarily waived extradition in March to fight the charges.

"We believe that shows consciousness of innocence," Schachter said. He contrasted his client's decision with two other overseas ex-Rabobank traders who, like Allen and Conti, were charged by the US Justice Department but have not appeared in US court.

Judge Rakoff responded that one of them, Paul Thompson, had been arrested. Earlier on Friday, Bloomberg reported that Thompson had been arrested in Australia. Justice Department spokesman Peter Carr referred questions to Australian authorities. Australian authorities had no immediate comment, and Thompson's lawyer did not respond to requests for comment.

Libor, or the London interbank offered rate, is a short-term rate banks charge each other for loans that is calculated based on submissions by a panel of banks. It underpins hundreds of trillions of dollars in financial products globally. The case is the first by the Justice Department to go to trial following investigations by US and European authorities.

Those investigations resulted in charges against 22 people in the United States and United Kingdom and around \$9 billion in regulatory settlements with financial institutions. — Reuters



Mohamed Naser Al Sayer & Toyota Launches

# THE LEGEND RENEWED... INSIDE OUT 2016 LAND CRUISER

*Appealing design and luxurious interiors combine to offer a smooth and comfortable ride*

**Toyota Raises the Bar for All-Terrain Performance**  
: The all-new 2016 Land Cruiser has arrived. An upgraded exterior, a brand new spacious interior that's loaded with state-of-the-art technology coupled with same legendary drive and performance you expect from a Land Cruiser. Which means every mile you drive, every journey you take, will feel like an adventure

- Powerful engine and superior driving dynamics elevate off-road capability and performance to new levels
- Unmatched safety technologies ensure highest levels of protection

**M**ohamed Naser Al Sayer & Sons (MNSS), the authorised distributor for Toyota cars in Kuwait launched the all-new 2016 Toyota Land Cruiser, the legend renewed inside out. The launch press conference was attended by Faisal Bader Al Sayer Vice Chairman Al Sayer Group Holding, Johan Heislitz Senior Business Director Toyota Kuwait, Masoud Wahba General Manager Sales Toyota Kuwait and visiting delegation from Toyota Motor Corporation including Sadayoshi Koyari Chief Engineer for the Land Cruiser, Takashi Obata General Manager Toyota Middle East and North Africa Division and Masayuki Oikawa Sales and Marketing Manager from Middle East and North Africa Regional Office along with representatives of the press and media.

Speaking during the launch press conference Faisal Bader Al Sayer Vice Chairman Al Sayer Group Holding said "Toyota has made significant progress toward achieving sustainable growth by making ever-better cars. Toyota has accomplished another milestone with the launch of ninth generation of Land Cruiser. Mohamed Naser Al Sayer is committed to the strategy for steady development, improvement and growth in the Kuwaiti market with confident expansion plans to further enhance customer convenience and experience. Sharing Toyota values of "Customer First" and reinforcing a true culture for best-in-class customer service, is at the centre of Al Sayer Group endeavours towards building on success."

Introducing the all-new 2016 Land Cruiser, a technically advanced luxury SUV with genuine off-road capabilities, enhanced refinement and comfort for passengers. This world-beating, go-anywhere Land Cruiser is the ninth generation of Toyota's legendary Land Cruiser SUV line and remains true to its illustrious heritage in being a thoroughbred off-roader.

According to Sadayoshi Koyari, Chief Engineer for the new Land Cruiser, "The Land Cruiser is a true go anywhere, all-terrain four-wheel drive SUV that has always exceeded expectations all around the globe. It offers elegance, sophistication and luxury while being tough and practical. Moreover, it represents a luxurious bridge between civilization and adventure while offering not just excitement but also utility. The



new Land Cruiser reaffirms a tradition of quality and advanced technology. That is why when people think four-wheel drive SUV -- they automatically think 'Land Cruiser' as it sets the standard."

According to Takayuki Yoshitsugu, Chief Representative, Middle East and North Africa Representative Office, TOYOTA Motor Corporation, "With a pedigree that can be traced back over 60 years, the Land Cruiser commands customer loyalty unmatched by any other SUV, and this new model proudly carries forward the vehicle's legacy of phenomenal all-terrain performance and reliability. With each and every new Land Cruiser, Toyota has the same fundamental aims. The first is to build on the vehicle's tradition of reliability, durability and off-road performance; the second is to improve handling stability, ride comfort and driving pleasure. As the 2016 Land Cruiser gets ready to be rolled out in the region, we sincerely appreciate the loyalty of our customers who have made the Land Cruiser an integral part of their lives over the years."

Masoud Wahba General Manager Sales Toyota Kuwait said "Toyota vehicles are best known for the finest combination of best quality, technology, durability, highest resale value and line up suiting all customer tastes, needs and requirements in addition to low maintenance costs and efficient fuel consumption. At Toyota Al Sayer we always strive to understand your needs and that is why we offer you the World's leading cars with the best international specifications."

Toyota's 'no compromise' approach is evident in the Land Cruiser's traditional body-on-frame construction, crucial to its ability to tackle the toughest terrain. This tried and tested approach is matched

by sophisticated handling, suspension and drivetrain systems that extend the off-road capabilities while enhancing comfort and stability in normal driving. The new Land Cruiser retains the well-established features that have contributed to the vehicle's worldwide rugged appeal and thoroughbred off-roader status. These include advanced technology driving aids such as Downhill Assist Control (DAC) and Hill-start Assist Control (HAC), and a wealth of active and passive safety features, including a multi-terrain ABS system.

#### Functionally Appealing Design

For more than 60 years, consistently high quality and technical sophistication have earned Land Cruiser its special status in Toyota's model line-up, embodying the company's world-beating four-wheel drive capability. The design of the Land Cruiser needed to respect this heritage, while bringing Toyota's off-road image up-to-date. The new Land Cruiser exemplifies the 'Vibrant Clarity' aspect of Toyota's brand design philosophy, which guides the development of off-road models that are vibrant and energetic, while retaining clarity of purpose. While further evolving the "advanced and rugged" design direction of the previous model, the new model has been designed for enhancing the functional appeal and advanced feel, to position it at the very top of full-fledged 4WD SUVs.

The design concept of 'Functional Beauty' is well defined by the distinctive grille frame that leaves a striking impression. The convex shape continues from the engine hood to radiator grille while the center of the engine hood is concaved, accentuating the solid and 3-dimensional feel of the front face. Chrome-

plating has been applied to the top and bottom of the triple horizontal grille bars, thus expressing the bar rigidity and portraying both functional beauty and toughness.

The side view of the Land Cruiser exudes a rugged appearance with thicker bumpers and a higher hood line. Through newly-designed front and rear lamps and raised bumper peak, the vehicle posture when seen from the side has been improved, and the axis of the vehicle side has been set higher to express the flowing vehicle design.

The wide and high-lift appearance of the rear completes the Land Cruiser's traditional tough image. The back door panel connecting to the rear combination lamps expresses power and a protruding feel, and the wider license garnish penetrates into the bottom of the rear combination lamps, adding a sophisticated and unified feel to the rear.

A new colour line-up allows customers to enjoy a wide range of options that match the new Land Cruiser's premium and tough character. The 2016 Land Cruiser is available in 10 exterior colours: Pearl White, Super White, Silver Metallic, Grey Metallic, Dark Red Mica Metallic, Black, Beige Mica Metallic and Attitude Black Mica, plus two newly developed colours - Copper Brown Mica and Dark Blue Mica.

#### Luxurious Interiors

The new Land Cruiser's quality craftsmanship and reassuring functionality can be felt at every touch point. A great deal of attention has been paid to the genuine leather thickness and edge treatment to achieve both functionality and high quality. The metal-like ornamentation of the functional parts unified with satin silver paint, coordinated with the hairline finished aluminium-like ornamentation on the centre and upholstered areas conveys a dignified feel emanating from the contrast and harmony of the materials creating a quality atmosphere worthy of the 'King of 4WD'.

A piano black finish has been applied on the display panel for a precise and high quality appearance, and a newly adopted Optitron meter - equipped with a 4.2-inch Thin Film Transistor (TFT) colour Multi-information Display and odometer/ trip meter liquid display with suitable lettering size - contributes to enhanced visibility. Elevating in-vehicle entertainment to a whole new level are the 11.6-inch dual display screens with Display Angle Adjustable Mechanism (viewing angle can be adjusted between 050- degrees) that offer the ultimate multimedia entertainment for rear seat passengers.

The 2016 Land Cruiser's seat adjustment function enable comfortable 2nd-row seating, and its spacious packaging is capable of seating adults in the 3rd-row. The third-row seats can be easily configured





as a spacious luggage compartment or comfortable occupant seating. It also features a convenient power back door that can be remotely operated. The Land Cruiser features a split-opening type door that enables the upper door to be opened independently.

Perforated leather trim front seats and a leather trim steering wheel that features controls for the audio system, Multi-Information Display and Bluetooth hands-free phone system are just a few of the comforts available in the spacious cabin. Storage for small items has been added to the center cluster, and a wireless smartphone charger is available as an option.

A total of 4 interior colours are available, including two newly added colours – 'Flaxen' and 'Brown' – that incorporate modern Shimamoku instrumentation to further enhance the elegant and luxurious atmosphere of the cabin.

The air conditioning for the Land Cruiser is designed to maintain peak performance even when the vehicle is being driven in extreme climates. The digital, fully automatic system provides four-zone, independent temperature control. In the front there are 14 vents and ducts providing air flow with manual or automatic temperature control. A further 14 ducts in the ceiling and door pillars and at floor level ensure rear passengers are equally comfortable, in both the second and third row of seats. Independent right and left temperature control is provided, even for the rearmost seats.

#### Powerful Engine and Superior Driving Dynamics

The heart of the new Land Cruiser's capability is its 5.7-liter 32 Valve DOHC with dual VVT-i V8 engine, which produces 362 horsepower at 5,600 RPM and 540 Nm of torque at 3,200 RPM.

The Land Cruiser is also available with a wide range of engine options in the form of petrol and diesel. The petrol engines available are: 4.6-liter 32 Valve DOHC with dual VVT-i V8 engine, 4.0-liter 24 Valve DOHC with dual VVT V6 engine while in the case of the diesel engine, there is a 4.5-liter 32 Valve DOHC Twin-turbo V8 engine.

The Land Cruiser is the first large SUV segment model with genuine off-road capabilities to offer a smooth and quiet 8-speed Automatic Transmission. Even with all its power, the Land Cruiser's is no brute. It's a highly refined machine, employing such technologies as dual independent Variable Valve Timing with Intelligence (VVT-i) and an Acoustic Control Induction System (ACIS) to help maximize performance and efficiency. ACIS changes the length of the intake tract in two stages, based on RPM and throttle angle to optimize torque across the engine speed range.

The transmission's control unit estimates road conditions to select the appropriate gear ratio for the vehicle's speed and driving conditions. A sequential shift mode allows the driver to select gears manually – ideal for added control in challenging weather conditions.

The Land Cruiser is one of the most technically advanced four-wheel drive vehicles ever produced and is equipped with a series of advanced dynamic and handling features. These have been further extended in the new model with the introduction of the world-first Turn Assist which works in conjunction with the Crawl Control function, plus Multi-Terrain Select, Multi-Terrain Monitor and Tyre Angle Display.



The Crawl Control System helps maintain a low uniform vehicle speed by automatically controlling the engine output and brake hydraulic pressure for the purpose of reducing driver burden when in off-road conditions. Crawl control is effective on jagged off-road conditions and slippery surfaces by moderating the accelerator and brake operations, leaving the driver to fully focus on steering the vehicle. The smooth control minimizes wheel spin and wheel lock-up, ensuring vehicle stability even on slippery surfaces.

Other features include a Multi-Terrain Monitor used in conjunction with Multi-Terrain Select (MTS) to help drivers confirm their surroundings when driving off-road. The driver can select a view from the front, side, and rear cameras to easily check the vehicle blind spots and confirm their surroundings. The MTS includes Underfloor View and Panoramic View to enable the driver to visually confirm the area under the vehicle and in the front and sides respectively.

The range of advanced active-driving control features extends to the Active Traction Control system which ensures excellent limited-slip differential (LSD) functionality by controlling brake pressure to slipping wheels when running off-road in the L4 mode. Adding to the versatility of the Land Cruiser is the Hill-start Assist Control (HAC) system which prevents vehicle roll-back when stopping and then starting again on a steep incline or slippery surface while the Downhill Assist Control (DAC) helps improve directional control during descent on steep or slippery surfaces.

In addition, the vehicle features four-wheel Active Height Control and Adaptive Variable Suspension (4-Wheel AHC&AVS), a fully adjustable system that also provides spring rate control to give exceptional performance off-road. It also regulates pitch and body roll on-road to maintain ride comfort and refinement. For lift gate back door models, Aero Stabilizing Fins have also been added to the outer lens of the rear combination lamps, contributing to excellent handling and stability.

#### Unmatched Safety Technologies

The Land Cruiser is as solid as it looks with a body structure that makes extensive use of high-strength steel. A four-wheel multi-terrain Anti-lock

braking system (ABS) automatically adapts braking performance to suit the surface on which the vehicle is travelling. Electronic Brake-force Distribution (EBD) balances braking forces between the front and rear brakes, while Brake Assist (BA) provides auxiliary force to assist the driver during emergency braking.

An Emergency Brake Signal is also available and it automatically blinks the hazard lamps at the same time as the stop lamp illumination during emergency braking. The signal warns the driver in the following vehicle and helps reduce his/her reaction time, thus contributing to reducing the risk of being hit by the following vehicle.

- The Land Cruiser's new advanced safety technology package called Toyota Safety Sense includes items that are particularly effective in reducing risk of accidents. These include the following:
- Pre-Crash Safety system (PCS) that uses sensors to detect other vehicles or obstructions and warns the driver to perform evasive maneuvers while automatically activating the brakes when there is a high probability of a collision. Radar Cruise Control helps maintain a suitable vehicle-to-vehicle distance while following the preceding vehicle.
  - Lane Departure Alert (LDA) system warns the driver when the vehicle is unintentionally deviating from its lane.
  - Automatic High Beam (AHB) System detects oncoming headlamps and/or tail lamps of preceding vehicles and automatically switches to low beam to reduce glare.

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In order to ensure safety for pedestrians, the Land Cruiser also has a Pedestrian Protection through Impact Attenuation Structure. Clearance has been set between the engine hood front edge and the hood lock striker to achieve a structure that easily deforms upon impact with the aim of ensuring pedestrian protection performance.

The 2016 Land Cruiser has a total of ten airbags. For the first time, both driver and front seat passenger have knee airbag protection and both front airbags have a two-stage inflation capability to match the severity of the collision impact. Side airbags are standard on the front and second row seats, and curtain shield airbags protect outer seat passengers in all three rows.

Active headrests on the driver and front passenger seats move up and forward almost instantly in the event of rear-end collisions to help reduce the distance between the occupant's head and the headrest. The advanced seatbelt system is designed to retract the front seatbelts when the brakes are suddenly applied.

A Blind Spot Monitor (BSM) System is also available which alerts the driver of other vehicles located at their side to assist the driver. By getting information from the radar sensor, the Blind Spot Monitor System is able to alert the driver of vehicles located in a blind spot. When another vehicle is detected in the blind spot, and also the turn signal lamp switch is not operated, one of the indicators mounted on the outer mirror surfaces turns on. The Rear View Monitor System displays video images of objects behind the vehicle in order to help the visibility of the driver when



## BIG-GAME HUNTING TENSIONS REKINDLED WITH BEAR HUNT

**TAMPA/ORLANDO:** Florida's first bear hunt in two decades opens, joining other states that have loosened restrictions on hunting large predators, to the dismay of animal rights activists who see them as "trophy hunts." The hunt, which will span up to one week and allow up to 320 black bears to be killed, aims to stabilize a population that has rebounded to more than 3,000 from several hundred in the 1970s, according to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

Hunting enthusiasts have defended such hunts in Florida and elsewhere as necessary to manage expanding numbers of bears and other large animals that threaten humans, while animal rights activists have decried the trend as cruel and ineffective.

"There has been a need to make seasons longer, make them more liberal, because there have been so many predators and they're not as controlled as they should be," said Nick Pinizzotto, president and chief executive officer of the Sportsmen's Alliance. The hunt comes at a time when several western states are considering regulations that would make it easier to hunt cougars. The big cats, with an historical range that stretched from coast to coast, have staged a comeback in recent years in some parts of the country.

Policies recently enacted or are under review in New Mexico, Oregon and Utah could result in the killing of more cougars, also known as mountain lions or panthers. "The trend is 'let's open a trophy hunt,'" said Tracy Coppola, director of the wildlife abuse

campaign at the Humane Society of the United States, referring to decisions largely being made by state wildlife managers. "It's a very wrong management technique."

### Statewide protests

In Florida, hunt opponents held statewide protests on Friday, aiming to build on the international outrage generated this summer by the killing of Cecil, a rare black-maned lion, by an American dentist who was on an African hunting trip. The controversy comes as suburban development further encroaches on to the habitat of bears, cougars and other large predators, increasing the likelihood of contact with humans.

"We revere them, and we name our football teams after them," noted Gavin Shire, a

spokesman for the US Fish and Wildlife Service. "And yet we also fear them, because of the potential harm that they can do, and the protections around them." That was the case in Florida, where state wildlife officers have received increasing complaints about bears in neighborhoods close to woodlands where the animals have long roamed.

