THE FIRST DAILY IN THE ARABIAN GULF

Alghanim to expand Wendy's brand into Saudi



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 2016

More than 700 doctors killed in Syrian war



England progress after Slovakia draw



Iran: Bahrain 'will pay price' for crackdown



Min

Max 47°

06:55 & 19:57

33°



OIL WORKERS' RIGHTS WILL NOT BE UNDERMINED, MINISTER SAYS

RAMADAN 17, 1437 AH

High Tide 02:55 & 12:12 **Low Tide**

MPS CALL FOR NEW STRATEGY FOR KUWAITI INVESTMENTS

Ramadan Kareem **SOCIAL DIMENSION** OF FASTING, RAMADAN

By Hatem Basha

ost people view Ramadan as a sublime period, where every Muslim experience sublime feelings as hearts soften and souls transcend the worldly pleasures. Another dimension that is often overlooked is the social dimension of fasting. A basic trait in all Islamic forms of worship is that they have different layers of surface and hidden meanings. We need to explore the social values that fasting can inculcate into the collective communal conscience of the Islamic society.

Ramadan aims to cause a real change for the individual as well as the society at large. The change is dual and bi-directional as the more the person changes to meet the ideals of the Ramadan, the more the society itself changes. The changes taking place on both of the two levels correspond to each other in a comprehensive process.

In practical terms, fasting helps Muslims appreciate the blessings they enjoy in their daily life. Most people who are familiar with a lavish lifestyle fail to recognize the value of what they have. Fasting is hopefully meant to teach us to appreciate the value of Allah's bounty on us and to feel the plight of those who have to do without it. People feel and taste the bite of hunger that the poor suffer for most of the year. Muslims are encouraged to take practical steps to reduce their suffering.

So, Muslims compete in calling others to Iftar (food) and feeding the poor. Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said, "Whoever feeds a fasting person will have a reward like that of the fasting person, without any reduction in his reward." In Islam, it is a must to take care of your immediate neighborhood; the prophet (PBUH) warned, "He is not a believer whose stomach is full while his neighbor is hungry."

Holding banquets, inviting people, distributing food in charity has extra virtue due to the nobility of the time.

Continued on Page 13



KUWAIT: Kuwaiti MPs take part in a parliamentary session at the National Assembly in Kuwait City yesterday. — Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat

KUWAIT: Finance Minister and Acting Oil Minister Anas Al-Saleh said yesterday the government will not undermine the rights of the workers in the oil sector who went on a three-day strike in April to demand their rights. The minister said that the oil sector proposed a number of initiatives to cut spending in light of the sharp drop in oil prices and the workers went on strike even before these initiatives were applied.

He said the Ministry is currently in talks with the workers about the initiatives but insisted that the rights of the workers will not be touched. The minister's comments came in response to remarks made by a number of MPs about the oil workers strike during the debate of the budget of Kuwait Petroleum Corp (KPC) and its companies. The Assembly also debated and approved the 2016/2017 budget of Kuwait Investment Authority (KIA).

MP Jamal Al-Omar said that the government should sit with the oil workers and settle the problem with them because failing to do so could threaten production of oil, the main source of revenues. MP Saleh Ashour questioned why no one has been held to account from the oil sector for what led to the oil sector strike. He said that no official has been questioned or held responsible for the strike. The lawmaker warned that the reoccurrence of the strike could lead to a catastrophe for the national and global economy as well.

MP Abdullah Al-Turaiji claimed that the top executives at KPC are so powerful that they succeeded in moving the former Oil Minister Ali Al-Omair to the Ministry of Public Works.

Continued on Page 13

GHABGA - A TRADITIONAL GET-TOGETHER OR BRAG?

KUWAIT: The holy month of Ramadan brings good Kuwaiti tradition. Many companies and corporate explore their views on this phenomenon, which varied time for the people to share traditional Ramadan hospitality. The annual Ramadan Ghabga is very common in Kuwait, which provides the atmosphere of joy and happiness among the community members. Ghabga, a meal served at late night, is a get-together that usually takes place from around 10:30 pm to midnight or even later and there is always food at the ghabga.

Many people replace the meal eaten in a ghabga as suhoor. It comes between Futoor (fast-breaking) and Suhoor (just before dawn) time wise. Ghabga is a

houses host Ghabga evening for the employees and invitees for socializing and getting together. It is also a great time to indulge in food.

Corporate ghabgas almost always take place in hotels, and at an earlier time that suits most of the employees. Annual Ghabga event strengthens ties among employees and reflects the true nature of the holy month. And between supporters and opponents of this phenomenon, Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) met with a number of citizens and stakeholders to

between supporters of the idea of holding the Ghabqas in hotels and theaters and opponents who insist on having it in the house.

Ahmad Youssef, a sales official at one of the fivestar hotels, said booking halls during Ramadan for ghabgas by Kuwaiti families was not a new tradition, but the most important determinants of this phenomenon is the ability of hotels to accommodate the larger number of people.

Continued on Page 13



Photo shows some of the dead sniffer dogs.

KNPC CLARIFIES REPORTS ON **EXECUTION OF SNIFFER DOGS**

By Ben Garcia, Agencies

KUWAIT: The Kuwait National Petroleum Company (KNPC) issued a statement yesterday denying any link with the reported 'execution' of sniffer dogs that were supposed to be used by the company according to deal with a local contractor. KNPC official spokesman Khaled Al-Asousi expressed regret in a statement to KUNA that the contractor put the animals to death.

His action has nothing to do with the company for the contract with him has been repealed due to the latter's failure to meet certain security standards, as stipulated by the contract, read the statement. The signed contract stipulates that a third party will examine the dogs' ability to uncover explosives at oil installations. The third party has tested the dogs after concealing explosives in some vehicles. But the dogs have failed to detect the explosives, prompting the company to end the contract.

Last week, reports on social media sug-

gested that at least 24 dogs had been euthanatized due to the cancellation of a contract and unpaid salaries. Unconfirmed sources said that the animals were sick and had been put to death for humane reasons. But local animal rescuer and activist, Mimi Mamoun has disputed this account. "The dogs were not sick, only two, three I heard; in fact my Filipino friend who handles the dogs told me that the dogs were healthy and only a few of them were old but they killed them to punish the handlers who had filed complaints at the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor (shoun) for nonpayment of salaries," she said.

Another source who spoke to Kuwait Times on condition of anonymity, said the killings were probably connected to the brewing pressure from the KNPC since they were informed that they have not complied with the provisions signed between the KNPC and the contracting company. A local lawyer has filed a criminal complaint asking for an investigation into the deaths of the animals and oversight for the remaining 90 dogs still in the company's care.

BOMB KILLS 6 JORDANIAN TROOPS

KUWAIT DENOUNCES ATTACK; AMIR SENDS CABLE OF CONDOLENCE

AMMAN: Six Jordanian border guards were killed by a car bomb in a remote area of the frontier with Syria yesterday during an attack launched from Syrian territory, security officials said. The explosives-laden vehicle blew up a few hundred meters from a camp for Syrian refugees in a desolate eastern area of Jordan where the borders of Iraq, Syria and Jordan meet, a Jordanian army state-

The southeastern desert area is close to where Islamic State militants are known to operate, according to a security source who requested anonymity. The source said the attack appeared to be a well planned military operation in which several suicide bombers were involved. No group has claimed responsibility. The army said a number of other vehicles used in the attack were destroyed and that 14 other people were wounded in the attack at around 5.30 am.

It was the first attack of its kind targeting Jordan from Syria since Syria's descent into conflict in 2011 and followed an attack on June 6 on a security office near the Jordanian capital Amman in which five people, including three Jordanian intelligence officers, were killed. The incidents have jolted the Arab kingdom, which has been relatively unscathed by the instability that has swept the Arab world since 2011, including the expansion of Islamic State in Syria

Meanwhile, His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent a cable of condolences yesterday to King of Jordan Abdullah II on victims of the terrorist attack that targeted a military zone in the Syrian border of Al-Raqbaan, which serves Syrian refugees. In the cable, His Highness the Amir stressed Kuwait's condemnation of Continued on Page 13



A handout picture released by the Jordanian Royal Palace yesterday shows Jordan's King Abdullah II (3rd right) and his Chief of Staff, General Meshaal Al-Zaban (2nd left) breaking the fast with Jordanian army soldiers during the holy month of Ramadan at an undisclosed location in Jordan. — AFP

EGYPT COURT QUASHES SAUDI ISLAND PACT

CAIRO: An Egyptian court yesterday rejected as illegal a marine demarcation border agreement between Egypt and Saudi Arabia under which Cairo would surrender control over two strategic Red Sea islands to Riyadh. The verdict by the Administrative Court inflicts a serious foreign policy setback to President Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi's government which, together with loyal media, has zealously argued that the agreement would bring economic benefits for Egypt and that the islands are owned by Saudi Arabia, which merely placed them under Egyptian control in 1950 for protection.

The verdict by the Administrative Court, which rules on cases in which the government is involved, can be appealed. There was no immediate comment from the Saudi or Egyptian governments on the court ruling. Egypt's parliament, which is packed by government supporters, has yet to endorse the agreement. In a brief verdict met with an eruption of applause and chants, Judge Yahya Dakroury ruled that the two islands at the mouth of the Gulf of Aqaba remain under Egyptian sovereignty and banned "any changes on the two islands

for the benefit of any foreign country." The uninhabited islands of Tiran and Sanafir control narrow shipping lanes leading north to the port cities of Eilat and Agaba in Israel and Jordan respectively. The closure of those lanes in 1967 by then Egyptian President Gamal Abdel-Nasser is chiefly blamed for the outbreak of the June 1967 Arab-Israeli war in which Egypt lost the Sinai Peninsula. It was returned to Egypt, together with the two islands, under its landmark 1979 peace

treaty with Israel. The Egyptian-Saudi demarcation agreement was announced in April during a high-profile visit to Cairo by the Saudi monarch, King Salman.

Continued on Page 13



KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with Iragi parliament Central Bank of Kuwait (CBK) Dr Mohammad Yousef Al-Hashel member Dr Ibrahim Mohammad Bahr Al-Uloum and his delegation. — Amiri Diwan and KUNA photos



hands over the 44th annual Report of the CBK for the fiscal year 2015-2016 to His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah.



His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah receives the 44th annual report from Governor of the Central Bank of Kuwait (CBK) Dr **Mohammad Yousef Al-Hashel.**

AMIR HOSTS IRAQI MP BAHR AL-ULOOM

KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Sheikh Mubarak Sabah Al-Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah and Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received vesterday at Seif Palace Iragi parliament member Dr Ibrahim Mohammad Bahr Al-Uloum on the occasion of his visit to the country. The meeting was attended by Deputy Minister of Amiri Diwan Affairs Sheikh Ali Jarrah Al-Sabah. Later, His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received Bahr Al-Uloum and his delegation.

His highness the Crown Prince welcomed Bahr Al-Uloum and wished the Arab and Islamic nation to unify their efforts to keep up with changes. He also wished the brotherly people in Iraq more progress, prosperity, security and stability. Head of Protocols at the Crown Prince's Diwan

the Iraqi Ambassador to Kuwait present at the meeting.

Meanwhile, Bahr Al-Uloum met with National Assembly Speaker Marzoug Al-Ghanem in attendance of Iragi Ambassador to Kuwait Mohammed Hussein Bahr Al-Ulum, as well as His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, in presence of First Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah.

CBK Governor

In the meantime, His Highness the Amir received Governor of the Central Bank of Kuwait (CBK) Dr

Mohammad Yousef Al-Hashel. During the meeting, Hashel presented to His Highness the Amir the 44th annual Report of the CBK for the fiscal year (FY) 2015-2016. Hashel later presented the same report to His Highness the Crown Prince.

University Professor

Also yesterday, His Highness the Crown Prince received the visiting former president of Al-Azhar University Professor Ahmad Omar Hashim. His highness the Crown Prince welcomed Hashim, a member of Al-Azhar Council of Senior Scholars, and wished the Arab and Islamic nation to unify their efforts to keep up with changes. His Highness the Crown Prince also praised Hashim's role in the religious domain, wishing the brotherly people in Egypt more progress, prosperity, security and stability. Minister of Information and Minister of State for Youth

Affairs Sheikh Salman Sabah Al-Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah has earlier Dr Hashim late on Monday. He said in a statement that the two sides discussed during the meeting the Al-Azhar authority role with respect of promoting moderation of Islam, fighting deviating thoughts and renouncing extremism. Minister Sheikh Salman affirmed the continuous cooperation between the ministry with Al-Azhar and scholars' authority for producing audio-visual religious programs. —KUNA

ALGHANIM INDUSTRIES UNVEILS PLANS FOR Wendy's expansion into Saudi Arabia

AS PART OF AGREEMENT TO GROW WENDY'S BRAND IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Kuwait/KSA/UAE: Alghanim Industries, one of the largest private companies in the region, announced yesterday plans to expand the Wendy's(r) brand into the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, with the opening the first restaurant scheduled in spring 2017.

Alghanim Industries acquired the rights to develop Wendy's restaurants across the Middle East North Africa (MENA) region in 2015. Since that time, Wendy's in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) has undergone major strategic shifts, resulting in improved operations, customer service and product offerings, with plans to launch flagship restaurants soon.

The announcement follows the opening in BurJuman mall last week of Alghanim Industries' 17th Wendy's restaurant. Commenting on the expansion in KSA, Chief Executive Officer of Alghanim Industries, Omar Kutayba Alghanim, said: "We are honored to team with Wendy's to expand this global franchise into the provinces of Saudi Arabia, and we look forward to opening the first restaurant in the spring of 2017. This is an important move for Wendy's, one of the most recognized and





Alghanim Industries CEO Omar Kutayba Alghanim

respected brands in the world. It is also a watershed moment for Alghanim Industries, which was founded more than a century ago on a simple but enduring notion: quality matters. With this move, MENA and Saudi Arabia."

Executive Vice President, Chief Operations Officer and International, The Wendy's Company, Bob Wright said: "We value our relationship with the Alghanim industries' team, whose leadership and experience with leading consumer-focused brands is a tremendous asset. We look forward to our continued partnership as we work closely together to enhance our customers' total restaurant experience, grow Wendy's brand presence and bring new jobs and opportunities to the region."

As one of the largest companies in the region, Alghanim Industries continues to expand its businesses into KSA, one of the fastest growing and most dynamic markets in the GCC. In 2015, the com-



Executive Vice President, Chief Operations Officer and International, the Wendy's Company, Bob Wright.

pany opened two X-cite stores in Riyadh, and will soon launch a new stone wool factory in Yanbu. Wendy's will be the latest addition to the company's portfolio of businesses in the Kingdom.

On the customer experience and products, VP of Food and Beverage at Alghanim Industries, Phil Broad said: "We look forward to serving Wendy's great-tasting, high quality food to our customers in KSA. In keeping with Wendy's tradition, menu items will be made to order, using the freshest of ingredients; service teams will be trained to the highest international standards, as befits our customers."

AL-HAMRA TOWER LIT FOR WORLD REFUGEE DAY

KUWAIT: On June 20, World Refugee Day, Al-Hamra Tower was lit blue to show solidarity with World Refugee Day, an international annual event that commemorates the strength, courage, and resilience of millions of refugees worldwide.

World Refugee Day was first marked in 2001. On this day every year, tens of thousands of people around the world take time to recognize and applaud the contribution of those forced to flee. The annual commemoration is marked by a variety of events in over 100 countries and involves government officials, aid workers, celebrities, civilians, and the forcibly displaced themselves.

Kuwait: International Humanitarian Center

As Kuwait was designated by the United Nations as the International Humanitarian Center, it is taking the initiative and celebrating such an important event by raising awareness and organizing several events. One of these events is lighting Al-Hamra Tower, since it is considered to be one of the most important landmarks in Kuwait.

Blue was chosen to light the tower as an international symbol of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the UN organization that oversees refugees around the world. The UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi, said in his statement on World Refugee Day that, "Today the number, complexity and protracted nature of today's conflicts mean that forced displacement has now reached a level unprecedented since the founding of the UN itself; substantially over 60 million people are now uprooted around the world."

Grandi continued, "An historic United Nations General Assembly highlevel meeting on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants on the 19th of September will put us all to the test. ... UNHCR stands together #WithRefugees, on World Refugee Day and every day - and on 19 September we want the world to stand with us. By doing so we can send a message to world leaders they must act."

More than 65 million people forcibly displaced

UNHCR's annual Global Trends report, which tracks forced displacement worldwide based on data from governments, partners including the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, and the organization's own reporting, said 65.3 million people were displaced as of the end of 2015, compared to 59.5 million just twelve months earlier. This is the first time that the threshold of 60 million has been crossed.

Measured against the earth's 7.349 billion population these numbers mean that 1 in every 113 people globally is now either an asylum-seeker, internally displaced or a refugee - a level of risk for which UNHCR knows no precedent. In all, there are more forcibly displaced people today than the populations of the United Kingdom, France or Italy. Among countries covered by the Global Trends report several stand out: Syria at 4.9 million, Afghanistan at 2.7 million and Somalia at 1.1 million together accounted for more than half the refugees under UNHCR's mandate worldwide.

Danger to children

Children constituted 51 per cent of the world's refugees in 2015 according to the data UNHCR was able to gather (complete demographic data was not available to the report authors). Worryingly, many were separated from their parents or travelling alone. In all there were 98,400 asylum requests from children who were unaccompanied or separated from their families. This is the highest total UNHCR has seen - and a tragic reflection of how global forced displacement is disproportionately affecting young lives. Syria's war remained the world's leading cause of displacement and associated suffering. By the end of 2015 it had driven at least 4.9 million people into exile as refugees and displaced 6.6 million internally amounting to around half Syria's prewar population. Irag's conflict had by year's end displaced 4.4 million people internally and created more than a quarter of a million refugees. — UNHCR

'INNOVATE FOR REFUGEES': MIT PAN ARAB LAUNCHES COMPETITION TO FIND PIONEERING SOLUTIONS TO ADDRESS REFUGEE CHALLENGES

DUBAI: As the world faces the worst refugee crisis in recent history, the MIT Enterprise Forum Pan Arab (MITEF Pan Arab) is on a mission to seek disruptive and scalable long-term solutions by harnessing the power of technology. In partnership with Zain Group, a leading mobile telecom innovator across the Middle East and Africa, and MBC Hope, the Corporate Social Responsibility arm of MBC, and supported by the United Nations High Commissioner For Refugees (UNHCR) and Jusoor, MITEF Pan Arab launched today on World Refugee Day, the 'Innovate for Refugees' global competition. The aim of the competition is to find and reward tech-driven cutting-edge solutions that address the most acute challenges faced by refugees.

Known for empowering entrepreneurs to develop future-looking solutions to community challenges, MITEF Pan Arab is opening up the 'Innovate for Refugees' competition to participants from around the world and is determined to engage and reach out to entrepreneurs, amongst them refugees. Participants can apply online on mitarabcompetition.com from June 20 through September 1. Four prizes of \$20,000 each will be awarded to the most innovative solutions that effectively tackle challenges faced by refugees.

Of the four prizes, two are offered by the main sponsors Zain and MBC Hope and are open to solutions across categories including healthcare, energy, food, shelter and security. The third is marked for an educational solution and offered by Jusoor, an NGO established by Syrian expatriates supporting the country's development. The fourth prize will be crowd funded and awarded to a solution brought forward by a refugee. The MIT Enterprise Forum Pan Arab Innovate for Refugees crowdfunding campaign launches on the Generosity by Indiegogo platform today.

Hala Fadel, Founder and Chair of the MITEF Pan Arab, commented, "The combination of three factors make me hopeful about this competition: smartphone penetration among refugees is very high and so is Internet penetration; second, you find refugees with a very high level of education especially in science and technology, finally, the refugee population is very young. Technology,



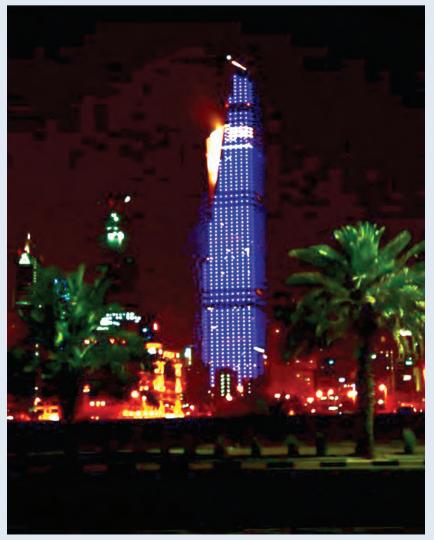
education and youth work well together and will help us unleash solutions for refugees by entrepreneurs worldwide and also from within the refugee community."

Scott Gegenheimer, CEO of Zain Group said, "We feel privileged to work with MITEF Pan Arab, MBC Hope and the UNHCR in this very relevant initiative, which strikes a deep chord with Zain. The overwhelming majority of refugees are proud, progressive and dignified people who find themselves in terrible circumstances that are beyond their control. Through efforts such as the 'Innovate for Refugee' competition, we hope to restore a measure of pride and purpose to many stricken people, and improve their overall living circumstances."

According to Mohammed Abu Asaker, UNHCR's Spokesperson: "Over the past five years the rate of displacement has escalated drastically, with the forcibly displaced exceeding 65 million for the first time. The MENA region is the largest producer and host of refugees in the world, while Syria's war remained the world's leading cause of displacement and associated suffering." Abu Asaker added: "the size, scale and protracted nature of the refugee crisis shows how traditional approaches are no longer sufficient to address the challenges faced by refugees. It is imperative to pursue innovative solutions that enable them to live a dignified life."

The MITEF Pan Arab has also partnered with several institutions that are assisting refugees in various ways and will be leveraging its networks to raise awareness about the competition amongst refugees. These partners include the Karam Foundation, an NGO focused on building a better future for Syria, and Techfugees, an institution that works on developing tech projects for refugees.

For the judging and winner selection process, MITEF Pan Arab is tapping into its network of over 60 senior business professionals with an understanding of technology and the refugee crisis to assess the submissions of the applicants and evaluate their projects. A final award ceremony to announce the winners will be held on October 3, 2016. To learn more on the competition's terms and conditions, interested applicants are advised to visit: mitarabcompetition.com.



KUWAIT: Kuwait Authority for Partnership Projects (KAPP) said that it has received proposals from prequalified companies and consortiums for Az-Zour North phase 2 power generation and water desalination project. The consortia which have been qualified to participate in the Request for Proposals phase of the tender are: International Company For Water and Power Projects/ Al-Mulla Group Holding Company/ Mitsui Company Consortium, Marubeni Corporation/ Fouad Al-Ghanim Sons Group of Companies Consortium, Sumitomo Corporation/ OSAKA Gas Company / National Industries Group Holding Consortium, the KAPP said in a statement.

The Project will be the second phase of the Az-Zour North power generation and water production complex that shall involve design, build, finance, operate and transfer a minimum capacities of 1800 MW and 102 MIGD by the private sector and in accordance with the Law 39/2010, its amendments and Law No. 116/2014 (PPP Law), it added.

The Project which plays a vital role in providing and supplying needs of water and electricity to the country, will also connect to the Shared Facilities (common water outfall system, common product water header, etc. Az-Zour 2 also includes the expansion of the main transfer station in order to connect between the project and electricity network facilities as these facilities will be transferred to The Ministry of Water and Electricity after being fully tested and operated, it noted.

Furthermore, the Project aims to accomplish its strategic objectives that include further introduced private-sector practices and capital to sectors traditionally under the control of the public sector and to reduce overall costs to the State of Kuwait for provision of power generation and water production.

Az-Zour phase 2 project also tends to improve the reliability of power generation and water production capacities; and to introduce competition to the electricity and water sectors and promote efficiencies, according to the statement. — KUNA



HUMAN RIGHTS SOCIETY APPEALS FOR HELP OVER HQ EVICTION

KUWAIT: The Kuwait Society for Human Rights (KSHR) has criticized a government decision to evict it from its premises in Shuwaikh. The nongovernment organization has until July 1 to move its headquarters. KSHR noted in a press release that the forced eviction would 'undermine its efforts in protecting human rights, especially at a time when the entire world is talking about Kuwait as a center for humanity.'

The organization added that at a time when Kuwait was giving aid to various countries around the world, the government opts to evict the watchdog without even providing an alternative headquarters. "The government fully realizes that, unlike some other societies in Kuwait, KSHR does not get any funding from the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor," the statement highlighted.

The statement was concluded by an appeal to His Highness the Amir to interfere and reverse the eviction decision or have the concerned relevant authorities provide an alternative premises to be used as a headquarters.

The human rights group is one of several nongovernment organizations located in Shuwaikh that have been evicted by the government without alternatives. The . Kuwait Journalists Association, Kuwait Association for Accountants and Auditors, Kuwait Environment Protection Society, Kuwait Economic Society, Kuwait Society for Traffic Safety, Kuwait Association for the Employees of the Ministry of Communication, Popular Theatre, Kuwait House for National Works Museum and the Charity Society must all evacuate their current premises no later than July 1.

HAWALLY MALL MURDERER SENTENCED TO LIFE IN PRISON

By Meshaal Al-Enezi

KUWAIT: The criminal court yesterday sentenced a citizen to life imprisonment over charges of murdering an Egyptian man by deliberately running him over during a fight. The incident took place last October at the Rihab Mall in Hawally, where the main suspect reportedly ran over the victim several times with his car following a fight that started at a video games' shop inside the building. In another case, the court of cassation yesterday set a hearing for July 18 to hear a case filed against Sheikh Ahmed Al-Fahd Al-Sabah over slandering the judiciary.

Noon work ban The Manpower Public Authority's pub-

lic relations and media manager and official spokesperson Aseel Al-Mezyad said that in implementation of the authority decision to ban working in the open from 11:00 am till 4:00 pm from June 1 to Aug 31, labor inspectors have inspected over 149 worksites that included 159 workers. Mazyad added that in case of any violation, the contractor will be fined KD 100-200 per worker.

Mosque fire A fire broke out yesterday at a mosque in Subhan, said security sources, noting that firemen from Subhan and Mubarak Al-Kabeer rushed to the scene and managed to control the fire without reporting

any casualties.

AZ-ZOUR NORTH ONE POWER AND WATER PLANT COMMISSIONS ITS FINAL GENERATOR

KUWAIT: The construction teams of Shamal Az-Zour Al-Oula KSC, Hyundai Heavy Industries (HHI) and Societe Internationale De Dessalement (SIDEM) yesterday commissioned the final power generation unit for Kuwait's first independently owned power and water facility, Az-Zour North One (Phase I of the country's IWPP project).

Construction of the \$1.7 billion facility has progressed swiftly since that start in January 2014. The facility generated the first megawatt of power in May 2015 and within 18 months, its power capacity had reached 40 percent of its total 1,539.2 MW. In June 2015, just 78 weeks after construction started, the first gas turbine began early commercial operation. Since then, work has continued at a relentless pace, with the project expected to start full commercial operation by the end of November 2016 as previously

Shamal Az-Zour CEO Andy Biffen said: "Team members from all companies involved in the project are very proud of their achievements. While this is a very modern and complicated facility, the project has progressed without delays, overspend or technical difficulties, reflecting the skills, efficient organization and expertise of all those involved." When fully operational, the project will represent 10 percent of Kuwait Power peak capacity (1,539MW) and 20 percent of water generation (107 million gallons per days). The project will be fueled from a blend of local gas and imported LNG. The combined facility of power and water generation represents Kuwait's cleanest and most efficient source of electricity.

Project highlights

- The power plant will produce 1,539.2 MW in net contracted power capacity once completed in the fourth quarter of 2016.

- The power plant is operated by a combined cycle gas turbine: natural gas as main fuel and gas oil as backup fuel.

- The power plant comprises five (5) General Electric GTG 9F-3 turbines generating 225.8 MW each and two (2) General Electric STG D1 turbines generating 251 MW each

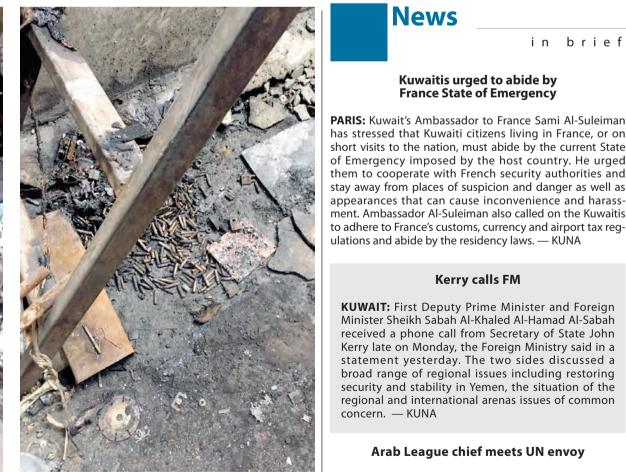
- The water desalination plant will comprise a multiple-effect distillation (MED) unit capable of producing 107 million imperial gallons per day (MIGD) (the equivalent of 486,400 m3/d) of desalinated water. The water desalination plant's output will represent 20 percent of Kuwait's installed water treatment capacity.

- The water plant will use MED technology through 10 SIDEM MED units, each generating 10.84 MIGD.

Shamal Az-Zour Al-Oula is 40 percent owned by a private consortium comprising ENGIE (formerly GDF SUEZ), Sumitomo Corporation, and A H Al-Sagar and Brothers. The remaining 60 percent, owned by the Government of Kuwait, through the Kuwait Investment Authority (KIA: 5 percent), the Public Institution for Social Security (PIFSS: 5 percent) and Kuwait Authority for Partnership Projects (KAPP: 50 percent). The Government of Kuwait is mandated to sell 50 percent of the total ownership through an Initial Public Offering (IPO) to Kuwaiti citizens after construction is completed. The government will retain 10 percent stake following the IPO.







MOI REFUTES 'FABRICATED' NEWS OVER JLEEB WEAPONS WAREHOUSE

KUWAIT: The Interior Ministry denied yesterday as "baseless" rumors circulated by a number of social media outlets about a weapons warehouse in Jleeb Al-Shuyoukh area.

The Security Media Department of the Ministry of Interior said in a press statement that what was found following a fire that broke out in a house was just a metal box containing 250 empty M-16 gun shots which belonged to a Bangladeshi expatriate selling scrap iron, ore and copper.

The statement said that the pictures which were enclosed with the report in social media sites pertained an old report announced by the Ministry, a matter that is fraudulent and a distortion of the truth and away from publication credibility.

The Security Media Department affirmed that its doors are wide open for those seeking to inquire about any security news, urging all to elicit news from official and documented sources in order to avoid causing confusion and rumors. It said that the Interior Ministry reserves its legal right to sue the publisher for this "fabricated" news. — KUNA



News

in brief

Kuwaitis urged to abide by France State of Emergency

has stressed that Kuwaiti citizens living in France, or on short visits to the nation, must abide by the current State of Emergency imposed by the host country. He urged them to cooperate with French security authorities and stay away from places of suspicion and danger as well as appearances that can cause inconvenience and harassment. Ambassador Al-Suleiman also called on the Kuwaitis to adhere to France's customs, currency and airport tax regulations and abide by the residency laws. — KUNA

Kerry calls FM

KUWAIT: First Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah received a phone call from Secretary of State John Kerry late on Monday, the Foreign Ministry said in a statement yesterday. The two sides discussed a broad range of regional issues including restoring security and stability in Yemen, the situation of the regional and international arenas issues of common concern. — KUNA

Arab League chief meets UN envoy

KUWAIT: Arab League Secretary General Nabil Al-Araby met Monday with UN Special Envoy for Yemen Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmad, on sidelines of Kuwait-hosted Yemen talks. Ould Cheikh Ahmad briefed Al-Araby on progress of talks among the Yemeni parties and challenges facing them, with the objective of reaching a peaceful resolution for the conflict in Yemen in line with the international resolutions. — KUNA

EPA CAUTIONS SEA GOERS OVER JELLYFISH DANGERS

KUWAIT: The Environment Public Authority (EPA) has cautioned citizens and expatriates to avoid going to the sea, particularly the southern coastal side, due to recent sighting of jellyfish, whose stings are extremely painful. This announcement is part of EPA's keenness on safety of all sea goers to avoid any injury amid increasing number of jellyfish in Arabian Gulf waters recently, EPA said in a press statement Monday. — KUNA

Crimes

report



KUWAIT: Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Sheikh Mohammad Al-Khaled Al-Sabah visits Lt Col Suleiman Khaled Al-Humaidan at the military hospital.

Interior Minister visits hospitalized officer

By Hanan Al-Saadoun

KUWAIT: Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Sheikh Mohammad Al-Khaled Al-Sabah visited the military hospital to check on the health condition of the head of Kuwait International Airport's security department Lt Col Suleiman Khaled Al-Humaidan, who had fainted during a live TV coverage about the situation at the airport due to fatigue.

Brothel raided

Vice police raided a brothel in Rabiya where they arrested two women - an Ethiopian and a Sri Lankan - in addition to one Egyptian male customer. The two women had been practicing prostitution in return for money. The three were referred to relevant authorities.

Beggars arrested

Following security forces' efforts in tracking down beggars, the detectives arrested an Indian man named Abdul Mateen Abdul Jabbar while begging. In addition, Farwaniya detectives arrested a 47-year-old Indian woman while begging. The woman was found to be sponsored by a citizen named Majed Abdullah.

Bus accident

A 26-year-old Indian broke his right shoulder and arm, a 30year-old Filipino sustained a head injury and double fractures to the right arm and foot, another 30-year-old Filipino sustained a head injury, and a 34-year-old Indian sustained bruises to his right arm when a bus they were in flipped over along Subbiya highway, said security sources, noting that two of the injured had to be rushed to hospital by medevac.

Municipality campaigns

Kuwait Municipality inspection teams inspected a number of stores, restaurants and cafes in Salmiya. The campaign resulted in closing down 15 cafes for violating bylaws. Meanwhile, a team entrusted with removing violations on government property removed 65 different barriers unlawfully put up on public property in the Capital and Mubarak Al-Kabeer governorates.









IBRAHIM AL-MAILEM HOSTS IFTAR

KUWAIT: Ibrahim Yousuf Abdul-Hadi Al-Mailem hosted an iftar at the 'Diwan Al-Mailem' in Adailiya recently, which was attended by diplomats and other dignitaries. — Photos by Joseph Shagra















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Ramadan Kareem

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Young Voices

'I CAN SPEND MORE TIME WITH MY FAMILY IN RAMADAN'

early a quarter of Kuwait's entire population is under the age of 14 and yet with the exception of school assemblies, we never hear their voices. During Ramadan, Kuwait Times likes to publish a special series that engages with its readership in a more direct, personal way to learn their concerns, issues and viewpoints. This Ramadan, we will chat with some of our youngest readers about their lives in Kuwait, in an attempt to see the world through their eyes. What do they see for the future of our beautiful country? What would they improve and how would they change it? By listening to their future plans, stories, and experience in Ramadan, we can

remind ourselves and hopefully our readers of the ties that bind us all together as a species. These are the voice of

Sara is 10 years old and studies at Hayat Universal Bilingual School.

Kuwait's future and we invite them to share their thoughts with us here.

Kuwait Times: What do you like most about growing up in Kuwait?

Sara: I like growing up in Kuwait because most of my family lives in Kuwait and it is my country. When I travel, I really miss Kuwait and realize how much I appreciate living there.

KT: What would you improve about life in Kuwait? Sara: I want more shade in the parks so we could spend

more time outside, because in winter it is too cold and summer is too hot, but if there is shade, it would not be so

KT: What do you like about Ramadan?

Sara: I like Ramadan because I can spend more time with my family, and we have more time to do things because we are fasting.

KT: How do you spend your free time?

Sara: I like spending time with my cousins, and I also like doing crafts and cooking.

KT: What is something you are looking forward during the summer break?

Sara: I am looking forward to visiting my grandparents in America this summer break.

KT: What do you want to do in the future?

Sara: I would like to study reptiles because I love them. I already have three tortoises, and am hoping to get a snake.

KT: What is your favorite hobby, talent, dream, etc?

Sara: My favorite hobby is to spend time with my tortoises and read. My talents are dodge ball, computer work and math. My dream is to go to the Galapagos Islands because they have a lot of interesting animals.















MINISTER YAQQUB AL-SANE VISITS THE PROMENADE

LARGEST COMMERCIAL CHARITY VENTURE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

KUWAIT: On the occasion of the holy month of Ramadan, the month of goodwill, and in an atmosphere filled with affinity and amity, His Excellency Yaqoub Abdul Mohsen Al-Sane, Minister of Justice and Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs, made an inspection visit to the Promenade, a project launched by the charity of late Abdullah Abdullatif Al Othman. The visit was marked with a wonderful Ramadan spirit, hosted by the Al Othman family, accompanied by Barrak Al-Sheetan, Director General of the Public Authority for the Palace's Affairs, in the presence of Nouri Abdullah Al Othman, dean of Al Othman family, Engineer Adnan Abdullah Al Othman, and many distinguished quests.

The Promenade is a pioneering project in the State of Kuwait. It is the largest in the Middle East as a charity, whose revenues are employed in charitable projects inside and outside Kuwait. The charity of the late Abdullah Abdullatif Al-Othman is focused

on integrated charity projects such as building mosques, orphanages, and schools, as well as feeding fasters in Kuwait, which are implemented in several other countries. The Promenade is a major supporter of such integrated projects.

Cultural exhibition

On the sidelines of the visit, Minister Sane attended the closing of the Promenade Cultural Center exhibition titled 'Our Story: Our Cultural Identity.' During this wonderful Ramadan gathering, the guests had the opportunity to exchange greetings on the advent of the holy month of Ramadan, amid the generous hospitality of Al-Othman family.

On this occasion, Minister Sane said: "content over this large charitable edifice in the State of Kuwait, which is dedicated to charitable work, serves as a successful model for the development of endowments and charities, and supports the needy and

humanitarian work everywhere."

Sane said: "The idea of the Promenade Cultural Center will have considerable resonance and is very timely. The center is involved in holding purposeful activities, embracing young Kuwaiti potentials and talents, creating an environment conducive to the emergence of young talents, and serving the Kuwaiti community through the latest methods, as well as holding various seminars, lectures, and events".

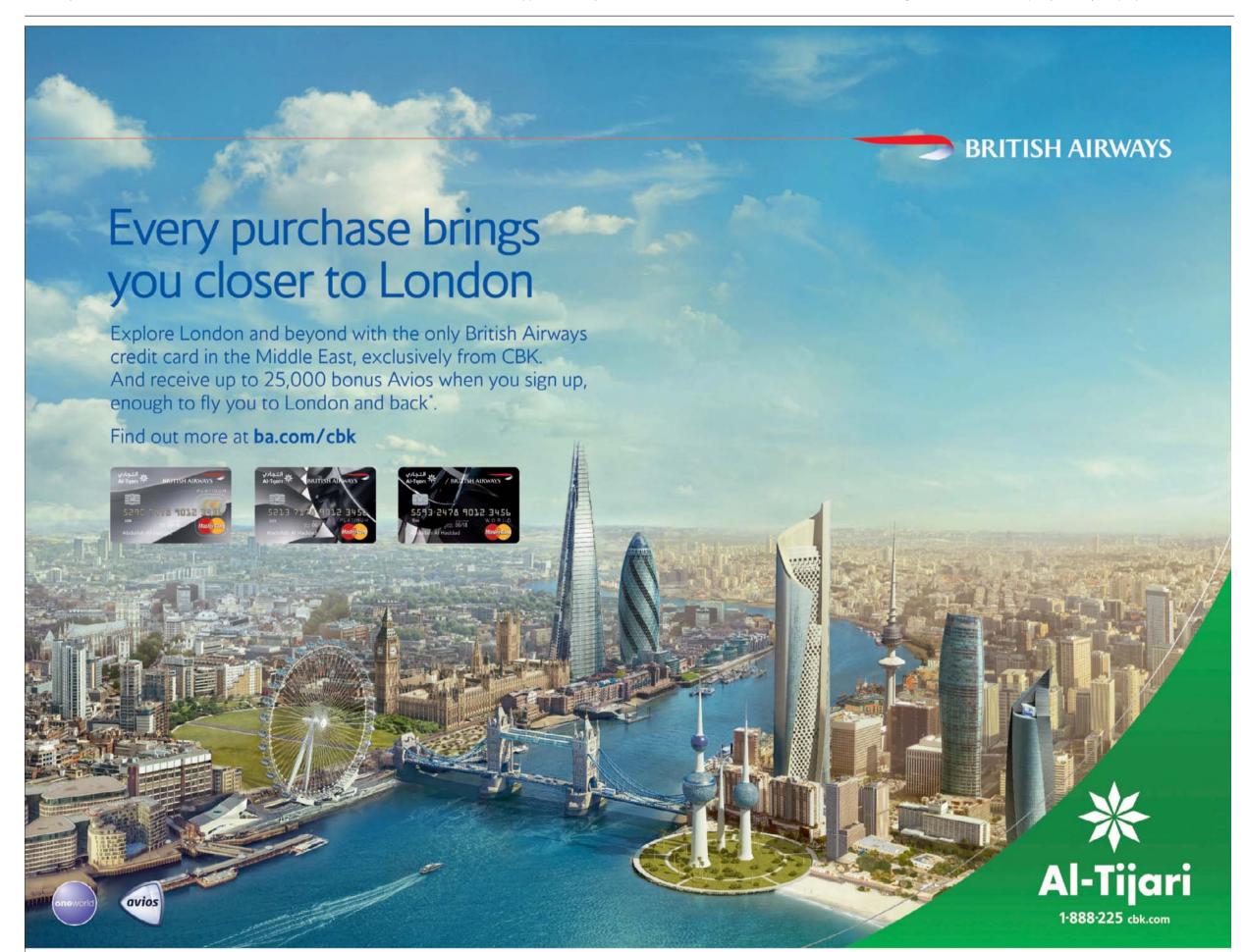
Unique project

Barrak Al-Sheetan expressed his pleasure to take a tour in the Promenade, which is rightly considered a unique project in terms of design and objective, as it combines philanthropic work and business, and whose revenues are employed in charity work in Kuwait and abroad. He expressed hope that the project would serve as a model in the Arab and Muslim world. Commenting on

the visit, Engineer Adnan Al-Othman expressed his delight over the visit of Minister Sane to the Promenade and Promenade Cultural Center, hailing the minister's continuous encouragement of such unique and beneficial projects. Othman stressed that this project is the beginning of the launch of larger development projects in service of Kuwaiti society and charity work.

It is noteworthy that Promenade Cultural Center is a multipurpose project that aims to encourage and support talents through hosting different cultural, artistic, and purposeful activities, such as exhibitions, lectures, and workshops, which act as a new dimension of the philosophy of the Al Othman family charity work.

The center, located within the Promenade, has a 400-square meter area, and includes a central multi-purpose area, three separate units for workshops, and a reception area, with an overall accommodation capacity of nearly 400 people.



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Report

KUWAIT TO CONTACT Interpol to Arrest Dashti

KUWAIT: Security sources said Kuwait Interpol is preparing to send a warrant to international and Arab Interpol to place the name of MP Abdulhameed Dashti, who is wanted in Kuwait over several cases, on the 'red notice' during the coming days. Sources said Kuwait Interpol will send its warrant to the public prosecution for approval, so it can be sent to Interpol as well as its Arab counterpart.

Policeman charged with theft

A policeman on duty threatened owners of violating shops in Jleeb Al-Shuyoukh and stole KD 350 and 20 mobile phones from various stores. A security source said the suspect's colleagues learned about his illegal activity, and when the information was confirmed, he was placed under surveillance until his arrest. The suspect denied the charges, then on facing evidence, he collapsed and confessed to his actions. He was sent to concerned authorities.

Drug dealer arrested

A fight between citizens in Adan exposed a heroin dealer who works as an engineer in an oil company. He was found in an abnormal condition with a 30 envelopes of heroin. Police received a call about a fight between citizens in Adan. Police and ambulances went to the site and broke up the fight, and found that the person who started the fight was under the influence of drugs. He was sent to concerned authorities.

Thieves caught

Detectives arrested four citizens for attempting to steal construction material from a land in Ishbelia after threatening its owner, a citizen in his 50s with a knife. The citizen went to Rabiya police station and told them about four people stealing construction material, and when they saw him, they attempted to escape, but he caught one of them. But one of his accomplices came back with a knife, so he had to release him. The victim gave police the license plate number of the suspects' car and detectives arrested the vehicle's owner, who told about the others. Police arrested them and they confessed to the charges.

Bad blood

An Egyptian woman took revenge on her Kuwaiti friend by spraying her car with paint. A security source said that the citizen told Farwaniya police that she was surprised by her white car defaced with spray paint. She said this was done by her Egyptian friend out of jealousy, in addition to a recent dispute. Police are investigating.

Smuggling foiled

Kuwait International Airport customs officers arrested two Ethiopian women for attempting to smuggle six kilograms of qat in coffee bags. Both were sent to the Drugs Control General Department.

Armed man detained

A citizen, 33, was arrested by criminal detectives for bullying and having an unlicensed firearm. Police received a call from a Pakistani barber telling them that one of his clients carries a firearm and pulls it on pedestrians. Police went to the shop and seized the weapon.

Rape complaint

A Filipina woman, 31, told Adan police that she was raped by an unidentified man. She said that her sponsor who works for the interior ministry handed her to the suspect. The source said the sponsor was summoned, and he told police that he wanted to get rid of the Filipina, and because he had paid a lot of money to hire her, he wanted something in return. So he put an ad on social media, and a man called him and offered to 'buy' her after a two-day trial. When the victim was asked about the area where she was raped, she said it was a dark place. Detectives are looking for the suspect. —Al-Rai



KUWAIT: The Commercial Bank of Kuwait visited cancer patients at the Palliative Care Center as part of its ongoing activities to celebrate 'girgian' with patients during Ramadan.



المناس

Al-Qabas

Editorial

LESSON TO THE GOVERNMENT

e may have to thank the Americans for sounding the warning bell and telling us our airport is not suitable and does not meet standards. Was it really necessary to wait for the children of Uncle Sam to realize that the country's frontier must not reach this level of performance? Was it a must that the Americans and Europeans stick their fingers in our eyes to see how much we are in need of remedies to prevent the collapse of an important and public facility like the airport?

What happened, happened, and we thank all that the many loopholes, through which wanted persons, forgers and those banned from travel slipped, did not lead to catastrophes. But we say today that the weakness is because of the administration, and if the airport, which is the face of the country, suffers a lot at the security and ease of travel levels, then how is the case with the rest of the facilities and departments? How efficient is their performance and the volume of their productivity, or are they going along on their own, and the Lord is protecting them?

It would have been better for the Interior Ministry if it wrote its statement with more humbleness, instead of denying the overcrowding and accusing the media of spreading rumors. It was better if we spoke frankly with people about the actual problems that are clear to everyone, then explain the plan for remedy. But to say that the change of shifts is the cause of the crowding, and the arrival of new domestic helpers created an exceptional pressure factor - please let us say: This is not true, and this can only be believed by naive people.

The truth of the matter is that the media was late in tackling this sensitive issue known to everyone. Most of us, at varying degrees, saw the extent of lawlessness at the airport. Also, the truth of the matter is that part of the problem is the airport's capacity. Its capacity is five million passengers per year, and today it is receiving 12 million, and

here comes a simple question about the reason for the huge delay in tendering the new airport project, as its awarding was supposed to be done in 2004.

In short, the delay of the expansion of the airport by about 12 to 15 years at least is part of one that hit many vital projects and the responsibility is clear, and none of the governments can escape it. For the remedy to come late is better than not coming at all, and if the government and interior ministry opt for a private security company to carry out inspections, then we hope that we do not resort to private companies for traffic, passports, immigration and other sovereign security facilities.

Most international airports witnessed a true security revolution following the events of September 11, and installed modern systems and implemented strict measures. Special units were trained on dealing with terrorism, so where are we from that revolution? Were we supposed to sleep on safety instincts, to wake up 15 years later facing the threat of Americans to stop aviation dealings with us?

Despite all this, we laud the interior ministry for taking several measures, and appeal to all ministries and concerned authorities with the airport to coordinate and stop throwing responsibilities at each other. Again, regulators must not be hesitant in applying the reward and

We do not want to say that we reached a stage when we hope that the Americans come yearly or periodically to wake us up from our shameful lethargy - rather we say that it is time that we realize that we are in a burning area that does not allow us to get lax, because terrorism is clever and satanic and needs vigilance above all expectations. Let the airport be a lesson for the government. It should remove the dried branches of the administration and activate what should be activated, after waking up those sleeping in every sector.

—Translated by Kuwait Times



Al-Qabas

THE BORING SERIES!

