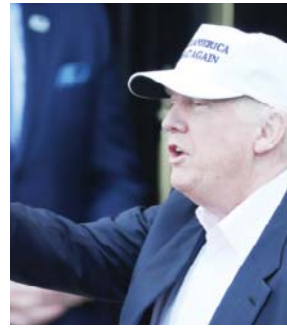


Jaber Hospital: Major medical complex in Middle East



For Trump and Brexit voters, echoes of same frustrations



Griezmann double sends France into Euro 2016 last eight



Rare surgery performed at Kuwait's Chest Hospital

Ramadan Timings

Emsak:	03:05
Fajer:	03:15
Shrooq:	04:50
Dohr:	11:51
Asr:	15:24
Maghreb:	18:51
Eshaa:	20:24

150 FILES
NO: 16917
40 PAGES

ACCEPT PEACE PLAN, BAN URGES YEMENI FACTIONS

AMIR RECEIVES UN CHIEF, DELEGATION



KUWAIT: United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon (left) receiving a medal from His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah yesterday at Al-Sief Palace in Kuwait. — Amiri Diwan

KUWAIT: UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon met with Yemen's warring sides here yesterday and urged them to accept a peace plan in a bid to push forward talks that have made no headway even after two months. Ban, who arrived in Kuwait City late on Saturday, met the delegates from the rebel and the government factions in a joint session yesterday, according to a UN spokesman.

Earlier, His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received yesterday at Bayan Palace, visiting United Nations (UN) Secretary General Ban Ki-moon and his accompanying delegation.

The meeting reviewed the progress of ongoing Yemeni peace talks that aim to bring a political solution to the conflict in the war-torn nation, in addition to discussions of regional and international developments. HH the Amir presented the UN Secretary General with a ribbon emblazoned with the country's colors as a token of appreciation for his efforts to promote peace all over the world.

The meeting was attended by First Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah and Deputy Minister of Amiri Diwan Affairs Sheikh Ali Jarrah Al-Sabah.

The UN Secretary General appealed to the warring parties to accept a roadmap for peace and quickly reach a comprehensive settlement to the 15-month-old conflict. UN special envoy Ould Cheikh Ahmed has repeatedly urged both sides to make concessions to end the conflict, which has cost more than 6,400 lives since March 2015 and displaced 2.8 million people.

The peace roadmap proposed by Ahmed calls for the formation of a unity government and the withdrawal and disarmament of the rebels.

Continued on Page 13



KUWAIT: UN Secretary General Bani Ki-moon addresses delegations of Yemen peace talks currently being held in Kuwait yesterday. — KUNA



Min 33°
Max 47°
High Tide 04:53 & 15:59
Low Tide 10:35 & 11:08

Ramadan Kareem

THOUGHTS ON RAMADAN

By Arnold Ali Cender

August 1st 1980. The daytime temperature is around 45 degrees Celsius and the humidity is 90 percent. This is the eastern Gulf and I am here for my first-ever job in the Middle East. It is also the middle of Ramadan and, when I arrive at the airport, my suitcases are nowhere to be seen. So I start my first day in my new job wearing the same clothes I traveled in, which are by now a little crumpled and anyway more suited to a British "summer".

I spent most of that first day retrieving my baggage (which had mysteriously re-appeared) from the airport and got my first experience of Ramadan. Or to be more precise - my first experience as a non-religious, non-Arabic speaking, uncomfortable, irritated, thirsty westerner trying to retrieve his possessions.

To a lifelong atheist like me, what Ramadan meant on that hot and tiring day was a string of negatives: No food; no drink; no smoking; slow response from airport officials and a general feeling of aggravation. My new Western colleagues in the office, who had found all sorts of ingenious ways around the restrictions, quickly reinforced this view. Fortunately, it was possible to minimize the hassle by bringing your own food to work, and brewing up your own tea or coffee, so long as you didn't eat or drink in the presence of Muslims. Thus I was able to survive the remaining couple of weeks.

That was my first Ramadan. The religious and spiritual aspects of the holy month passed me by, as it was with most of my colleagues. Indeed, many people seemed to go to great lengths to avoid being in the Gulf during Ramadan.

Although I was to spend the next five Ramadans in the Gulf and managed to pick up some minimal information about Islam, nothing really changed those first impressions. I returned to England in 1986 and spent the next eight years in a Ramadan-free environment until another opportunity arose to return to the Gulf - this time to Kuwait.

As chance would have it my new job in Kuwait also started in the middle of Ramadan, but luckily for me, in 1994 the holy month occurred in February and March. To be honest, my attitude had not changed significantly over the years, but at least I had brought my Ramadan-survival kit with me.

However, it was during my first year in Kuwait that I began to think deeply about religious and spiritual matters. With the help of some discussions with a Muslim colleague at work, who also supplied me with some IPC brochures, I found myself being drawn to Islam and became a Muslim in May 1995.

As part of my preparations for becoming Muslim I decided to fast during the 1995 Ramadan, even though I was still not a Muslim. I wanted to see if I could do it. It was mainly a self-test of my will and endurance, although I have to admit that I cheated a bit by starting an hour or so late each morning. Even so, with that small deviation, I was able to avoid food and drink for the prescribed period each day for the whole month.

Continued on Page 13

BRITISH POLITICS IN TURMOIL AS TALKS LOOM SCOTTISH LEADER MAY TRY TO BLOCK 'BREXIT'

KUWAIT, GULF STOCKS DIVE ON BREXIT VOTE

KUWAIT: Stock markets in the energy-rich Gulf states dropped yesterday in the first trading session after Britain voted to leave the European Union. All seven Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) stock markets were closed for the Muslim weekend on Friday when the result of the British referendum was announced. Share prices in most Gulf markets dropped sharply at the start of trading yesterday, but had recovered some of the losses by the close. The Kuwait Stock Exchange dropped 1.1 percent.

The Dubai Financial Market began the day by sliding 5.0 percent, but the index-the Gulf bourse most exposed to international markets-finished the day down 3.25 percent.

At one stage, investment companies fell 8.0 percent and real estate dropped 5.0 percent. Saudi stocks

dropped 4.1 percent at the opening but recovered to close down just 1.1 percent. All 15 sectors were in negative territory. The Qatar Exchange fell 1.25 percent and the Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange dropped 1.85 percent.

The tiny bourses of Oman and Bahrain ended the day down 0.6 percent and 0.7 percent respectively.

The six GCC states-Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates-have hundreds of billions of investments in Britain and other members of the European Union. They have large interests in the British real estate market and thousands of Gulf citizens own homes in Britain. Britain also has sizable real estate interests in Dubai and more than a million British tourists visit the UAE annually. — AFP (See Page 22)

KUWAIT MOSQUE HIT BY IS BOMB REOPENS

KUWAIT: The wood paneling bearing Quranic verses gleams inside the Imam Sadiq Mosque and the carpeting is soft underfoot for worshippers who come to pray in what is one of Kuwait's oldest Shiite mosques - and the site of the country's worst militant attack in modern history.

It's been a year since an Islamic State suicide attacker, his explosives' vest hidden under traditional male white robes, interrupted prayers to shout "God is Great" in Arabic before blowing himself up.

He killed at least 27 people and wounded 227 in a day of violence during the holy month of Ramadan, a day that also saw shootings on a Tunisian beach resort and an attack on a US-owned factory in France. The Islamic State group later claimed responsibility for the Kuwait bombing, along with the attack in Tunisia.

Since that day of carnage, Kuwait has rebuilt the mosque and flooded billboards and social media with calls for unity in this nation of three million people. But regional tensions still ripple through Kuwait, as

fears about possible further attacks by IS linger. "Kuwait is certainly not immune to the sectarian tension in the area," Kuwait University political science professor Shafeeq Ghabra said. "Sectarianism is one symptom of so many issues."

The Imam Sadiq Mosque, named after a historically revered Shiite figure, is tucked into the capital's Al-Sawabir neighborhood on a street of boutique restaurants popular with the oil-rich state's chic socialites. It survived Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait and the expulsion of Saddam Hussein's troops by US-led forces the following year.

All that changed with the June 26, 2015, suicide bombing that struck as worshippers stood shoulder-to-shoulder in group prayer. The powerful explosion tore into the mosque's ceiling, spread blood across its floors and sent debris flying.

Minutes after the attack, His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah stood at the site, surrounded by the crowds and ignoring the advice of his security forces to leave.

Continued on Page 13

LONDON: Britain's political crisis deepened yesterday amid party infighting in London and new polls showing bolstered support for Scottish independence, even as Brussels seeks a quick divorce after a seismic vote to leave the bloc. Two days after Prime Minister David Cameron announced his resignation after losing Thursday's referendum, the race to succeed him and a revolt in the opposition Labor party left the political classes locked in infighting.

US Secretary of State John Kerry was due in London and Brussels for crisis talks today, while the leaders of Germany, France and Italy are also meeting in Berlin. EU powers have called for a swift divorce amid fears of a domino effect of exit votes in eurosceptic member states that could imperil the integrity of the 28-nation alliance.

But Cameron has said negotiations on Britain's departure must wait until a successor is chosen from his Conservative party, which could be as late as October. The head of the European Parliament, Martin Schulz, warned yesterday that a period of limbo would "lead to even more insecurity and thus endanger jobs". The vote wiped \$2.1 trillion from global equity markets Friday amid fears of a

new threat to the global economy.

Schulz told the German newspaper Bild am Sonntag that a summit of EU leaders tomorrow, which Cameron will attend, was the "right time" to begin exit proceedings. German Chancellor Angela Merkel's chief of staff said however that there was no rush to show Britain the door, and indicated that the process might not start for months.

"The political leadership in London should have the chance to reconsider once again the consequences of a withdrawal," Peter Altmaier told the RND media group. Merkel herself, who will host French President Francois Hollande, Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi and EU President Donald Tusk in Berlin today, has said there is "no reason to be nasty in the negotiations".

During a stopover in Rome yesterday, Kerry expressed regret at Britain's decision to become the first EU nation to leave the bloc-and vowed Washington would maintain close ties with the 28-country alliance. "Brexit and the changes that are now being thought through have to be thought through in the context of the interests and values that bind us together with the EU," he said.

Continued on Page 13



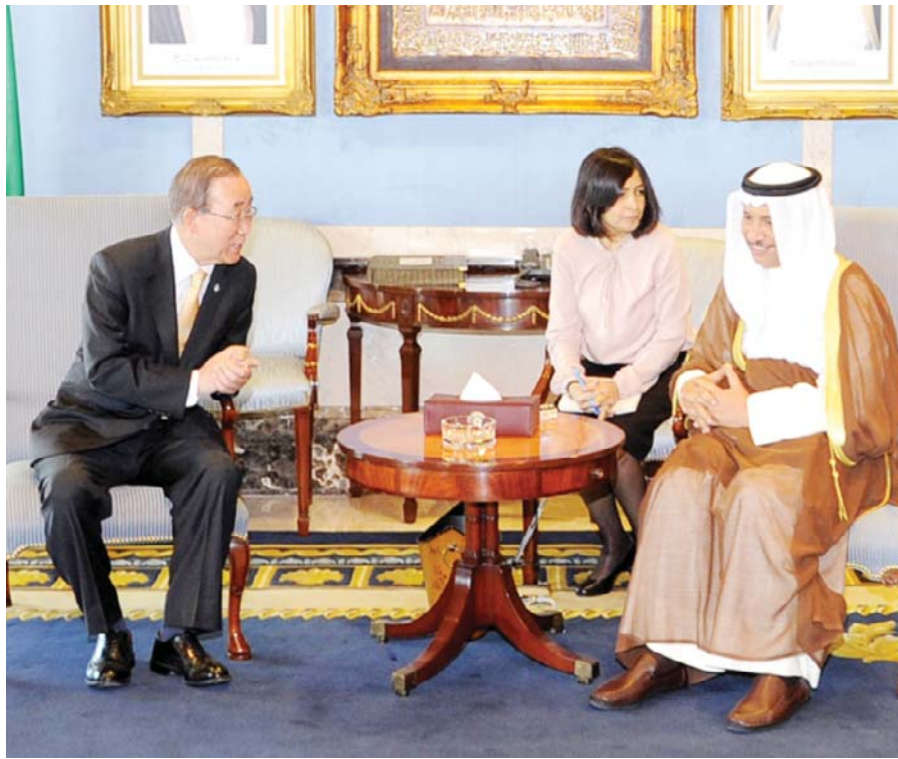
LONDON: People walk down the Mall in central London yesterday. Britain's opposition Labor party plunged into turmoil yesterday and the prospect of Scottish independence drew closer, ahead of a showdown with EU leaders over the country's seismic vote to leave the bloc. — AFP

FM, UN CHIEF DISCUSS YEMENI FILE

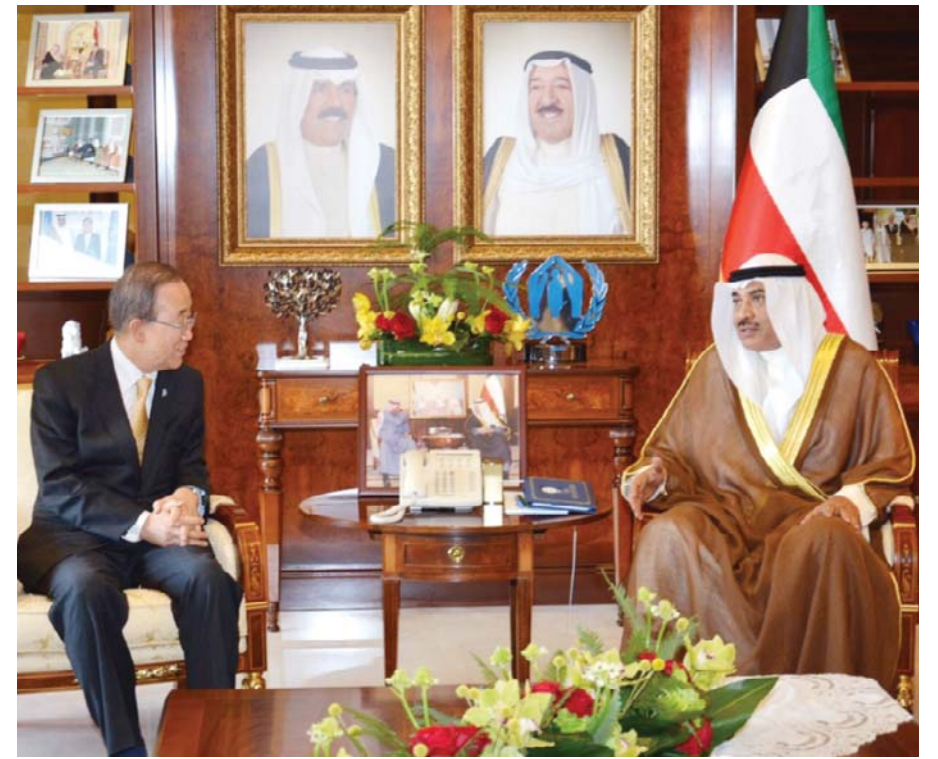
KUWAIT: First Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah discussed yesterday with visiting Secretary-General of the United Nations Ban Ki-moon Kuwait's ties with the UN and the latest developments on intra-Yemeni talks being hosted by Kuwait.

During the meeting which was attended by the special envoy of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to Yemen Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed, the Kuwaiti Minister extolled Ban Ki-moon's efforts on regional and international levels, and his support for security and stability in the region to meet challenges at all levels.

Meanwhile, the UN Secretary General emphasized the important role played by Kuwait at the international level. He also praised the prominent contributions of Kuwait in support of the United Nations' humanitarian and development work and activities around the world. The meeting was attended by a number of senior Foreign Ministry officials. Ban Ki-moon had earlier met with His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah received at Seif Palace, in attendance of Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled. During the meeting, they discussed issues of mutual interest as well as the latest regional and international developments. The meeting was attended by Kuwait's Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador Mansour Ayyad Al-Otaibi, and Deputy Assistant Foreign Minister for International Organizations Nasser Mohareb Al-Heen. The UN Secretary-General arrived to Kuwait yesterday in a one-day visit as part of his Middle East tour, during which he met with His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. —KUNA



KUWAIT: His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah meets with UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon. — KUNA photos



KUWAIT: First Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah meets with Secretary-General of the United Nations Ban Ki-moon.



The Jaber Al-Ahmad Hospital

JABER HOSPITAL: MAJOR MEDICAL COMPLEX IN REGION

KUWAIT: The Jaber Al-Ahmad Hospital will be one of the region's leading projects in the health sector, the Ministry of Information said in a report yesterday. The Ministry of Health's hospital will help achieve a great shift in terms of medical services, in line with the relevant international criteria and technologies, added the report that sheds light on the national

development projects. Located in South Surra, the hospital is being built on a total area of 2.4 million square meters. It will have 1,168 beds and 36 operation rooms. The Ministry of Public Works is hard at work to complete the integrated medical-services complex on time, it said. The project is slated to be handed over to the Ministry of Health later this year. — KUNA

MALAYSIA'S MUFTI LAUDS KUWAIT'S HUMANITARIAN ROLE

KUWAIT: The visiting Malaysian Mufti Dr Zulkifli Mohamad Al-Bakri has praised Kuwait's humanitarian initiatives which extended aid to afflicted people in many world countries. In exclusive statements yesterday during his first visit to Kuwait, Dr Bakri expressed pride over Kuwait, saying that the GCC country was a major source of humanitarian and charity work around the globe. The Mufti also lauded the UN honoring of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-



Malaysia's Mufti Dr Zulkifli Al-Bakri

Sabah as a 'Humanitarian Leader' and Kuwait as a 'Humanitarian Center.' Referring to the choice of Kuwait as Capital of Islamic Culture 2016; Dr Bakri said that it was a well-deserved choice and stressed the country's significant role to serve Islam and Muslims, and disseminate Islamic culture. In addition, Kuwait pays great attention to Islamic and cultural sciences and humanities, he said. Dr Bakri voiced admiration of the religious atmosphere in Kuwait during the Holy Month of Ramadan. —KUNA

ALGHANIM INDUSTRIES PARTICIPATES IN FOOD DONATION DRIVE FOR THE NEEDY

KUWAIT: Alghanim Industries, one of the largest privately owned companies in the region, announced its participation in a charity food donation drive for the needy. Organized by Khaleesque Magazine and the non-profit youth organization Equait, the drive aimed to encourage members of Kuwaiti society to give back to the community and donate to those living in low-income areas around Kuwait, during the Holy Month of Ramadan.

In addition to volunteers from other companies, 20 employees from Alghanim Industries participated in the food drive. They prepared donation bags which included sandwiches, water, fruits, dates, mini cakes, laban, chocolate, and a toothbrush and toothpaste. The team headed to Jleeb Al-Shuyoukh on Wednesday afternoon to distribute the bags to residents of the area.

Commenting on the employees' participation in this initiative, Head of Corporate Communications at Alghanim Industries, Abdullateef Al-Sharikh said: "We are pleased and eager to participate in charitable drives and campaigns, especially during the Holy Month of Ramadan. As part of our belief in the importance of cooperation between all members of the Kuwaiti community, we at Alghanim Industries strive to support philanthropic initiatives such as this one. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank

Khaleesque Magazine and Equait for organizing this event."