Open garbage cans and unattended backyard grills attract bears looking for an easy meal. Hunt opponents say programs to eliminate such food sources could reduce conflicts between bears and humans more effectively than hunting. At least four Floridians have been injured in bear attacks in the past two years, mostly in the suburbs north of Orlando.

In the Northeast, New Jersey expanded its bear hunting season for 2015, a year after

a hiker was killed by a black bear, the first fatal attack in the state in recorded history. Across the states mulling greater hunting, the scope of the expansion varies widely. Oregon is considering a zone approach to expand the cougar hunting that is already allowed, for example, while New Mexico has approved more trapping on private as well as state trust lands, according to the Humane Society.

Not all plans are advancing. On Friday, the Humane Society cheered a decision in Colorado to hold off on a plan to expand mountain lion hunting there. Washington's governor earlier this week blocked a decision by state wildlife managers to expand cougar hunting in the Pacific Northwest state, citing concerns about transparency during the rule-making process. —Reuters

## HOSPITAL OFFERS RARE HOPE FOR SUDAN BREAST CANCER PATIENTS

### THE SOLE HOSPITAL IN COUNTRY OF 30 MILLION

**KHARTOUM:** Local doctors told Aida Abdulla her chest pain was an infection, arthritis or muscle strain. But when she travelled to a hospital in Khartoum months later she was diagnosed with breast cancer. It had also spread to her liver. Now she is preparing for surgery at the Khartoum Breast Care Centre (KBCC), the only specialized hospital in Sudan, a country of more than 30 million.

"My whole family was upset. Everyone was worried because we have never seen this illness before," said the 49-year-old, dressed in purple and orange robes in a spotless clinic at the KBCC. A lack of awareness about the disease and few screening facilities mean that, like

Abdulla, who comes from a farming family in White Nile state bordering war-torn South Sudan, many Sudanese women are diagnosed when the cancer is advanced.

She is one of a growing number to seek treatment at the KBCC, a private, not-for-profit hospital founded by Sudanese radiologist Dr Hania Fadl. Problems like those faced by Abdulla persuaded Fadl to return to her home country after nearly three decades working as a radiologist on breast cancer screening in London.

"During visits to Sudan, I noticed an increase in the number of women affected by the illness and a lack of proper opportunities for diagnosis and treatment," she said with a hint of an English accent

picked up during her years abroad. She was lucky to have both knowhow and finances. The charitable foundation run by her ex-husband, the Sudanese-British businessman Mo Ibrahim, gave the \$14 million (12.3 million Euros) needed to complete it.

"It was a real struggle. It took a lot of perseverance and a lot of money," the diminutive 68-year-old said, sitting in her office in the reflective blue glass tower that houses the centre, the product of five years' toil. Ignoring financial advisers' warnings to abandon the project, Fadl pressed on, buying a digital mammogram machine for screening and two anesthetic machines, and eventually opening

the KBCC in October 2010.

### Region-wide problem

The centre dominates her life—she lives in an apartment above the spotless corridors of the centre, where women dressed in colorful traditional robes move anxiously from room to room, for mammograms, biopsies and surgery. Fadl is taking a break to visit London to collect an OBE for services to women's healthcare on October 27, but she is still planning ahead. She wants patients who can afford the treatment to pay and cover the costs of those who cannot, like Abdulla.

The KBCC covered the costs of her chemotherapy and will pay for 80 percent of her surgery fees. In a clinic decorated with pink ribbons for breast cancer awareness month, Abdulla was exhausted from her chemotherapy four months ago but grateful. The \$50 the centre charges for a digital mammogram is still too expensive for many, but 40 percent of the major surgeries they carried out were paid for.

Fadl has heard the health ministry does not keep full records of breast cancer statistics—that of nearly 2,000 women diagnosed in Sudan every year, about 60 percent die due to lack of proper care. The problem is a major one not just in Sudan, but in many developing countries, where there are few resources for screening and education. Women have travelled from South Sudan, Chad and Ethiopia for treatment at the KBCC. "Most-two-thirds of deaths from breast cancer and almost nine in 10 women who die from cervical cancer live in low- and middle-income countries," said Ophira Ginsburg, a World Health Organization breast cancer specialist.

### 'Catching cases early'

Even with her state-of-the-art equipment and her new staff, working in Sudan poses unique challenges. The country has been under a trade embargo by the United States since 1997, imposed over rights abuses and President Omar Al-Bashir's support for radical militant groups. When the digital mammogram machine, bought from a US company, broke down in April, it took 10 weeks to get the permits to allow an engineer to come with spare parts to repair it.

"We have ladies from South Sudan, from Darfur who come through hell to reach here," she said. Unsure of when the machine would be fixed, many had to be told to go back and return later. But the centre has also had successes. Samrin Farouk Habbani, a 28-year-old doctor at the centre since 2013, has seen a change in the cases they receive.

When she arrived, many patients were advanced, but unlike Abdulla, were inoperable. They were some of the hardest times of Habbani's career. "But we have started getting cases in the early stages and people have a better understanding of screening," she said. —AFP



**MICHIGAN:** In this photo provided by Stacy Fry, her daughter, Ehlana Fry poses with her service dog, Wonder, at their home. — AP

## GIRL WITH SERVICE DOG WANTS SUPREME COURT TO TAKE CASE

**DETROIT:** The US Supreme Court is being asked to take an appeal from an 11-year-old Michigan girl with cerebral palsy who switched schools after her service dog wasn't welcomed in a district in Jackson County.

It's a long shot; the Supreme Court rejects thousands of cases each year. But the American Civil Liberties Union believes it's ripe for review because federal appeals courts have given different interpretations to laws protecting the rights of children with disabilities. "To force a child to choose to between her independence and her education is not only illegal - it is heartless," said Michael Steinberg, legal director at the ACLU in Michigan.

In 2009, with support from families in the Napoleon area, Ehlana Fry's family obtained a service dog to help her open doors, retrieve items and use the bathroom. She was 5 at the time and suffered from mobility problems due to cerebral palsy, which affects the brain. But the Napoleon district that fall refused to allow Wonder to accompany Ehlana at school, 75 miles southwest of Detroit. Officials relented somewhat by spring 2010, but many restrictions were placed on Wonder in the classroom. Ehlana was subsequently home-schooled.

The US Education Department in 2012

said the girl's rights had been violated. The school district agreed to let Ehlana return with Wonder, but her parents, fearing difficulties, instead sent her to the Manchester district, which had no problem with the dog. The Frys sued Napoleon, saying the district violated federal disabilities laws when it had refused to accommodate Wonder over a 2 1/2-year period. The case was dismissed on very technical grounds: A judge said the Frys first had to exhaust a series of administrative hearings. An appeals court agreed, 2-1.

That's the issue at the Supreme Court. The ACLU wants the justices to declare that a quick, clear route to a courthouse is available. The petition was filed Oct 15. "It's important to set a precedent so other children's lives are not disrupted while school officials drag their feet and refuse to provide them their right to a service dog or other accommodation," Ehlana's mother, Stacy Fry, said Friday. But an attorney for the Napoleon district, Tim Mullins, said the hearing process works well because families and schools can negotiate an education plan. "I doubt very much the Supreme Court is going to say, 'Yeah, let's pick this up,'" Mullins said. Ehlana's independence has improved and she now attends school without Wonder. —AP



**KHARTOUM:** Sudanese radiologist Dr Hania Fadl gives an interview at the Khartoum Breast Care Centre (KBCC). —AFP photos



**KHARTOUM:** Aida Abdulla (left) looks on as Dr Samrin Farouk Habbani prepares the digital mammogram machine at the Khartoum Breast Care Centre

## DRUG MAKER OFFERS \$1 RIVAL TO \$750 PILL THAT CAUSED OUTRAGE

**WASHINGTON:** A California specialty drug maker is offering a \$1 rival to a prescription drug solely supplied by Turing Pharmaceuticals, whose 5,000 percent price hike last month sparked outrage in the United States.

Imprimis Pharmaceuticals said Thursday it is offering a combination of pyrimethamine and leucovorin in an oral capsule for physicians to prescribe as a low-cost alternative to Turing's Daraprim, which fights a parasitic infection. The San Diego-based Imprimis said it would offer its alternative capsule starting as low as \$99.00 for a 100-count bottle, a tick less than \$1 each.

Pyrimethamine is used to fight toxoplasmosis, an parasite-borne infection that often inflicts persons with weakened immune systems, such as patients with HIV/AIDS. Leucovorin helps to reverse the negative effects pyrimethamine use on bone marrow. The company will put together a custom compound of the two ingredients. Daraprim's

active ingredient is also pyrimethamine. The six-decade-old drug is the only one approved by the US Federal Drug Administration for the treatment of toxoplasmosis.

### Hiking prices

Turing, a privately held biopharmaceutical company, acquired the exclusive rights to market Daraprim in the US in August from Impax Laboratories. In September, Turing hiked the price of the drug from \$13.50 per tablet to \$750 overnight. The move hit a public nerve as Turing's founder and chief executive Martin Shkrel, a 32-year hedge fund manager, made headlines as the "most hated man in America" after a video went viral of him flippantly explaining why he raised the cost of the pill.

The outcry renewed the prolonged debate over soaring drug prices in the US, which unlike other nations, particularly in Europe, has no regulations to keep costs low. "While we respect Turing's right to charge patients and

insurance companies whatever it believes is appropriate, there may be more cost-effective compounded options for medications, such as Daraprim, for patients, physicians, insurance companies and pharmacy benefit managers to consider," said Mark Baum, chief executive of Imprimis, in a statement.

"This is not the first time a sole-supply generic drug—especially one that has been approved for use as long as Daraprim—has had its price increased suddenly and to a level that may make it unaffordable," he said. Imprimis will launch a new program called Imprimis Cares to make generic drugs available at accessible prices, "in response to this recent case and others that we will soon identify," Baum said.

Turing's Shkrel said, amid the public anger over the Daraprim hike, that the company would lower its price, but in response to an AFP query Friday, it did not say what the new price would be. Shares in Imprimis surged 17.4 percent, closing at \$7.01 on the Nasdaq. —AFP

## STATES RELIANT ON FOSSIL FUELS SUE OVER NEW CLEAN AIR RULES

**WASHINGTON:** States and industry groups dependent on fossil fuels filed court challenges Friday to President Barack Obama's Clean Power Plan, which aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Opponents of the plan filed a flurry of lawsuits at the US Court of Appeals as the Environmental Protection Agency published its final version of the new regulations.

The challenges from all but two of the 25 states were filed by Republicans. They deride the plan as an "unlawful power grab by Washington bureaucrats" that will kill coal mining jobs and drive up electricity costs. "The Clean Power Plan is one of the most far-reaching energy regulations in this nation's history," said West Virginia Attorney General Patrick Morrisey, among those leading the challenges. "I have a responsibility to protect the lives of millions of working families, the elderly and the poor, from such illegal and unconscionable federal government actions."

The Obama administration and environmental groups counter that the rules are needed to cut carbon emissions while curbing the worst impacts of climate change and sea-level rise. They also say the plan will spur new clean-energy jobs. The new rules require states to cut carbon emissions by 30 percent by 2030. Each state has a customized target and is responsible for drawing up an effective plan to meet its goal.

"We are confident we will again prevail against these challenges and will be able to work with states to successfully implement these first-ever national standards to limit carbon pollution, the largest source of carbon emissions in the United States," said EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy. The EPA says it has authority to enact the plan under the Clean Air Act. At issue are dueling provisions added to the law by the House and Senate in 1990. The EPA's interpretation relies on the Senate language, but opponents argue that the House version should win out.

### 'Double regulation'

EPA already regulates other power-plant pollutants under a different section of the Clean Air Act, and the opponents claim the law prohibits "double regulation." Under the act, certain challenges to agency rules skip the federal district court and go directly to the appeals court in Washington, DC. Morrisey also filed a stay barring the plan from taking effect while the court challenges proceed, a question that will likely be up to the Supreme Court.

"We expect polluters and their allies to throw everything they've got at the Clean Power Plan, and we expect them to fail," said Sierra Club Executive Director Michael Brune, among those defending the law. "The Clean Power Plan is based on a law passed by Congress, upheld by the Supreme Court, and demanded by the American people." The states challenging the plan in court are Alabama, Arkansas, Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, West Virginia, Wyoming and Wisconsin. Also filing suit against the EPA on Friday was Murray Energy Corp, the nation's largest privately owned coal company.

Members of Congress from coal-mining states joined in, saying they will introduce new legislation aimed at blocking the EPA from enforcing the plan. On the other side, 15 states and the District of Columbia say they are backing the Obama administration and will begin working to comply with the new rules.

There is some political variation in the positions taken within the states. In North Carolina, for example, the environmental agency controlled by the Republican governor joined the opposition without the participation of the state's Democratic attorney general. Governors in Colorado, Michigan and New Mexico said they will work to comply with the new EPA rules, even as attorneys general from their states joined the lawsuit. —AP

## FDA WARNS OF LIVER DAMAGE WITH ABBVIE HEPATITIS DRUGS

**WASHINGTON:** Federal health officials are warning doctors and patients that two hepatitis C drugs from AbbVie can cause life-threatening liver injury in patients with advanced forms of the disease. The Food and Drug Administration said Thursday it will require AbbVie to add new warnings to Viekira Pak and Technivie after reported deaths and liver transplants in patients who already had liver damage caused by hepatitis C.

The warning could reshape the growing field of high-priced drugs to treat the virus, which also includes Gilead Sciences' blockbuster medications Sovaldi and Harvoni. Jefferies analyst Brian Abrahams wrote in an investment note that the warning is a "moderate positive" for Gilead Sciences. But he added that AbbVie's Viekira Pak was already expected to be "displaced" by a similar drug from Merck & Co Inc next year. Bernstein analyst Tim Anderson noted that AbbVie's drug requires patients to take four to six pills per day. That compares negatively with the once-per-day regimen for Gilead's Harvoni and Merck's upcoming pill, which is slated for approval in early 2016.

"In the ultra-competitive hep C market, this is likely a damaging event," Anderson wrote in an investment note. Shares of North Chicago, Illinois-based AbbVie Inc. plummeted \$5.56, or 10 percent, to close at \$48.27 in trading Thursday. Nearly 3 million Americans have the virus, which develops slowly over decades and, if left untreated, can cause liver failure and liver cancer, requiring transplant.

The FDA said in an online posting that AbbVie's drugs have been linked to multiple cases of severe liver damage - some of them fatal - in patients who already had liver cirrhosis, irreversible scarring of the organ. The agency determined 26 such events were likely related to the drugs, with the liver damage usually occurring

within four weeks of starting treatment.

### Side effects

AbbVie said in a statement it is adding a warning to the drugs that they must not be used in patients with moderate to severe liver impairment. "Patient safety is of the utmost concern to AbbVie," the company said in an emailed statement. AbbVie's drugs are part of a new wave of pill-only combinations that cure more patients and cause fewer side effects than older hepatitis C treatments, which required injections and caused flu-like side effects.

Viekira Pak treats the most common form of hepatitis C, known as genotype 1, which accounts for about 75 percent of all US cases. Technivie, approved in July, treats one of the least common forms of hepatitis C. Gilead Sciences initially dominated the space, raking in over \$9.4 billion in sales for Sovaldi in its first full-year on the market. The company followed that approval with the launch of a combination pill, Harvoni, to treat a much broader group of hepatitis C patients.

While doctors and patients have embraced the new drugs, insurers have pushed back over their sky-high prices - generally \$83,000 or more for one course of treatment. The launch of AbbVie's pill, Viekira Pak, was welcomed as a much-needed competitor in the field. Since then, providers have been forcing Gilead and AbbVie to compete on price to get preferred standing in their formularies of approved drugs, and have been winning substantial discounts. Express Scripts, the nation's largest provider of pharmacy benefits, has thrown its weight behind AbbVie's drugs, refusing to cover competing products from Gilead and Johnson & Johnson. Shares of Foster City, California-based Gilead Sciences Inc. rose \$5.87, or 5.8 percent, to close at \$107.60. —AP



In this Friday, Oct 16, 2015 file photo an ice floe floats on a lake in front of the Solheimajokull glacier, where the ice has retreated by more than 1 kilometer since annual measurements began in 1931. The trillion-dollar question of who should pay for global warming is coming to a head in talks on an international climate pact, as developing countries worry they won't get enough money to tackle the problem. —AP

## CLIMATE PACT: THE BUMPY ROAD TO PARIS AND BEYOND

**BONN:** Diplomats crafting a global pact to defuse climate change are under no illusion that the quest will end in Paris in December. If anything, the latest haggle to prepare for the vaunted UN summit, now just weeks away, has strengthened awareness that reining in carbon emissions is a very long-term problem indeed.

The key, say negotiators, is to enshrine measures in the accord so that, for many years to come, nations will be obliged to do more. In climate jargon, it's called a ratcheting-up mechanism. "This process is not going to finish in Paris," Cuba's negotiator Pedro Luis Pedrosa told AFP at this week's five-day parlay in Bonn ahead of the November 30-December 11 climate summit.

"Paris will just be an extremely important stopover because it will give a signal to the future." There is little doubt that the summit will come up with some sort of deal. But will it be an empty shell? Or will it provide an ambitious roadmap for achieving the UN goal of limiting warming to two degrees Celsius over pre-industrial levels? The planet has already warmed by 0.8 C-leaving very little room for dawdling.