By Ahmad Al-Sarraf

etectives arrested a bedoon man collecting cash donations illegally. He asked a woman to call citizens, telling them about projects to be carried out on their behalf, including charity projects, building mosques and iftar for the poor. He was found with receipts for thousands of dinars when arrested, and confessed that his job was limited to collecting donations and delivering them to a citizen for a cut. The latter is the owner of an export-import company.

Everyone was sent to concerned authorities, and the social affairs and commerce ministries were contacted to close the company's file. As the law is unable to stop such acts permanently, it is likely that the citizen will form a new company and return to practicing another form of swindling and his name will remain a secret.

And as usual, the government asked citizens and expatriates to not donate except through committees and charity authorities that guarantee that they reach the needy. Also, as usual, no one will pay attention to such warnings and give them any consideration, while we are preoccupied with searching for rewards in this life and thereafter.

We wrote a lot about the swindlers and their strange and unusual methods, as there are still those who call citizens and expats offering to sell copies of the Holy Quran. This is an illegal method to become rich, as most Gulf countries distribute copies of the Holy Quran free of charge, especially during religious occasions. It is also not the right of anyone, to my knowledge, to print or import and sell the Holy Quran and make financial profit from it. I always accuse the woman who calls me to offer me copies of the Holy Quran that her company is deceitful, and I never received any objection to this accusation, despite the many calls. They also did not answer my questions on how they got my phone number.

The security authorities arrested a swindler who took advantage of the bad reputation of the government apparatus and made applicants for driving licenses believe he could help them, especially for those categories that find it difficult to get it. He took KD 50 from them, and promised to return the money if they fail to get the license.

This man continued his method for a long time and made a good amount of money. When he was arrested, nothing was proven against him, such as paying bribes to interior ministry employees to pass anyone. He was taking KD 50 from the 'wasta' (connections) seekers, and most of them were his compatriots, promising to return the money if they do not pass while they waited for the results. If they passed, they thought it was his wasta that worked and did not ask him for a thing, and if they failed, he returned the money without any hesitation.

—Translated by Kuwait Times





KUWAIT PATIENT HELPING FUND SIGNS MOU WITH ASTRAZENECA

TO RAISE AWARENESS ON CANCER, FURTHER EDUCATE PATIENTS

KUWAIT: The Patient Helping Fund (PHF) yesterday announced that it has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with AstraZeneca, a research based bio-pharmaceutical company, in an effort to raise further awareness of cancer among patients and the general public, across Kuwait.

The core program will focus on enhancing awareness of cancer prevalence and its risks, the benefits of early diagnosis and the personalized treatment approach, which can fight cancer and give patients the opportunity to live healthier lives. The program will also provide support through

cancer education initiatives targeted at patients and the public, and those that aim to enhance the capacity of oncology care teams, namely nurses, pharmacists and physicians. This will be done through social media platforms and other communication channels to reach the target audience.

Commenting on this collaboration, Dr Adel Al Tawhid Deputy Chairman of the Board of Directors at the Kuwait Patient Helping Fund, said: "With the increase in cancer prevalence across Kuwait, the PFH is keen to play a more active role in raising awareness of the types of prevailing cancers, early detection and available treatments. By collaborating with AstraZeneca, a trusted partner who can support the PHF's initiatives, we look forward to making a difference in the lives of those who have been diagnosed with this illness, with and hope that we can also save lives along the way." The main types of cancer the PHF and AstraZeneca will be focusing on are Ovarian Cancer, Metastatic Breast Cancer, Lung Cancer and Prostate Cancer.

Peter Raouf, Oncology business unit Director at AstraZeneca Gulf reinforced the importance of making a solid move in the Kuwait community. He said: "Today, AstraZeneca plays a vital role in medical research and continuously works towards finding cures and treatments for the different ailments we learn more about. However; our role does not stop here. As a socially responsible corporation, we are keen to embark on partnerships that allow us to put our knowledge and capabilities to action. Through our collaboration with the Kuwait PHF, we will work towards supporting the funds initiatives to ensure that it achieves maximum reach and hence, benefiting as many people as possible.









KUWAIT: The Ministry of Interior's Assistant Undersecretary for Citizenship and Passports Affairs Major General Sheikh Mazen Al-Jarrah Al-Sabah held a 'Ghabqa' for retired police officers. During the event which was held recently at the retirees department's diwaniya, Sheikh Mazen stressed that the ministry regards all its officers as members of one family, including retired officers "who have each made a clear impact while serving in duty."

Kuwait Times International

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 2016



Man with 'suicide belt' of biscuits, salt triggers alert

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FAIRFAX, Virginia: A coalition of activists protest outside the National Rifle Association (NRA) headquarters yesterday in memory of the 49 people recently killed in Orlando and calling for a ban on assault weapons. —AFP

US SENATE REJECTS GUN CONTROL MEASURES

WASHINGTON: The Republican-controlled US Senate rejected four competing oun control measures Monday just days after the Orlando club massacre, highlighting the partisan feuding over an issue set to resonate during a heated presidential election year. With a month to go before Republicans and Democrats formally nominate their White House hopefuls, lawmakers failed to compromise on one of the most sensitive hotbutton issues in America.

Even as they sought to appear keen to take action following the deadliest mass shooting in US history that left 49 dead at a gay nightclub in Orlando a week ago, Republicans and Democrats voted down four amendments - two from each party - that would have limited some gun purchases, including those by suspected terrorists. The two Democratic texts sought to bar those on FBI watchlists or no-fly lists from buying firearms, and to strengthen criminal and mental health background checks for those seeking to purchase firearms at gun shows and on the Internet.

Republicans are opposed to those measures - in general, they oppose any effort to limit gun rights, saying they are protected by the US Constitution's Second Amendment. They proposed a 72-hour waiting period for those on FBI watchlists seeking to buy weapons, so that the government has time to seek a court order to block the sale if need be. The second Republican proposal aimed to improve the background check system. Democrats rejected both GOP measures.

the Senate, where 60 of 100 votes are needed for legislation to advance. The Senate voted on similar measures in the wake of the December 2012 Connecticut school massacre and the San Bernardino attacks last year, but to no avail. "Every single senator wants to deny terrorists access to guns they use to harm innocent civilians, but there's a right way to do things and a wrong way," said Republican Senator John Cornyn of

Number two Senate Democrat Dick Durbin was livid at the failure of lawmakers to come together on such a pressing issue after yet another shooting. "Tonight, the Senate turned its back on victims of gun violence from Orlando to San Bernardino, from Newtown to the streets of Chicago," Durbin said in a statement. There are 46 senators who are Democrats or generally vote with Democrats, and 54 Republicans. Susan Collins, a moderate Republican senator from Maine, was expected to unveil some kind of compromise legislation, but it also seemed unlikely to pass.

Guns in Bars?

Presumptive Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton has spoken out at length about the need to curb gun violence in the week since the Orlando tragedy, but she had a shorter message Monday. "Enough," she said in a oneword statement, followed by the names and ages of the 49 Orlando victims. Democrats know they have only a slim

Such efforts often struggle to pass chance of succeeding with gun reform ahead of the November elections. Their goal for now is to push the debate on guns - and turn it into a true campaign

> "Ultimately, the only way that you win this issue is by building a polition structure around the country that rivals that of the gun lobby," Democratic Senator Chris Murphy told ABC's "This Week" show on Sunday. Last week, Murphy mounted a 15-hour filibuster on the Senate floor that prompted Republican leaders to schedule Monday's cloture votes. "Our filibuster helped galvanize an entire country around this

> Republican presidential hopeful Donald Trump made waves last week when he suggested he would meet with the National Rifle Association - which has endorsed him - to push a ban on weapons sales to those on watchlists. On Sunday, Trump said the NRA was seeking to defend "the best interests of our country," adding: "They want to make the right decision." Since the attack on the Pulse nightclub in Orlando, Trump controversially said he only wished more of the people in the club had guns to defend themselves.

> But the NRA's executive vice president and chief executive Wayne LaPierre contradicted Trump, saying: "I don't think you should have firearms where people are drinking." Trump has since walked back his comments, tweeting that he was "obviously talking about additional guards or employees." —AFP

MORE THAN 700 DOCTORS KILLED IN SYRIA WAR: UN

GENEVA: Attacks on hospitals since Syria's war broke out five ized survivors are left more vulnerable," he said, adding years ago have left more than 700 doctors and medical workers dead, many of them in air strikes, UN investigators said yesterday. The UN Commission of Inquiry on Syria also condemned horrific violations by jihadists and voiced concern that Al-Qaeda-affiliated militants may have recruited hundreds of children into their ranks. Commission chief Paulo Pinheiro told the UN Human Rights Council that widespread, targeted aerial attacks on hospitals and clinics across Syria "have resulted in scores of civilian deaths, including muchneeded medical workers."

"More than 700 doctors and medical personnel have been killed in attacks on hospitals since the beginning of the conflict," he said. Pinheiro, who was presenting the commission's latest report to the council, said attacks on medical facilities and the deaths of so many medical professionals had made access to health care in the violence-wracked country extremely difficult - and in some areas completely impossible.

'Terrorized survivors'

"As civilian casualties mount, the number of medical facilities and staff decreases, limiting even further access to medical care," he said. Pinheiro also denounced frequent attacks on other infrastructure essential to civilian life, such as markets, schools and bakeries. "With each attack, terrorthat "schools, hospitals, mosques, water stations ... are all being turned into rubble."

Since March 2011, Syria's brutal conflict has left more than 280,000 people dead and forced half the population to flee their homes. War broke out after President Bashar Al-Assad's regime unleashed a brutal crackdown against protesters demanding political change in Arab Spring-inspired protests. It has since become a multi-front war between regime forces, jihadists and other groups with the civilian population caught in the crossfire.

Pinheiro said the commission was investigating allegations that the Al-Nusra Front "and other Al-Qaeda-affiliated groups have recruited hundreds of children under 15 in Idlib" in northwestern Syria. The brutality of Syria's conflict is preventing millions of children from attending school, and activists have warned this is helping fuel jihadist recruitment drives. Pinheiro also condemned violations committed by the Islamic State group.

In a report published last week, the commission warned that IS jihadists were continuing to commit genocide against the Yazidi minority in Iraq and Syria. In 2014, IS jihadists massacred members of the Kurdish-speaking minority mainly based around Sinjar mountain in northern Iraq, forcing tens of thousands to flee, and captured thousands of girls and women. —AFP



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ISRAELI LAWYER USES INSIDE KNOWLEDGE AGAINST SETTLERS

JERUSALEM: A few years ago, Mohammad Abu Ta'a discovered that some storage trailers had disappeared from a plot of land in Jerusalem belonging to his family. Then, the family received a letter informing them they were now trespassers. When the Palestinian landowner contacted Israeli land authorities. he was told the government had expropriated the land and handed it over to a leading organization that oversees Jewish settlement

building in the West Bank. That group,

Amana, is now building its new headquarters on the land.

Abu Ta'a is fighting back to expose the shadowy land grab. But he is doing it in an unusual way - enlisting the services of an Israeli lawyer who spent 16 years as a municipal civil servant approving expropriations of Palestinian land in Jerusalem. The lawyer, Stephen Berman, left his post as legal adviser to the Jerusalem municipality's real estate department and went into private practice in



JERUSALEM: In this May 17, 2016 photo, Israeli lawyer Stephen Berman inspects a construction site on land owned by Palestinian Mohammad Abu Ta'a. —AP

2003. He is now using his inside knowledge of the system to expose what he says is the settler group's illegitimate property grab.

"This was my job, doing this stuff," the USborn Berman told AP, recounting from behind his paper-littered desk the expropriations he used to approve. "That was their lack of luck." Unlike some Israeli lawyers who fight for Palestinian rights in court, Berman is not an activist for the Palestinian cause. Shortly before he took on this case, he represented a Jewish settlement project in east Jerusalem. "I don't care who the law serves," he said. "I care what the law is."

Following a paper trail of old maps and land registry documents, Berman said he uncovered how Israeli civil servants, stretching back decades, abused their power to seize control of the tiny but attractive triangle of real estate from the Abu Ta'a family in east Jerusalem and give it to Amana, a 40-year-old organization that spearheads the construction of Jewish settlements in east Jerusalem and the West Bank.

The organization, which has been investigated multiple times for fraudulent real estate deals, has helped plan and build numerous government-sanctioned Jewish settlements and unauthorized outposts. An investigative program on Israel's Channel 10 TV in February reported that Israeli police investigated 15 West Bank land acquisitions where settlement outposts were built and found that Amana's subsidiary had forged documents for 14 of them. The subsidiary denied the claims.

"The Amana organization is a settler organization that deals with construction of settlements ... many times on stolen Palestinian land," said Hagit Ofran of the anti-settlement watchdog group Peace Now. "We are not surprised to see them stealing land also in Jerusalem. The trouble here is that the government is helping the settlers to take over this land," Ofran added.

A lawyer for Amana did not return repeated requests for comment, and reporters on a recent visit to the Abu Ta'as' plot were ordered out by an Israeli supervisor of the construction site. Amana fenced off the plot in November and began building. There were no signs identifying the construction project or Amana, as required by law. The Jerusalem Municipality said in a statement that it would ask Amana to put up a sign. "Having this land is our right," said Abu Ta'a. "We owned it for a long time, before Israel existed in this land."

The story began in 1967, when Israel captured and later annexed east Jerusalem, home to some of the city's holiest religious sites. The following year, to cement the annexation, Israel drew up a plan to expropriate large swaths of vacant Arab-owned territory along the line between east and west Jerusalem. Some of the expropriated land went into building the Israeli national police headquarters, government ministries and large Jewish neighborhoods, which the international community considers illegal settlements. But some of the land slated for expropriation was left untouched for decades.

In 1989, planning officials approved a final planning scheme for the area. It was smaller than the original expropriation plan, and Abu Ta'a's plot was left out. In 1991, the Israel Lands Administration, the government body that manages state-owned lands, declared in a court case that whatever land was needed was part of the new scheme. Berman said that gave the impression that Israel did not intend to take the Abu Ta'a plot.

As the attorney representing the city of Jerusalem, Berman was involved in that court case. When Abu Ta'a and approached him years later, in 2012, after learning his plot of land had been taken, Berman thought something didn't add up. "I started looking at the facts," Berman said. He found that a year after the land authority gave the impression it was no longer interested in taking land in the area, officials quietly began doing the opposite. Eventually, the Abu Ta'a plot was transferred to the settlement group Amana.

Berman found documents showing that in 1992, just after the pro-settlement Likud party lost control of the government to a newly elected leftwing prime minister, the Lands Administration gave permission to Amana to start planning the construction of its headquarters on the Palestinian-owned land. The lawyer said he believes this was a last-minute effort by pro-settlement land officials to push the land transfer through before then-Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin could block it. Indeed, when the new government was formed, it froze the deal. —AP

MAN WITH FAKE SUICIDE BELT TRIGGERS BRUSSELS MALL ALERT

'EXPLOSIVE BELT' MADE OF BISCUITS AND SALT

BRUSSELS: A man with psychiatric problems who was carrying a fake suicide belt full of salt and biscuits was arrested yesterday after he triggered a major anti-terror operation at a Brussels shopping mall, prosecutors said. Belgium remains on a high state of alert after Islamic Stateclaimed bomb attacks in March left 32 people dead at the airport and at a metro station near European Union headquarters buildings. Prosecutors

said they were still investigating whether the man - who had once claimed he had been urged to join the Islamic State group in Syria - had any genuine links to terrorism or not.

The 26-year-old man, identified only as J B, called police to say he had been abducted in a car and dropped at the City 2 mall in central Brussels with an explosives belt that was to have been detonated remotely. "After an initial inspection

it was confirmed that it contained salt and biscuits. Any threat of an explosion has been initially ruled out," prosecutor's spokesman Rym Kechiche said in a statement. "J B is



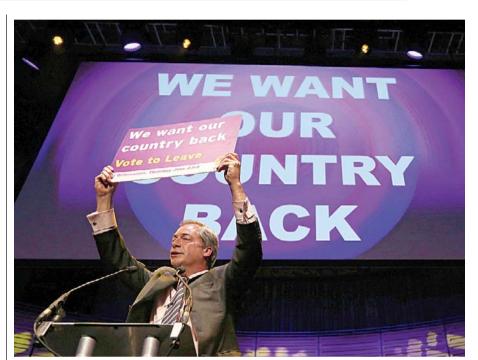
BRUSSELS: Belgian Army soldiers and Belgian police secure a scene after a bomb alert on a major shopping street yesterday. —AP

*'Situation Under Control'

The apparent threat had triggered a massive security operation. Only one exit remained open at the nearby Rogier metro station, where soldiers checked passengers bags and belongings. Police and soldiers sealed off the immediate area, an AFP reporter at the scene said. Prime Minister Charles Michel called an emergency meeting of his security cabinet when the shopping mall alert was ongoing, reflecting the tensions in the country. "The situation is for now under control. We remain vigilant," Michel said after the meeting. The terror alert level in Brussels remained at level three out of four, Belga news agency reported.

The City 2 mall had been mentioned in Belgian media in recent days as a possible target for attacks. The incident comes only days after Belgian authorities charged three men with "attempted terrorist murder" after raiding dozens of nomes linked to a reported threat to fans watching during a Euro 2016 football game. Authorities said at the time they were responding to a need for "an immediate intervention".

The areas searched included neighborhoods in Brussels where November's jihadist attackers in Paris and the Brussels suicide bombings had planned their assaults. In proportion to its population, Belgium has the highest number of so-called foreign fighters in the EU who have travelled to wage jihad in Syria and Iraq, an estimated 500. After Saturday's swoop, Michel said the country would be taking "additional and updated security measures". On Saturday, a source close to Belgian authorities confirmed to AFP that several leading political figures have recently had their security



GATESHEAD, England: Leader of the United Kingdom Independence Party (UKIP) Nigel Farage holds up a 'We Want Our Country Back' sign at a public meeting of the EU Referendum campaign in northeast England. —AFP

BREXIT BATTLE ON KNIFE EDGE IN LAST 48 HOURS

LONDON: Financier George Soros warned of a Black Friday plunge in sterling if Britain votes to quit the EU as new polls showed a razor-tight race less than 48 hours ahead of the referendum. The man who made a fortune by betting against the pound in the so-called Black Wednesday of September 1992 said that a rejection of the European Union would deliver a major financial shock.

Britain, the world's fifth-biggest economy, would be the first state to leave the EU since the bloc's founding 60 years ago if the "Leave" camp wins in Thursday's vote. The prospect of a Brexit has raised fears of a worst-case domino-effect collapse of the European project, born out of a determination to ensure peace on the continent after two world wars. "Sterling is almost certain to fall steeply and quickly if 'Leave' wins the referendum,"

Soros wrote Tuesday in The Guardian newspaper. "I would expect this devaluation to be bigger and also more disruptive than the 15 percent devaluation that occurred in 1992," the Hungarian-born US billionaire predicted. "A vote to leave could see the week end with a Black Friday, and serious consequences for ordinary people." Pro-Brexit campaigners dismissed Soros' remarks. "He backed the creation of the euro thought that was a good idea - and actually as we have seen the euro has been a job-destroying, unemployment-creating disaster," said the justice minister, Michael Gove.

World financial markets, which rallied the previous day following opinion poll gains by the "Remain" camp, traded cautiously higher yesterday as new surveys showed the race is tight. In polls released overnight, two placed the "Remain" side narrowly ahead while a third indicated the "Leave" camp could prevail. The websites of six major bookmakers showed the odds heavily pointing to a "Remain" vote, with the chances of Britain staying in put at nearly 80 percent.

Immigration Worries

The latest surveys were mostly conducted after the brutal murder of Jo Cox, a 41-year-old Labour lawmaker and mother of two, who was shot and stabbed in her northern English constituency on Thursday. Her alleged killer, 52-yearold Thomas Mair, gave his name as "Death to traitors, freedom for Britain" at his first appearance in court after being charged with her murder. The campaign in Britain remains locked on two major concerns: the economy and high immigration.

"Supermarket bills up £580 (\$850, 750 euros) a year if we leave" ran the headline of the "Remain"-supporting Daily Mirror newspaper. Pro-Brexit tabloid The Sun's front page said "stone-throwing migrants" had stormed the French port of Calais to try to gain access to Britain. Its headline: "Let us in before you vote out." Opinion polls consistently show just over 10 percent of Britons have not made up their minds. "I have not quite decided yet," said Katie Molloy, 24-year-old music teacher, in central London. "The only thing I have read about is immigration," she told AFP, adding however that she believed sufficient migration controls were already in place. "I will vote - I think 'In' because anything that unites countries is a good thing."—AFP

ISRAEL 'MISTAKENLY' KILLS PALESTINIAN TEEN

JERUSALEM: The Israeli army said yesterday troops may have mistakenly killed a 15-year-old Palestinian and wounded others after a stone-throwing incident in the occupied West Bank, a stark admission that drew renewed attention to open fire rules. The overnight shooting followed stone-throwing at cars in the West Bank that lightly wounded two foreigners and one Israeli, according to Israeli media. The stonethrowers were also said to have hurled firebombs at

passing cars and poured oil on the road. Israeli soldiers responded and opened fire on what they believed to be suspects, killing 15-year-old Mahmoud Rafat Badran and wounding four others, according to Palestinian official news agency WAFA. Two people were also arrested. The Israeli army initially released a statement saying that troops shot two people "after a number of Palestinians hurled rocks and Molotov cocktails at moving vehicles near the village of Beit Sira on route 443". "An initial review suggests that as the mob continued, nearby forces acted in order to protect the additional passing vehicles from immediate danger and fired towards the assailants," the statement said. "Forces confirmed hits resulting in the death of one of the attackers."

Later, the army revised its account, saying that "from initial inquiry, it appears uninvolved bystanders were mistakenly hit during the pursuit," a spokeswoman said. Asked by AFP whether that included the person killed, she said yes, as well as those wounded. The spokeswoman said the circumstances were being investigated. During the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, residents often go out and socialise following the end of the daytime fast. It was not immediately clear if the teenager killed was among them.

'War' on Stone-Throwers

Israel's response to Palestinian stone-throwers has been the subject of debate, with right-wing politicians calling for looser open-fire rules and human rights groups warning of the dangers of such policies. In September, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu vowed "war" on stone-throwers with tougher penalties and new rules for security forces on when to open fire. Lawmakers later voted to impose a minimum three-year jail sentence on stone-throwers.

Netanyahu made the comments after a 64-yearold Israeli man died in an accident Israeli authorities said was caused by Palestinian stone-throwing. The incident preceded a wave of Palestinian unrest that began in October and which has included knife, gun and car-ramming attacks. Violence since October has killed at least 209 Palestinians, 32 Israelis, two Americans, an Eritrean and a Sudanese. Israeli authorities say most of the Palestinians were killed as they carried out knife, gun or car-ramming attacks. Others were killed in clashes with security forces or by Israeli air strikes in the Gaza Strip.

Home Demolition

Also yesterday, Israeli forces demolished the home of a Palestinian who killed a US tourist and wounded several Israelis in a March stabbing rampage in Tel Aviv. An army spokeswoman said the Palestinian carried out the March 8 seafront knife attacks which killed 29-year-old Texan Taylor Allen Force and wounded at least 10 Israelis as US Vice President Joe Biden arrived for a visit. The Palestinian was shot dead during the attack. —AFP



HAJA: Palestinian flags are seen placed on the rubble of a house belonging to a Palestinian man after it was demolished by Israeli security forces in this village in the Israeli-occupied West Bank yesterday. —AFP

IN JERUSALEM'S CRAMPED OLD CITY, CHRISTIANS FEEL SQUEEZE

JERUSALEM: When hundreds of Jewish nationalists marched through the Muslim Quarter of Jerusalem's Old City this month, waving banners and chanting songs in what has become an annual ritual, it wasn't only Muslims watching warily. Christians were, too. Religious tension is nothing new in a city that has been the home of three faiths for centuries. But the outlook for the Christian minority, squeezed inside the ancient walls of the Old City and caught in the midst of a months-long wave of violence involving Muslims targeting Jews, has seldom looked tougher.

While the Muslim population rises steadily, now making up 75 percent of the 38,000 residents in the city's alleys, and the Jews increasingly make their presence felt via the annual march and their settlements beyond the Jewish Quarter, the number of Christians has not risen in 50 years, hovering around 7,000. "If a thousand Muslims leave Jerusalem, that's one thing," said Jamal Khader, head of the Latin Patriarchate Seminary near Bethlehem. "But if a thousand Christians leave, you threaten the identity of Jerusalem as a city of multiple faiths."

That concern is clear to Basil Saed, 28, the owner of a gym in the Christian Quarter. After an attempted stabbing by a Muslim in the Old City several weeks ago, Saed came face-to-face with an Israeli military policeman hunting for the suspect. "He was trembling he was so terrified," said Saed, a prize-winning weightlifter who wears a large gold cross around his neck. "In an instant he could have shot and killed me." To Saed, both Israel's tight security and the Muslim unrest make him uneasy, and raise questions for his community. "If we weren't strong, we'd all be gone by now," he said.

Squeezed Out

In the narrow, cobbled streets of their quarter, Christian families have been running arts and souvenir shops for generations, earning money from the steady flow of religious and other tourists who flock to sites like the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the site where Jesus is believed to have been buried. With the surge in violence that Jerusalem and surrounding areas have experienced since last October, tourism has become more erratic. —Reuters

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ORLANDO SHOOTER CLAIMED ATTACK WITH 'CHILLING CALM'

MIAMI: Orlando gunman Omar Mateen acted with "chilling calm" in phone calls made at the height of the deadliest mass shooting in US history, styling himself an "Islamic soldier" and warning of more bloodshed to come, officials said. US authorities on Monday released partial transcripts of Mateen's conversations with emergency services and police negotiators during the June 12 attack on the Pulse gay nightclub that left 49 people dead.

"I'm in Orlando and I did the shootings," the 29-year-old said in a 911 call made at 2:35 am, half an hour into the three-hour siege. "I pledge allegiance to Abu Bakr Al-Baghdadi of the Islamic State." The FBI published details of three conversations between Mateen and police crisis negotiators, made while he was holed up in the club bathroom with several hostages: A nine-minute call at 2:48 am, a 16-minute

call at 3:03 am and a final call lasting around three minutes, at 3:24 am.

In the calls, the shooter identified himself as an "Islamic soldier", repeated his extremist pledge of allegiance, and said he wanted America to stop bombing Syria and Iraq. He claimed to have rigged a vehicle outside the club with explosives, said he was wearing an explosives vest similar to the kind "used in France", and warned: "In the next few days, you're going to see more of this type of action going on." "While the killer made these murderous statements he did so in a chilling, calm, and deliberate manner," FBI special agent Ron Hopper told reporters.

The transcripts were initially redacted to mask details of Mateen's pledge of support for the IS group and its leader Baghdadi - in order to avoid furthering the jihadists' propaganda, officials said. But the decision

triggered a torrent of criticism, with top Republicans accusing the US administration of seeking to downplay the shooter's links to Islamic extremists, prompting officials to issue an unredacted version. "Unfortunately, the unreleased portions of the transcript that named the terrorist organizations and leaders have caused an unnecessary distraction from the hard work that the FBI and our law enforcement partners have been doing to investigate this heinous crime," the Justice Department and FBI said in a joint statement.

Explosive Vests

The transcripts reveal in precise detail how events unfolded at the Pulse clubfrom the first anonymous 911 call at 2:02 am, alerting to shots fired inside, to the SWAT raid three hours later in which Mateen was killed. At 2:04 am, police reinforce-

ments arrived at the scene - where an off duty officer initially exchanged fire with Mateen. Four minutes later, at 2:08 am, officers from various law enforcement agencies entered the club and engaged the shooter.

At 2:18 am, the Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) division initiated a full callout and began preparing for the final assault. Between then and 5:00 am, based on police radio communications, no shots were fired inside. "During that time our officers were intermittently in and out of that club saving people, rescuing people from inside the club," Orlando police chief John Mina told reporters. Police obtained "significant information" from people inside the club, giving them a clearer picture of the threat - although those transcripts will not be made public. "Those calls were very vital," Mina said.

al," Mina said. At 4:21 am, police pulled an air conditioning unit out of a dressing room window, which allowed some victims to escape. At 4:29 am, victims evacuated to safety told police the gunman was threatening to put four explosive vests on hostages within 15 minutes - a claim which ultimately turned out to be bogus. Half an hour later, at 5:02 am, a SWAT team backed by hazardous device experts began to breach the club wall with an explosive charge and an armored vehicle. At 5:14 am, police radio communication stated that shots were fired and, at 5:15 am, that the suspect was reported down.

Asked whether some victims may have been inadvertently killed by police - in the initial exchange of fire or the final raid - Mina said that was "part of the investigation". "But here is what I will tell you," he added. "Those killings are on the suspect and on the suspect alone in my mind." — AFP



LAS VEGAS: In this June 18, 2016 file photo, police remove protestor Michael Steven Sandford as Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump speaks at the Treasure Island hotel and casino. — AP

MAN CHARGED AFTER BID TO 'KILL TRUMP'

LOS ANGELES: A 19-year-old British man has been charged for trying to grab a police officer's gun at a Donald Trump rally in Las Vegas in an apparent bid to kill the presumptive Republican presidential nominee. According to a complaint filed in federal court in Nevada, Michael Sandford tried to disarm the officer at Saturday's rally at the Mystere Theatre in the Treasure Island Casino before being overpowered. It said the young man told a Secret Service agent after his arrest that he had driven from California to Las Vegas "to kill Trump," and had been to arrange a day earlier to learn to shoot as he had never fired a gun before.

"Sandford acknowledged that he would likely only be able to fire one to two rounds and stated he was convinced he would be killed by law enforcement during his attempt on Trump's life," the complaint said. It added that Sandford told investigators he had purchased tickets for a rally in Phoenix, where he "would try again to kill Trump" in the event his plan in Las Vegas failed.

Video of his arrest carried by US media show a skinny man with short brown hair and a grey T-shirt being quickly escorted out of the rally by police officers with his hands behind his back. The prosecutor's office said Sandford was ordered held without bond, as he was considered dangerous and represented a flight risk. Britain's Foreign Office is "providing assistance" in the case, a spokesman said.

'Would Try This Again'

The complaint said Sandford had told investigators he had been in the United States for about 18 months, and had lived in Hoboken, New Jersey, before traveling to California. Sandford told investigators that he had targeted officer Ameel Jacob's gun because it was in an unlocked position and would be the easiest way to gain access to a weapon at the rally where those attending had to go through metal detectors.

He struck up a conversation with Jacob, telling him he wanted an autograph from Trump before lunging at his gun and grabbing the firearm with both hands, prosecutors said. Sandford allegedly told the Secret Service that he had been plotting to kill Trump for about a year and finally decided to act on Saturday, as "he finally felt confident to do it." "Sandford further stated that if he were on the street tomorrow, he would try this again," according to the complaint. —AFP



AZUSA, California: Firefighters watch a wildfire on Monday. — $\ensuremath{\mathsf{AP}}$

FOUR KILLED IN US HEAT WAVE AS WILDFIRES RAGE

LOS ANGELES: At least four people, including a German man, have died from the blistering heat that has gripped the western United States and sparked wildfires and evacuations across the region, authorities said Monday. Three hikers and a mountain biker succumbed to the heat wave in Arizona on Sunday, where record-breaking temperatures were reported in some areas. Larry Subervi, spokesman for the Phoenix fire department, said one of the victims was an experienced 28-year-old female mountain biker who had embarked on a two-and-a-half-hour ride in the Phoenix area with enough water but got overwhelmed by the heat.

Three other people reportedly died in the Tucson area, including a 57-year-old German national - identified as Stefan Guenster - who was hiking with two other fellow Germans on the Ventana Trail early Sunday. The Pima County Sheriff's Department, located in Tucson, said one of the men was able to make it down the trail to get help. Rescuers found Guenster dead near the trail and the third man, identified as 33-year-old Marcus Turowski, is still missing. The other victim was identified as a 54-

year-old woman who went for a walk along a path known as The Loop and was found dead after her husband reported her missing. "We have a heat wave every year, but we are close to our all-time record in 1990 of 122 degrees Fahrenheit (50 Celsius)," Subervi told AFP. He said temperatures on Sunday had soared to 120 degrees and the crushing heat continued on Monday, setting records in many areas of Arizona and southern California. Temperatures were expected to ease from Tuesday.

The heat wave has fed wildfires in California, New Mexico and Arizona, forcing evacuations in some areas. Two fast-moving brush fires tore through 1,416 hectares in the San Gabriel Mountains east of Los Angeles on Monday, prompting some 600 households to be evacuated officials said

households to be evacuated, officials said.
Fire officials said hundreds of firefighters were battling the flames in the foothills above Azusa and Duarte, aided by waterdropping helicopters. "The fire is burning in very, very steep terrain with very heavy vegetation," said Robert Garcia, the fire chief at Angeles National Forest, referring to the initial blaze - dubbed the Reservoir Fire - north of Azusa. — AFP

TRUMP, SEEKING CAMPAIGN OVERHAUL, SACKS TOP AIDE

MOGUL SEEKS TO REVITALIZE ELECTION BID

WASHINGTON: Republican presidential hopeful Donald Trump dumped his controversial campaign manager yesterday, as he looked to revitalize a White House bid after recent stumbles ahead of a November showdown with Hillary Clinton. Trump, 70, has taken a hit in the national polls of late and sparked outrage with comments about Muslims in the wake of the Orlando gay club massacre. With less than a month to go before the Republican convention, changes were inevitable.

After weeks of rumors about dissent within his camp over how best to take on Clinton, the presumptive Democratic nominee, the hammer came down when campaign manager Corey Lewandowski left Team Trump. "I think Corey is terrific," Trump told Fox News. "I think it's time now for a different kind of a campaign. We ran a small, beautiful, well-unified campaign... I have 73 people. Hillary Clinton has almost 900 people and we're in the same position." Trump said he planned on announcing his pick for vice president at the Republican convention in Cleveland next month. His team did not specify the terms of Lewandowski's departure. Lewandowski was credited with Trump's initial breakthrough in the primaries, but he has recently been sidelined, with more experienced political operatives like Paul Manafort, who will now lead the campaign, being given more influence.

Lewandowski courted controversy earlier this year over a March run-in with a reporter at a Trump rally. She accused him of roughly grabbing her, leaving bruises, but he denied that account. Florida prosecutors opted to drop all charges. According to New York magazine, Trump's adult children - Donald Jr, Eric and Ivanka - pushed for Lewandowski's ouster, saying he was not up to the job in the run-up to Nov 8. "I have no regrets," Lewandowski told CNN. "I'm so thankful for this chance and I know that what I will do moving forward is share my advice... with Mr Trump and the team if they want it."

Clinton's Grassroots Advantage The Trump campaign is "deeply troubled," said

political analyst Larry Sabato, head of the Center for



PALM BEACH, Florida: In this March 15, 2016 file photo, Donald Trump's campaign manager Corey Lewandowski listens at left as Trump speaks. — AP

Politics at the University of Virginia. "This is a campaign that is underfunded, that isn't properly organized. The convention itself is questionable in terms of what it's going to produce." Sabato added: "The Clinton campaign is simply light-years ahead of the Trump campaign." Last week, Clinton - who has far better funding thanks to supporters and big donors - launched a media blitz of ads attacking Trump in eight key states - Colorado, Florida, Iowa, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Ohio and Virginia.

The ads will run for six weeks, until the party conventions - the Republicans meet from July 18-21 in Cleveland, and the Democrats convene in Philadelphia from July 25-28. Campaign volunteers for the 68-year-old former secretary of state, who is seeking to be America's first female president, will go door-to-door next weekend to get out the vote. Such ground work takes time to organize, but Trump's campaign is planning to outsource it to the Republican party - a task it normally does not perform.

After sewing up the Republican presidential nomination in early May, Trump had closed the gap with Clinton in the polls. But since then, Clinton has dispatched rival Bernie Sanders and found her rhythm on the trail in blasting Trump. She now has a nearly six-point lead over the billionaire, according to an average of opinion polls by specialist website Real Clear Politics. Clinton, relying on her deep experience in foreign policy, has repeatedly drilled home the idea that Trump is "temperamentally unfit" and unqualified to lead. Trump has repeatedly promised to tone down his rhetoric and lead a more understated campaign, but has not done so, much to the chagrin of worried Republican leaders. His attacks on a federal judge of Mexican descent who is presiding over cases involving Trump's defunct online university, alleging bias because of his heritage, have shocked some Republicans, and revived the slim hopes of some anti-Trump Republicans that someone else

In Chicago, Muslim and Gay rights leaders take on Trump

CHICAGO: The leaders of Muslim and gay rights groups in Chicago, one of America's biggest cities, yesterday joined forces to slam Donald Trump in the wake of the Orlando massacre, saying now was not a time for divisions. On June 12, 49 people were killed and 53 others wounded in the shooting at a gay nightclub in the central Florida city. The shooter Omar Mateen, a 29-year-old Muslim American of Afghan descent, was killed in a shootout with police.

Trump, the presumptive Republican presidential nominee, has since renewed calls for a temporary ban on Muslims entering the United States and controversially suggested on Sunday that profiling of Muslims was not off the table. In Chicago, which has both a large Muslim population and a vibrant lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community, leaders said Trump's comment were divisive and unproductive. "We're scared, because it starts rhetorically, and then more people accept it if you don't nip it in the bud," Ahmed Rehab, the leader of the Chicago chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations, told AFP. "If common sense doesn't step in right now, people are capable of mass hysteria, and he is fanning those flames," he said, speaking of Trump.

Rehab said there was fear in Chicago's Muslim community, one of the largest in the United States, that they could potentially become targets of hate crimes. In the past week, there have been two threats emailed and phoned into area mosques, he said. "There is never a time to divide Americans, and of course that is especially true at a time of deep national pain," James Bennett of Lambda Legal, an LGBT group, told a press conference.

Rehab told reporters that his group and Lambda Legal planned to meet every two weeks with the goal of making "clear statements on a mutual agenda of equal civil rights of all people regardless of their background." Bennett chimed in: "I would encourage people to watch Chicago's example." —AFP



STERLING, Virginia: US Secretary of State John Kerry speaks during an interfaith iftar reception to mark World Refugee Day at the All Dulles Area Muslim Society on Monday. — AFP



CARACAS: People wait outside a school set up as a validation center to certify the authenticity of their signatures on Monday. — AP

VENEZUELANS FINGERPRINTED IN BID TO DRIVE OUT PRESIDENT

CARACAS: Venezuelans queued to get fingerprinted Monday in a crucial phase of efforts to force President Nicolas Maduro from power, after food shortages sparked deadly protests and looting. Thousands of Maduro's opponents lined up to submit their fingerprints so electoral authorities can authenticate signatures on a petition calling for a referendum on his rule. The procedures, due to run until Friday, could make or break the bid to hold a recall vote on Maduro. The opposition says he must be removed to rescue the South

American country from economic disaster.

Crowds of citizens holding identity cards queued up to have their electronic prints taken at the National Electoral Council in Caracas and around the country. "We want another country - a nice one," said Amanda Zerpa, 59, leaning on a cane after giving her fingerprints. "They are not governing the country well." She had a heart attack seven months ago and, like many of her compatriots, has been struggling to get hold of medication. Her clothes-selling business has suffered because she can no

longer afford to buy stock abroad.

Of the 1.3 million signatures recorded by the electoral board in the initial petition, at least 200,000 must be authenticated to pass to the next phase. The next step will require the collection of four million more signatures

to call a full referendum.

Venezuela is grappling with an economic crisis sparked by the plunge in prices for its crucial oil exports. People face shortages of basic foods and goods as well as electricity black-

outs. The opposition says Maduro's economic management is also to blame. They denounce the jailing of his political opponents. Maduro is resisting efforts for a referendum. He has alleged irregularities in the signature process. The country's food crisis erupted into deadly looting last week. Authorities said at least five people were killed and more than 400 arrested. The president has warned he may decree emergency measures if confronted with more violence. Such measures could prevent the recall referendum from taking place.

Referendum Wanted This Year

The opposition is rushing to complete the recall process by Jan 10, the cutoff date to trigger new elections. After that date, a successful recall vote would simply pass power to Maduro's hand-picked vice president. Opposition lawmaker Delsa Solorzano said that the referendum would have to take place by early November to have a chance of succeeding against Maduro.

Maduro has challenged the referendum drive in the Supreme Court. His opponents say he controls the court and the electoral authorities through his allies.

Jorge Rodriguez, head of a panel appointed by the president to oversee the recall push, called the proceedings a "farce" by the opposition "trying to create a climate where violence would erupt". The head of the electoral council Tibisay Lucena warned that any violence during this week's proceedings could cause the process to be suspended. —AFP



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INDIA'S SUICIDE FARMERS' WIDOWS FACE 'LIVING DEATH'

ALIPUR, India: At the age of 24, Joshna Wandile and her two children were thrown out of the house she shared with her in-laws after her farmer husband hanged himself. He left a pile of debts after years of drought laid waste to his land. Wandile is not alone. More than 300.000 farmers have killed themselves in India over the last two decades, leaving their widows battling with the state, moneylenders, in-laws and their communities.

While widows in rural India are often ostracized and abused, farmer widows have it particularly tough, activists said ahead of International Widows' Day on Thursday. "I had nothing when my husband died - he sold everything in the house, even the cooking vessels, to pay the creditors," said Wandile who lives in Vidarbha in the western state of Maharashtra, among the worst affected by farmers' suicides. "I couldn't even feel sad. I could only think: Where will we live? How will I earn enough money? How will I keep us safe?" said Wandile, who was married at 17.

Maharashtra, which is struggling with its worst drought in four decades, accounted for more than half the 5,650 farmer suicides in India in 2014, according to official data. Some estimate last year's toll exceeded 3,000. "Bankruptcy or indebtedness" was the most common reason cited. Most were small farmers, with holdings of under two hectares. There is little information on the families left behind who struggle to claim their right to the land they till and the house they live in, while battling archaic stigmas that dog their every step.

'Unlucky' Widows

Wandile wasn't given a share of the 1.8-hectare plot she and her husband worked on because the title deeds were in the names of his parents. Her in-laws also refused to transfer the public distribution card to her name, denying her subsidized staples such as rice, wheat and cooking oil. With more than 46 million widows, India has the highest number of widows in the world, according to the Loomba Foundation which fights for their rights. While China and India account for more than a third of all widows globally, India is "of much greater concern" as education levels are lower and extreme poverty widespread, the foundation said in a report last year. Widows in India are highly stigmatized, particularly

in rural areas, where they are regarded as unlucky. Many are subjected to abuse, kicked out of their homes, denied food, and blamed for their husbands' deaths.

Those who continue farming may have difficulty hiring and managing male laborers and may be harassed and cheated by traders and other farmers. "The farmers' suicides get so much attention, but for the widows it's a living death every day," said Lata Bandgar, a community organizer with Paryay, a charity helping widows in Maharashtra. "She has nothing, she can do nothing, and she is treated as little more than a slave by even her own family." Poverty and debts also increase the risks of widows being trafficked or duped into prostitution, activists say. With child marriage common in villages, some girls are even widowed as children, leaving them particularly vulnerable.

Tangled Deeds

When a farmer dies, a police case is filed to determine the cause of death. If it is ruled a suicide due to the farm crisis or indebtedness, the widow or the family gets 100,000 rupees (\$1,500). But the compensation can be

denied, as in Wandile's case, if ownership of the land is disputed or if the death is not judged to be linked to indebtedness or the farm crisis. After receiving the money, a widow often has to fend off claims from her husband's family and creditors. Widows forced to repay loans can be caught in a vicious cycle of debt bondage.

"We hear the saddest, most incredible stories when it comes to land and property: Parents turning against children, children turning against parents," said Saumya Roy at the Vandana Foundation which helps widows in Vidarbha. "The widows are the most vulnerable, as their position in the family, the community is so tenuous." Of the 700 widows the foundation has helped, about a third said the land deeds were not in their husbands' names, while a third were repaying their husbands' loans, Roy told the Thomson Reuters Foundation.

The drought in Maharashtra, India's largest cottongrowing state, has compounded an underlying agrarian crisis fuelled by a fall in global commodity prices. Many farmers have been forced to borrow at high interest rates from private lenders after defaulting on bank loans. — Reuters



resting and keeping watch during a patrol in this village in Helmand. — AFP

GURKHAS TO GUARDS: NEPALESE DOING DANGEROUS JOBS ABROAD

KATHMANDU: The deaths of 14 Nepali guards in Afghanistan have highlighted the Himalayan nation's role as supplier of security forces to the world, an industry fuelled by poverty and built on the centuries-old reputation of its Gurkha troops for courage and loyalty. While the number of Gurkha soldiers Britain recruits annually in the impoverished nation has fallen in recent years, global demand for Nepalis as private security quards remains high. "Everyone wants a Gurkha to protect their assets - from a billionaire in Hong Kong to private firms in Kabul," said Mahesh Shrestha, Nepal country manager for British security giant G4S.

"Gurkhas have always been a big craze as far as the market for security (personnel) is concerned," Shrestha told AFP. The industry provides lucrative jobs for retired Gurkhas as well as former Nepal army and police staff willing to risk their lives in conflict zones around the world. Nepalis were first recruited overseas by the British East India Company after the Anglo-Nepali war that ended in 1816.

Impressed by their bravery, the British struck a deal to hire their former foes as soldiers, using Gurkha troops to crush riots in 19th-century India and fight for Britain in World Wars I and II. The Gurkhas' World War I exploits also secured the Himalayan kingdom's sovereignty via a 1923 treaty between Nepal and

Britain. Famed for their ferocity and skilful use of razor-sharp curved kukri knives, the Gurkhas have fought in every British conflict for the last two centuries. More than 45,000 have died in action.

They have also enlisted in the Singapore police

force and the Indian army, whose former chief of staff Sam Manekshaw is reported to have said: "If a man says he is not afraid of dying, he is either lying or is a Gurkha". Ioday, private security firms seek to trade on that reputation when they advertise their recruitment of Nepalis - including non-Gurkhas - to prospective clients. As a result, Nepalis enjoy a virtual monopoly in the private security sector in countries like Malaysia, where companies are only allowed to hire them or locals as guards. "Thanks to the Gurkhas' fame... people think Nepalis are loyal, honest, hardworking men who can survive anywhere and cope with tough conditions," G4S's Shrestha said.

Fuelled by Desperation

The hillside towns the Gurkhas come from are islands of relative prosperity in Nepal thanks to salaries and pensions which are substantially higher than local wages. Thousands of young men apply to join the British Gurkhas each year, but only around 230 make the final cut. Their tests include a 4.6-km race up a steep hill while carrying a basket packed with rocks. The British army now employs around 2,500 Gurkhas, down from an alltime high of 112,000 during World War II, and many have taken jobs as security guards in conflict zones like Afghanistan, where 14 Nepalis working for the Canadian embassy were killed in a bomb attack this week. They are more expensive than Afghan security, but are seen as more reliable and their physical similarity allows them to blend in better than other foreigners.

"Young Nepali males don't really have many options at home and so they seek dangerous jobs overseas... because of their desperation," journalist Kunda Dixit told AFP. Nepali migrant workers play a critical role in propping up the country's economy: Their remittances make up about 30 percent of gross domestic product. Authorities say some 3,300 Nepalis currently work in Afghanistan as security guards but accurate figures for the total number employed across the world are hard to come by. Despite the dangers, commentators say the deaths this week will do little to stop other Nepalis from venturing into war zones in desperate pursuit of work, as the country struggles to recover from last year's massive earthquake. "It won't change any-

thing... the economic benefits are too important to give up," said journalist Dixit. — AFP

TOKYO: At least three people have died and three are missing after landslides and floods hit a region in southern Japan that was recently battered by major earthquakes, officials said yesterday. Rescuers are searching for three people in the southern prefecture of Kumamoto where nearly 2,000 residents evacuated their homes, including those who had fled to safety after two huge earthquakes in April. The 6.2-magnitude and 7.0-magnitude tremors were followed by ground in many areas, officials said. The tremors left 49 dead and caused widespread damage.

and flooding in the area overnight. Local residents reported swollen rivers flooding streets and houses with knee-high water, while others said they heard roaring noises in areas hit by night-time landslides. More rain was expected in coming days, the weather agency said. It has issued heavy rain and thunderstorm warnings for Kumamoto and surrounding areas

A 92-year-old man died after a landslide hit his house in Kamiamakusa city, a local disaster management official said on condition of anonymity. A 79year-old man drowned in a flooded ditch in the town of Kosa. The local government said in a statement that a third person had died, but did not provide details. According to media reports, the victim was a 66-year-old man whose house was hit by a landslide in Uto city.