Founder of Equait Youth Organization, Faisal Al Fhaid, also said: "This year's Ramadan campaign was successful in many ways. We had 80 volunteers from various institutions and companies that addressed different areas around Kuwait. With the support of these groups, we were able to cover 12 areas. I would like to thank all the participants, and I would like to specifically thank Alghanim Industries and its employees who contributed the largest number of volunteers and donated 150 meals to those in need. I hope we can collaborate again on future campaigns."

The teams participating in the donations drive went to Mirqab, Dasman, Bneid Al-Gar, Shaab, Shuwaikh Industrial, Al Rai, Jleeb Al Shuyoukh, Farwaniya, Hawally, Salmiya, Khaitan, and Subhan. This initiative comes as part of Alghanim Industries' Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) program, which is committed to giving back to the community, supporting education and encouraging entrepreneurship. At present-day, the company devotes most of its efforts towards The Children Home Project because of its great impact towards the lives of orphaned children in Kuwait. The company is also the largest supporter for INJAZ-Kuwait, as it encourages its employees to volunteer regularly in INJAZ's different programs.



ZAIN MAIN SPONSOR OF 'QUICK CHEFS' HEALTH PROGRAM

KUWAIT: Zain, the leading telecommunications company in Kuwait, announced its main sponsorship of the healthy cooking program 'Quick Chefs', which introduces an innovative way of sharing healthy cooking tips during the Holy Month of Ramadan on YouTube.

Zain's sponsorship of Quick Chefs comes as part of the series of activities and programs it runs and organizes during the Holy Month to enrich the cultural values and entertain viewers in fun and beneficial ways. Through supporting such initiatives, the company also showcases its keenness of promoting a healthier lifestyle during fasting.

Quick Chefs aims at raising awareness about healthy eating habits by promoting nutritious meal recipes through professionally-shot episodes hosted by Kuwait's top chefs, including Sulaiman Al-Qassar, Fawaz Al-Omair, Hanoof Al-Balhan, Wafaa Al-Kandari, and Asmaa Al-Bahar. The program also aims at elevating the level of health awareness among people who are fasting during the holy month of Ramadan by engaging viewers in creative and innovative episodes aired through social media.

As a leading and responsible telecommunications company, Zain reaffirms its commitment to the wellbeing of the entire society. Zain has been at the forefront of companies in supporting and launching health-oriented initiatives all year round, including employee blood donation campaigns and health week initiatives.

Ramadan presents a special occasion for Zain



to communicate and interact with the Kuwaiti community through its extensive CSSR campaign. Zain's Ramadan contributions included the distribution of essential food supplies (Machla boxes) to multiple charitable organizations based in Kuwait, the Iftar Halls initiative which provides daily iftar meals through two main halls, visiting children in hospitals, visiting social care centers,

as well as organizing a special event for Al-Amal children with cancer.

Zain's social and CSSR campaign during the Holy Month of Ramadan includes an extensive array of initiatives and programs that will focus on helping less fortunate people to enjoy Ramadan happily, as well as celebrating the true spirit the Holy month brings.



KUWAIT: Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Sheikh Mohammad Al-Khaled Al-Sabah toured the Avenues Mall to check security measures at the often crowded facility. Top Interior Ministry officials accompanied the minister during the tour.





KUWAIT: This handout photo released by the Interior Ministry shows a drug dealer arrested yesterday with large amounts of cash and drugs.



A walkie-talkie device and a handgun found with the suspect.



This photo released by the Interior Ministry shows three persons arrested yesterday for eating and drinking in public during Ramadan; a criminal offense in Kuwait.

Legalese
CONTRACTORS

By Attorney Fajer Ahmed

The Kuwaiti government has been keen on developing the country and has therefore signed major projects in the past few years (some of which are near completion), like new museums, an international airport, major highways and an opera house, just to name a few. And yes, on the contrary, there have been a few projects that were put on hold because of issues such as the drop in oil prices. Therefore, it is only logical that a large number of contractors/workers are entering and exiting the country since the past few years, and their situation has created legal concerns for government companies and workers alike, causing regulations to keep changing, that even we lawyers are only figuring out with time and experience.

A contractor in simple terms is an employee working for a company that is working on a project for the government sector. Therefore, even though I have written about contractors before, I would like to take the time to answer major questions again.

Which sector?

Question: I was brought into Kuwait to work on a certain project. How do I know if I am working in the private sector or governmental sector?

Fajer: You have to check your visa number. I understand that contractors are in a unique position as they are working for a private company that is doing work for the government. Sometimes, you could be working for the company and just doing work for the government (article 18), or you could have been hired specifically for the project (article 17).

Indemnity

Question: Am I entitled to termination indemnity? I have heard from different people that contractors are not entitled to any termination indemnity. Is this true?

Fajer: If you are on article 17, then it is best to check your contract as you are probably awarded a lump sum as end of service benefit or maybe nothing at all, as you might have been brought in for a short period of time. Please check your contract.

Something that I would like to make clear, as there has been a shift in recent court decisions - your chances of getting termination indemnity under Kuwaiti law for those working under Article 18 for a government project are lesser if you are not receiving your salary through a Kuwaiti bank account.

Transfer

Question: I am currently on article 17 and I want to transfer to article 18 once the project is over - is this possible? From my understanding, transfers are no longer available.

Fajer: Before I go ahead and answer, I just want to make it clear that it is not easy writing about visa regulations, as the regulations themselves are not easy to grasp and keep changing on a regular basis.

As you may have already heard, the regulations for transferring visas in Kuwait are getting stricter, but this does not mean that transfers are not available. As of now, there are three possible ways for a transfer:

1. If the company the contractor wants to transfer to is owned by the same owner the company he or she is currently working on, regardless if the new job is for a government contract or not. Here is a hypothetical example to make it easier for the readers to understand - you are currently working for company X that is building a spaceship for the Kuwait government. After building the spaceship, a sister company of company X offers you a job position as a salesman for a store they own. You could get a transfer.

2. If you are transferring to another job position for a government contract, then you can do so if your current employer approves and signs a document for transfer that is available at the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor.

3. If you entered Kuwait to work for the private sector, then you transferred to a government contract visa, you can retransfer back to the private sector regardless of your job. Example, you came to Kuwait to work as a clerk for a store and then transferred to work for the government to help build a museum, you can then transfer back to work as a waiter (please note that these examples are extremely hypothetical and are just there to help you understand the situation better).

For any legal questions or queries, email ask@fajertlawyer.com.

WOMAN DEAD AFTER CAR HITS CAMEL
KD 3,200 FOUND WITH DRUG DEALER

By Hanan Al-Saadoun

KUWAIT: A woman was instantly killed while a man and another woman were seriously injured when their vehicle hit a camel on Salmi highway, said security sources. The sources added that a Saudi couple and a woman with them were driving back to Saudi Arabia when a camel suddenly crossed the road, and the driver could not avoid it.

Drug dealer caught

A drug dealer was arrested yesterday in Rabiya, the Interior Ministry

announced yesterday. Farwaniya police arrested the suspect when he was found to be inebriated after he was pulled over for driving erratically. The man was identified as Abdurrahman Mohammad, 23, Kuwaiti. Police found KD 600 in cash with the suspect, and he admitted that he collected the money from selling drugs. Police then headed to the man's house in Zahra and found several amounts of drugs of different types, as well as drug paraphernalia, KD 2,671 in cash, an air gun, a Taser, a walkie-talkie, and 13 cell phones that the suspect said he confiscated from clients who could not pay

him in cash. Police also found an unlicensed pistol and two loaded magazines inside the suspect's car. He was taken to the proper authorities for further action.

'Fast-breakers' arrested

Police arrested three people, two Indians and one Egyptian, yesterday morning while eating and drinking in public during daytime in Ramadan, the Ministry of Interior's relations and security media department announced.

Worker injured

A construction worker accidentally fell

into a nine-meter-deep hole dug in the ground for construction purposes in Shuwaikh industrial area, said security sources, noting that the man was rescued and rushed to hospital for treatment.

Boat moved to safety

Salmiya marine rescue team was recently dispatched to prevent a 36-foot-long boat from sinking at the seafront, said security sources, noting that the team managed to pump water out of the boat and tow it with buoys. No casualties were reported.

RARE CARDIAC SURGERIES PERFORMED AT CHEST HOSPITAL

By Meshaal Al-Enezi

KUWAIT: Cardiac surgery, heart transplant and artificial heart consultant Dr Traeq Al-Eitani said along with a team of surgeons at the Chest Diseases Hospital, he performed a series of rare, advanced, risky and complicated cardiac surgeries on a group of elderly Kuwaiti and expat patients. Eitani added that the surgeries were very critical as some patients were being operated on for the second time and some involved installing heart valves without stitches using the Cox-Maze IV and CryoFloex by Medtronic techniques.

Charity violations

Director of the charities department at the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor (MSAL) Munira Al-Kandari said that in the period of June 19 till June 26, inspection teams filed 14 citation of violations they detected in 88 visits they made to various mosques. Kandari explained that violations included collecting cash donations and using social media to collect cash donations, in addition to collecting clothes by unregistered bodies.

Staff not paid

National Assembly observer MP Abdullah Al-Tamimi drew Minister of Communication and Minister of State for Municipal Affairs Essa Al-Kandari's attention to violations committed against Kuwaiti employees, including not paying over 2,000 of them lawfully deserved allowances since December. Tamimi also filed a parliamentary inquiry for Kandari in this regard.

Kuwait City

Municipal Council member Ahmed Al-Bughaili said that the state is facing a challenge in infrastructure, giving examples of the 'flying gravel' and the Mishref sewage plant. "The current image of Kuwait City does not qualify it as a capital," he said, noting that the capital needs a great deal of organization and planning, namely in terms of providing enough parking facilities. "The state should consider building a new capital," he stressed, noting that infrastructure was the basis of all other economy-boosting projects. Bughaili also called for establishing a special authority to be responsible for infrastructure away from ministries' bureaucracy.

Teachers' children

Kuwait University approved new amendments made to the Sabah Al-Salem University campus' structural plan to include building five schools (nursery, kindergarten, primary, intermediate and secondary) for teaching staff's children, said project manager Dr Qutaiba Rezhouqi, noting that teaching staff and their families would also reside on campus.

KD 221 MILLION FOR MEW STAFF ALLOWANCES

By A Saleh

KUWAIT: The Ministry of Electricity and Water (MEW) has allocated in its 2016-2017 budget over KD 221 million in allowances and raises for employees in various departments, said informed sources, noting that this year's sum exceeded the amount allocated for raises and allowances in last year's budget by KD 4.491 million.

18 MINIMUM AGE TO OBTAIN BIKE LICENSE

KUWAIT: Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Sheikh Mohammad Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah amended the ministerial decision number 81/1976 pertaining with the traffic law's executive charter. The decision amended article 88

of the aforementioned decision, setting the minimum age to obtain a motorcycle's driving license at 18 years, the ministry's Relations and Security Media Department announced in a press release yesterday.



KUWAIT: A fire broke out at Nawaf Al-Ahmad building and resulted in minor material damage, the Ministry of Interior said Saturday night. The firefighters responded promptly to the fire and managed to subdue it timely, the Ministry's Security Media Department said in a press release.— KUNA

312 HOUSES CITED OVER CONSTRUCTION VIOLATIONS
13 OWNERS REMOVE VIOLATIONS

KUWAIT: Kuwait Municipality inspectors continued tracking construction violations in various governorates, said the municipality's public relations department, noting that over 312 houses had been cited with construction violations. The department also stressed that with direct cooperation with the Ministry of Electricity and Water (MEW), power was disconnected to 29 of the houses, while power disconnection decisions were pending for 52 more houses. Further, the department explained that 119 houses were fined for the violations and that the owners of 13 houses responded to inspections and willingly removed the violations in their houses.

Ahmadi municipality manager Fahd Al-Shetali said inspection in Ahmadi resulted in filing 96 notices to owners of houses with construction violations, as well as 39 citations to other owners. "Power was disconnected to eight houses and 10 owners willingly removed the violations," he explained. Mubarak Al-Kabeer municipality manager Samya Al-Enezi said that inspections teams gave 80 notices to owners of

houses with construction violations and that power was disconnected to eight houses, while preparations are pending to disconnect power to 19 others. Farwaniya municipality manager Mohammed Sarkhouh said that 13 houses were found in violation of construction conditions.

Capital municipality manager Ammar Al-Ammar said that his inspection teams filed 110 construction violations and that power was disconnected to one of the houses, while an owner willingly removed his violations. Jahra municipality manager Mohammed Al-Arabi said that inspection campaigns in Jahra resulted in tracking 51 houses with construction violations, of which 33 received warning notices and power was disconnected to five.

Hawally municipality manager Falah Al-Shemmari said that the municipality coordinates with MEW to disconnect electricity to houses with violations. He added that five houses were warned, five were fined, power was disconnected to six while the owners of three houses willingly removed their violations.

IICO OFFERS FAST-BREAKING MEALS IN SUDAN

KHARTOUM: The International Islamic Charitable Organization (IICO) said yesterday it has provided fast-breaking meals and aid bags to orphans and poor people in

Sudan on the occasion of the holy month of Ramadan. Chief of the IICO Office in Sudan Ahmad Al-Sanoussi said that the IICO office has distributed Ramadan aid bags to

and Holy Quran memorization courses in this Arab country. In collaboration with the Kuwaiti Embassy in Khartoum, the IICO office has distributed Ramadan aid bags to

around 300 families, he added. This humanitarian and relief aid has been donated by Kuwaiti philanthropists, the IICO office chief pointed out.—KUNA



DISCIPLINARY AUTHORITY HOLDS FIRST SESSION TO TACKLE FINANCIAL OFFENSES

KUWAIT: A disciplinary authority tasked with handling financial offenses held its inaugural and 'historic' session last Wednesday, Head of the Department of Fatwa and Legislation Salah Al-Masaad said yesterday. The disciplinary authority's session tackled a myriad of financial cases as the offenders were summoned to face charges leveled against them, Al-Masaad said in a press statement, adding that this represents a major step towards justice and protection of public funds.

Moreover, he revealed that the session reviewed eight financial offenses, with the next one slated for July 13 where these trials will continue. Masaad also added that all those found guilty of financial misconduct would be held fully accountable.

Meanwhile, the State Audit Bureau has referred a total of 37 financial offenses in various government bodies to these disciplinary trials, where they will be inspected thoroughly, Masaad added. The disciplinary authority, a special council formed by way of an edict issued by the State Audit Bureau, is authorized to indict anyone accused of financial offenses.

In disciplinary trials, defendants are required to personally appear in court with their lawyers to answer charges against them, where they reserve the right to rebut these charges, as a final verdict can only be issued once the rebuttal process is over.— KUNA

TURKISH AIRLINES HOSTS RAMADAN GHABQA

TO HONOR MEDIA, TRAVEL AGENTS, CORPORATES



KUWAIT: The Turkish Airlines team in a group photo. — Photos by Joseph Shagra



A calligraphy artist displays his works during the event.



Another artist demonstrates his works.



KUWAIT: Turkish Airlines, Europe's best airline for the fifth year in a row, hosted a Ramadan 'Ghabqa' to honor its media journalists, travel agents and corporates in Kuwait who supported them in recent years.

The celebratory evening, was held at Regency Hotel Salmiya, Futouh Ballroom, and

attended by local media, travel agents, and corporates who were welcomed to an evening of Turkish hospitality by senior representatives from Turkish Airlines.

Sami Aydogan, General Manager, Turkish Airlines, Kuwait, said: "We are delighted to host such a gathering for all our distinguished guests

who have been very kind and supportive in publishing all our important announcements over the years. We would like to thank them for all their efforts in helping us convey our messages and enhancing awareness to the public about our latest news in terms of new promotions and destination flights. Today we are flying

to 289 destinations targeting 116 countries worldwide and with the widespread support of the media on raising a further awareness in the global society, there is no reason why we can't build on this success and growth." Kuwait is one of the centers of commerce and tourism within the GCC, and an excellent market of opportunity

in terms of expansion for Turkish Airlines. In its push for global connectivity, the airline has added several new flights to and from Kuwait, which now include destinations such as Croatia, France, Colombia and Panama. Turkish Airlines also has direct flights from Kuwait to Trabzon, Bursa, Izmir and Antalya in Turkey.

Ramadan Quiz 2016

Answer & Win Fabulous Prizes

Kuwait Times annual Ramadan Competition returns with one YES or NO question published every day throughout the holy month of Ramadan. All thirty coupons with the correct answers must be sent to the newspaper to be eligible for the raffle draw. All coupons must be received by Friday 8th July 2016 at Kuwait Times Office.

2016/76

Kuwait Times Ramadan Quiz Answer & Win

Date: _____
 Name: _____
 Civil ID.: _____
 Tel: _____
 Email: _____

22) Um Al Qura is
 Makkah **Yes NO**
 YES NO

Espresso Ramadan Kareem Baby sebamed

NAHEDH: PATIENCE AND SMILE MAJOR TOOLS FOR EMPLOYEES IN RAMADAN DURING KFH'S ANNUAL RAMADAN GHABQA



KUWAIT: CEO Group at Kuwait Finance House (KFH), Mazin Saad Al-Nahedh congratulated KFH employees on the occasion of the holy month of Ramadan, asking Almighty Allah to help them fast, pray and worship.

Nahedh expressed his thanks to the employees for their efforts in serving customers despite the hardship of fasting, stressing the importance of demonstrating integrity in dealing with the public and with other employees.

Nahedh added, during his speech at KFH's annual Ramadan Ghabqa in the presence of Dr Sayyed Mohammad Al-Sayyed Abdul Razzaq Al-Tabtaba'e, Chairman of Fatwa and Sharia Supervisory Board of KFH Group, the executive management and a huge number of KFH employees, that Ramadan is the month of work and productivity, indicating the need to take advantage of this month to improve communication among employees. He said that the major tools for employees in Ramadan are patience and smile to customers and colleagues at work.

Meanwhile, Chairman of Fatwa and Sharia Supervisory Board of KFH Group Dr Sayyed Mohammad Al-Sayyed Abdul Razzaq Al-Tabtaba'e congratulated employees on the holy month of Ramadan, indicating it is the month of piety where people should have the best behavior with their coworkers and with others, while work as Allah is watching them. He added during the Ghabqa that a man should be generous not only with his money but also with his morals and good words, stressing the importance of selecting the best phrases to bring happiness to others.

Tabtaba'e reiterated that KFH is a leading Islamic financial institution in Kuwait, the region and the world, noting that it fully abides by sharia provisions, while complying with rules and



instructions of Fatwa and Sharia Supervisory Board. He said that KFH is a disciplined institution, and has many volumes in Fatwa and Islamic finance.