"What will really benefit the world's vulnerable communities is a global agreement which includes a ratchet mechanism to increase ambition and ensure we don't lock in a long period of inaction," said climate analyst Mohamed Adow of Christian Aid-which pushes poor nation agendas. "It is probably the most important issue to be

included in the Paris deal. Without a ratchet mechanism, the Paris deal will be like building a beautiful car with no engine."

Almost everyone agrees on the need to periodically review pledges and ramp them up until the 2 C goal comes into view. But here's where they differ: Should the first review be before 2020 or thereafter? Who will conduct these stock-takes? How often? And will nations be obliged to promise ever-higher targets?

Analysts say emissions-curling pledges from more than 150 nations so far, set the stage for a 3 C warmer world of potentially dangerous storms, drought, sea-level rise and disease spread. The pledges, called Intended Nationally Determined Contributions or INDCs, will be a cornerstone of the Paris pact, due to enter into force in 2020. Some nations have set five-year targets for 2025, others look longer-term to 2030.

"The climate pledges made so far are insufficient and it is therefore essential to have a mechanism for ratcheting up those pledges every five years," said Martin Kaiser of Greenpeace. "They cannot be allowed to stand as they are for the next 10 to 15 years. That is a recipe for further destruction and human misery."

### Show us the money

Part of the problem is fear of failure-negotiators are keen to avoid a repeat of the 2009 UN climate conference in Copenhagen which didn't even come close

to sealing a global deal. Instead of a top-down approach of apportioning emissions targets, it opened the way to a bottom-up approach: nations would set their own emissions-cutting targets and timelines.

The resulting effort is for now insufficient, but the window for improvement remains open-if only slightly. The UN's climate science panel says greenhouse gas emissions have to drop 40-70 percent between 2010 and 2050, and to zero by 2100. But the same issues holding up progress in drafting the first truly global climate agreement also split nations on the review mechanism.

Developing nations want to make it conditional on rich countries providing hundreds of billions of dollars to help them switch from fossil fuels to renewable energy to power growing populations and economies.

"It will be very much dependent on how the international community devises means and ways to give those less advantaged the capability and the possibility to move forward without compromising on their development needs, without compromising on the need to eradicate poverty," said Pedrosa. Many hope the battle lines will fade as new low-carbon technologies are developed, and costs come down. "This is about a process," UN climate chief Christiana Figueres said this week as negotiators bickered in Bonn. "This is not about getting to the two degrees on the 12th of December, 2015." —AFP

## CALIFORNIA'S REWARD FOR WATER CONSERVATION IS HIGHER BILLS

**SACRAMENTO:** Their lawns dry and their trees on the verge of dying, Californians have dramatically cut water use during the state's relentless drought, only to learn that many local utilities are hiking rates to make up for the lost revenue. Water providers in Los Angeles, the San Francisco Bay Area and other parts of the state have recently told customers that rates will go up at least temporarily, as utilities struggle to pay for building and repairing pipes, buying water and other costs, even as customers cut back.

"Droughts are costly for water agencies," said Lisa Lien Mager, spokeswoman for the Association of California Water Agencies. "Revenues are being affected by the mandatory conservation but at the same time costs are going up." California is in the fourth year of a punishing drought that has led farmers to fallow a half-million acres (202,343 hectares) for each of the past two years, and led Democratic Governor Jerry Brown to order mandatory 25-percent cutbacks in statewide water use.

In Los Angeles, conservation led to a \$111 million drop in revenues during the fiscal year that ended July 1, a period mostly before the mandatory cutbacks kicked into high gear. Department of Water and Power budget director Neil Guglielmo said Friday. The city is imple-

menting a temporary increase Guglielmo says will add about \$2 per month to customers' bills, while recouping about half of the losses.

Other agencies implementing or considering drought-related water rate hikes include the Contra Costa Water District, the East Bay Municipal Utility District and the San Diego Public Utilities Department. In Contra Costa County, a suburban area east of San Francisco, utility managers implemented a drought surcharge of 50 cents for every 748 gallons (2,830 liters) used, said spokeswoman Jennifer Allen. As a result, the bimonthly bill for a customer using 300 gallons (1,135 liters) per day - a 25 percent cut-back over the county's typical use when the drought began - would be \$133, about \$12 more than it would have been without the surcharge.

Max Gomberg, senior environmental scientist for the State Water Resources Control Board, said that many utilities, including those serving the Southern California communities of Irvine and Riverside, had planned ahead for the drought and did not have to raise rates. The others, he said, should expect some consumer backlash. "From the customer's perspective, it's 'I'm conserving and now you're charging me more,'" Gomberg said. —Reuters

# CLINIC PAGE



Kuwait Times

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Dr. Fahad Al-Mukhaizeem  
فهد علي المخيزيم

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M.B. Bch. FRCPC. FAAP. PEM

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## CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER PRESENTS OOREDOO MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Ooredoo Kuwait, a member of the international Ooredoo Group has recently conducted its monthly management meeting at SIRBB Circuit in Kuwait City, at which the company's Chief Operations Officer presented the Ooredoo's major operational achievements and accom-

plishments in the last month. The meeting was attended by chiefs, senior directors and departments' heads, who shared their success stories, presented their upcoming plans, raised issues and challenges, brainstormed ideas and came up with their strategic goals going forward, in addition to

a group exercise where all participants went through the full race experience. Commenting on the meeting, Hani El-Kukhun, Chief Operations Officer said: "Our management meetings are usually dynamic and productive but we also try to make them enjoyable too. As a company we

believe in the importance of developing an environment that encourages teamwork, open communication, and bonding as crucial factors for our business success" Ooredoo conducts monthly meetings to help the management team to stay in regular contact with each other and gain a com-

plete understanding of Ooredoo's progress towards its strategic goals. The meetings are also beneficial in further enhancing Ooredoo's market position and helping it to increase its customer base through the development coordination and agreement of shorter-term action plans.

### Greetings



Happy birthday and lots of love to the loveliest, loving, lovable Ammu Kutty. Greetings from Acha, Amma n Malu

### STUDY IN CANADA FAIR 2015

The Embassy of Canada in Kuwait is pleased to announce that the tenth annual Edu-Canada Middle East and North Africa (MENA) tour, composed of approximately 18 leading Canadian universities, language institutes and colleges, will be visiting Kuwait from October 26-28, 2015. Representatives from the institutions will be available to meet with students, parents and other members of the education community, and provide information about study opportunities in Canada. The tour includes school visits and a Study in Canada fair at the Jumeirah Messilah Beach Hotel & Spa, Messilah 2 Hall, on Tuesday October 27, 2015 from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

Quality education is available throughout Canada, and in each of our 10 provinces and 3 territories has something exciting to offer. Canadian higher education offers superior academic curricula, cutting-edge research, state-of-the-art campuses, and professional and personal experience to last a lifetime. Canada is home to a safe, multicultural, vibrant society and a dynamic 21st century economy. With almost all of the world's ethnic groups represented in Canada, students interact with many different cultures; this broader, more international perspective is also a valuable attribute that is attractive to employers worldwide.

The enthusiasm shown by international students for post-secondary studies in Canada gives testimony to the superior quality of our education system. Students recognize that Canada offers them the opportunity to earn academic qualifications that are recognized and respected around the world, while being part of a tolerant and vibrant multicultural community. Come to discover how studying in Canada can help you achieve your dreams and secure your future!

The schools participating on the tour will be: Carleton University; Columbia College; Concordia University; Dalhousie University; Fraser International College at Simon Fraser University; ILSC Education Group; Inlingua Vancouver; Ryerson University; Seneca College of Applied Arts and Technology; Sheridan College; University of Alberta; University of Calgary; University of New Brunswick; University of Ottawa; University of Waterloo; Vancouver Island University (VIU) and York University.

### 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](mailto:news@kuwaittimes.net)



## LAIF CHURCH ORGANIZES PICNIC

Life Abundant International Fountain Church recently concluded its annual convention with a picnic at the Fintas Garden. The theme of this year's convention was Heaven on Earth. "We give God the glory for all the things he has done in our midst," Bishop Dr Jonathan said as he called thanked the Amir and Kuwait leaders for promoting peace and religious tolerance in the region.





Fomer MP, Dr Saad Al-Shorayye', grooms' father, lawyer Abdul Rahman, Sheikh Abdul Aziz Bin Jame', friends and family.



Groom, Abdul Rahman, Saad Al-Haddab, groom Ali, Abdullah Al-Mesh'al, grooms' father, lawyer, Duaij Al-Jerri, friends and family.



Grooms' uncle, Refa'e Al-Sawwagh, groom Abdul Rahman, Khalid Al-Nabhan Al-Shammari, grooms' father and groom Ali.



Grooms brother, judge, Jassim Al-Sawwagh, grooms' father, lawyer Abdul Rahman, former MP, Salem Nemlan Al-Azmi, Ali and the grooms' uncle, Hamad Al-Sawwagh.



Grooms Abdul Rahman and Ali with their father, Mohammed Mutlaq Al-Sawwagh.



MP, Ahmed Mutee', grooms' father, acting Azmi tribe sheikh, Khalid Habib Bin Jame' ( representing his father).



Group photo with friends and family.



Grooms dancing Ardha with their father.

### SAWWAGH'S FAMILY CELEBRATES WEDDINGS

Mohammed Mutlaq Al-Sawwagh recently celebrated the wedding of his two sons, Abdul Rahman and Ali. The wedding ceremony was attended by top dignitaries including MPs, former MPs, family and friends. — Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat



Guests expressing felicitations.



Nayef Al-Owaidan, grooms' father, lawyer Abdul Rahman, Sheikh Duaij Al-Khalifa Al-Sabah, groom Ali, former MSAL assit. Undersec., Ahmed Al-Sawwagh and Hamad Al-Sawwagh.



Saleh Al-Sawwagh, grooms' father, Sheikh Khalifa Duaij Al-Salman Al-Sabah, grooms' uncle, Mohammed Ali Al-Sawwagh, Abdul rahman, Ali and their brother, judge, Jassim.



Saleh Falah Al-Sawwagh, Dr Emad Al-Ateiqi, grooms' father and groom, Ali.



Saudi amassador extending his congratulations.



The grooms receiving congratulations.



The grooms' father, Mohammed Mutlaq Al-Sawwagh, grooms, Abdul Rahman and Ali, former MP, Ghanim Al-Mai', lawyer Rashid Al-Wasmk and friends.



UAE ambassador extending his congratulations.



00:20 Rachel Khoo's Kitchen  
 Notebook: Cosmo Cook  
 00:45 Marbella Mansions  
 01:30 Marbella Mansions  
 02:15 The Planners  
 03:05 The Planners  
 03:55 The Planners  
 04:55 Come Dine With Me  
 05:15 Come Dine With Me  
 05:40 Come Dine With Me  
 06:05 Come Dine With Me  
 06:30 Come Dine With Me  
 06:50 Marbella Mansions  
 07:35 Vacation Vacation Vacation  
 08:00 Come Dine With Me  
 08:25 Come Dine With Me  
 08:45 Come Dine With Me  
 09:10 Come Dine With Me  
 09:35 Come Dine With Me  
 10:00 Fantasy Homes By The Sea  
 10:45 Building Dream Homes  
 11:15 Building Dream Homes  
 11:45 Building Dream Homes  
 12:15 Building Dream Homes  
 12:45 Rachel Khoo's Kitchen  
 Notebook: Cosmo Cook  
 13:10 Michela's Classic Italian  
 13:35 Rachel Khoo's Kitchen  
 Notebook: Cosmo Cook  
 14:00 Vacation Vacation Vacation  
 14:25 Vacation Vacation Vacation  
 14:45 Vacation Vacation Vacation  
 15:10 Vacation Vacation Vacation  
 15:30 Masterchef: The Professionals  
 16:20 Masterchef: The Professionals  
 17:10 Come Dine With Me  
 17:35 Come Dine With Me  
 18:00 Come Dine With Me  
 18:25 Come Dine With Me  
 18:50 Come Dine With Me  
 19:10 The Roux Legacy  
 19:45 The Roux Legacy  
 20:20 Fat & Fatter  
 21:10 Hairy Bikers' Bake-ation  
 22:00 Fantasy Homes By The Sea



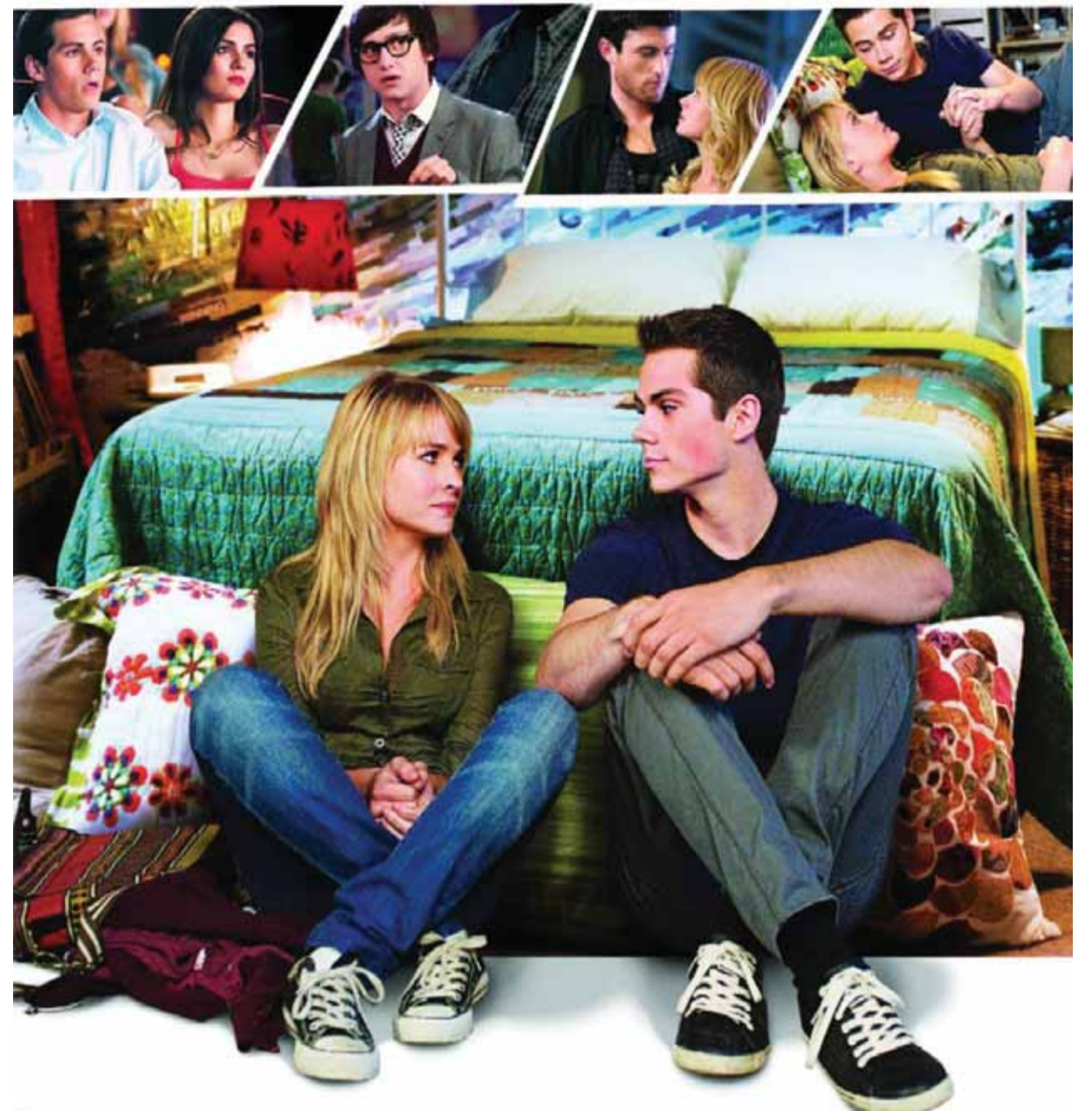
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 04:30 Coronation Street  
 04:50 Paul O'Grady: For The Love Of Dogs  
 05:15 Agatha Christie's Partners In Crime  
 06:10 Shetland  
 07:05 Agatha Christie's Poirot  
 08:35 Keep It In The Family  
 09:25 Doc Martin  
 10:15 Who's Doing The Dishes?  
 11:00 Who's Doing The Dishes?  
 11:45 Who's Doing The Dishes?  
 12:35 Who's Doing The Dishes?  
 13:35 Eggheads  
 14:05 Lewis  
 15:00 Keep It In The Family  
 15:45 Agatha Christie's Partners In Crime  
 16:45 The Jonathan Ross Show  
 17:35 Shetland  
 18:30 Eggheads  
 19:00 Keep It In The Family  
 19:45 Agatha Christie's Partners In Crime  
 20:45 The Jonathan Ross Show  
 21:45 Lewis  
 22:40 Keep It In The Family  
 23:30 Doc Martin



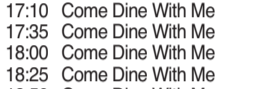
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 02:00 Good Morning America  
 03:00 The Killing  
 04:00 Grimm  
 06:00 Good Morning America  
 07:00 Emmerdale  
 07:30 Coronation Street  
 08:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show  
 09:00 C.S.I.  
 10:00 Emmerdale  
 10:30 Coronation Street  
 12:00 Switched At Birth  
 13:00 Franklin & Bash  
 15:00 Live Good Morning America  
 16:00 C.S.I.  
 17:00 Switched At Birth  
 18:00 Franklin & Bash  
 19:00 C.S.I.  
 20:00 Switched At Birth  
 21:00 Franklin & Bash  
 22:00 The Killing