Local media also widely reported that the body of an 86-year-old woman was pulled from her house which was hit by a landslide in Kumamoto city. Another person who lived with her remained unaccounted for, public broadcaster NHK said. Officials could not immediately confirm a fourth death but said three people were missing. The central government, which is supporting post-quake rebuilding in Kumamoto, has strengthened its crisis management department. "We will take thorough measures to deal with this," said Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga. — AFP

DEATH IN CHILDBIRTH: PROSPECTS GRIM FOR WOMEN IN KASHMIR

SHARDA, Pakistan: "We are afraid we could die," says Asmat Nisa, a mother-of-five set to give birth again. It is a dangerous prospect for women in the remote mountains of Pakistaniheld Kashmir, where doctors are few and help is far. "There is no hospital here and I have never seen a female doctor," explains Nisa, who is from the village of Arang Kel in Kashmir's Neelum Valley. That her doctor be a woman is important: local customs dictate that male doctors are not permitted to examine women during pregnancy or labor.

This restriction, combined with the isolation and severe weather of the plunging, remote valleys makes giving birth one of the deadliest moments in the lives of its women and newborns. "The major reason for the deaths of mothers and newborn babies in the remote areas of Neelum Valley is unskilled and untrained midwives assisting the pregnant women during delivery," says Farhat Shaheen, director of maternal, newborn and child health for Pakistani Kashmir. Fifty-four babies out of every 1,000 are stillbirths or first day deaths in Kashmir, she said. In 2014, a report by the charity Save the Children stated Pakistan had the highest rate of first day deaths and stillbirths in the world, at 40.7 per 1,000 births. In Europe, according to the same report, 5.9 babies for every 1,000 do not survive the first 28 days. Even neighboring Afghanistan, torn apart by decades of war, does better than Pakistan, with a rate of 29 first day deaths and stillbirths for every 1,000 births. "The numbers of the deaths are very high," Shaheen says.

Doctors' Reluctance

In the village of Sharda, some 20 km from

Arang Kel, inhabitants scattered across two mountains face life and death with a single Basic Health Unit (BHU). The facility has one male doctor rendered useless for pregnancy and childbirth by his gender, and three "Lady Health Visitors", as they are known locally women whose job is to create awareness about health and hygiene, but who do not give treatment and are not medically trained. That leaves a lone midwife to help the women of Sharda and the surrounding areas - a population of around 17,000 - through childbirth.

The isolation of the region, which is covered with four to five feet of snow in winter, is a significant factor in medical staff's reluctance to work there, says Dr Sardar Mahmood Ahmed Khan, director general of the health service in Pakistani Kashmir. There is no electricity save a handful of small turbines used to generate hydropower from the streams and rivers sparkling through the valleys - enough to fuel lights, but not much more, even in the BHUs.

Pregnant women fight to scrape a living on the plunging slopes of the unforgiving mountains: carrying wood, cutting grass, working in the fields, says Riffat Bibi, a Lady Health Visitor at the Sharda BHU, adding that poor nutrition is also a factor ruining maternal health. "We have to do our hard daily household routine work during our pregnancies," adds Rubina Bashir, a mother-to-be in Sharda. The figures Khan cites are stark: Of an estimated 4.4 million people in Pakistani Kashmir, he says there are a mere 1,050 doctors. Some 758 health units - ranging from first aid centers to hospitals - serve the area, with around 3,000 Lady Health Visitors. — AFP



SHARDA: In this photograph taken on May 27, 2016, Pakistani health worker Zeweer Jan (right) speaks with pregnant Kashmiri women at a healthcare center in this town in the mountainous Neelum Valley. — AFP

BITTER ROW OVER N KOREA **DEFECTORS MOVES TO COURT**

SEOUL: A Seoul court convened a rare hearing yesterday into the welfare of a dozen North Korean defectors who South Korea says escaped of their own free will but Pyongyang insists were abducted. The closed-door session pitted officials from South Korea's spy agency, the National Intelligence Service, (NIS) against a group of human rights lawyers who contend the 12 women are being illegally detained. All 12 were waitresses at a North Korean-run restaurant in China who arrived in the South in April, making headlines as the largest group defection in years. While Seoul says they fled to the South voluntarily, Pyongyang claims they were kidnapped by NIS agents and has waged a campaign through its state media for their immediate return. The campaign has included emotional video interviews with the women's relatives in the North, angrily denouncing South Korean authorities and demanding a meeting with the defectors. Seoul has rejected all such advances and insists the women are being held incommunicado for their own protection while they go through a resettlement process.

Missile Test

The dispute has fanned inter-Korean tensions that have been running high since the North carried out its fourth nuclear test in January. As the court hearing opened, Japanese and South Korean media cited military and government officials as saying North Korea appeared to be preparing to test a powerful, new medium-range ballistic missile. For all North Korean defectors, life in the South begins with intensive NIS interrogation that can last for months and is aimed at weeding out possible spies. — AFP



SEOUL: South Korean human right lawyers leave after a court hearing on the detention of North Korean defectors as an anti-North Korean protester (right) shouts to them in front of the Seoul District Court yesterday. — AP



a North Korean rocket launch at the Defense Ministry yesterday. — AP

SIGNS OF POSSIBLE NORTH KOREA MISSILE LAUNCH

SEOUL: North Korea appears to be readying another test of a powerful, new mediumrange missile, following a series of failures for a ballistic weapons program that aspires to threaten the US mainland, multiple reports said yesterday. Japanese and South Korean media quoted official sources as saying North Korea looked to have deployed a socalled Musudan missile near its east coast. The North has made four failed attempts this year to test fly the Musudan, which has an estimated range of anywhere between 2,500 and 4,000 km.

The lower range covers the whole of South Korea and Japan, while the upper range would include US military bases on Guam. "We have detected signs that the North has deployed what appears to be a Musudan missile," South Korea's Yonhap news agency quoted an unidentified government official as saying. Japan's Kyodo News agency and public broadcaster NHK both cited unidentified sources as saying preparations for a missile launch might be underway.

The Defense Ministry in Seoul declined to confirm the reports, but said it was "closely monitoring the situation". UN resolutions ban North Korea from any use of ballistic missile technology, although it regularly fires shortrange missiles into the sea off its east coast. In Tokyo, chief government spokesman Yoshihide Suga partially confirmed a Kyodo report that Japan's military had been ordered to intercept any missile or falling parts that might threaten Japanese territory.

"We ordered the Self-Defense Forces to take necessary steps ... to protect our people's lives and property," Suga said. First unveiled as an indigenous missile at a military parade in Pyongyang in October 2010, the Musudan has never been successfully flight-tested. Three failures in April were seen as an embarrassment for the Pyongyang leadership, coming ahead of a rare ruling party congress that was meant to celebrate the country's achievements. The latest attempt in May was also deemed to have failed. — AFP

THREE DEAD IN JAPAN LANDSLIDES, FLOODS

more than 1,700 aftershocks, which broke up the

Torrential rain has triggered widespread landslides on Kyushu island.



BAHRAIN 'WILL PAY THE PRICE' FOR SHIITES CRACKDOWN, IRAN WARNS

rebellion and "will pay the price" after an escalating crackdown on the country's Shiite majority saw a top cleric stripped of citizenship. Washington and the United Nations have also raised concerns about moves by the Sunni-ruled kingdom against Shiites, who account for some 70 percent of the Gulf state's population.

Bahrain has been shaken by unrest since security forces crushed Shiite-led protests demanding a constitutional monarchy and an elected prime minister in 2011. Tensions have reached fresh heights in recent days, with the suspension of the Al-Wefaq main Shiite opposition group and, on Monday, the stripping of top Shiite cleric Sheikh Isa Qassim's citizenship. Predominant Shiite power Iran has long championed the rights of the community in Bahrain and a prominent Iranian general said the move against Sheikh Qassim was a step too far.

"Surely they know that the aggression against Ayatollah Sheikh Isa Qassim is a red line... that will leave no option for the people but to resort to armed resistance," Qassem Suleimani, head of the elite Revolutionary Guards' overseas operations arm, the Quds Force, told state media late on Monday. Bahrain's rulers "will pay the price and it will have no result but the destruction of this bloodthirsty regime," he added. Iran's foreign ministry criticized the "extrajudicial" measures by Bahrain that "dash hopes of reform through dialogue."

'Blow to freedom'

Bahrain has repeatedly accused Iran of interfering in its affairs and inciting violence among Shiites, a claim Tehran denies. The Bahraini interior ministry alluded to the accusations in its statement announcing the decision against the Shiite spiritual leader. Qassim abused his position to "serve foreign interests and promote... sectarianism and violence," it said. Saudi Arabia's government voiced support for its neighbor, saying it stands by Bahrain in "measures taken to preserve the security, stability and safety of its citizens" and to protect "unity and social cohesion".

The Arab heavyweight has been a strong backer of Manama and repeatedly accused arch-rival Iran of meddling in Bahraini affairs. There was no immediate indication of Qassim's fate but, in theory, he would be left stateless and could face deportation through a legal process. A leading Bahraini human rights group yesterday urged authori-

DUBAI: Iran has warned Bahrain that it is fanning armed ties to stop revoking citizenship "to punish political dissent." The move against Qassim "is yet another blow to freedom of speech and expression in Bahrain," the Bahrain Centre for Human Rights said.

It urged the government to "immediately and unconditionally reinstate" the citizenship of Qassim and others, saying that it had documented evidence of at least 261 people being stripped of their nationality since 2012. Lebanon's Iran-backed Shiite Hezbollah movement urged Bahrainis to "express their anger" at a decision it said showed there would be "no reforms, nor rights, nor dialogue." Street protests erupted in the cleric's home village of Diraz, west of the capital Manama, on Monday, witnesses said. They said police sealed off the village, where thousands of demonstrators waved portraits of their religious leader and chanted slogans against King Hamad.

US 'deeply troubled'

As well as the suspension of Al-Wefaq-whose political chief Sheikh Ali Salman is serving a nine-year jail term on charges of inciting violence-the crackdown has seen a series of arrests and jailings. Earlier this month, the head of the Bahrain Centre for Human Rights, Nabeel Rajab, was rearrested after being released from prison last year for health reasons.

A week earlier, prominent Shiite opposition activist Zainab Al-Khawaja announced she was leaving the country shortly after being released from several months in jail for ripping up a picture of King Hamad. Bahrain, which is connected to Saudi Arabia by a causeway and lies across the Gulf from Shiite Iran, is a key ally of Washington and home to the US Fifth Fleet. The stripping of Qassim's citizenship nonetheless drew a rebuke from Washington, with State Department spokesman John Kirby saying the United

"We remain deeply troubled by the government of Bahrain's practice of withdrawing the nationality of its citizens arbitrarily," Kirby said. "Our concern is further magnified by reports that Sheikh Qassim was unable to respond to the accusations against him... or challenge the decision through a transparent legal process." The UN human rights office also expressed concern over the "intensified crackdown on the freedoms of expression and association and the right to a nationality." It urged Bahrain's rulers "to deescalate the situation instead of taking such damaging steps in quick — AFP



In this file photo, Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi (left) shakes hands with Saudi Arabia's King Salman before he departs Egypt. An Egyptian court has rejected as illegal a demarcation border agreement between Egypt and Saudi Arabia under which Cairo would surrender control over two Red Sea islands to Riyadh. — AP

EGYPT COURT QUASHES SAUDI ISLAND PACT

Continued from Page 1

El-Sisi has acknowledged that the demarcation negotiations were held in secrecy to avoid the unwanted media attention and opposition to the deal. "Please, I don't want anyone to talk about this anymore," he angrily said in April. The agreement sparked the largest anti-government demonstrations since El-Sisi took office in June 2014. Authorities responded with a wave of mass arrests of protesters and activists.

However, most of those arrested were acquitted. released on bail or convicted and fined. "This is a very important step," said Khalid Ali, a prominent rights lawyer and former presidential candidate who brought the case against the government over the deal. "I appeal to the Egyptian government ... to implement the court's ruling. "This is the land of our ancestors; you must protect it, and those islands are Egyptian and will remain Egypt forever," he said. — AP

SOCIAL DIMENSION OF FASTING, RAMADAN

Continued from Page 1

The Prophet (PBUH) was the most generous person ever in ordinary times, and was even more generous in Ramadan as he was likened to the fast wind that brings rain and benefits others. The feelings of sympathy and compassion on the part of the rich and the feelings of gratitude and love on the part of the poor bring both together in harmonious society free of envy and grudge.

There is no room in Islam for class conflict or disparity. The rich learn that they can live a normal life without much of the luxuries of life and they can find the true meaning of happiness in reaching out to the poor and the needy. Thus, we can have a healthy society where the relations are based on mercy, love and compassion.

Ramadan is the greatest teacher of tolerance. Muslims are asked to control their temper during their fast, even if they are irritated by others, they are ordered just to remind themselves and the others that they are fasting with "I am a fasting person." Showing anger or being abusive can spoil a person's fast and are not at all allowed. Tolerance for others is the most sought-after please call 25231015/6 or e-mail: info@tiescenter.net.

value that we need in today's multicultural world where people of different religious groups coexist. Remaining without food and water throughout the day and at the same time keeping oneself normal and pleasant requires a great deal of tolerance.

Fasting teaches Muslims the virtue of self-control, which can play an important role in building positive relationships with others. Fasting is perfect exercise for self-control, not only on the physical level, but also on the moral, social and spiritual levels. Fasting heals the scars that undermine the social fabric and spreads brotherhood and social justice while, at the same time, helping the individual to purify and elevate his spiritual being. It is a marvelous act of worship that interweaves different elements in one unified whole.

Courtesy of the TIES Center, whose mission is to empower Kuwait's expats through social and educational services that promote a positive and productive role in society, and to facilitate opportunities for intra- and interfaith interactions that promote social solidarity. For more information,

BOMB KILLS 6 JORDANIAN TROOPS

Continued from Page 1

the attack that aims to destabilize the security and stability of the brotherly country. His Highness also prayed that Almighty Allah would have mercy on the souls of the victims and wished fast recovery for the wounded. His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah sent similar cables to the Jordanian king.

Jordan's King Abdullah vowed that the perpetrators will not go unpunished and said his security forces will deal with "an iron fist" with any group that sought to harm the country's security or borders, a palace statement said. Jordan is a staunch ally of the United States and is taking part in the USled campaign against Islamic State in Syria, where the jihadist group still controls large areas of territory including

Jordan has kept tight control of its frontier with Syria since the outbreak of the war in its neighbor. Washington condemned as a "cowardly terrorist act" the deadly attack aying it would continue "unwavering support" for the

Since the start of the Syria conflict, Washington has spent tens of millions of dollars to help Amman set up an elaborate surveillance system known as the Border Security Program to stem infiltration by militants from Syria and Iraq. The Rakban crossing targeted yesterday is a military

zone far from any inhabited area, and includes a three-km (two-mile) stretch of berms built a decade ago to combat smuggling. The border is heavily guarded by patrols and drones. US Patriot missiles are stationed in the kingdom, however, and the US army has hundreds of trainers in the country. It is the only area where Jordan still receives Syrian refugees, some 50,000 of whom are stranded in Rakban refugee camp in a de facto no-man's land some 330 km northeast of Amman.

The population of the camp has since last year grown from several thousand to over 50,000 people as the fighting in Syria intensified, relief workers say. Jordan has been a big beneficiary of foreign aid because of its efforts to help refugees but has drawn criticism from Western allies and aid agencies over the humanitarian situation at Rakban, diplomats say. Earlier waves of Syrian refugees had an easier time, with some walking just a few hundred meters to cross into Jordan Jordanian army, a statement from the US embassy said. Jordan sealed those border crossings in 2013. — Agencies

OIL WORKERS' RIGHTS WILL NOT BE UNDERMINED...

Continued from Page 1

But both Omair and Saleh denied the allegation. MP Khalil Al-Saleh said the strike is a basic right for the workers and the ministry should resolve the problem so as to achieve stability in this vital sector.

MP Faisal Al-Kundari said that violations worth hundreds of millions of dinars are taking place in the oil companies and the budget report has failed to specify them. He also asked about the cost of re-operating the oil installations that were shut down during the oil strike. MPs also criticized the management of Kuwaiti investments overseas estimated at over \$600 billion.

Head of the Budgets Committee MP Adnan Abdulsamad said the investment sector as a whole need

a major reassessment. This includes KIA, KPC and the Social Security institution and others which have billions of dinars in investments. He said they also require a stronger financial monitoring. MP Abdullah Al-Maayouf called for investing half of Kuwaiti assets locally to create more jobs and improve the country's business.

MP Khalil Abul complained that 50 percent of Kuwaiti investments are held in one country which has started harassing Saudi Arabian investments there. He was referring to the United States. He said Kuwaiti investments should be distributed geographically in a better way. MP Omar called for a clear strategy about the investments and the economy as a whole in light of low oil prices, continued price war in the oil market and the Saudi transformation plans.

Ghabga - a traditional get-together...

Continued from Page 1

Youssef added that most Ghabqas that are held in hotels are pre-conditioned with booking of no less than 50 people, which is a large number to be accommodat-

He pointed to a significant trend being adopted by many families to get the services inside the homes (Catering) which are supervised by the hotel management. For her part, Nouf Al-Salem said that holding the ghabga at the special halls or hotels is considered as sort of lavishing and bragging that is away from the spirit of the holy month of Ramadan, which is manifested in tolerance, humility and a sense towards the needy and the poor. She added that holding ghabga in homes is among the funny and entertaining habits, which are inherited by parents from their grandparents.

Abdullah Al-Matrouk said that the requirements of modern life have necessitated holding ghabqas in hotels for many reasons; chiefly the ability of hotels to accommodate the large number of people as well as to avoid inconvenience to the neighbors. He added that the ghabga itself is an inherited Kuwaiti tradition intended to bring together the largest number of relatives, loved ones and friends in one place, whether at home or the hotel, pointing out that "our ancestors did not have the financial abundance and lifestyle that we live now". — KUNA





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WHICH WAY FORWARD? **EUROPE DIVIDED ON** POST-BREXIT PATH

By Yacine Le Forestier

■uropeans will have to struggle to drag the EU out of the doldrums after Britain's vote tomorrow, with a public hostile to further integration while Berlin and Paris are at odds over the way forward. Whatever the results of the British referendum on whether or not to guit the EU, heavyweights France and Germany-both founding members of the bloc-will find themselves under pressure to defend what's left of their vision for Europe.

They may be forced to only pursue issues such as security, as enthusiasm for the bloc has eroded due to a morose economic outlook and as populist rhetoric gains ground. "Attempting to maintain the status quo and remaining immobile would amount to political suicide", as the UK vote could push other countries to also seek their own referendum, warned the Institut Montaigne in France.

But what's the next step?

French Economy Minister Emmanuel Macron has championed a common budget, parliament and a commissioner for the euro-zone, as he told Le Monde that France would carry the initiative "to avoid contamination from Brexit" and to immediately launch "a positive project for Europe." Berlin however sees it another way. "In response to a Brexit, we couldn't simply demand further integration," said German Finance Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble in an interview with Der Spiegel. "That would be clumsy. Many people would rightfully ask whether we politicians still haven't got the message."

Even if a Brexit is narrowly averted, he said, "we would have to see it as a warning and a wake-up call not to continue with business as usual." European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker also said the bloc would have to learn lessons not only from events in Britain but from the rest of Europe, and that pushing for more integration "risks adding to the confusion". "This euroscepticism is not only present in Britain," he added. The spectacular gains across the continent by populist eurosceptic parties, including in Germany, attest to that. "I would be surprised to see from June 24 a major project targeted at boosting European integration," said a German government source speaking on condition of anonymity. "Many countries are afraid of this subject because, at the moment, they have no support for such ideas among the public," the source added.

Focus on security

For all the talk of the special French-German relationship, the two leading EU nations make an odd couple. Germany follows a liberal economic line, far closer to Britain's than France's, and preaches reforms and budgetary rigor while refusing to share in other countries' debt burden. Paris, meanwhile, is struggling to keep its deficits within the EU limit, having trouble putting down resistance to reforms at home and baulks at giving a supranational entity more oversight over its budget. "Today, we are blocked by two taboos-a French taboo which is to transfer sovereignty, and a German taboo which is a financial and solidarity transfer. We can't progress without breaking them," said Macron.

As a result, no French-German joint strategy appears to be close at hand. "The Germans are afraid of finding themselves face-to-face with a weak France," said Dominique Moisi, from the French Institute of International Relations. "There is no consensus on policies that can be adopted the day after."

Even within the German coalition government, parties are not singing from the same hymnbook as some feel there should be a return of powers from Brussels to individual nations. "Germany does not have a plan to follow because the government is divided on its post-Brexit strategy," said conservative

Consequently, several sources believe that the EU partners would turn their attention to issues where there is greater consensus, such as security and defense. "We are going to talk a lot about European defence in the coming months," a French government source said. "There is a fairly large consensus on the fact that we can do more in the area of external policy and common European security," a German source said. Areas of work in progress include common missions abroad, progress in the sharing of production and military equipment purchase, as well as the creation of a real EU border police force. However, the big step towards a European army-an idea championed by federalists-is out of reach. — AFP

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BRITAIN AND EU: AN AWKWARD MARRIAGE OF CONVENIENCE

By Ouerdya Ait Abdelmalek, Robin Millard

Britain votes to leave the European Union tomorrow, it will be the culmination of decades of half-hearted and often hostile relations with neighboring countries. The country's rocky ties with the EU are rooted in its island history and defiant sense of independence. Some Britons still recall with pride that they were last successfully invaded in 1066. The country's resistance to the Nazis in World War II is also central to British identity, particularly for older voters. "Britain has never really internalized the European project because of its very different history during the 20th century-it is less frightened of the consequences of leaving," Robert Tombs, a history professor at Cambridge University said.

Politicians at Westminster have also pursued an often two-faced approach to the EU, complicating the relationship even further. "One face is a hostile, sceptical and largely ticism in Britain," said Tim Oliver of the London School of Economics. "The other face, largely seen in Brussels, is a constructive, engaging one that has seen the UK shape the EU in a large number of ways." Opinion polls suggest the "Remain" and "Leave" camps are neck and neck, leaving Britain's future in the EU hanging in the balance.

Pragmatic decision to join

Britain initially stood back from post-war efforts to foster European unity, with senior figures believing that its foreign policy goals were best pursued through its empire. But as the empire declined and Britain watched trade flourish on the continent, it applied to join the European Economic Community (EEC) in 1961,

four years after its creation. French president Charles de Gaulle twice vetoed its efforts, but Britain eventually joined in 1973.

Labor Prime Minister Harold Wilson called a referendum on membership in 1975 to try and appease the eurosceptic, protectionist wing of his fractured party. He secured 67 percent support for staying in. Conservative leader Margaret Thatcher was a cheerleader for EEC membership, seeing it as a pragmatic decision to join a tariff-free trading bloc. But as prime minister from 1979 she was soon riling her European colleagues, demanding a rebate on Britain's EEC contributions she eventually secured in 1984. She was also fiercely opposed to the bloc's growing political integration, fearing the creation of a "European super-state".

Her visceral "No! No! No!" approach triggered her downfall in 1990. It also exposed deep fractures in the Conservative party on Europe, which completely handicapped the pro-European John Major's 1990-1997 pre-

through 1992 and 1993 nearly brought down Major's government over the Maastricht Treaty which turned the EEC into the European Union. Frustrations of membership In 1997, new Labor prime minister Tony Blair came into office wanting Britain to join the euro but met a wall of domestic opposition born of the scarring ERM experience. Since then, a standoffish, one-foot-in, onefoot-out approach has become the default position for successive governments. Britain remains outside the single currency and the border-free Schengen zone, two of the EU's Against a backdrop of restive Conservative

miership and remain unhealed to this day.

"Black Wednesday" in 1992 saw the pound

tumble out of the Exchange Rate Mechanism

(ERM) which had pegged it to the German

deutsche mark. Then a Conservative rebellion

leaking away, Prime Minister David Cameron promised a referendum in 2013, aiming to resolve the issue once and for all. During the referendum campaign, Cameron has sold Britain's place in the EU as a pragmatic marriage of convenience rather than a place where Britain's heart lies. In TV debates, he has repeatedly insisted that he is frustrated by the EU and wants to reform it but stresses that membership is good for Britain's economy. He may have hoped that tomorrow's referendum would clear up the ambiguity in Britain's relations with the EU. However, few experts predict a clean divorce in the case of Brexit, which would trigger years of complex negotiations, or, if Britain votes to stay, a second honeymoon. — AFP



CARSHALTON: Pro-Brexit supporter Trevor Hatcher (center) discusses the upcoming referendum vote with a neighbor outside his house in Carshalton, south of London yesterday. — AFP

BRITS OF FRANCE'S 'DORDOGNESHIRE' FRET OVER BREXIT

By Philippe Bernes-Lasserre

n market day in the southern French town of Eymet, English voices float over the stalls bursting with fruit and vegetables, charcuterie and duck confits. Some are tourists, but most are British expatriates, many of whom have enjoyed the warm weather and easy pace of life in the Dordogne region for decades and are now more than a little jittery over a possible Brexit.

"People here are genuinely concerned and a bit bewildered by the whole situation, the campaign, the uncertainty," said Roger Haigh, who represents the Dordogne region at the French-British Chamber of Commerce. "Especially the older people (who) have no influence on what's maybe going to happen to them," he said. "It's not necessarily the best time of your life to be put in that situation." Dordogne has long been a magnet for British pensioners, and the 13th-century bastide town of Eymet is host to some 200 families from across the Channel.

Overall, between 6,000 and 8,000 Britons live in the area, giving it the nickname "Dordogneshire". "I've chosen to live here because I love it here. There are things that drive me crazy, but on balance I love it," said Brian Hinchcliffe, a retired teacher who has lived in Dordogne since 2000. "This is where we want to be, and I think that goes for all expats." Many fear the economic effects of a Brexit. "Uncertainty as UK votes on Brexit" is the front-page headline of a free local English-language monthly, The Bugle, published as "Leave" sentiment started gaining momentum a few weeks ago. "Some people... would really have to tighten their belts," said Terrie Simpson, an estate agent in Eymet.

'Scaremongering'

"If we vote out, and there's a dramatic effect on the pound, retired people here will suffer," she said. "For some pensioners their pension could drop by a third but they won't have the means to go back to England."

Memories remain fresh of the financial crisis of 2008 when the pound weakened dramatically and many Britons in the Dordogne area sold their homes and packed out. "Quite a large number of expats found they couldn't sustain the life anymore, and they've had to sell and leave. That may happen again," Hinchcliffe said. The uncertainty is already hurting business. Simpson said, noting that many potential home buyers are putting off the decision until after tomorrow's vote. Health care is another concern as British expats currently benefit from the

French system under a bilateral convention between London and Paris. Expatriates "are covered very well here," Haigh said. "That is obviously a worry for people who are getting on in age, who are retired and that know that they will need health cover at one stage or another." Well before last week's assassination of British MP Jo Cox, a supporter of the "Remain" campaign, expats in Dordogne were upset over the tone of the debate. "There is a lot of scaremongering and not a lot of facts," said Tim Richardson, a 50-year-old winemaker in the Eymet area. "People are trying to scare voters one way or the other," said Richardson, who left Britain 25 years ago and was elected to the Eymet council in 2014.

'France has been good to us'

The Bugle's editor, Steve Martindale, said many expats have the "added frustration" of having no say on the Brexit because those who have lived abroad for more than 15 years

are not eligible to vote. "If they all could vote, the vast majority of expats would vote to stay" in the EU, he said. While Britons in favor of Brexit are scarce in France-a recent survey of 4,000 respondents by expat website Angloinfo, found that 71 percent were opposed-that is not to say that they are enamored with the EU. "I am not that happy myself with the way Europe is run," Richardson said.

"I would vote 'remain', but with a big proviso: remain, but work from within on how things can be improved. In general, European bureaucracy is out of touch with the way people want to live." Among their options if the "Leave" campaign wins is to apply for French nationality. "Being a British non-EU citizen living in France, my life would get a lot more complicated," Martindale said. "I would probably take up French citizenship." Hinchcliffe says that whatever happens, he is here to stay. "France has been good to us and continues to be good to us." — AFP



EYMET, FRANCE: Real estate agent Terrie Simpson poses outside her estate agency dedicated to British buyers in Eymet, southwestern France, in the Dordogne region where a large population of British expatriates live. The thousands of British expatriates living for years in Perigord, in France, feel discomfort about the upcoming Brexit poll. — AFP

REAL MADRID SET TO BUY BACK MORATA

ROME: Real Madrid are set to exercise their right to buy back the contract of Spanish international Alvaro Morata from Juventus, the Serie A club said yesterday. "Real have informed us that they will exercise their right to repurchase Morata. In the coming days, they will put it in writing," Juventus sporting direc-

tor Giuseppe Marotta Marotta said in comments reported by Gazzetta dello Sport. "We'll see what we can do but the possibilities of keeping him are reduced." Morata, 23, arrived in Juventus in mid 2014, and has scored 27 goals in 93 matches. According to Italian media reports, his contract includes a buyback clause in favour of Real Madrid of up to 30 million euros (\$33.9m). Morata has 11 caps with Spain and scored a double during their 3-0 Euro 2016 win against Turkey on Friday. Meanwhile, the Juventus boss stressed that the club wanted to keep Paul Pogba amid reports Real Madrid are set to bid for the France international. "We haven't received any formal offer and we don't want to negotiate," said Morata.

TEKLEHAIM A NOT SET FOR TOUR DE FRANCE

LONDON: Six African riders were included in Team Dimension Data's provisional squad for the Tour de France yesterday, led by Eritrean Daniel Teklehaimanot who won a second successive king-of-the-mountains crown at this month's Criterium du Dauphine. Teklehaimanot became the first black African rider to compete in the Tour de France last year when he had the honour of being the first man to roll down the ramp for the stage-one time trial in the Dutch city of Utrecht. He is almost certain to be part of the team while fellow countryman Natnael Berhane, South African road race champion Jaco Venter, Reinhardt Janse van Rensburg, Jacques Janse van Rensburg and Algerian Youcef Reguigui will hope to join him. African-based Dimension Data, formerly known as MTN Qhubeka, have established themselves as a leading team in major tours. Norway's Edvald Boasson Hagen, who won the points jersey at the Dauphine, British sprint king Mark Cavendish, American Tyler Farrar and Steve Cummings who won the team's first stage at the Tour last year on Nelson Mandela Day, are all in their ranks. — Reuters

CHAMPS LEICESTER SIGN HERNANDEZ

LONDON: Leicester have agreed to sign Sporting Gijon defender Luis Hernandez on a free transfer, the Premier League champions confirmed yesterday. Hernandez will join Claudio Ranieri's side on a four-year contract when his current deal with the La Liga side expires at the end of June. The 27-yearold becomes Leicester's first signing of the close-season as Ranieri bolsters his squad for their title defence and maiden Champions League campaign next season. "Leicester City Football Club are delighted to announce that Spanish defender Luis Hernandez will join on a four-year deal, starting on 1 July, 2016," a statement on the club's website read. Hernandez, a product of the Real Madrid youth academy, played 140 games for Gijon and helped them preserve their La Liga status on the final day of the season. He will join up with his new team-mates when they return to training in July and could feature in Leicester's pre-season campaign, which includes matches against Barcelona, Paris Saint-Germain and Celtic as part of the International Champions Cup. —AFP

KUWAIT DOMESTIC CRICKET SEASON 2015-2016 ENDS WITH A BANG

2,500 players, 1,026 matches and more than \$50,000 given in Cash awards



Chairman Emad Al Jassam with a memento of appreciation.

IELTS

IE

Winners and runners up captains



Vice President Faisal Al Marzouk with Domestic Director Sajid Ashraf.

KUWAIT: Kuwait Cricket (KC), the official body of governing cricket in Kuwait in association with its principle partner IDP Education - official IELTS centre in Kuwait ended the historic domestic season with a bang over the weekend of 2nd and 3rd June at TACK Entertainment City Cricket Ground - Doha (TACK-TEC) & Sulaibiya Cricket Ground (SCG). With 110 unique cricket teams, as many as 2,500 players, 1026 matches live on Kuwait cricket website and more than \$50,000 in cash awards to the winning teams, runners up and individual performers throughout the season, it has undoubtedly been the best domestic season that has changed the face of cricket in Kuwait and the interest amongst new teams and players is phenomenal.

As many as 9 T20 finals took place over an action packed weekend that saw the entire Kuwait Cricket fraternity including teams, players, officials and spectators enjoy the growth of domestic cricket with their respective families and friends like never before. KC-TMDL Edition 2 & KC-T20 premier league Edition 1 were the ongoing cement and turf tournaments that concluded in a lively atmosphere created by DJ flames that kept the entire audience present at the ground fully entertained in both the venues of SCG & TACK-TEC.

KC - TMDL on cement saw as many as 40 teams spread across 4 divisions of A, B, C & D having played at 8 various desert grounds of Hateen, Sulaibikhat, Jleeb and Kabd where as KC-T20 Premier league on turf saw as many as 46 teams spread across 5 divisions of A, B, C, D, & E having played at both SCG & TACK-TEC over a period of 3 months and therefore, it came as no surprise that the finalists were more than ready for an epic grand finale.

Four out of the 9 mega finals took place on Thursday evening (2nd June) at TACK-TEC & SCG simultaneously with both the venues hosting two matches for the night whereas the remaining 5 finals were exclusively played on Friday (3rd June). Division E finals of KC-TMDL was played between KRH CC and the 4th Dimension. KRH CC comfortably won the match by 35 runs with Shakil Kabir Ahmad being declared the man of the finals. Division D finals of KC-TMDL was played between Smashers XI and Young Stars. Smashers XI living by their name smashed young stars 191 runs in the first innings and won the match by a huge margin of 71 runs with Sakheer Hussain being declared the man of the finals. Division C finals of KC-TMDL was played between Channels Media and Al Nida. It was a closely fought game and in the end, Channels Media came out as victorious by 16 runs with Umer Slahuddin declared as the man of the finals. Division B finals of KC-TMDL were played between The Tigers CC and ACC-Kuwait. The Tigers CC held on to their nerves by chasing a small target of 117 runs with only 3 wickets in hand and the skipper Jolly Mathew was declared the man of the finals.

ACROBATIC FIELDING

KC-T20 premier league division E final was played between a very passionate Indhrani Cricket Club and Titans CC. Batting first,



Winning teams and officials

Indhrani CC scored 159 runs and got Titans all out at 118 runs winning the match by 41 runs with Nagarju Bandla declared the man of the finals. Division D final of KC-T20 premier league was played between Al Bader and SSH CC. Al Bader scored 133 runs batting first and SSH won the match by 6 wickets with Farook Ijaz declared as man of the finals.

Division C finals of KC-T20 premier league was played between Royal Kings and KGL cricket club. Royal Kings set a target of 147 runs for KGL batting first and KGL were short of 25 runs in their chase with Renil Raj of Royal Kings being declared the man of the finals. Division B finals were played between the famous Kuwait Hawks and the promising Artech Cricket Club. ACC-Kuwait scored 180 runs batting first and Kuwait Hawks were bundled out for 130 runs. ACC-Kuwait were declared champions of division B with their star performer Aphsal walking away with the man of the finals award.

The grand Division A finals was played between defending champions Aroma CC and a power packed AHS Punjab Cricket Club. By the time the grand Division A finals took centre stage, the audience had settled in and were ready to witness the best players of Kuwait put up a show of boundaries and entertain them with their acrobatic fielding and energy throughout the 3 hours of play. Ahs Punjab won the toss and chose to bat first. The dashing Khalid Butt got out early in the first over when Usman

Waheed plucked a one hand blinder at mid on. However, the experienced Yaseen Mughal was at his Vintage best and smashed all the bowlers of Aroma all over the park with small contributions coming in from Adnan Idrees & skipper Saud Qamar. Yaseen Mughal missed out on a century and got out for a match winning 96 runs taking his teams total to a comfortable 191 runs. Aroma's poor fielding added to the advantage of Yaseen as the veteran was dropped as many as 3 times by 3 different fielders. Chasing a mammoth total of 198 runs, Aroma lost their star batsman Kashif early in the chase, followed by Usman, Asghar and Raveja which had the defending champions reeling at 60 for 4. From there onwards, Aroma never seemed to come back in the game and after they lost the experienced Ahsan and Ali Talib, it was more or a less curtains for them. Ahs Punjab won the finals comfortably in the end with Yaseen Mughal declared the deserving man of the finals. The celebrations by Ahs Punjab and all other winning teams was a sight to see as hundreds of players danced away to the traditional beats of Dhol celebrating a fantastic season for their respective teams before the Director of Domestic Cricket & Marketing, Sajid Ashraf started the proceedings with the presentation party.

It was undoubtedly a privilege for all the finalist teams and their respective players along with the entire Kuwait Cricket fraternity to have the chairman of the Kuwait Cricket Council, Emad Al

Jassam grace the spectacular occasion with probably the loudest round of applause when he made an entry to the ground at the end of Division A grand finale. Similarly, earlier in the day, what brought a smile to many of the cricket enthusiasts was to see the visible return of the Vice President of Kuwait Cricket, Faisal Al Marzook to the cricket grounds after more than 10 years. Speaking exclusively with VOOP media. he declared that "the plans shared with me by the Director of Domestic Cricket & Marketing for Kuwait Cricket, are very impressive and cricket has grown heaps and bounds in the recent past and I am here to encourage this successful growth of Kuwait's domestic cricket which is bound to take the national team of Kuwait to new heights of success similar to what Oman & UAE have been able to achieve in the region and it has always been my dream for as long as I can

FINALS AWARD

Sajid Ashraf welcomed the presentation party that had the chairman of the KC council Emad Al Jassam, managing partner of Circle Partners UK Harshith Vora, Managing Director of Burgan International Indra, TACK International President Mohammed Ashraf, council members Imran Hajji Mustafa (director of match officials) & Tahir Khan (venue manager), organizing committee officials Rishi D Jayan (operations & website), Robert D'souza (head of logistics) and Syed Hassan

Abbas (technical committee). A vote of thanks was given to first, the General Secretary of Kuwait Cricket, Haider Farman as without his guidance and leadership, it would have not been possible to bring cricket under one roof in such a centralized and professional manner.

The overwhelming support of principal partners IDP - official IELTS CENTRE n Kuwait was then recognized with a huge memento of appreciation, followed by season sponsors Kuwait Swedish (official logistics partner), Al Hafiz (official print solutions partner), Red Bull (official beverages partner) and Crowne Plaza (official hospitality partner).

To continue with, the best individual performers across all divisions in the shape of best batsman, best bowler and best all rounder were announced and every single one of them walked away with a cash prize of \$120. In total, as many as 27 individuals awards were given to all the best performers of Kuwait's domestic cricket. KC T-20 Premier league best bowler award for Division A went to Abdullah Khan for future stars for most number of wickets, best batsman was given to Usman Waheed of Aroma CC for most number of runs, and best all rounder went to the evergreen Khalid Butt of Ahs Punjab.

In addition, as many as 50 people including the 18 match officials that officiated the finals over the weekend headed by Imran Haji Mustafa, logistics staff, marketing executives, grounds staff, operations, website and other volunteers were called on to the stage in front of the capacity crowd with a huge round of applause and a gift of appreciation for all their extreme hard work and efforts in making the 2015 - 2016 season a grand success.

Finally, a photo shoot of all the finalists with the dignitaries, council members and other officials was conducted. The director of domestic cricket and marketing along with the chairman of the KC council Emad Al Jassam concluded the presentation party with a promise of having a bigger and better domestic season of 2016 - 2017 with more teams, more players, more sponsors and more support staff with an aim of being the best in the GCC region.



Division A Winners Ahs Punjab.



Runners up Al Bader Shipping



Division A Runners up Aroma CC.



50 Overs winning captain Mohammed Khan.



Reddy best bowler of Division E.



AUSSIE CHIEFS DEMAND RIO RAMP UP SECURITY

day demanded Rio Games organisers ramp up security immediately after a highly decorated Paralympian and her physiotherapist were robbed at gunpoint in the city, amid fears others will be targeted. The Australian Paralympic Committee said sailor and wheelchair basketball player Liesl Tesch and team official Sarah Ross were riding their bikes in broad daylight in a park on Sunday.

They were confronted by two men, one of them carrying a pistol, who demanded money before shoving them off the bikes and riding off on them. Kate McLoughlin, chef de mission of the Australian

SYDNEY: Australian Olympic chiefs yester- Paralympic team, said the pair, in Rio to the event's official opening. "The Rio Committee has vowed to mobilise 100,000 train at the Paralympic sailing venue, were "understandably shaken but unhurt".

Rio is experiencing a spike in crime and robberies ahead of the Olympics which open on August 5. Earlier this month, a Brazilian competitive shooter, who just missed out on a spot on the Olympic team, was shot in the head during an attempted robbery in Rio. It followed the armed mugging of members of the Spanish sailing team in the city last month.

Australian Olympic Committee chef de mission Kitty Chiller called on Games organisers to mobilise security forces immediately rather than wait until nearer

organisers need to introduce the extra security precautions as soon as possible before an athlete gets hurt. We have written to them today asking them to address this issue," Chiller said.

"This is not an isolated incident, athletes have been mugged while training or competing in Rio test events and we want our athletes protected. "This is a major concern and the only answer is for the authorities to put extra police and security on the ground now."

'IT WAS PRETTY HORRIFIC'

According to the AOC, the Rio Organising

police, military and other personnel in time for the Olympics with the force remaining in place for the Paralympics which begin on September 7.

"We have briefed our athletes leading into the Games," added Chiller. "Basically we are saying that if you are confronted by criminals, comply, hand over your belongings and don't argue. That is exactly what the two Paralympians did on Sunday."

Tesch, a six-time Paralympian who won sailing gold at London 2012 and also has silver and bronze medals in basketball, said Rio was "a pretty scary place to be". Tesch, who is still able to cycle despite a moun-

tain bike accident when she was 19 that left her partly paraplegic, told the Australian Broadcasting Corporation that several people saw the incident but no one came to help. "I think he said 'dinheiro'... which means money, so I lifted up my shirt and said: 'Look I don't have any money"," she told the broadcaster.

"He then said something else and pointed the gun at me and pushed me in the shoulder and I just toppled over with my bicycle and he just grabbed my bicycle, and the other guy was wrestling the bicycle from our team physio. "And they just rode off into the park. It was absolutely

PIRATES END GIANTS' 8-GAME WINNING STREAK

PITTS BURGH: Erik Kratz hit a home run and starter Jeff Locke led a contingent of four Pittsburgh Pirates pitchers in shutting down the high-flying San Francisco Giants 1-0 Monday. The Pirates not only busted up a fivegame losing streak, but they did it against Giants ace Madison Bumgarner and against a San Francisco team that had won eight games in a row. Locke (6-5), who had given up a combined 18 runs over his previous two starts, both losses, pitched 6 2/3 scoreless innings, giving up five hits, striking out three and walking none. He was pulled after Jarrett Parker hit a two-out double to the center-field wall in the seventh.

Against San Francisco, Locke had been 0-1 with a 9.42 ERA in three career starts. Mark Melancon pitched the ninth for his 20th save. Bumgarner (8-3), who entered the game with a career-best seven-game winning streak, threw a five-hit complete game in the loss. In the fifth, with two outs, Kratz sent the first pitch from Bumgarner to left. The ball barely cleared the wall, and left fielder Angel Pagan timed it well and leaped-only to have the ball go off of his glove. Pagan slammed the glove onto the warning track in disgust. It was Kratz's first home run since Aug. 18, 2014.

ROCKIES 5, MARLINS 3

In a game that featured eight solo home runs, Mark Reynolds hit the go-ahead homer in the sixth inning to lead the Rockies to victory. It was Reynolds' second homer of the game and it came off reliever Brian Ellington (1-1), snapping a streak of 15 straight scoreless innings by Miami's bullpen in the past week. The Marlins' relievers allowed just two hits in that span. The eight solo homers are the most in a major-league game this season. In addition, it also set a major-league record for most solo blasts in a game in which all the runs scored were courtesy of the homers. Two of the blasts were hit by Miami center fielder Marcell Ozuna, who has 15 homers this season, including three in two games.

INDIANS 7, RAYS 4

Francisco Lindor belted a solo home run to snap a tie in the eighth inning and Juan Uribe added a two-run blast to lead the Indians' victory. Leading off the eighth, Lindor hit the first pitch thrown by reliever Erasmo Ramirez (7-5) into the seats for his eighth home run. One out later, Carlos Santana singled and Uribe followed two batters later with a home run over the wall in center, marking the third consecutive game in which he has gone deep. The Indians extended their winning streak to four games and Tampa Bay's losing streak to five straight. Bryan Shaw (1-3) struck out the side in the top of the eighth to get the win. Cody Allen pitched the ninth to earn his 14th save. Evan Longoria then belted his 18th home run over the left-field wall, giving Tampa Bay a 2-0 lead.



PITTSBURGH: Josh Harrison #5 of the Pittsburgh Pirates gets the force out at second against Brandon Crawford #35 of the San Francisco Giants in the second inning during the game at PNC Park on Monday in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. — AFP

DIAMONDBACKS 3, PHILLIES 1

The Diamondbacks scored three runs before Phillies starter Jeremy Hellickson could even get an out and rode those runs all the way to a win and a four-game series sweep over the Phillies. For the Phillies (30-41), their seventh loss in a row matches a season high and drops the club to season-worst 11 games under .500. The damage was done on exactly

10 pitches: three for a Jean Segura double, two for a Phil Gosselin RBI single to score the second baseman and five for a Jake Lamb home run to bring home Gosselin. Arizona starter Shelby Miller (2-6) went 6 2/3 innings in his return from a right index finger sprain that sent him to the 15-day disable list.

WHITE SOX 3, RED SOX 1 (10 INNINGS)

Reliever Zach Duke pitched out of a basesloaded, nobody-out situation in the ninth inning and Jose Abreu delivered a two-run double in the 10th to give the struggling Chicago White Sox a victory. Abreu hammered a 2-2 pitch from Craig Kimbrel (0-3) to right-center field with two outs in the 10th to give the White Sox only their 11th win in 37 games after a 23-10 start. A walk to Avisail Garcia and a single by J.B. Shuck set up the winning hit. Kimbrel had 17 straight scoreless outings at Fenway Park since the season opener and turned in 17 scoreless outings in his last 18 tries. Duke (2-0) used two strikeouts around a force at the plate to escape the ninth and deny Red Sox starter Steven Wright his ninth victory of the season.

RANGERS 4, ORIOLES 3

The Rangers rallied from a three-run deficit to win a battle of first-place clubs. Texas (46-25) extended its season-high winning streak to seven after coming from behind for the 23rd time this season. That's the most in the majors, with three in the last three days. Baltimore squandered a 3-0 lead and missed several chances to extend the lead against Rangers starter Derek Holland. The O's outhit the Rangers 15-9. Shin-Soo Choo drove in the two go-ahead runs and Ian Desmond hit his 11th home run of the season for Texas in the opener of a six-game homestand. Shawn Tolleson (2-2) picked up the win in relief, with Sam Dyson working the ninth for his 14th save of the year. The Texas bullpen pitched 4 2/3 scoreless innings.

CARDINALS 3, CUBS 2

Brandon Moss and Jhonny Peralta each homered and starter Jaime Garcia tossed seven strong innings as the visiting Cardinals claimed a victory. The Cardinals (36-33) snapped the Cubs' three-game winning streak and trimmed their gap to 11 1/2 games behind Chicago in the NL Central race in the opener of a three-game series at Wrigley Field. Garcia (5-6) worked 6 2/3 innings, allowed two runs on six hits, walked two and struck out six. Trevor Rosenthal permitted three baserunners in a shaky but successful ninth to claim his 13th save of the season. Cubs starter John Lackey (7-3) lost for the first time in three starts this season against his former team and suffered his first setback since May 11 against San Diego. He worked six innings, allowed three earned runs on seven hits while striking out six and walking three. Ben Zobrist had three hits to pace the Cubs.

ASTROS 10, ANGELS 7

Doug Fister extended his winning streak to seven games and the Astros provided him ample run support in their win. Five Houston starters recorded multi-hit games and every member of the lineup reached base at least once, with catcher Jason Castro joining the hit parade with his sixth home run to lead off the seventh inning.

Jose Altuve and Carlos Correa also went deep in support of Fister (8-3) as the Astros (35-36) won for the 10th consecutive time in a game Fister started. Carlos Gomez and Colby Rasmus recorded three hits apiece to pace an offense in which seven different starters scored at least once. Second baseman Gregorio Petit belted his first career grand slam - and the first for the Angels this season - off Astros left-hander Tony Sipp with one out in the ninth. Pat Neshek got the final two outs for his first save.