He continued "KFH prestigious status wouldn't have been achieved without the devotion, dedication of KFH staff in optimally assuming their duties. Everyone at the bank has vital role in bridging a gap in this great edifice that

is a source of pride as it is a pioneer in the Islamic finance. The bank has extended deeply rooted experience entitled it to be worthy in this pioneering position. Tabtaba'e concluded by extending his thanks to the Chairman of KFH for the support and efforts in applying the prudent policies. He extended his thanks to the CEO, the executive management and the employees.

Young Voices

'KUWAIT IS FULL OF BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE!'

By Ben Garcia

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

Jassem Mohammed Wifak is an 8-year-old boy studying at Pakistan English School.



Kuwait Times: What do you know about Ramadan?

Jassem: Ramadan is the month of fasting which includes lots of samosas, Luqaimat (dumplings) and girgian. I like going house-to-house singing for candies.

KT: What are your favorite toys?

Jassem: I have a toy bow that I like. I also like reading books. They are like my toys, because in every book I read, I see my favorite characters and places.

KT: Do you have pets?

Jassem: I have a cat. Her name is Bella. She is cute and I love to play with her.

KT: What do you think about Kuwait?

Jassem: I love Kuwait. This is my country - I am a Kuwaiti. It is hot here, but it is full of beautiful people!

KT: What do you love about Kuwait?

Jassem: I love the Kuwait Towers and I love to visit Japanese food restaurants and Wafra with my parents. I like Japanese food, The Avenues Mall and the Marina Beach Crescent.

KT: What place do you wish to visit?

Jassem: I would like to visit Malaysia maybe.

KT: What about the places you have visited. What are the best things that you enjoyed there?

Jassem: I went with my parents to Morocco. I love the place and the food is really delicious!

KT: How are you able to help in household chores?

Jassem: I help by throwing the garbage and putting my toys and clothes in the closet.

KT: It is the school break - what activities do you do?

Jassem: I play with my classmates and with gadgets too. I read a lot!

KT: What are your best places in Kuwait?

Jassem: I like the desert in Wafra and Kabd. I like riding all-terrain vehicles (ATV). I love activities like hunting wild birds and watching insects.



ARAB MEDIA WOMEN UNION HOSTS GHABQA



KUWAIT: The Arab Media Women Union (AMWU) held its first 'Ghabqa' recently at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Kuwait, with participation of a distinguished group of female media personalities. Speaking on the occasion, Rabe'a Hussein Makki Al-Jum'a, AMWU's Deputy Chairperson and Head of the Arab Media Women Union in Kuwait, stressed

that Kuwait is for its freedom of expression in the media without restrictions.

Meanwhile, Asma Al-Habashi, AMWU chairperson, said that the union was established in 2015 by the Arab League, is headquartered in Cairo and includes members from 17 Arab countries.

Also speaking on the occasion, Adnan Al-Rashed, Deputy President of the Arab Journalists Union and Treasurer of Kuwait Journalists Association (KJA), reiterated that the Arab Journalists Union was launched in Egypt in 1964 and that Kuwait was one of the first countries to take part in the first Arab journalists conference.

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Al-Anbaa
I'M THE KUWAITI

By Saleh Al-Shayegi

Naturalization is an international phenomenon found in all countries worldwide, and each country has its own naturalization laws. Kuwait is no exception. Some countries are very lenient in granting citizenship to applicants, while others are very strict about this issue. I believe Kuwait is one of the most stringent countries in terms of naturalization.

As an example, a country that I do not know or maybe cannot remember its name granted an acquaintance of mine citizenship without him even visiting or setting eyes on it. Even he found it very hard to remember its name when I asked him about it.

A huge number of Kuwaitis, unfortunately, believe that a great number of those granted Kuwaiti citizenship do not deserve it and are not true Kuwaitis. "Those are not Kuwaitis," they describe them, thinking that they alone are the real Kuwaitis. They even look down upon them because they are not 'genuine' or original Kuwaitis like themselves!

I believe this is an extreme ideological deviation and delinquency from truth and those adopting it do not actually realize its danger to national unity and solidarity. What those people do not realize, or are

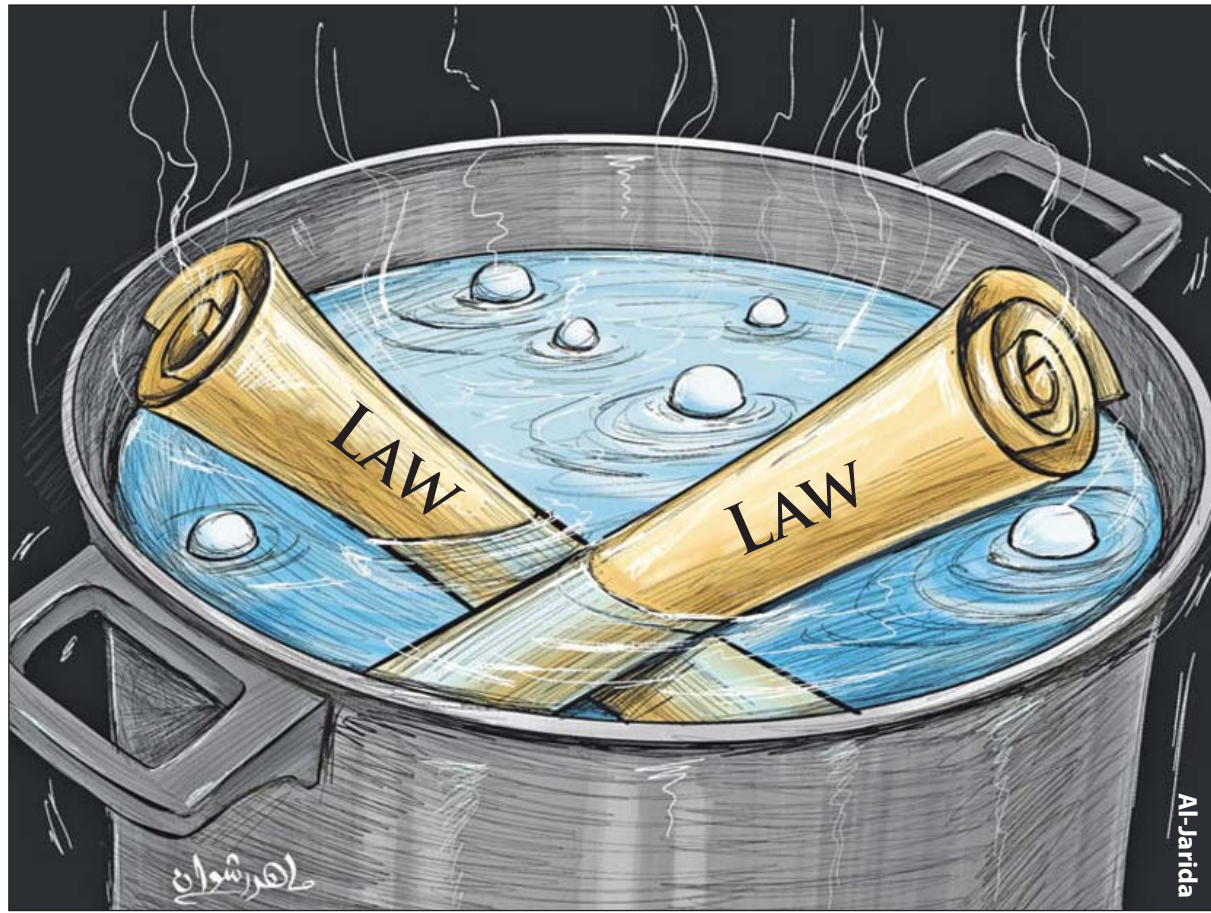
"Those are not Kuwaitis," they describe them, thinking that they alone are the real Kuwaitis

actually trying to forget on purpose, is that Kuwait was formed by immigrants from nearby or faraway surrounding places.

The roots of these 'genuine' Kuwaitis themselves are not purely Kuwaiti, as they are actually a group of immigrants. If me and my father are purely-born Kuwaitis, my grandfather was not. He was an immigrant. The first Kuwaiti census was held in 1957 and the entire population then was around 130,000, including less than 100,000 Kuwaitis.

So, I urge those complaining about naturalization - just imagine how large they expect Kuwait's population would be after six decades since that census was made. Will it please them if Kuwaitis were 300,000 or less? Do they really think that a developing country like Kuwait can develop with such a population?!

— Translated by Kuwait Times



Crime

Report

Dual citizen arrested on border

KUWAIT: A person with dual citizenship was caught at Nuwaiseeb border outlet and charged with forging citizenship, as he was carrying his Kuwaiti and Saudi documents together, using two different names but the same photo. He was later found wanted to serve jail sentences and convicted in 19 felony and civil cases. The suspect arrived along with a Saudi man, but when security men decided to search them, they argued and refused to be searched, prompting customs officials to search them physically. They discovered that the Saudi man was carrying a Kuwaiti civil ID and passport, in addition to a Saudi ID which he used to exit Kuwait. Security men noticed during interrogations that the pictures match on all Kuwaiti and Saudi documents, though the name is different, so he was arrested for forgery. When the suspect was sent to nationality and passport detectives, he was found wanted on 19 cases, and confessed to being a dual citizen.

Drug dealer arrested

Drugs Control General Department men, in coordination with customs officers, arrested an Egyptian man for smuggling and trading in drugs, as he had 4,000 Tramadol tablets on him. A security source said the arrest was made following a tip off about the Egyptian arriving with the drugs.

Drugged driver caught

A citizen refused to stop at the request of policemen in Salmiya and attempted to flee, but was arrested. The woman was in an abnormal condition and had a bag of powder suspected to be drugs. She was sent to the Drug Control General Department (DCGD). A police patrol noticed the woman was driving in a very strange way, but when she was asked to stop, she refused and attempted to escape, but police blocked her.

Car stolen

A thief stole an Egyptian man's car as he left it running in front of the building he lives in Fintas. The Egyptian went to Fintas police station, and was hysterical when he told police about the theft. Detectives are working on the case.

Fugitive in custody

Mubarak Al-Kabeer police arrested a citizen in Adan wanted on a KD 10,000 civil case and a felony, and he is being sent to concerned authorities. Police patrols suspected the man when he seemed nervous, and was found wanted and arrested.

Deliveryman assaulted

A citizen, who was angry at a deliveryman for being late with a meal, beat him. The deliveryman went to Jahra police station and lodged a complaint against the citizen. — Al-Rai

Al-Anbaa
ARE WE A BURDEN ON ASIA?

By Sami Al-Nisf

A recent UN report strongly hailed Asian countries (central and eastern Asian countries, that is) for changing and improving. Those countries have stabilized in terms of politics and security. They stopped civil and foreign wars. They devoted themselves to development and thus economically flourished, and according to the report, had great contributions in achieving the 17 goals set by the UN to be achieved by 2030 including limiting poverty, famine, diseases, racism, etc, in addition to achieving sustainable development.

Asian countries play a major role in world economies nowadays. Countries like China, Japan, Korea, Turkey, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Hong Kong play the role of the world's 'factory', while countries like India, Pakistan and Bangladesh provide well-trained manpower. Most GCC states are undoubtedly integral parts of this development as they play a significant role as international financial centers, have highly developed educational and health systems and are hubs of the world's largest airlines.

This leaves the Arab part of West Asia, including countries like Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Palestine and Yemen, from which one only receives news about wars, destruction, terrorism, devastation, extremism, displacement and successive political, security and economic problems. In addition to the fact that youth in these countries have dropped and substituted science with wars and weapons, and there is no sign on the horizon that their problem might come to an end in the foreseeable future.

Finally, comparing our bloody disputes to theirs, one will realize that Thailand and Cambodia have a severe dispute over a mask used in folkloric arts and both countries claim registering it with the UNESCO under their names. It is a conflict one would wish to experience compared to ours!

— Translated by Kuwait Times

There is no sign on the horizon that their problem might come to an end in the foreseeable future

KFH PARTICIPATES IN GIRGIAN CELEBRATION FOR KUWAIT SOCIETY FOR GUARDIANS OF THE DISABLED

KUWAIT: Kuwait Finance House (KFH) participated in the confectionary (girgian) celebration for Kuwait Society for Guardians of the Disabled. The celebration took place in presence of the Honorary President of Kuwait Disabled Sport Club Sheikha Sheikh Al-Abdullah Al-Sabah. This step comes as part of KFH's social responsibility and in continuation of its Ramadan extensive program.

The event included many activities that had a positive effect on the guardians of the disabled, who

believe that such activities organized by a prestigious institution, play a role in strengthening the society ties, while allowing the disabled to intermingle with the society around them.

KFH's public relations team distributed girgian to the disabled which contributed to put a smile on their faces. It is worth noting that KFH is keen to hold similar events every year, as part of its social responsibility, which reinforces the values of the society.



VIVA FAMILY CELEBRATES RAMADAN GHABQA

KUWAIT: VIVA, Kuwait's fastest-growing and most developed telecom operator, set a Ramadan Ghabqa for its employees in a family atmosphere that enriches the relationship among VIVA family members, at Court Yard Marriott - Al-Raya Ballroom.

VIVA's CEO Eng. Salman Bin Abdulaziz Al-Badran welcomed the attendees and congratulated them

in the occasion of the Holy month of Ramadan. He reaffirms the importance of such gatherings that reinforce the robust correlation between all VIVA employees and motivate them to create the most innovative products and services in order to meet customers' expectations.

Badran reviewed the distinguished results achieved by VIVA in 2016, and the accolades reaped

recently, that foster the position of VIVA as leader in the telecom market.

Different entertainment activities has been showed during the event, presented by the Kuwaiti MC Noha Nabeel, including Al-Mayouf band, magic show, Q and A competition. Meanwhile, a documentary displayed all VIVA's accomplishments during 2015. At the end, participants enjoyed prizes, and Suhoor food.

KIB DISTRIBUTES GIRGIAN IN CELEBRATION OF EVERYONE'S ALL-TIME FAVORITE TRADITION

KUWAIT: In its aim to celebrate the most cherished annual tradition and take pride in its national identity and well-rooted heritage, Kuwait International Bank (KIB) distributed girgian boxes among children with special needs, patients, Habboub customers, residents of the Orphanage House and the Elderly Care Home which takes place in mid of Ramadan.

A pastime tradition

On this occasion, the Head of Corporate Communications at KIB, Nawaf Najia, said that the bank is keen on sharing this yearly blissful wondrous occasion with all society segments, customers and non-customers, in celebration of the most favored inherited tradition. He added that girgian is an old tradition in the Kuwaiti society that children and adults love and wait for, as they get rewarded for their fasting in the first half of the Holy Month and encouraged to continue fasting till the second half.

Visiting the Elderly People

Najia stated that as every year, delegates from the Communications Unit and volunteering employees paid a visit to the elderly care home that belongs to the Ministry of Social Affairs and

Labor, where they had a friendly conversation with them asking about their health and living conditions and then distributed girgian among the elders that brought joy and happiness to their hearts.

Najia stated that this initiative is part of the bank's series of Ramadan activities, aiming to strengthen the bonds between individuals of the community and spread the principles of Islam.





UK Labour leader under pressure after MPs quit

IRAQ FORCES TAKE FULL CONTROL OF FALLUJAH



LONDON: People walk over Westminster Bridge wrapped in Union flags, towards the Queen Elizabeth Tower (Big Ben) and The Houses of Parliament. — AFP

MERKEL IN SPOTLIGHT AS EU FACES FALLOUT

BLOC SEEKS TO PRESERVE ITS UNITY, WIN BACK VOTERS

BERLIN: Britain's decision to leave the European Union puts German Chancellor Angela Merkel at center stage as the bloc seeks to preserve its unity and win back skeptical voters across the continent. Merkel stressed that "Germany has a special interest and a special responsibility in European unity succeeding" as she voiced regret Friday at Britain's departure, citing Europe's 20th century history of wars. She signaled that she was taking the initiative, inviting her counterparts from France and Italy - the two other largest remaining members - to meet her Monday in Berlin as well as EU President Donald Tusk.

But, true to a methodical approach to problems tried and tested over a decade in power, she also sought to slam the brakes on any hasty decisions, arguing that the 27 remaining members must avoid drawing "quick and simple conclusions" that would only create further divisions. Germany traditionally has been reluctant to exert an overt leadership role in Europe, though it has been increasingly assertive in recent years in designing the response to the Eurozone's debt troubles and, less conclusively, in seeking an EU-wide response to the influx of refugees and other migrants from the Middle East and elsewhere.

Hegemonic position

Even now, with one of the EU's heavyweights on the way out, Berlin isn't likely to seek a sole leadership role, ever conscious of the historical burden of its Nazi past. "It will continue to lead with and through groups," said Daniela Schwarzer, an expert on EU affairs at the German Marshall Fund of the United States think tank in Berlin. "There's this really strong concern to always be part of something and not going it alone." "Germany has a huge interest that the Brussels institutions have more support than they currently have," she added, and there's no sign that it "actively seeks power and a hegemonic position."

Guntram Wolff, director of the Bruegel think tank in Brussels, said Britain's EU exit, or Brexit, will mean issues can no longer be addressed by shifting coalitions of France, the U.K. and Germany. Instead, it would increase the dependency between France and Germany - the traditional motor powering EU integration, but one that has sputtered somewhat over recent years amid differences on the debt crisis and other issues. "In that couple, Germany is the stronger player, quite clearly," he said. "So in that sense it will probably increase the role of Germany in the EU."

Merkel, Germany's chancellor since 2005, isn't in quite as

strong a position at home as she was in recent years, though her support remains solid. Unease over last year's influx of asylum seekers to Germany and internal squabbling over Merkel's welcoming approach last fall have weighed on her conservative bloc's poll ratings, and other policy arguments in her "grand coalition" of right and left have sharpened as an election expected in September 2017 begins to loom on the horizon.

There is still, however, little sign of a successful left-wing challenge to her and none from within her own party. That contrasts with the fortunes of deeply unpopular French President Francois Hollande, who faces elections next spring, and many other European leaders. German officials left open what exactly the response to the British referendum might be. Finance Minister Wolfgang Schaueble said earlier this month that "we couldn't simply call for more integration" if Britain leaves.

The remaining 27 EU members should "calmly analyze and evaluate the situation and, on this basis, together make the right decisions," Merkel said. She acknowledged that people all over the continent increasingly have doubts about the direction of the European unification process, and added: "We must ensure that citizens can feel in concrete terms how much the European Union contributes to improving their personal situation."

Common solutions

Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier said leaders should focus on finding "common European solutions where they are missing" - for example, to the migrant crisis, and doing more to boost jobs and growth. Steinmeier said the bloc should fall neither into hysteria nor shock, and must acknowledge that it doesn't yet have answers to all the questions raised by the British referendum result. On Saturday, he hosted his counterparts from the EU's other five founding members, and said there will need to be further discussions "in big formats and in smaller formats."

With Britain's departure, Germany will lose a traditional ally within the EU on matters such as free trade and competition. Britain was the No. 3 destination for German exports last year and was Germany's fifth-biggest trading partner overall. "Germany on many economic issues relies more on the UK and Poland than it traditionally relies on France, because they have a more similar mindset on those issues," Schwarzer said.