01:15 Marvel's Ultimate Avengers II  
 02:45 Jungle Shuffle  
 04:15 Luke And Lucy: The Texas Rangers  
 06:00 Dinosaur Island  
 08:00 Santa's Magic Crystal  
 09:45 Pororo: The Racing Adventure  
 11:15 Justin And The Knights Of The Valour  
 13:00 Jungle Shuffle  
 14:30 Memory Loss  
 16:00 Cher Ami  
 18:00 Pororo: The Racing Adventure  
 20:00 Dixie And The Zombie Rebellion  
 22:00 Memory Loss  
 23:30 Cher Ami



THE FIRST TIME ON OSN MOVIES HD COMEDY



00:10 Science Of Stupid  
 00:35 Science Of Stupid  
 01:00 The Border  
 02:00 Airport Security: Colombia  
 02:55 Building Wild  
 03:50 Yukon River Run  
 04:45 The Happenings  
 05:40 Paranatural  
 06:35 The 2000s: The Decade We Saw It All  
 08:25 Building Wild  
 09:20 World's Most Extreme  
 10:15 Airport Security: Colombia  
 11:10 Science Of Stupid  
 11:35 Science Of Stupid  
 12:05 Dog Whisperer  
 13:00 Dog Whisperer  
 14:00 China From Above  
 15:00 Wicked Tuna  
 17:00 The 2000s: The Decade We Saw It All  
 19:00 Wicked Tuna  
 20:50 The 2000s: The Decade We Saw It All  
 22:30 China From Above  
 23:20 Wicked Tuna



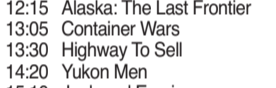
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 06:00 47 Ronin-PG15  
 08:15 Son Of Batman-PG15  
 09:45 Star Trek-PG15  
 12:00 The Courier-PG15  
 14:00 Man Of Tai Chi-PG15  
 16:00 Absolute Killers-PG15  
 18:00 Son Of Batman-PG15  
 19:45 King Arthur-PG15  
 22:00 Primeval-18



00:00 Duetts  
 02:00 The Waterboy  
 03:45 Renaissance Man  
 06:00 Muppets Most Wanted  
 08:00 Until She Came Along  
 09:45 Renaissance Man  
 12:00 The Waterboy  
 14:00 Big Fat Lie  
 16:00 Until She Came Along  
 18:00 A Valentine's Date  
 20:00 The First Time  
 22:00 We're The Millers



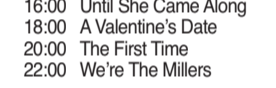
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 06:00 Saw 4  
 07:30 The Hurricane  
 10:00 Planes  
 11:30 Jack  
 13:30 Wild Hogs  
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 17:00 Amphibious 3D  
 18:30 Saw 4  
 20:00 Love And Other Impossible Pursuits  
 21:45 Oz The Great And Powerful



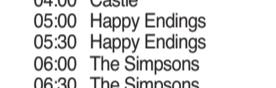
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 05:00 Street Outlaws  
 06:00 Yukon Men  
 06:50 Junkyard Empire  
 07:40 Fast N' Loud  
 08:30 Container Wars  
 08:55 Highway To Sell  
 09:45 How It's Made: Dream Cars  
 10:10 How Do They Do It?  
 10:35 Yukon Men  
 11:25 Ice Lake Rebels  
 12:15 Alaska: The Last Frontier  
 13:05 Container Wars  
 13:30 Highway To Sell  
 14:20 Yukon Men  
 15:10 Junkyard Empire  
 16:00 Fast N' Loud  
 16:50 How It's Made: Dream Cars  
 17:15 How Do They Do It?  
 17:40 Railroad Alaska  
 18:30 For The Love Of Cars  
 19:20 Dual Survival  
 20:10 Garage Gold  
 20:35 Baggage Battles  
 21:00 Walking The Nile  
 21:50 Walking The Nile  
 22:40 Wheeler Dealers  
 23:30 Junkyard Empire



00:30 Last Man Standing  
 01:00 The Nightly Show Global Edition  
 03:30 Cristela  
 04:30 The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon  
 07:00 Late Night With Seth Meyers  
 11:00 The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon  
 14:00 Cristela  
 15:30 Last Man Standing  
 16:00 The Nightly Show Global Edition  
 17:00 Late Night With Seth Meyers  
 18:00 Brooklyn Nine-Nine  
 18:30 The Goldbergs  
 20:00 Last Man On Earth  
 20:30 Two And A Half Men  
 21:00 Last Man Standing  
 21:30 The Nightly Show With Larry Wilmore  
 22:00 Comedians  
 22:30 Silicon Valley  
 23:00 Curb Your Enthusiasm



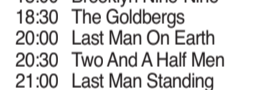
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 03:15 Inside Lewyn Davis-PG15  
 05:00 Stash House-PG15  
 07:00 Middle Of Nowhere-PG15  
 09:00 For Greater Glory-PG15  
 11:30 Barefoot-PG15  
 13:00 My Piece Of The Pie-PG15  
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 21:00 The Double-PG15  
 23:00 Out Of The Furnace-PG15



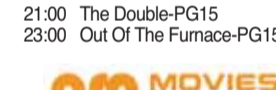
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 05:30 Happy Endings  
 06:00 The Simpsons  
 06:30 The Simpsons  
 07:00 Lost  
 08:00 Desperate Housewives  
 09:00 MasterChef Australia  
 10:00 The Listener  
 11:00 The Listener  
 12:00 Castle  
 13:00 Happy Endings  
 13:30 Happy Endings  
 14:00 The Simpsons  
 14:30 The Simpsons  
 15:00 Lost  
 16:00 MasterChef Australia  
 17:00 Cougar Town  
 17:30 Scrubs  
 18:00 Low Winter Sun  
 19:00 The Bridge  
 20:00 72 Hours  
 21:00 Cougar Town  
 21:30 Scrubs  
 22:00 MasterChef Australia  
 23:00 MasterChef Australia



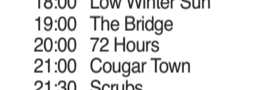
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 03:15 Eric And Jessie: Game On  
 03:40 Eric And Jessie: Game On  
 04:10 THS  
 05:05 E! News  
 06:00 Keeping Up With The Kardashians  
 06:55 Keeping Up With The Kardashians  
 07:50 Style Star  
 08:20 E! News  
 09:15 House Of DVF  
 10:15 House Of DVF  
 11:10 Fashion Bloggers  
 11:35 Fashion Bloggers  
 12:05 E! News  
 13:05 Keeping Up With The Kardashians  
 14:05 Keeping Up With The Kardashians  
 15:00 Dash Dolls  
 16:00 #RichKids Of Beverly Hills  
 17:00 New Money  
 17:30 New Money  
 18:00 E! News  
 19:00 We Have Issues  
 19:30 Fashion Bloggers  
 20:00 Keeping Up With The Kardashians  
 21:00 Keeping Up With The



00:00 The Americans  
 01:00 Heroes Reborn  
 02:00 The Blacklist  
 03:00 The Player  
 04:00 The Amazing Race  
 06:00 The Astronaut Wives Club  
 08:00 Sleepy Hollow  
 09:00 The Amazing Race  
 10:00 The Astronaut Wives Club  
 12:00 Emmerdale  
 14:00 Sleepy Hollow  
 15:00 The Astronaut Wives Club  
 16:00 Emmerdale  
 16:30 Coronation Street  
 18:00 Sleepy Hollow  
 19:00 Heroes Reborn  
 20:00 Switched At Birth  
 21:00 Scandal  
 22:00 How To Get Away With Murder  
 23:00 The Knick

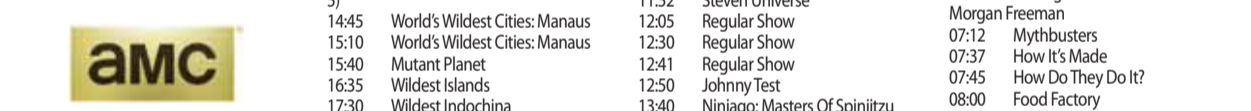


01:00 Nebraska  
 03:00 Tar  
 04:30 Awakenings  
 07:00 The Nightmare Before Christmas  
 08:30 Sleepless In Seattle  
 10:30 Awakenings  
 13:00 Jack And The Cuckoo Clock Heart  
 15:00 To The Wonder  
 17:00 Sleepless In Seattle  
 19:00 Little White Lies  
 21:45 The English Teacher  
 23:30 Beloved



00:00 The World Wars  
 01:00 American Restoration  
 01:30 American Restoration  
 02:00 Counting Cars  
 02:30 Counting Cars  
 03:00 Search For The Lost Giants  
 04:00 Tbc  
 05:00 Alaska Off-Road Warriors  
 06:00 Ice Road Truckers  
 07:00 Search For The Lost Giants  
 08:00 Gold Hunters: Legend Of The Superstition...  
 09:00 The World Wars  
 10:00 Tbc  
 11:00 American Restoration  
 11:30 American Restoration  
 12:00 Ice Road Truckers  
 13:00 Counting Cars  
 13:30 Counting Cars  
 14:00 Tbc  
 15:00 Duck Dynasty  
 15:30 Duck Dynasty  
 16:00 American Pickers  
 17:00 Storage Wars  
 17:30 Storage Wars  
 18:00 Storage Wars Texas  
 18:30 Storage Wars Texas

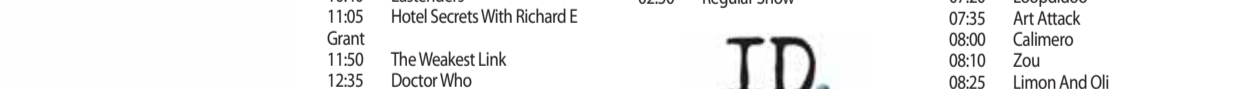
09:00 Storage Wars: New York  
 19:30 Storage Wars: New York  
 20:00 Storage Wars  
 20:30 Pawn Stars  
 21:00 American Pickers  
 22:00 Shipping Wars  
 22:30 Shipping Wars  
 23:00 Mountain Men  
 08:00 Call Of The Wildman  
 08:25 Treehouse Masters  
 09:15 Treehouse Masters  
 10:10 Treehouse Masters  
 10:55 Treehouse Masters  
 12:00 Treehouse Masters  
 12:55 Megalodon: The New Evidence  
 13:50 River Monsters (Best Of Series 1-5)  
 14:45 World's Wildest Cities: Manaus  
 15:10 World's Wildest Cities: Manaus  
 15:40 Mutant Planet  
 16:35 Wildest Islands  
 17:30 Wildest Indonesia  
 18:25 Snake Sheila  
 18:50 Snake Sheila  
 19:20 Snake Sheila  
 19:45 Snake Sheila  
 20:15 Snake Sheila  
 20:40 Snake Sheila  
 21:10 Snake Sheila  
 21:35 Snake Sheila  
 22:05 Snake Sheila  
 22:30 Snake Sheila  
 23:00 Deadly After Dark: Polar Bear Invasion  
 23:55 Mermaids: The New Evidence  
 00:50 Mermaids: The Body Found  
 02:40 Deadly After Dark: Polar Bear Invasion



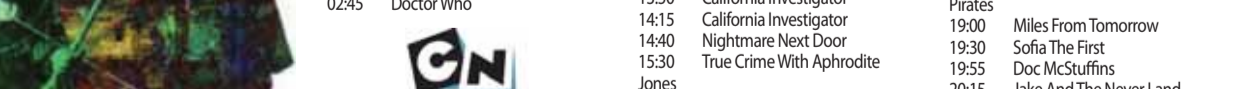
03:05 Hi, Mom!  
 04:35 The Glory Stompers  
 06:00 The Crocodile Hunter: Collision Course  
 07:30 Man In The Moon  
 09:10 If It's Tuesday, This Must Be Belgium  
 10:50 Music Of The Heart  
 12:55 Robinson Crusoe  
 14:25 The Crocodile Hunter: Collision Course  
 15:55 Little Sister  
 17:30 Benny & Joon  
 19:05 Captive Hearts  
 20:45 Big Screen  
 22:50 Dirty Rotten Scoundrels  
 24:05 Capote  
 00:45 American Dragons  
 02:25 Mother's Boys



03:25 Doctor Who  
 04:10 The Weakest Link  
 05:00 The Green Balloon Club  
 05:25 Nuzzle & Scratch: Frock n Roll  
 05:45 Nuzzle & Scratch: Frock n Roll  
 06:05 Gigglybiz  
 06:20 The Green Balloon Club  
 06:40 Jollywobbles  
 06:50 Nuzzle & Scratch: Frock n Roll  
 07:10 Doctors  
 07:40 Doctors  
 08:10 Doctors  
 08:40 Doctors  
 09:10 Eastenders  
 09:40 Eastenders  
 10:10 Eastenders  
 10:40 Eastenders  
 11:05 Hotel Secrets With Richard E Grant  
 11:50 The Weakest Link  
 12:35 Doctor Who  
 13:25 Gates  
 13:45 Hotel Secrets With Richard E Grant  
 14:35 The Weakest Link  
 15:20 Doctor Who  
 16:05 2 Point 4 Children  
 16:35 Lorna Doone  
 17:25 Lorna Doone  
 18:15 Lorna Doone  
 19:05 The Paradise  
 20:00 New Tricks  
 20:55 Waking The Dead  
 21:45 Waking The Dead  
 22:35 Doctor Who  
 23:20 The Paradise  
 00:10 New Tricks  
 01:05 Waking The Dead  
 01:55 Waking The Dead  
 02:45 Doctor Who



03:00 River Monsters (Best Of Series 1-5)  
 04:00 Hunt For The Tasmanian Tiger  
 05:00 Mermaids: The Body Found  
 06:49 Mermaids: The New Evidence  
 07:36 Call Of The Wildman  
 08:00 Call Of The Wildman  
 08:25 Treehouse Masters  
 09:15 Treehouse Masters  
 10:10 Treehouse Masters  
 10:55 Treehouse Masters  
 12:00 Treehouse Masters  
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 19:45 Snake Sheila  
 20:15 Snake Sheila  
 20:40 Snake Sheila  
 21:10 Snake Sheila  
 21:35 Snake Sheila  
 22:05 Snake Sheila  
 22:30 Snake Sheila  
 23:00 Deadly After Dark: Polar Bear Invasion  
 23:55 Mermaids: The New Evidence  
 00:50 Mermaids: The Body Found  
 02:40 Deadly After Dark: Polar Bear Invasion



03:00 Deadly Sins  
 04:00 Devil In The Details  
 05:00 Deadly Affairs  
 05:50 The Will  
 06:40 The Will  
 07:30 California Investigator  
 08:00 Fatal Encounters  
 08:50 Disappeared  
 09:40 Disappeared  
 10:30 True Crime With Aphrodite Jones  
 11:20 True Crime With Aphrodite Jones  
 12:10 The Will  
 13:00 The Will  
 13:50 California Investigator  
 14:15 California Investigator  
 14:40 Nightmare Next Door  
 15:30 True Crime With Aphrodite Jones  
 16:20 True Crime With Aphrodite Jones  
 17:10 Disappeared  
 18:00 Disappeared  
 18:50 California Investigator  
 19:15 California Investigator  
 19:40 I Almost Got Away With It  
 20:30 I Almost Got Away With It  
 21:20 I Almost Got Away With It  
 22:10 I Almost Got Away With It  
 23:00 The Injustice Files: Sundown Towns  
 23:50 True Crime With Aphrodite Jones  
 00:40 Deadly Women  
 01:30 California Investigator  
 01:55 California Investigator  
 02:20 Blood Relatives



03:20 Grojband  
 03:42 Grojband  
 04:05 Grojband  
 04:30 Grojband  
 05:05 Total Drama World Tour  
 05:27 Total Drama World Tour  
 05:50 Teen Titans Go!  
 06:00 Teen Titans Go!  
 06:10 Grojband  
 06:35 Grojband  
 07:00 Dreamworks Dragons: Riders Of Berk  
 07:25 Ninjago: Masters Of Spinjitzu  
 07:50 Ninjago: Masters Of Spinjitzu  
 08:10 New Ben 10 Omniverse  
 08:35 Ben 10: Omniverse  
 03:00 In The Name Of Science  
 04:00 Hunt For A Super Comet  
 05:00 Food Factory  
 06:24 Through The Wormhole With Morgan Freeman  
 07:12 Mythbusters  
 07:37 How It's Made  
 07:45 How Do They Do It?  
 08:00 Food Factory  
 11:20 How Do They Do It?  
 13:50 How It's Made  
 16:20 Through The Wormhole With Morgan Freeman  
 17:10 Home Factory  
 17:35 Home Factory  
 18:00 The Big Brain Theory  
 18:50 What Could Possibly Go Wrong?  
 19:40 Race To Escape  
 20:30 Deadly Dilemmas  
 20:55 Deadly Dilemmas  
 21:20 Moon Machines  
 01:30 Deadly Dilemmas  
 02:20 Race To Escape  
 03:05 Calimero  
 03:20 Zou  
 03:30 Loopydoo  
 03:45 Art Attack  
 04:10 Henry Hugglemonster  
 04:20 Calimero  
 04:35 Zou  
 04:45 Loopydoo  
 05:00 Art Attack  
 05:25 Henry Hugglemonster  
 05:35 Calimero  
 05:50 Zou  
 06:00 Loopydoo  
 06:15 Art Attack  
 06:35 Henry Hugglemonster  
 06:50 Calimero  
 07:00 Zou  
 07:20 Loopydoo  
 07:35 Art Attack  
 08:00 Calimero  
 08:10 Zou  
 08:25 Limon And Oli  
 08:35 Jake And The Never Land Pirates  
 08:50 Sofia The First  
 09:20 Doc McStuffins  
 09:45 Loopydoo  
 10:00 Sheriff Callie's Wild West  
 10:30 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse  
 11:30 Sofia The First  
 11:55 Doc McStuffins  
 12:25 The Tigger Movie  
 14:00 Sofia The First  
 16:45 Doc McStuffins  
 17:10 Aladdin  
 17:40 Adventures Of The Gummi Bears  
 18:10 Chip N Dale Rescue Rangers  
 18:35 Jake And The Never Land Pirates  
 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 Loopydoo  
 01:05 Art Attack  
 01:30 Henry Hugglemonster  
 01:45 Calimero  
 02:00 Zou