TIGERS 8, MARINERS 7 (12 INNINGS)

Justin Upton hit his second home run of the game to lead off the 12th inning as the Tigers snapped a three-game losing skid. With Vidal Nuno (0-1) working his third inning, Upton cranked a 2-2 pitch over the fence in left-center to end the contest. It was his eighth

American League

home run of the season. Anibal Sanchez (4-7) received the victory for working a scoreless top of the 12th and stranding a runner on third with one out. Upton hit a two-run home run to dead center field with one out in the seventh inning to give Detroit a 7-6 lead, but Seattle tied it in the eighth on a two-out double by Ketel Marte followed by an RBI single by Leonys Martin.

DODGERS 4, NATIONALS 1

Justin Turner and Joc Pederson homered and Clayton Kershaw won his 10th consecutive start in the Dodgers' victory. The anticipated pitching matchup between Kershaw and Stephen Strasburg of the Nationals didn't materialize after Strasburg (10-0, 2.90 ERA) was scratched with an upper back strain less than two hours before the opening pitch. Kershaw (11-1) limited the Nationals to a run and six hits with eight strikeouts and no walks in seven innings. Kershaw beat Washington for the eighth straight time.

The Nationals (43-28) have dropped three in a row. Kenley Jansen pitched a perfect ninth for his 20th save of the season, becoming the Dodgers' franchise leader with 162 and breaking Eric Gagne's mark.

Jansen also is the first Dodger with 20 saves in five seasons. Yusmeiro Petit replaced Strasburg. Petit (2-1) gave up three runs and five hits with five strikeouts and a walk in six innings. — Reuters

National League

MLB results/standings

Arizona 3, Philadelphia 1; Pittsburgh 1, San Francisco 0; Detroit 8, Seattle 7 (12 innings); Chicago White Sox 3, Boston 1 (10 innings); Colorado 5, Miami 3; Cleveland 7, Tampa Bay 4; St. Louis 3, Chicago Cubs 2; Texas 4, Baltimore 3; Houston 10, LA Angels 7; LA Dodgers 4, Washington 1.

	Easter	n Divisior	1		E	aster	n Divisio	n	
Baltimore	40	29	.580	-	Washington	43	28	.606	-
Boston	39	30	.565	1	NY Mets	36	32	.529	5.5
Toronto	39	33	.542	2.5	Miami	37	33	.529	5.5
NY Yankees	34	35	.493	6	Philadelphia	30	41	.423	13
Tampa Bay	31	37	.456	8.5	Atlanta	23	46	.333	19
	Centra	al Divisior	1			Centra	al Divisio	n	
Cleveland	39	30	.565	-	Chicago Cubs	47	21	.691	-
Kansas City	38	31	.551	1	St. Louis	36	33	.522	11.5
Detroit	35	35	.500	4.5	Pittsburgh	34	36	.486	14
Chicago WSox	34	36	.486	5.5	Milwaukee	31	39	.443	17
Minnesota	21	48	.304	18	Cincinnati	27	43	.386	21
V	Veste	rn Divisio	n		V	Veste	rn Divisio	n	
Texas	46	25	.648	-	San Francisco	44	27	.620	-
Seattle	36	34	.514	9.5	LA Dodgers	39	33	.542	5.5
Houston	35	36	.493	11	Colorado	33	36	.478	10
LA Angels	31	39	.443	14.5	Arizona	33	39	.458	11.5
Oakland	28	41	.406	17	San Diego	29	42	.408	15

RUSSIA IN FINAL PLEA TO IOC OVER ATHLETES' BAN **LAUSANNE:** Russia has a zero tolerance policy

on doping, the country's national Olympic committee's president told the Olympic summit yesterday, saying the "unfair" IAAF ban meant its athletes were "punished for the sins of others". In an address to the International Olympic Committee (IOC) head by president Thomas Bach, Aleksander Zhukov warned that it was "a crucial moment which can strengthen or weaken the Olympic Movement, bringing it to destruction".

"It is a matter of individual or collective responsibility of athletes from those countries where anti-doping rules are being violated. The protection of the rights of clean athletes also needs to be discussed," he said.



MOSCOW: In this Wednesday, Oct. 21, 2015 file photo, Russian President Vladimir Putin, left, and International Olympic **Committee (IOC) President Thomas Bach** attend the World Olympians Forum in Moscow, Russia. Olympic leaders yesterday have called for enhanced drug-testing of Russian and Kenyan athletes across all sports, warning that evidence of inadequate doping controls in those countries could lead to more athletes being barred from the Rio de Janeiro Games. —AP

"We are extremely disappointed by the decision of the IAAF Council to ban Russian track and field athletes from international competition, including the Olympic Games in Rio. "We consider it unfair on the vast majority of our athletes who have never doped and have not violated any criteria." Zhukov said dozens of samples had been checked by independent, foreign anti-doping authorities after the suspension of Russia's RUSADA, questioning who the IAAF now did not trust.

"Out of the several thousand samples taken from Russian athletes in and out of competition over this period, only three turned out to be positive, including one in athletics, for substances other than Meldonium," which was found in 49 samples, he said.

Zhukov added: "Do you really think it is fair to make it impossible for Elena Isinbayeva and Sergey Shubenkov to participate in the Olympic Games which will be attended by Tyson Gay and twice disqualified for doping Justin Gatlin?

"From the perspective of Russian athletes, it is an extreme injustice and humiliation. And just imagine - in the absence of athletes who never violated any rules - how cynical Yuliya Stepanova's participation will be, after she was disqualified for doping some time ago."

800m runner Stepanova received a twoyear ban from the IAAF in 2013 after abnormalities showed up in her biological passport, but then turned doping whistleblower before seeking exile. "Banning clean athletes from the Rio Olympic Games contradicts the values of the Olympic Movement and violates the principles of the Olympic Charter; it is also legally indefensible and devalues their com-

petitors' success," Zhukov continued. "The Russian athletes who have never violated anti-doping rules and RusAF will appeal to CAS in order to protect the interests and rights of all athletes who have proven their innocence and have not used prohibited substances or methods." — AFP

Qatari runner Balla arrested in Spanish doping probe

BARCELONA: Spanish police said they had arrested a Qatari athlete yesterday as part of an ongoing investigation into drug trafficking that has already seen one of the world's top coaches taken into custody. Media reported that the man arrested was Sudanese-born Qatari Musaeb Abdulrahman Balla, the two-time defending Asian 800m champion who finished sixth at last year's world championships in Beijing and fifth at the world indoors in Portland earlier this season.

"A Qatari athlete was arrested," Catalonian police said, without naming him. The arrest is the third after police took Somali track coach Jama Aden, whose Ethiopian protege Genzebe Dibaba is the current world 1500m champion, and a physiotherapist into custody on Monday, both charged with having administered athletes with banned substances. Aden was picked up in a dawn raid at a hotel in the Catalonian town of Sabadell occupied by a group of athletes coached by the ex-Olympian. Six doctors from world athletics' governing body, the IAAF, and officials from the Spanish Anti-Doping Agency were also present to carry out doping controls on some athletes.

The IAAF explained that Aden's arrest

was the culmination of a long-running investigation including Interpol, the Spanish National Anti-Doping Agency (AEPSAD) and Spanish police.

Aden has a proven track record of nurturing some of the best middle-distance runners. Aside from Dibaba, he has coached two-time world indoor 800m champion Abubaker Kaki Khamis and 2008 Beijing Olympics 800m silver medallist Ismael Ahmed Ismael, both from Sudan, 2012 London Olympics 1500m champion Taoufik Makhloufi of Algeria, 2012 world junior 1500m champion Hamza Driouch, a Moroccan-born Qatari,

and 2013 world indoor 1500m champion Ayanleh Souleiman of Djibouti. But Aden has also courted controversy, with Driouch handed a two-year ban for inconsistencies in his biological passport and French runner Laila Traby also being banned after testing positive for bloodboosting EPO. Driouch at first claimed Aden had doped him, but later retracted his allegations.

Dibaba, sister of running legend Tirunesh, has seen her pre-Rio Olympic plans hampered by a toe injury that has recently ruled her out of meetings in Eugene, Oslo and Stockholm. The 25-year-old world record holder is the big favourite to strike gold in the women's 1500m at the August 5-21 Rio Games. A spokesman for the Ethiopian athletics federation told AFP on Tuesday that it was in the dark about Dibaba.

"We have no information about Genzebe Dibaba at this time," the spokesman said. "She will of course be part of the Olympic team to Rio if her results meet the minimum criteria." There was also no clarity on her injury.

"This is unclear. She has not reported to us the reason why she didn't take part in the last competitions," he said. —AFP



Diego Maradona



Zinedine Zidane



Luis Suarez

Maradona not alone in World Cup controversy

LONDON: Five notorious World Cup incidents on the 30th anniversary of Diego Maradona's 'hand of God' goal against England in the 1986 World Cup quarter-final:

two of which he still feels pain from today. France had to use their second and last substitute and it showed when they ran out of steam in extra-time and let a 3-1 lead slip and

1982 - BATTISTON TAKES BATTERING

German steel took on French flair in an epic semi-final in Spain. German goalkeeper Harald 'Toni' Schumacher knocked out Patrick Battiston after wildly shoulder-charging the substitute, who had only been on the pitch for seven minutes. To widespread disbelief, referee Charles Corver did not even book the goalkeeper-he claimed he didn't see the incident because he was watching the ball. Schumacher gave the prostate Frenchman a cursory glance and then chewed gum and taunted the furious French fans while the French medical team tried to resuscitate him. He was stretchered off with three broken ribs, broken teeth and cracked vertebra, the latter

two of which he still feels pain from today. France had to use their second and last substitute and it showed when they ran out of steam in extra-time and let a 3-1 lead slip and lost on penalties. "Entrenched in our memories is this charge by Schumacher who flattened the little Frenchman," Battiston told AFP years later. Schumacher's sole response at the time on learning of the injuries was: "I will pay for the crowns."

1994 - MARADONA'S DECLINE AND FALL

Maradona's fourth and final World Cup saw him sent home from the United States in disgrace after failing a doping test. Still a potent force, it looked as if he might enjoy a glorious swansong in the international limelight. Having scored a goal in the win over Greece and then played in the 2-1 win over Nigeria, he subsequently failed a dope test for the stimulant ephedrine. Despite his protestations of

innocence that he had used an American version of the energy drink 'Rip Fuel', which unlike its Argentine counterpart had ephedrine as an ingredient, he was sent home and never played for his country again.

2006 - 'ZIZOU' SEES RED

As farewells from the highest level go, French football icon Zinedine Zidane's would be pretty hard to match, although for all the wrong reasons. Having put France ahead in the final against Italy only for Marco Materazzi to level, the two engaged in a verbal duel throughout the game. Materazzi, who had a lengthy disciplinary record, poked and prodded Zidane all evening until the latter said to him he could have his shirt after the match if he liked it so much. Materazzi replied with a crude remark about Zidane's sister and that was the last straw as the Frenchman head-butted the Italian. The referee had no option

but to red-card him and he trudged off past an impassive French coach Raymond Domenech and promptly retired. Although Italy won on penalties Zidane was forgiven by the French and a five-metre-high (16-foot) sculpture outside the Pompidou Centre in Paris immortalises the moment of madness.

2010 - THE INCREDIBLE SULK

Unhappy at the largely unloved Raymond Domenech's decision to play him on his own up front for the opener against Mexico, Nicolas Anelka unleashed an expletive-filled rant. "I was only insulting someone who the rest of France had already insulted. I would do it again," an unrepentant Anelka said. Domenech said he was more shocked by Anelka's lack of respect than the words but he was sent home from South Africa once the affair made it into the papers. The French squad infamously went on strike in sympathy

and several of them, along with Anelka, were punished afterwards, the striker seeing his international career pretty much ended with an 18-game ban.

2014 - CHEWY LUIS

Luis Suarez and World Cup finals are a potent mix if you like controversy. The toothy Uruguayan marksman had denied Ghana a likely place in the 2010 semi-finals in South Africa with a handball on the line in extratime, rubbing salt into the wound by calling it the "save of the tournament".

He outdid that in 2014 as not for the first time he bit an opponent, this time the shoulder of battle-hardened Italian defender Giorgio Chiellini. He at first denied it, then apologised but it was not enough to prevent the striker from serving a nine-game international suspension and a four-month ban from all football.— AFP

LEBRON MAKES CASE FOR ALL-TIME BEST WITH HISTORIC NBA FINALS

OAKLAND: LeBron James ensured his place among the NBA's all-time legends by leading the Cleveland Cavaliers in the greatest comeback in NBA Finals history and has made a solid case for being the greatest player ever.

The 31-year-old forward scored 27 points, grabbed 11 rebounds and passed out 11 assists to power Cleveland's 93-89 victory over defending champion Golden State in game seven of the NBA Finals.

With size, strength and speed that enable him to muscle his way to the hoop and finesse as a passer to make teammates a threat from anywhere on the court, James has made himself the dominant player of his era, reaching the NBA Finals six years in a row.

Michael Jordan pushed the Chicago Bulls to six NBA titles in the 1990s with remarkable athletic skill and determination, setting the "best ever" standard for many fans over such icons as Magic Johnson and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar.

Boston Celtics 1960s big man Bill Russell won a record 11 NBA titles in an era of domination no team is likely to repeat, while Kobe Bryant and Shaquille O'Neal both excelled but often with help, sometimes from each other.

But James unleashed a magical comeback in the past week unseen in the NBA's 70-year history.

No team had ever rallied from a 3-1 deficit to win the best-of-seven NBA Finals until he lifted the Cavaliers to deliver the NBA's greatest shocker, ending his city's 52-year wait for a major sports champion.

James matched Johnson, O'Neal and Tim Duncan as three-time NBA Finals most valuable players. Only Jordan with six has more. Calling that group "the greatest to ever do it," James was tearful about his place in the conversation with them. "I'm going to be in awe," he said. "It's going to be like being at a Beyonce concert. I'm going to be like this," he added, adopting a starstruck expression.

Having unleashed back-to-back 41-point performances at the Warriors to lift the Cavaliers from a 3-1 deficit in the best-of-seven series, James delivered perhaps the greatest clutch effort in NBA Finals history, joining Jerry West and James Worthy with the only game seven "triple doubles" in NBA Finals history.

"You put everything into the game. The game always gives back to people that are true to the game," James said. "I know the history of the game and I was just confident and calm."

just confident and calm."

The Cavaliers ousted an ultimate foe

that won a record 73 regular-season games and boasted the NBA's top scorer and two-time most valuable player in Stephen Curry. James was an unprecedented leader in every major finals statistical area, averaging 29.7 points, 11.3 rebounds, 8.9 assists, 2.6 steals and 2.3 blocked shots a game.

LEBRON GREETED BY 20,000

James touched off jubilation that continued on Monday when he and the team landed at the Cleveland airport, displaying the championship trophy to more than 20,000 wellwishers. The party is set to continue Wednesday with a victory parade for the ages.

Crying tears of joy in the moments after the title was decided revived memories of Jordan's tearful finish of the 1996 final. Both came on Father's Day and for Jordan it was the first title since the 1993 death of his dad.

Comparisons with Jordan are apt as he and James may be the central players in the "greatest ever" argument for their versatility and success. Both made spectacular dunks and stunning shots in younger days before learning to trust teammates as they got older, spreading the ball among talented role players to make their teams even more dangerous. There's a statue of Jordan outside the Bulls' arena and Jim Brown, the star rusher who led the 1964 NFL title run of the Cleveland Browns, says James needs one in front of the Cavaliers' arena as well

While James was only seconds away from becoming the first NBA most valuable player to lose five finals, he instead improved to 3-4 in the championship series, having gone 2-2 during four seasons with the Miami Heat.

NAYSAYERS NOT HIS BUSINESS

James had the last laugh on naysayers who nagged him all along his quest, posting an Instagram statement Monday beside a photo of him holding the trophy.

"They said u lost a step, wasn't explosive as once was, the best days was in the rear view, questioned your drive, your leadership, your commitment, you don't have killer instinct, going back home is the worst mistake in your career, he got the coach fired, players traded, won't work between him and Kyrie (Irving), Him and Kev (Kevin Love) won't work, love your teammates to much, there's no way he can deliver a championship in his hometown, etc etc etc.. But guess what THATS NONE OF MY BUSINESS Hahahaha!!! Yes sir," he posted. — AFP

NOT ALL CHAMPIONS CAN BE ROLE MODELS, SAYS THORPE

MUMBAI: Although Olympic champions can make great role models, sports officials can't expect all athletes to be angels in their pursuit of results, according to Australian swimming great lan Thorpe.

The Australian Olympic Committee (AOC) has taken a hard line on team culture at the Rio de Janeiro Olympics, four years after their London Games delegation was embarrassed by a number of unsavoury incidents involving misbehaving athletes. Several athletes have been put on watch-list ahead of the Games, while the country's top tennis player Nick Kyrgios withdrew himself from consideration after a row with the AOC over his behaviour in the public arena. Thorpe was a paragon of sportsmanship during a glittering swimming in which he won five Olympic golds and 11 world titles but said it was tough to expect all athletes to match sporting excellence with impeccable conduct.

"I prefer them to be good leaders but it's not a requirement," Thorpe told Reuters in an interview. "We want them to be good role models, we want everyone to be perfect.

"But what happens if the athlete isn't perfect but they get the results? Which one's more important? This is really difficult and it's

a difficult position for sports to be in."
Australia's Rio Chef de Mission Kitty Chiller has spear-headed the AOC's culture imperative and publicly lashed Kyrgios and his David Cup team mate Bernard Tomic for poor conduct. Although only 21, Kyrgios has a long rap-sheet of abusing opponents, umpires and fans, and was given a suspended ban by the men's tennis circuit for making a lewd comment at twice grand slam champion Stan Wawrinka during a match last year.

Tomic opted out of Rio, citing a "busy" playing schedule, after he was castigated by Chiller and Tennis Australia for failing to offer a shot on match point in defeat to Italian Fabio Fognini at the Madrid Open last month.

The AOC's tough approach to discipline has drawn both praise and condemnation in Australia, where some pundits have lamented the loss of a possible medal chance with the withdrawal of world number 18 Kyrgios.

The player has defended his histrionics as competitive intensity and Thorpe said it was hard for some athletes to rein in their personalities lest it affect their performance.

"I think there is a possibility to be both-to be the champion and be the good role model," added Thorpe, who will be a panellist for broadcaster Star Sports during the 2016 Games. "But if there is a different way of going out there to get your performance where you have to behave in a particular way to moti-



Ian Thorpe

vate yourself, and that's what's worked for you, do you compromise that and go down the chart? It's difficult." Thorpe was dismayed by Australia's swimming performance in London, where they won only a single title and had their worst haul in the pool in 20 years.

A post-Games review found a "toxic culture" had been allowed to develop in the team and reported allegations of bullying and drunkenness among other problems.

Australian swimming has since had a come."— Reuters

major governance overhaul and top officials say the culture has been fixed in time for a better showing at Rio. "What was disappointing for a lot of us was that the (London) team didn't represent the values that we have as well," Thorpe said. "I feel we have a short time in the sport and because of the people that have come before you, you respect that history and you look after it so that you re-inspire younger people so that the legacy is able to continue for years to come." — Reuters

KUWAIT DISABLED SPORTS CLUB CHIEF AGAINST CHANGE OF NAME

KUWAIT: President of Kuwait Disabled Sports Club Shafi Al-Hajiri said the change of the name of the Public Disabled Authority to Public Authority of those with special needs is something dangerous, because it will open the door wide open for a large number of those who claim disability to get the rights and advantages of the disabled that are guaranteed by law.

Al-Hajiri said in a statement that changing the authority's

name will allow everyone who is considered of psychological, social a chronic diseases needs to receive the disabled benefits. He said, even the existence of specialized medical committees to examine disabilities, it did not prevent the presence of those who claim to be dis-



Shafi Al-Hajiri

abled, which directly affected the truly disabled.

He said the change of the authority's name to Special Needs Public Authority is contrary to international treaties Kuwait is committed to, as it is a signee of the international treaties on the disabled among 164 countries. He added changing the name will get Kuwait out of the agreement which will affect the Kuwaiti disabled rights as well as the sports level

through changing the medical

characterization. Al-Hajiri said all those concerned refuse changing the name of the authority, which will do away with their rights, and appealed to officials to think deeply about the decision because of its negative effects on the truly disabled.

ICELAND TO STICK WITH COUNTER-ATTACKING STYLE VERSUS AUSTRIA

FAN FERVOR













PARIS: Should tournament debutants Iceland reach the knockout stages of Euro 2016 by securing the result they need against Austria today, much credit will go to a dentist and a film director.

Iceland, with a population of about 330,000, are the smallest country ever to qualify for the Euros, yet have been undaunted by their casting as minnows, holding Portugal and Hungary to 1-1 draws in Group F through resilient displays.

That means a win, or perhaps another draw, against Austria, will put Iceland into the knock-out stages, a fairytale outcome which could make for an excellent movie script. Goalkeeper Hannes Halldorsson would be the ideal judge of that, having halted his film career to become a full-time professional in 2014, first in Norway and then the Netherlands.

Halldorsson, who directed the video for Iceland's 2012 Eurovision song contest entry, has made 14 savesthe most by any keeper at the tournament, but the 32-year-old's game is about much more than just shot

stopping. Against Portugal, he tried 28 passes-of which 27 went long-which was the second most from any Iceland player and against Hungary, his 35 attempted passes were more than any teammate.

These are statistics that reflect the pressure Iceland resisted in those two matches as they averaged 33.5 percent possession, the lowest at the Euros.

"If someone had given us the option of having this position before the tournament we would have gladly taken it," joint-coach Heimir Hallgrimsson told a news conference. "We've done quite well even though we have been pushed back. We've created some good chances so maybe that is the way against Austria, to stay back and let them come." Hallgrimsson, who will take sole charge of the team when co-coach Lars Lagerback retires this summer, maintains a dental surgery in a small town in Iceland. His bilingual press conference at the team's Lake Annecy training base was markedly more relaxed than the tense affairs staged by other nations.

He urged his players to use the ball better against an Austrian team who were considered potential dark horses but who have registered only one point and no goals so far. "They seem to be a little bit lacking in the two games they've played. Let's hope it will continue," Hallgrimsson said of Austria.

"They have really good organisation but they also have really good individuals and that's a lethal combination." Gylfi Sigurdsson, who scored six of Iceland's 17 goals in qualifying as well as a penalty against Hungary, is likely to again partner Aron Gunnarsson in central midfield. Hallgrimsson indicated his combative captain Gunnarsson had shrugged off a groin injury.

For Austria, star turns David Alaba and Marko Arnautovic have yet to make any impression in attack but are likely to be retained, while coach Marcel Koller must decide whether to risk Marc Janko. Janko, scorer of seven goals in qualifying, was surprisingly omitted against Portugal, although Koller subsequently revealed the striker was struggling for fitness. — Reuters

BALE INSPIRES AS BRILLIANT WALES CRUISE INTO LAST 16

TOULOUSE: Gareth Bale struck his third goal in as many Euro 2016 games as brilliant Wales cruised into the last 16 as winners of Group B with a clinical 3-0 dismantling of Russia on Monday. First-half strikes by Aaron Ramsey and Neil Taylor sent Chris Coleman's men well on their way to a comprehensive win in Toulouse against an overwhelmed Russian side.

But Bale was a constant threat all night and grabbed his third goal of the tournament when he cleverly dinked the ball past Igor Akinfeev with the outside of his right boot midway through the second half as Russia were eliminated. The last players to score in all three group games at a European Championship were Milan Baros for the Czech Republic and Ruud van Nistelrooy for the Netherlands, both in 2004.

The win coupled with a 0-0 draw between England and Slovakia in Saint-Etienne allowed Wales to top the group and set up a last-16 tie in Paris this weekend. "Fantastic performance," said Ramsey, who was named as the man of the match. "We topped the group, which nobody probably would have seen coming. Our main target was to get out the group. You can hear the fans still singing and I think we've made them proud."

In a match labelled 'high risk' following violent clashes between Russian and England supporters in Marseille last week, it was Wales who provided all the drama on a balmy night in Toulouse.

Russia had to win to stand a chance of going through after a 1-1 draw with England and a 2-1 defeat to Slovakia left them bottom of Group B. But against the backdrop of a 2000-strong police presence in 'La Ville Rose', Leonid Slutsky's men were left clutching at straws after a lightning start by the fired-

After a promising start that saw Bale force Akinfeev to save down low in the opening minute, it was Arsenal midfielder Ramsey who got Wales up and running in the 11th minute. Ramsey ran on to Joe Allen's superb pass that split the Russian defence and dinked the ball over the onrushing Akinfeev and in. Ramsey's maiden goal at a Euros sent the huge Welsh support behind the goal wild, and took the wind out of Russia's sails. Slutsky's men quickly lost composure in the key area of midfield, and Wales made them pay.

When Allen's smart ball found Bale in acres of



TOULOUSE: Wales' Gareth Bale, left, and Russia's Vasili Berezutski challenge for the ball during the Euro 2016 Group B soccer match between Russia and Wales at the Stadium municipal in Toulouse, France, Monday. — AP

space as he powered up the middle, the Russians left the left flank wide open for Taylor. Bale's attempted pass took a deflection, but Taylor latched on to beat Akinfeev at the second attempt after the rebound fell nicely to double Wales' lead on 20 minutes. It was fullback Taylor's first goal for anyone in more than six years.

Wales suffered a brief scare when captain Ashley Williams directed Akinfeev's long kick-out into the path of Fedor Smolov, who could only fire wide as Wayne Hennessey came out to block.

But Wales threatened again, Bale waltzing past several defenders to set up Sam Vokes to his right, only for Akinfeev to rescue Russia again. Akinfeev was almost caught unawares by a vicious Ramsey drive from 30 yards as the Russians backed off, and Bale forced the Russian goalkeeper to block twice before setting up Ramsey for a shot that Akinfeev blocked at the second attempt.

Wales kept on knocking at the door and got their third goal midway through the second half. Ramsey ran across the edge of the area to draw the Russian defence and slipped a pass through for Bale, who found himself one-on-one with Akinfeev before coolly dinking the ball past the veteran 'keeper to seal a famous Welsh win. — AFP

SANTOS BACKS MISFIRING RONALDO FOR HUNGARY CLASH

LYON: Portugal coach Fernando Santos is backing misfiring Cristiano Ronaldo to break his Euro 2016 duck by netting against Hungary today to help fire his side into

Ronaldo is still waiting for his opening goal in France to become the first person to score at four consecutive European championship finals. The 31-year-old is the holder of numerous goal-scoring records, but he has yet to hit the net at Euro 2016, despite 20 chances so far.

Ronaldo set a new Portuguese record with his 128th international cap in Saturday's goalless draw with Austria - a milestone overshadowed by his penalty miss.

He crashed a 79th-minute spot-kick against the post in Paris having also failed to score in the 1-1 draw with Iceland last Tuesday. The star that fans either love or hate won few Icelandic friends by slamming their team's "small mentality" after the draw.

This has been a frustrating tournament for Ronaldo. His Portugal side has failed to live up to their pre-tournament billing as Group F favourites. They lie only third in the table behind Iceland and Hungary, who they must beat at the Stade de Lyon to be sure of reaching the last 16. "Ronaldo is a player who scores a lot of goals and I'm sure he will score in the next game against Hungary," said Santos.

UGLY VS PARSIMONIOUS

Portugal had 23 shots on the Austria goal-hitting the woodwork twice-and Santos expects his side to find the net and win'ugly' if need be.

"It was the first time we failed to score during my reign," said Santos. "We created so many chances, we didn't score, but I think we will next time out. "We're sad but we have things in our own hands. "It doesn't matter if we play better or ugly football."

Hungary's defence is not known for it's generosity. Since their 8-1 thrashing by the Netherlands in October 2013 — their record defeat-Hungary has conceded just 20 goals in 24 games. Their 2-0 win over Austria and 1-1 draw with Iceland means they face Portugal top of Group F and in pole position to advance.

And Bruno Alves says Portugal must back themselves to beat Hungary and book a last 16 clash on Sunday in Toulouse as group winners. "It's up to us to break them down. We need to believe and trust in ourselves, that we are able to beat them," said the Portugal defender.



MARCOUSSIS: Portugal's defender Eliseu (TOP) and teammate take part in a training session at the team's base camp in Marcoussis, south of Paris, yesterday, on the eve of the Euro 2016 Group F football match Hungary vs Portugal. — AFP

Portugal have won all five competitive games against Hungary and their two most recent victories in qualifying for the 2010 World Cup. Off the field, the Hungarians need to watch their step for the rest of their Euro 2016 campaign. UEFA are set to announce their punishment after crowd trouble in the draw with Iceland. In Marseille, Hungarian fans clashed with stewards in the Stade Velodrome and set off flares. Their captain, Balazs

Dzsudzsak, personally appealed for calm during the Marseille match. He wants to see the same passion against Portugal in Lyon, just not the trouble.

"I ask that everyone continues to support us, but in a way which does not give reason for any possible punishment," said the Bursaspor winger. "Only the events on the field will determine how we finish the European Championship." — AFP

IRELAND SEEK HISTORICAL 'BOUNCE' AGAINST ITALY

FAN FERVOR













LILLE: The Republic of Ireland can take inspiration from one of the finest moments in their footballing history as they face Italy in Euro 2016 today.

Ireland come into their final game in Group E in Lille with a single point. They know that anything less than a win will end their hopes of reaching the knock-out phase

Italy have already clinched qualification for the last 16 as group winners, having won their opening two matches, a fact that could play into the hands of Martin O'Neill's side as they attempt to bounce back from a 3-0 defeat to Belgium.

And it was inevitable that references would now be made to the 1994 World Cup in the United States, when the Irish famously beat Italy 1-0 thanks to a Ray Houghton strike to claim what remains their only competitive win over the Azzurri.

"It's been done before. It's not an impossible mission," Ireland assistant manager Roy Keane said at the team's base in Versailles, near Paris, when asked if he felt the memory of that game was relevant. "We have beaten the Germans (in qualifying) in the last year. I appreciate the negativity in the last few days but this team has bounced back before and I've no doubt we'll bounce back on Wednesday with a good per-

formance. "That doesn't guarantee we'll win but if our energy levels are higher, we cut out the individual mistakes, a few decisions go your way, then you've got a chance." Houghton, who was born in Scotland, recently told French sports daily L'Equipe that he has even fonder memories of scoring the only goal when Ireland beat England 1-0 at the 1988 Euros.

That remains Ireland's only win in the European Championship finals, with their poor record since including a 2-0 loss to the Italians in their last group game of Euro 2012 in Poland.

ITALY CHANGES

Italy coach Antonio Conte-whose team beat Belgium 2-0 and Sweden 1-0 — should make sweeping changes to his starting XI with one eye on their last-16 tie against the Group D runners-up at the Stade de France next Monday.

One of those alterations is likely to see Salvatore Sirigu start in goal in place of veteran Gianluigi Buffon, who is one booking away from a suspension and has been struggling with illness.

But Keane warned: "I don't think tactically they'll change from their previous couple of games, just because of the way they're set up. "I've seen them a

number of times-well organised, they clearly love to defend. They've got good options off the bench if they are going to rotate." If Ireland win, they could still finish second, provided Belgium lose to Sweden in Nice and the Irish overturn their goal difference deficit to the side captained by Zlatan Ibrahimovic. Otherwise the best they can hope for is to go through as one of the four best third-placed sides. With top spot sewn up, Italy need not worry about such things as fringe players prepare for a run-out.

Roma midfielder Daniele De Rossi believes the match at the Stade Pierre-Mauroy-where the terrible state of the pitch is cause for concern-will allow the Azzurri to showcase their depth of quality. "We don't have a (Eden) Hazard, or an Ibrahimovic, who are stars of international football. We've got other characteristics that maybe more illustrious sides don't have, and that is a great group," De Rossi said. "The fact that they have all the motivation in the world and we have less could be a problem, but it shouldn't be."

Midfielder Antonio Candreva returned to training on Monday after being troubled by a groin problem. Ireland are waiting to see whether forward Jon Walters, who has been struggling with an achilles injury, will be ready. — AFP

FRUSTRATED ENGLAND PROGRESS AFTER DRAW WITH SLOVAKIA

SAINT-TIENNE: Roy Hodgson's England secured their place in the last 16 of Euro 2016 but were condemned to finishing as runners-up in Group B after being held to a goalless draw by Slovakia on Monday.

Wales' 3-0 win over Russia in Toulouse meant the Three Lions dropped to second in the group, behind their neighbours. Slovakia must now wait to see if they qualify as one of four best third-place teams after their goalkeeper Matus Kozacik pulled off a string of savessome more luck than judgement.

The Slovakia shot-stopper was man-of-the-match and after the match he backed the England to progress past the last 16. England will now play their last 16 game in Nice next Monday against the side who finishes second in Group F, with Hungary, Portugal, Iceland and Austria all still in contention.

"It's disappointing that we had all the play and had all chances around their box, I can't deny that, but we have players who can score goals and will score goals," insisted Hodgson. "Yet again, this is a game we should have won, because everything we did on the field put us in a position to win, but we didn't use those corners and free-kicks to get the win. "It's a frustration myself and the players will have to live with." This was another night of opporunities missed for England fans in Saint-Etienne.

It was at the Stade Geoffroy Guichard where David Beckham was sent off as England lost to Argentina on penalties in the last 16 of the 1998 World Cup.

Prince William, who turns 34 on Tuesday, was in Saint-Etienne, sat next to FA chairman Greg Dyke who has said Hodgson will remain England manager-provided they reach the semi-finals.

Hodgson's contract expires after Euro 2016. The England boss boldly made six changes to the team, starting strikers Jamie Vardy and Daniel Sturridge, who both scored off the bench in the 2-1 win over Wales.

Hodgson left skipper Wayne Rooney among the replacements with centre-back Gary Cahill taking over the captain's armband. Slovakia coach Jan Kozak kept faith with the starting side which beat Russia 2-1 last Wednesday. Vardy worked hard throughout, but squandered two clear chances of England's nine first-half attempts on goal to Slovakia's single effort.

He fired over early on, then had his shot blocked by



SAINT-ETIENNE: Slovakia's goalkeeper Matus Kozacik (R) punches the ball clear ahead of England's forward Harry Kane during the Euro 2016 group B football match between Slovakia and England at the Geoffroy-Guichard stadium in Saint-Etienne on Monday. — AFP

Kozacik in a one-on-one after winning a sprint against Slovakia captain Martin Skrtel. And only a fine tackle from right-back Peter Pekarik denied Sturridge at the near post in the opening 10 minutes. Lallana was then denied by Kozacik's reflex save with half an hour gone. England's frustration continued after the break. A mix-up between centre-back Chris Smalling and goalkeeper Joe

Hart allowed Slovakia winger Robert Mak a half-chance. At the other end, only the slightest of deflections off Kozacik's shoulder kept out Nathaniel Clyne's shot. There was a big cheer from travelling England supporters-the loudest of the night-when Wayne Rooney came on for Jack Wilshere with 56 minutes gone.

Dele Alli, on for Lallana, then saw his shot cleared by Skrtel after finding himself unmarked when he arrived in the area at pace. Only England fans could be heard as the second half wore on, nosily urging the Three Lions on in search of the crucial goal which never came.

Rooney was a constant menace after coming on, firing wide as the game entered the final 10 minutes while Harry Kane, on for Sturridge, had a couple of late chances-all to no avail. — AFP

SHOT-SHY SWEDEN HOPE TO MAKE COURTOIS WORK

NICE: Belgium goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois may wonder whether he even needs to turn up to face Sweden today given his opponents' dismal attacking record at Euro 2016. The Swedes have failed to muster a single shot on target in their first two games, a statistic made all the more embarrassing by the presence of Zlatan Ibrahimovic in their attack.

Their only goal so far was scored for them by Ireland's Ciaran Clark in a 1-1 draw but they have singularly failed to exploit Ibrahimovic's presence and they are now in danger of a second successive group stage exit. A draw at Nice's Allianz Riviera in the Group E match would send Belgium to the last 16 alongside already-qualified Italy and almost certainly send the Swedes scuttling home.

A Swedish win would take them above Belgium and ensure second place providing Ireland did not



NICE: Belgium's midfielder Eden Hazard (C) attends a training session at the Allianz Riviera stadium in Nice on Monday, on the eve of the Euro 2016 football match between Sweden and Belgium. — AFP

UEFA EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPHungary v Portugal 19:00

Matches on TV (Local Timings)

3:00

belN MAX 3 HD EN
belN MAX 1 HD
lceland v Austria
belN MAX 2 HD

Sweden v Belgium
belN MAX 1 HD
ltaly v Ireland

19:00
22:00

COPA AMERICA CENTENARIO

Tomorrow

Colombia v Chile
beIN SPORTS 1 HD FR
beIN MAX 2 HD
beIN MAX 3 HD EN

belN MAX 2 HD

belN MAX 3 HD EN

belN MAX 4 HD FR

beat Italy. Forward Marcus Berg said that the statistics were not a fair reflection of their performances.

"I understand that from outside, it's black and white, but for us it's a little grey too. But now it has become an issue," he said. "It's up to the whole team to join in offensively," he said. "In the Ireland game we had some dangerous balls, and if we get a toe on the ball there it's a goal." One of Sweden's problems has been that Ibrahimovic has often dropped back into midfield so that he is no longer available to receive the ball in attack.

Midfielder Kim Kallstrom's performances have suggested that, at 33, his role as a box-to-box midfielder is a little ambitious. The Swiss-based player has per-

formed his defensive duties well but has had little to offer in attack. Winger Emil Forsberg has been largely anonymous in both games after both Ireland and Italy managed to close him down completely.

Sweden are also searching for a suitable partner for Ibrahimovic after neither John Guidetti, who started alongside him against Italy, nor Berg himself, against Ireland, performed the role effectively.

Coach Erik Hamren acknowledged the problem although he did not give any clues about changes.

"Of course, I would be happier if we had scored

"Of course, I would be happier if we had scored some goals but we do our best," he said. "We need to be better in offence, of course, if we are going to win the game." — Reuters

Pirates end
Giants' 8-game
winning streak



Bale inspires as brilliant Wales cruise into last 16



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 2016

MARADONA NOT ALONE IN WORLD CUP CONTROVERSY Page 17



PARIS: Germany's Mario Gomez, left, scores his side's first goal during the Euro 2016 Group C soccer match between Northern Ireland and Germany at the Parc des Princes stadium in Paris, France, yesterday.— AP

GOMEZ GUIDES GERMANY INTO EURO 2016 KNOCKOUTS

PARIS: Mario Gomez struck as world champions Germany beat Northern Ireland 1-0 in Paris yesterday to qualify for the Euro 2016 knockout phase as winners of Group C.

Drafted in to address the goal-scoring problems witnessed in Germany's 0-0 draw with Poland, the on-loan Besiktas striker netted from Thomas Mueller's pass in the 30th minute at Parc des Princes.

That Germany did not win more handsomely was due largely to the excellence of Northern Irish goalkeeper Michael McGovern. But it was enough to preserve their position at the top of the group on goal difference above Poland, who beat Ukraine by the same scoreline in Marseille.

Joachim Loew's side will now turn their thoughts to a last 16 tie against either Albania, Slovakia or the third-place team in Group F-which is yet to conclude-in Lille on Sunday. Michael O'Neill's Northern Ireland, meanwhile, must wait to have their qualification confirmed. They finished third in the group, but their 2-0 win over Ukraine last week puts them in a strong position to go through as one of the four best third-place

teams in what is their first European Championship finals. O'Neill kept faith with the team that had overcome Ukraine, but whereas his side had set the tempo in Lyon, they were immediately on the back foot against Germany.

With full-backs Jonas Hector and Joshua Kimmich pushing high up on either flank and Jerome Boateng and Toni Kroos lofting passes behind the Northern Irish defence, Germany effectively took up residence in the final third.

WOODWORK DENIES MUELLER

McGovern was solicited three times in the first 12 minutes, saving alertly with his body and feet from Gomez, Mesut Ozil and Mario Goetze, who dropped into an attacking midfield role to accommodate Gomez up front. Mueller twice went close, thrashing a shot across goal and then striking the base of the right-hand post with a plunging header, before creating the opener for Gomez.

tion confirmed. They finished third in the group, but their 2-0 win over Ukraine last week puts them in a strong position to go through as one of the four best third-place

Gomez's subtle pass sent the Bayern Munich forward scampering through and after luring McGovern from his line, he showed great awareness to lay the ball off for

Gomez, who steered the ball through a thicket of defenders and into the net.

Mueller then placed a shot against the bar from a Hector cut-back, while Gomez could only scuff meekly at McGovern when Ozil's pass and Goetze's dummy left him one-on-one. All Northern Ireland offered in response was a Jamie Ward shot that went straight at Manuel Neuer, but their green-clad fans remained unbowed, volubly belting out their famous ode to flaming striker Will Grigg. Goetze's luck did not change in the second half as he was brilliantly thwarted again by McGovern before sliding Hector's cross wide at the near post, and he was soon replaced by

Andre Schuerrle.
Kyle Lafferty, Northern Ireland's top scorer in qualifying, also entered the fray, replacing Conor Washington, but still Germany dominated, with McGovern again taking centre-stage.

The 31-year-old goalkeeper, who plays for Scottish club Hamilton Academical, saved one-handed from Sami Khedira's drilled effort and then produced a superb finger-tip stop to tip away a firm header by Gomez. — AFP

IBRAHIMOVIC TO QUIT FOOTBALL AFTER EURO

NICE: Zlatan Ibrahimovic is ending his international career after the European Championship, meaning he could represent Sweden for the last time today. The 34-year-old striker said yesterday ahead of Sweden's final Group E game against Belgium that it would be his last appearance for his country if the team gets eliminated.

"The last game for Sweden in Euro will be my last game with Sweden, so I hope it will not be tomorrow," he said. "Let's hope it goes as long as possible." Even if Sweden loses and fails to qualify for the knockout stages, Ibrahimovic said he would not be disappointed with such an end to his 15-year international career. "To finish on a disappointment, never, because I'm very proud to be captain of Sweden and what I achieved. So I want to take this moment and thank all the supporters, because they make it possible for me to achieve what I have achieved," he said. "For me disappointment doesn't exist, only proudness and grateful and very thankful."

He added that he "will not participate in the Olympics" in Rio de Janeiro. He had been named in a provisional Swedish squad. Ibrahimovic is Sweden's record scorer with 62 goals and can become its joint sixth most-capped player with 116 appearances today. Sweden, which has one point after its opening 1-1 draw against Ireland, still has a chance of qualifying for the round of 16 even though it has yet to register a single shot on target. Its only goal at Euro 2016 was an own goal. The Swedes almost certainly need a win against Belgium to qualify. — AP

POLAND EASE INTO LAST-16 OVER HAPLESS UKRAINE

MARSEILLE: A second half strike by substitute Jakub Blaszczykowski booked Poland's ticket into the last-16 at Euro 2016 and sent hapless Ukraine home without a point. The 30-year-old Fiorentina veteran had been rested by coach Adam Nawalka who made four changes in all but scored minutes from his introduction at half-time to decide the tie.

With two 1-0 wins in Group C against Northern Ireland and the Ukrainians either side of a scoreless draw against Germany, Poland finished in second place in the group on goal difference.

After defeats to Germany and the Irish, Ukraine were already eliminated before the game in the Stade Velodrome. Their latest failure meant they became the first team to go five matches without a goal in Euro history. With pride at stake for Mykhailo Fomenko's men and a chance of topping the Group C table beckoning for Poland, both teams attacked from the off.

Poland's formidable strike pair Arkadiusz Milik and Robert Lewandowski each had early chances, the Bayern Munich star volleying the more clearcut of the two over Andriy Yatov's crossbar.

Ukraine's Andriy Yarmolenko should have scored on the quarter hour but chipped wide when one-on-one against Lukasz Fabianski.

Lewandowski found more room than in the previous two games and had a drive deflected wide on 20 minutes, but from the half-hour Ukraine began to assert themselves. With impressive teenager Olexandr Zinchenko, 19, orchestrating from midfield, Poland were stretched on occasion.

Winger Yevhen Konoplyanka drilled a low effort narrowly wide on the half hour. Soon after left-back Bohdan Butko crossed when a shot seemed a better option. But with lone striker Roman Zozulya proving ineffective, Ukraine could not find their first goal since their opening game at the Euro 2012 tournament that they co-hosted with Poland.

Instead, it was Poland's half-time sub Blaszczykowski who broke the deadlock with a delightful strike.

Fed by Milik on the right of the area in the 53rd minute, he worked the ball onto his left foot and curled a shot inside the far-post to send the Velodrome, decked out mainly in Poland's red and white, into raucous celebration.

A minute later, with the fans still jumping, Poland's own 19-year-old Bartosz Kapusztka nearly made it two but fired wide of both Pyatov and the post.

The Poles eased up after that, a Milik header well wide with 15 minutes to go the nearest they came to making it two.

In truth Mykhailo Fomenko's men rarely troubled Fabianski. Captain Ruslan Rotan forced him to dive eight minutes from the end and Zozulya headed narrowly wide soon after but two second-half blasts over the bar from Konoplyanka and Zinchenko were more typical of Ukraine's miserable tournament. — AFP



MARSEILLE: Ukraine's midfielder Olexandr Zinchenko (C) jumps for the ball during the Euro 2016 group C football match between Ukraine and Poland at the Velodrome stadium in Marseille yesterday. — AFP

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EU agrees on compromise deal to fight tax dodging

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BMW i8 wins Engine of the Year Award 2016

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LONDON: The European Union (EU) flag (left), the British Union flag (centre), and the City Hall flag, flying outside City Hall, the headquarters of the Greater London Authority in London. Britain could be plunged into a year-long recession and lose hundreds of thousands of jobs if it voted to leave the EU next month, the government warned. — AFP

Brexit poses 'huge risk' to economy: Cameron

SOROS PREDICTS BLACK FRIDAY IF BRITAIN LEAVES EU **LONDON:** British Prime Minister David Cameron any old country. We are a special country, one

an impassioned plea ahead of tomorrow's hallot Cameron asked Britons to think of future generations left to cope in a Britain outside the European Union if the Brexit camp wins.

"Above all, it is about our economy," the prime minister said outside his official residence in London's Downing Street. "It will be stronger if we stay. It will be weaker if we leave. And that is a huge risk to Britain, to British families, to British jobs," the prime minister said.

Britain, the world's fifth-biggest economy, would be the first state to leave the EU since the bloc's founding 60 years ago if the "Leave" camp wins in tomorrow's vote.

"Europe is not perfect," the British leader conceded. "Do think about the hopes and dreams of your children and your grandchildren," he added. "If we vote out, that is it. It is irreversible. We will leave Europe for good and the next generation will have to live with the consequences."

The British leader tried to stir up nationalist pride in favor of sticking with Brussels. "We are not

warned yesterday that a vote to leave the EU in whose language and values, whose influence is less than 48 hours would damage the economy, felt the world over," Cameron said. "If I felt remainrepresenting a "huge risk" for jobs and families. In ing in the EU diminished us, I would recommend voting to leave. But it does not. It amplifies our power." In polls released overnight, two placed the "Remain" side narrowly ahead while a third indicated the "Leave" camp could prevail. An average of the last six opinion polls compiled by the WhatUKThinks website has the two camps at 50 percent each. But the websites of six major bookmakers showed the odds heavily pointing to a "Remain" vote, with the chances of Britain staying in put at nearly 80 percent.

BLACK FRIDAY?

Meanwhile, George Soros, the billionaire who earned fame by betting against the pound in 1992, said that a British vote tomorrow to leave the European Union would trigger a bigger and more disruptive sterling devaluation than the fall on Black Wednesday.

Soros used Quantum Fund in 1992 to bet successfully that sterling was overvalued against the Deutsche Mark, forcing then-Prime Minister John Major to pull the pound out of the European Exchange Rate Mechanism (ERM). Soros, in an opinion piece in the Guardian newspaper, said that in the event of a British exit, or Brexit, the then-Prime Minister Harold Wilson devalued the pound would fall by at least 15 percent, and possibly more than 20 percent, to below \$1.15 from its current level of around \$1.46.

"The value of the pound would decline precipitously. It would also have an immediate and dramatic impact on financial markets, investment, prices and jobs," Soros, who is 85, said in the Guardian. "I would expect this devaluation to be bigger and also more disruptive than the 15 percent devaluation that occurred in September 1992, when I was fortunate enough to make a substantial profit for my hedge fund investors."

Soros, ranked as the world's 23rd richest person by Forbes magazine with a fortune of \$24.9 billion, said the Bank of England would not cut rates after a British exit and that there would be few monetary policy tools left to ease a recession or a fall in British house prices. He also pointed to the "very large" current account deficit in the United Kingdom and said a post-Brexit devaluation would be unlikely to improve manufacturing as trading conditions would be too uncertain to undertake new investments or hire workers.