Merkel sounded a notably conciliatory note toward Britain in responding to the referendum, signaling what appears to be

"a willingness to lower the cost of Brexit for both sides," she added. "Our aim should be to shape future relations between Great Britain and the European Union so that they are close and based on partnership," Merkel said. She said she wants an "objective, good" climate in talks on Britain's exit and there is "no need to be particularly nasty in any way in the negotiations."

Germany also will be losing a fellow major contributor to the EU budget. The leader of the upstart nationalist Alternative for Germany party, which has risen in polls during the migrant crisis at the expense of Merkel's and other parties,

raised that issue. Celebrating what she called "a signal to the Brussels politburo and its bureaucratic appendages," Frauke Petry said that the government should not simply "plug the British net contribution with German tax money." All the same, Germany appears determined to ensure that the show goes on. "Great Britain decided yesterday to leave the European Union. All the same, the sun rose again this morning," Parliament speaker Norbert Lammert, a member of Merkel's party, told lawmakers Friday. "As regrettable as the first is, the second is reassuring." — AP

MINISTER AMONG 11 KILLED IN SOMALIA HOTEL ATTACK

MOGADISHU: A junior minister was among 11 people killed in an attack by Al-Qaeda-affiliated Shabaab militants on a hotel in the Somali capital, the foreign ministry said yesterday. The body of Buri Mohamed Hamza, minister of state in the prime minister's office for the environment, has been retrieved from the collapsed building of the Naasa Hablood hotel, the ministry added.

"We extend our deepest condolences to the relatives of the minister who was killed in Mogadishu yesterday," a ministry statement read. Saturday's assault, the latest in a series by the Islamist group targeting hotels and restaurants, began when a suicide bomber detonated a car laden with explosives outside the building.

Gunmen then stormed the Naasa Hablood hotel in an assault lasting for several hours. Special security forces ended the siege after killing three attackers inside the hotel. Two of the 11 dead were doctors, a security ministry spokesman said, while medical sources

said some 20 civilians were wounded. The Shabaab claimed responsibility for the attack through a statement on the Telegram smartphone app, saying their fighters had forced their way into the hotel.

The assault came three weeks after another attack quickly claimed the Shabaab group on the city's Ambassador hotel left 10 dead including two lawmakers when a huge car bomb ripped the front off the six-storey building. In November last year, the Islamists carried out a similar attack on the Sahafi hotel in central Mogadishu, leaving at least 12 dead. In recent months they have also claimed attacks on bases of the African Union peacekeeping mission in Somalia (AMISOM).

The Shabaab lost their foothold in the capital in 2011 but continue their battle to overthrow the Somali government and launch regular attacks on military, government and civilian targets like hotels and restaurants in Mogadishu and elsewhere. — AFP

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CITIES RETAKEN FROM IS IN IRAQ AND SYRIA

BAGHDAD: Iraqi commanders announced the complete recapture of key Islamic State group stronghold Fallujah yesterday after declaring victory in the city a week earlier. Here is a recap of key cities and towns retaken from IS in Iraq and neighboring Syria:

Iraq

FALLUJAH: Anbar province's second city and one of IS's most emblematic bastions in the country, located just 50 kilometers from Baghdad. It was seized by anti-government fighters in 2014 and later became a key IS stronghold. While the battle has been won, Iraq still faces a major humanitarian crisis in its aftermath, with tens of thousands of people who fled the fighting desperately in need of assistance in the searing summer heat.

RAMADI: The capital of Anbar, the country's largest province that stretches from the borders

with Syria, Jordan and Saudi Arabia to just west of the capital. IS seized Ramadi, located 100 kilometers west of Baghdad, in May 2015 in an assault involving dozens of suicide bombers driving explosives-rigged vehicles. Iraqi forces launched an operation to retake the city late last year and declared full control over the area earlier this year.

TIKRIT: Hometown of late Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein located 160 kilometers north of Baghdad, it was the second city after Mosul to fall to IS. It was recaptured in April 2015 by Iraqi troops, police and Shiite-dominated paramilitaries. The operation, which was at that time the largest by Iraqi forces against IS, was helped by the fact that much of Tikrit's civilian population had fled the city.

SINJAR: Iraqi Kurdish forces backed by US-led coalition air strikes recaptured Sinjar, 400 kilometers northwest of Baghdad, from IS last November. That

cut a key supply line linking areas held by the jihadists in Iraq and Syria. IS captured Sinjar in August 2014 and carried out a brutal campaign against its Yazidi minority that included massacres, enslavement and rape.

BAIJI: Iraqi forces recaptured the town of Baiji, 200 kilometers north of Baghdad in October 2015. Baiji and the country's largest refinery, located nearby, were the scenes of some of the longest-running battles with IS in Iraq. The town lies at a major crossroads and its recapture was seen as key to preparing the ground for offensives in Anbar and Mosul, the last major Iraqi city held by IS.

Syria

PALMYRA: Known as the "Pearl of the Desert", Palmyra was overrun by IS in May 2015, after which the jihadists blew up UNESCO-listed temples and

looted ancient relics. Syrian regime forces backed by Russian warplanes and allied militia retook the ancient city from IS in March this year.

KOBANE: A Kurdish town in northern Syria on the Turkish border. It became a symbol of the fight against IS, and the jihadists were driven out of Kobane in January 2015 after more than four months of fierce fighting with Kurdish forces backed by US-led strikes. The city, known in Arabic as Ain Al-Arab, is the capital of one of three semi-autonomous "cantons" established by Kurds after the Syrian war erupted.

TAL ABYAD: Another city on the Turkish border, it was captured by Kurds in June 2015. Tal Abyad lies on a key supply route between Turkey and IS stronghold Raqa, and jihadist fighters and arms regularly passed through the city before its recapture. — AFP



FALLUJAH: This image made from Associated Press video shows, Iraqi troops turn the Islamic State flag upside down. — AP

IRAQ FORCES TAKE FULL CONTROL OF FALLUJAH

LAST REMNANTS OF RESISTANCE WIPED OUT

FALLUJAH: Iraqi forces took the Islamic State group's last positions in the city of Fallujah yesterday, establishing full control over one of the jihadists' most emblematic bastions after a month-long operation. Prime Minister Haider Al-Abadi had already declared victory on June 17 after IS defenses collapsed, with Iraqi forces facing only limited resistance in subsequent clearing operations.

The offensive saw tens of thousands of civilians risk death to flee their homes, leaving Iraq to grapple with a humanitarian crisis as its forces prepare to attack the country's last remaining major IS hub of Mosul. "The Iraqi security forces now control the whole city of Fallujah," said Sabah al-Noman, spokesman for the elite counter-terrorism service (CTS) that has been leading the fight.

CTS fighters yesterday eased into Jolan, a northwestern neighborhood of Fallujah where the last IS fighters in the city were believed to be holed up. "Jolan was Daesh's last stronghold in the city and Fallujah is now free of the threat posed by Daesh terrorists," he said, using an Arab acronym for IS. "It did not take more than two hours for CTS to retake Jolan. Daesh did not fire a single bullet," Noman said. "This proves that Daesh was defeated even before our forces got there." A spokesman for the Joint Operations Command coordinating the fight against IS said some jihadist pockets remained northwest of Fallujah and that the overall operation could not be considered over yet.

Major blow to IS

"We still have an ongoing fight northwest of Fallujah. We never made central Fallujah the ultimate goal of our operation... the aim is to clear the whole area," he said. The offensive began on May 22-23 with an initial phase of staging operations aimed at tightening a months-old siege on Fallujah and led by the Hashed Al-Shaabi, a paramilitary organization dominated by Tehran-backed Shiite militias.

Qassem Suleimani, the powerful head of Iran's elite Revolutionary Guards' overseas operations arm, was more visible than ever before in Iraq during the early days of the operation. The US-led coalition offered some aerial support but was less involved than six months ago during the operations to retake Mosul, the capital of Anbar province in which Fallujah is also located. The US had favored focusing the battle on Mosul, the country's second city, where IS proclaimed a "caliphate" straddling Iraq and Syria two years ago almost to the day.

Abadi has promised Mosul was the next target in the battle against IS and forces have already begun moving from two directions towards Mosul. While some pockets of IS fighters on the outskirts of Fallujah remain to be flushed out, the jihadist organization does not appear in a position to contest the area any longer.

The loss of Fallujah, which looms large in jihadist

mythology and in 2004 saw US forces suffer some of their worst losses since the Vietnam War, is a blow to IS. The organization has lost several key leaders in air strikes, more than two thirds of the territory it controlled in Iraq two years ago and it also faces multiple offensives in Syria.

Humanitarian disaster

Facing a seemingly inexorable decline of its de facto state, IS had reverted to old tactics and recently ramped up bombings against key infrastructure and civilian targets. Few major attacks have been reported in Baghdad since the start of the Muslim fasting month of Ramadan however. The aid community was largely caught flat-footed however by the scope of the humanitarian crisis that resulted from mass displacement out of Fallujah.

According to the United Nations, 85,000 people were forced to flee their homes over the past month, leaving many crammed in hastily set-up camps with scant food or water. The Norwegian Refugee Council, one of the leading groups that has provided assistance to the displaced since the start of the operation, warned that the crisis was serious. "With every day that passes in the camps, the conditions for some of the most vulnerable keep deteriorating. Doctors are warning of impending disaster," NRC's Iraq director Nasr Muflahi warned on Saturday. — AFP

JERUSALEM GAY PRIDE STABBER MARCHERS SENTENCED TO LIFE

JERUSALEM: An Israeli court yesterday sentenced an ultra-Orthodox Jewish man to life in prison for killing a 16-year-old girl and wounding others during a stabbing spree at a Jerusalem Gay Pride parade. The Jerusalem District Court convicted Yishai Schlissel in April of murder and six counts of attempted murder. The July 2015 stabbings had triggered harsh criticism of the police, with Schlissel having been released from prison only three weeks earlier after serving a 10-year sentence for a similar attack.

They had also sparked an outpouring of grief for 16-year-old Shira Banki, who was stabbed in the back and died of her wounds a few days later. Led into the courtroom yesterday with his hands and feet shackled, Schlissel was sentenced to life plus 31 years, a court statement said. He was also ordered to pay 2,064,000 shekels (\$531,000, 478,000 Euros). Prosecutors had requested life plus 60 years. "This guy showed no remorse," Noam Eyal, 31 and one of the victims, told AFP outside the court. "In the last hearing before this he said that this is a religious war."

In addition to Schlissel having been released from prison only weeks before, he had also posted a letter on the Internet speaking of the "abomination" of a Gay Pride parade being held in the Holy City. He spoke of the need to stop it, even at the cost of one's life. Many questioned how Schlissel, 40 when he was convicted, was allowed anywhere near the parade, which saw thousands marching through central Jerusalem. Witnesses described terrifying scenes of Schlissel, with a long beard and dressed in the dark suit worn by ultra-Orthodox Jews, storming the parade with a knife. Six senior Israeli policemen were eventually removed from their posts over the attack.

'Comforts us a little'

Schlissel, born in the Yad Binyamin community of central Israel, was married with four children, though he divorced after the first attack, Israeli media reported. He had also lived in Modiin Illit, an ultra-Orthodox Jewish settlement in the occupied West Bank. He attended religious school as a child and was described by one newspaper as being a gifted, but withdrawn student who preferred to keep to himself. When he was charged in court in August, Schlissel lashed out at homosexuality.

"The pride parade must be stopped in order for the soul of Shira Banki to ascend to heaven," Schlissel told the court. "With all the sorrow, it must be known that whoever marches in the Jerusalem Gay Pride march is declaring war on God. And whoever is warring against God, can't really complain," he told reporters during a remand hearing in August. The annual Gay Pride parade in Jerusalem, a city sacred to Jews, Muslims and Christians, is far smaller than the one held in nearby Tel Aviv.

Tel Aviv's parade typically attracts tens of thousands of people to what is considered one of the world's most gay-friendly cities, while Jerusalem is far less welcoming to homosexuals. Sarah Kala, executive director of Jerusalem Open House LGBT centre, said after the sentencing that "it's another step to try and deter the terrible homophobia raging on our streets."

"They don't usually give the maximum possible sentence, but in our view to know that Yishai Schlissel will stay in prison for the rest of his days is certainly something that comforts us a little," she told public radio. Prosecutor Oshrat Shoham said "the court gave a heavy verdict today to Yishai Schlissel!" — AFP



JERUSALEM: Ultra-Orthodox Jew Yishai Schlissel (C), who was convicted of killing a 16-year-old Israeli girl during the Jerusalem Gay Pride parade last year, is escorted by policemen into the courtroom. — AFP

BAHRAINI ACTIVIST TO BE TRIED FOR TWEETS

DUBAI: Bahraini human rights activist Nabeel Rajab will face trial for tweets condemning the Gulf Arab kingdom's prison system and its involvement in the war in Yemen, his lawyer said on Sunday, and he could face up to 13 years in prison. Rajab was arrested earlier this month on unspecified charges in what appears an escalating crackdown by the Sunni-led government that also included a court shutting down a main opposition society and a decision to strip the spiritual leader of the island's Shiite Muslim majority of his citizenship.

Jalila Sayed, Rajab's lawyer, told supporters in an e-mail that he faces a prison term for tweets he made last year accusing security forces of torturing detainees in a main prison and of killing civilians in a war led by Saudi Arabia in Yemen. "He was notified of the referring of his case regarding Jaw prison and the Yemen war to the High Criminal Court for trial" Sayed wrote. "The first hearing will be on 12 July 2016. Nabeel may face up to 13 years of imprisonment if convicted in that case," she added.

There was no immediate comment from Bahraini authorities regarding the case. Officials there deny systematic abuses of human rights and have accused the opposition of stirring sectarian hatred in the kingdom and serving the interests of their rival, Shiite Iran. Rajab has repeatedly been arrested since 2011 pro-democracy protests mainly by Bahraini Shiites were repressed with help by Saudi Arabia.

The kingdom hosts the US's Fifth Fleet and is considered by Sunni-ruled Gulf kingdoms as a strategic bulwark against Iranian influ-

ence in the Arab world. The Bahraini government drew US and United Nations condemnation earlier this month when it announced the country's top Shiite cleric, Ayatollah Isa Qassim, would be stripped of his citizenship and when it closed down Al-Wefaq Islamic society. It had accused both of being linked to Iran and of fomenting sectarian tensions in the island kingdom, charges they deny.

An administrative court began hearing a petition by the justice ministry to dissolve Al-Wefaq but postponed the hearing until September to give the group time to respond to the charges. Yesterday, the group's lawyer said that the court has informed him it was advancing the date for the hearing to June 28.

Risk of violence

Iran's supreme leader has blasted as "foolishness" a decision by Bahrain's leaders to strip a top Shiite Muslim cleric of his citizenship, and said it could provoke violence from Shiites, who make up the majority in the Sunni-ruled Gulf Kingdom. The speech by Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, carried by state media, came after Bahrain's Sunni authorities stepped up measures against the island's Shiites and stripped their spiritual leader, Ayatollah Isa Qassim, of his citizenship.

"This is blatant foolishness and insanity. When he still could address the Bahraini people, Sheikh Isa Qassim... would advise against radical and armed actions," Khamenei said in remarks carried by state television yesterday. "Attacking Sheikh Isa Qassim means removing all obstacles blocking heroic Bahraini youths from attacking the regime." — Agencies

ITALY CATCHES 'TOP MAFIOSO' AFTER 20 YEARS ON THE RUN

ROME: One of Italy's most wanted mafia bosses was arrested yesterday after two decades on the run, fleeing a life sentence for murder, the authorities announced. Ernesto Fazzalari, 46, was captured in the early hours of the

morning in an apartment in a remote part of the southern region of Calabria, home to the notorious 'Ndrangheta organized crime syndicate. Fazzalari was the second most-wanted 'Ndrangheta fugitive after "superboss" Matteo

Messina Denaro. On the run since 1996, he was convicted in absentia in 1999 of mafia association, kidnapping, illegal possession of weapons and a double homicide linked to a bloody 1989-91 feud which left 32 people dead in his home town of Taurianova. His arrest was hailed by the government as a significant victory for the state in its battle against what is now considered Italy's most powerful mafia group.

"Thank you to the judges and the forces of order. Viva l'Italia," Prime Minister Matteo Renzi wrote in a tweet. Interior Minister Angelino Alfano described Fazzalari as "one of the most important fugitives and a leading underworld figure." He added: "This shows that you cannot run from justice. These are the kind of victories that encourage and support us in the difficult but winnable fight against organised crime."

Notoriously ruthless, the 'Ndrangheta has surpassed Sicily's Cosa Nostra and the Naples-based Camorra thanks to the wealth it has amassed as the principal importer and wholesaler of cocaine produced in Latin America and smuggled into Europe via north Africa and southern Italy. That trade is worth billions and previous police operations have indicated that the 'Ndrangheta has well-established links with Colombian producer cartels, Mexican crime gangs and mafia families in New York and other parts of North America. The organization is made up of numerous village and family-based clans based in Calabria, the rural, mountainous and under-developed "toe" of Italy's boot. — AFP



JERUSALEM: A Palestinian man shows foam-tipped bullets reportedly used by Israeli riot police outside the Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem's Al-Aqsa mosque compound after clashes erupted at the compound between Palestinians and Israeli police on June 26, 2016 during the holy month of Ramadan. Israeli police at Jerusalem's Al-Aqsa mosque compound clashed with Muslims protesting Jewish visits there as the Islamic holy month of Ramadan approached its climax, Palestinians said. — AFP

WEST VIRGINIA DECLARED DISASTER AS FLOOD DEATH TOLL HITS 24

WASHINGTON: The death toll from flooding in the US state of West Virginia rose to 24, as President Barack Obama declared a major disaster, releasing federal aid for the hardest-hit areas. Days of heavy rain, especially on Thursday and Friday, caused massive flooding in the state, where high waters have washed away cars, trapped hundreds and cut power to large areas. The president "ordered federal aid to supplement state and local recovery efforts in the area affected by severe storms, flooding, landslides and mudslides," the White House said in a statement Saturday.

The latest fatality from the flooding was reported Saturday in Greenbrier County, bringing the death toll to 24, state spokeswoman Jessica Tice told AFP. More than 21,300 people remained without power across the state late Saturday, according to the West Virginia Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (WVDHSEM). Hundreds of homes had been severely damaged or destroyed and more than 60 roads remained closed, it said.

Photos on the division's Facebook page showed a muddy, swollen river in the West Virginia town of Clendenin that had spilled over its banks and inundated a nearby neighborhood with floodwater. The federal support "will provide much needed assistance to severely impacted regions," West Virginia Governor Earl Ray Tomblin said in a statement.

"As emergency response efforts continue, with members of the National Guard and local emergency responders hard at work helping our neighbors, we will continue pursuing additional assistance for all affected areas." Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) teams will work with state offi-

cial to evaluate the damage in the coming days, and there may be additional requests for federal assistance, Tomblin said.

More rain expected

Sixteen of the victims were killed in Greenbrier, the most mountainous and rugged of the hardest-hit counties, local media reported. Among the dead was an eight-year-old boy who was swept away while walking along a creek bank with his mother and sister, local news station WSAZ reported. His body was found after three hours of searching.