47 RONIN ON OSN MOVIES HD ACTION



# CLASSIFIEDS



## KNCC PROGRAMME FROM THURSDAY TO WEDNESDAY (22/10/2015 TO 28/10/2015)

Time	Movie	Time	Movie
11:45 AM	SHARQIA-1	12:30 AM	THE MARTIAN
2:00 PM	AHWAK	1:00 PM	FANAR-4
5:00 PM	THE MARTIAN	3:00 PM	WAR PIGS
7:30 PM	AHWAK	5:30 PM	THE LAST WITCH HUNTER
10:00 PM	AHWAK	7:30 PM	THE LAST WITCH HUNTER
12:05 AM	JUNE	10:00 PM	MOMENTUM
	THE MARTIAN	12:05 AM	THE LAST WITCH HUNTER
11:30 AM	SHARQIA-2	11:30 AM	FANAR-5
1:30 PM	HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA2	1:30 PM	WAR PIGS
3:45 PM	THE LAST WITCH HUNTER	3:45 PM	THE LAST WITCH HUNTER
6:00 PM	HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA2	5:45 PM	WAR PIGS
8:00 PM	THE LAST WITCH HUNTER	8:15 PM	THE LAST WITCH HUNTER
10:15 PM	THE LAST WITCH HUNTER	10:15 PM	WAR PIGS
12:45 AM	THE LAST WITCH HUNTER	12:45 AM	WAR PIGS
1:00 PM	SHARQIA-3	12:15 PM	MARINA-1
1:45 PM	SHAANDAAR	3:15 PM	THE MARTIAN
4:00 PM	WAR PIGS	5:30 PM	AHWAK
6:00 PM	SHAANDAAR	7:30 PM	MOMENTUM
9:00 PM	WAR PIGS	9:30 PM	JUNE
11:00 PM	WAR PIGS	12:05 AM	AHWAK
1:00 AM	WAR PIGS		MOMENTUM
11:00 AM	MUHALAB-1	12:00 PM	MARINA-2
1:30 PM	WAR PIGS	12:00 PM	WAR PIGS
3:30 PM	AHWAK	2:00 PM	WAR PIGS
6:00 PM	WAR PIGS	4:15 PM	HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA2
8:00 PM	AHWAK	6:15 PM	WAR PIGS
10:30 PM	WAR PIGS	8:15 PM	WAR PIGS
12:45 AM	WAR PIGS	10:15 PM	WAR PIGS
		12:15 AM	WAR PIGS
11:30 AM	MUHALAB-2	12:00 PM	MARINA-3
2:00 PM	SHAANDAAR	12:00 PM	THE LAST WITCH HUNTER
2:00 PM	HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA2	2:30 PM	THE LAST WITCH HUNTER
4:00 PM	KANCHE	5:00 PM	THE LAST WITCH HUNTER
5:00 PM	HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA2	7:30 PM	THE LAST WITCH HUNTER
7:00 PM	SHAANDAAR	10:00 PM	THE LAST WITCH HUNTER
10:00 PM	KANCHE	12:30 AM	THE LAST WITCH HUNTER
10:00 PM	MOMENTUM	1:00 PM	AVENUES-1
12:05 AM	MOMENTUM	1:00 PM	SHAANDAAR
		4:00 PM	JAZBAA
		7:00 PM	SHAANDAAR
		10:00 PM	SHAANDAAR
		1:00 AM	AMERICAN ULTRA
12:00 PM	MUHALAB-3	12:00 PM	AVENUES-2
2:30 PM	THE LAST WITCH HUNTER	12:00 PM	HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA2
5:00 PM	THE LAST WITCH HUNTER	2:15 PM	HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA2
7:30 PM	THE LAST WITCH HUNTER	4:15 PM	HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA2
10:00 PM	THE LAST WITCH HUNTER	6:15 PM	JUNE
12:30 AM	THE LAST WITCH HUNTER	8:15 PM	JUNE
		10:15 PM	JUNE
		12:15 AM	THE LAST WITCH HUNTER
12:00 PM	FANAR-1	12:15 AM	AVENUES-3
12:00 PM	AMERICAN ULTRA	1:15 PM	HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA2
2:00 PM	AMERICAN ULTRA	3:30 PM	10 ENDRATHUKULLA
4:00 PM	SHAANDAAR	6:30 PM	ENNU NINTE MOIDEN
7:00 PM	SHAANDAAR	9:45 PM	10 ENDRATHUKULLA
10:00 PM	SHAANDAAR	12:45 AM	THE MARTIAN
1:00 AM	AMERICAN ULTRA		AVENUES-4
12:15 PM	FANAR-2	12:15 PM	SHAANDAAR
2:45 PM	AHWAK	3:15 PM	THE MARTIAN
4:45 PM	JUNE	6:15 PM	AHWAK
7:15 PM	AHWAK	8:45 PM	SHAANDAAR
9:45 PM	AHWAK	11:45 PM	THE MARTIAN
11:45 PM	AHWAK		AVENUES-5
11:45 AM	FANAR-3	11:30 AM	THE LAST WITCH HUNTER
1:45 PM	HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA2	2:00 PM	THE LAST WITCH HUNTER
4:30 PM	THE MARTIAN	4:30 PM	THE LAST WITCH HUNTER
6:30 PM	HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA2		NO FRI
9:30 PM	JAZBAA		
9:30 PM	KANCHE		
9:30 PM	THE MARTIAN		
9:30 PM	KANCHE		

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

A local company is in need of the following personnel for a KOC project:

- Project Manager – Civil engineer** with minimum 10 years experience in mechanical and pipeline projects in oil & gas Industry
- Piping/Pipeline Engineer – Mechanical engineer** with minimum 8 years experience in piping and pipeline projects.
- Safety Engineer** - with a minimum 5 years experience in oil & gas industry.
- Site Secretary (male)** – with a minimum of 5 years experience in a construction firm.

Applicants must be fluent in English and hold both a valid drivers license and transferable residency.

Email cover letter and resume to [info@26febco-kw.com](mailto:info@26febco-kw.com)

## WANTED

Required urgently for a Medical Equipment Supplier

- Sales Executive - Male - 01
- Sales Executive - Female - 01
- Delivery Boy - 01

Transferable visa, with Driving License is a must, minimum experience 3 years in Kuwait. Attractive packages. Send your CVs to [hr@medgatekw.com](mailto:hr@medgatekw.com)

## SITUATION WANTED

**Art Director**, Jordanian, BA Graphic Design, 12 years experience with international agencies (Dubai, Riyadh & Amman) in Marketing, advertising, graphic skills, Web Design, Story boarding, Creative Solution & Mobile Design, Proficient in Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, Indesign, seeks job in Kuwait, please call +966 582 904 264 or e-mail mamoonaalqutob@gmail.com  
Note: I can visit Kuwait with-out visa. (C 5059)  
**25-10-2015**

## ACCOMMODATION

Room for rent, Fully furnished room with fridge, satellite, air conditioner and other facilities available,

family only, any citizen, near Al-Bike Hotel, Jaleeb. Contact: 97470947 (C 5060)  
**22-10-2015**

## FOR SALE

Misc. furniture for sale, sofa sets, cupboards, small dining table with six chairs. Contact: 25340757 / 97336407. (C 5061)

**Honda Accord 2004**, purchased in 2005 in top condition. Galant 1998 super saloon in very good condition, low mileage. Call: 25340757 / 97336407. (C 5062)  
**22-10-2015**

**EMERGENCY**  
112

## REQUIRED

- Architect Eng.** 2 Nos  
Experience: 10 years at site
- Civil Engineer** 3 Nos  
Experience: 5 years at site
- Planning Engineer** 1 Nos  
Experience: 5 to 10 years
- Materials / Procurement Engineer** 1 Nos  
Experience: 5 years
- IT Engineer** 1 Nos  
Experience: 5 years
- Finance Manager** 1 Nos  
Experience: 5 years
- Architectural Draftsman** 8 Nos  
Experience: 5 years
- Construction Supervisor** 4 Nos  
Experience: 5 years
- Safety Officer** 1 Nos  
Experience: 5 years
- Technician Network** 1 Nos  
Experience: 5 years
- Secretary Bilingual** 1 Nos  
Experience: 5 years - (Arabic & English)

For all Vacancies need Article 18 and must be transferable

Please send your CV to Email:

[jobkw2015@yahoo.com](mailto:jobkw2015@yahoo.com)

## EXCITING CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

An interior design & contracting company in Kuwait is searching for the below vacant candidates for the following positions:

- Architect / Interior Designer.
- Interior draftsman.
- Construction and Site Supervisor.
- Part Time Driver.

With the following qualifications:

- Minimum 3-5 years in Kuwait.
- Visa 18 [Transferable].
- Diploma or University Degree.
- Fluent in English, Driving License.
- Dedicated and Hard working.

Send your CV with recent photo to:

[apply@dfine.com](mailto:apply@dfine.com)



Airlines	Flt	Route	Time	QTR	1078	Doha	14:10
KAC	564	Amman	00:05	AXB	393	Kozhikode	14:20
NIA	251	Alexandria	00:15	SVA	500	Jeddah	14:30
JZR	239	Amman	00:25	FDB	057	Dubai	14:30
JZR	267	Beirut	00:30	KNE	472	Jeddah	14:35
FDB	069	Dubai	00:55	KAC	672	Dubai	14:45
RJA	642	Amman	01:05	KAC	788	Jeddah	14:50
THY	772	Istanbul	01:05	GFA	221	Bahrain	15:00
JZR	539	Cairo	01:30	OMA	645	Amman	15:30
PGT	858	Istanbul	02:00	KAC	562	Amman	15:40
UAE	853	Dubai	02:30	ABY	127	Sharjah	15:45
GFA	211	Bahrain	02:30	UAE	857	Dubai	15:45
OMA	643	Muscat	02:55	FDB	051	Dubai	16:00
FDB	067	Dubai	03:05	QTR	1072	Doha	16:10
MSR	612	Cairo	03:10	JZR	787	Riyadh	16:25
QTR	1076	Doha	03:15	ETD	303	Abu Dhabi	16:40
CEB	7694	Manila	03:15	KAC	542	Cairo	16:55
KKK	6507	Istanbul	03:20	RJA	640	Amman	16:55
ETD	305	Abu Dhabi	03:25	KAC	178	Vienna	16:55
THY	1464	Istanbul	03:25	SVA	510	Riyadh	17:15
KAC	544	Cairo	03:35	UAL	982	IAD	17:15
LMU	510	Cairo	04:05	GFA	215	Bahrain	17:30
JZR	555	Alexandria	04:15	KAC	502	Beirut	17:30
THY	770	Istanbul	04:40	KAC	678	Muscat/Abu Dhabi	17:50
ETH	620	Addis Ababa	04:45	JZR	777	Jeddah	17:55
QTR	8516	Doha	05:35	UAE	875	Dubai	18:00
DHX	170	Bahrain	05:40	KAC	792	Madinah	18:10
KAC	412	Manila/Bangkok	06:15	JZR	177	Dubai	18:20
BAW	157	London	06:40	KAC	786	Jeddah	18:30
KAC	206	Islamabad	07:30	FDB	063	Dubai	18:40
KAC	382	Delhi	07:30	ABY	123	Sharjah	18:45
QTR	1086	Doha	07:40	QTR	1080	Doha	18:55
FDB	5061	Dubai	07:45	KAC	742	Dammam	19:05
FDB	053	Dubai	07:45	KAC	774	Riyadh	19:25
KAC	346	Ahmedabad	07:50	KAC	166	Paris/Rome	19:30
SVA	512	Riyadh	07:50	GFA	217	Bahrain	19:30
KAC	302	Mumbai	07:55	KAC	618	Doha	19:35
OMA	641	Muscat	08:00	JZR	483	Istanbul	19:35
KAC	332	Trivandrum	08:15	FDB	5053	Dubai	19:45
KAC	352	Kochi	08:20	KAC	674	Dubai	19:45
KAC	362	Colombo	08:30	KAC	102	New York/London	19:55
UAE	855	Dubai	08:40	FDB	061	Dubai	20:20
KAC	288	Dhaka	09:00	OMA	647	Muscat	20:20
ABY	125	Sharjah	09:00	MSR	606	Luxor	20:45
ETD	301	Abu Dhabi	09:20	JAI	572	Mumbai	20:55
QTR	1070	Doha	09:25	DLH	634	Frankfurt	20:55
KAC	350	Kochi	09:40	MEA	402	Beirut	21:20
FDB	055	Dubai	09:40	ETD	307	Abu Dhabi	21:20
IRA	665	Shiraz	09:40	ALK	229	Colombo	21:25
IRC	528	Ahwaz	10:00	FDB	073	Dubai	21:35
IRC	6507	Shiraz	10:30	UAE	859	Dubai	21:40
GFA	213	Bahrain	11:00	GFA	219	Bahrain	21:45
UAE	873	Dubai	11:05	QTR	1082	Doha	22:00
SYR	341	Damascus	11:25	JZR	125	Bahrain	22:00
JZR	165	Dubai	11:30	KLM	417	Amsterdam	22:05
RJD	135	Abu Dhabi	11:35	ETD	309	Abu Dhabi	22:25
AGY	682	Asyut	11:40	KAC	172	Frankfurt	22:35
MEA	404	Beirut	11:55	FDB	059	Dubai	22:40
SAW	701	Damascus	12:20	MSC	407	Alexandria	23:00
FDB	075	Dubai	12:25	JZR	239	Amman	23:05
JZR	561	Sohag	12:45	JZR	185	Dubai	23:15
UAE	871	Dubai	12:50	PIA	205	Lahore	23:40
MSR	610	Cairo	13:00	FDB	071	Dubai	23:45
				JAI	574	Mumbai	23:55

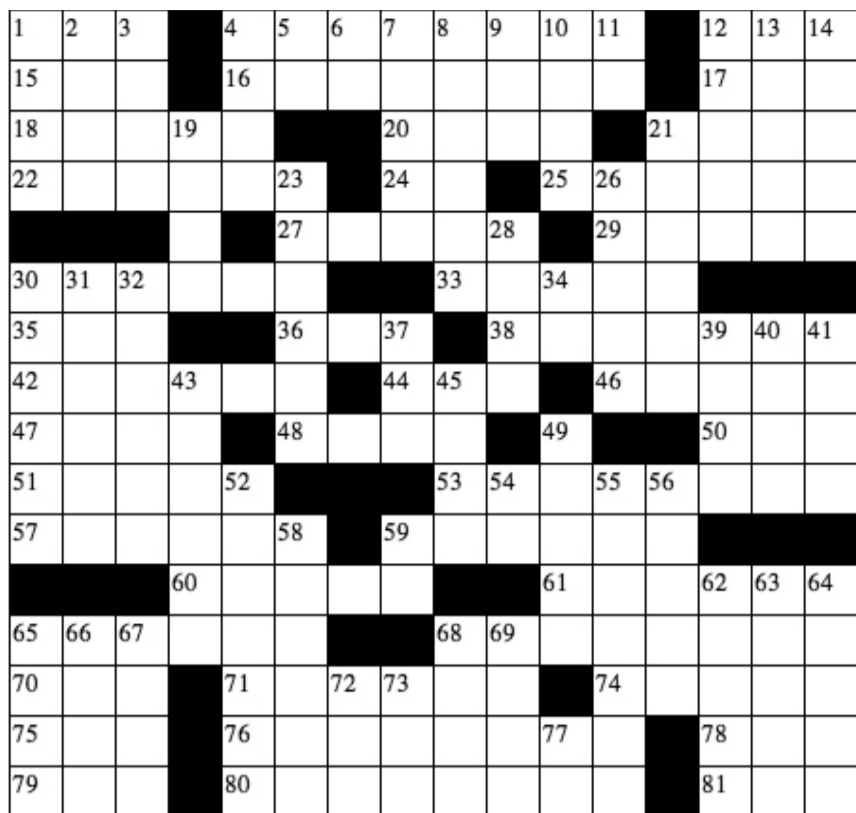
DIAL161 FOR AIRPORT INFORMATION

Directorate General of Civil Aviation Home Page ([www.kuwait-airport.com.kw](http://www.kuwait-airport.com.kw))