Hungarian-born Soros said the scale of the sterling devaluation would compare with 1967, when pound to \$2.40 from \$2.80. Speculators, Soros said, would be eager to exploit a Brexit situation to profit. "Today, there are speculative forces in the markets much bigger and more powerful. And they will be eager to exploit any miscalculations by the British government or British voters," Soros said. "Brexit would make some people very rich but most voters considerably poorer," Soros said.

BREXIT WORRY

Members of Britain's Leave campaign say some bankers, big companies and politicians are trying to scare British voters with overblown warnings about the financial and economic impact of a Brexit. Justice Secretary Michael Gove, one of the leading members of the Vote Leave campaign, dismissed Soros's warning, saying that the billionaire had advocated British membership of the euro zone.

"The truth is that economic forecasters like George Soros have got things wrong in the past. They were the people who argued that we should join the single currency, the single currency as you

know has brought economic misery," Gove told BBC radio. Opponents of EU membership say Britain could prosper if it cut itself free from what they portray as a doomed German-dominated project in excessive debt-funded welfare spending. The world's biggest banks including Citi and Goldman Sachs will draft in senior traders to work through the night following Britain's referendum on EU membership, set to be among the most volatile 24 hours for markets in a quarter of a century. A vote to leave the European Union on June 23 would spook investors by undermining post-World War Two attempts at European integration and placing a question mark over the future of the United Kingdom and its \$2.9 trillion economy. Citi, Deutsche Bank, JPMorgan, Goldman Sachs, HSBC, Barclays, Royal Bank of Scotland and Lloyds are among those banks planning to have senior staff and traders working or on call in London as results start to dribble in after polls close at 2100 GMT, according to sources.

"British voters are now grossly underestimating the true costs of Brexit," Soros said. "Too many believe that a vote to leave the EU will have no effect on their personal financial position. This is wishful thinking." — Agencies

YELLEN: US ECONOMY FACES 'CONSIDERABLE UNCERTAINTY'

WASHINGTON: Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen said yesterday that the US economy faces "considerable uncertainty" from slower domestic activity and from a possible British vote to break with the European Union. Pointing to recent slower hiring and investment domestically, and to the risk that a pro-Brexit vote will send shock waves through global markets, Yellen signaled that the Fed has become less optimistic about US growth over the short term and will proceed with great caution on plans to raise interest rates.

She said in testimony to the Senate Banking Committee that US growth has picked up noticeably in the second quarter from the sluggish pace at the beginning of the year. Nevertheless, she said economic growth has been uneven and clear downside risks remain a threat.

"Considerable uncertainty about the economic outlook remains," she said in prepared testimony. "The latest readings on the labor market and the weak pace of investment illustrate one downside risk-that domestic demand might falter," she said.

Added to that, Yellen said, are the challenges of slower growth and reform hurdles in China, and the referendum in Britain tomorrow on pulling out of the European Union, which could radically alter Europe's economic framework. "One development that could shift investor sentiment is the upcoming referendum in the United Kingdom," she said. "A UK vote to exit the European Union could have significant economic repercussions."

Yellen was speaking days after the Fed's policy body, the Federal Open Market Committee, turned more dovish in its view of



Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen.

the economy as it again kept its benchmark interest rate locked at an ultralow level today. While Yellen reiterated the FOMC's expectations that it could increase the federal funds rate twice before the end of the year, ending 2016 close to 1.0 percent, she also highlighted risks to the longer term.

She noted that a number of prominent economists have argued that slow productivity growth in the United States will continue in the future, dampening overall growth. "We cannot rule out" that possibility, she said. And she said that as long as other domestic weaknesses persist, like slow household formation and business investment, and if global risks remain significant, then the Fed needs to hold interest rates ultra-low "to keep the economy operating near its potential."

Yellen was speaking in semi-annual testimony to Congress on the state of the US economy and Federal Reserve policy. Despite her concerns over the short-term outlook, she reiterated that she and the FOMC were fairly confident in the medium term outlook that growth will remain moderate, that companies will continue to hire workers at a steady pace and that inflation, which has been overly weak, will turn upward. — AFP

GULF BOURSES STABILIZE, EGYPT REGAINS GROUND

MIDEAST STOCK MARKETS

DUBAI: Most Gulf bourses firmed yesterday as fresh merger speculation moved stocks in Abu Dhabi, though Saudi Arabia's stock market lost steam as oil prices fell back. Egypt's bourse partially recovered from sharp losses but remained technically bearish.

National Bank of Abu Dhabi pulled back 1.7 percent after surging 20 percent in the previous two days on news of its merger talks with First Gulf Bank. FGB closed flat. But Union National Bank added 4.6 percent after Arqaam Capital said in a note that after the proposed merger between NBAD and FGB, "we expect UNB to be next".

It said Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank might offer a substantial premium to UNB shareholders in a merger; ADCB shares jumped 2.2 percent yesterday. Dubai's index added 1.1 percent with momentum accelerating in the final hour of trade. The benchmark was buoyed by mid- and large-cap stocks; Dubai Parks and Resorts climbed 2.1 percent. But trading volumes were generally small. "Turnover has been low, and markets will continue to lack liquidity given the month of Ramadan and the summer holiday overlap, which usually sees shrinking volumes," said Marwan Shurrab, fund manager at Dubai-based Vision Investment. In its final hour of trade, Riyadh's index gave up earlier gains as Brent crude prices fell below \$50 a barrel. The index closed down 0.1 percent as Saudi Arabia Fertilizers (SAF-CO) slipped 1.6 percent.

But real estate developer Knowledge Economic City gained 0.7 percent after it sold a plot of land for 22.8 million riyals (\$6.1 million) in holy Madina to International Medical Center, an affiliate of Fitaihi Holding Group, which plans to build a hospital on the site. Fitaihi shares fell 1.2 percent.

Kuwait's index edged up 0.1 percent. In Cairo, the main stock index rebounded 0.7 percent to 7,251 points but closed well off its session high. On Monday, the index broke below major support on the April and May lows of 7,276-7,327 points. "Today the market witnessed a technical rebound, driven by traders who were fishing for stocks with strong technical buy signals," said Ibrahim Al Nimr, head of technical analysis at Cairo's Naeem Brokerage.

Global Telecom Holding jumped 4.6 percent and Orascom Telecom, which had plummeted 6.5 percent since last week, added 1.8 percent. But Nimr added that the market was expected to remain in a downtrend, heading for psychological support at 7,000 points. The macroeconomic picture is murky as the 1 percentage point interest rate hike by the central bank tomorrow which was greater than expected - did little to steady investors' concern about a further devaluation of the currency.

"The gap between the black market rate and the official rate is widening, which raises doubt about the ability of the central bank to attract dollars into the country," said Nimr. The black market rate was about 11.05-11.08 Egyptian pounds to the US dollar this week against last week's 10.95. The official market rate is 8.88.— Reuters



OIL PRICES SLIP AFTER RALLY AS MARKET TURNS CAUTIOUS

LONDON: Oil prices fell yesterday after a strong two-day rally abated amid volatility fed in part by a vote later this week in Britain that will determine whether the country will leave the European Union.

A one-month ceasefire between the government and Nigerian militants whose attacks have curtailed the country's crude oil exports also added a bearish signal to a market that had firmed on the back of supply disruptions. Brent crude August futures were trading at \$50.05 at 1100 GMT, down 60 cents a barrel. The contract has risen by more than 6 percent since Thursday's settlement, after dropping 10 percent in six previous sessions.

US crude's expiring July front-month contract was down 60 cents at \$48.77 a barrel. The more actively traded August contract, the new frontmonth from Wednesday, was down 52 cents at \$49.43. That contract settled up nearly 3 percent at \$49.96 on Monday. Two opinion polls released on Monday suggested support for Britain staying in the European Union had recovered some ground following the murder of a pro-EU lawmaker last week, although a third survey found backers for "Brexit" ahead by a whisker.

But analysts said a rally on the back of polls was tenuous. "There is probably too much confidence about the outcome of the Brexit referendum at present - recent days have shown just how quickly public opinion can shift," Commerzbank said in a note. "Against this backdrop today's price losses make sense." Stocks also failed to build on the previous day's momentum in early trading as investors turned cautious ahead of Thursday's referendum. Commerzbank's Carsten Fritsch said the ceasefire in Nigeria added "additional arguments in favor of lower prices," while cautioning there was still risk of further attacks on oil facilities in the country. The deal, reported in local media, was not immediately confirmed by state oil company NNPC.

Elsewhere, Saudi Arabia's crude oil exports dropped in April despite high production levels, suggesting its battle for market share against US shale drillers may be running its course. Analysts at JBC Energy said the country's stocks of oil were likely to fall further in the coming months as domestic demand stays strong and exports continue. But Russia beat out Saudi Arabia as China's largest oil supplier in May, the third month in a row it topped the list, highlighting a still-fierce battle for market share.

Additionally, with oil prices up more than 30 percent this year, shale drillers are looking at turning the taps on again and have proven resilient beyond Saudi and OPEC expectations. Iran has also increased crude export capacity at its main terminal on Kharg Island to allow eight tankers to load simultaneously, the oil ministry's news agency Shana reported on Monday. — Reuters



TEHRAN: A Mahan Air passenger plane takes off from Mehrabad Airport in Tehran, Iran. Boeing Co said yesterday it signed an agreement with Iran Air "expressing the air-

BOEING SAYS IT SIGNS SALES AGREEMENT WITH IRAN AIR

BIGGEST BUSINESS DEAL BETWEEN IRAN AND AMERICA SINCE 1979

DUBAI: Boeing Co said yesterday it signed an agreement with Iran Air "expressing the airline's intent" to buy its aircrafts, setting up the biggest business deal between the Islamic Republic and America since the 1979 US Embassy takeover in Tehran.

Already, an Iranian official has suggested his country as a whole may purchase \$25 billion in airplanes from Chicago-based Boeing, welcome news to workers on its massive assembly line north of Seattle and company stockholders. However, the longstanding enmity between the US and Iran, as well as other sanctions, still could complicate any agreement - even after last year's nuclear deal.

Boeing issued a statement to The Associated Press saying that it signed the Iran Air agreement "under authorizations from the US government following a determination that Iran had met its obligations under the nuclear accord reached last summer."

"Boeing will continue to follow the lead of the US government with regards to working with Iran's airlines, and any and all contracts with Iran's airlines will be contingent upon US government approval," it said. Boeing's statement offered no further details. Fakher Daghestani, a Dubai-based spokesman for the manufacturer, declined to elaborate.

Iran Air, the country's national carrier, said this week it wants to buy new generations of the Boeing 737, as well as the 300ER and 900 version of the Boeing 777.

Earlier Tuesday, Iran's Transportation Minister Abbas Akhoundi said possible deals between the Islamic Republic and Boeing could be worth as much as \$25 billion, on par with the country's earlier agreement with its European rival, Airbus. Iran also has ordered 20 airplanes from French-Italian aircraft manufacturer ATR. "The initial talks were held and

I can say Boeing is negotiating with the US officials and possibly the amount of our purchase is equal to Airbus," Akhoundi said.

If the deal goes through, he said the first Boeing plane could arrive in Iran in October. The overall size of the proposed Boeing sale to Iran remains unclear. Ali Abedzadeh, the head of Iran's Civil Aviation Organization, was quoted Sunday by the state-run IRAN newspaper as saying the sale would involve 100 Boeing aircraft, something the manufacturer has declined to discuss.

Boeing has been cautious about entering Iran's market as other sanctions remain in place against Tehran. American officials had said as recently as last weekend that the sale would need permission from the US Treasury. It's unclear what changed in the last few days. Treasury officials could not be immediately reached for comment. It is likely Boeing may run the sale through an overseas subsidiary and use a currency other than US dollars in order to avoid running afoul of American laws. Iranian airlines have some 60 Boeing airplanes in service, but most were purchased

before the 1979 Islamic Revolution that ousted Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi and brought Islamists to power.

Out of Iran's 250 commercial planes, 162 are flying while the rest are grounded due to lack of spare parts, Akhoundi said yesterday. Parts and servicing remained nearly impossible to get while the world sanctioned Iran over its contested nuclear program.

Included in last year's nuclear deal, which limited Iran's uranium enrichment in exchange for sanctions to be lifted, is approval for airline manufacturers to enter the Iranian market. However, American lawmakers have warned Boeing not to do business there as the Iran deal remains a hot topic in the ongoing presidential election. At issue as well is Iran and America's longstanding suspicion of each other as the two countries haven't had direct diplomatic rela-

For Americans, it is the US Embassy takeover during the Islamic Revolution and its blacklisting of Iran as a state sponsor of terrorism. For Iranians, it is the American- and British-backed 1953 coup that installed the shah, as well as the US Navy's 1988 downing of an Iran Air commercial jet heading to Dubai. Since the nuclear deal, Iran also has conducted ballistic missile tests, launched rockets near US warships in the Persian Gulf and briefly captured 10 American sailors. The Shiite power also has seen relations deteriorate with the Sunni kingdom of Saudi Arabia, a major US regional ally.

Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei has expressed his continued distrust of American brands coming into the country. Comments Khamenei made in April apparently caused Iranian officials to strike models from General Motors Co's Chevrolet division off a list of allowed automobile brands for the Iranian market. Khamenei also questioned purchasing aircraft in a speech June 14. "This is a very important and necessary task, but is it a priority?" Khamenei asked, according to a transcript on his official website. "Imagine that we buy 300 airplanes. It is not clear whether this is a priority or not. This should be studied." — AP

News

in brief

US dollar stable against Kuwaiti dinar

KUWAIT: The US dollar stabilized against the Kuwaiti dinar at (KD) 0.300 in Tuesday's trades, as well as the euro which traded at KD 0.341 compared to Monday's trades. The Central Bank of Kuwait said on its website that the sterling pound rose to KD 0.442, the Swiss franc stabilized at KD 0.313 as well as the Japanese yen, KD 0.002.

Egypt says results on wheat ergot fungus study 'in days'

ABU DHABI: Egypt's agriculture ministry will issue a decision "in days" on the amount of ergot that will be allowed in its imported wheat, it said yesterday. "We are studying the matter after having received the FAO analysis and a decision will be issued on this in days," said ministry spokesman Eid Hawash. A disagreement over the amount of ergot, a common grain fungus, allowed in wheat imported by the world's largest buyer disrupted state purchase tenders earlier this year after Egypt's quarantine authorities insisted on a zero tolerance policy versus a more commonly accepted international standard of up to 0.05 percent ergot content.

Iraq southern oil exports average 3.14 million bpd

BASRA: Oil exports from Iraq's southern ports are averaging 3.144 million barrels per day (bpd) so far in June, down from May due to maintenance work and weather, a South Oil Co official said yesterday. State-run South Oil oversees Iraq's operations in the southern provinces that produce most of the OPEC's nation's crude. Iraq exported 3.2 million bpd in May and 3.364 million bpd in April from its southern ports, according to official figures. "There are expectations that the daily average will return to the previous level as periodic maintenance carried out on different facilities is finished," the official said. The central government in Baghdad halted exports from the northern Kirkuk fields in March because of a financial dispute with the Kurdish selfrule administration in the region. The Kurds exported about 513,000 bpd of crude in May, independently from Baghdad, via a pipeline to Turkey.

Turkey's CB bank cuts rate by 50 basis points

ISTANBUL: Turkey's central bank cut its overnight lending rate by 50 basis points testerday, as expected marking its fourth straight month of easing and leaving no doubt about new Governor Murat Cetinkaya's drive for looser policy. The bank lowered the rate, the highest of the multiple interest rates it uses to set policy, to 9 percent. It left its benchmark one-week repo rate on hold at 7.5 percent. Turkey has eased its lending rate by 175 basis points since March, the last three times under Cetinkaya, who took over as governor in April and has lived up to market expectations he would follow President Tayyip Erdogan's calls for lower rates.

LIBERTY LINES UP BANKS, PRIVATE FUNDS FOR TATA STEEL UK BID

DUBAI: Liberty House Group has lined up financing from banks in the United Kingdom and India as well as several private investment firms to support its bid to acquire the British assets of Tata Steel, Executive Chairman Sanjeev Gupta told Reuters. The firm is one of a number of companies that have put forward offers to buy Tata Steel's loss-making UK operations and save thousands of jobs in Britain, whose steel industry has been hit by cheap Chinese imports, high energy costs and a global supply glut.

The sale process is "ongoing" and no

announcements have yet been made on any shortlisted bidders, Gupta told Reuters at the firm's office in Dubai. Referring to how it plans to finance its bid, Gupta said it had lined up three UK high street lenders, large Indian banks and several funds and equity investors, some of which it had shortlisted as backers.

"I'm not, for a second, concerned about funding," he said. A successful bid for Tata Steel's operations could also make investments in steel businesses in continental Europe much more attractive for Liberty, according to Gupta.

There is some value to be created by integrating some British and European operations, which would be more compelling if we had a deal for Tata, but without this any investments in Europe would likely be restricted to the engineering sector. Should its bid for Tata Steel's British operations fail, Liberty is eyeing investments in steel plants in the United States, India and Africa, Gupta told Reuters earlier this month.

Liberty views the United States as a better investment opportunity than Europe, given the American government's strong support for the steel industry, while its model for recycling scrap steel into new metal is more advanced than elsewhere in the world.

This 'green steel' model is one which Liberty is looking to promote in Britain, where the amount of re-purposable steel is set to double in the coming years to 20 million tons per annum, according to Gupta. "Irrespective of what happens with Tata, we will set up our furnaces across the country at various concentration points," he said of plans to use electric arc furnaces to produce recycled steel. — Reuters

EXCHANGE RATES

AL-MUZAINI EXCHANGE CO.

	ASIAN COUNTRIES
Japanese Yen	2.901
Indian Rupees	4.499
Pakistani Rupees	2.885
Srilankan Rupees	2.085
Nepali Rupees	2.815
Singapore Dollar	224.670
Hongkong Dollar	38.911
Bangladesh Taka	3.850
Philippine Peso	6.515
Thai Baht	8.587

GCC COUNTRIES 80.563 Saudi Riyal Qatari Riyal 82,987 784.693 ani Riyal Bahraini Dinar 802.310 **UAE Dirham** 82.253

ARAB COUNTRIES

435.410

Egyptian Pound - Cash 30.750 Egyptian Pound - Transfer 34.393 Yemen Riyal/for 1000 1.213 Tunisian Dinar 140.440 Jordanian Dinar 425.640 Lebanese Lira/for 1000 2.013 Syrian Lira 2.153 Morocco Dirham 31.552

EUROPEAN & AMERICAN COUNTRIES US Dollar Transfer 342.710 Sterling Pound

Canadian dollar Turkish lira 103.760 Swiss Franc 316.680 Australian Dollar 224,800 **US Dollar Buying** 300.750 GOLD 20 Gram 261.630 10 Gram 133.730 5 Gram 67.710

DOLLARCO EXCHANGE CO. LTD

Rate for Transfer	Selling Rate
US Dollar	302.000
Canadian Dollar	234.464
Sterling Pound	434.202
Euro	341.445
Swiss Frank	290.851
Bahrain Dinar	799.169
UAE Dirhams	82.449
Qatari Riyals	83.689
Saudi Riyals	81.250
Jordanian Dinar	426.263
Egyptian Pound	33.912
Sri Lankan Rupees	2.082
Indian Rupees	4.476
Pakistani Rupees	2.880
Bangladesh Taka	3.844
Philippines Pesso	6.520
Cyprus pound	580.953
Japanese Yen	3.892
Syrian Pound	2.390
Nepalese Rupees	3.806

Turkish Lira 0.504

Malaysian Ringgit

Hong Kong Dollar

Thai Bhat

Chinese Yuan Renminb

BAHRAIN EXCHANGE COMPANY

74.623

46.220

9.532

CURRENCY	BUY	SELL
	Europe	
British Pound	0.436848	0.446848
Czech Korune	0.004617	0.016617
Danish Krone	0.041907	0.046907
Euro	0.0336428	0.0345428
Norwegian Krone	0.032391	0.037591
Romanian Leu	0.075351	0.075351
Slovakia	0.008972	0.018972
Swedish Krona	0.032542	0.037542
Swiss Franc	0.307490	0.318490
Turkish Lira	0.098697	0.108997
	Australasia	
Australian Dollar	0.217321	0.229321
New Zealand Dollar	0.208397	0.217897
	America	
Canadian Dollar	0.230448	0.239448
US Dollars	0.297550	0.302250
US Dollars Mint	0.297530	0.302250
O3 Dollars Willit	0.296030	0.302230
	Asia	
Bangladesh Taka	0.003375	0.003959
Chinese Yuan	0.044377	0.047877

0.036782 0.039532

Indian Rupee	0.004199	0.004609
Indonesian Rupiah	0.000018	0.000024
Japanese Yen	0.002802	0.002982
Kenyan Shilling	0.002972	0.002972
Korean Won	0.000250	0.000265
Malaysian Ringgit	0.070585	0.076585
Nepalese Rupee	0.002844	0.003014
Pakistan Rupee	0.002734	0.003024
Philippine Peso	0.006391	0.006691
Sierra Leone	0.000073	0.000079
Singapore Dollar	0.219255	0.229255
South African Rand	0.014308	0.022808
Sri Lankan Rupee	0.001575	0.002155
Taiwan	0.009229	0.009409
Thai Baht	0.008222	0.008772
	Arab	

Thai Baht	0.008222	0.008772
	Arab	
Bahraini Dinar	0.793564	0.802064
Egyptian Pound	0.027269	0.032387
Iranian Riyal	0.000083	0.000085
Iraqi Dinar	0.000180	0.000240
Jordanian Dinar	0.421446	0.430446
Kuwaiti Dinar	1.000000	1.000000
Lebanese Pound	0.000150	0.000250
Moroccan Dirhams	0.020016	0.044016
Nigerian Naira	0.001242	0.001877
Omani Riyal	0.777087	0.782767
Qatar Riyal	0.082045	0.083495
Saudi Riyal	0.079353	0.080653
Syrian Pound	0.001278	0.001498
Tunisian Dinar	0.137462	0.145462
Turkish Lira	0.098697	0.108997
UAE Dirhams	0.080703	0.082403
Yemeni Riyal	0.001363	0.001443



UKRAINE NOT EXPECTING ANY FRESH IMF FUNDS THIS YEAR

KIEV: Ukraine said yesterday it was not expecting any fresh loans from the IMF this year as it pushes ahead with efforts to reverse years of mismanagement and graft.

Prime Minister Volodymyr Groysman's announcement signals the International Monetary Fund's lingering reservations about the numerous problems besetting leaders who pulled the ex-Soviet republic out of Russia's orbit following a historic 2014 revolt. The IMF approved a \$17.5-billion (15.4-billion-euro) bailout in 2015 that was part of a broader \$40-billion global package aimed at helping Ukraine's leaders along on their westward path.

But until now, Ukraine has only received \$6.7 billion of the package and has not seen any new dis-

bursements since August 2015 with the payouts stalled over Kiev's resistance to the tough and unpopular measures prescribed under the IMF's program. Groysman said the total funds expected in 2016 "should be \$1.7 billion" in stalled payouts.

A history of corruption and backroom dealings between powerful tycoons that was one of the irritants feeding Ukraine's pro-EU drive continue to plague the highest echelons of government.

Groysman-a 38-year-old protege of President Petro Poroshenko-became premier in April with a mission to resolve scandals that had led to the resignation of reformist officials and paralysed the government's work. He said it did not matter if the payments were split, as some earlier reports had suggested. "I see no difference when and how much we receive," he told reporters.

'Decisively enhance transparency'

The IMF has been frustrated by the slow passage of painful belt-tightening measures that drew resistence from populist parties and damaged the approval ratings of leaders who rose to power in the wake of Ukraine's step toward the West. In May, the IMF said it remained "important that the authorities boost their efforts to entrench fiscal and financial stability, decisively enhance transparency and the rule of law, and reform the large and inefficient state-owned enterprise sector." But Ukraine has taken some long-overdue steps that were cheered by the IMF. Lawmakers

gritted their teeth and passed a measure nearly doubling average household gas tariffs and eliminating state subsidies that one top Kiev official said had cost the government \$60 billion over the past 10 year.

Ukraine is also trying to make its judges more independent from insiders and has launched a National Anti-Corruption Bureau tasked with looking into unseemly deals allegedly struck by both deputies and tycoons. But parliament this month refused to vote on a raft of legislation the IMF sees as essential for Ukraine to ease some of its biggest political and economic headaches.

Groysman also raised the 2016 growth forecast to 1.5 percent of gross domestic product from the 1.1 percent predicted by the central bank. — AFP



WASHINGTON: International Monetary Fund (IMF) Managing Director Christine Lagarde speaks during a news conference after the International Monetary and Financial Committee (IMFC) conference at the World Bank/IMF Spring Meetings at IMF headquarters in Washington. — AP

BRAZIL FERTILIZER IMPORTS FROM ARAB REGION SOAR UP TO 70%

ABU DHABI: The Arab region has witnessed an unprecedented rise in fertilizer exports to Brazil for the first quarter this year with a total of 1.14 million tons, an increase by 69 per cent from the 675 tons imported in January to April in 2015. Brazil and fertilizer-producing Arab countries continue to enjoy strong trade relations, particularly in agriculture and minerals, according to the Arab-Brazilian Chamber of Commerce (ABCC).

In April alone, fertilizer imports soared by 70 per cent, from 215,500 tons traded in April 2015 to 364,400 tons last month. Brazil has produced a total of 2.7 million tons of fertilizers from January this year and has imported a total of 5.65 million tons -



Dr. Michel Alaby, Secretary General and CEO, Arab-Brazilian Chamber of Commerce.

up by 3.5 per cent - from 5.46 million, compared to its imports during the same quarter last year.

Dr. Michel Alaby, Secretary General and CEO, Arab-Brazilian Chamber of Commerce said: "Fertilizers enjoy the second largest import from the Arab World to Brazil, next to minerals and oil. The region's fertilizer producers have continued to play a vital role in Brazil's agriculture growth, and the food commodities worldwide. The first quarter results only signify profitable growth for this year, with the fertilizer market making a significant contribution to strengthen the economic ties between Brazil and the Arab World."

Brazil's economy is largely driven by its agriculture sector, heavily exporting cattle meat, corn, soy beans, coffee, sugar and palm oil, among others. Industry experts have predicted the country's fertilizer market will continue to grow, with demand reaching up to 31 million tons. Among the Arab nations, Qatar and Saudi Arabia led the market, with share growth soaring up to 26.8 per cent and 559 per cent, respectively. Overall, Brazil posted 21.82 per cent import growth from 2015, ABCC noted.

"The ever-increasing trade growth between Brazil and the Arab World continues to enjoy a commercial support system which provides consistent exchange of market data and information. With food security as one of the region's priority, our industry specialists have remained at the forefront of analyzing and identifying new market opportunities for both regions. We are confident that this unique and stable relationship between the Arab World and Brazil will bear an even more lucrative business in the near future," Dr Alaby concluded.

EU AGREES ON COMPROMISE DEAL TO FIGHT TAX DODGING

AIM TO CUT COMPANIES' PROFIT SHIFTING AND TAX AVOIDANCE

BRUSSELS: Multinationals may find it harder to escape tax after EU states tightened rules yesterday to counter tax avoidance. Public anger has grown since news stories revealed how companies such as Amazon and Starbucks have used legal means to vastly reduce their tax bills and the Panama Papers and Luxleaks scandals exposed the extent of problem.

But after watering down initial proposals due to fears that the crackdown could damage European competitiveness, the EU has settled on a compromise worth no more than "wastepaper", according to an anti-poverty campaign group. That was not the opinion of the EU commissioner in charge of tax issues. "Today's agreement strikes a serious blow against those engaged in corporate tax avoidance," Pierre Moscovici said.

The measures include powers for governments to tax profits shifted by companies based in the EU to low-tax countries where they have no real business activity, and to tax assets developed in the EU and then trans-

ferred outside the bloc, a trick often used to avoid taxes on intellectual property patents. The measures will turn non-binding international standards into binding rules and go beyond what has been agreed by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), something the accounting industry said was a mistake.

"The EU has gone more than the extra mile" said Chas Roy-Chowdhury, head of tax at ACCA, which represents the interests of the accountancy sector.

But the compromise - which had to be agreed unanimously by the 28 EU states - was reached after some of the most controversial provisions were scrapped or delayed, raising doubts on the effectiveness of the new measures. "We cannot put a precise figure on how much of the tax will be recovered," a Commission official said, referring to a European Parliament estimate that tax avoidance by multinationals' costs EU states up to 70 billion euros (\$76.10 billion) a year.

Oxfam, which says tax avoidance exacerbates global poverty, called the watered-down rules "wastepaper" and said the EU had missed an opportunity to fight the problem.

"It is outrageous that governments have been unable to agree on an effective approach against parking profits in tax havens while repeated tax scandals are calling for immediate and efficient action," Oxfam said. Several smaller EU countries, that have tax policies designed to attract multinationals, had feared companies could leave if the rules were too severe.

To quell concerns, a proposal known as switch-over clause was dropped. It would have taxed dividends and capital gains that European firms pay to companies they control in low-tax or tax-free countries to avoid taxation. National governments were also granted leeway on how to apply new measures to reduce deductions on interest payments. States, under certain conditions, will be able to keep their own rules in place until 2024, rather than the 2019 deadline original proposed. — Reuters



TEHRAN: Deputy of France's Peugeot Citroen (PSA) Jean-Christophe Quemard, (R) signs documents with CEO of industrial group Iran Khodro, Hachem Yekehzare (L), as Iran's Industry and Commerce Minister Mohammad Reza Nematzadeh (2R) watches on in Tehran yesterday. PSA is the first Western carmaker to announce a return to Iran since many economic sanctions were lifted in January when a landmark nuclear deal with world powers took effect. — AFP

VIVA ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF 'WIN BIG IN RAMADAN' CAMPAIGN

KUWAIT: VIVA, Kuwait's fastest growing and most developed telecom operator, announces second week's winners of the campaign "Win Big in Ramadan" that allows postpaid customers to win valuable cash prizes during the holy month of Ramadan.

The names of daily draw's winners with prize KD 100 are: Mohammad Ahmad Ali Jumaah, Mary Surya, Mansour Abdullah Askar Al-Ajmi, Yaqoub Ali Ahmad Dashti, Abdullah Ali Saleh Haidar Hasan, Saif Mohammed Thaar Al-Hajri, Ghaliah Dhahi Tallaa Al-Khaldi. VIVA gives the customers a wonderful opportunity to win amazing cash prizes this Ramadan - KD 100 daily, KD 500 fortnightly and KD 1000 at the end of the month, once they pay their VIVA bills through Direct Debit, VIVA website, VIVA App or by calling 102 during the holy month.

VIVA is the fastest-growing telecom operator in Kuwait. Launched in December 2008, VIVA makes things Possible for its customers by transforming communication, information and entertainment experiences. The company has rapidly established an unrivalled position in the market through its customer centric approach. VIVA's quest is to be the mobile brand of choice in Kuwait by being transparent, engaging, energetic and fulfilling. VIVA continues to take a considerable share of the market by offering an innovative range of best value products, services and content propositions; a state of the art, nationwide network and world-class service. VIVA offers internet speeds of more than 100 Mbps, due to the implementation of the most advanced fourth generation (4G LTE) network in Kuwait resulting in superior coverage, performance and reliability.



JAPAN PM DEFENDS ECONOMIC POLICY AHEAD OF ELECTION

TOKYO: Japan's prime minister defended his economic policy yesterday ahead of parliamentary elections next month amid calls for a change of course in the world's number three economy. Half of the 242 seats in Japan's upper house are up for grabs in the July 10 vote and although Shinzo Abe's premiership will not be contested, the polls are likely to be seen as a referendum on his policies.

In a debate with opposition parties ahead of the official campaign period kickoff today the leader said 'Abenomics' - a mix of massive monetary easing, government spending and red-tape slashing - had shown results. But Katsuya Okada, head of Japan's largest opposition Democratic Party, challenged Abe's assertion, saying: "Economic policy has come to a standstill. Not everybody is enjoying prosperity. We need a change in economic policy."

Abenomics had a promising start as it sharply weakened the yen, a plus for Japan's exporters, which set off a stock market rally. But promised reforms have been slow in coming and there are growing doubts about its prospects for ultimate success.

The International Monetary Fund said Monday the program needed to be "reloaded" with steps to increase incomes and achieve labor reforms to meet Abe's ambitious growth and inflation targets. In addition to a massive asset buying plan, the Bank of Japan in January adopted a negative interest rate policy aimed at spurring lending to help reach a two percent inflation target, a cornerstone of Abenomics.

Japan's economy has dodged a recession, growing 0.5 percent in the first quarter of 2016, but there are concerns about the strength of its recovery.

concerns about the strength of its recovery.

Abe earlier this month said Japan would delay a planned sales tax hike to avoid damaging the fragile economy. In response, Fitch cut its outlook for Japan's credit rating, saying it undermined the country's commitment to paying down one of the world's biggest national debts. — AFP

EIGHT DAYS LEFT FOR SECOND QUARTERLY TRIO DRAW

KUWAIT: Gulf Bank has announced that its Second Quarterly Trio Quarterly draw is scheduled to take place 8 days from today at 1pm, 30 June 2016, on Marina FM's Diwaniya Show. 3 Draws will take place at the same time and location. The Al-Danah draw will be for cash prize of KD250,000. While the Salary & Red Account draws include a brand new Cadillac SRX and cash prizes up to KD1,000. The draw event will be held in the presence of a representative from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

To participate in the Al-Danah draws, customers must have an Al-Danah account containing at least KD 200. Customers can open a new Al-Danah account at any one of the 56 Gulf Bank branches in Kuwait. Those who already have an account can increase their chances of winning by increasing their deposits. This will also increase their chances of winning one of the two KD1,000 prizes, which are drawn each working day.

Furthermore, 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 1,000 each. In addition, the quarterly car draw will be for 1 lucky winner who will have a chance to win a new Cadillac SRX.

For further information about the Al-Danah, Salary and Red accounts and prize draws, visit one of Gulf Bank's 56 branches, or call Gulf Bank's Customer Contact Center on 1805805.





STERLING RISES BUT STOCKS DIP ON BREXIT JITTERS

LONDON: Sterling hit a seven-week high ment titans, Li Ka-shing and George Soros, against the dollar yesterday on expectations Britons will vote to stay in the European Union but stocks failed to build on the previous day's gains as this week's referendum kept many investors cautious. Two opinion polls published on Monday put the "Remain" camp ahead before Thursday's vote but another gave "Leave" a slight lead.

With a series of polls putting the "Leave" and "Remain" camps neck and neck ahead

warned an exit vote would spell economic doom for Britain. While stock traders built on the past two sessions' gains, the pound edged up after enjoying its best single-day gain in eight years. The dollar retreated against most major currencies with the exception of the yen, which has retreated this week on indications the campaign for Britain to stay in the EU has regained momentum.

"Financial markets appear to be taking

run, which given the twists and turns seen already in this campaign may well be extremely far sighted, or dangerously premature. With more polls due out later today we can expect to see further volatility unfold in the event of a move either way," said Michael Hewson, chief strategist at CMC Markets in London.

Also keeping investors nervous was testimony due later in the day from the head of the European Central Bank and from US Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen, whose

ing of a possible rise in US interest rates.

Concern Britain, the world's fifthlargest economy, will leave the EU has weighed on financial markets for weeks and has been cited by central bankers. including the Fed's Yellen, as a major obstacle for the global economy. Britain's FTSE 100 blue-chip share index, fell 0.1 percent while the pan-European FTSEurofirst 300 stocks index was up 0.1 percent. Both indexes gained more than 3 percent on Monday.

Asian shares rose. MSCI's broadest index of Asia-Pacific shares outside Japan was up 0.6 percent. Tokyo's Nikkei 225 index rose 1.3 percent, buoyed by a weak yen. Sterling, the main vehicle used by international investors to express a view on the referendum, rose as high as \$1.4747, a seven-week high in European trade. "Some of the recent events have been favorable for Britain to remain in the EU, but it's still too close to call," said Manuel Oliveri, currency strategist at Credit Agricole. "We are advising our clients to go neutral into the vote, although we remain constructive. If "Remain" wins we expect sterling to rise to \$1.55."

The pound gained 0.7 percent to 153.70 yen. The Japanese currency, which is often sought by investors in times of market uncertainty, also fell 0.5 percent to 104.46 against the dollar. The dollar index, which measures the US currency against six major peers, fell 0.1 percent.

"The markets have a myopic focus on one thing: the UK referendum vote," Chris Weston, chief market strategist at IG Ltd. in Melbourne, told Bloomberg News."All the euphoria of yesterday has seemingly abated and we hit the refresh button. We almost need to take this week one day at a time, such is the nervousness around trading." Dealers were also awaiting testimony on the US economy by Federal Reserve boss Janet Yellen from yesterday.

By close of play, Tokyo jumped 1.3 percent as a morning yen surge faded, while Sydney gained 0.3 percent and Seoul added 0.1 percent. Hong Kong added 0.8 percent. There were also healthy gains in Manila, Taipei and Jakarta. However, Shanghai gave up early advances to close 0.4 percent lower. —Agencies

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Daily Ku	the second trans	16		nange Repor		//a->=a-							اΟاد	oa 	16	_	J
dex		Ch	ange	Closing	as	t Closin	a		High	low							
		Ch	ange 5.04	Closing		t Closin	g		High 430 15	Low 5 420 71		Volume			80	455.84	1
Price index		A .	5.94	5,437.62	5	,431.68	g	5	,439.15	5,420.71		Volume Value (KWD)	1		-	914 05	
Price index Velghted Index		Ch		- 1	5		g	5	Part of			Volume Value (KWD) Number of T			11),455,84 1,914,05 1,915	
ndex Price index Velghted Index CSX 15		A	5.94 0.55	5,437.62 356.42	5	355.87	g	5	,439.15 357.08	5,420.71 354.28		Value (KWD)			11	,914,056	
Price index Velghted Index SSX 15	High	A	5.94 0.55 3.25	5,437.62 356.42 820.84	5	355.87		5	,439.15 357.08	5,420.71 354.28	Low	Value (KWD)	rades	Trades	11	,914,056	õ
Price index Velghted Index	High	A A	5.94 0.55 3.25	5,437.62 356.42 820.84	5	355.87 817.59		5	,439.15 357.08 820.84	5,420.71 354.28 813.79	Low 35.5	Value (KWD) Number of T	Trades	Trades	11	1,914,056 1,915	õ

Weighted Index KSX 15			3.25	356.42 820.84		355.87 317.59			357.08 820.84	354.28 813.79	_	Number of				1,914,0	
- D D D D D D D D D D D D D D D D D D D			******								_						
Security	High	Low	Volume	Trades Value (KD)	Trades	Last	Ch	ange	Security	High	Low	Volume	Trades Value (KD)	Trades	Last	Ch	hange
MARIN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	100		0.0	зокоик	36.0	35.5	309000	11,099	8	36.0	A	0.
KARUS PG	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	40.5 335	_	0.0	URC URC	55 91	54 91	1,215,600	66,338 91	14	54 91	_	-2, 0.0
NAPESCO	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	730		0.0	NRE	88	87	1,043,600	91,043	17	88	*	-1.
ENERGYH SPI	49.0 42.5	46.0	87,750 748,358	4,081 31,431	20	49.0 42.5	_	0.5	SRE	360	360 0.0	2,000	720	0	360 560	¥	-15
ABAR	99	99	4,200	416	3	99	_	0.0	AREEC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	138	_	0.0
Oil & Gas			840,308	35,928	31	779.26	A	0.51	MASSALEH ARABREC	0.0 32.0	0.0 32.0	2,000	0 64	1	44.0 32.0	_	0.0
KFOUC	184	178	27,300	4,881	5	178	₩.	-8.0	ERESCO	51	50	2,071,000	105,560	3	50		-1.0
BPCC ALKOUT	510	510 0.0	362,000	184,620	9	510 650	_	10.0	MABANEE	780	770 69	11,141 24,480	8,595 1,699	3	770 74	=	0.0
ALQURAIN	208	206	240,994	49,755	15	208	*	-2.0	INVESTORS	22.0	21.5	325,300	7,107	8	22.0	_	0.0
Basic Materials			630,294	239,256	29	974.22		-4.93	ALTIJARIA	31.0 76	31.0 75	60,000 63,650	1,860 4,777	5	31.0 76	_	-1.0
KCEM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	390	-	0.0	SANAM	32.5	32.5	1,000,000	32,500	3	32.5	A	0.6
REFRI CABLE	300 410	300 400	29,511	8,853 8,082	7	300 410	A	15.0 5.0	AQAR	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	63 60	=	0.0
SHIP	158	154	17,101	2,674	5	158	A	2.0	ALAQARIA	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	23.5	-	0.0
PCEM PAPER	990	990	50,000	49,500	0	990 285	_	0.0	MAZAYA ADNC	0.0	0.0	15,000	1,800	0	120	_	0.0
MRC	0.0	0.0	o	0	0	59	_	0.0	THEMAR	0.0	0.0	0	ō	0	90	_	0.0
ACICO	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	300	1	0.0	TIJARA	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	36.5	1	0.0
GGMC HCC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	285 142	=	0.0	TAAMEER	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	90	=	0.0
КВММС	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	250	-	0.0	ARGAN	148	148	19,500	2,886	3	148	-	0.0
NICBM EQUIPMENT	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	202 62	=	0.0	ABYAAR MUNSHAAT	23.5 53	23.0 53	150,500 310,000	3,462 16,430	7	23.5 53	*	-1.0
NCCI	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	12.5	-	0.0	FIRSTDUBAI	68	66	252,605	16.891	16	68	7	-1.0
GYPSUM SALBOOKH	0.0 /1	0.0 68	0 262,664	0 18,287	0 35	102 69	_	1.0	REAM	40.5 0.0	40.0	219,225	8,770 0	6	40.0 166	1	0.0
AGLTY	485	480	531,256	255,349	21	485	_	0.0	MENA	21.5	21.5	1,000	22	1	21.5	<u> </u>	1.0
EDU CI EANING	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	190	1000	0.0	ALMUDON	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	28.5	-	0.0
CLEANING KGL	0.0 46.0	0.0 44.0	0 113,182	0 5,010	16	39.5 46.0	_	1.0	MARAKEZ REMAL	0.0 33.5	0.0 33.5	2,640	0 88	1	21.0 33.5	v	-0.
KCPC	178	178	50	9	1	178	-	0.0	AWJ	77	72	63,710	4,656	4	77	Δ	2.0
HUMANSOFT NAFAIS	1,500	1,480	160	237	0	1,500 174	_	20.0	Real Estate			7,162,951	386,457	123	846.47	•	-2.3
BAFWAN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	305	=	0.0	KINV	87	86	5,010	431	3	86	A	1.0
GFC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	34.0	_	0.0	FACIL	188	178	30,701	5,563 55,681	21	188	A	10.
MAYADEEN CGC	26.0 770	25.5 770	435,257 15,000	11,114 11,550	10	26.0 770	_	0.5	IFA NINV	29.5 106	28.5 102	1,938,100 4,799,886	55,681 504,487	33 96	29.0 106	-	0.0
мтсс	67	64	40,100	2,597	3	67		2.0	KPROJ	520	510	193,663	98,769	14	520	•	10.
UPAC ALAFCO	0.0 206	0.0 206	7,000	0 1,442	2	690 206	_	0.0 -2.0	COAST	46.5 0.0	45.0 0.0	7,729,899	354,366 0	164	45.5 40.5	*	-1.0
MUBARRAD	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	61	_	0.0	SGC	82	82	146	12	1	82	_	0.0
LOGISTICS	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	79	122	0.0	ARZAN	32.5	32.0	106,803	3,423	11	32.5	A	0.5
SCEM GCEM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	78 74	_	0.0	MARKAZ KMEFIC	0.0	0.0	2.000	168	0	84 25.0	A .	0.0
DIC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	73	_	0.0	ALAMAN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	51	_	0.0
FCEM	74 91	73 90	643,379	47,000	8	74	*	1.0	ALOLA	49.0	48.0	42,100	2,023	7	49.0	*	-1.0
RKWC SPEC	76	71	53,000 25,610	4,815 1,819	6	90 76	_	-1.0 0.0	ALMAL GIH	30.0	28.5	9,600,015	279,318	162	29.0 27.0	_	-1.0
Industrials			2,243,470	428,337	126	1078.02	A	6.78	AAYAN	35.5	35.5	445,500	15,815	7	35.5	•	-0.5
KSH	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	150	-	0.0	BAYANINV	35.0 0.0	34.5 0.0	386,100	13,345	11	35.0 45.5	_	0.5
NSH	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	64	1	0.0	KFIC	38.0	34.5	6,100	211	3	38.0	A	1.0
PAPCO CATTL	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	100 186	_	0.0	NIH	0.0 57	0.0 56	1,000	0 57	2	79 56	=	0.0
DANAH	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	124	_	0.0	ISKAN	31.0	30.0	160,000	4,810	4	31.0	A	1.0
POULT FOOD	180 2,400	180 2,400	8,301 80	1,494 192	1	180 2,400	A	2.0 100.0	MADAR ALDEERA	14.0 38.0	13.0 38.0	33,201 6.628	448 252	6	13.0 38.0	_	-1.0
Consumer Goods	2,400	2,400	8,381	1,686	2	1160.34	À	11.85	ALSALAM	41.5	40.0	3,144,106	127,822	54	41.0	_	0.0
									EKTTITAB	36.5	35.5	2,086,149	75,087	60	36.0	-	0.0
MHC ATC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	200 920	_	0	ALMADINA NOOR	45.5 41.0	43.5 41.0	1,707,556 120,000	75,988 4,920	72	44.0	*	-1.0
YIACO	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	210	-	0	TAMINV	315	315	209,800	66,087	2	315	_	0.0
Health Care			0	0	0	992.41	-	0.00	TAIBA	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	1,500 75	=	0.0
KCIN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	1,700	_	0	KSHC	35.0	33.0	525,602	17,491	35	34.0		-1.0
KHOT	0.0	0.0	0 7 500	0	0	210	_	0	ASIYA	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	39.0	-	0.0
SULTAN CABLETV	58 23.5	58 23.0	7,500 25,850	435 595	6	58 23.0	•	-3	GNAHC AMWAL	38.0 22.5	35.5 21.5	1,786,959 67,500	64,117 1,481	29 11	36.0 22.5	¥	-1.0 0.5
EYAS	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	385	-	0	ALIMTIAZ	68	68	401,250	27,285	9	68	_	0.0
FAHR DULAFUEL	0.0	0.0 110	0 150,550	0 16,841	11	198 110	_	0	MANAZEL NIND	0.0	0.0 116	0 502,207	0 58,262	0 38	15.0 118	_	0.0
MUNTAZAHAT	86	85	215,661	18,396	8	86	<u>-</u>	0	BIIHC	30.0	29.0	3,725,800	108,311	44	29.0	*	-0.
IAZEERA BOOR	920 112	890 110	62,246 62,278	56,161 6,911	11 10	910	_	0	SENERGY	0.0 61	0.0	20,000	0 1,211	6	13.0	-	0.0
UTUREKID	0.0	0.0	62,278 0	6,911	0	110 112	_	0	AGHC KPPC	0.0	59 0.0	20,000	1,211	0	60 47.5	_	0.0
ALRAI	162	160	2.100	336	2	162	A	4	TAHSSILAT	56	56	50	3	1	56	A	1.0
ZIMAH JFIG	41.0 0.0	39.5	347,856 0	14,087	14	39.5 140	*	-1 0	JEERANH EKHOLDING	71 0.0	71 0.0	300,000	21,300	3	71 120	*	-1.0
Mezzan	1,100	1,100	15,229	16,752	5	1,100	=	0	GГH	69	69	57,731	3,983	5	69	Ξ	0.0
Consumer Services	S		889,270	130,513	69	998.22		-0.81	INOVEST Financial Services	54	54	50,000 40,191,562	2,700 1,995,224	920	54 566.17	_	0.0
ZAIN	345	340	939,549	324,117	44	345	_	0	i manual pervices			40,101,002	1,000,224	020	550.17	-	0.1
OOREDOO	1,180	1,100	3,533	4,074	3	1,160	*	-20	Investment Instru	ments		0	0	0	1081.97	-	0.0
HITSTELEC /IVA	38.0 940	37.0 940	8,362,800 51,850	311,617 48,739	111 19	37.5 940	_	0	ASC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	390		0.0
relecommunication		J-10	9,357,732	688,547	177	607.40	A	0.65	osos	110	104	50,100	5,211	2	110	1	0.0
IDI/	1814	1967							FUTURE	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	100	-	0.0
NBK 3BK	610 244	600 234	5,848,756 1,278,557	3,513,286 299,676	83 41	610 234	<u>_</u>	-10	HAYATCOMM Technology	47.0	46.0	37,650 87,750	1,744 6,955	10	47.0 1015.10	*	-1.2
CBK	440	410	3,786	1,636	5	410	•	-20				and the same					
NBK	340	335	116,646	39,081	6	340	A .	5	BAREEQ	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	100	144	0.0
ALMUTAHED (IB	400 192	400 192	1,100,000	40,703 211,200	9	400 192	_	-5 0	AFAQ ALSHAMEL	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	172 460	=	0.0
BURG	325	320	3,511,798	1,123,825	94	325	A	5	EFFECT	40.5	39.5	5,825	230	2	40.5	-	0.0
(FIN BOUBYAN	460 390	450 385	3,258,308 3,036,142	1,482,053 1,183,857	74 46	460 390	_	5	AJWAN MASAKEN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	26.0 71	_	0.
AUB	190	190	72.500	1,183,857	4	190	A	2	DALQAN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	350	_	0.
THMR	36.0	35.5	221,000	7,919	7	36.0	_	0	ALEID	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	98	_	0.0
WARBABANK	1/4	172	486,551 19,035,801	83,707 8,000,719	40 421	172 801.42		-1.29	MIDAN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	1,220 46.0	=	0.0
			The second secon			-			waterded and a consequence			072.5					0.0
									THURAYA	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	158	-	U.L
Banks KINS GINS	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	290 700	_	0	KCLINIC AMAR	0.0 0.0 49.5	0.0 0.0 49.5	0 0 1,000	0 0 50	0	33.5 49.5	Ξ	0.0

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الوطنى للأسواق المالية كما بلغ حتى الساعة الثانية يوم أمس مؤشرات الأسهم العالمية أداء اليوم أداء السنه الحالي آخر اقفال المؤشر 0.73 129.71 17,804.87 17,675.16 2.18 • او جونز 4.05 0.77 36.88 4.837.22 4,800.34 سداك المركب • 1.92 0.58 12.03 2,083.25 2,071.22 S&P 500 . -0.63 -0.03 -1.85 6.202.15 6.204.00 • ايناتشال تايمز -6.87 0.48 47.44 10,009.46 9,962.02 • 4,368.12 4,340.76 -5.80 0.63 • 27.36 40 كاك -10.28 0.14 • 10.94 7,911.16 7,900.22 ىويسري 16,169.11 15,965.30 -15.05 1.28 203.81 يكاي 225 • 1,293.90 1,279.19 -16.38 1.15 14.71 • رېکس -5.69 0.77 158.24 20,668.44 20,510.20 • هانغ سينغ -0.41 -11.42 2,789.45 2,800.87 -3.24 تريت تايمز مؤشرات الأسهم العربية أداء السنه أداء اليوم التغير آخر اقفال الحالي المؤشر % % -3.38 0.11 5.94 5,437.62 5,431.68 • 9.30 6,568.22 6,558.92 -5.10 0.14 • لسعودية 3,305.94 3.343.43 4.92 1.13 • 37.49 4.03 0.50 22.45 4,503.49 4,481.04 • أيوظيي -8.26 0.00 0.00 1,115.42 1,115.42 ليحرين 9,825.25 -5.79 0.96 94.07 9,919.32 • 5.784.47 7.00 -2.16 0.17 • 1.91 1,146.18 1,144.27 لبتان 2,108.57 2,110.32 -1.22 -0.08 -1.75 الأردن 2.82 0.84 60.22 7,263,86 7,203,64 • 9,607.86 9,601.36 7.57 0.07 6.50 لمغرب • 5.422.08 0.04 2.01 5.420.07 7.50 تونس صرف العملات العالمية القرنك العملة الدولار الين الجنيه الدولار الدينان اليورو السويسري الكويتي 4.4140 346.19 3.1708 2.2463 2.9212 3.3074 12.3519 لدينار الكويتي 0.3574 28.03 0.2567 0.1819 0.2365 0.2678 0.08096 لربال السعودي الدولار الأمريكي 0.30235 1.3346 104.67 0.9587 0.6792 0.8832 3.7346 1.5120 118.53 1.0854 1.1322 4.2283 0.34232 0.7689 1.97 154.17 1.4119 1.3006 1.4724 5.4988 0.44518 لجنيه الاسترليني القرتك السويسري 0.9213 1.0431 3.8955 0.31537 1.3921 0.0092 0.0065 0.0084 0.0096 0.0357 0.00289 لين الياباني 78.43 0.7184 0.5088 0.22655 الدولار الأسترالي 0.6614 0.7493 2.7983 صرف العملات العربية الجنيه الدرهم الربال الربال الديثار الربال الديثار العملة الدولار الدولار الأمريكي 3.6570 0.3831 0.30235 8.7700 3.6259 0.3741 3.7346 29.0061 12.0953 1.2672 11.9924 1.2374 12.3519 3.3074 الديثار الكويتي 2.3483 0.1026 0.9709 0.2678 0.9792 0.1002 0.0810 لربال السعودي الدينار البحريني 9.9824 0.8082 2.6729 23.4417 9.7749 1.0241 9.6918 لربال القطري 2.4187 0.1057 0.1032 1.0300 0.0834 0.2758 1.0086 0.7892 2.6101 الربإل العماتي 22.8904 9.5451 9.4639 0.9765 9.7476 2.3981 0.1048 0.9915 0.1023 1.0212 0.0827 0.2734 لدرهم الإماراتي 0.0437 0.4134 0.0427 0.4258 0.0345 0.1140 0.4170 لجنيه المصري الفائدة المحلية و العالمية العملة سنة ثلاثة أشهر سته اشهر أسيوع شهر 1.94 1.44 الدينار الكويتي 1.63 1.19 0.00 1.25 0.93 0.64 0.45 0.41 لدولار الأمريكي -0.03-0.16-0.28-0.35 -0.38 0.72 0.58 0.51 0.48 لجنيه الإسترليني الفرنك السويسري -0.55 -0.82-0.81 1.71 1.76 1.81 1.92 1.84 الدولار الأسترالي 1.03 0.89 **#VALUE!** 0.88 0.00 لدولار الكندي عوائد السندات العالمية سنة 30 سنوات 10 اليلد سنوات 5 سنتان الولايات المتحدة 0.67 0.07 -0.59 0.83 2.12 1.28 0.50 بريطانيا سعار المعادن الثمينة والنقط أداء السنه أداء اليوم الحالي التغير آخر اقفال المؤشر % 35.55 -0.06 44.55 44.61 لنقط الكويتي • 21.83 -0.7747.72 48.09 49.35 رب تكساس المتوسط -0.1024.91 -0.20

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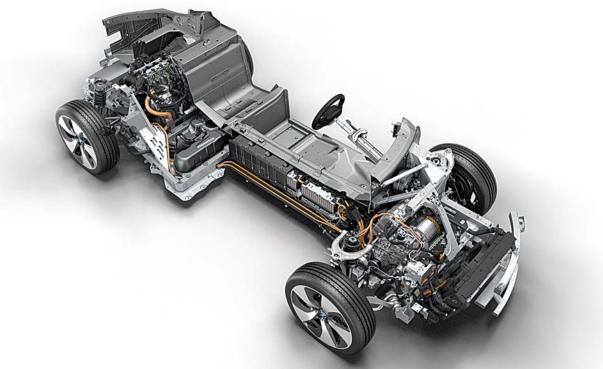
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BMW i8 wins Engine of the Year Award 2016.