National Weather Service meteorologist Mike Kistner described the downpour to the Charleston Gazette-Mail as "a one-in-500-year event." While the skies are forecast to be clear on Sunday, cold fronts on Monday and Tuesday are expected to move through the region, both with "high moisture count," the NWS said in a Hazardous Weather Outlook bulletin.

"There is a risk for additional flooding... especially in the areas hard hit this last week." Volunteer centers were being set up in five of the worst-hit counties, and Red Cross and community-based shelters had also been opened across the state, the WVDHSEM said. "We have so many businesses, individuals and churches really rallying together and gathering supplies," Tice said.

The flooding forced the PGA Tour to cancel its Greenbrier Classic golf tournament scheduled for July 7-10 in the town of White Sulphur Springs. Practice rounds had been scheduled to begin on July 4. The Old White TPC golf course "suffered extensive damage from the flooding, and is beyond reasonable repair to conduct the tournament," the PGA said in a statement. — AFP



TONATICO, Mexico: Mexican artist Luis Sotelo poses in front of his work, a mural paint called "We are migrants not criminals" (Somos migrantes no delincuentes). — AFP

FOR TRUMP AND BREXIT VOTERS, ECHOES OF SAME FRUSTRATIONS

'I LOVE TO SEE PEOPLE TAKE THEIR COUNTRY BACK'

MAYBOLE, Scotland: At the heart of the campaign that led Britain to vote to leave the European Union was a desire to regain independence lost amid a globalized world. It's the same kind of feeling that Donald Trump rode to become the presumptive Republican nominee in the US, where he campaigns to put "America first" and "make America great again." "I love to see people take their country back. And that's really what's happening in the United States," Trump told reporters this weekend during a visit to his golf resort in western Scotland.

The anxiety that drove the stunning "Brexit" decision has been brewing for at least a decade in the United Kingdom, as waves of immigrants from Southern and Eastern Europe arrived as the global economy plunged into recession. In the years since, right-leaning leaders have stoked populist concerns about their impact on wages, as well as fears about the loss of ethnic identity, which runs deep in parts of largely white rural England and Wales.

'Changed too fast'

"There's a real feeling things have changed and they've changed too fast," said Muriel MacGregor, filling up her car at a BP station on her way to work as a clerk at a hotel in Aberdeen, Scotland. MacGregor, 52, said that, unlike many of her friends, she proudly voted for "leave." "This isn't the country I remember from growing up. I don't know exactly what happens next. I don't think anybody does. But I really feel like we needed something different, because this isn't working," she said.

Undisputed world leader

Many see his "Make America Great Again" slogan as a vow to return the country to a time when they believe America was the undisputed world leader. In President Barack Obama, they see an American leader too quick to apologize for his country. "I want us to take America back," Shirley Sharpe, a Trump supporter from Greensboro, North Carolina, said this month. Sharpe, 61, who works as a caregiver to her elderly father-in-law, said that she's been dismayed by the country's direction under Obama.

"We have all been just wiping up the dirt. And it's like - we need to take our country back for us," she said. "We've got to take care of ourselves before we take care of immigrants or somebody else. We've got to take care of our own." For Chad Benson of Dallas, Georgia, it's time for America to reassert its greatness. "I think what separates Donald Trump from the other candidates is this: He is pro-American," said Benson, 40, who works in the power industry. "He's proud to be an American. He wants Americans to be proud to be Americans again."

Benson complained that Obama "seems to put other countries before the American people." Of particular resonance in the US has been Trump's approach to immigration. Voters across the country frequently cite Trump's plan to build a wall along the US border with Mexico and his pledged to deport all of the estimated 11 million people living in the country illegally as the reasons why they were first drawn to the candidate.

For Jose Portillo, 55, of Los Lunas, New Mexico, Trump's immigration plan is central to his appeal. A union member who works in the freight business, Portillo was a lifelong Democrat until he changed his registration this year to vote for Trump. He said he's fed up with people who are in the country illegally, and argues that they take advantage of the system as he works hard to play by the rules. "There's too many deadbeats living off the system," said Portillo, who works an overnight shift. "I wish I could start building a broom with steel bristles so he could start cleaning house." — AP



CLENDENIN: People look through free food and other personal items that were brought in as part of a local disaster relief effort. — AP

AT PRIDE PARADES, A YEAR OF SORROW AND CELEBRATION

NEW YORK: A year after New York City's jubilant pride parade celebrated a high point for gay Americans with the nationwide legalization of same-sex marriage, the atmosphere surrounding the annual march couldn't be more different. Parades in New York, San Francisco and other cities are unfolding two weeks after a gay nightclub in Florida became the site of the nation's deadliest mass shooting by a single gunman in modern US history.

Celebrations planned around such themes as supporting transgender people and pressing for economic justice have quickly taken on new meanings. Parade-goers will see increased security, anti-violence messages and tributes to those killed in Orlando. But organizers don't want the massacre to stamp out the defiant exuberance of events rooted

in declaring that gay people aren't afraid to be seen and heard.

Loud and proud

"Last year was such a celebratory time, and this year, we have this happening," says James Fallarino, a spokesman for organizers of the New York parade, one of the nation's oldest. "But that's also why it's so important that we are out and loud and proud. If we change our event - if we make everything somber - it's, in many ways, allowing those who wish to silence us to win."

The parades do have a new milestone to mark: President Barack Obama on Friday designated the site around New York City's Stonewall Inn as the first national monument to gay rights. A 1969 police raid on the bar helped catalyze the gay rights movement. To be

sure, the often raucous marches will be tempered with messages of respect and grief for the 49 people massacred and more than 50 wounded in Orlando.

In New York, the lead float will be dedicated to the victims. Marchers will carry 49 orange flags - the color of choice for campaigns against gun violence - through the route. A "We Are Orlando" solidarity group has been added to the lineup. And gun-control, anti-gun-violence groups have joined the lineup since the shooting forged new bonds between them and gay-rights activists. "As the mom of a gay teen, Orlando terrified me," says Shannon Watts, the founder of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America. She and 19-year-old daughter Emma, who is gay, plan to join about 200 other people behind the group's banner in the parade. It's "such an important way for these two communities to come together," said Watts, whose group also has members joining other parades.

'We're Orlando'

At San Francisco's parade, also among the country's oldest, a "We're Orlando" group of about 300 people will be fourth in the lineup. Victims will be honored with a moment of silence when the march reaches the grandstand. A memorial with their photos will be set up inside City Hall. "It's been an interesting experience to build the parade with kind of a heavier message" after the optimistic sentiment last year, Stephanie Mufson said as she supervised assistants building floats Thursday for the event.

It's still unclear, and may always be, exactly what prompted gunman Omar Mateen's rampage. He pledged allegiance to the Islamic State group in a 911 call. His ex-wife said he was mentally ill. His father has suggested he was angry with gays. Whatever the instigation, Mateen targeted a popular gay club, and pride celebrations around the country since have faced a sense of heightened risk. Police in the Los Angeles area arrested a heavily armed man who told officers he was headed to a big pride parade in West Hollywood. Houston police investigated a tweeted threat against their city's pride parade. — AP

BLOOD STAINS AT DANCE STUDIO AFTER SHOOTING

FORT WORTH: Blood stained the outside of Studio 74 hip hop dance studio and broken glass from a trophy case covered the floor after a suspected gang-related shooting at an unauthorized party killed two people and injured at least five others.

Fort Worth Police on Saturday said they hoped to make arrests soon. An unknown number of people exchanged gunfire from the studio's parking lot and across the street around midnight Saturday. The shooting began, witnesses told police, when a man ran toward the door to exit the studio. Officers found one victim dead outside building, and several people were transported to hospitals - one of whom died from his injuries, police said.

The violence broke out about a place that owner Laura Reyna described as a community "safe haven" from the streets. "It's a nonprofit organization. We deal in hip hop culture and we cater to our community. It's a safe haven ... we dance, we compete. We try to stay away from events like this that happen," Reyna said.

Studio 74's website says the facility

brings "dance programming to underserved communities and the general public to reach audiences and participants of all ages, abilities, ethnicities, and socio-economic backgrounds." Fort Worth-based soul artist Leon Bridges has danced there, Reyna said. The walls were covered in graffiti and championship banners won by the studio's in-house dance troupe.

An employee of the facility, Jason Moore, was working at the time and said he used a towel to compress the chest of one of the victims, who later died right outside the front door of the studio. "He got hit in the lungs, so there was no coming back for him," Moore said. Moore said several members of the group were carrying guns and that he thought he heard shots fired inside as well. Reyna said the group wasn't supposed to be at the facility but Moore was unaware of that. Moore rushed people out through a side door of the studio after the bullets started flying. The studio sits on a state highway near a police station, multiple businesses and restaurants and homeless shelters and food pantries. — AP

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WILL THE DUTCH FOLLOW BRITAIN OUT THE DOOR?

THE HAGUE: Britain's vote to leave the EU has sent shockwaves across the Netherlands, a founding father of the European community, but despite a push by eurosceptics analysts say a referendum here is unlikely soon. "Now it is our turn," trumpeted Geert Wilders, the leader of the anti-Islam far right Freedom Party (PVV), just after the results landed.

With Dutch MPs gearing to debate the seismic impact of the Brexit this week, ahead of general elections in March, the fallout will dominate the political scene for months to come. How it is viewed in this small trading nation of 17 million people—which unlike Britain is part of the eurozone—may largely depend on the kind of deal the Brits get from the EU as they head out the door.

Wilders has promised to make a referendum on a "Nexit" a central plank of his party's election campaign. And he is already eyeing the power of the premiership,

with polls having consistently shown in recent months that the PVV could emerge the largest party in the 150-seat parliament, although not with a majority.

'Reinvent democracy'

"I believe we should reinvent democracy," Wilders told AFP, insisting the Dutch people had a right to vote on the country's EU membership. "A real democracy cannot exist without a nation state. People don't feel connected to a European commission or a council of men they don't know... that they didn't vote for." Constitutionally it would be very difficult to call a referendum now, and such a move does not enjoy enough support in parliament.

Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte, who ardently called for Britain to stay, said Friday he believed there was little "interest" for a fresh people's ballot on the EU.

But Wilders vowed that if he is tasked with forming a

coalition government in March, "I would govern with parties that would want such a referendum." The Dutch have already twice voted convincingly against the European project.

More than 61 percent of the Dutch rejected the draft European constitution in 2005. And in April this year, they dealt the EU a further blow by rejecting its cooperation treaty with Ukraine in a non-binding ballot pushed by grassroots eurosceptics using a law which would not apply to a more general referendum on EU ties.

A la carte deal?

Analyst Peter Van Ham said the mood in the Netherlands would depend on whether EU leaders give the Brits a "kneecapping" for daring to leave, or decide to treat fairly a country "that twice saved them in two world wars." "If the UK gets a good deal, a kind of Switzerland deal, access to the markets, a pick-and-choose, a la carte

kind of deal," he said, then voters' impressions that being out of the EU would be like "being North Korea would be less likely," he told AFP. After crisis talks in Berlin at the weekend, German Chancellor Angela Merkel appeared to warn against a nasty divorce despite calls from some to get it over with as quickly as possible. Member states should "calmly and prudently analyze and evaluate the situation," Merkel said. But Van Ham, senior research fellow at the Clingendael think-tank in The Hague, warned some "people in Brussels are true believers and the European project is very dear to them."

They might feel it best to "put some pressure on the UK for a while in the hope that the ghost of eurosceptics will be defeated," he said, adding "I don't think" it will be. A poll under the headline "Afraid of Nexit" by the leading conservative daily De Telegraaf Saturday appeared to back Rutte's claim that the Dutch are more wary of cutting loose their ties to Europe. — AFP



LONDON: Labour party leader Jeremy Corbyn faces the media as he leaves his house. — AP

UK LABOUR LEADER UNDER PRESSURE AFTER MPs QUIT

CORBYN FACING ACCUSATIONS OF BEING ILL-EQUIPPED

LONDON: The future of opposition Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn looked shaky yesterday after two members of his top team quit and others seemed set to follow over his handling of Britain's EU referendum. Corbyn's allies said he had no intention of resigning, but the veteran socialist is facing a revolt over concerns that he is ill-equipped to deal with the fallout from Britain's seismic decision to quit the bloc.

"He's a good and decent man but he is not a leader, and that's the problem," Labour MP Hilary Benn told BBC television after being sacked as foreign affairs spokesman late Saturday for challenging Corbyn's leadership. Health spokeswoman Heidi Alexander resigned early yesterday, and media reports suggested that half the 30-strong shadow cabinet could follow her.

"As much as I respect you as a man of principle, I do not believe you have the capacity to shape the answers our country is demanding," Alexander wrote in her resignation letter to Corbyn, which she published on Twitter. One third of Labour voters chose to leave the European Union in Thursday's historic vote, against the advice of the majority of their party's MPs and the leadership.

Critics say Corbyn—who for decades had expressed eurosceptic views—could have done

more to sway voters. Two Labour MPs tabled a vote of no confidence in Corbyn on Friday, which is expected to be discussed at a meeting of the parliamentary Labour party (PLP) today. But the veteran socialist has indicated he is going nowhere, as did his allies. Labour finance spokesman John McDonnell told BBC television: "He was elected nine months ago, the biggest mandate of any political leader in our country, and he is not going anywhere." "It's a stupid question. He's not going to stand down," the party's defense spokeswoman Emily Thornberry told Sky News television.

'Critical time'

Many Labour MPs have been critical of Corbyn since his unexpected election last September in a vote by party members. But the revolt over the EU, the resulting turmoil and the possibility of an early general election following the resignation of Prime Minister David Cameron have focused their minds. "At this critical time for our country, following the result of the EU referendum, we need strong and effective leadership of the Labour Party that is capable of winning public support so that we can stand up for the people of Britain," Benn wrote in a statement.

The referendum result triggered a slump in the value of sterling and UK stocks, raised questions over the future of the EU and sparked a surge in support for Scottish independence. EU leaders are pressing for a hasty divorce, but Cameron said he would leave it to his successor to start exit negotiations, putting the process on hold for months. Any challenger to Corbyn would need the support of 20 percent of the party's 229 MPs and it would then be put to party members, who are strongly supportive of the leader.

It was not immediately clear who might stand against him. Benn ruled himself out, while McDonnell also said he would "never stand for the leadership". In a sign of the chaos, deputy Labour leader Tom Watson was reportedly trying to make his way back to London yesterday after attending Glastonbury music festival.

After Benn was sacked, other Labour MPs came out in his support. "This is sad news indeed and I cannot understand how Jeremy thinks it will help his worsening position with the PLP," Roberta Blackman-Woods tweeted. "The Labour shadow cabinet must now act to save the party and for the sake of the country. Otherwise we will never be forgiven," tweeted Ben Bradshaw. — AFP

POLITICAL NOVICE WINS ICELAND PRESIDENCY WITH 39 PERCENT

REYKJAVIK: History professor Gudni Johannesson won Iceland's presidential election after riding a wave of anti-establishment sentiment, final results showed yesterday, although the vote was eclipsed by the country's eagerly-anticipated Euro football match. The political newcomer, who won with 39.1 percent of votes, was trailed by businesswoman Halla Tomasdottir, also without party affiliation, who took 29.4 percent, according to results announced on public television channel RUV.

Johannesson only decided to run for the presidency after the so-called Panama Papers leak in April which detailed offshore accounts and implicated several senior Icelandic politicians, including the prime minister who was forced to resign. Throughout the campaign, Johannesson emphasized his non-partisan vision of the presidency, and vowed to restore faith in the political system after years of public anger toward politicians over scandals and financial woes.

The victory was especially sweet for the history professor and political commentator, who has never held public office and has no party affiliation, as he celebrated his 48th birthday yesterday. David Oddsson, a former conservative prime minister who had been Johannesson's closest rival throughout most of the campaign, garnered just 13 percent of votes. "The representative of the old era... has been rejected, people are looking to the future," University of Akureyri political science professor Gretar Eythorsson told AFP.

The president in Iceland holds a largely ceremonial position. More important legislative elections are due in the autumn. But the outrage that fuelled mass street protests in April and led to ousting of premier Sigmundur David Gunnlaugsson appeared to have dissipated somewhat as euphoria erupted over the Icelandic football squad achieving a historic feat in the Euro 2016 football tournament. A North Atlantic island of just 334,000 people, Iceland beat Austria 2-1 on Wednesday to qualify for the last 16 in its first major interna-

national competition, and will face off against England on Monday.

Britain's vote to leave the European Union also headlined the news on the eve of the election in Iceland, which itself had applied for EU membership in 2009 after suffering a devastating financial crisis in 2008, but abandoned the bid six years later. Like most of Iceland's voters, Johannesson is opposed to EU membership.

In a final debate on Friday, he said Brexit changes "much for the better for us Icelanders," suggesting the European Economic Area agreement that non-EU members Norway and Iceland have with the EU could play a more important role with Britain on board.

'A different kind of president'

Current president Olafur Ragnar Grimsson, 73, is stepping down after five straight terms spanning 20 years. "I think we will see a different kind of president. Johannesson is not likely to be as political as Grimsson sometimes was," Eythorsson said. Grimsson is the only Icelandic president to have exercised his right to veto bills in parliament, doing so three times over two decades.

Johannesson was until recently known to Icelanders as one of the country's most prominent political commentators from the University of Iceland. In a nation basking in a strong economy, low unemployment and robust purchasing power, Johannesson's views are generally seen as moderate and centrist. Casting his ballot Saturday, Johannesson told AFP he was satisfied he had "managed to present to the people my vision of the presidency".

Asked what his first task would be if he were to win, he replied: "Go to France on Monday and see Iceland play England." Between 10,000 and 20,000 Icelanders are in France to watch the Euro, an astounding number for such a small country. Turnout in the election was also higher than in the last vote four years ago, at nearly 76 percent. Johannesson officially takes over the post on August 1. — AFP



REYKJAVIK: Elected independent presidential candidate Gudni Johannesson (2nd right) sings with one of his campaigners at an election party. — AFP

WHAT IS ARTICLE 50? THE HEART OF BREXIT

BRUSSELS: It consists of just five short, vaguely worded paragraphs, but Article 50 of the European Union's 2007 Lisbon Treaty will decide how Britain leaves—and it is already causing problems. The short section buried in the laws that govern the EU has never been used and was written at a time when the prospect of any member state leaving seemed very unlikely.

The key opening phrase—"Any Member State may decide to withdraw from the Union in accordance with its own constitutional requirements"—was indeed the first time EU law laid out an exit plan. But now it is at the centre of an acrimonious row between London and its soon-to-be former partners about how and when Britain will leave after Thursday's vote to quit. "It provides few concrete details about how the withdrawal must be organized," Robert Chouard, a research fellow at the Institute for International and Strategic Affairs (IRIS), told AFP.