In case you are not travelling, your proper cancellation of bookings will help other passengers to use seats

Airlines	Flt	Route	Time	FDB	076	Dubai	13:10
AIC	988	Hyderabad/Chennai	00:05	JZR	786	Riyadh	13:10
JAI	573	Mumbai	00:25	KAC	791	Madinah	13:25
MSR	615	Cairo	00:30	SAW	702	Damascus	13:35
FDB	072	Dubai	00:45	JZR	176	Dubai	13:45
NIA	152	Cairo	01:15	MSR	611	Cairo	14:00
KAC	176	Vienna	01:20	UAE	872	Dubai	14:15
DLH	635	Frankfurt	01:35	KAC	673	Dubai	15:00
THY	773	Istanbul	02:30	QTR	1079	Doha	15:10
UAE	854	Dubai	03:45	FDB	058	Dubai	15:10
PGT	859	Istanbul	03:55	AXB	394	Kozhikode	15:20
OMA	644	Muscat	03:55	KNE	473	Jeddah	15:35
FDB	068	Dubai	04:00	SVA	503	M	

CROSSWORD 1059



ACROSS

- ACROSS1. Make amends for.
- 4. A fast-growing tropical American evergreen having white flowers and white fleshy edible fruit.
- 12. The seventh and last day of the week.
- 15. Seed of a pea plant.
- 16. Not one of the first three in a race or competition.
- 17. The ratio of the distance traveled (in miles) to the time spent traveling (in hours).
- 18. Formerly a term of respect for important white Europeans in colonial India.
- 20. Of or relating to or characteristic of the Republic of Chad or its people or language.
- 22. An agency of the United Nations responsible for programs to aid education and the health of children and mothers in developing countries.
- 24. (Akkadian) God of wisdom.
- 25. Of or relating to or resembling the eye.
- 27. The sacred city of Lamaism.
- 29. (archaic) Of persons.
- 30. A landlocked republic in central Africa.
- 33. (Zoroastrianism) Title for benevolent deities.
- 35. A poliovirus vaccine consisting of inactivated polio virus that is injected subcutaneously to provide immunity to poliomyelitis.
- 36. Aircraft landing in bad weather in which the pilot is talked down by ground control using precision approach radar.
- 38. A habitual liar (after a New Testament character who was struck dead for lying).
- 42. Marked by a large or well-developed chest.
- 44. Light informal conversation for social occasions.
- 46. A form of Japanese poetry.
- 47. (computer science) A kind of computer architecture that has a relatively small set of computer instructions that it can perform.
- 48. A soft heavy toxic malleable metallic element.
- 50. A label made of cardboard or plastic or metal.
- 51. The table in Christian churches where communion is given.
- 53. Annual and perennial grasses of savannas and upland grasslands.
- 57. A dark purplish red.
- 60. Any of various small plant-sucking insects.
- 61. One of the six playing periods into which the game of polo is divided.
- 65. At risk of or subject to experiencing something usually unpleasant.
- 70. An ester of adenosine that is converted to ATP for energy storage.
- 71. Pierce with a sharp stake or point.
- 74. Jordan's port.
- 75. Japanese ornamental tree with fragrant white or pink blossoms and small yellow fruits.
- 76. Situated between the earth and the moon.
- 78. An adult male person (as opposed to a woman).
- 79. An associate degree in applied science.
- 80. Shaped like a star.
- 81. A loose sleeveless outer garment made from aba cloth.

DOWN

- 1. (Akkadian) Father of the gods and consort of Tiamat.
- 2. Any of various edible seeds of plants of the family Leguminosae.
- 3. A member of an extinct North American

- Indian people who lived in the Pit river valley in northern California.
- 4. A three-dimensional shape with six square or rectangular sides.
- 5. An associate degree in nursing.
- 6. A long-playing phonograph record.
- 7. Genus of erect herbs of the Middle East having showy flowers.
- 8. The dialect of Malay used as the national language of the Republic of Indonesia or of Malaysia.
- 9. Fiddler crabs.
- 10. Make anew.
- 11. A public promotion of some product or service.
- 12. Perennial mountain rice native to Mediterranean region and introduced into North America.
- 13. Strike with disgust or revulsion.
- 14. Coming next after the second and just before the fourth in position.
- 19. (computer science) A graphic symbol (usually a simple picture) that denotes a program or a command or a data file or a concept in a graphical user interface.
- 21. A large faint constellation in the southern hemisphere containing most of the Small Magellanic Cloud.
- 23. Antiprotozoal medication (trade name Flagyl) used to treat trichomoniasis and giardiasis.
- 26. A unit of weight for precious stones = 200 mg.
- 28. According to the Old Testament he was a pagan king of Israel and husband of Jezebel (9th century BC).
- 31. Sloping upward.
- 32. Sacred text of Zoroastrianism.
- 34. An organization of independent states to promote international peace and security.
- 37. Title for a civil or military leader (especially in Turkey).
- 39. The basic unit of money in Peru.
- 40. A Kwa language spoken in Ghana and the Ivory Coast.
- 41. Having wisdom that comes with age and experience.
- 43. Scarabaeid beetle considered divine by ancient Egyptians.
- 45. Chief port of Yemen.
- 49. The state prevailing during the absence of war.
- 52. Copy that is not the original.
- 54. 30 to 300 kilohertz.
- 55. Not necessarily inaudible but not heard.
- 56. Caught or fixed.
- 58. (Greek mythology) The Titaness who was goddess of justice in ancient mythology.
- 59. A state in the Rocky Mountains.
- 62. Botswana statesman who was the first president of Botswana (1921-1980).
- 63. Cubes of meat marinated and cooked on a skewer usually with vegetables.
- 64. A city in southern Turkey on the Seyhan River.
- 66. The content of cognition.
- 67. Type genus of the Apidae.
- 68. A hazy or indistinct representation.
- 69. A city in western Nevada at the foot of the Sierra Nevada Mountains.
- 72. Standard time in the 8th time zone west of Greenwich, reckoned at the 120th meridian west.
- 73. Fermented alcoholic beverage similar to but heavier than beer.
- 77. The branch of computer science that deal with writing computer programs that can solve problems creatively.

STAR TRACK



Aries (March 21-April 19)

Cosmic light bulbs flash, illuminating your mind today, and you are eager to share your brilliant new ideas with anyone who will listen. You're wired for action and may be quite pleased with your own ingenuity. Unfortunately, you have an attention span of a kitten; you will likely lose interest in what you're doing before you gain traction. But don't worry if nothing comes to fruition now; your current thoughts will continue to evolve into something even better. Inspiration is alive and magic is afoot.



Taurus (April 20-May 20)

A spontaneous shift in your thinking could be precipitated by someone who decides to change shared plans without necessarily telling you first. This unilateral decision can be problematic because it impacts the rest of your day, too. You might be resistant to adjusting your schedule for the sake of anyone else, but it's not wise to be fixed in your ways today. Instead, demonstrate your cooperative spirit by being as accommodating as possible. You'll gain more respect if others see you as a team player who's willing to put the best interests of the group ahead of your own.



Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You would like to be known as a responsible person who your friends, family and community can rely on. However, you may not be fully committed to walking your talk today. Although others could have high expectations, you might not be interested in paying the price to earn the appreciation you want. Instead of wasting your time spinning idle fantasies now, show up and play your part to the best of your ability. Even if the role isn't your first choice, the rewards can still bring a surprising amount of emotional satisfaction.



Cancer (June 21-July 22)

You can hear the future calling your name today, and you yearn to get things rolling in that direction. But you aren't sure whether or not to take this cosmic message seriously. Rest assured this career opportunity is worth pursuing, so don't bother wondering if it's real or not. Just answer the pull of your heartstrings and explore all the possibilities. Engaging in a thought-provoking dialogue is one of the best ways to discover the next path you wish to take.



Leo (July 23-August 22)

You feel connected to someone special today, only to suddenly experience an awkward distance between you for no apparent reason. Your partner's unexpected behavior could be upsetting to your heart and perplexing to your mind. Fortunately, it won't take you long to recover your balance, but you may keep your defenses up for a while to be on the safe side. It's fine to retreat a bit, but don't back up so far that you end up isolating yourself from the ones who love you the most.



Virgo (August 23-September 22)

You see every event as another potential escape route, but searching for a way to break out of a rut isn't enough today. Unfortunately, you might let a chance to try something new slip by without giving it a fair shot. Taking a risk sounds better than it actually is, because you believe that you will be happier if you stick to what's already familiar. Although avoiding change seems like the safer choice now, ignoring your desires could precipitate an unexpected chain of actions that you cannot control. Follow your initial instinct to shake things up a bit and let the cards fall where they may.



Libra (September 23-October 22)

A sudden break in your routine catches you off guard today. At first, it may seem as if someone else's refusal to cooperate with you further complicates your day. But this twist of fate can work to your advantage by triggering your sense of independence. If nothing out of the ordinary occurs, go ahead and stir up some mischief on your own. Ultimately, something must change now and if you don't make it happen, the cosmos might just do it for you.



Scorpio (October 23-November 21)

A burst of enthusiasm sets you into motion today, even if you feel stuck in a familiar pattern. You might attempt to initiate overdue improvements, but little will come of your efforts if you act prematurely. Waiting until you can sense that the time is right is key to your transformation. Your dedication to creating change will be rewarded with a high level of accomplishment, but it could take a few days before you fully appreciate the power of your personal evolution.



Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)

Although you may wish you could let your commitments slide today, your conscience gnaws at you, reminding you that you must do what you promised. But you might not be feeling your usual zest for life now; instead you could attempt a half-hearted effort just to get by. Unfortunately, your current detachment can create additional problems if you pretend that everything is okay when it's not. Even you Archers are entitled to an off day every now and then. Counting your blessings gently puts your life back in proper perspective.



Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

Maintaining control over your own schedule now is unlikely if family members don't cooperate as you had hoped. Even if you're upset about your plans falling apart today, don't shift the blame to anyone else. No matter how it appears to you, no one is trying to sabotage your efforts. It might come as a surprise, but the cause of your current instability is you. Making a concerted effort to transform your inner dynamics changes external events, as if by magic. Your positive attitude generates a ripple of good vibrations that can spread far and wide.



Aquarius (January 20- February 18)

You might not be able to turn your plans into reality because you encounter some interesting twists and turns that completely change the direction of your day. An unforeseen event could send you into an emotional tailspin if you try to cling to the past. However, this may prove to be a pivotal moment if you're ready to launch into the unknown. Rigid thinking turns small problems into larger ones; operating with an enlightened heart and an open mind makes the world a fascinating place.



Pisces (February 19-March 20)

Hiding your feelings is impossible while the Moon lingers in your sign. Your recent disclosure pays off today as people rally to your side. Nevertheless, your sudden emotional outburst may shock others once the Moon marches into hotheaded Aries. Don't hold back; expressing your thoughts spontaneously might be just what's needed to encourage someone else to say what's on his or her mind, too. It's up to you to take the lead by sharing your heart so everyone feels safe to follow your shining example.

WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

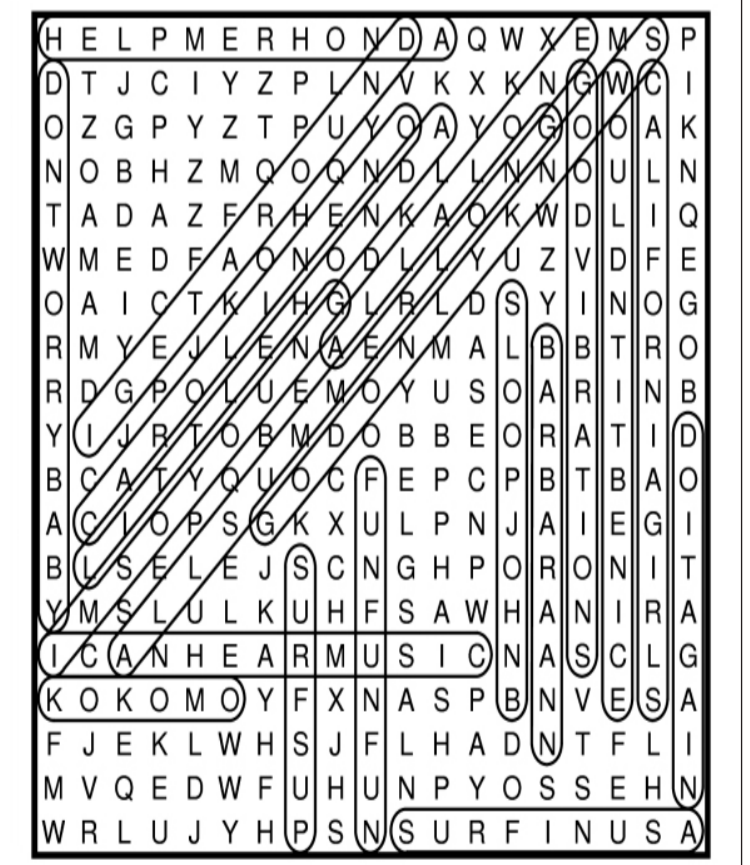
AUSTRALIA WORD SEARCH PUZZLE



- BILLABONG
- GREAT BARRIER REEF
- OUTBACK
- TASMANIA
- BRISBANE
- KAKADU
- PERTH
- ULURU
- DINGO
- KANGAROOS
- PLATYPUS
- VICTORIA
- EUCALYPTUS
- KOALA
- QUEENSLAND
- WALLABY
- GOLD COAST
- MELBOURNE
- SYDNEY
- WOMBAT

Yesterday's Solution

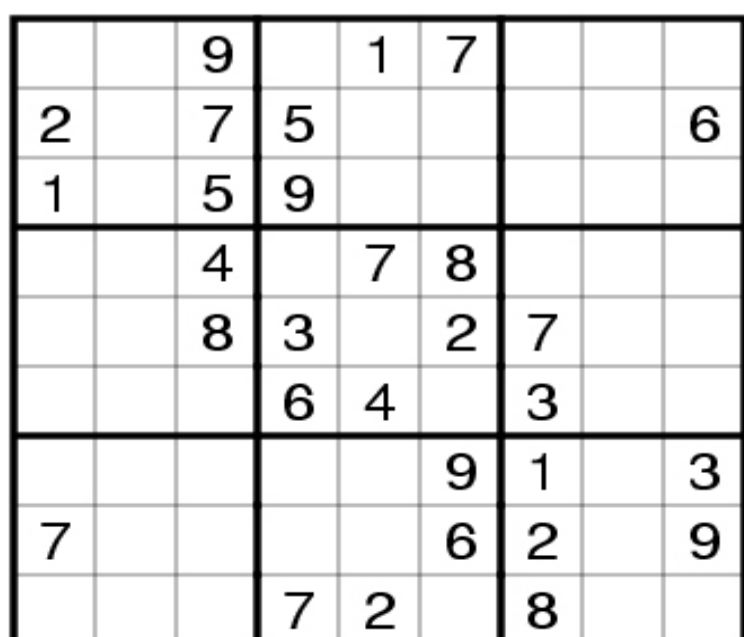
SOLUTION TO BEACH BOYS SONGS PUZZLE



Yesterday's Solution



Daily SuDoku



easy

Yesterday's Solution



very hard

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
Qadsiya	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	Sao 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



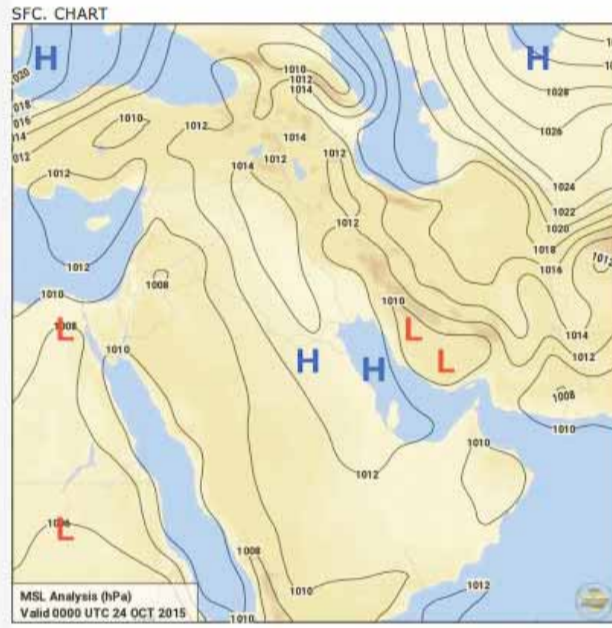
Tel: (+965) 161 Ext: 2627 - 2630  
Fax: (+965) 24348714  
www.met.gov.kw



**Expected Weather for the Next 24 Hours**  
Issued 24/10/2015-07:00 LT UTC +3hr

**MAX Temperature 35 °C**

**By Day** : Sunny with light to moderate north westerly wind, with speed of 08 - 30 km/h  
**By Night** : Fair with light to moderate north westerly to light variable wind, with speed of 06 - 28 km/h



**Four-Day Forecast**

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Expected Weather	partly cloudy	Mostly sunny+humid	clouds increase + scattered rain	partly cloudy+thunder rain
Min Temp °C	20	21	22	24
Max Temp °C	36	36	35	36
Wind Direction	north westerly to light variable	south easterly	southerly to south easterly	south easterly
Wind Speed km/h	08 - 22	10 - 32	15 - 40	25 - 45