BMW 18 WINS ENGINE OF THE YEAR AWARD 2016

The plug-in hybrid drive system tops its class for second year running

MUNICH/STUTTGART: Following its overall victory and two class wins in last year's International Engine of the Year Awards, the drive system powering the BMW i8 has once again triumphed in its class - the 1.4-litre to 1.8-litre displacement category - in this year's competition. The BMW Group's success in the International Engine of the Year Awards 2016 provides further evidence of the performance potential of the Efficient Dynamics technology package, which since 2007 has enabled a con-

tinuous enhancement of driving pleasure while at the same time cutting fuel consumption and emissions.

The International Engine of the Year Awards were launched in 1999, since when a total of 67 class and overall wins have gone to power units developed for BMW models. Each year an expert panel of judges, this time comprising 63 motoring journalists from 31 countries, selects the best examples in numerous categories. The prize-winners were presented with their awards

on Wednesday, 1 June 2016 against the backdrop of the Engine Expo trade fair in Stuttgart.

The plug-in hybrid drive system powering the BMW i8 combines the performance of a sports car with the fuel economy of a far smaller model. The three-cylinder combustion engine in the BMW i8 develops 170 kW/231 hp and drives the rear wheels, while the 96 kW/131 hp electric motor draws its energy from a lithium-ion battery, which can be charged from a conventional domestic power

socket and sends its power to the front axle. This bespoke plug-in hybrid system, developed and produced by the BMW Group, enables a range of up to 37 kilometres (23 miles) in the EU test cycle and a top speed of 120 km/h (75 mph) on electric power alone, coupled with a "glued-to-the-road" all-wheel driving experience headlined by powerful acceleration and a dynamically-biased distribution of power through keeplytaken corrects.

through keenly taken corners.

The higher-output of the two power

sources drives the rear wheels and uses the electric boost from the hybrid system to deliver hallmark BMW driving pleasure while at the same time offering groundbreaking levels of efficiency. The sprint from 0 to 100 km/h (62 mph) takes just 4.4 seconds, yet combined fuel consumption - as calculated in the EU test cycle for plug-in hybrid vehicles - stands at 2.1 litres per 100 kilometres (134.5 mpg imp) plus 11.9 kWh of electricity. This equates to CO2 emissions of 49 grams per kilometre.

GERMAN INVESTOR MORALE UP ON ECONOMY'S RESILIENCE

BERLIN: The mood among German analysts and investors improved unexpectedly in June, reflecting their confidence in the resilience of Europe's largest economy despite an uncertain global backdrop, a survey by think tank ZEW showed yesterday.

Mannheim-based ZEW said its monthly survey showed a rise in its economic sentiment index to 19.2 points in June from 6.4 the previous month. That compared with the Reuters consensus forecast for a fall to 4.7. "The improvement of economic sentiment indicates that the financial market experts have confidence in the resilience of the German economy," ZEW President Achim Wambach said in a statement.

"However, general economic conditions remain challenging. Apart from the weak global economic dynamics, it is mainly the EU referendum in Great Britain which causes uncertainty," he added.

A separate gauge of current conditions rose to 54.5 points from 53.1 in

May. The Reuters consensus forecast was for a reading of 53.0. The ZEW index was based on a survey of 202 analysts and investors conducted June 6-20. Barclays analysts said in a research note they took the ZEW survey with caution but that it was consistent with their main scenario for domestic consumption to drive the economy, with growth of around 0.5 per-

cent in the second and third quarters. The Finance Ministry and national central bank said on Monday German economic growth is likely to slow after a robust start to the year, expanding at a slower pace for the rest of 2016 as foreign trade cools. Europe's largest economy grew 0.7 percent between January and March, its strongest quarterly rate in two years, as soaring private consumption, higher construction investment and state spending on migrants more than offset weak foreign trade. The government expects domestic demand to drive an overall economic expansion of 1.7 percent in 2016, on a par with last

RIO TINTO DROPS IRON ORE CHIEF AMID CORPORATE RESHUFFLE

SYDNEY: Rio Tinto yesterday replaced the head of its iron ore division, its biggest profit maker, as part of a sweeping management reshuffle by incoming Chief Executive Jean-Sebastien Jacques, who takes over next week. Iron ore division head Andrew Harding - once tipped as a contender to lead the global mining house - will leave as of July 1, Rio said in a statement, the same time that Jacques takes the helm.

However, investors were relieved that another possible contender for the top job, chief financial officer Chris Lynch, would stay on in his role under the new head. "It's predictable there would be some fallout," said Brenton Saunders, a portfolio manager at BT Investment Management in Sydney. "For us the key was Chris Lynch. It's good to see that he's sticking around. That's quite an important part of the team from a continuity perspective."

Rio Tinto is widely seen as the best placed among the world's top five miners to weather a prolonged commodities slump as it has slashed debt much faster than its rivals.

A source familiar with the changeover procedure said Harding had expressed a willingness to stay on in the role he has held since 2013, but it was agreed that the division would benefit from "fresh eyes". In other changes, Rio said its copper and diamonds

divisions will be combined into a single group, while a basket of coal, uranium salt, borates and other businesses will be combined under a banner of energy and minerals.

The management overhaul comes as Rio Tinto attempts to shift from an over-reliance on iron ore mining to better capture growth expectations elsewhere in the company. The company has faced calls from investors in recent months to rebalance as iron ore prices and the steel industry languish, by pushing more into so-called later-cycle commodities like copper.

Harding will be replaced by Chris Salisbury, currently acting copper and coal chief executive, to run the iron ore division from Perth. Copper and diamonds will be headed by Arnaud Soirat, who comes from the aluminium division and a long career in the aluminium industry.

um industry.

Alan Davies will continue as head of the reshaped energy and minerals division, losing his diamonds brief, but inheriting energy coal and Iron Ore Company of Canada, and holding on to uranium. Alfredo Barrios remains as head of the aluminium division, based in Montreal. "Each new team member has more than 20 years experience in the resources sector, which complements the deep expertise of the existing executive team," Jacques said. —Reuters

GERMANY'S TOP COURT BACKS ECB CRISIS-FIGHTING TOOL

KARLSRUHE, Germany: Germany's constitutional court yesterday quashed a eurosceptic lawsuit against a key crisis-fighting tool of the European Central Bank, as the ECB steeled itself for market turmoil from a possible Brexit. Throwing out a long-running suit by a group of politicians and academics, Germany's highest court ruled that the ECB's 2012 bond-buying plan called Outright Monetary Transactions (OMT) were legal under the country's constitution.

While the OMT scheme has never actually been used, it was part of ECB President Mario Draghi's landmark promise to do "whatever it takes" to save the battered euro at the height of the crisis in 2012. That vow, backed by the announcement of the OMT program, helped reduce borrowing costs for the most debt-hit countries, calmed markets and brought the eurozone back from the brink. The promise of OMT was that the ECB could, if necessary, buy up unlimited amounts of government bonds from debt-stricken countries that had pledged reforms such as Italy, Spain and Portugal.

Critics charged that the ECB is essentially printing money and lavishing it on states, leaving taxpayers with the risk of one day having to foot the bill.

The ECB has since launched a range of other policy measures aimed at kick-starting the eurozone's moribund economy and driving inflation back up to levels more compatible with healthy growth.

Within ECB's mandate

Few observers had expected the Constitutional Court to torpedo the ECB's program. In January 2014, it had voiced concerns about OMT but then kicked the case up to the European Court of Justice (ECJ) in Luxembourg. The EU's highest court has since essentially



Judges of the constitutional court in Karlsruhe, Germany, from left: Monika Hermanns, Peter Huber, Andreas Vosskuhle the President of the court, and Herbert Landau announce their decision yesterday.—AP

backed OMT, arguing that while the ECB's chief purpose is price stability, it may also support EU economic policy goals.

Reading out the Constitutional Court's ruling yesterday, judge Andreas Vosskuehle argued that the OMT did not overstep the ECB's mandate. The EU Commission in Brussels expressed relief at the ruling. "We welcome that in substance the court confirms the decision by the European Court of Justice," it said in a short statement.

"While respecting the European Central Bank's independence, the European Commission stands fully behind the ECB in delivering its mandate," it added.

The head of the DIW think tank, Marcel Fratzscher, hailed the ruling

as "intelligent" and "wise".

But others were not so pleased.
The head of the influential Ifo think tank, Clemens Fuest, accused the judges of "doing a U-turn" and kowtowing to the ECJ. Berenberg Bank economist Holger Schmieding said the ruling "makes it even more likely that the German court will also reject" pending lawsuits against the ECB's other policy measures, including against the ECB decision to broad-

en bond purchases from only sovereign to corporate bonds. That move is part of the ECB's massive quantitative easing, or QE, stimulus program that aims to boost inflation and growth in the 19-member currency bloc.

The ECB has also slashed interest rates to zero, further raising hackles in Germany because low rates hurt savers, and pumped more than one trillion euros (\$1.1 trillion) into the financial system.

Cheap cash, Brexit fears

The Constitutional Court ruling came in a very busy week for the ECB, which is scheduled to launch the next round of ultra-cheap loans for banks, who are meant to pass the credit on to the real economy, meaning households and business. The scheme is known as targeted longer-term refinancing operations, or TLTRO.

And tomorrow, all eyes will be on Britain's referendum on whether to stay in the EU or leave. Both the euro and pound have dipped in the lead-up to the vote, as analysts fear a Brexit would spark market panic. On the bond market, German 10-year bonds saw their yields drop below zero last week, a sign of a run on safe investments.

Financier George Soros warned of a Black Friday plunge in sterling if Britain votes to quit the EU as new polls showed a razor-tight race 48 hours ahead of the referendum. The Hungarian-born US billionaire, who made a fortune by betting against the pound in the so-called Black Wednesday of September 1992, said that a rejection of the European Union would deliver a major financial shock, with "serious consequences for ordinary people". The ECB last week said that, if there is a Brexit vote, it will "use all instruments at its disposal" to maintain price stability. —AFP





LG SHOWCASES LATEST IT SOLUTIONS IN KUWAIT

DISTRIBUTOR EVENT GRANTS LOCAL MARKET ACCESS TO LG'S TECHNOLOGIES

KUWAIT: LG Electronics and Al Babtain Electronics organized a seminar with the aim to showcase latest LG - IT products for Kuwait market. The event took place at The Millennium Hotel, where VIP customers and guests were able to witness the latest LG IT communications and display solutions, including the inauguration of world's lightest UltraBook LG PC Gram, UltraWide Monitors Line up, and LG Minibeam Projectors series.

The event was divided into two sessions. Morning session carried details and presentations to LG authorized dealers and partners. There was an award ceremony for top performances in selling LG - IT products as well. While the evening session was exclusive for Chairman's Club Customers of LG and Al Babtain Electronics to witness the new line up of LG - IT Products. Yoo Yeonchur, Ambassador to the Embassy of Korea in Kuwait, addressed the audience. S K Yoon, General Manager, IT Product Division Head, LG Electronics Gulf FZE stated: "With solid partners like Al Babtain Electronics in Kuwait, we have been able to offer our consumers a line-up of products that allow them to have a complete and seamless IT experience. Additionally, with our cutting-edge monitors and projectors, and with the market introduction of the world's lightest laptop in its category - the LG PC Gram, we believe we are on the right track for robust growth in Kuwait."

Lightweight design

The LG gram series provides users with the portability of a slim, lightweight laptop design without sacrificing performance, speed or access to a plethora of connectivity options. It supports the latest standards for connectivity, including Wi-Fi, Screen Sharing and Bluetooth wireless technology, along with extra ports for USB Type - C, USB 3.0, a micro-USB and micro-SD card slot. It also

comes with a built-in HDMI port, which is uncommon among laptops of this size, which generally require HDMI adaptors.

Sam Rejoy, General Manager, Al Babtain Electronics said: "LG has been at the forefront of IT innovation for years, and as its solid partner in Kuwait, we are proud to be part of this innovation, ensuring advanced LG display and consumer technology are made widely available.

Stunning picture quality

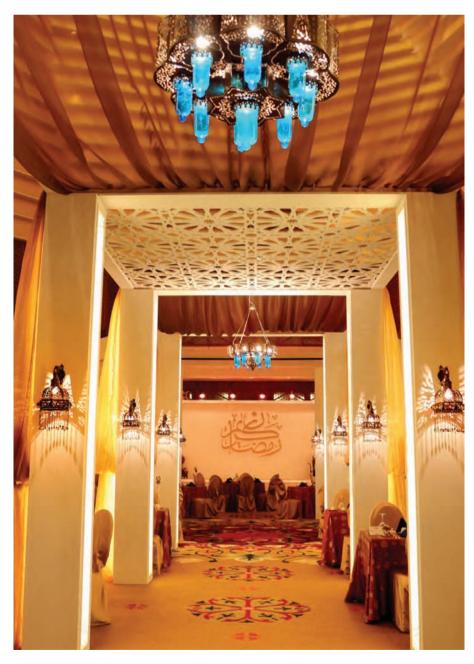
LG's flagship 21:9 UltraWide Curved IPS LED Monitor is a complete monitor solution, equally suited to the needs of professional users and home entertainment enthusiasts with extra screen real estate so users can get more done in less time. By adding a gentle curve to a 21:9 aspect ratio monitor, LG has created a unique product that delivers a more immersive experience. LG's Minibeam series (models PH550, PW1000 and PW1500) have the distinction of featuring both Bluetooth and Wi-Fi connectivity for unparalleled freedom and viewing convenience. And improving on the one-hand grip design of previous Minibeam projectors, LG's new 2016 models have been slimmed down even further for easier portability and





CELEBRATE RAMADAN'S TRUE SPIRIT AT JUMEIRAH MESSILAH BEACH HOTEL & SPA

OOREDOO KUWAIT OFFERS A 'DIAMOND' SPONSORSHIP



KUWAIT: Kuwait's idyllic resort, Jumeirah Messilah Beach Hotel & Spa, is the preferred venue to experience the true spirit of Ramadan.

As this holy month is the perfect occasion to reflect and indulge with family and loved ones, the luxurious landmark unfolds enriching Iftar and Ghabka offerings.

Sponsored by Ooredoo Kuwait, the iconic Badriah Ballroom is transformed into a stunning setting nestling one of the country's largest Iftar buffet. Guests can experience a lavish spread of more than 100 dishes with international and Arabic specialties, dedicated stations and a memorable dessert buffet with all the Arabian favorite sweets. A live Oud player creates a special ambiance, ideal to relax and enjoy. Iftar is priced at KWD 19 per person, half priced for children between five to 12 years old and complimentary for children under five years old.

As an addition to the Hotel's Ramadan venues for this year, the outside Al-Sadu tent stages for a very exclusive Ghabka experience offering an array of mouthwatering Arabic and international delicacies. The tent is fully decorated and fitted to allow for shisha inside. The Al-Sadu tent features as well four HD projection screens to enjoy the UEFA 2016 world cup and showcases seating options ranging from lounges to intimate tables. Ghabka set menu is priced for KWD 10 per person.

General Manager, Hakan Petek, said: "We look forward to welcoming our guests and offering them our warm and genuine hospitality."

Speaking on behalf of Ooredoo Kuwait, Mijbil Alayoub, Director of Corporate Communications said: "We're very pleased to tie up with Jumeirah Messilah Beach Hotel & Spa for the second consecutive year. Jumeirah is an ideal destination for anyone to enjoy the joyful moments of the Holy Month, while having their meals with their families and friends. We have always been keen on participating in events that matter to the community, making sure that they are unforgettable and enjoyable."

Over at Arabesque CafÈ, guests can enjoy an ‡ la carte menu or unwind amidst a calming atmosphere after Iftar along with a selection of shisha flavors, soothing tunes, and live screening of the EURO 2016 football championships.

Jumeirah Messilah Beach Hotel & Spa would like to thank Ooredoo Telecommunications, as Diamond Sponsor and Al-Zayani Trading Co., Beidoun Trading Company W.L.L., Visa, KLM-Air France, Tijan International Dental Center, Eskan Global for Exhibitions & Conferences, Amwal Kuwait Real Estate, Star Fruit as Platinum Sponsors and Al-Anba, Al-Jarida, and Al-Seyassah newspapers as Media Partners.

KIA MOTORS CELEBRATES RAMADAN WITH UNPRECEDENTED OFFER

KUWAIT: In celebration of the holy month of Ramadan as it coincides with the summer holiday season, National Agencies Group, a subsidiary of Abdulaziz Al-Ali Al-Mutawa Group of Companies and authorized distributor of KIA Motors in Kuwait, launched a special Ramadan promotional campaign that offers owners of new 2016 KIA vehicles two chances to celebrate; the first being cash back of up to \$4,000, and the postponement of installments for three months to ensure a true peace-of-mind summer holiday

Muhannad Al-Mutawa, General Sales Manager at KIA Kuwait commented on the offer, saying: "This year's Ramadan offer from KIA reflects our understanding of customer needs and commitment to meeting them fully. And since the holy month of Ramadan coincides with the summer holidays, we created this unique offer to celebrate, giving our customers the peace-ofmind they need to enjoy a great summer

tomers with the opportunity to receive cash back of up to \$4,000 immediately upon vehicle registration, while at the same time, we postpone the payment of the first installment by three months; the duration of the summer holiday, so the customer will not pay their first installment until after safely returning from their summer vacation." In regards to KIA's ever-growing popu-

holiday." He added: "We provide our cus-

larity, Muhannad Al-Mutawa explained that KIA Motors Corporation's focus has been on recruiting the best European automotive talent in order to ensure elegant designs, outstanding performance and class-leading specifications which in-turn led the brand to numerous international awards and accolades. The Ramadan working hours at the KIA Showroom in Al Rai are 9:00 am -3:00 pm and 8:00 pm - 12:00 midnight during Saturday to Thursday, and 8:30 pm -12:00 midnight on Fridays.



COUNTERFEIT PARTS POSE REAL DANGER TO DRIVER, VEHICLE SAFETY: NISSAN OFFICIAL

KUWAIT: Counterfeit parts are known as the cancer of car industry as it is a phenomenon that continues to grow in the parts market and has a very negative impact on automotive brands and the industry as a whole, said Samir Cherfan, Managing Director of Nissan Middle East. In an interview, Cherfan also highlighted the importance of creating awareness among vehicle owners and said Nissan is committed to educate its customers across the region to ensure their safety first. "By imitating the brand image while providing customers with cheap quality, it potentially has a strong impact on a customer's brand quality perception," he said. Excerpts

Question: Why is buying cheaper / counterfeit parts such an issue for the regional auto-

motive industry?

Cherfan: Counterfeit parts present a real danger for driver and vehicle safety, and greatly increase the potential for expensive repairs and road accidents. Counterfeit parts are also known as the cancer of car industry. It is a phenomenon that continues to grow in the parts market and

and the industry as a whole. By imitating the brand image while providing customers with cheap quality, it potentially has a strong impact on a customer's brand quality perception.

has a very negative impact on automotive brands

As one of the leading brands in the Middle

East with significant sales and aftermarket parts business, we are always a target for imitators and counterfeit suppliers.

Q: What are the safety implications of buying counterfeit parts for Nissan cars?

Cherfan: Counterfeit parts pose many dangers



to passengers and problems to the vehicles they are installed on. To give you a few examples, counterfeit brake pads greatly reduce the stopping power of a vehicle as opposed to the genuine ones which increases the possibility of accidents. Another dangerous example is counterfeit Airbags which may not deploy properly, if at all, during impact which can greatly increase fatalities of drivers and passengers. Counterfeit parts are not built to the same specifications and genuine parts, and can lead to catastrophic damage to a vehicle and result in expensive repairs. For example, counterfeit oil filters can degenerate much faster due to substandard quality materials and may disintegrate, causing the debris to mix with the oil and lead to major engine seizure and failure. Repairing engine damage from such a simple component is expensive.

Q: What services does Nissan have in place to encourage people to buy parts easily from authorized distributors?

Cherfan: Nissan's extensive network of authorized service centers and parts dealers across the region makes it easy for Nissan owners to find genuine, guaranteed parts easily and affordably. We offer competitive pricing for parts and when you factor in the potential risks of using counterfeit parts, Nissan genuine parts provide guaranteed peace of mind on quality and reliability. Nissan also has a range of Associated Products for post-warranty customers called Nissan Key Value parts which offer the best peace of mind for customers with vehicles beyond 3+ years of ownership.

Q: What else are you doing in this area to raise awareness of this issue?

Cherfan: Nissan is committed to educate its customers across the region to ensure their safety first, and also to prolong their satisfaction and joy with their Nissan vehicle. Some of the activities Nissan undertakes include supporting road safety initiatives across the region. One recent example in the UAE was www.roadsafetyuae.com/originalspare-parts/; an initiative that serves as a communication, improvement and educational platform for all traffic participants in the UAE where Nissan sponsored the 'Original Spare Parts' section.

CHINESE ECONOMIC CYBER-ESPIONAGE PLUMMETS IN US: EXPERTS

SAN FRANCISCO: The Chinese government appears to be abiding by its September pledge to stop supporting the hacking of American trade secrets to help companies there compete, private US security executives and government advisors said on Monday.

FireEye Inc, the US network security company best known for fighting sophisticated Chinese hacking, said in a report released late Monday that breaches attributed to China-based groups had plunged by 90 percent in the past two years. The most dramatic drop came during last summer's run-up to the bilateral agreement, it added.

FireEye's Mandiant unit in 2013 famously blamed a specific unit of China's Peoples Liberation Army for a major campaign of economic espionage.

Kevin Mandia, the Mandiant founder who took over last week as FireEye chief

factors seemed to be behind the shift. He cited embarrassment from Mandiant's 2013 report and the following year's indictment of five PLA officers from the same unit Mandiant uncovered.

Prosecutors said the victims included US Steel, Alcoa Inc and Westinghouse Electric. Mandia also cited the threat just before the agreement that the United States could impose sanctions on Chinese officials and companies.

They all contributed to a positive result." Mandia said. A senior Obama administration official said the government was not yet ready to proclaim that China was fully complying with the agreement but said the new report would factor into its monitoring. "We are still doing an assessment," said the official, speaking on condition he not be named.

The official added that a just-concluded

finer points of the agreement had gone well. He noted that China had sent senior leaders even after the U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security pulled out because of the Orlando shootings.

China's Foreign Ministry, the only government department to regularly answer questions from foreign reporters on the hacking issue, said China aimed to maintain dialogue on preventing and combating cyber-spying.

"We've expressed our principled position on many occasions," ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying told a daily news briefing yesterday. "We oppose and crack down on commercial cyber-espionage activities in all forms."

FireEye said that Chinese intrusions into some US firms have continued, with at least two hacked in 2016. But while the hackers installed "back doors" to enable future spying, FireEye said it had seen no evidence that data was stolen.

HIRES CONTRACTORS

Both hacked companies had government contracts, said FireEye analyst Laura Galante, noting that it was plausible that the intrusions were stepping stones toward gathering information on government or military people or projects, which remain fair game under the September accord.

FireEye and other security companies said that as the Chinese governmentbacked hackers dropped wholesale theft of US intellectual property, they increased spying on political and military targets in other countries and regions, including Russia, the Middle East, Japan and South Korea.

Another security firm, CrowdStrike, has observed more Chinese state-supported hackers spying outside of the United States over the past year, company Vice President Adam Meyers said in an interview.

Targets include Russian and Ukrainian military targets, Indian political groups

and the Mongolian mining industry, Meyers said.

FireEye and CrowdStrike said they were confident that the attacks are being carried out either directly by the Chinese government or on its behalf by hired contractors.

Since late last year there has been a flurry of new espionage activity against Russian government agencies and technology firms, as well as other targets in India, Japan and South Korea, said Kurt Baumgartner, a researcher with Russian security software maker Kaspersky Lab.

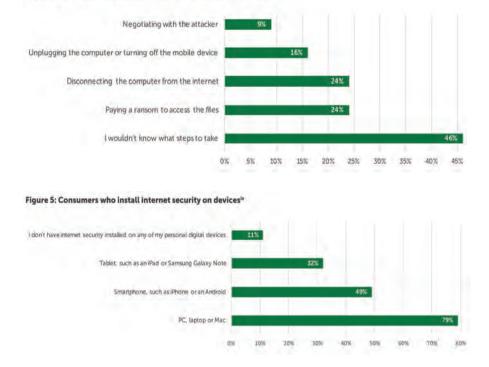
He said those groups use tools and infrastructure that depend on Chinese-language characters.

One of those groups, known as Mirage or APT 15, appears to have ended a spree of attacks on the U.S. energy sector and is now focusing on government and diplomatic targets in Russia and former Soviet republics, Baumgartner said. —Reuters

executive, said in an interview that several second round of talks with China on the Figure 1: Consumer response to what can be stolen in a ransomware attack Figure 2: Millennials' knowledge regarding ranso I don't know what steps to take in response to a ransomware attac I don't know what can be stolen during a ransomware attack I'm worried about ransomwa I don't know what ransomware is Figure 3: What consumers worry most about losing in a cyber crime attack

Figure 4: What consumers believe could stop a ransomware attack

Login details to your social media account



VOLKSWAGEN PLACES QUESTION MARK OVER FUTURE OF DIESEL TECHNOLOGY

FRANKFURT: Volkswagen chief Matthias Mueller hinted in a newspaper interview that the embattled car giant could abandon diesel engine technology in the wake of the massive emissions-cheating scandal it is currently engulfed in.

"Against this background, we have to ask ourselves whether... we want to spend more money on the further development of diesel," Mueller told the business daily Handelsblatt, promising that VW would take a "fundamental" look at the issue.

Mueller pointed to tougher emissions legislation set to come into force in 2020.

"We have an inkling of what will follow in five or 10 years," he said. "It's clear even today that treating exhaust gas fumes will become very costly and elaborate," he said.

At the same time, electric powered transport will become cheaper, Mueller added, while conceding that diesel technology remained very popular in Europe and in Germany.

VW was plunged into its deepest-ever crisis last September when it was revealed that it had installed emissionscheating software into 11 million diesel engines worldwide. —AFP

KASPERSKY LAB'S FOOTBALL TIPS FOR BEATING HACKERS

Working on the move during Euro 2016?

DUBAI: With the commencement of Euro 2016 football tournament, thousands of companies across the world are likely to havediscovered thatthey have more remote workers than they did before. Fanstrying to keep on top of work using mobile devices while surrounded by crowds of strangers, insecure public Wi-Fi networks and the distraction of amatch will be immensely vulnerable to cyberthreats. Fortunately, there are a few simple steps that they and their employers can take to stay safe.

The Euro 2016 football tournament, hosted by France, brings together 24 teams for 51 matches. Millions of fans will be watching the games in stadiums and at public screenings. Being a popular sport to watch in the Middle East, some employees have taken to working from mobile devices while watching a game with fellow supporters. The IT security risks of such behavior are immense. Neither employers nor employees may be fully aware of or prepared for just how vulnerable they are about to

To help everyone keep important business data safe, regardless of where they are, Kaspersky Lab has drawn up ashort essential guide:

10 things remote-working fans can learn from the players on the pitch

1. Take responsibility for your own performance

A recent Kaspersky Lab study into ransomware found that less than 4% of adults in the USiwould mind if work documents on their device were lost through cybercrime, while 77% would panic if they lost financial info. Indifference doesn't lead to secure behaviour. If you are planning to work on the move, you need to feel responsible for the safety of the business information you handle.

2. Everyone is watching you

Logging into a device where anyone can look over your shoulder and make a note of your password or the work you're doing - so-called 'visual hacking' - makes it easy for others to break into your device or steal information. Keep your data to yourself.

3. Keep your eye on the ball

Phishing and ransomware emails look increasingly convincing and can even appear to come from a colleague. If the message is unexpected, contact the sender directly, and never click on an attachment or a link in an email from someone you don't know.

4. Don't reveal your game plan

Don't transmit anything unless you know it's encrypted. With WhatsApp and Apple's iMessage service now encrypting communications end-to-end as standard, email is rapidly becoming the most vulnerable form of business communicationsii. Use the most secure channel you have access to.

5. Beware Man-in-the-Middle attacks

Using a free, public Wi-Fi network to stay in touch with work is extremely high-risk. An attacker can easily insert themselves into the network and spy on or intercept all your communications. They can do the same between an email and your business serveriii. End-to-end encryption prevents this - so if you don't have it, don't email till you're somewhere secure or use a VPN (virtual private network).

6. Prepare for the worst

Employers unprepared for the sudden increase in remote working may not have the most appropriate security installed on work devices, let alone employees' personal devices. If it's too late to get this installed, then at the very least don't leave home without the most up-todate version of device software installed. Mobile devices are not immune to cyberattack: in 2015, Kaspersky Lab prevented nearly three million attempts to infect mobile devicesiv with a

7. The referee can make mistakes

Websites, network service providers, operating systemsetc. do their best to provide protection or alerts: such as the new malware and phishing website warnings introduced by Bingv. However, the baddies are increasingly cunning and if there's a point of weakness, they'll find it. Confine your remote work to things that are not business critical or sensitive.

8. But don't blame the referee for all mistakes

Sometimes things go wrong; devices get broken, lost or stolen, or affected by malware or ransomware. The best thing to do is to come clean and let your IT department know immediately so they can take appropriate steps, such as blocking or remote-wiping the device, or isolating the malware before the infection takes hold.

9. Don't make victory easy for the other side

Cybercriminals generally prefer the path of least resistance. Solid security, security updates, a hard-to-crack password, the use of the latest software, a business VPN and encrypted communications all make it harder for an outsider to gain access to your device and business infor-

10. But don't expect to win without trying

Kaspersky Lab has found that only around half (53%) of consumers make use of the security features that come with their devicevi. To stay ahead of the hackers, you need to get to grips with these security essentials. It's about focus and commitment, supported by the right equipment.Just like football.

"Euro 2016 should be a celebration of football for fans the world over to enjoy. Sadly, occasions where people are more relaxed about device and data security can quickly become a happy hunting ground for hackers. Cybercriminals won't hesitate to pounce on an under-protected football supporter trying to work remotely. A few basic precautions before, during and after the match will help employers and their workforce to stay safe - leaving them free to enjoy the glorious spectacle of sport," said David Emm, Principal Security Researcher, Kaspersky Lab.

In the height of the most eagerly awaited sport event of this summer - Euro Cup 2016, Kaspersky Lab invites all sports lovers to take advantage of a special offer run jointly with Runtastic, developer of health & fitness tracking products. Anyone who purchases Kaspersky Internet Security - multi-device 2016 or Kaspersky Total Security - multi-device in retail stores or online in the Middle East region will get a special prize: one of three Pro applications from Runtastic (Runtastic Mountain Bike PRO or Runtastic Road Bike PRO, up to customer's choice). The applications are designed to make sport activities fun providing a handy tool for tracking and managing sports results.

Customers who register their purchases on Kaspersky Lab web site www.sport-kl.com also get a chance to receive 1 of 100 soccer balls. The offer is valid until August 31st 2016.

PROPOSALS TO CURB ONLINE SPEECH VIEWED AS THREAT TO OPEN INTERNET

SAN FRANCISCO/ TORONTO:

At least a dozen countries are considering or have enacted laws restricting online speech, a trend that is alarming policymakers and others who see the internet as a valuable medium for debate and expression.

Such curbs are called out as a threat to the open internet in a report on internet governance set to be released today at an Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development meeting in Cancun, Mexico.

The report, reviewed by Reuters, warns of dangers for the global internet, including intrusive surveillance, rising cybercrime and fragmentation as governments exert control of online content.

It was prepared by the London-based Chatham House think tank and the Centre for International Governance Innovation, founded by former BlackBerry Ltd co-chief Jim Balsillie.

China and Iran long have restricted online speech. Now limitations are under discussion in countries that have had a more open approach to speech, including Brazil, Malaysia, Pakistan, Bolivia, Kenya and Nigeria.

Advocates said some of the proposals would criminalize conversations online that other-

the countries' constitutions. Some use broad language to outlaw online postings that "disturb the public order" or "convey false statements" - formulations that could enable crackdowns on political speech, critics said.

"Free expression is one of the foundational elements of the internet," said Michael Chertoff, former US secretary of Homeland Security and a coauthor of the internet governance report. "It shouldn't be protecting the political interests of the ruling party or something of that sort.

Turkey and Thailand also have cracked down on online speech, and a number of developing world countries have unplugged social media sites altogether during elections and other sensitive moments. In the US as well, some have called for restrictions on Internet communications.

Speech limitations create business and ethical conflicts for companies like Facebook Inc, Twitter Inc and Alphabet Inc's Google, platforms for debate and political organizing.

"This is the next evolution of political suppression," said Richard Forno, assistant director of the University of Maryland, **Baltimore County Center for** Cybersecurity. "Technology facilitates freedom of expression,

wise would be protected under and politicians don't like that."

"FIGHTING DELINQUENCY"

Tanzania and Ethiopia have passed laws restricting online speech. In others, including Pakistan, Brazil, Bolivia and Kenya, proposals are under discussion or under legislative consideration, according to a review of laws by Reuters and reports by Internet activist groups.

In Bolivia, President Evo Morales earlier this year said that the country needs to "regulate the social networks." A bill has been drafted and is ready for introduction in the legislature, said Leonardo Loza, head of one of Bolivia's coca growers unions, a supporter of the proposal.

"It is aimed at educating and disciplining people, particularly young Bolivians, and fighting delinquency on social networks," Loza said. "Freedom of expression can't be lying to the people or insulting citizens and politi-

A bill in Pakistan would allow the government to block internet content to protect the "integrity, security or defense" of the state. The legislation, which has passed a vote in Pakistan's lower house of parliament, is supposed to target terrorism, but critics said the language is broad.

It comes after Pakistan

blocked YouTube in 2012 when a video it deemed inflammatory sparked protests across the country and much of the Muslim world.

Earlier this year, YouTube, which is owned by Google, agreed to launch a local version of its site in the country. But now, the internet report said, the **Pakistan Telecommunications** Authority can ask the company to remove any material it finds offensive.

COMPANIES IN THE CROSSFIRE

US internet companies have faced mounting pressure in recent years to restrict content. Companies' terms of service lay out what users can and cannot post, and they said they apply a single standard globally. They aim to comply with local laws, but often confront demands to remove even legal content.

The new laws threaten to raise a whole new set of compliance and enforcement issues.

"There's a technical question, which is, could you comply if you wanted to, and then the bigger meta question is why would you want to cooperate with this politicized drive to suppress freedom of expression," said Andrew McLaughlin, Google's former director of global policy and now leading content organization at Medium. —Reuters

GREAT BARRIER REEF BLEACHING COULD COST A MILLION TOURISTS

SYDNEY: Severe coral bleaching on Australia's Great Barrier Reef could cost it more than a million visitors a year and huge sums in lost tourism revenue, a survey said yesterday. The World Heritage-listed reef which teems with marine life experienced an unprecedented bleaching earlier this year that saw much of it whiten and almost a quarter of corals die."The reef tourism areas are at risk of losing over one million visitors per year," a discussion paper from the independent think-tank the Australia Institute said.

It added that Aus\$1 billion (US\$747 million) of potential revenue could be lost if those visitors do not travel to the tropical reef region. Some 10,000 jobs in Queensland state were also at risk from a drop in tourism, a major industry in the area, it added."Continued bleaching could not only impact the reef's status as Australia's premier international tourist destination, but also impact Australia's identity as an international tourist destination," it said.

'Serious action'

The report said last year, about 3.5 million tourists, mostly Australians, visited areas along the reef. The institute surveyed thousands of Australians and others from of the major tourism markets of China, the United States and Britain. More than a third of Australians said they were more likely to travel to another part of the country if the bleaching continued. In terms of foreign tourists, more than half Chinese respondents, and about a third of American and British participants said they were more likely to visit somewhere other than Australia if the reef's deterioration persisted.

The 2,300-kilometre long reef-the world's biggest coral ecosystem-is suffering from its worst bleaching in recorded history due to warming sea temperatures. Bleaching occurs when abnormal environmental conditions, such as warmer sea temperatures, cause corals to expel tiny photosynthetic algae, draining them of their color. The reef is also under pressure from farming run-off, development and the coral-eating crown-of-thorns starfish.

The report concluded that two of Queensland's industries-tourism and coal mining-were directly at odds with each other." Without serious action on climate change and real resources allocated to the reef's health, the tourism industry seems certain to lose its most precious asset," it said. — AFP



AUSTRALIA: This file photo shows a tourist from the Ocean Freedom tourist boat diving on Australia's Great Barrier Reef. — AFP



CHINA: Chinese enthusiasts practicing yoga at Futian sports park in Shenzhen, south China's Guangdong province. — AFP

MILLIONS STRETCH AND BEND FOR INTERNATIONAL YOGA DAY

INDIAN PM CALLED YOGA A 'PEOPLE'S MASS MOVEMENT

movement" as he took to the mat yesterday along with millions of others worldwide to celebrate the ancient practice. Across India, sailors, soldiers, school children and bureaucrats bent

CHANDIGARH, India: Indian Prime Minister and twisted their bodies from early morning at eigners gathered at the Indian embassy in Kabul. International Yoga Day. Sessions were also held around the world including at the Sydney Opera House where colorful mats were spread outside the Australian landmark, while Afghans and for-



INDIA: In this photograph released by the Indian Press Information Bureau (PIB) yesterday, Indian Armed Forces personnel take part in a yoga session to mark International Yoga Day on the Indian Navy aircraft carrier INS Viraat in Mumbai. — AFP

Narendra Modi called yoga a "people's mass mass outdoor sessions to mark the second Yoga-loving Modi, dressed in a white tracksuit, led more than 30,000 people in the northern city of Chandigarh for a mass session where they performed poses and breathing exercises

at the outdoor Capitol Complex. "Do not wait, make yoga a part of your life," Modi urged in a brief speech to mark the event, an idea he successfully asked the United Nations to adopt. "This is a day linked with good health and now it has become a people's mass movement," the 65year-old premier said.

Modi took a short break to inspect the poses of his fellow yogis, who included students and soldiers, before returning to his spot. His ministers were also dispatched to cities around India to stretch and bend alongside school children, while the navy tweeted photos of sailors on mats spread atop an aircraft carrier. Modi, who credits yoga for his ability to work long hours on little sleep, has been spearheading an initiative to reclaim the practice as an historic part of Indian culture after his Hindu nationalist government came to power in 2014.

Indian scholars believe yoga dates back 5,000 years, based on archaeological evidence of poses found inscribed on stones and references to Yogic teachings in the ancient Hindu scriptures of the Vedas. Modi, who has established a government ministry charged with promoting yoga, last year led around 35,000 people in New Delhi in an outdoor session to mark the first world yoga day. — AFP

CANADA REDUCES WAITING PERIOD FOR GAY MEN TO DONATE BLOOD

OTTAWA: Canada on Monday loosened requirements for gay men who want to donate blood, reducing the compulsory period of sexual abstinence from five years to one year. Health Canada said it made the change after blood operators Canadian Blood Services and Hema-Quebec asked for the reduction and presented data showing that the new policy would not affect the safety of the blood supply.

The new rule will take effect August 15.The five-year waiting period to donate blood was imposed in 2013 and prior to that, gay men were not allowed to donate."The reduction of the lifetime deferral to a five-year deferral has not resulted in any increase in HIV positive

blood donations," Health Canada said in a statement. Other countries with a oneyear deferral period for men who have sex with men include Australia, Britain, France, New Zealand, Scotland and the United States.

Health Minister Jane Philpott was quoted by broadcaster CBC as saying Justin Trudeau's Liberal government had an "incredible desire" to reduce the waiting period even further. She noted that the latest policy "is not a radical change" from the previous rule and many gay men would still be banned from donating blood."That being said, I would rather see Canada take a step in the right direction than stand still," Philpott said. — AFP

STUDY: UNIVERSITY GRADUATES FACE HIGHER BRAIN TUMOR RISK

PARIS: People with at least three years of higher education are at greater risk for cancerous brain tumors than those with no more than nine years of schooling, perplexed researchers said yesterday. "There is a 19 percent increased risk that universityeducated men could be diagnosed with glioma," said Amal Khanolkar, a scientist at the Institute of Child Health in London and lead author of a study in the Journal of Epidemiology and Community.

For women, he said, the risk rose by 23 percent."It was a surprising result which is difficult to explain," Khanolkar told AFP. Concretely, the increase in risk is minimal because such brain tumors are rare. At the lowest level of education, the chances of glioma were reported at five in 3,000. At the other end of the educational spectrum, the odds increased to six in 3,000. But the question remained as to whether the gap-no matter how small-was real and, if so, what caused it. Earlier research exploring a possible link between education or social level, on the one hand, and the frequency of brain tumors, on the other, had been inconclusive. To "put to rest" these conflicting findings, Khanolkar and colleagues at the Karolinska Institute medical university in Stockholm used a new approach. Rather than comparing a small number of brain tumor patients with healthy individuals, they sifted through the health records of 4.3 million adults tracked by the Swedish public health system from 1993 to 2011.

The researchers distinguished between three kinds of brain tumors-two of them non-cancerous-with different causes. The strong link between education level and tumor incidence held for all three types, but was strongest for deadly gliomas. Interestingly, an even higher risk gap was found between low-income manual laborers and high-income men and women who did not work with their hands.

Why? Gliomas are malignant brain tumors which grow rapidly and cause severe symptoms, including migraines, nausea and memory loss. The survival rate is very low. The study did not seek to explain the link between higher education and tumors, nor did it consider the potential impact of environmental and lifestyle factors, such as smoking or alcohol consumption. The most common explanation for risk levels that rise with years spent in the classroom is that people with a higher education or income "have a better awareness of symptoms," Khanolkar said.

This would mean they are more likely to seek help and receive a correct diagnosis. But while this may be true in a country with a health system that clearly favors the well-to-do, the argument is far less convincing in the Swedish context, the researchers said."Sweden has a universal, tax-based health care system," said Khanolkar. Everybody has roughly the same access to treatment.