Pulling the trigger

Article 50 says this: "A Member State which decides to withdraw shall notify the European Council (the 28 leaders of the EU member states, led by EU President Donald Tusk) of its intention." But it does not say when this must happen, and that has become the first crucial stumbling block. Prime Minister David Cameron said on Friday he would resign by October, leaving his successor to begin the talks. But his EU peers believe notification should be "as soon as possible" to minimise the chaos of a "Brexit",

and preferably by Cameron himself at an EU summit on Tuesday. What is clear from Article 50 is, however, that it is only the member state concerned which can make the notification. It cannot be forced on Britain by Brussels. "The notification ("triggering") of Article 50 is a formal act and has to be done by the British government to the European Council," an EU Council spokesman told AFP.

"It has to be done in an unequivocal manner with the explicit intent to trigger Article 50. It could either be a letter to the President of the European Council or an official statement at a meeting of the European Council duly noted in the official records of the meeting," Jean-Claude Piris of the Delors Institute in Brussels said it was "normal and understandable" Cameron wanted to wait until a successor was in place, and that the rest of the EU "will not put a knife to Britain's throat." "However if it drags on another six months or a year then it will become objectionable and I would understand if the EU became impatient," he told AFP.

Two-year timeframe

Under Article 50, Britain's notification will set the clock ticking on a two-year period of negotiations within which a basic withdrawal agreement should be made. After that "the treaties shall cease to apply to the state in question"—or in layman's terms, Brexit is a reality. The talks can in theory be extended if need be—but only by the unanimous consent of Britain and the other 27 member states. — AFP

CHANGE OR SAFETY? SPAIN VOTES IN REPEAT ELECTION

MADRID: Just days after a shock Brexit, Spaniards voted in repeat elections yesterday to decide if they too want a radical shift as promised by a far-left coalition led by Podemos. Polls opened at 0700 GMT under generally blue skies in a vote pitting those hungry for change in a country with high unemployment against those who fear it would torpedo Spain's slow economic recovery. Britain's surprise vote to leave the European Union has further exacerbated this cleavage. The outgoing conservative Popular Party (PP) is insisting on the need for "stability" in the face of "populism"—a thinly-veiled dig at the Unidos Podemos coalition.

PP, Podemos fight it out

"What is important is that lots of people vote



PAMPLONA: A woman votes for the national elections accompanied with her dog. — AP

and that there is a government soon," Madrid Mayor Manuela Carmena said after casting her ballot in a school in the Spanish capital, echoing general voter exasperation after months of political limbo. More than 36 million Spaniards are eligible to vote yesterday.

They have the choice between four major political groupings after the emergence of Podemos and centre-right upstart Ciudadanos last year uprooted the country's two-party dominance. General elections in December resulted in a 350-seat parliament so splintered that parties failed to agree on a coalition, and this is what has prompted yesterday's repeat vote.

Opinion polls—conducted pre-Brexit—suggest the results yesterday will also be fractured, with

the PP coming first without a majority, tailed by Unidos Podemos, which could replace the 137-year-old Socialist party as Spain's main left-wing force. Political leaders will have to go back to the negotiating table, under more pressure this time to form a coalition.

Throughout the campaign—and again on Friday after Brexit—the PP has hammered away at the need for stability in reference to the rise of Unidos Podemos, which like Greece's ruling Syriza party rejects EU-backed austerity and pledges to fight for the least well-off. The coalition, led by charismatic, pony-tailed Pablo Iglesias, has responded with a message of calm aimed at defusing this criticism. Unidos Podemos—the "o" of Unidos shaped as a heart—has made "smile of a country" its slogan for an emotional campaign.

'No time to experiment'

Rajoy argues that since the PP came to power in 2011, it has brought Spain back to growth and overseen a drop in unemployment—though at 21 percent it is still the second highest rate in the European Union after Greece. But his rivals retort that inequalities have risen, the jobs created are mainly unstable, and they point to the repeated corruption scandals to have hit the PP.

In the latest case, Interior Minister Jorge Fernandez Diaz was caught on tape talking to an anti-fraud official, apparently discussing how to incriminate his political rivals—an incident Rajoy shrugged off as a "farce." The Socialist party (PSOE), meanwhile, is going through what analysts call its worst crisis in decades as Podemos gnaws away at its support base, with some voters disillusioned with what they see as a staid party that has strayed from its working-class roots. People like Jonatan Mora, a 31-year-old physiotherapist. — AFP

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DUTERTE OPEN TO TALKS WITH ISLAMIC MILITANTS

MANILA: Philippine president-elect Rodrigo Duterte says he could be open to peace talks with the Islamic militant group Abu Sayyaf, which recently beheaded two foreign hostages and kidnapped seven more. "The Abu Sayyaf is not my enemy. I know it is connected with the issue of Mindanao," Duterte told supporters in a speech in the central city of Cebu late Saturday, referring to the rebellion-torn south of the country. "That is why I want to ask them: are they willing to talk or do we just fight it out?" said the firebrand politician, who campaigned on promises to get tough on crime and who takes office on June 30.

The incoming leader himself hails from Mindanao, where a decades-long Muslim separatist insurgency has claimed more than 100,000 lives. While previous administrations have opened talks with major Muslim separatist groups in the South, they have deployed troops to hunt down the Abu Sayyaf. The Abu Sayyaf is a loose network of a few hundred Islamic militants formed in the 1990s with seed money from Osama bin Laden's Al-Qaeda network that has earned millions of dollars from kidnappings-for-ransom.

Although its leaders have pledged allegiance to

Islamic State, analysts say they are mainly focused on lucrative kidnappings. Duterte said on Friday that he and his aides were responsible for successfully negotiating the release of one of the group's hostages, a Filipina who had been kidnapped along with several foreigners in September. The Abu Sayyaf beheaded two Canadian hostages who were among that group. These fourth hostage, a Norwegian, is still being held.

Last week seven Indonesian seamen were abducted in waters off the southern Philippines, prompting Jakarta to ban any Indonesian-flagged

vessel from sailing to the Philippines. The Philippine military said Sunday it believes the Indonesians are being held in the remote Sulu archipelago, the main Abu Sayyaf stronghold.

Earlier this year Abu Sayyaf kidnapped four Malaysian seamen and 14 Indonesian sailors. They were freed several months later. The Philippines, Malaysia and Indonesia have agreed to consider joint measures aimed at curbing the seaborne kidnappings. These include sea and air patrols over a designated transit corridor where vessels could travel between the countries. — AFP



GUNWI: In a photo taken on May 26, 2016 students attend a class at the Seoksan Elementary School. — AFP

'SILVER TSUNAMI' THREATENS KOREAN RURAL COMMUNITIES

DECIMATED BY DRAMATIC DEMOGRAPHIC SHIFTS

GUNWI, South Korea: It's lunch break at Seoksan Elementary School and the entire student body has taken to the vast playground for a game of football-with just three players on each side. "We don't really have enough people and there's no goalkeeper, but it's still fun," said Lee Jung-Bin, playing on the same side as his sole fourth grade classmate, Kim Dong-Won. Lee is one of only six students—all boys aged seven to 11 — attending the school in the southern South Korean rural county of Gunwi, which once boasted 700 pupils.

Many classrooms are padlocked and rusty goalposts and a basketball hoop stand forlornly at the corners of the playground, while an old banner welcoming queries "for admissions and transfers" flutters on a nearby fence. Seoksan is one of many "mini-schools" struggling to stay open in rural communities that have been decimated by a dramatic demographic shift in South Korea which now has one of the world's lowest birth rates. By 2030, a quarter of all South Koreans will be over 65 years old, and the overall population is expected to peak at around 52 million the same year before entering a period of steady decline.

Major challenge

This so-called "silver tsunami" poses a major challenge for Asia's fourth-largest economy as the young, working-age population declines and the cost of caring for the elderly escalates. And in remote, rural communities like Gunwi, which lies some 200 kilometers southeast of Seoul, the trend is exacerbated by a youth exodus to the cities for work. Nestled among mountains and known for its mushrooms and apples, Gunwi county boasted a population of more than 70,000 in the 1980s. That number now stands at 24,000 with nearly 40 percent over 65 years old — one of the highest ratios in South Korea.

"I'm worried this county might disappear from the map once we die," said Lee Jong-Rak, a local official of 38 years standing. Childbirth has become so rare that there isn't a single obstetrician or maternity ward in the entire county, and more than 20 elementary, middle and high schools have closed since the 1990s. At the other end of the demographic spectrum, elderly care facilities have mushroomed and the number of their permanent residents has tripled in the past decade.

Outside one Gunwi community centre where they had been attending a health class, a group of elderly men and women climbed onto a rusty town bus whose driver-in his 60s-was the youngest on board. South Korea has a fertility rate of 1.19 births per woman—the lowest among OECD member nations.

More than 3,700 schools nationwide have closed since the 1990s and thousands more are set to be shut down or merged in coming years, according to the education ministry. And this year, more than 20 percent of 6,218 elementary schools across the country had a first grade intake of less than 10 students.

'Risk of extinction'

Lee Sang-Ho, a researcher at Korea Employment Information Service, said Gunwi was one of many rural communities facing a "high risk of extinction" in the next 30 years. And he warned that a collapse in production and consumer demand triggered by a rapidly ageing society wasn't a threat limited to the countryside. "The same forces behind the plight of the rural communities will eventually reach urban areas, pushing the entire national economy into a long-term downturn cycle," Lee said.

In Gunwi's county seat, also called Gunwi, small businesses are struggling to cope with an ageing consumer base that has little or no

consumerist intent. "Look around here. How many people in their 20s do you see?" said the owner of a small electronics shop near the town hall. "These days, I can't even put rice on the table," said the owner, who declined to be identified. Her 40-year-old store showed its age in its product line, with dusty shelves stacked with cathode-tube TVs, cassette tapes of 80s' pop hits and corded phones featuring extra-large keypads.

Incentives

Gunwi officials have done what they can to rejuvenate the county, offering free school lunches and cash incentives for couples having a third child. The central government has launched similar schemes across the country, pumping more than 80 trillion won (\$68.3 billion) since 2006 into programs aimed at encouraging people to marry young and have larger families, according to health ministry data. But critics say such schemes ignore the root causes of the problem, including a lack of quality jobs, childcare facilities and support for working mothers.

At Seoksan elementary, the school's three remaining teachers were downbeat on their future employment prospects. "Realistically speaking, it's hard to see the school remaining open for another 10 years," Kang Min-Sung said after finishing her reading class with three students in a classroom big enough for 30. Kang, 28, grew up in Gunwi. After high school she left for college in the nearest major city Daegu where she opted to stay after graduation. Teaching at the school requires an hour-long daily commute by car and a strong sense of commitment. "Schools like this, however small, are necessary for the education of the children who live here," she said. "I just don't know how many will be left for us to teach in the future." — AFP

VIOLENCE AT AUSTRALIAN IMMIGRATION PROTESTS

SYDNEY: Rival immigration protesters clashed for the second time in a month in Melbourne yesterday, with three people arrested as the government vowed to crack down on mask-wearing demonstrators. About 120 people took part in an anti-immigration rally in the country's second largest city waving large Australian flags and carrying posters such as "Islamic refugees not welcome". Anti-Muslim sentiment has mounted in Australia in recent years after a series of attacks by radicalized youth, including the killing of a police employee in Sydney in October.

Yesterday's immigration protesters were confronted by about 200 anti-racism demonstrators, with hundreds of police on site to try and keep the two groups apart. But some protesters broke through a police line and one man was kicked and punched before officers intervened, Melbourne's The Age newspaper reported.

"Two people were arrested for assault, that's assault of each other, (and) one person was arrested for criminal damage, that's damage of

a news reporter's camera," Superintendent David Clayton of Victoria Police told reporters. The Age said one of its photographer's cameras was damaged by a protester, while footage from the rallies showed some demonstrators burning an Australian flag.

The latest round of clashes—the eighth since November, according to Melbourne's The Age—came as Victoria state's Police Minister Lisa Neville announced new police powers and stronger penalties against protesters who wear masks. "Victorians have had enough of seeing this sort of incitement of hatred and violence," the Australian Broadcasting Corporation quoted her as saying Sunday.

"If you wear a facemask, you will be removed from a protest," Neville said, adding that the new laws would be introduced later this year. "If you wear a facemask and commit an offence, you will go to jail for longer." Seven people were arrested at violent clashes on the streets of the Melbourne suburb of Coburg in late May, with police describing demonstrators' behavior as appalling. — AFP

INDIA IRKED BY CHINA STALLING NUCLEAR GROUP MEMBERSHIP

NEW DELHI: India expressed disappointment yesterday with China for raising procedural hurdles to the South Asian country joining the 48-nation group controlling access to sensitive nuclear technology. Its membership application was not approved at the Nuclear Suppliers Group meeting last week in Seoul, South Korea, and External Affairs Ministry spokesman Vikas Swarup told reporters that from India's engagements with other members he was "certain only one country was creating the procedural hurdles."

The group is focused on restricting nuclear proliferation by controlling which countries can gain access to technology used in making atomic weapons. Prime Minister Narendra Modi sought China's support during his meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping in Uzbekistan ahead of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization summit on Thursday, and a top Foreign Ministry official who visited Beijing highlighted India's track record in efforts to curb the spread of nuclear weapons.

China apparently links India's potential membership with archival Pakistan, which applied later and has not yet been considered by the group. Only countries that have ratified the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons are normally eligible. India hasn't, but it has committed to some controls of its nuclear program under a nuclear cooperation pact with the United States. President Barack Obama came out in support of Indian membership when Modi visited Washington recently, and other nations, including Mexico and Switzerland, soon suggested they too were on board.

Yesterday, Swarup said India had taken up the issue with China at multiple levels. "We are going to continue discussing this with China. This is going to be an important element of our discussion with China. We will continue to impress upon them that relationships move forward on the basis of mutual accommodation of each other's interests, concerns and priorities," he said. — AP



NEW DELHI: In this June 25, 2016 file photo, a small group of activists belonging to 'Hindu Sena' or Hindu Army, a local organization burn China made goods and posters carrying the photograph of Chinese President Xi Jinping during a protest. — AP

IS MILITIA LAUNCH ATTACKS IN EASTERN AFGHANISTAN

JALALABAD: Heavy fighting between Afghan forces and Islamic State fighters has killed dozens of people, officials said yesterday, raising fears the militant group is staging a comeback months after Kabul said they had been defeated.

The fighting began late on Friday in the Kot area of the Rodat district in eastern Nangarhar province after a contingent of IS fighters attacked police check posts, provincial governor Salim Khan Kunduzi said. The interior ministry in a statement said at least 18 fighters had been killed and more than 40 others wounded so far, though Kunduzi placed the number of IS fighters killed as high as 36 and said at least a dozen security forces personnel and civilians had also died.

Scores of people have been forced out of their homes, according to local officials. IS fighters began making inroads into Afghanistan in late 2014, winning over sympathizers, recruiting followers and challenging the Taliban on their own turf, primarily in the country's east. But in March, Afghan President Ashraf Ghani announced that the Islamists had been defeated following a months-long military operation. The US military estimates between 1,000 and 3,000 IS fighters are in Afghanistan, mostly comprised of disaffected Pakistani and Afghan Taliban, as well as Uzbek Islamists and locals.

Earlier this month the US President Barack Obama ordered the US military tackle the resurgent Taliban more directly in tandem with Afghan allies, ratcheting up a 15-year conflict he had vowed to end. On Saturday the US military carried out its first air strikes against Taliban targets under the newly approved rules, which mean US troops can now work more closely with local fighters in striking the Taliban. Pentagon press secretary Peter Cook said the strikes occurred in southern Afghanistan, but he did not provide additional details. — AFP

AT LEAST 35 KILLED IN BUS CRASH IN CHINA

BEIJING: At least 35 people were killed and 11 injured when a bus crashed on a highway in central China yesterday and burst into flames, state media reported. Huge clouds of thick black smoke billowed from the vehicle after the bus slammed into a

roadside concrete barrier in Hunan province, video footage showed. One person was seen being dragged to safety. Some passengers limped out of the bus covered in blood, the state news agency Xinhua reported. It quoted a survivor sur-

named Huang as saying the driver told he could not open the bus door, before escaping from the window beside his seat.

Huang saved himself by smashing another window with a fire extinguisher. Two children were among those killed, while four of

the 11 people taken to hospital were seriously injured, Xinhua said, adding that the bus driver had been detained. Images recorded after the fire in Yizhang county was extinguished showed the charred bus totally destroyed and sitting atop a pile of ash.

Oil leak

A total of 55 people were on the vehicle, Xinhua cited local officials as saying. Local officials believe that an oil leak caused by the crash may have sparked the huge blaze, it said. Traffic accidents are common in China, with more than 250,000 people dying each year on the country's roads, according to the World Health Organization. Public Security Minister Guo Shengkun has ordered intensive efforts to save the injured, establish the cause of the accident and take measures to prevent a recurrence, Xinhua said. It said a team headed by Vice Public Security Minister Huang Ming was heading to the scene. Long-distance buses are a popular cheap mode of travel between cities and competition between transport firms can be fierce.

China has seen repeated bus fires in recent years which have caused multiple fatalities. A total of 38 people were killed in 2014 when a van carrying flammable liquid hit a bus on a highway in Hunan province. In 2010 a shuttle bus carrying steel factory workers in eastern China burst into flames, killing 24 passengers. Several such incidents were deliberate arson attacks, according to officials. An arsonist who injured more than 30 people by setting fire to a bus in the city of Hangzhou was executed last year. — AFP



HUNAN PROVINCE: In this photo released by Xinhua News Agency, a traffic policeman examines the remains of a bus that caught fire in Yizhang County. — AP

RAMADAN SOUP KITCHEN OFFERS BRIEF RESPITE TO GAZA'S HUNGRY

GAZA CITY: In her modest home in the Gaza Strip, Sahar Sherif's family watches as she ladles out a broth of meat and vegetables for a rare heart-warming meal. For just a month of the year, a soup kitchen in the Palestinian enclave is offering struggling families like Sherif's a welcome break from daily worries about where they will find their next meal.

During the holy month of Ramadan, the charity provides the 40-year-old divorcee and her five children-and grandchildren-with a square meal every day at no cost. "When we eat food from the tekiyya, we feel better," says Sherif, using an Arabic name for the soup kitchen, an Islamic tradition said to date back to the era of the prophet Abraham.

But during the rest of the year when the kitchen is closed, "I make a pot of tea, I get two tomatoes out and that's it," she says, wearing a black nylon overcoat and complete face veil.

"When there's no food, we constantly feel dizzy," Residents in the Islamist-ruled territory have lived under a punitive Israeli blockade for the last 10 years, and Egypt has largely kept its border with Gaza closed since 2013.

Nearly half the war-torn enclave's 1.9 million inhabitants live under the poverty line, with 80 percent surviving on humanitarian aid.

Onions in cauldrons

During Ramadan, Sherif can carry home a plate of rice and chicken for her family to break the daily fast after sunset-and a broth to eat before sunrise and another 16 hours of daytime fasting. For the rest of the year, food is one of many daunting expenses for the head of a poverty-stricken household.

"I have to pay 500 shekels (115 euros) in rent as well as water and electricity bills," says Sherif, whose two sons are unemployed. "I receive 100

to 200 shekels in support, but I'm supposed to pay the rest on my own," she says. The Gaza Strip has been ravaged by three wars with Israel since 2008, after the Islamist movement Hamas consolidated its rule over the Palestinian territory.