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	26	33
KUWAIT AIRPORT	19	35
ABDALY	19	34
BUBYAN	17	32
JAHRA	22	34
FAILAKA ISLAND	22	31
SALMIYAH	27	32
AHMADI	25	32
JAL ALIYAH	20	32
QAROH ISLAND	29	32
UMM AL-MARADEM	29	32
WAFRA	20	34
MANAGISH	19	33
SALMY	20	34
MUTRIBA	19	35

**Recorded Yesterday at Kuwait Airport**

Max Temp (°C)	33
Min Temp (°C)	18
Max Rel Hum (%)	88
Min Rel Hum (%)	29
Max Wind Speed (km/h) and Direction	28 NW
TOTAL RAINFALL IN 24 HR	0 mm
Sunrise	05:56
Sunset	17:09

**Prayer Times**

Fajr	04:36
Sunrise	05:56
Zuhr	11:32
Asr	14:44
Sunset	17:09
Isha	18:27



**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. Mohammad 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	25726920
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 Abidallah 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 Maarroof	25713514
Dr. Pradip Gupje	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. Abdalateef 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

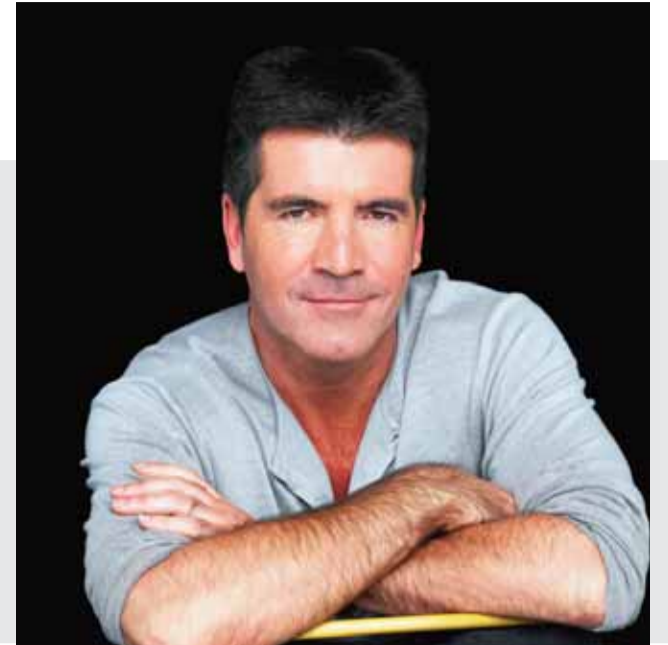
Psychologists /Psychotherapists	Soor Center Tel: 2290-1677 Fax: 2290 1688	info@soorcenter.com www.soorcenter.com	Kaizen center 25716707	Noor Clinic 23845955	William Schuilenberg, RPC 2290-1677 Zaina Al Zabin, M.Sc. 2290-1677
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# Cowell scared son will make him quit smoking

The 56-year-old music mogul has admitted he loves a "cigarette and a beer" and is terrified 20-month-old Eric, whom he has with his partner Lauren Silverman, will beg him to quit the nasty habit when he's a little bit older. He explained: "I do about ten a day and I have cut down. I tried the vapor ones but I hated it. I have tried everything. If Eric grows up and says stop it I don't know what I would do." He added: "I don't smoke around him and I wouldn't do

that. I have thought about what he might say in a few years. It is my worst vice ... this is the one thing I would find very difficult to give up because I do love a cigarette." Meanwhile, the 'X Factor' judge has admitted he's changed a lot since he became a father to the little one as he's now a lot more calm and can put things into perspective with ease. He told the Daily Mirror newspaper: "I think like with anything, you have a lot more perspective on things. "Eric has made a massive

difference because I wasn't expecting that and I didn't know what that would bring to my life. He is so much fun." He added: "I just think that sometimes when we are all feeling a bit down I think we are lucky to be able to do what we want and you have to take it that way. I still consider that."



# Price wants to become an actress

The reality TV star - who also classes herself as a glamour model, author and designer - is keen to carve out a career in film and has her sights on scoring a lead in a horror movie. Speaking to The Sun newspaper, she said: "Nobody is ever going to ask me unless they know I want to do it. "If it was a horror film or a thriller, I'd be great at that." And the 37-year-old beauty is about to show potential producers what she's really made of as she'll grace the stage in the pantomime production of 'Sleeping Beauty' throughout the month of December as the Wicked Fairy. Katie - who has children Harvey, 13, Junior, 10, Princess, eight, Jett, two, and Bunny, 14 months - said of her role at the New Victoria Theatre in Woking, Surrey: "I'm not sure who's more excited about my role in panto,

me or the kids! "They're going to enjoy it so much seeing me up on stage, although they might find it strange that I'm being so evil." She added: "Sleeping Beauty' is one of the kids favorite stories and I simply couldn't resist the opportunity. The people of Woking better watch out as I'm coming to getcha!" Meanwhile, although Katie is keen to become a professional actress, she's also determined to try her hand at singing once again, despite her past failed attempts. She said: "Before, the songs weren't right for me. "If you get songs that are written for your voice, then it's a different story."

# Timberlake doesn't think he's a 'good' father

The 34-year-old singer has admitted he and his wife Jessica Biel, 33, are still trying to adapt to their lives as parents after welcoming their son Silas into the world six months ago. Speaking at the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network's Respect Awards on Friday, Justin said: "My beautiful wife and I are a couple of new parents. We're not very good at it yet." The couple - who got married in 2012 - were at the awards to receive their gong for Inspiration, and the handsome actor admitted he was excited about their "rare date night." He said: "Thank you for allowing mommy and daddy to have a rare date night out together with other adults." Justin then turned to his beautiful spouse and joked: "Honey, look around, this is what adults look like! They do exist. They don't smell like poop diapers - some of you do." The 'Friends With Benefits' star then went on to thank the Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network (GLSEN) for "starting a trend for change, a change that one day will make it possible for our own son to grow up and thrive in a world where ... all you have to do is be yourself."



# Trainor says losing her voice felt like a 'big slap in the face'

The 21-year-old singer recently underwent surgery to repair a hemorrhaged vocal cord and admits it wasn't easy. She said: "It was a big slap in the face. I try not to get sick. I was trying my best, but it's hard with my schedule. It's hard to sleep on a moving bus. But I'm trying to be strict now. This morning, I didn't speak at all because I knew I had an hour of interviews to do." Meghan is still very ambitious and is hoping to duet with Bruno Mars in the future. She added: "I have so many dreams." The 'All About That Bass' hitmaker was "very insecure" about her body before she found fame. The curvy star said: "Confidence was always something I wanted in my life, but I was very insecure growing up. Now parents come up to me and say, 'You saved my daughter's life.' I have mothers saying that their household has changed since they now dance around to 'All About That Bass.' Those moments stick with me." But Meghan now enjoys showing off her figure. She told PEOPLE magazine: "In all my videos, I show off what I'm working with. They put me in pencil and A-line skirts - and tight tops so you can see my chest because it's bomb!"



# Khloe cancels her upcoming book tour

The 31-year-old star is set to release her debut book, 'Strong Looks Better Naked', in which she shares her secrets for finding strength of body, mind, and heart, on November 3, 2015, but has axed all of her promotional appearances so she can remain by Lamar Odom's side in hospital in Los Angeles. A source close to the 'Keeping Up with the Kardashians' beauty told 'Entertainment Tonight': "Khloe hates to cancel or reschedule anything when it comes to work, but right now, her number one priority is getting Lamar back to good health. She won't leave his side and knows that is the most important place she needs to be right now. She is cancelling her press commitments for the time being." Khloe, who called off her divorce from Lamar earlier this week as he recovers at Cedars-Sinai Medical Centre in West Hollywood after collapsing at a Nevada brothel last week following a drugs and alcohol binge, previously admitted her decision to end their marriage in December 2013 inspired her to adopt a healthier lifestyle and her new book allegedly goes into detail about his cheating and issues with drug abuse. The former LA Lakers player, 35, underwent two emergency surgeries due to "chest issues" this week and is said to be still battling kidney failure.



# Fleur East felt out of her 'depth' in LA

The 27-year-old beauty - who came second place on 'The X Factor' last year - has recently completed her debut album after signing a record deal with Simon Cowell but she's admitted travelling to Hollywood was daunting. Speaking about how she was advised to get Botox within five minutes of arriving, Fleur shared: "I felt a bit out of my depth, because I'd just got off the plane and my first session was with Babyface. Then I thought, 'I've been bursting to do this for years, and decided just to love every minute of it.'" She added: "Making my album has

been even better than I imagined it would be. I've written my own stuff for years and, once the label heard some of my songs, they were happy for me to just go full steam ahead." Fleur also revealed that although everyone felt she was Simon's favorite on 'The X Factor', she still hasn't got his mobile number but believes she'll snap it up soon. She added to Grazia magazine: Maybe I'll sell a few records first."



# Barrymore thanks mother for institutionalizing her

The 40-year-old actress, admits she was completely out of control before she was forced her to seek help for her drug and alcohol addictions for 18 months. She said: "My mom was like, 'Someone figure this out; I can't.' It was like military school for humility and gratitude and perspective. I had none. I had the weirdest life ever. And they kicked me until I walked out of there knowing what 'please' and 'thank you' meant for the first time in my life. I thank her every day for it. It was the best thing that ever happened to me." The 'Miss You Already' star made the "very difficult" decision to become emancipated from Jaid when she was 15 and while they were estranged for many years, they now "speak on holidays and birthdays." She added: "We have wonderful text exchanges. For the first time I actually feel somewhat protective of her as opposed

to guilty or confused." Drew gave up on the idea of having a family of her own until she met husband Will Kopelman, with whom she now has two daughters, Olive, three, and Frankie, 18 months, but admits being married isn't easy. She told PEOPLE magazine: "It's a lot to have two kids back-to-back, but I like watching him be a father. I know everyone says you're supposed to put your coupledom first. But I really love it being all about the kids. Maybe that's my compensating for not having parents myself or a childhood, but right now the focus is about how we're figuring things out as parents."



## Lavigne sparks rumors she's dating **Ryan Cabrera**

The 31-year-old singer, who announced her split from Chad Kroeger last month after two years of marriage, fuelled speculation she's already moved on after Lavigne and Cabrera were spotted shopping for pumpkins in Beverly Hills earlier this week. But a source told UsMagazine.com the duo are "just friends." The 'Hello Kitty' hitmaker previously insisted she and Chad, who fell in love when they collaborated on her last album, are still on good terms and plan to continue working together in the recording studio. She posted a photograph of the Nickelback frontman, 40, on Instagram, with the caption:

"YeeHaw! Writing with Chad today. Back where it all started..." A source previously claimed the pair decided to split because "they didn't see eye-to-eye on a lot of things." The insider added: "They originally got together to make an album and that's where the spark between them originated. But it just slowly died out. They talked about having kids but it just never happened. At the end of the day, they just didn't see eye to eye on a lot of things."

## Rebel Wilson likes being curvy

The 35-year-old actress, who is launching her own capsule clothing collection for Torrid next month, insists she has no problem with the term "plus-size." She said: "To me, getting an A+ in school is better than getting an A and I'm being called 'plus.' I kind of like being curvy and eating dessert every second night so that's kinda why I am the way I am." The 'Pitch Perfect' star wants to be a positive role model for young women by promoting a healthy body image. She told E! News at the launch of her new line at the Milk Studios in Los Angeles on Thursday night: "I think all you should be worried about is if you're healthy. If you're unhealthy, you should maybe do something about it." She

also recently said: "I was always the kind of person who cared what was on the inside. I'm a person who uses my brain; it's not really about my personal aesthetic. But then I realized that if girls can see me standing next to really skinny actresses holding my own and being really confident in how I look, then that's a good message to send." The Australian star decided to launch her own line after she noticed there were very few glamorous options for curvy young women. She told PEOPLE magazine: "A lot of plus-size clothing didn't seem cool or on-trend. It was kind of like what your auntie would wear to a wedding."

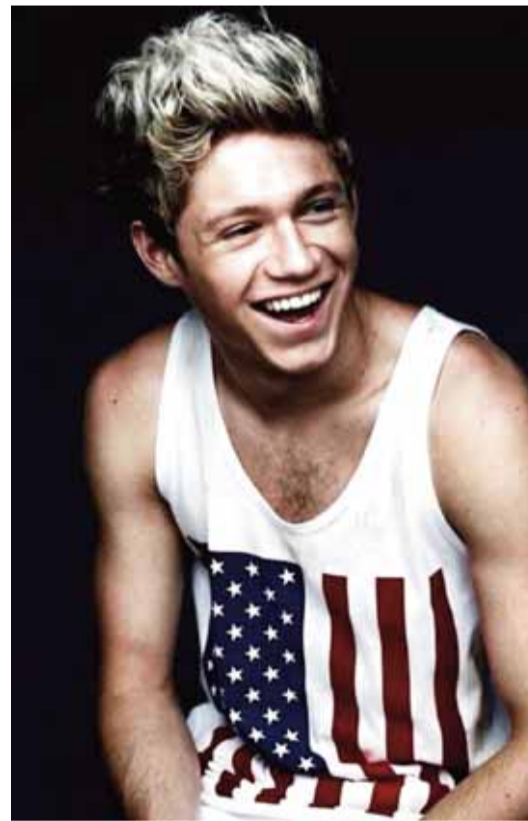


## Nicky Hilton says married life is 'amazing'

The 32-year-old heiress married banking billionaire James Rothschild in a lavish ceremony at Kensington Palace in London in July and thinks their relationship is even stronger as a result. The handbag designer said: "It just feels more official. When you wake up and you look down and you have a wedding band and you're married. You're introducing as your husband or your wife - it's nice. I highly recommend it. If you find the right person, absolutely. It's so much fun." The couple started dating in 2011 after meeting at mutual friend Petra Ecclestone's wedding and got engaged in August 2014 while on holiday in Lake Como, Italy. While the pair haven't been married for very long, they are already thinking about starting a family. Nicky told E! News: "Definitely, we want to have children in the future. Not right away." A source previously revealed Nicky's older sister Paris Hilton, 35, is eager to settle down with her boyfriend, Thomas Gross, and hopes they will get pregnant at the same time. The insider said: "Nicky is planning to have kids soon, and Paris loves the idea of them being pregnant at the same time."

## Niall Horan wants to go travelling

The One Direction star, 22, who hasn't been to his native Ireland since last year, is keen to explore the world and relax on the west coast of his home country in a rented cottage during the band's extended hiatus next year. Asked what he's most looking forward to about his break from the limelight, he said on the radio show 2FM: "It'll be the simple things like going home a bit more, seeing everyone I hadn't seen in a while. I'd like to do a bit of travelling, the places I haven't seen properly. I'd love to rent a cottage somewhere in Ireland, or get a caravan." The 'Little Things' hitmaker is also hoping he'll be able to focus his attention on his fitness and bulk up a little. He added: "By the end of next year... I'd like to be a low single figure in golf and in better shape, working out." And, although he's taking time out from the band, he's planning to start penning tracks for One Direction's new album when himself, Liam Payne, 22, Harry Styles, 21, and Louis Tomlinson, 22, join forces once again. He explained: "I'll probably spend most of the year writing for the next album too. We've always been bad at the planning things, we don't know how long this break will be for. It could be that in six months, we'll just say 'We ready to go again?' "He added: "Five albums in five years... I'd like to think I deserve a holiday."



## Simpson claims her son already 'writes little songs'

The 31-year-old singer says she wouldn't be surprised if her and rocker ex-husband Pete Wentz's little boy ends up following in their footsteps by carving out a career in the music industry. She said: "He's so into music. He loves to dance around and he writes little songs. They're good! It's so cute." Bronx is gearing up to celebrate his seventh birthday next month and Ashlee's husband Evan Ross, 27, thinks they should get him the new video game 'Guitar Hero Live' so he can continue practicing. She also told PEOPLE.com: "He's super into video games and this one is perfect for him." The 'Pieces of Me' singer and 'Hunger Games' star Evan, who tied the knot in August 2014 at his mother Diana Ross' home in Connecticut, welcomed their first child Jagger Snow into the world on July 31 and she previously revealed Bronx loves helping her take care of the 11-week-old tot. She said: "He dances for her and entertains her. Bronx is such a good big brother. He's a pro."

## DeGeneres is Nick Jonas' landlord

The former Jonas Brothers singer has admitted he rents his lavish home from the chat show host, 57, and is a control freak when it comes to keeping it clean in fear of the eccentric presenter revealing his dirty habits on television. Speaking on her show last night, in which Nick appeared as a guest, she said: "I don't know if anyone knows this, probably not, but I am your landlord." Nick added: "I have everyone that comes in my house use a coaster so there's no rings on the tables which is good. I'm so nervous though the whole time I'm there because I know I'm

gonna come on the show and check in and if anything's wrong with the house it's bad." Ellen went on to confirm the handsome star, 23, does pay his rent on time but she took a "healthy deposit" from him when he signed the lease just in case anything is destroyed. She said: "You're a good tenant. You pay rent on time." Nick's polished house features in Ellen's new interior book 'Home', which is out next week, and he's thrilled he's part of her new venture as a designer. He explained: "You made me feel very cool. [It's] surreal, living in a house in the book. It's bizarre!" — Bangshowbiz



## Evans was left red-faced after on air confusion

The BBC Radio 2 presenter found himself in a bit of a flap when he mixed up the 27-year-old singer with the pop star, 34, while quizzing her on her alter-ego Sasha Fierce. He asked the blonde beauty - who dropped her new single 'Hello' this morning - during the interview: "Don't you have this kind of alter-ego that you pretend to become?" Adele shot back with confusion: "No, not really. I chat a lot." Determined to push her further, Chris, 49, added while appearing to check his notes: "No, I've a name here..." Realizing he'd got her mixed up with the 'XO hitmaker', she asked: "Sasha Fierce?" before he hit back with "Yes!" Throwing her head back with laughter, Adele was keen to set the record straight and explained: "That's Beyoncé! Sasha Fierce is Beyoncé's alter-ego and she's now Mrs Carter. I wish I was Sasha Fierce." Feeling embarrassed by his mistake, Chris said: "I don't know how that's crept in. I can only apologize." Meanwhile, Adele - who has spent four years away from the music industry - recently revealed her long-awaited third studio album '25' will be released on November 20.