Moreover, he added, gliomas form very rapidly-often within 48 hours-and are excruciatingly painful. "The symptoms are not avoidable-you can't sit at home and not seek care," he said. To further their probe, the team will canvass an updated version of the database for possible correlations between ethnicity and brain tumor risk. Underlying genetic variation in populations from different geographic regions-where certain mutations are more or less common-could be a factor, Khanolkar acknowledged. One expert, commenting on the study, pointed to other possible culprits.

"Two additional factors which might be of interest in this context are height and, in women, hormone replacement therapy," said James Green, a clinical epidemiologist at the University of Oxford. Risk of brain tumors-as of most cancers-is higher in taller people, and taller people tend to be richer and more educated," he noted."Hormone replacement therapy increases risk of brain tumors, and its use tends to vary by socioeconomic group." — AFP

MANY PATIENTS AT RISK FOR STROKE GET WRONG MEDICINE

NEW YORK: More than a third of patients with a heart rhythm problem that can cause a stroke are incorrectly given aspirin instead of the blood-thinning medications they need to make this complication less likely, a US study suggests. Most strokes occur when an artery that carries blood to the brain gets blocked by a clot. While aspirin can prevent clots, it doesn't work well as blood thinners to prevent stroke in these patients, guidelines say. Researchers analyzed data on more than 500,000 people with atrial fibrillation, an irregular rapid heartbeat that can lead to stroke, heart failure and chronic fatigue.

Roughly 40 percent of these patients got aspirin instead of prescriptions for blood thinners - also called anticoagulants. "By prescribing aspirin, we may be fooling ourselves that the patient may be protected from stroke when this is not the case - blood thinners have been shown to be clearly more effective than aspirin in preventing stroke for atrial fibrillation patients," lead study author Dr. Jonathan Hsu, a heart specialist at the University of California, San Diego, said by email.

In atrial fibrillation, electrical impulses in the upper chambers of the heart are chaotic, and the atrial walls quiver rather than contracting normally. As a result, blood doesn't move as well to the heart's lower chambers. This can lead to the formation of clots that can travel through the arteries. Atrial fibrillation patients have up to seven times the stroke risk of people without the disorder. To see how many atrial fibrillation patients receive blood thinners to avert clots, Hsu and colleagues reviewed medical and prescription data collected from 2008 to 2012 in a national registry of people with cardiovascular disease.

One group of about 210,000 people in the study were at least 75 years old and had other risk factors for stroke such as congestive heart failure, diabetes, or high blood pressure. Roughly 38 percent of these patients were treated with aspirin and nearly 62 percent were prescribed anticoagulants. A second group of roughly 295,000 people were between 65 and 74 years old. Among this subset of atrial fibrillation patients, 40 percent were treated with aspirin and 60 percent got anticoagulants. — Reuters

IN ZIKA STRUCK PUERTO RICO, TROUBLE DELIVERING DONATED CONTRACEPTIVES

NEW YORK: Only a small fraction of contraceptives donated in Puerto Rico to prevent Zika-related birth defects are expected to get to the women who need them this month, public health officials told Reuters. The donations - tens of thousands of intrauterine devices and birth control pill packs - came from major healthcare companies as the virus spreads rapidly through the island. The delivery delays illustrate the struggles of Puerto Rico's healthcare system, which is faltering amid the commonwealth's financial crisis.

Hundreds of thousands of residents are expected to be infected in the coming months by the mosquito-borne Zika virus. Infections in pregnant women can cause microcephaly, a rare birth defect that can lead to severe developmental problems. Many local doctors do not have the expertise to insert IUDs, and have not stocked them because of their high cost to patients. The CDC Foundation, the US public health agency's philanthropic arm that received the donations, said it needs \$20 million for training and follow-up services to get the contraceptives to women.

'Opportunity to be innovative'

"We have people who would love to have them available," said Dr Carmen D Zorrilla, professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Puerto Rico School of Medicine. She is encouraging patients to wait at least a year to get pregnant. As many as 138,000 women on the island are at risk of unintended pregnancy, based on historical trends and a lack of access to contraceptives, according to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Bayer AG, Allergan, Medicines360, Upstream USA and Merck have together contributed about 60,000 IUDs and 80,000 packs of birth control pills in recent weeks. The CDC estimates that about a quarter of

Puerto Rico's 3.5 million people could be infected with the virus. Dr Judith Monroe, President and

CEO of the CDC Foundation, said the organization has trained about two dozen doctors and raised about \$1.7 million in cash, enough to provide 700 women free services starting in June. It needs to raise an additional \$20 million to train and pay medical professionals who will provide the services. In the meantime, the companies are still holding the donated devices and pills while the CDC Foundation lines up a licensed distributor in



BRAZIL: In this file photo, an Aedes aegypti mosquito is photographed through a microscope at the Fiocruz institute in Recife, Pernambuco state, Brazil. — AP



with better answers to questions on specific health issues. Google says around one percent of all Internet searches are "symptom-related" but that health content online "can be difficult to navigate, and tends to lead people from mild symptoms to scary and unlikely conditions, which can cause

unnecessary anxiety and stress."

substitute for a doctor's opinion.

pain in the knee, Google is working to come up

On Monday, the search giant said it was upgrading its health results for its mobile application in English in collaboration with Harvard Medical School and the Mayo Clinic. This will provide the most likely diagnoses in a box at the top of search results in a move aimed at helping users cut through the clutter, although it's not intended as a

"When you ask Google about symptoms like 'headache on one side,' we'll show you a list of related conditions ('headache,' 'migraine,' 'tension

WASHINGTON: Whether it's a tummy ache or a headache, 'cluster headache,' 'sinusitis," and 'common cold')," product manager Veronica Pinchin said in a blog post."For individual symptoms like 'headache,' we'll also give you an overview description along with information on self-treatment options and what might warrant a doctor's visit," the post said.

"By doing this, our goal is to help you to navigate and explore health conditions related to your symptoms, and quickly get to the point where you can do more in-depth research on the web or talk to a health professional." Pinchin said symptom searches and other medical information on Google are "intended for informational purposes only, and you should always consult a doctor for medical advice." Google said the new search would be rolling out on mobile in the United States in the coming days and that "over time, we hope to cover more symptoms, and we also want to extend this to other languages and internationally." — AFP

SWEET ELECTRICAL TRICK MAY LEAD TO LESS FAT IN CHOCOLATE

NEW YORK: Get a charge out of chocolate? New research suggests candy companies may be able to make lower fat versions of the tasty treat with a little electrical trick. By running liquid chocolate through an electric field, researchers were able to make it flow more easily. And that means it doesn't need so much fat, they say.

Cutting the fat in chocolate has been a much-studied challenge in the industry. The new approach was described Monday by researchers at Temple University in Philadelphia. During production, chocolate is handled as a liquid that includes solids like cocoa suspended in melted fat and oil, they noted in a paper released by the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. A certain level of fat is needed to let the chocolate flow easily enough to be processed, they said.

But they found an electric field can encourage flow too. Using that strategy,

they were able to reduce the amount of fat by about 10 percent, said researcher Rongjia Tao. In theory, they could reduce it by twice that much, he said. The electric field makes the tiny balls of cocoa solids clump together into chains, which allows easier flow. The work was partially financed by the Mars chocolate company, and Temple holds patents on the technique.

Tao said he could taste no difference in chocolate treated with his method, but that some others in his lab said it tasted better. Mary Ellen Camire, professor of food science and human nutrition at the University of Maine in Orono, who was not involved in the project, said the paper left some important questions unanswered. There was no scientific evaluation of how the treatment affects taste and texture, she said. Nor did the researchers test whether the treated chocolate would remain appealing after time in storage, she said. — AP



NEW YORK: This photo shows chocolate in New York. New research suggests candy companies may be able to make lower fat versions of chocolate with a little electrical trick. — AP

RX PIZZA: 1 FREE MEAL CAN SWAY DOCTOR PRESCRIBING

GOOGLE AIMS FOR BETTER

HEALTH SEARCH RESULTS

CHICAGO: As little as one free meal from a drug company can influence which medicines doctors prescribe for Medicare patients, according to a study using Medicare records and recently released data from the health care law's Open Payments program. The study highlights the subtle ways doctors may feel inclined to prescribe a drug after receiving just a small gift, even if the drug is more costly for patients and their insurance plans, the study authors said.

In a typical scenario, drug companies sometimes sponsor meals served during medical conferences and their sales reps may offer drug information and free samples to doctors waiting in line for food. Dr Adams Dudley, the study's lead author, said that happened to him as a young physician and it led him to prescribe brand-name drugs. "Having just accepted even just a slice of pizza, you're going to feel like, 'Hey, I should let them talk to me," he said. "Doctors are human, and humans respond to gifts."

The researchers calculated that an estimated \$73 billion yearly could be saved if equivalent generics were prescribed instead of brand-name drugs, and patients pay for one-third of that excess cost. "It's not that it's medically bad" for patients, Dudley said. "But it is definitely costing them more." The bottom line for patients? "Always ask if there's a generic that's just as good," said Dudley, director of the Center for Healthcare Value at the University of California, San Francisco.

'Modest occasional meals'

The Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America, an industry group, says it has a voluntary code that sets a \$100 limit on "educational items" for doctors and says "modest occasional meals are permitted." Holly Campbell, a spokeswoman for the group, said the study "cherry-picks physician prescribing data for a subset of medicines to advance a false narrative" and doesn't prove free meals influenced prescribing patterns.

The study involved prescribing information for nearly 280,000 doctors in Medicare's prescription drug program. The researchers examined data on more than 63,000 drug company payments to these doctors from August through December 2013, made available under President Barack Obama's health care law. Most payments were free meals worth less than about \$20. The researchers included four classes of drugs - statins, antidepressants and two that treat blood pressure.

They chose top-selling brand-name drugs from



NEW JERSEY: In this photo, Herbert Diamond, 88, of Fort Lee, N J, meets with Dr Manisha Parulekar about his end of life preferences at the Hackensack Medical Center in Hackensack, New Jersey. — AP

each class for which they said evidence shows name drugs, Dudley said. American Medical there are equally effective but cheaper generic versions: Crestor for cholesterol problems, Benicar and Bystolic for high blood pressure, and Pristiq for depression. Doctors who received a free meal sponsored by makers of these drugs were more likely to prescribe that drug than doctors who received no free meals.

'The purpose of industry'

The strongest link was for Pfizer's Pristiq: doctors who received one Pfizer-sponsored meal were two times more likely to prescribe that drug than doctors who received no freebies. Doctors' prescribing rates for these drugs increased as the number of sponsored meals they accepted increased. Patients in Medicare part D (prescription) plans typically pay \$4 or less for generics, versus around \$40 for brand-

Association voluntary ethics guidelines say doctors should decline any gifts including meals "for which reciprocity is expected or implied." Representatives for the companies involved said doctors are not paid to prescribe their products. Sales' reps interactions with physicians over sponsored meals are an important part of educating them about drugs' risks and benefits, the companies said in emailed statements.

Dr Nitin Damle, an internist and president of the American College of Physicians, said modest gifts or meals can be ethical if they enhance patients' care, but that doctors should ask "what would the public or my patients think about this particular gift or meal and what is the purpose of industry offering it to me?" The results were published Monday in the journal JAMA Internal Medicine. — AP



Kuwait 🥗 Times 248 33 199







AUK TEAM WINS IN STARTUP KUWAIT NATIONAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP CHALLENGE

wo AUK teams competed in the 2016
Startup Kuwait National Innovation and Entrepreneurship Challenge held in Jumeirah Messilah Beach Hotel and Spa on 29 and 30 May, 2016. The initiative was launched by Kuwait University's Global Center to enable students to pursue their entrepreneurial ambitions in the face of current social and economic challenges.

Startup Kuwait took place under the patronage of the Minister of Commerce, Dr Yousef Al-Ali and Minister of Education and Higher Education, Dr Bader Al-Eissa who

attended the event along with the Minister investors and fellow students. of Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs, Sheikh Salman Al-Humoud Al-Sabah.

Over 600 students competed in the challenge from GUST, ACK, Box Hill College and Kuwait University. Participating teams presented their business ideas to a panel of judges consisting of entrepreneurs, Dr Saad Al-Barrak, Dr Naif Al-Mutawa and John Preseton from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), in addition to audience members that included

One of the two AUK teams was selected as one of 5 winners of Kuwait Startup; students Ahmed Khalil and Abdullah Al-Ansari received KD 3,000 to start their project, and were honored in an awards ceremony that was attended by AUK Dean of the College of Business and Economics Dr Jin Wang.

Startup Kuwait is an initiative that was formally launched in November 2015 by the Global Center at Kuwait University's College of Business Administration. It is backed up

by a Government allocation of KD 2 Billion to fund and support businesses.

The American University of Kuwait (AUK) is an independent, private, equal opportunity, and co-educational liberal arts institution of higher education. The educational, cultural and administrative structure, methods and standards of AUK are based on the American model of higher learning. The language of instruction is English. More information on the American University of Kuwait can be found at www.auk.edu.kw.







It was a memorable moment at Sam's Egaila residence last Thursday as family, friends and wellwishers celebrate Engr Collins Nwabuogor's birthday. 'May God continue to bless, guide and protect you and your family Amen.' Greetings from friends and well-wishers.









Kuwait Autism Association hosted the qualifications for the Sharifa Al-Subaih Quran Competition, which is hosting for the fourth consecutive year.







Pakistani businessman Ahtsham Alla Dita hosted an iftar dinner at Crowne Plaza Hotel. Ambassador of Pakistan Ghulam Datgir and cross section of the Pakistani community attended the event.









LAPA'S PEACE OF ART RAMADAN NIGHTS: A PERFORMANCE BY AMER AL-TOUNY



s part of its Peace of Art campaign which affirms the important role of artists in serving the society and peace, LOYAC Academy of Performing Arts (LAPA) organized a series of spiritual Ramadan performances led by Dr Amer Al-Touny, for the first time in Kuwait. During those enchanting evenings, the performance is a mix of spiritual rhythms and chants, which enraptures the audience in attendance at LOYAC's headquarters. These performances will last for 4 nights.

evenings, the performance is a mix of spiritual rhythms and chants, which enraptures the audience in attendance at LOYAC's headquarters. These performances will last for 4 nights.

Touny accompanied LAPA's musicians performing and singing some Muwashahat that the audience was there especially to enjoy - enriching their souls and obtaining serenity. Additionally, Kuwaiti and other local artists and painters thrived in that atmosphere, guiding children in open art workshops to create art pieces that embody the themes of peace and love. The paintings will later be used to create a mural at LOYAC Child and Youth Holistic Centre for Syrian refugees in Antakya - Turkey.



















The Kids World Bilengual Nursery celebrated 'girgian' with students and their mother, featuring traditional Kuwaiti Ramadan customs such as 'Abu Tbailah' and popular songs. The nursery's owner Narjis Al-Shatti attended the event.

FROM THE PRODUCER OF PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN

04:10 Sweet Revenge 05:30 The Wilby Conspiracy 07:15 Big Screen 07:30 What Did You Do In The War

Daddy? 09:25 True Heart

10:55 The Secret Of Santa Vittoria 13:10 Beauty Shop

14:55 Big Screen 15:10 The Sharkfighters 16:25 The Bed Sitting Room 17:55 The Secret Invasion 19:30 The Watsons Go To

Birmingham 21:00 Final Combination

03:25 Natural World 04:15 Gator Boys 05:02 Treehouse Masters 05:49 Restoration Wild

06:36 Treetop Cat Rescue 07:00 Treetop Cat Rescue 07:25 Cats 101 08:15 Restoration Wild

09:10 Treehouse Masters 10:05 Tanked 11:00 Cats 101 11:55 Bondi Vet

12:50 Restoration Wild 13:45 Gator Boys 14:40 Treehouse Masters 15:35 Tanked 16:30 Natural World

17:25 River Monsters 18:20 Village Vets 18:50 Village Vets 19:15 Tanked 20:10 Natural World 21:05 Treehouse Masters

22:00 Village Vets 22:30 Village Vets 22:55 Gator Boys 23:50 River Monsters 00:45 After The Attack

CENTRAL (2) ADDWOD

03:00 Hungry Investors 03:50 Disorderly Conduct: Video On Patrol 04:40 Disorderly Conduct: Video

On Patrol 05:30 Disorderly Conduct: Video On Patrol 06:20 Nathan For You 06:50 Nathan For You

07:15 Catch A Contractor 08:05 Lip Sync Battle 08:30 Lip Sync Battle 08:55 Hungry Investors

09:45 Disorderly Conduct: Video On Patrol 10:35 Catch A Contractor 11:25 Disorderly Conduct: Video On Patrol

12:15 Nathan For You 12:40 Nathan For You 13:05 Catch A Contractor 13:55 Lip Sync Battle 14:20 Lip Sync Battle

14:45 Hungry Investors15:35 Disorderly Conduct: Video On Patrol 16:30 Disorderly Conduct: Video On Patrol

17:25 Hungry Investors 18:15 Nathan For You 18:39 Nathan For You 19:03 Tosh.0 19:27 Catch A Contractor

20:13 Lip Sync Battle 20:37 Lip Sync Battle 21:00 The Daily Show With Trevor 21:30 Hungry Investors

22:30 Catch A Contractor 23:30 The Daily Show With Trevor Noah

00:00 Disorderly Conduct: Video On Patrol

00:50 Nathan For You 01:15 Nathan For You

01:40 The Daily Show With Trevor

07:00 Mythbusters

08:40 Strip The Cosmos 05:45 The Hive 05:50 Mouk

23:05 What Happened Next?

23:30 Fast N' Loud: Demolition

01:10 You Have Been Warned

02:25 The Carbonaro Effect

02:50 What Happened Next?

The Carbonaro Effect

Discovery

03:00 Untamed & Uncut 03:50 Marooned With Ed Stafford

05:05 How It's Made 05:30 Through The Wormhole With

06:20 Mythbusters 07:00 Dick 'n' Dom Go Wild

07:25 Adventure 8: Zoo Games

07:50 Too Cute! 08:40 You Have Been Warned

04:40 How It's Made

09:30 How It's Made

09:55 How It's Made

12:50 How It's Made

13:15 How It's Made

10:20 Mythbusters

11:10 Bondi Vet

12:00 Too Cute!

14:30 Dirty Jobs

15:20 Mythbusters

17:00 Wildest Africa

19:30 Mythbusters

20:20 How It's Made

20:45 How It's Made

21:10 Wildest Africa

Morgan Freeman

00:30 Mythbusters

01:20 Wildest Africa

03:00 Disappeared

Deadly Affairs

06:12 Nightmare Next Door

Deadly Affairs

10:20 Nightmare Next Door

12:00 Deadly Affairs

08:40 The Perfect Murder

The Perfect Murder

07:50 I Almost Got Away With It

On The Case With Paula

True Crime With Aphrodite

I Almost Got Away With It

13:40 The Perfect Murder 14:30 On The Case With Paula

15:20 Nightmare Next Door

16:10 California Investigator

California Investigator

17:00 Deadly Affairs 17:50 On The Case With Paula

18:40 The Perfect Murder 19:30 I Almost Got Away With It

21:10 Southern Fried Homicide

23:40 True Crime With Aphrodite

02:10 Obsession: Dark Desires

Deadly Sins

03:00 Mighty Ships

03:48 Secret Space Escapes

06:12 What Could Possibly Go

Secret Space Escapes

04:36 Strip The Cosmos

05:24 Food Factory USA

05:48 Food Factory USA

22:00 Deadly Sins

00:30 Redrum

Jones

Nightmare Next Door

Obsession: Dark Desires

DISCOVERY

science

03:48 Redrum

16:10 Dick 'n' Dom Go Wild

17:50 Biggest And Baddest

22:00 Biggest And Baddest

02:10 Biggest And Baddest

22:50 Untamed & Uncut

18:40 You Have Been Warned

16:35 Adventure 8: 700 Games

Morgan Freeman

06:00 Hank Zipzer

00:20 Wheeler Dealers: Trading Up 06:25 Sofia The First 06:50 Gravity Falls 07:15 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug And Cat Noir

07:40 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug And Cat Noir 08:05 Shake It Up

08:30 Shake It Up 08:55 Hannah Montana Forever 09:20 Hannah Montana Forever 09:45 Wizards Of Waverly Place 10:10 Wizards Of Waverly Place 10:35 Good Luck Charlie

11:00 Good Luck Charlie 11:25 Jessie 11:50 Jessie 12:15 Disney Mickey Mouse 12:20 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug And Cat Noir

12:45 Hank Zipzer 13:10 Austin & Ally 13:35 Austin & Ally 14:00 Liv And Maddie 14:25 Liv And Maddie

14:50 Dog With A Blog 15:15 Disney Mickey Mouse 15:20 Gravity Falls 15:45 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug 13:40 Marooned With Ed Stafford And Cat Noir 16:10 Violetta

17:00 Backstage 17:25 Austin & Allv 17:50 Jessie 18:15 Best Friends Whenever 18:40 Girl Meets World 19:05 Evermoor Chronicles

19:30 Liv And Maddie 19:55 Liv And Maddie 20:20 Backstage 20:45 Good Luck Charlie 21:10 H2O: Just Add Water 21:35 H2O: Just Add Water Through The Wormhole With 22:00 Binny And The Ghost

22:25 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch 22:50 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch 23:10 Hank Zipzer 23:35 Binny And The Ghost 00:00 Violetta 00:45 The Hive

00:50 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch 01:15 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch 01:40 Hank Zipzer 02:05 Binny And The Ghost



03:10 Henry Hugglemonster 03:20 Calimero 03:35 Zou 03:45 Loopdidoo

06:35 Super Matrak

07:50 Supa Strikas

08:15 Annedroids

09:10 Kirby Buckets

10:00 Rocket Monkeys

10:25 Ultimate Spider-Man

08:40 Lab Rats

10:50 Boyster

11:20 Boyster

11:45 Pair Of Kings

12:10 Pair Of Kings

13:30 Phineas And Ferb

13:55 Phineas And Ferb

14:45 Kickin' It 15:10 Disney Mickey Mouse

15:40 Supa Strikas 16:05 Star vs The Forces Of Evil

16:55 Gamer's Guide To Pretty

12:35 Lab Rats

13:00 Lab Rats

14:20 Kickin' It

15:15 Supa Strikas

16:30 Kirby Buckets

17:25 K.C. Undercover

18:40 K.C. Undercover

19:05 Disney Mickey Mouse

19:35 Star vs The Forces Of Evil

20:00 Kirby Buckets 20:25 Gamer's Guide To Pretty

17:50 Supa Strikas

Much Everything

18:15 Lab Rats

19:10 Annedroids

Much Everything

21:45 Lab Rats

22:10 Mighty Med

20:55 K.C. Undercover

21:20 Pickle And Peanut

22:40 Disney Mickey Mouse

23:00 Programmes Start At 6:00am

tood

03:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives

03:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives

09:00 Barefoot Contessa: Back To

09:30 Barefoot Contessa: Back To

12:00 Chopped 13:00 Grandma's Secret Cookbook

13:30 Grandma's Secret Cookbook

14:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives14:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives

11:30 The Pioneer Woman

05:00 Chopped 06:00 Guy's Grocery Games

04:00 Man Fire Food 04:30 Man Fire Food

07:00 Man Fire Food 07:30 Man Fire Food

08:00 Chopped

10:00 The Kitchen 11:00 The Pioneer Woman

15:00 Man Fire Food

15:30 Man Fire Food

18:00 The Pioneer Woman

18:30 The Pioneer Woman

20:00 Iron Chef America

22:00 All Star Academy

02:00 All Star Academy

03:40 In Search Of Aliens

10:00 In Search Of Aliens

13:00 Soviet Storm: WWII In The

11:00 Ancient Aliens

12:00 Ancient Aliens

04:30 Ancient Aliens

05:20 Ancient Aliens

23:00 Kitchen Inferno
00:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives

00:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives

16:00 Chopped

19:00 Chopped

21:00 Chopped

01:00 Chopped

17:00 The Kitchen

Basics

Quest

07:25 K.C. Undercover

07:00 Star vs The Forces Of Evil

09:35 Pokemon Series Xy: Kalos

Art Attack 04:25 Henry Hugglemonster 04:35 Calimero 04:50 Zou 05:00 Loopdidoo 05:15 Art Attack

Henry Hugglemonster 05:50 Calimero 06:00 Zou 06:20 Loopdidoo 06:35 Art Attack

07:00 The Hive 07:10 Zou 07:25 Loopdidoo 07:40 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse 08:05 Sofia The First 08:30 Miles From Tomorrow

08:45 PJ Masks

The Lion Guard 09:35 Doc McStuffins 10:00 Sofia The First Unbungalievable 10:30 Goldie & Bear

11:00 Jake And The Never Land **Pirates** 11:25 The Lion Guard 11:50 Doc McStuffins 12:15 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse

12:45 The Hive 12:55 Unbungalievable 13:00 Sofia The First 13:25 Doc McStuffins 13:50 Miles From Tomorrow

The Lion Guard 14:40 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse 15:10 Doc McStuffins



WILD HOGS ON OSN MOVIES HD COMEDY

Discovery 03:40 Dirty Money

04:05 Storage Wars Canada Storage Hunters UK 05:00 How Do They Do It? 05:30 How It's Made: Dream Cars Yukon Men 06:50 Wheeler Dealers: Trading Up 07:40 Fast N' Loud: Demolition

Theater 08:30 Dirty Money 08:55 Storage Wars Canada Storage Hunters UK 09:45 How Do They Do It? 10:10 How It's Made: Dream Cars

Running Wild With Bear Grylls 11:25 Deadliest Job Interview 12:15 Dive Wars Australia 13:05 Dirty Money

13:30 Storage Wars Canada Storage Hunters UK 14:20 Yukon Men 15:10 Wheeler Dealers: Trading Up

16:00 Fast N' Loud: Demolition 16:50 How It's Made: Dream Cars 17:15 How Do They Do It?

17:40 You Have Been Warned 18:30 The Carbonaro Effect 18:55 The Carbonaro Effect 19:20 Curse Of The Frozen Gold 20:10 Storage Wars Canada Storage Hunters UK 21:00 You Have Been Warned

21:50 The Carbonaro Effect

22:15 The Carbonaro Effect

22:40 What Happened Next?

03:15 The Hive 03:20 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch 03:45 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch 04:10 Hank Zipze 04:35 Binny And The Ghost 05:00 Violetta

09:30 Through The Wormhole With 15:35 Jake And The Never Land Morgan Freeman 10:20 Food Factory USA 16:00 Sofia The First

10:45 Food Factory USA 16:25 Jungle Cubs 16:50 Aladdin How The Universe Works 12:00 Mighty Ships 17:15 The Lion Guard 12:50 Mythbusters 17:40 Goldie & Bear 13:40 Sécret Space Escapes 18:05 Doc McStuffins 18:30

14:30 Strip The Cosmos 15:20 Food Factory USA 19:00 PJ Masks 15:45 Food Factory USA 19:25 Unbungalievable19:30 The Lion Guard 16:10 Building The Biggest 17:00 What Could Possibly Go Goldie & Bear 20:00 Wrong? 20:30 Sofia The First 17:50 Secret Space Escapes 21:00 Jake And The Never Land

18:40 Mythbusters 19:30 Strangest Weather On Earth 21:25 PJ Masks 21:50 Jungle Cubs 20:20 Through The Wormhole With Morgan Freeman 22:20 Aladdin 21:10 51 Degrees North 22:00 Scanning The Skies 22:50 Zou

22:50 Strangest Weather On Earth 23:05 Henry Hugglemonster 23:40 Food Factory USA 23:20 Calimero 00:05 Rocket City Rednecks 23:35 Zou 00:30 Sci-Fi Science 23:50 Loopdidoo 00:55 Scanning The Skies 00:05 Art Attack 00:30 Henry Hugglemonster 01:45 How It's Made 02:10 Strangest Weather On Earth

00:45 Calimero 01:00 Zou 01:15 Loopdidoo 01:30 Art Attack 02:05 Calimero 02:20 Zou 02:30 Loopdidoo

06:00 Boyster

Sofia The First

22:45 Minnie's Bow-Toons

06:10 Ancient Discoveries 07:00 Soviet Storm: WWII In The 08:00 Ancient Discoveries 09:00 America: The Story Of The

02:45 Art Attack

14:00 Ancient Discoveries 15:00 America: The Story Of The U.S. 16:00 In Search Of Aliens 17:00 Ancient Aliens 06:10 Super Matrak 18:00 Ancient Aliens

East

19:00 Soviet Storm: WWII In The 20:00 Ancient Discoveries

04:45 John Torode's Malaysian

06:00 Cesar To The Rescue

10:10 John Torode's Malaysian

10:35 John Torode's Malaysian

06:50 World's Best Chefs

05:10 The Food Files

05:35 The Food Files

07:15 Miguel's Feasts

07:40 Maverick Chef

08:05 Dream Cruises

08:55 Meat v Veg

09:20 Meat v Veg

09:45 Food School

11:00 The Food Files

11:25 The Food Files

14:00 Dream Cruises

14:55 Meat v Veg

15:25 Meat v Veg

16:20 Eat Street

15:50 Food School

17:10 The Food Files

19:05 Meat v Veg

19:30 Meat v Veg

20:00 Food School

21:15 The Food Files

00:10 Dream Cruises

21:40 Cruise Ship Diaries

22:55 World's Best Chefs

22:05 Cesar To The Rescue

23:20 George Clarke's Amazing

01:00 Tales From The Bush Larder

01:25 Tales From The Bush Larder

01:50 Food Lover's Guide To The

20:25 Eat Street

20:50 Eat Street

17:35 Cruise Ship Diaries

18:05 Cesar To The Rescue

11:50 Cesar To The Rescue

World's Best Chefs

13:05 George Clarke's Amazing

Adventure

Adventure

Spaces

Adventure

G-FORCE ON OSN MOVIES FAMILY

ONLY IN CINEMAS

(WALT DISNE

21:00 America: The Story Of The 22:00 Rome's Lost Legion 23:00 World War II: Lost Films 00:00 Ancient Aliens 01:00 Soviet Storm: WWII In The

02:00 Ancient Discoveries 02:50 America: The Story Of The

HISTORY.

03:40 American Restoration 04:05 American Restoration 04:30 Pawn Stars Knights Templar

05:00 Pirate Treasure Of The 06.00 Ax Men 06:50 Swamp People 07:40 Search For The Lost Giants

08:55 American Restoration 09:20 American Restoration 09:45 Lost In Transmission 10:35 Counting Cars

Counting Cars 11:25 Pirate Treasure Of The Knights Templar 12:15 American Pickers

13:05 Storage Wars Texas 13:30 Storage Wars Texas 13:55 Swamp People: Swamp Christmas 14:45 Swamp People

15:35 Counting Cars 16:00 Ax Men 16:50 Search For The Lost Giants 17:40 Swamp People 18:30 Pirate Treasure Of The Knights Templar 19:20 American Pickers 20:10 Pawn Stars 20:35 Pawn Stars

21:00 Counting Cars: Best Of 21:25 Counting Cars 21:50 American Restoration 22:40 Time Team 23:30 Counting Cars: Best Of 23:55 Counting Cars 00:20 American Restoration

01:10 Banger Boys 02:00 Swamp People 02:50 Search For The Lost Giants



03:25 Masterpiece With Alan Titchmarsh 04:20 Sunday Night At The 05:15 Pick Me! 06:10 The Doctor Blake Mysteries

07:05 Masterpiece With Alan Titchmarsh 08:00 Doctor Thorne 08:55 Sunday Night At The Palladium 09:50 Seven Days With,Ķ 10:40 Pick Me

11:35 Masterpiece With Alan Titchmarsh 12:30 The Doctor Blake Mysteries 13:25 Emmerdale 13:50 Coach Trip 14:20 Coach Trip 14:45 Seven Days With,Ķ15:35 Masterpiece With Alan

Titchmarsh 16:30 Midsomer Murders 18:20 Emmerdale 18:45 Coach Trip 19:10 Coach Trip19:35 Masterpiece With Alan

Titchmarsh 20:30 Midsomer Murders 22:20 Coach Trip 22:50 Emmerdale 23:15 The Doctor Blake Mysteries 00:10 Masterpiece With Alan Titchmarsh 01:05 Emmerdale

01:30 Coach Trip

02:00 Coach Trip

02:30 The Doctor Blake Mysteries people III

03:05 Meat v Veg 03:30 Meat v Veg 03:55 Food School 04:20 John Torode's Malaysian 02:15 Miguel's Tropical Kitchen 02:40 Carnival Eats

WILDHD

03:45 Dangerous Encounters 04:40 Ultimate Animal Countdown 05:35 Africa's Creative Killers 06:30 1000 Days For The Planet 07:25 Dangerous Encounters

Ultimate Animal Countdown 09:15 Natural Born Monsters
10:10 Ultimate Animal Countdown Africa's Deadliest

1000 Days For The Planet 14:45 How Big Can It Get 15:40 Ultimate Animal Countdown 16:35 Natural Born Monsters 17:30 Ultimate Animal Countdown 18:25 Africa's Deadliest

19:20 How Big Can It Get 20:10 Ultimate Animal Countdown 21:00 Natural Born Monsters 21:50 Ultimate Animal Countdown 22:40 Africa's Deadliest

23:30 Monster Fish

01:10 1000 Days For The Planet 02:00 Africa's Deadliest 02:50 Hyena Queen 16:00 Mv Girl NATIONAL

GEOGRAPHIC CHANNEL HD 03:50 Outsiders: Living Off The

Edge 04:45 Naked Science 2.5 05:40 Genius By Stephen Hawking 06:35 Womb Of The World 07:30 Dangerous Encounters 08:25 Alaska Fish Wars

09:20 What Would Happen I 09:45 What Would Happen If 10:15 X: The Generation That Changed The World 11:10 Cesar To The Rescue

12:05 Megastructures 13:00 Alaska Fish Wars 14:00 Swamp Men 16:00 X: The Generation That Changed The World

17:00 Cesar To The Rescue 18:00 Megastructures 19:00 Inside 20:00 X: The Generation That

Changed The World 20:50 Cesar To The Rescue 21:40 Megastructures 22:30 Inside

23:20 Genius By Stephen Hawking 00:10 X: The Generation That Changed The World 01:00 Cesar To The Rescue 02:00 Megastructures

nickelodeon HD

03:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 03:24 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 03:48 Henry Danger 04:12 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn

04:36 The Haunted Hathaways 05:00 Max & Shred 05:24 Henry Danger 05:48 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn 06:12 SpongeBob SquarePants

SpongeBob SquarePants 07:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 07:24 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles

07:48 Winx Člub 08:12 The Loud House 08:36 SpongeBob SquarePants 09:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 09:24 Harvey Beaks

09:48 Henry Danger 10:12 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn 10:36 The Haunted Hathaways 11:00 Winx Club SpongeBob SquarePants

11:48 SpongeBob SquarePants12:12 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 13:00 Harvey Beaks 13:24 The Loud House 13:48 Get Blake

14:12 Rabbids Invasion 14:36 100 Things To Do Before High School

15:00 Game Shakers 15:24 The Loud House 15:48 SpongeBob SquarePants 16:12 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 16:36 Harvey Beaks

17:00 Get Blake

17:24 Harvey Beaks 17:48 The Loud House

18:12 Henry Danger

Stone Age Smackdown 11:30 Goat Story 2 13:00 Marco Macaco

18:00 The Flintstones & WWE: Stone Age Smackdown 20:00 Pim And Pom: The Big Adventure

22:00 Blackie And Kanuto 23:45 Moomins And The Comet Chase





23:48 Henry Danger 00:12 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn 00:36 Max & Shred 12:00 Monster Fish 12:55 World's Deadliest Killer Three 01:00 The Haunted Hathaways 01:24 Sanjay And Craig

01:48 Sanjay And Craig 02:12 SpongeBob SquarePants 02:36 SpongeBob SquarePants

OVA MOVIES HD COMEDY

18:36 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn 19:00 100 Things To Do Before

19:24 Game Shakers19:48 SpongeBob SquarePants20:12 SpongeBob SquarePants

20:36 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 21:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles

23:00 SpongeBob SquarePants

23:24 SpongeBob SquarePants

High School

21:24 Breadwinners

21:48 Breadwinners

22:12 Sanjay And Craig 22:36 Sanjay And Craig

04:00 My Father The Hero 06:00 Space Dogs

08:00 My Girl 00:20 World's Deadliest Killer Three 10:00 Blended 12:00 My Father The Hero 14:00 Down To Earth

> 18:00 Indian Summer 20:00 Romy And Michelle's High School Reunion 22:00 Wild Hogs

02:00 Down To Earth

ON MOVIES HD **FAMILY**

03:00 Race To Witch Mountain 05:00 Mars Needs Moms 07:00 Inspector Gadget 09:00 Monsters Inc. 11:00 Frankenweenie 13:00 Paranorman 15:00 Despicable Me 2 17:00 Monsters University

21:00 Sky High 23:00 Despicable Me 2

19:00 G-Force

01:00 G-Force **OM** MOVIES

04:15 Dr. Strangelove 06:15 Roger Waters The Wall 08:30 Merchants Of Doubt 10:15 Dr. Strangelove12:00 Mandela: Long Walk To

Freedom 14:30 Les Miserables 17:15 Merchants Of Doubt 19:00 Walk The Line
21:15 The Color Of Money
23:30 What's Love Got To Do With It

01:30 Les Miserables ON MOVIES HE 03:00 The Song 05:00 Metallica: Through The

Never 07:00 The Last 5 Years 09:00 The Song 11:00 The Age Of Adaline

13:00 Le Weekend 15:00 Not Safe For Work 16:30 Tommy Cooper: Not Like That, Like This 18:30 The Judge 21:00 The Throwaways

23:00 Imogene

OVI MOVIES HID KIDS

04:15 Hatching 06:00 Harriet The Spy 08:00 The Adventures Of Don Quixote 10:00 The Flintstones & WWE:

14:30 Blackie And Kanuto 16:00 Moomins And The Comet

CLASSIFIEDS

Kuwait Times

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 2016



Kuwait CINEMA

KNCC PROGRAMME FROM THURSDAY TO WEDNESDAY (16/06/2016 TO 22/06/2016)

		(•		
SHARQIA-1		THE CALL UP	12:05 AM		
THE CALL UP	9:30 PM			AVENUES-11	
THE CALL UP	11:30 PM	MARINA-2		WARCRAFT (Atmos 2D)	9:30 PM
		THE JUNGLE BOOK	10:00 PM	THU+FRI+SAT	
SHARQIA-2		WARCRAFT	12:15 AM	CAPTAIN AMERICA: CIVIL WAR (Atmo	os 2D) 12:05 AM
THE ANGRY BIRDS MOVIE	9:45 PM			THU+FRI+SAT	
WARCRAFT	11:45 PM	MARINA-3			
		THE ANGRY BIRDS MOVIE	9:30 PM	360°-1	
SHARQIA-3		HASAN WA BOQLOZ	11:45 PM	THE CALL UP	10:30 PM
HASAN WA BOQLOZ	10:00 PM			THE CALL UP	12:30 AM
THE ASIAN CONNECTION	12:05 AM				
		AVENUES-1		360°-2	
MUHALAB-1		ELLY JAY AHSAN (Arabic)	10:00 PM	PELE: BIRTH OF A LEGEND	10:00 PM
THE CALL UP	10:00 PM	PELE: BIRTH OF A LEGEND	12:15 AM	THE ASIAN CONNECTION	12:15 AM
THE CALL UP	12:05 AM				
		AVENUES-3		360°-3	
MUHALAB-2		KAMMATTI PAADAM- Malayalam	9:45 PM	THE ANGRY BIRDS MOVIE	9:45 PM
CAPTAIN AMERICA: CIVIL WAR	9:45 PM	THE CALL UP	1:00 AM	CAPTAIN AMERICA: CIVIL WAR	11:45 PM
GENTLEMAN - Telugu	9:45 PM				
THE ASIAN CONNECTION	12:45 AM	AVENUES-4		AL-KOUT.1	
		THE CALL UP	10:30 PM	WARCRAFT	9:30 PM
MUHALAB-3		THE CALL UP	12:30 AM	NAVY SEALS VS. ZOMBIES	12:05 AM
THE JUNGLE BOOK	9:30 PM				
WARCRAFT	11:45 PM	AVENUES-5		AL-KOUT.2	
		ROAD GAMES	9:45 PM	THE ANGRY BIRDS MOVIE	10:00 PM
FANAR-1	0.00.014	WARCRAFT	11:45 PM	ROAD GAMES	12:15 AM
THE ANGRY BIRDS MOVIE	9:30 PM				
THE JUNGLE BOOK	11:30 PM	AVENUES-6	0.20 DM	AL-KOUT.3	10.15.014
FAMADO		THE JUNGLE BOOK	9:30 PM	THE CALL UP	10:15 PM
FANAR-2	10.15 DM	MIN DAHAR RAGEL - Arabic	11:45 PM	THE CALL UP	12:30 AM
THE CALL UP	10:15 PM	AVENUES 7		AL VOLLE	
THE CALL UP	12:15 AM	AVENUES-7	10.15 DM	AL-KOUT.4	O.45 DM
FANAD 2		ROAD GAMES	10:15 PM	ELLY JAY AHSAN (Arabic)	9:45 PM
FANAR-3 TE3N (Hindi)	9:45 PM	ROAD GAMES	12:15 AM	X-MEN: Apocalypse	12:05 AM
ROAD GAMES	9:45 PM 12:45 AM	AVENUES-8		PAIDAO 1	
ROAD GAINES	12:43 AIVI	NAVY SEALS VS. ZOMBIES	10:00 PM	BAIRAQ-1 THE CALL UP	9:30 PM
FANAR-4		NO SAT	10.00 FW	THE CALL UP	11:30 PM
ROAD GAMES	10:00 PM	NAVY SEALS VS. ZOMBIES	12:05 AM	THE CALL OP	11:30 PW
WARCRAFT	12:05 AM	NO SAT	12:03 AIVI	BAIRAQ-2	
WARCRAFT	12.05 AIVI	AVENUES-9		THE JUNGLE BOOK	10:00 PM
FANAR-5		THE ANGRY BIRDS MOVIE	10:30 PM	Hepta	12:15 AM
ELLY JAY AHSAN (Arabic)	10:30 PM	HASAN WA BOQLOZ	12:30 AM	BAIRAQ-3	IZ.IJ AW
NAVY SEALS VS. ZOMBIES	12:30 AM	AVENUES-10	IZ.JU AIVI	TE3N (Hindi)	9:45 PM
MARINA-1	12.JU AIVI	THE CALL UP	9:45 PM	THE ASIAN CONNECTION	12:30 AM
THE CALL UP	9:45 PM	THE CALL UP	9:45 PM 11:45 PM	THE ASIAN CONNECTION	12.30 AIVI
IT IL CALL OF	7.43 FIVI	THE CALL OF	11.43 FIVI		

ANNOUNCEMENT

Messenger required for an Embassy in Kuwait

An Embassy is seeking a highly motivaed Messenger with following qualification:

- Holder of transferable visa
- Holder of Kuwaiti Driving License
- Fluent in Arabic, English and Urdu
- Good understanding of Governmental procedures in Kuwait
- Familiar with all localities and Governmental offices in Kuwait
- Minimum educational qualification should be secondary or equivalent

Interested candidates may send their CVs on Fax No. 25322917 up to 25 - 6 - 2016 Contact No. 50877237

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Kottakonda Udhiah Kumar holder of Indian Passport No. G1153961 hereby change my name as Kota Udhaya Kumar S/o Kota Krishna Murthy, post K.V Palli Mandal Chitoor District, AP. (C 5187) 19-6-2016 I have changed my name from Ali Asgar holding passport no. G7737051 to Ali Asgar Khedawala. In future to be known by new name R/o New Masjid Saify Mohalla Salumber Udaipur Rajasthan India. (C 5186) 15-6-2016

PRAYER TIMINGS

Fajr:	03:14
Shorook	04:48
Duhr:	11:50
Asr:	15:24
Maghrib:	18:51
Isha:	20:23





Flight Schedule

In case you are not travelling, your proper cancellation of bookings will help other passengers to use seats

Directorate General of Civil Aviation Home Page (www.kuwait-airport.com.kw)