The Mediterranean enclave's unemployment rate of 45 percent is one of the highest in the world. Inside the soup kitchen, volunteers pile marinated chicken pieces onto huge trays and stir translucent onions in cauldrons with paddles. "In the past, families used to ask for chairs, a mattress or a fridge," says volunteer Deeb Abdul Hamid. "But these days, they just ask for food." The kitchen gives priority to families without breadwinners such as those headed by widows, divorcees or women whose husbands have emigrated, he says. Today, government employees who haven't received their salaries also depend on the charity, says the 24-year-old graduate, who is unemployed. — AFP



GAZA CITY: Palestinians prepare food at the tekiyya, Arabic name for the soup kitchen, during the holy Muslim month of Ramadan in Gaza City. — AFP

BRITISH POLITICS IN TURMOIL AS TALKS LOOM

Continued from Page 1

Boost for Scottish independence

Britons cast aside warnings of isolation and economic disaster to vote 52 percent to 48 percent in favor of quitting the EU in Thursday's referendum. The historic vote, fought on the battlefronts of the economy and immigration, exposed deep divisions in the country, which were particularly keenly felt in Scotland.

Scotland voted by 62 percent to stay in the EU, and the prospect of being pulled out against their will has renewed support for a second independence referendum, less than two years after they chose to stay in the United Kingdom in a referendum in September 2014. "The UK that Scotland voted to stay in 2014 does not exist anymore," First Minister and Scottish National Party leader Nicola Sturgeon told BBC television yesterday.

Two polls yesterday put support for Scottish independence at 59 percent and 52 percent respectively. In the 2014 referendum, 55 percent voted against it. Sturgeon has said a second independence vote was now "highly likely", and a meeting of her cabinet on Saturday agreed to start drawing up the necessary legislation.

She hinted that the Scottish government could even use legal means to try to block Britain's exit from the EU, although experts said this was unlikely. Elsewhere, 3.2 million Britons signed a petition on an official government website pleading for a new vote.

The House of Commons petitions committee said it had removed 77,000 which were "added fraudulently", but said it would be discussed by MPs at a meeting next week.

Labor revolt

Likely candidates to succeed Cameron, including Brexit campaigner and former London mayor Boris Johnson, began sounding out support over the weekend. The referendum decision has also lit a fuse under disgruntled members of the Labor party, many of whom have been unhappy with Corbyn's leadership since he took office last September.

Support for leaving the European Union was strong across northern England, the Midlands and Wales, including many areas that traditionally vote Labor. The party leadership had campaigned to stay in the EU, but critics accuse Corbyn of failing to reach out to working-class voters drawn in by the "Leave" camp's anti-establishment rhetoric.

After a symbolic vote of no confidence on Friday against Corbyn, he sacked foreign affairs spokesman Hilary Benn late Saturday for challenging his leadership. That decision sparked a string of resignations among members of the shadow cabinet. "I do not believe you have the capacity to shape the answers our country is demanding," wrote one, health spokeswoman Heidi Alexander, in a letter to Corbyn.

But allies of the veteran socialist said he had no plans to step down. "He was elected nine months ago, the biggest mandate of any political leader in our country, and he is not going anywhere," finance spokesman John McDonnell told the BBC. The motion of no confidence is expected to be discussed at a meeting of the parliamentary Labor party today.

Any challenger would need the support of 20 percent of the party's 229 MPs and it would then be put to party members. — AFP

KUWAIT MOSQUE HIT BY IS BOMB REOPENS

Continued from Page 1

"Those are my sons," he said, speaking of the victims. Sheikh Sabah's comments and presence carried much power in Kuwait.

Kholoud Al-Feeli, who lost her uncle in the attack, said the HH the Amir's reaction showed that he views everyone as an equal. "Kuwaitis have always been open toward other beliefs and differences," she said. "We are a melting-pot nation, with many people of Levantine, Persian, Egyptian and even Indian ties, if not by blood then by marriage."

Sheikh Sabah paid for nearly all the renovations needed at the mosque, which reopened this month after a remembrance ceremony for those lost. "The one-year remembrance service held at the mosque is a great example of how Kuwait's unity and solidarity is unquestionable in times of crises," said Abdullnabi Al-Attar, a supervisor at the

mosque and member of its board.

"Many leading figures attended the service, headed by HH the Amir himself," he added.

In the weeks after the bombing, police arrested what they described as a Hezbollah cell with a massive underground ammunition cache. Two of the defendants have been sentenced to death and have appealed their sentence. Meanwhile, the Islamic State group continues its campaign of violence in the territory it holds in Iraq and Syria, as well as calling for lone-wolf attacks across the globe. Kuwait undoubtedly remains a target, though Al-Feeli and others hope the country will hold onto its unity. "We as a nation have proved our resilience before, in the 1980s with Saddam's war against Iran, in the Gulf War, and as close as last year's ISIS attack," she said, using an alternate acronym for the Islamic State group. "I hope that we can come out of this more united." — AP

THOUGHTS ON RAMADAN

Continued from Page 1

This gave me a great psychological boost and a wonderful sense of achievement, although I was yet to reap the spiritual rewards to be gained during the holy month.

These rewards were to come the following Ramadan (1996) which was to be my first as a Muslim. However, this is not the place for a detailed and authoritative exposition of the rewards to be gained during Ramadan. Besides, there are others far more qualified to write on this subject than I am. Instead, I would like to describe some of my own views and impressions, which will hopefully give you an idea of what Ramadan means to one new, western Muslim.

The most striking, and perhaps surprising, thing I found was that I actually enjoy Ramadan and look forward to it. It's not just the shorter working hours, the evening visits to friends, the special food or the shops staying open until the early hours of the morning. Yes - I do enjoy these things, but only in the context of the whole Ramadan experience. The most important thing to me is the special feeling that gradually overcomes me as the month progresses. It is partly the daytime calmness that is brought about by the lack of stimulation from food and drink. But most of all it is the inner peace that comes from the extra night prayers, the reading of the holy Quran, and the time spent thinking and meditating.

This special month provides Muslims with a wonderful opportunity to take stock of our lives, to reflect on the good and bad things that have happened throughout the previous year, to reinforce our faith in God and to strengthen our will to face whatever the coming year has to offer. It is this feeling of spiritual renewal that I look forward to most of all.

Of course, one reason why most Muslims do not find Ramadan to be a hardship is the fact that, as Muslims, we are used to following a strict code of morality and discipline in our normal lives. Islam requires us to do many things and not to do some others.

We must follow the "five pillars" of Islam. These are: (1) the declaration that there is no god worthy of worship other than Allah and that Muhammad (PBUH) is the prophet and messenger of Allah; (2) the performance of prayers at the five prescribed daily times; (3) paying of Zakat; (4) Hajj (pilgrimage to holy Makkah) at least once in life; and (5) observ-

ing the holy month of Ramadan each year.

Some of the things we must not do include: Indulging in extra-marital relationships or homosexuality; drinking of alcohol; taking of drugs; and gambling.

These dos and don'ts are not optional. Muslims do not have a choice in these matters. Islam is a religion of practice as well as belief. When you are a Muslim you cannot say that your faith is in just your heart or your head. No - it must be in your actions too. So a Muslim does not just observe Ramadan and then hang up his prayer mat until the holy month comes around the following year. A Muslim uses Ramadan to recharge his batteries for the coming year, to strengthen his faith, to read the Holy Qur'an at least once and to ask God's forgiveness for all the sins we have committed in the previous year.

Now I know that what I have just described is anathema to many, if not to most, westerners, as it had been for me. Particularly the idea that you must obey the instructions laid down in a book that is more than fourteen hundred years old. Even the concept that you must accept any moral or spiritual authority at all is rejected as "old-fashioned" by many. The trend during the 20th and 21st centuries has been towards seeking more and more personal freedom. This means amongst other things: Sexual freedom; freedom to drink alcohol or take drugs; freedom from responsibility to family or society; freedom from God. And where the law restricts people from what they desire, they try to change it and often succeed. For example, male homosexuality and abortion are now legal in my country, and there is constant pressure to further reduce any remaining restrictions on both. People believe in changing or modernizing society. They believe that it is good to be "modern" and bad to be "old-fashioned".

Well I want everyone to know that I am proud to be old-fashioned. What's more, I've chosen this path of my own free will. Nobody forced me. Nobody paid me. And I can honestly say that every part of my life has got better since I adopted this way of life. I stopped believing what people try to make you believe and started believing the word of God.

So when, Insha Allah, I fast this Ramadan I will be happy to do so because it is what God wants me to do.

-Arnold Ali Cender is a British IT professional who has worked in Kuwait since 1994. Arnold embraced Islam in 1995 when he added the name "Ali".

ACCEPT PEACE PLAN, BAN URGES YEMENI...

Continued from Page 1

"I ask both delegations to work seriously with my special envoy to agree to a roadmap of principles... and quickly reach a comprehensive agreement," Ban told a joint meeting of the negotiators.

Ban also urged "the delegations to prevent any further deterioration of the situation, and to show the responsibility and flexibility required to arrive at a comprehensive agreement ending the conflict."

"There is an alarming scarcity of basic food items. The economy is in precarious condition. Whilst the cessation of hostilities is mostly holding, there have been serious violations, causing further casualties and suffering amongst the civilian population, including children," Ban told the delegations. "This worrying situation gives you, the delegations to the Yemeni talks, a very serious responsibility."

However, Ban expressed hope by the commitment of both delegations over a period of many weeks, and into this holy month, to reach a successful outcome.

But he noted that "time is not on the side of the Yemeni people. With every day that the conflict remains unresolved, their situation grows worse. The longer the conflict endures, the more time it will take for Yemen to

recover. "The position of the international community is clear: The conflict must end, and Yemen must return to the transitional process and work towards the implementation of the Outcomes of the National Dialogue Conference."

Ban urged the delegations to prevent any further deterioration of the situation, and to show the responsibility and flexibility required to arrive at a comprehensive agreement ending the conflict. "Yemen is a country of extraordinary beauty, bountiful natural resources and an ancient and noble people. I encourage you to work for the goals of: ending the violence, addressing the roots of the conflict and working together to build a better future for all Yemenis. I can assure that you have wholehearted support of the United Nations to meet these goals." Ban also noted that he was encouraged by recent releases of prisoners of war and detainees. "I urge the release of all prisoners, including political detainees, journalists, civil society activists and others as a goodwill gesture ahead of the Eid holiday."

Ban, who started the visit to the country earlier yesterday once again thanked His Highness the Amir for the commitment and hospitality. "I extend my best wishes to all and particularly the people of Yemen, for the upcoming Eid," he concluded. — Agencies

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In focus

FOR MANY MIGRANTS, AMERICAN DREAM TURNS TO NIGHTMARE

By Jocelyne Zablit

Every weekday, year-round, Esteban Yanez rises at the crack of dawn and heads to his job as a construction worker near the largely Hispanic desert town of Perris, south of Los Angeles.

On weekends, he does odd jobs to complement his salary. Though the 49-year-old father of four pays income tax and social security, he has no annual vacation, no health insurance and no work benefits. Yanez, who is Mexican, is among the estimated 11 million undocumented immigrants in the United States at the heart of a contentious debate that has stirred up passions and become a defining issue in the presidential race. Donald Trump, the billionaire businessman and presumptive Republican nominee, has made deporting America's entire illegal immigrant population and building a wall on the US border with Mexico a centerpiece of his campaign. His inflamed rhetoric, constantly hammered home at campaign appearances, has resonated with a large part of the US electorate, but has also enraged many, including people like Yanez who call America home.

"I came here 16 years ago in search of the American dream and to offer my kids a better future," Yanez told AFP during a recent meeting at the end of his 12-hour workday. "And I do the kind of backbreaking work that only immigrants are willing to do. Others don't want to get their hands dirty with this kind of job."

'They're here to stay'

According to the Public Policy Institute of California, almost a quarter (2.67 million) of the nation's undocumented immigrants live in California, where they make up slightly more than six percent of the state's population of nearly 40 million. The majority hail from Mexico and work in farming, construction, housekeeping, elderly care, landscaping or for moving and transport companies.

"We work, we pay our dues, we take no handouts and we are not hurting anyone," sighed Maria Delosangeles, 52, who arrived in the US from Mexico 18 years ago and works as a housekeeper in the Los Angeles area. "How does it adversely affect Trump for us to be here?"

Nationwide, undocumented immigrants collectively pay almost \$12 billion a year in state and local taxes, with more than \$3.1 billion coming from California alone, according to The Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy. Advocates emphasize that they reap no benefits from their contributions. "These people are as much a part of our landscape and culture as anyone else that's here," said Harold McClarty, a farmer in central California—a region known as "America's salad bowl"—and head of the California Fresh Fruit Association.

"We need to recognize that they're here to stay and that it's ridiculous to say we're going to send them back because that's beyond not practical—it's immoral," he added.

America would go hungry

McClarty and other immigration reform advocates emphasize that were millions of undocumented farmworkers kicked out, as Trump would have it, America would essentially go hungry. They point, as an example, to the state of Georgia, where an immigration crackdown in 2011 backfired, leading to crops rotting in fields and the agriculture industry losing tens of millions of dollars for lack of other "legal" laborers willing to take on such work.

"The country's economy would basically collapse if we didn't have undocumented workers," said Los Angeles-based Jose Antonio Vargas, a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist-turned-activist, who came out as an undocumented immigrant several years ago.

Vargas, founder of Define America, a non-profit that tries to humanize the debate over immigration, said if anything, Trump's rhetoric had forced the issue to the forefront and could finally spur immigration reform. "Trump has opened the conversation and, in some ways, this really is a defining moment for all of us to try and figure out whether we keep hiding, or do we show people who we are," said Vargas, 35, who was born in the Philippines and was raised by his grandparents in the United States from the age of 12.

The community suffered a setback on Thursday, however, when the Supreme Court dealt a major blow to President Barack Obama's plan to spare millions from being deported and to allow them to legally work in the country. A tie vote by the justices left in place a lower court ruling blocking Obama's plan.

'Nothing to hide'

The mounting frustration of this growing population living in the shadows was evident during interviews with several undocumented workers who willingly shared their identity and their stories, expressing anger at how their community has been demonized. Jaime and Ana Flores, who arrived in the US from Mexico 27 years ago and now run a landscaping service in Perris, proudly pointed out that their modest success had come by the sweat of their brow. — AFP

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STURGEON PLANS EU FUTURE FOR SCOTLAND

By Dario Thuburn and Naomi O'Leary

Scottish First Minister Nicola Sturgeon yesterday vowed to protect Scotland against the "devastating" fallout of Brexit and hinted her government may use legal means to try to block Britain's departure from the EU. Sturgeon said the United Kingdom that Scotland voted to remain a part of in a 2014 independence referendum "does not exist anymore" after Thursday's referendum to leave the EU.

"What's going to happen with the UK is that there are going to be deeply damaging and painful consequences... I want to try and protect Scotland from that," Sturgeon told the BBC's Andrew Marr Show. In a round of broadcast interviews, she also said it was possible that the Scottish parliament may have to give its consent to laws to extricate Britain from the EU.

Asked whether she would consider asking Scottish lawmakers not to give that consent, she replied: "Of course." Sturgeon leads the pro-independence Scottish National Party, which has 63 out of 129 seats in the devolved parliament, as well as 54 out of 650 seats in Britain's House of Commons lower house of parliament.

Britain as a whole voted by 52 percent to 48 percent to leave the EU but Scotland voted strongly for Britain to remain—by 62 percent to 38 percent. Within hours of the result on Friday, Sturgeon said a new independence referendum within two years was now "highly likely" and on Saturday she said

Scotland was seeking "immediate discussions" with European leaders.

Two new polls taken after Thursday's vote showed a majority of Scots would now support independence.

A Panelbase survey for the Sunday Times found 52 percent of respondents now wanted to break with the rest of Britain, while 48 percent were opposed. In a poll for Scotland's Sunday Post, ScotPulse found that 59 percent would vote for independence.

'Scotland staying' in EU

Sturgeon yesterday warned that the consequences of dragging Scotland out of the European Union "against its will" would be "devastating". Asked what Scotland's negotiating position with Brussels could be and whether it would have to join the EU as a new member state, she said: "This would not be a decision about Scotland leaving... this would actually be a decision about Scotland staying."

"Our argument is that we don't want to leave. It's not that we want to leave and get back in," she said. She also cautioned any future British prime minister against vetoing a new Scottish independence vote. "I think people in Scotland would find that completely unacceptable," she said.

Andrew Scott, a professor of European Union studies at the University of Edinburgh, said one way in which Scotland could remain in the EU would be to vote for independence before Britain's departure is

finalized. It could then define itself as a "successor state" and effectively inherit Britain's EU membership, including the budget rebate, he argued.

A second option would be for an independent Scotland to leave the EU and then re-apply while in the meantime joining the European Economic Area, he said. "I think the European Union would have no reason to reject Scotland's participation or continuing membership of the EU," Scott added.

EU officials have cautioned in recent days that Scotland may have to apply like other new member states, which are required to adopt the euro.

'I feel more European'

In the streets of Edinburgh, many people backed independence. Chris Dougray, a financial advisor, said he was concerned about the impact on investment in Scotland if it is forced out of the European Union. "If it meant that we stay in the European Union, I would vote for independence, yes," he said.

Zoe Cuthbert, a 23-year-old student of international law, said: "I feel more European than I do British. 'We've clearly made our voice heard that we look more to Europe than we do to the rest of the UK.' But Evelyn Hutchen, a 68-year-old Glaswegian, said she had voted to leave the European Union.

"Britain isn't ours anymore because of the EU," she said, adding: "Sometimes I feel they're stripping the British away from us." — AFP

BLAME FLOWS FREELY AS WEST BANK TAPS RUN DRY

By Sarah Benhaida

'I've lost so much'

Fatma Ali stands in her small patch of garden in the parched West Bank and wonders how to feed her family of seven when she's had no water in nearly a week. "I can't cook, do the dishes or serve drinks," she says, surveying the cracked earth and dried-up fountain in her yard in Salfit, north of Ramallah.

Ali is one of tens of thousands of Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied West Bank who have gone without water in recent weeks, victims of the latest dispute between Israeli and Palestinian officials over the region's most valuable resource. She and her family are among some of Salfit's 15,000 inhabitants who have been without water for five days even as temperatures have topped 40 degrees Celsius (105 Fahrenheit).

The town-like nearly all Palestinian towns-gets its water from the mains network of Israel, which has diverted supplies to Jewish settlements in the West Bank while the high temperatures persist, Palestinian authorities say. "I have grandchildren who can't shower and who need something to drink," Ali says. The shortage is felt all the more by Salfit's residents as it comes during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, when families gather each night for the iftar meal which breaks the daytime fast.

In addition to families being unable to clean dishes or wash fruit and vegetables, the shortage is hitting the area's olive and date trees, which require regular watering. Although the shortage is recent, the dispute over water has long been one of the main bones of contention in the decades-old Israeli-Palestinian conflict. "Salfit sits on what have been the largest water reserves in historical Palestine and yet we have nothing to drink because our water is diverted to Israeli settlements," Mayor Shaher Eshthieh complained.