Film Review



'Paranormal Activity: The Ghost Dimension'

So this is the way a franchise ends. The sixth and allegedly final installment of the massively money-minting found-footage horror series, "Paranormal Activity: The Ghost Dimension" offers little more than a distant, whimpering echo of a film property that once made such a bang. Distinguished mostly by the addition of 3D and an unusual distribution window, the film is scheduled to hit VOD less than three weeks after leaving cinemas, to the chagrin of a few theater chains. It will be interesting to see if the experimental release strategy pays off in the long run, and it's not hard to imagine the "Paranormal" series living on thanks to the multiplicity of new digital content platforms. For all the memorable scares it manages to cook up, "The Ghost Dimension" might have actually worked better as a series of GIFs.

Though it hardly invented the found-footage conceit, the original "Paranormal Activity" certainly helped elevate it to the status of a proper and profitable subgenre, with its own unique tropes and cinematic language. Subsequent sequels might have diminished its legacy a bit—though last year's oft-maligned Latino-themed offshoot, "The Marked Ones," was refreshingly unserious-yet nothing compares to the feature-length shrug that director Gregory Plotkin offers this time around. There may well be new and novel ways to spark audience shivers from not-so-bright homeowners inexplicably using their cameraphones to check out bumps in the night, but this series clearly has neither the patience nor the inclination to look for them anymore.

While it does answer some lingering questions about the franchise's overarching mythology, "The Ghost Dimension" spends most of its running time dully retracing old steps, introducing yet another suburban family—father Ryan Fleege (Chris J Murray), mother Emily Fleege (Brit Shaw), and 7-year-old daughter Leila (Ivy George) — as they prepare for Christmas in their enormous new Santa Rosa house. Joining them for a few weeks is Ryan's brother Mike (Dan Gill), a commodiously mustached hipster recovering from a breakup, and Skylar (Olivia Taylor Dudley), a young blonde woman of unclear relation to the family, in town for some sort of yoga retreat that allows her to abruptly disappear from the film for long stretches.

Paint-by-numbers

Like all "Paranormal" subjects, the Fleegees are chronic videographers, and Ryan gets to flex some new photographic muscles when he finds a old-school camcorder stashed in the garage, along with a collection of old family videos. In addition to looking charmingly retro, the camera also picks up a strange number of odd vibrations and apparitions around the house that are invisible to the naked eye, as well as more modern devices. (Not only are these Ghost-o-Vision sequences the film's most creative, they also provide it with its only non-financial reason to employ 3D.)

At first, the camera only shows Rorschach-like blobs of debris floating through the air, but it's not long before everything starts to go haywire. Young Leila develops a sudden allergy to Christian iconography and begins talking to an imaginary friend named Toby; Ryan and Mike pop in the old home movies only to discover footage of a strange cult with two telepathic children; and since even malevolent demons have a soft spot for vintage arcade games, the pinball machine starts turning on by itself.

A certain degree of character stupidity is to be expected in a paint-by-numbers horror pic, so of course Ryan progresses through his collection of Sinister Mystery Videos That Might Explain Everything at a seeming rate of one per day, and of course the family lets Leila continue to sleep alone in her room even after she draws pagan symbols on her wall and icily intones, "He's going to take me away ... " But at times the film's multiple scripters almost seem to forget what has transpired in the scene previous: Characters can observe multiple instances of supernatural activity one night, then immediately revert into "It's probably just a coincidence!"-skeptics the next morning.

Without much spark to the jump scares, the film turns to hoary exorcism tropes and CGI fantasias in the later going, undoing much of the low-key believability that was essential to "Paranormal's" appeal in the first place. Youngster George makes for a very effective creepy kid when called upon, though her adult counterparts fail to leave much of an impression. The below-the-line crew doesn't have a whole lot to work with, considering the film never once leaves the family's property, yet the environs are as bland as can be, and one would have to trawl through the deepest recesses of Romanian art cinema to find a film with as many static, silent shots of empty rooms and unfurnished hallways. — Reuters

Middle-Earth Map annotated by Tolkien discovered

A map of Middle-Earth annotated by JRR Tolkien has been discovered in a copy of "The Lord of the Rings" owned by illustrator Pauline Baynes. The document offers glimpses into many of Tolkien's observations on the fictional world, which hosts the action in "The Lord of the Rings" and "The Hobbit" (and their subsequent film adaptations). To name a few, he notes that Hobbiton is on the same latitude as Oxford, England, and hints that the Italian city of Ravenna could be the inspiration behind the city of Minas Tirith.

The map is on display and up for sale at Blackwell's Rare Books for 60,000\$. Blackwell's says the map shows "the exact nature" of Tolkien's vision. "Before going on display in the shop this week, this had only ever been in private hands," Henry Gott, modern first editions specialist at Blackwell's, said. "One of the points of interest is how much of a hand Tolkien had in the poster map; all of his suggestions, and there are many, are reflected in Baynes' version. The degree to which it is properly collaborative was not previously apparent, and couldn't be without a document like this. Its importance is mostly to do with the insight it gives into that process."

The map also shows the novelist using Belgrade, Cyprus and Jerusalem as reference points for the created world. "The map shows how completely obsessed he was with the details. Anyone else interfered at their peril," said Sian Wainwright at Blackwell's. "He was tricky to work with, but very rewarding in the end." — Reuters



Elizabeth Kane (second from left), widow of late "Batman" creator Bob Kane, poses with "Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice" director Zack Snyder, (left) DC Entertainment co-publisher and artist Jim Lee, right, and a costumed "Batman" character after Bob Kane received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame on Wednesday. — AP

'Batman v Superman' plot details revealed

Henry Cavill has spilled the beans on why his character, Superman, is at war with Ben Affleck's Batman in "Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice." Cavill, in an interview with Total Film, has revealed the dynamics of the conflict—which has been hinted at in the trailers for the movie, in which Batman's alter ego Bruce Wayne is attempting to escape the destruction of Metropolis. The British actor explains that the movie contains an entire "prologue" in the sequence, which includes the destruction of the Wayne Financial Building.

"What happens there is one of Bruce's buildings gets destroyed and he's trying to save all the people inside the building and he can't," Cavill said. "So he is this angry person who fears what Superman may do. Why are they just going to trust this super-powered alien? What if he does decide to turn against us?" Warner Bros

will release the film on March 25. For his part, Affleck elaborated on why his Batman has gone after Superman.

"He's found himself in a place of harboring a tremendous amount of rage for Superman," Affleck said. "So it's how he got there, and what that's done to him, and what that's done to people around him like Alfred, who are, I think, very scared and worried for him. It's something that's interesting and new." Affleck also commented on the possibility of directing a solo Batman movie—a scenario that emerged in July — after writing the script with Geoff Johns.

"If I could make it work, yeah, obviously that would be like a dream," he told the magazine. "The trick is, as to any movie, is to make sure that you - if you're going to direct it - that you can make it good. You've got to have the right idea and the right take on it... Broadly speaking,

it's something I'd be open to, for sure. It's a very exciting idea."

In "Batman v Superman," with DC superheroes at war with one another, a new threat arises and puts mankind in greater danger than it's ever known before. Zack Snyder directed from a script by Chris Terrio and David S. Goyer. Producers are Charles Roven and Deborah Snyder. The film also stars Gal Gadot as Wonder Woman, with Amy Adams, Laurence Fishburne and Diane Lane returning from "Man of Steel." Jesse Eisenberg stars as Lex Luthor, Jeremy Irons stars as Alfred and Holly Hunter will play a role newly created for the film. Jason Momoa will appear as Aquaman. — Reuters

Dogs and cats pre-Halloween fashion show



"Jacks," a Pomeranian dog, rides its motorcycle float which was inspired by the movie "Ghost Rider".



Connie Perez holds her pet "Tango," dressed as "Little Frankenstein".



Edmund John Larioque, dressed as Frankenstein, pushes a mock coffin with "Spanky," (left) as Dracula and "Kikay" as Vampire, both Lhasa Apso breed.



"Cha-cha," (left) a Chihuahua and wearing a two-headed costume, and "Tango," dressed as "Little Frankenstein" are presented to the audience during the annual dogs and cats pre-Halloween fashion show yesterday by Philippine Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) at suburban Quezon city, northeast of Manila, Philippines. — AP photos

Fashion

# ROSY, AIRY AND SHINY: THREE TAKEAWAYS FROM SAO PAULO FASHION WEEK



Where Sao Paulo Fashion Week goes, much of Latin America follows, and this year the message from the catwalks is to look rosy and airy-while throwing in a metallic glint. Although a younger sister to the New York, Paris, London and Milan versions, Sao Paulo Fashion Week is the biggest on the continent and part of a growing southern hemisphere fashion scene.

That Brazil's supermodel Gisele Bundchen chose the Sao Paulo catwalk for her retirement in April didn't hurt its credibility either. SPFW, which closed Friday, featured winter 2016 collections from more than 30 designers, including local favorites such as Ronaldo Fraga, Reinaldo Lourenco, Fernanda Yamamoto, Joao Pimenta and Vitorino Campos. And as the fashionistas pack their bags, here are three takeaways:

**Rose-tinted**

Fraga, Campos and Animate seem to be wearing the same glasses: rose-tinted. Pink in different shades found its way into coats and trousers, with Animate combining a pale version with hot yellow. "I saw a lot of pink, but you have to be careful. It's a difficult color and you have to take care in how you use it so that it doesn't become childish," Brazilian fashion guru Gloria Kalil told AFP. White was also widely used, adding to the light touch.

**Winter, what winter?**

Brazilian winters are a relative concept, so this collection was never going to come fur-lined.

Instead the well-dressed Latin American is looking for airy, easily adaptable clothing to cope with those slight dips in the thermometer. "We can use these lighter and more delicate clothes with lace and perforations," Kalil said. That suits Yamamoto, who goes several times a year to Paraiba in remote northeastern Brazil to visit women making traditional lace, then adding contemporary twists. "The lace creates a different texture, it's part of the tendency toward using feathers and rope in an artisanal style," Brazilian style consultant Camila Toledo said. The southern winter will also see plenty of ankles on show, with designers favoring wide flared trousers rising several centimeters higher than standard.

**Living Metal**

There's a harder edge coming too. Flower and animal prints have gone with the summer. Stripes and geometric shapes are in, especially in black and white, with collections from Lourenco and the lodice label being typical examples. The metallic look also caught the eye this year. The always-popular silver was less in evidence, with copper on the rise, shining against a general backdrop of grey and skin-tones. Boots by Gloria Coelho had a coppery sheen, while the Lolitta collection made widespread use of combined silver and copper. "Metals are beautiful and still used a lot," Kalil said. — AFP

Models present creations by Amapo during the 2016 Winter collection of the Sao Paulo Fashion Week. — AFP photos



Model present creations by Colcci

Models present creations by Ratier



## Escada:

### An Evening in Kuwait

Dressed to impress and strutting nothing but their best - the elite of high fashion showed-up in true style to the unveiling of Escada's Fall/Winter '15 collection of timepieces and jewelry in Kuwait. The evening saw an attendance from the creme de la creme of Kuwait's fashion, media and social cliques at the Jumeirah Messilah Beach Hotel & Spa.

Elegance was in the air, classy was the flow and the collection was an act full of charming looks. Guests relished the vibe of the new collection while tucking into good food and great music at sundown. New highs of luxury and soul were expressed in every detail of the chic affair. From timepieces to jewelry - the new line of stunners were the perfect posers.

ESCADA is, and has for a very long time been a classic favorite amongst international A-listers and high profile personalities. Over the years, the German brand has evolved and

has established a strong prominence in the world of fashion. Miranda Kerr, Heidi Klum, Minnie Driver and Jessica Alba are just some the names that ESCADA has primed and primed.



## Toronto Fashion Week



Models walk the runway in the Mikael D show, part of Fashion Week in Toronto. — AP photos



Ining Dalmacio coaxes "Klondike," a Pomeranian and inspired by the movie "Zorro," during the annual dogs and cats pre-Halloween fashion show yesterday by Philippine Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) at suburban Quezon city, northeast of Manila, Philippines. The annual event is to raise awareness for the need to adopt or foster stray animals rescued by PAWS from the streets which now runs to hundreds. — AP (See more on Page 38)

## Major retrospective brings Balthus back to Rome

**B**althus is the subject of a major retrospective opening this weekend in Rome, two years after a similar exhibition in New York sparked controversy over the French painter's erotically-charged depictions of barely pubescent girls. Nearly

77 and was largely responsible for the restoration and reorganization of its home, the Villa Medici. Still one of the city's landmark buildings, the Villa is playing host to a parallel exhibition which showcases some of the artist's major works completed during his time in Rome, his impact on the building and its gardens and his working environment.

The main collection is being shown at the Scuderie del Quirinale, the former stables of the papal palace that is now the official residence of Italy's president. It features examples of work from every stage of Balthus's career, including landscapes, still lifes and portraits as well as some of the controversial erotic pieces and numerous works featuring cats, another of the artist's fixations.

Cecile Debray, the curator of the exhibition, said Balthus could virtually be considered a Roman given the importance of the time he spent here and the impact earlier trips to Italy had on him. "He was always fascinated both by the primitives of the Renaissance and by a certain form of classicism that was incarnated by Rome," Debray told AFP, describing the artist as a one-off. "He didn't belong to any movement. He was part of the generation of surrealists but never a surrealist himself and he was without doubt the greatest figurative painter of the 20th Century." "He was born in 1908, died in 2001. He lived through the entire 20th century and remained extremely faithful to an extremely realist form of painting, albeit a realism that absorbed a subtle and light form of fantasy. And I'd say it is that which makes the poetry and uniqueness of Balthus."

### Question of pedophilia

This collection is lighter on the kind of images of girls on the cusp of womanhood that led one critic to brand Balthus "one of the creepiest figures in modern art" after the New York exhibition. Debray acknowledges that painting "very young girls with a very strong erotic suggestion" was a defining theme of Balthus's work, but robustly dismisses any suggestion the work could be regarded as indicative of a predatory sexual interest in minors.

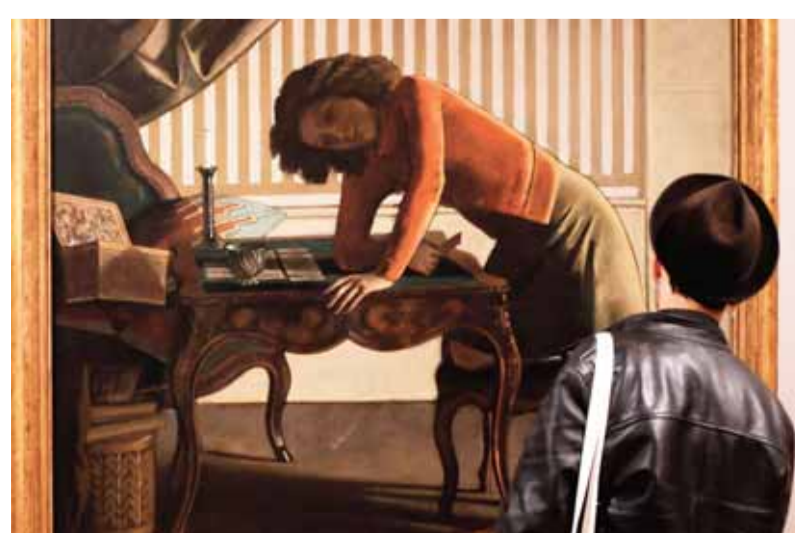
"Until now they never caused any debate but it is true that very recently we have seen some rather prudish reactions to his painting as there has been much debate around the subject of pedophilia," she said. "I think it is very important to recall that these are paintings, ie representations, and that Balthus was absolutely not a pedophile."

"It (what he is doing) is much more a reflection on the nature of eroticism, the nature of beauty and a sort of desire to engage the public on the essential subjects of eroticism and sexuality. "He wanted to shake up the art world through a very intelligent use of a realism that suggests erotic or grotesque atmospheres. It is this very individual painting that still engages the public today and can also still disturb." The exhibitions are on until the end of January after which the collection at the Scuderie will move to the Kunstforum in Vienna. — AFP



15 years after his death, the collection of some 150 of his works represents a return to a city where Balthus spent a considerable chunk of his career, and to a country that inspired a passion for figurative painting that placed him outside the major modernist art movements of the 20th Century

Balthus, born Balthazar Klossowski de Rola to a France-based Polish father and Russian mother, was director of the French Academy in Rome from 1961-



Attendees look at paintings by late French artist Balthus (1908-2001) during the exhibition dedicated to his work at the Villa Medici in Rome. — AFP photos