,	Arrival Fligh	its on Wednesday 22/6/20	16	GFA	221	Bahrain	14:20	De	eparture Fligi	hts on Wednesday 22/6/20	016	MSR	576	Sharm el-Sheikh	15:00
Airlines	Flt	Route	Time	SVA	500	Jeddah	14:30	Airlines	Flt	Route	Time	KAC	773	Riyadh	15:00
THY	772	Istanbul	00:10	KAC	512	Mashhad	14:30	AIC	988	Hyderabad/Chennai	00:05	KAC	673	Dubai	15:05
MSC	415	Sohag	00:10	KAC	540	Sharm el-Sheikh	14:50	MSC	404	Asyut	00:10	GFA	222	Bahrain	15:05
JZR	239	Amman	00:20	KAC	788	Jeddah	15:00	JAI	573	Mumbai	00:25	FDB	058	Dubai	15:05
JZR	267	Beirut	00:30	KNE	683	Madinah	15:05	JAD	302	Amman	00:25	KAC	617	Doha	15:15
DLH	635	Doha	01:00	ETD	303	Abu Dhabi	15:10	MSR	615	Cairo	00:30	QTR	1079	Doha	15:15
JZR	539	Cairo	01:20	OMA	645	Muscat	15:10	FDB	072	Dubai	00:30	KAC	741	Dammam	15:30
PGT	858	Istanbul	01:25	ABY	127	Sharjah	15:35	MSC	416	Sohag	01:05	KAC	1781	Jeddah	15:30
RJA	642	Amman	01:45	UAE	857	Dubai	15:45	JZR	502	Luxor	01:15	KNE	530	Jeddah	15:35
KKK	6506	Istanbul	02:05	RJA	640	Amman	16:00	THY	773	Istanbul	01:40			Madinah/Jeddah	
GFA	211	Bahrain	02:15	FDB	051	Dubai	16:10	DLH	635	Frankfurt	02:00	SVA	503		15:45
CEB	018	Manila	02:20	QTR	1072	Doha	16:15	THY	765	Istanbul	02:45	KNE	684	Madinah	16:00
UAE	853	Dubai	02:25	JZR	535	Cairo	16:20	PGT	859	Istanbul	02:55	KAC	613	Bahrain	16:00
OMA	643	Muscat	03:05	JZR	787	Riyadh	16:45	UAE	854	Dubai	03:45	OMA	646	Muscat	16:10
MSR	612	Cairo	03:15	NIA	251	Alexandria	16:50	KAC	417	Manila	03:55	ABY	128	Sharjah	16:15
ETD	305	Abu Dhabi	03:15	KAC	562	Amman	16:55	OMA	644	Muscat	04:00	ETD	304	Abu Dhabi	16:20
QTR	1076	Doha	03:25	SAW	705	Damascus	17:05	ETD	306	Abu Dhabi	04:10	KAC	563	Amman	16:30
KAC	544	Cairo	03:40	SVA	510	Riyadh	17:15	MSR	613	Cairo	04:15	RJA	641	Amman	16:55
JZR	555	Alexandria	04:15	GFA	215	Bahrain	17:30	KKK	6505	Istanbul	04:20	FDB	052	Dubai	17:00
FEG	931	Alexandria	05:00	JZR	357	Mashhad	17:30	QTR	1077	Doha	04:35	JZR	266	Beirut	17:10
DHX	170	Bahrain	05:10	CCE	343	Sharm el-Sheikh	17:35	CEB	019	Manila	04:50	QTR	1073	Doha	17:25
THY	770	Istanbul	05:15	JZR	177	Dubai	17:45	JZR	560	Sohag	05:00	UAE	858	Dubai	17:40
JZR	529	Asyut	06:00	JZR	777	Jeddah	17:50	FEG	954	Asyut	06:00	NIA	252	Alexandria	17:50
KAC	412	Manila/Bangkok	06:30	QTR	1080	Doha	17:55	RJA	643	Amman	06:25	SVA	511	Riyadh	18:15
BAW	157	London	06:40	SYR	341	Damascus	18:00	THY	771	Istanbul	06:45	SAW	706	Damascus	18:20
FDB	5061	Dubai	07:15	MSR	620	Cairo	18:30	GFA	212	Bahrain	06:50	GFA	216	Bahrain	18:20
JZR	503	Luxor	07:25	KAC	774	Riyadh	18:35	FDB	5062	Dubai	07:55	JZR	538	Cairo	18:30
KAC	382	Delhi	07:30	KAC	786	Jeddah	18:35	BAW	156	London	08:25	CCE	344	Alexandria	18:35
KAC	346	Ahmedabad	07:35	KAC	502	Beirut	18:35	KAC	511	Mashhad	08:40	JZR	238	Amman	18:45
KAC	206	Islamabad	07:40	KAC	742	Dammam	18:50	JZR	1770	Jeddah	08:40	SYR	342	Damascus	19:00
KAC	204	Lahore	07:40	KAC	618	Doha	18:55	KAC	539	Sharm el-Sheikh	08:50	QTR	1081	Doha	19:05
KAC	302	Mumbai	07:50	KAC	542	Cairo	18:55	KAC	791	Madinah	08:55	MSR	621	Cairo	19:30
KAC	156	Istanbul	08:00	KAC	166	Paris/Rome	19:05	KAC	117	New York	09:00	GFA	218	Bahrain	19:50
KAC	354	BLR	08:00	UAE	875	Dubai	19:05	JZR	534	Cairo	09:25	KAC	361	Colombo	19:55
KAC	286	Dhaka	08:05	GFA	217	Bahrain	19:05	KAC	787	Jeddah	09:30	ABY	124	Sharjah	19:55
KAC	344	Chennai	08:15	KAC	614	Bahrain	19:10	ABY	126	Sharjah	09:45				
KAC	332	Trivandrum	08:15	ABY	123	Sharjah	19:15	UAE	856	Dubai	09:50	MSR	619	Alexandria	20:30
KAC	362	Colombo	08:20	MSR	606	Luxor	19:30	ETD	302	Abu Dhabi	10:00	FDB	060	Dubai	20:30
KAC	352	Kochi	08:20	JAI	572	Mumbai	19:35	IRC	6522	Lamerd	10:05	KAC	283	Dhaka	20:30
UAE	855	Dubai	08:25	KAC	154	Istanbul	19:45	IRA	664	Shiraz	10:25	UAE	876	Dubai	20:35
ABY	125	Sharjah	09:05	KAC	674	Dubai	19:45	QTR	1071	Doha	10:35	JAI	571	Mumbai	20:35
ETD	301	Abu Dhabi	09:05	FDB	059	Dubai	19:50	FDB	056	Dubai	10:40	KAC	331	Trivandrum	20:45
IRC	6511	ABD	09:15	KAC	102	New York/London	19:55	KAC	153	Istanbul	11:00	DLH	634	Doha	20:50
QTR	1070	Doha	09:20	DLH	634	Frankfurt	20:05	KAC	501	Beirut	11:00	KAC	343	Chennai	20:55
IRA	665	Shiraz	09:25	KNE	381	Taif	20:10	CCE	342	Sharm el-Sheikh	11:10	KAC	351	Kochi	21:00
FDB	055	Dubai	09:50	MEA	402	Beirut	20:15	KAC	175	Frankfurt/Geneva	11:15	KAC	543	Cairo	21:00
CCE	341	Alexandria	10:00	OMA	647	Muscat	20:20	KAC	561	Amman	11:20	KNE	232	Riyadh	21:10
GFA	213	Bahrain	10:40	FDB	5053	Dubai	20:55	GFA	214	Bahrain	11:35	JZR	554	Alexandria	21:15
AXB	890	Mangalore/Bahrain	10:55	ETD	307	Abu Dhabi	21:05	JZR	356	Mashhad	11:40	MEA	403	Beirut	21:15
MEA	404	Beirut	11:00	UAE	859	Dubai	21:15	AXB	890	Mangalore	11:55	OMA	648	Muscat	21:15
JZR	561	Sohag	11:25	KAC	1780	Jeddah	21:15	MEA	405	Beirut	12:00	DHX	171	Bahrain	21:50
ETD	9819	Abu Dhabi	12:10	ALK	229	Colombo	21:20	KAC	541	Cairo	12:05	FDB	5054	Dubai	21:55
FDB	075	Dubai	12:25	QTR	1082	Doha	21:55	KAC	103	London	12:10	ETD	308	Abu Dhabi	21:55
SAW	701	Damascus	12:35	GFA	219	Bahrain	22:00	JZR	776	Jeddah	12:15	ALK	230	Colombo	22:20
FEG	953	Asyut	12:55	KAC	564	Amman	22:05	KAC	785	Jeddah	13:00	UAE	860	Dubai	22:25
MSR	610	Cairo	13:00	ETD	309	Abu Dhabi	22:10	JZR	176	Dubai	13:10	KAC	381	Delhi	22:25
CLX	792	Luxembourg	13:15	AIC	975	Chennai/Goa	22:25	FDB	076	Dubai	13:10	KAC	301	Mumbai	22:30
IRC	6521	Lamerd	13:35	MSC	501	Alexandria	22:30	JZR	786	Riyadh	13:20	KAC	345	Ahmedabad	22:55
KAC	792	Madinah	13:45	BBC	043	Dhaka	22:40	SAW	702	Damascus	13:35	GFA	220	Bahrain	23:00
KNE	231	Riyadh	14:00	THY	764	Istanbul	22:55	FEG	932	Alexandria	13:55	KAC	205	Islamabad	23:00
KNE	529	Jeddah	14:05	MSC	403	Asyut	23:10	MSR	611	Cairo	14:00	ETD	310	Abu Dhabi	23:05
QTR	1078	Doha	14:05	JAI	574	Mumbai	23:20	ETD	9819	BRU	14:10	JZR	528	Asyut	23:15
MSR	575	Sharm el-Sheikh	14:15	MSR	614	Cairo	23:30	IRC	6512	ABD	14:25	QTR	1083	Doha	23:20
JZR	1771	Jeddah	14:15	FDB	071	Dubai	23:35	CLX	792	Hanoi	14:30	MSC	502	Alexandria	23:30
FDB	057	Dubai	14:20	KLM	411	Amsterdam/Dammam	23:40	KNE	382	Taif	14:55	KAC			
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ACROSS

- 1. Again but in a new or different way.
- 5. Thick cushion used as a seat. 12. A unit of length of thread or yarn.
- 15. The actions and activities assigned to or required or expected of a person or group. 16. A specialist assigned to the staff of a
- diplomatic mission. 17. Edible tuber of any of several yams.
- 18. Evil or harmful in nature or influence. 19. At full speed.
- 20. Electronic equipment that provides visual images of varying electrical quanti-
- 21. A thin wedge of material (wood or metal or stone) for driving into crevices.
- 22. A slight rounded elevation where the malleus attaches to the eardrum.
- 25. A town and port in northwestern Israel
- in the eastern Mediterranean. 27. Any member of Athapaskan tribes that
- migrated to the southwestern desert (from Arizona to Texas and south into Mexico). 30. Plant bearing large mild thick-walled usually bell-shaped fruits.
- 33. The capital and largest city of Yemen. 36. Antibacterial drug (trade name
- Nydrazid) used to treat tuberculosis. 37. A silvery soft waxy metallic element of the alkali metal group.
- 40. A young woman.
- 41. A nearly horizontal passage from the surface into a mine.
- 43. A member of a seafaring group of North American Indians who lived on the Pacific coast of British Columbia and southwestern Alaska.
- 46. Intentional deception resulting in injury to another person.
- 48. Making great mental demands.
- 50. A radioactive element of the actinide
- 51. A boy or man.
- 52. American professional baseball player who hit more home runs than Babe Ruth (born in 1934).
- 54. Military action involving the use of electromagnetic energy to determine or exploit or reduce or prevent hostile use of the electromagnetic spectrum.
- 55. The formation of frost or ice on a sur-
- 58. (Greek mythology) A maiden seduced by Zeus.
- 63. Acute ulceration of the mucous membranes of the mouth or genitals.
- 65. Half the width of an em. 70. A constellation in the southern hemi-
- sphere near Telescopium and Norma. 73. Genus of tropical plants with creeping
- rootstocks and small umbellate flowers. 74. The longer of the two telegraphic sig-
- nals used in Morse code. 75. A skirt consisting of a rectangle of calico or printed cotton.
- 77. A rotating disk shaped to convert circular into linear motion.
- 78. A flat wing-shaped process or winglike part of an organism.
- . 79. A cut of pork ribs with much of the meat trimmed off.
- 80. A loose sleeveless outer garment made from aba cloth.

DOWN

- 1. Weapons considered collectively.
- 2. The Hebrew patriarch who saved himself and his family and the animals by building an ark in which they survived 40 days and 40 nights of rain.
- 3. (Norse mythology) Goddess of old age who defeated Thor in a wrestling match.

- 4. A German city near Leipzig.
- 5. (Judaism) An eight-day Jewish holiday commemorating the rededication of the Temple of Jerusalem.
- 6. A highly unstable radioactive element
- (the heaviest of the halogen series). 7. A thrusting blow with a knife.
- 8. A constitutional monarchy on the western part of the islands of Samoa in the South Pacific
- 9. South American wood sorrel cultivated for its edible tubers.
- 10. A communist nation that covers a vast territory in eastern Asia.
- 11. Range of what one can know or understand.
- 12. Any of various butterflies of the family Lycaenidae. 13. A British peer ranking below a Marquess
- and above a Viscount. 14. In a murderous frenzy as if possessed by
- a demon. 23. Extinct flightless bird of New Zealand.
- 24. God of wealth and love. 26. Related by blood.
- 28. An edible tuber native to South America.
- 29. A soft silver-white ductile metallic element (liquid at normal temperatures).
- 31. (New Testament) Disciple of Jesus. 32. A small bottle that contains a drug
- (especially a sealed sterile container for injection by needle).
- 34. Wild sheep of semidesert regions in central Asia
- 35. One of the three Furies. 38. The number of lines in a piece of printed

material.

- 39. Any property detected by the olfactory system.
- 42. Eurasian perennial bulbous herbs. 44. A Kwa language spoken in Ghana and
- the Ivory Coast.
- 45. Minor or subordinate. 47. Small European freshwater fish with a
- slender bluish-green body. 49. A state in east central United States.
- 53. Sluggish tailless Australian arboreal marsupial with gray furry ears and coat.
- 56. A mass of ice and snow that permanently covers a large area of land (e.g., the polar regions or a mountain peak).
- 57. An oral cephalosporin (trade names Keflex and Keflin and Keftab) commonly prescribe for mild to moderately severe
- infections of the skin or ears or throat or lungs or urinary tract. 59. A member of the Siouan people former-
- ly living in the Missouri river valley in NE Nebraska.
- 60. Of or relating to a hair.
- 61. A long-playing phonograph record. 62. The capital and largest city of Bangladesh.
- 64. Using speech rather than writing. 66. A star that ejects some of its material in
- the form of a cloud and become more luminous in the process. 67. Exhibiting or restored to vigorous good
- health. 68. Someone who works (or provides work-
- ers) during a strike. 69. God of love and erotic desire.
- 71. A caustic detergent useful for removing grease.
- 72. (in golf) The standard number of strokes set for each hole on a golf course, or for the
- entire course. 76. Denoting a quantity consisting of six

items or units.

Yesterday's Solution

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STAR TRACK

Aries (March 21-April 19)

This is good time to examine and think about what is important and of lasting value. This could be a period of great material gain; it is certainly a time when material things have a great deal of importance for you. Consider the competition and look at ways to express your own talent in whatever demands may be upon you now. Your career or life-path may depend on your talent for responding and making something out of ideas and insights; whatever is new and challenging. The business world today may call for your ability to react and build on opportunities. You have a clear vision into your own inner sense of values, how you appreciate and love. Today could be a very lucky day for you in many areas of your life.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Your sense of direction and guidance are the keys to understanding yourself at any in-depth level. Today, you will be called upon to use your natural problemsolving instincts. You always manage to come up with the correct approach-dig in and do not waste time with worry. There is an innate capacity to negotiate with the law and authorities, plus an ability to find you when it comes to inner and spiritual matters. Others sense this gift and accept guidance and counsel. At heart, you have a deep sense of responsibility and purpose and this seriousness is genuine and felt by others. You manage to get down to the bare bones. Matters of law, religion and philosophy of the most resolute kind hold your interest this evening.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Recognition is the reward for sharing some of your creative ideas. Don't be shy. Stand up and take a bow. This is a time when life has a way of unfolding in a most positive way. A bout of philosophy or even a little religion could have an enormous effect on your career. You might be working in a religious institution. Lasting values or whatever you find to be the truth will guide you in the decision making process. There are new doors of opportunity opening up for something that was previously blocked. You will benefit from analytical insights, getting to the heart of things, research, penetrating. This evening presents a great time to enjoy your friends and/or your family in the celebration of life



Cancer (June 21-July 22)

This is a great time to reflect and understand your own situation. Work and career should be on the back burner for this day. There is an opportunity to make good decisions within your own environment and you will find that others enjoy learning from you. You may be needed to help a neighbor move or transport a few people to the airport. A camera in hand will give you an opportunity to take a few pictures as you see the landscape change or a sunrise/sunset to photograph. Outdoor activity can be enjoyed by many this afternoon, perhaps through a tour of a nearby park or zoo, or perhaps through a group garage or yard sale. Of course a competitive homemade ice cream contest might be at the top of the list for you and a few of your neighbors.



Leo (July 23-August 22)

Today is a day of action and embarking on new projects. You will begin to feel more and more confident and outgoing, a sense of confidence that grows stronger with each passing day. Things that may have been suspended in only a vision for many years will now take on speed, structure and shape. You should plan to work hard and give shape to the ideas you have pored over these last six or seven years. You are beginning to move forward with your dreams and goals and can expect your career to expand and possibly take on a new phase. In summary, from this time forward, expect a more confident, outgoing attitude, for you have brought to close a time of inward examination. There is a growing sense of direction and self-worth now.



Virgo (August 23-September 22)

You could be asked to help with some project today. If you already have a great deal of work going on now, you might want to request supervising the project. Careful here-when you have stress, it may affect your sense of independence and originality-for better or worse. Consider coordinating others so that you do not have to worry about the constant little errands. Home life can be most satisfying now. You do not have to leave home to escape from the rat race. Family, home and security seem just about ideal to you. You may be very imaginative with your home and domestic setup. This evening would be a good time to enjoy a dip in the pool or hot tub-yours, friends' or a community pool. A child follows your example this evening.

Wordsearch Puzzle

Sci-Fi Movies 1 - Word Search Find the words hidden in the grid of letters.

ALIZARBVSRAWRATSL

ORNSNDKAPXHBGDSYC AACDUNERWVCKTIRTA CTEXYPEYBRHULSQIR OAPEVDENTSOOBNYCE NVTUAXORSIPBEEFKN TAITJOITMONIOQHRN ASOVCHARRALEOCQAU CRNOERDTTANQREODR THCPGGERLAWKNESPE VIGABMOYRLMNQOSND GTRANSFORMERSOSA EEOYWACATTAGHZGML UMSOLARISPLADTAMB

ALIEN AVATAR **BLADE RUNNER INCEPTION** BRAZIL COCOON CONTACT CUBE DARK CITY

DUNE GATTACA **METROPOLIS PREDATOR** MOON ROBOCOP SERENITY SOLARIS

STAR WARS STARGATE SUPERMAN THE MATRIX **TRANSFORMERS** TRON

Libra (September 23-October 22)

You naturally gravitate toward positions of power and authority. Others see in you a great practical ability and accept you as a leader or authority figure very easily. Your career may be very important to you now, even at the expense of home life-careful here. Too much work takes away from the extras you enjoy with your family and they with you. If home life needs more attention, it would not be unreasonable to ask you to think about a professional change. Your ability to rally support makes some form of public career quite probable. You may be working with young people this evening in the realm of teacher or coach. Young people feel a kinship toward you and respond positively to your requests. Make time for your loved ones this evening.



Scorpio (October 23-November 21)

You could be most persuasive with others at this time. The situation is a natural for having your particular ideas and thoughts understood. You can appreciate the difficulties of others and be understanding of the problems they may be having. You value a certain amount of self-sacrifice and may have helpful information that will help make another person's life easier. You can discriminate between superficiality and the reality that is pushing through. Your mind is naturally interested in all that is psychological. You look to improve working conditions and may find ways to serve and help customers in more of a timely manner. You are careful and considerate. A good conversation with those you love is possible this evening.



Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)

You may be thinking about how you express yourself and what you want to accomplish in life. Don't be afraid to project your image. Ideas of group cooperation and communion could further your thinking, as well as connections. Everything seems to be working together for your advancement. This afternoon you may find that several of your friends will go along with you to see a musical, an opera or perhaps some outside concert. You and your friends seem to enjoy basically the same types of entertainment and all of you enjoy critiquing the performance after the show. This evening there is time to prepare for your work week ahead and now... You are ready for the grand schemes of business. You love the rhythm of business but you also enjoyed today.



Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

You are determined to get at the heart of things, whatever is under the surface or behind the scenes. A couple of youths may need your help but not in lecture form. Challenging several youths to complete a few difficult tasks in some type of teamwork creates a working together type of attitude. Healing is possible-you will find that difficult tasks will be seen through to successful results. Others will accept your suggestions and ideas. Problems or challenges can be easily solved when you are around. As you return to work tomorrow you may decide it is time to put in for some type of advancement. Your pursuit of anything secret makes you a researcher or investigator bar none. You can demonstrate great understanding to others.



Aquarius (January 20- February 18)

Ideas of group cooperation could further your career. Your surroundings, circumstances and support systems are the key links in the chain of your success. When things get hectic, it is in these areas that you can expect to be challenged. You hate a lack of clarity, especially when it comes to your feelings and emotions. Clarity is your priority. You work today to make projects move along in a smooth manner. Any misunderstandings will be quickly corrected. You prosper by pursuing your ideals and most deepseated dreams of how life could be. Don't be afraid to project your image-make those dreams real. Use your sense of humor this evening-laugh and encourage others. You relax by entertaining and being around your friends.

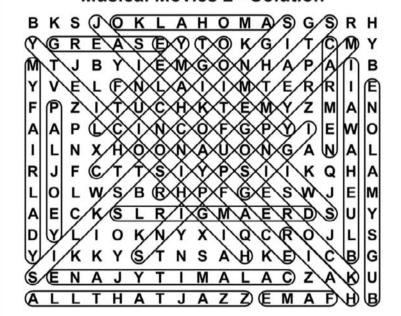


Pisces (February 19-March 20)

Your own basic drive may be at odds with the direction your life is taking. Your home environment, friends and surroundings in general become uncomplicated. Your work or career is in real harmony with the rest of your life, but you may want more. You may find, after review and plans are made, that this is a time of good fortune when things could be opening up for you. Your time of reassessment will be rewarded and it will become easy to see which path is the one to take. Opportunities are available and you may find that you want to do almost anything; pace yourself. The home and family scene is likely to be in something of a state of change now-this may mean moving, an addition to the family, or such. An eccentric relative attracts some notice.

Yesterday's Solution

Large Print Word Search Puzzles Musical Movies 2 - Solution



BLUE HAWAII BUGSY MALONE GREASE CALAMITY JANE HAIR CARMEN **CHICAGO DREAMGIRLS**

FAME

ALL THAT JAZZ FUNNY FACE GIGI **HIGH SOCIETY** JAILHOUSE ROCK TOMMY **MARY POPPINS** MY FAIR LADY

OKLAHOMA PAL JOEY SILK STOCKINGS STATE FAIR **SWING TIME** YENTL

Daily SuDoku

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Yesterday's Solution

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KIDS RECIEPE



Frozen Yogurt Pops

Ingredients

18-oz. container of your favorite flavor of yogurt

Utensils small paper cups

wooden popsicle sticks (available in craft

plastic wrap

Directions Pour yogurt into paper cups. Fill them

almost to the top. Stretch a small piece of plastic wrap across the top of each cup.

Using the popsicle stick, poke a hole in the plastic wrap. Stand the stick straight up

in the center of the cup. Put the cups in the freezer until the yogurt is frozen solid.

Remove the plastic wrap, peel away the paper cup, and eat your pop!

ACTIVITY



Fish Plate

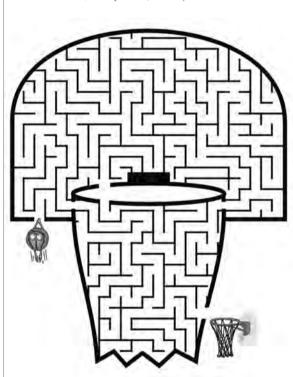
Materials

Paper plates (2 per fish) Acrylic paint in assorted colors **Paintbrushes** Round adhesive labels

Googly eyes or buttons Pencil Glue

- 1. Decorate one paper plates as body of fish. Paint stripes or other designs. For scales, cut round labels in half and stick them on. Paint on an eye, or glue on a googly eye or button. Paint a mouth or cut one out.
- 2. On another paper plate, draw upper and lower fins and a tail. (TIP: Use rim of plate for its fluted texture. Cut out pieces. Paint; let dry. Glue to fish body.)

Color me!



MAZE



- Q: Why do Eskimos do their laundry in Tide?
- A: Because it's too cold out-tide! Q: How do you cure a
- headache?
- A: Put your head through a window and the pane will just disappear!
- Q: What has four wheels and
- A: A garbage truck!
- Q: What kind of car does Mickey Mouse's wife drive? A: A minnie van!
- Q: Why don't traffic lights ever
- A: Because they take too long to
- Q: Why did the man run around his bed?
- A: To catch up on his sleep!
- Q: Why did the robber take a bath before he stole from the
- A: He wanted to make a clean get away!

Pirate Word Search

1	P	F	L	E	Y	N	A	E	C	0	0
L.	K	U	C	Q	R	0	G	0	L	D	D
H	S	F	R	D	T	L	H	D	J	K	J
N	P	J	N	1	Α	Т	P	A	C	J	N
J	V	P	L	A	N	K	0	E	D	1	T
R	В	C	H	A	1	X	A	0	G	G	T
W	E	Q	E	N	K	Y	W	1	S	W	A
T	R	E	W	Q	E	D	S	W	E	M	D
N	0	N	N	A	C	L	K	R	T	R	T
K	0	F	E	A	A	N	C	K	A	C	R
S	K	G	P	N	C	N	K	0	R	Q	E
Z	0	T	D	1	N	C	В	Z	1	V	A
M	A	T	E	Y	S	R	U	L	P	Q	S
D	X	M	F	H	E	J	F	В	X	M	U
0	0	K	1	V	N	Y	U	S	P	Z	R
M	Y	P	0	W	X	P	R	L	F	0	E

PIRATE SHIP

TREASURE BUCCANEER **OVERBOARD**

CAPTAIN CANNON MATEY **OCEAN** ISLAND

AHOY GOLD CREW PLANK AYE



Pamukkale, Turkey



amukkale, meaning "cotton castle" in Turkish, is a natural site in Denizli Province in southwestern Turkey. The city contains hot springs and travertine, terraces of carbonate minerals left by the flowing water. It is located in Turkey's Inner Aegean region, in the River Menderes valley, which has a temperate climate for most of the year.

The ancient Greco-Roman and Byzantine city of Hierapolis was built on top of the white "castle" which is in total about 2,700 meters long, 600 m wide and 160 m high. It can be seen from the hills on the opposite side of the valley in the town of Denizli, 20 km away.

Tourism is and has been a major industry. People have bathed in its pools for thousands of years. As recently as the mid-20th century, hotels were built over the ruins of Hierapolis, causing considerable damage. An approach road was built from the valley over the terraces, and motor bikes were allowed to go up and down the slopes. When the area was declared a World Heritage Site, the hotels were demolished and the road removed and replaced with artificial pools. Wearing shoes in the water is prohibited to protect the deposits.

Geology

Pamukkale's terraces are made of travertine, a sedimentary rock deposited by water from the hot

In this area, there are 17 hot water springs in which the temperature ranges from 35 ∞C to 100 ∞C. The water that emerges from the spring is transported 320 meters to the head of the travertine terraces and deposits calcium carbonate on a section 60 to 70 meters long covering an expanse of 24 meters to 30 meters. When the water, supersaturated with calcium carbonate, reaches the surface, carbon dioxide de-gasses from it, and calcium carbonate is deposited. The depositing continues until the carbon dioxide in the water balances the carbon dioxide in the air. Calcium carbonate is deposited by the water as a soft jelly, but this eventually hardens into

This reaction is affected by the weather conditions, ambient temperature, and the flow duration. Precipitation continues until the carbon dioxide in the thermal water reaches equilibrium with the carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. Measurements made at the source of the springs find atmospheric levels of 725 mg/l carbon dioxide, by the time this water flows across the travertines, this figure falls to 145 mg/l. These theoretical calculations indicate that up to 4.9 square kilometers it can be covered with a white deposit of 1 millimeter thickness.

Archeology

Museum In the museum, alongside historical artifacts from Hierapolis, there are also artifacts from Laodiceia, Colossae, Tripolis, Attuda and other towns of the Lycos valley. In addition to these, the museum has a large section devoted to artifacts found at Beycesultan H,y,k that includes some of the most beautiful examples of Bronze Age craft.

Artifacts from the Caria, Pisidia and Lydia regions are also on display in this museum. The museum's exhibition space consists of three closed areas of the Hierapolis Bath and the open areas in the eastern side which are known to have been used as the library and gymnasium. The artifacts in open exhibition space are mostly marble and stone. Hierapolis is broken down into ruins.

Protecting the thermal waters

The hotels built in the 1960s were demolished as they were draining the thermal waters into their swimming pools and caused damage to the terraces. Nowadays, water supply to the hotels are limited and they need to deposit the water used to the supply to generate.

Access to terraces are not allowed and visitors are asked to follow the pathway. Due to the new regulations, only small pools are allowed to be used.



Music & Movies





'Saq Al Bamboo' and 'Been Galbin': Episode 15

By Nawara Fattahova

■he Kuwait Times is publishing daily recaps of two of the Kuwaiti soap operas airing on Al Rai TV and MBC Drama. Here are the recaps of the 15th episode:

'Saq Al Bamboo' (Bamboo Stalk)

Eisa, Noor's brother comes to the chalet to be nearby Khawla. Jaber asks Noor if there is a relationship between Khawla and her brother Eisa, but she denies. Jaber calls Noor more often which makes her feel strange.

The Filipina maid Luzviminda who likes Eisa brings dinner to his room and asks if she can sit with him for a while but he refuses and says that he doesn't want any more problems. Yet, she keep following him. Noor tells Khawla that her brother loves her and is better than Jaber who annoys her with his

Noor shows Eisa his father's boat that Ghanima kept in the same place since he went missing during the invasion. He then tells her about his grandfather in the Philippines who reminds him of Ghanima.

Khawla convinces Ghanima to allow Eisa massage her feet.

Awatif comes to the chalet and she gives Eisa an English copy of the Holy Quran. He tells her that Hind told him to issue the Kuwaiti nationality, and she gets mad.

Been Galbin (Between Two Hearts)

Dana arrives home crying and calls Noora to come. Noora leaves while her husband was asleep. She tells Dana not to worry as Aryam is lying about Bashar leaving Dana. When Noora arrives home, her angry husband who is awake asks her where she had been and why her mobile was switched off and starts beating her, then he kicks her out of the house. His

daughter who came to live with him calls her Noora's mother to tell her what happened, and is taken to the hospital by her mother. As a result of the beating she loses her baby.

Basher meets Aryam and tells her she looks different, so she tells him it's the makeup that his wife put for her. She says that she told Dana about their relationship, so he is gets upset and leaves.

Basher decides to file a case against Zied for beating his sister. He goes to Zeid's house and on not finding him there asks the maid to collect Noora's belongings. The maid says that she also wants to leave along with Noora.

Bollywood's Salman Khan draws ire for 'rape' analogy

ollywood superstar Salman Khan has sparked controversy in India by saying his heavy training schedule for an upcoming film left him feeling "like a raped woman". Khan made the comments in an interview to promote his latest Bollywood movie Sultan, which tells the story of an ageing wrestler trying to make a comeback. "When I used to walk out of the ring, after the shoot, I used to feel like a raped woman. I couldn't walk straight," 50-year-old Khan said in an interview with local news site Spotboye.com published on Monday.

India's National Commission for Women (NCW) yesterday demanded a public apology, calling the comments "reprehensible", following an outcry on social media. "It's not only a wrong statement, it's very irresponsible and callous for a man whose fame and wealth is based on the adoration of his female fans," the head of NCW Lalitha Kumaramangalam told the Press Trust of India news agency.

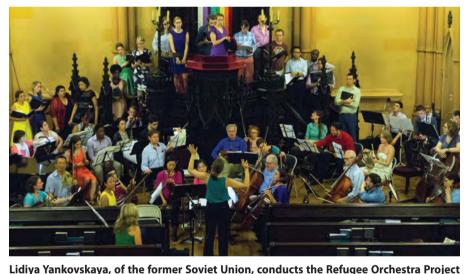
The Bollywood star also said he had been able to quit every vice" except women, giving up cigarettes, coffee and alcohol but not female company. His father, Bollywood lyricist Salim Khan, took to Twitter to apologies on his son's behalf, but insisted that "the intention (behind the comments) was not wrong". Khan is one of Bollywood's biggest box-office draws, starring in more than 100 films and television shows since his first hit "Maine Pyar Kiya" (I Fell in Love) in the 1980s.

But his personal life has long been dogged by controversy. Last year he was cleared of killing a homeless man in a hit-andrun crash and he is battling allegations he used unlicensed arms to shoot antelopes in western India. When he was appointed goodwill ambassador for India's Olympic team in the Rio Games in April, the country's sports stars reacted with dismay. Bollywood films are notorious for their sexism and Khan's movies in particular have been criticized for their weak female

roles. While several Indian filmmakers are breaking with stereotypes, such movies are still few and far between. "If you are a Salman Khan fan, it's good, but if you support his pathetic statement, you are nothing but a disgusting creature," wrote Twitter user @gautamverma23. Shaina NC, a spokeswoman for the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party in Maharashtra state, tweeted: "Rape is an exercise of power to destruct a woman's self-esteem, (from what) I (know) of @BeingSalmanKhan he respects #women so he must apologize." — AFP

> **Indian Bollywood actor** Salman Khan at a promotional event in Mumbai. — AFP





on World Refugee Day at the First Unitarian Congregational Society.



Lubana Al Quntar, a Syrian opera singer who was granted asylum in the United States, sings with the Refugee Orchestra Project on World Refugee Day at the First Unitarian Congregational Society.óAFP photos

Syrian opera singer performs with US refugee orchestra

erforming Puccini to a rapt New York audience, her soprano voice soaring to the rafters, Lubana Al-Ountar may be the last person most Americans would think to be a Syrian refugee. But half-an-hour's drive from Donald Trump's campaign headquarters, she and dozens of other classically trained refugees gave a special concert at the close of World Refugee Day to highlight the cultural contributions made by those who have fled war and persecution abroad. Just days after the billionaire presidential candidate repeated his call to stop Syrian refugees entering America, Quntar had the audience spellbound even if many of the church pews were empty.

She sang the aria "Sola, perduta, abbandonata" from the opera "Manon Lescaut," accompanied by an orchestra of refugee American musicians, followed by a haunting Syrian song called "Ya Ghazali." "This time I feel every word that I sing-abandoned and alone. It's so incredible," she said before the concert in a Brooklyn church held to raise money and awareness for refugee

"It's great to let the whole world see what refugees look like. They have a dream, they have talent," she added, the picture of glamour with coiffed hair before changing into a plunging evening gown. Quntar has been in the United States for five years after leaving Syria five months into its conflict. She lives in Washington D.C, where she would return by a grueling five-hour bus journey after the concert.

She comes from Suwayda, the Druze stronghold south of Damascus, where Quntar says her soul remains. Even for a professional musician who studied in Europe and performed abroad before the war, it has been tough adapting to a new life. "I had to start life from a zero point," she said. "It's a constant struggle, like every day, especially my heart and my mind are always with my family and my people." The United Nations said Monday that the number of people fleeing their homes has spiked to 65 million in the worst refugee crisis since World War II, led by Syrians, Afghans and Palestinians.

'It's sad'

Nevertheless, America is in the throes of a toxic debate about immigration in general and Syrian refugees in particular, with Trump and other Republicans calling for immigration to be halted from countries with links to terror attacks targeting the United States or its allies. The United States has accepted just over 6,300 Syrian refugees since 2011, far fewer than Europe. Germany opened its doors to 1.1 million asylum seekers last year.

"It's sad," Quntar said. "For me as an artist, as a musician, I cannot understand how can you hate somebody." The concert was the brainchild of US conductor Lidiya Yankovskaya, who gathered together the Refugee Orchestra Project after witnessing firsthand Germany's response to the crisis last summer. "The thing that really impressed me was how many people were welcoming of the

refugees," she said. "When I came back to the States, I found unfortunately this was not always the case."

The orchestra brings together musicians who are refugees or whose friends and families fled violence and persecution. Yankovskaya herself was a refugee as a nine-year-old from St Petersburg, Russia when she moved to upstate New York with her family. "I'm hoping that our viewers and our listeners will realize how much talent and intellect and how many inspiring people come to this country as refugees... and how much their contribute to our lives." The concert included work by Sergei Rachmaninoff, who fled the 1917 Russian Revolution and Irving Berlin, the great American songwriter whose family emigrated from Russia in the

Donations raised at the concert will go to organizations such as the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS), which resettles refugees from all backgrounds. Merrill Zack, one of the group's staff, says although America has provided refuge to people fleeing persecution for centuries, backlashes come and ago. Thousands of Jewish refugees were turned away before World War II, she says. "So is it a pattern? I don't know. Is it something that we have seen in history? Yes. Do we ask our country to continue its leadership of welcoming refugees? Absolutely." — AFP

Rihanna, Coldplay to headline Made in America festival

ihanna and Coldplay will headline the Made in America festival on Labor Day weekend in Philadelphia for its fifth season. Organizers announced on Monday the lineup of the two-day Budweiser Made in America festival, which also includes ColleGrove (2 Chainz & Lil Wayne), Jamie xx, Chance the Rapper, Martin Garrix, Edward Sharpe and The Magnetic Zeros, Grimes, DJ Khaled and

The concert, curated by Jay Z, will benefit United Ways in Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey and Berks County, Pennsylvania. Some of the stages will be livestreamed on Jay Z's music streaming service Tidal. The festival will be held at the Benjamin Franklin Parkway on Sept 3 and 4. — AP



File photo shows Rihanna arrives on stage to perform 'Love On The Brain' at the Billboard Music Awards in Las Vegas. — AP

Unreleased films to showcase Anton Yelchin's talent, passion

nton Yelchin's accidental death Sunday ended the actor's life and career far too soon, yet audiences will be able to see his talent and devotion to his craft in several unreleased projects. The 27-year-old actor reprises his role as Pavel Chekov in the third installment of the rebooted "Star Trek" film franchise due to be released in July, but at least five of the projects showcase his talents beyond a big-budget summer action film. Yelchin stars in "Porto," a romance set in the Portuguese city that director Gabe Klinger hopes will be released this fall.

"The role, I wish people could discover it already, but we talked about it for a year before we rolled cameras," Klinger said in an interview. "He was developing that character in his mind for a whole year. It was that level of seriousness. "It will be very bittersweet now." "Trollhunters," an animated series from Guillermo del Toro, is scheduled to debut on Netflix in December. The project, promoted as an ambitious familyfriendly series, was previewed just last week in France. Yelchin voices the show's main character, Jim, who discovers warring trolls living beneath his hometown.

Del Toro said he worked with Yelchin for about a year and called him "a great creative partner and artist." The actor had also completed filming on several independent movies with writer-directors: Mark Palansky's science-fiction drama "Rememory," with Peter Dinklage, Peer Pedersen's family drama "We Don't Belong Here" with Catherine Keener and Cory Finley's Connecticut thriller "Thoroughbred," with Olivia Cooke. Yelchin was killed early Sunday when his 2015 Jeep Grand Cherokee pinned him between a mailbox pillar and a security fence. The

actor had been scheduled to attend a rehearsal, and his body was found when his friends became concerned and went to his home to check on him.

The actor's vehicle was subject to a recall because the gear shifters have confused drivers, causing the vehicles to roll away unexpectedly. The SUV was part of a global recall of 1.1 million vehicles by automaker Fiat Chrysler in April. The automaker expects to have a fix for the problem in July or August. As of April, the company had reports of 212 crashes, 41 injuries and 308 property damage claims potentially caused by the shifters, it said in documents filed with the government.

Actor's death Investigators were looking into the position of Yelchin's gear

shift at the time of the accident, Los Angeles Police officer Jane Kim said. The actor had gotten out of the vehicle momentarily, but police didn't say why he was behind it when it started rolling. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration said late Monday that it was in contact with Los Angeles authorities, and if the actor's death was related to the gear shift problem, it would be the first known fatality. The agency also urged owners of recalled vehicles to use their parking brakes and turn them off completely every time they exited until their vehicles were

Feature

The art of can exhibition opens at 360 and announces top winners



Photo shows the first place winner Mohammed Maya (center) for his artwork "the impact", the second place winner Omar Al- Hamad (right) for his 'antiquated car' and third place winner Huda Jassim (left) for her artwork "pieces of me". — Photos by Yasser Al-Zayyat

he art of can exhibition by red bull was launched in Kuwait at 360 mall unveiling approximately 55 artworks in the presence of the media and VIP. The judging jury consisted of Lubna Saif Abbas, Loulwa Al- Radwan, Jassim Al-Nashmi and Dr Amar Behbehani and was operated and supervised by artist Amira Behbehani. The jury assessed and rated the wonderfully crafted pieces of art based on creativity, theme and final presentation. From the physical artworks category, the first place winner is Mohammed Maya who was awarded 1000 KD for his artwork "the impact" - a statue of a man depicting the impact of the energy drink "red bull".

The second place winner was Omar Al- Hamad who won 750 KD for his antiquated car with touches that made it look rusty and vintage. The third place went to Huda Jassim who won 500 KD for an artwork that was no less creative or insightful as the two winners. Her art piece was not only well designed but also rich in concept as it portrayed a woman's face where each part connected to a large blue frame, which she named "pieces of me".

"i wanted to design an artwork that symbolizes a woman with a strong character who defies hardships and keeps herself together", she commented when asked about her piece of art. As for the digital category, the first winner announced was Aisha Burahma, who received 1000 KD for a unique digital artwork. The exhibition will continue to receive guests and art enthusiasts until 25th June at 360 mall.



The first place winner Mohammed Maya with his artwork "the



The second place winning artwork by Omar Al-Hamad.



The third place winner Huda Jassim.



Examples of other creative artworks displayed at The Art of Can Exhibition.



The Art of Can Exhibition at 360 Mall.

















Fashion

Jared Leto takes Gucci front row during Milan Fashion Week





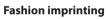
treet wear was trumping more formal looks during menswear previews for next spring and summer on the third day of Milan Fashion Week on Monday. Many of the collections offered statement basics on which to build a wardrobe, including military, mariner and athletic that can be mixed and matched to create a personalized look. Few were the well-defined suits. And where there was office and evening wear, the fit was relaxed, befitting

Just about everyone had big travel backpacks, suggesting summer journeys. Calvin Klein joined the runway exodus during a break between creative directors for both the men's and women's lines. The presentation by the in-house team was strong on denim and sportswear, including a Vneck sweater with grosgrain ribbon stripped detailing. Some highlights from Monday's shows:

Traveling nowhere

It's a nerd's world at Alessandro Michele's Gucci. Michele continues his eccentric fashion journey for next summer's menswear with floral suits, military detailing, nautical accents and pretty knits. This round, he has invited an old friend for a series of cameos: Donald Duck. And just like in his Disney cartoon days, Donald Duck shows off his versatility, in sequins on the back of a washed leather bomber and printed incognito in an Asian pattern of a silk lacquered print. The showroom was bathed in green and fitted with velvety verdant upholstery, with mist appearing from nowhere to create the sense of anywhere, or just plain here. Driving the collection is the notion of a journey, and Michele evoked the need for "open-mindedness and possibility" in his show notes.

The snakes of recent seasons have morphed into dragons, appearing on the back of leather jackets and printed on silk pajamas. The detailing was all a bit larger-than-life with big strap-on epaulets over embroidered coats and studded fringe on an embellished leather jacket. There was a busy-ness to the looks that commanded attention to the smallest detail. Lace stockings were shown off under pink flared pants or silken pajama shorts, while sea monsters did battle on a suit print. Michele embroidered random garments with the word "loved," which goes without saying for the bold new-generation Gucci dresser. Taking in the show from the front row was American actor Jared Leto, wearing an embroidered silk bomber jacket and acid bleached jeans.



Giorgio Armani's imprint has always been on his collections, but for his Emporio Armani line, the designer made it even more explicit with a fingerprint motif. The fingerprint recurs across the modular collection's urban looks: printed white on a black T-shirt, embroidered in golden thread onto a big travel bag and woven into a jacquard blazer. For Armani, the collection is an exercise in identity.

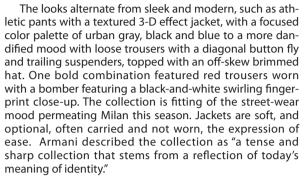












Poolside with Fendi

Fendi goes poolside with Mad Men's Don Draper during the Hollywood years for next summer's looks. The collection's watchword is dapper, from the loose-fitting square jacket to the thick-striped pants and big pool/shopper bag with a colorful zigzag strap. Terry-cloth short sets and cover-ups harken to days when the summertime soundtrack included "Walk on By," made famous by Dionne Warwick.

On the more contemporary side, there was a suit with three-dimensional prints worn with a matching shirt. Fendi's man wears a flat pouch around the neck for necessities, from smart phones to festival passes. For the more flamboyant, there was a fluttering short green fur, to bring out one's inner Liberace.

Chinese actor Jiang Jin Fu took in the collection from the front row. "I could feel the sun," he said through a translator. Outside, Asian fans hopefully awaited an autograph. While not everything in fashion is what it seems, the pool of water in the middle of the runway was indeed authentic, as one fashionista learned when he thought he was stepping onto a shiny fake. — AP



US actor Jared Leto leaves at the end of the Gucci men's Spring-Summer 2016-2017 collection show, part of the Milan Fashion Week, unveiled in Milan, Italy, Monday.



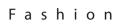








Designer Giorgio Armani poses with models at the end of the show for fashion house Emporio Armani during the Men's Spring - Summer 2017 fashion shows.

















































The art of can exhibition opens at 360 and announces top winners



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 2016



Michel Ayoub (left), an Arab-Israeli Christian man carrying out the role of a "Musaharati", the traditional figure who awakens Muslims for the "Suhur", the pre-dawn traditional meal before Muslims start their fast during the sacred fasting month of Ramadan, walks in the street rousing Muslim residents in the northern Israeli port city of Acre. Ayoub's role as the city's "Musaharati" is a traditional one during the sacred fasting month, but Ayoub is by no means a traditional holder of the position: He is Christian. The tradition had disappeared from Acre until Ayoub, who usually works in construction, revived it 13 years ago. He says it was his way to preserve his grandfather's heritage and by carrying on the Musaharati tradition, he says he was "only doing my duty by helping our Muslim brothers who endure hunger and thirst" during the fasting month. — AFP

Tambourine in hand, Christian wakes up Acre's Muslims

ACRE, Israel: Michel Ayoub's holy racket begins each day at 2:00 am, when he steps into the cobbled streets of Acre's old city with tambourine in hand, awakening Muslims for Ramadan. His role as the city's "musaharati" is a traditional one during the sacred fasting month, but Ayoub is by no means a traditional holder of the position: He is Christian. The 39-year-old Arab Israeli sees no contradiction in that, and neither do the Muslim residents of this ancient city in northwestern Israel, overlooking the Mediterranean Sea.

"We are the same family," says Ayoub, who wears traditional Levantine dress as he meanders the alleyways, a keffiyeh draped over his shoulders, baggy sirwal pants held around his waist with an embroidered belt, a black-and-white turban tied around his head. "There is only one God and there is no difference between Christians and Muslims." His voice rings out as he chants, piercing the silence of the empty streets decorated with traditional colorful lamps for Ramadan. "You, sleeping ones, there is one

eternal God," he chants.

Houses begin to light up one by one. Some stick their heads out of their windows to greet him and tell him they have heard the call, awakening them for the "suhur", the traditional Ramadan pre-dawn meal. During the holy month, which began on June 5, Muslims abstain from food and drink from sunrise to sundown, making the suhur an important meal before the long day ahead.

'We Would Be Lost'

Acre's population of more than 50,000 includes Jews, Muslims, Christians and Baha'is. It has been continuously inhabited since the Phoenician period, which began around 1500 BC. It was the main port of the medieval Crusader Kingdom of Jerusalem and a major Ottoman walled city. Napoleon tried to conquer the heavily fortified town in 1799 but was repelled by the Ottomans and a small British Royal Navy force.

The walled old city, complete with a well-preserved citadel, mosques and baths, is listed by UNESCO as a World Heritage site. Today it is part of Israel, which captured it in the 1948 Arab-Israeli war surrounding the state's creation. About 28 percent of its population are Arab Israelis, who are Palestinians and their descendants who remained after the 1948 creation of Israel. Most of the city's Arabs are Muslims, but a minority, like Ayoub, are Christians.

The mesaharati tradition had disappeared from Acre until Ayoub, who usually works in construction, revived it 13 years ago. He says it was his way to preserve his grandfather's heritage. He says his grandfather, a fervent Catholic, listened to readings of the Holy Quran every Friday during the main weekly Muslim prayers. Partly for that reason, Ayoub says he grew up with the idea of coexistence, respect and knowledge of other religions.

By carrying on the musaharati tradition, he says he was "only doing my duty by helping our Muslim brothers who

endure hunger and thirst" during the fasting month. Sabra Aker, 19, says she "grew up with Michel Ayoub's wake-up calls during Ramadan". "If he didn't come one day, we would be lost," she says through the window of her home. Safia Sawaid, 36, exits her home to ask if she can take a photo with Ayoub and her children. "It's great to see someone so attached to our culture and our traditions," she says. "I hope that he will continue every year."

Ayoub may even be grooming a successor to ensure the tradition does not end with him. Ahmed Al-Rihawi, 12, accompanies him on his nighttime mission, wearing sirwal pants, a black vest and a turban. "He is a promising mesaharati," Ayoub says. "He is very talented." — AFP







These images provided by the Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M Sackler Gallery/Museum of Turkish and Islamic Arts in Istanbul, Turkey shows "Quran," in Ink, color, and gold on paper from the Iran, Shiraz, Safavid period, ca 1580, part of an exhibit: The Art of the Quran: Treasures from the Museum of Turkish and Islamic Arts. — AP photos

Smithsonian to host 1st major US Quran exhibition

he Quran, revered by Muslims, is the centerpiece of a first-of-its-kind exhibition in the United States as the Smithsonian displays exquisitely decorated manuscripts from one of the top Quran collections. The Smithsonian's Arthur M Sackler Gallery announced yesterday that "The Art of the Quran: Treasures from the Museum of Turkish and Islamic Arts" will bring 48 manuscripts and folios from the museum in Istanbul together with manuscripts from the collection of the Sackler and Freer Gallery of Art, which are together the Smithsonian's museum of Asian art.

The exhibition is set to open Oct 15, just weeks before the presidential election, through Feb 20, 2017. Islam and the Quran may come up during debates and discussions, but Massumeh Farhad, chief curator at the Sackler and Freer and curator of Islamic art, says this exhibition is a chance to present a different story. She calls it an opportunity to "focus on the importance of this as a work of art and importance in art history.

Why are these Qurans special?

The Arabic text of the Quran was fixed as early as the late 7th century, Farhad said, but the variety in Qurans is "staggering." The exhibition will showcase different styles of calligraphy and illumination. Visitors will be able to compare different Qurans and "see the sweep of history in front of us," said Sheila Blair, an art history professor who specializes in Islamic art at Boston College and Virginia Commonwealth University. "It shows how diverse the Muslim world is."

These Qurans were commissioned by elites and created by artisans, but they also had second or third lives noted in inscriptions that reflect the history they witnessed, said Simon Rettig, assistant curator of Islamic art. One Quran completed in 1307 for the tomb of Mongol leader Uljaytu in Soltaniyeh, Iran, was taken to Istanbul by Sultan Suleiman the Magnificent in 1531 and went to his relatives. "This book has had more incredible moments than I've had in my life," Rettig said.

How old are they?

These Qurans span nearly a millennium, dating from the late 7th or early 8th centuries (not long after the time of Muhammad (PBUH)) to the 17th century.

Where are they from?

These Qurans originally come from the Near East, Egypt, Syria, Afghanistan, Iran, Turkey and Iraq. In the waning days of the Ottoman Empire, the government transferred valuable artworks across the empire to Istanbul and they're now kept at the Museum of Turkish and Islamic Arts.

Why put on this exhibition?

The show is an opportunity for people to see these Qurans up close in the United States and "reflect on their own assumptions," said Julian Raby, director of the Sackler and Freer. He calls it a "fitting complement" to a 2006 exhibition of Bibles before the year 1000. — AP