But according to Uri Schor, a spokesman for Israel's water authority, both Israelis and Palestinians are suffering from the shortage, which he attributes to an excess of demand. He puts supply problems down to the "total refusal" by Palestinian officials to replace dilapidated pipelines, which can limit water capacity.

According to EWASH, a collection of NGOs dealing with water in the Palestinian Territories, each West Bank inhabitant uses 73 litres (16 gallons) of water per day. That's below the 100-litre level advised by the World Health Organization and less than a third of the 240 litres used daily by Israelis.

Palestinian authorities accuse Israel of stalling permission to upgrade existing water infrastructure, which they say includes wells and pipes that have not

been checked in years. Saleh Ataneh, head of Salfit's water department, accused Israel of lying when it said that both communities were affected by cuts. He said shortages "only affect Palestinian towns and villages". But Israeli foreign affairs spokesman Emmanuel Nahshon accused the Palestinians of illegally syphoning off water from pipes and waterways. "No one steals water directly on the Israeli side," he says.

As the political blame game wears on, it is residents who are suffering the most

from the taps being switched off. Palestinian farmer Zaher Madi said it was having a catastrophic effect on his livestock. "I need 10 cubic metres (350 cubic feet) a day on my farm. I've received 10 cubic metres total in the last four days," he says, pointing to four buckets holding the remainder of the previous day's supply. "Sometimes I am afraid to feed the animals, because I'm scared they will need water afterwards. 'The animals are dead, the cows have had miscarriages, I have lost so much.'" — AFP



SALFIT, Palestinian Territories: Members of the Salim family carry bottles filled with spring water in Salfit, north of Ramallah, where some of the West Bank village's inhabitants have been without water for days. — AFP

BOXING: FURY DENIES DOPING CLAIM

LONDON: Controversial British heavyweight world champion Tyson Fury denied claims made in a Sunday newspaper he had failed a doping test last year. The Sunday Mirror had alleged that Fury—who won the belt in an upset defeat of Wladimir Klitschko last November—had returned a sample with a banned steroid in it. “We are baffled by today’s story in the Sunday Mirror,” read a statement from his promoter Hennessy Sports. “Tyson Fury absolutely denies any allegation of doping. He looks forward to recovering from his injury and defending his titles against Wladimir Klitschko in October.” The allegation comes only two days after the 27-year-old—who sparked a furore with sexist remarks about women made last year—announced he would not be able to defend the WBA, WBO and IBO belts in a rematch with Klitschko in July after injuring his ankle during a run. The Mirror claimed that banned steroid nandrolone—which aids muscle growth—had been discovered in a test he underwent either in February or March last year well before his win over the ageing Klitschko. According to the paper his cousin, also a boxer, failed a test for the same substance, although he also denied any wrongdoing. — AFP



HIDDEN MOTOR CHECKS FOR TOUR DE FRANCE

PARIS: A wide reaching series of checks for hidden motors in bicycles is to be employed at the 2016 Tour de France, Yesterday’s French weekly le Journal du Dimanche has reported. Three systems will be used for the checks; an already existing magnetic resonance method screening the start and finish lines, a motorbike mounted thermal detector and a third system provided by the French state from military sources. The Tour gets underway next weekend at Mont Saint Michel and runs from July 2-24. The Journal de Dimanche cited evidence suggesting motorised cycle use had been strongly suspected at recent Tour de France and other races. “This problem is worse than doping. The very future of cycling is hanging in the balance,” French Sports Minister Thierry Braillard told the newspaper. “Under my orders research centres have been hard at work to establish the best way to combat this menace.” Femke Van den Driessche of Belgium was banned for six years for the first recorded case of using hidden motors in racing last April after early motor check tests were used. — AFP

HODGSON HAPPY TO CONTINUE BUT WILL NOT ‘BEG’ TO STAY

LONDON: England manager Roy Hodgson has said he is prepared to remain in the job after Euro 2016 but will not be ‘begging’ for a new deal. Hodgson’s contract expires after the tournament in France and Football Association chairman Greg Dyke indicated last week that the 68-year-old may have to lead the team to the semi-finals to guarantee staying on. “I’m not begging for the job. I am prepared to carry on,” Hodgson told British media ahead of today’s last-16 match against Iceland in Nice. “It is different to wanting it. I’m prepared to carry on if the FA want me to. “If they don’t want me to, then my contract will have run out and that is how it will be. “I believe in the team I am working with and believe the team is showing such potential that it will go on to do good things and if the FA want me to continue with me looking after them, I will be happy to do so.” England reached the last 16 after finishing second to Wales, who have already reached the quarter-finals, in Group B. They beat Wales 2-1 but draws against Russia and Slovakia left them in what turned out to be a much tougher half of the draw. They have scored three goals from their three games to date. — Reuters



MLB results/standings

Baltimore 5, Tampa Bay 0; NY Yankees 2, Minnesota 1; Toronto 10, Chicago White Sox 8; Cleveland 6, Detroit 0; Colorado 11, Arizona 6; Miami 9, Chicago Cubs 6; San Diego 3, Cincinnati 0; Milwaukee 6, Washington 5; Baltimore 8, Tampa Bay 6; Houston 13, Kansas City 5; Pittsburgh 6, LA Dodgers 1; NY Mets 1, Atlanta 0 (11 innings); Texas 10, Boston 3; Oakland 7, LA Angels 3; Philadelphia 3, San Francisco 2; Seattle 5, St. Louis 4.

American League				
Eastern Division				
	W	L	PCT	GB
Baltimore	44	30	.595	-
Boston	41	33	.554	3
Toronto	41	35	.539	4
NY Yankees	37	36	.507	6.5
Tampa Bay	31	42	.425	12.5
Central Division				
Cleveland	43	30	.589	-
Kansas City	38	35	.521	5
Detroit	38	37	.507	6
Chicago White Sox	37	38	.493	7
Minnesota	23	51	.311	20.5
Western Division				
Texas	48	27	.640	-
Houston	39	36	.520	9
Seattle	38	37	.507	10
Oakland	32	42	.432	15.5
LA Angels	31	44	.413	17
National League				
Eastern Division				
Washington	43	32	.573	-
NY Mets	40	33	.548	2
Miami	40	35	.533	3
Philadelphia	32	44	.421	11.5
Atlanta	25	49	.338	17.5
Central Division				
Chicago Cubs	48	25	.658	-
St. Louis	38	35	.521	10
Pittsburgh	36	39	.480	13
Milwaukee	34	40	.459	14.5
Cincinnati	28	47	.373	21
Western Division				
San Francisco	48	28	.632	-
LA Dodgers	41	35	.539	7
Colorado	35	39	.473	12
Arizona	36	41	.468	12.5
San Diego	33	43	.434	15



NEW YORK: Brian McCann #34 of the New York Yankees is tagged out at home by Kurt Suzuki #8 of the Minnesota Twins trying to score on a fly ball in the eighth inning at Yankee Stadium on June 25, in the Bronx borough of New York City. —AFP

BULLPEN BRILLIANT AGAIN AS YANKEES EDGE TWINS 2-1

NEW YORK: Starlin Castro drove home the tiebreaking run in the eighth inning with a sharp one-hopper scored an error on shortstop Eduardo Escobar, and the New York Yankees edged the Minnesota Twins 2-1 Saturday with more dominant pitching from the back end of their bullpen. Dellin Betances, Andrew Miller (5-0) and Aroldis Chapman combined to throw three scoreless innings for the third straight game. They had teamed up to set down 26 consecutive batters during that stretch before Joe Mauer singled on a 99 mph fastball from Chapman with two outs in the ninth. The left-hander then struck out Brian Dozier, who homered earlier off a very effective Michael Pineda, for his 15th save in 16 tries. The 100 mph fastball that ended it was the only pitch Chapman threw that reached triple digits - after his first 10 on Friday night were all 100 mph or more on the scoreboard. In the eighth, pinch-runner Aaron Hicks advanced to third on Brian McCann’s single off Ryan Pressly (2-4), and Castro singled sharply to the left of Escobar one out later.

BLUE JAYS 10, WHITE SOX 8

The White Sox tied a team record with seven home runs, but it wasn’t enough as Edwin Encarnacion drove in four runs, Devon Travis homered and Toronto held on for the win. All seven homers were solo shots. Brett Lawrie became the first White Sox player since Ron Santo in 1974 to hit inside-the-park and over-the-wall homers in the same game, and Chicago hit three straight home runs in the second inning. Dioner Navarro, J.B. Shuck, Tim Anderson, Alex Avila and Adam Eaton all went deep for the White Sox, who matched the club record for homers set at the Kansas City Athletics on April 23, 1955. Knuckleballer R.A. Dickey (5-8) matched a career high by allowing four home runs. He gave up five runs - four earned - and seven hits in 5 1/3 innings. Roberto Osuna gave up Eaton’s homer in the ninth before earning his 15th save. Miguel Gonzalez (1-3) gave up eight runs and 10 hits in 5 1/3 innings.

METS 1, BRAVES 0, 11 INNINGS

Pinch-hitter Kelly Johnson lined a leadoff home run in the 11th inning and New York outlasted Atlanta. Johnson pulled a pitch from Dario Alvarez (1-1) into the first row of the right-field seats for his third homer. Johnson began the year with the Braves before he was traded to the Mets on June 8. Alvarez was claimed off waivers from the Mets by the Braves in late May. The homer was the first extra-base hit of a game that began as a terrific duel between Jacob deGrom and Julio Teheran. They each threw eight scoreless innings. Addison Reed (2-2) pitched 1 2/3 scoreless innings for the Mets, who now trail first-place Washington by two games in the

NL East. Jeury’s Familia worked the 11th for his majors-leading 26th save in 26 chances.

PADRES 3, REDS 0

Drew Pomeranz drove in a pair of runs and pitched seven innings, leading San Diego in a game delayed a few minutes by the Cincinnati Reds’ tribute to Pete Rose. Pomeranz hit his second career homer and had an RBI single against left-hander Brandon Finnegan (3-6). The Padres have won the first three games of the series, improving to 12-3 against the Reds over the last three seasons. The Reds inducted Rose into their Hall of Fame during a pregame ceremony that included his Big Red Machine teammates and went six minutes long. During a session with the media, Rose joked about taking volunteers for the Reds’ beleaguered bullpen, which is by far the worst in the majors. Pomeranz (7-7) gave up three hits, walked one and struck out six, including the last three batters he faced on a humid, 87-degree afternoon. Fernando Rodney retired the side in the ninth, completing a four-hitter while getting his 17th save in 17 chances.

ORIOLES 5, RAYS 0, 1st game; ORIOLES 8, RAYS 6, 2nd game

Matt Wieters hit two homers, and Baltimore rallied from four runs down in the second game to complete a doubleheader sweep and extend Tampa Bay’s losing streak to 10 games. Adam Jones and Chris Davis also homered for the AL East-leading Orioles, who trailed 4-0 in the third inning and 6-3 in the fifth. Orioles starter Chris Tillman gave up six runs and 10 hits in five innings before Baltimore’s comeback kept the right-hander unbeaten in 13 starts since April 14. Wieters hit a two-run shot in the fourth, Jones connected in the fifth and Davis led off the sixth with his 17th homer to get the Orioles to 6-5. Baltimore took its first lead in the seventh. Jones hit an RBI single off Erasmo Ramirez (7-6) and Davis greeted Xavier Cedenno with a run-scoring single. Wieters connected again leading off the eighth. T.J. McFarland (2-2) pitched two scoreless innings, Brad Brach worked the eighth and Zach Britton got three outs for his 23rd save. The first game of the day-night doubleheader was dominated by Kevin Gausman (1-5), who earned his first win in 13 starts since last September. He allowed four hits in 7 2/3 innings. Matt Andriese (6-1) gave up two runs and five hits in 4 2/3 innings for Tampa Bay. The right-hander was unbeaten in 10 starts since last June 22.

INDIANS 6, TIGERS 0

Francisco Lindor homered twice and Carlos Carrasco pitched a four-hitter to lead Cleveland to its eighth consecutive win. The Indians also improved to 8-0 against the Tigers this year, outscoring them 51-16. It was the first career multi-homer game for the 22-

year-old Lindor, and Carlos Santana and Yan Gomes also went deep for AL Central-leading Cleveland. The Indians spoiled Anibal Sanchez’s return to the Detroit rotation. The right-hander allowed a homer to Santana on the game’s second pitch, and Lindor added another solo shot one out later. Carrasco (3-2) struck out seven and walked one. He threw a season-high 117 pitches in his third career shutout and first of the year. Sanchez (4-8) made his first start since May 31 after being demoted to the bullpen for a bit. He allowed four runs and five hits in five innings.

MARLINS 9, CUBS 6

Justin Bour and Giancarlo Stanton each drove in three runs, Paul Clemens got his first big league win in more than three years and Miami erased an early deficit to beat Chicago. Bour hit his 14th home run for the Marlins, who got to 40 wins in 75 games - or 20 games faster than they did a year ago. Ichiro Suzuki’s infield single in the fifth sparked what became a four-run inning that put Miami ahead for good. The Cubs lost for the fifth time in six games. Clemens (1-0) trailed 4-1 early but settled down and gave Miami five innings of four-run ball. It was his first win since June 12, 2013, and A.J. Ramos got the last two outs for his 24th save. Addison Russell hit a three-run homer and Miguel Montero added a solo homer for the Cubs. Chicago starter John Lackey (7-4) gave up a season-high seven runs in 4 1/3 innings.

BREWERS 6, NATIONALS 5

Chris Carter hit a three-run homer, Matt Garza pitched six innings for his first win of the season, and Milwaukee beat Washington. Carter connected for his 19th homer with two out in the first. Jonathan Villar had three hits for Milwaukee, including an RBI single in the second. Garza (1-0) gave up four runs and seven hits in his third start of the year. He was sidelined for the first two months of the season by a back injury. Washington left-hander Gio Gonzalez (3-7) pitched a season-low three innings in his sixth consecutive loss. He was charged with six runs and six hits with five strikeouts and one walk.

PHILLIES 3, GIANTS 2

Cameron Rupp chased Madison Bumgarner with a two-run homer in Philadelphia’s three-run seventh inning, helping the Phillies beat San Francisco. Andres Blanco singled in Tommy Joseph before Rupp connected for his seventh homer. Joseph had two hits for Philadelphia, which had lost 10 of 11. Bumgarner (8-4) carried a two-hitter into the seventh and then allowed three hits to the first four batters he faced in the frame, including Rupp’s shot over wall in center. The left-hander struck out seven and walked one. Bumgarner allowed more than two earned

runs in a game for the first time since giving up four to the Los Angeles Dodgers on April 15, a span of 12 starts. Jeremy Hellickson (5-6) gave up two runs and five hits in six innings for the Phillies. Jeanmar Gomez pitched the ninth for his 20th save.

ROCKIES 11, DIAMONDBACKS 6

Tony Wolters hit his first major league home run and drove in four runs, helping Colorado beat Arizona. Wolters hit a two-run double in the fourth off Shelby Miller and a two-run homer in the sixth that boosted Colorado’s lead to 7-1. DJ LeMahieu and Charlie Blackmon also homered for the Rockies, who stopped a three-game losing streak Jorge De La Rosa (5-4) improved to 9-1 with a 1.96 ERA in 13 Coors Field starts against Arizona, allowing one run, six hits and five walks in six innings. Gonzalez Germen got four outs for his first save this season. Miller (2-7) gave up seven runs and 11 hits in six innings, raising his ERA to 6.79.

PIRATES 6, DODGERS 1

Andrew McCutchen homered twice, Jeff Locke took a perfect game into the sixth inning, and Pittsburgh beat Los Angeles for the second straight night. McCutchen had a solo shot in the fourth inning for the game’s first hit and then a three-run shot to start a five-run sixth that increased the Pirates’ lead to 6-0. McCutchen raised his season total to 12 home runs with his 11th career multi-homer game - second this year. The nine-year veteran’s batting average had dropped to .239 after going 9 for 49 (.184) with 16 strikeouts in his previous 13 games. Locke (7-5) retired his first 15 batters before consecutive doubles by Scott Van Slyke and A.J. Ellis to start the sixth inning. Locke allowed one run and five hits in seven innings, striking out three and walking none. Kenta Maeda (6-5) gave up four runs and four hits in five-plus innings.

ASTROS 13, ROYALS 5

Jose Altuve went 4 for 5, including a home run and two doubles, and Houston won its seventh straight. Altuve drove in three runs and scored three runs. He is hitting .417 with a .484 on-base percentage while reaching base in 27 consecutive games, the longest active streak in the major leagues. Marwin Gonzalez, Altuve and Carlos Correa, the Astros’ two-three-four hitters, combined to go 8 for 15 with seven RBIs, six runs and two homers. Altuve and Correa hit consecutive homers in a seven-run second. Michael Feliz (5-1) won despite allowing two runs and three hits in 1 2/3 innings. Astros starter Mike Fiers, staked to a 9-1 lead in the fourth, was removed after 4 1/3 innings. He gave up three runs, nine hits and three walks and also a hit batter. Chris Young (2-7) yielded seven runs, seven hits

and four walks in 2 1/3 innings, raising his ERA to 6.54.

RANGERS 10, RED SOX 3

Elvis Andrus had a bases-loaded triple and Ian Desmond homered again to lead Texas. Desmond’s 13th homer, his sixth in June, tied the game leading off the fourth. Mitch Moreland had a tiebreaking two-run single later in the inning to put the Rangers ahead to stay. Andrus cleared the bases with his triple to the wall in left-center that chased knuckleballer Steven Wright (8-5) in the fifth. Andrus scored on a wild pitch by Robbie Ross Jr., capping a five-run inning when all the runs were unearned after two errors and a passed ball. Cesar Ramos (2-3), the third Texas pitcher, pitched 2 2/3 scoreless innings. The lefty struck out consecutive batters after taking over with runners and second and third, and one out in the sixth.

ATHLETICS 7, ANGELS 3

Coco Crisp hit a two-run single and scored four times, Danny Valencia homered and drove in three runs, and Dillon Overton pitched into the sixth inning to get the win in major league debut as Oakland beat Los Angeles. Angels slugger Albert Pujols hit his 574th homer to snap a tie with Harmon Killebrew for 11th place on baseball’s career list. It was Pujols’ second homer in as many nights and No. 14 on the season, but the Angels lost their sixth in a row and fell to a season-worst 13 games under .500 (31-44). The Angels loaded the bases with one out in the ninth, but Sean Doolittle retired the next two in order. Overton (1-0) gave up back-to-back homers by Kole Calhoun and Mike Trout in the first inning. The 24-year-old left-hander was charged with three runs and seven hits in 5 2/3 innings. Jhoulys Chacin (2-4) allowed four runs and six hits in 4 2/3 innings for Los Angeles.

MARINERS 5, CARDINALS 4

Dae-Ho Lee drove in two runs and Leony’s Martin had three hits to help Nathan Karns get his first win in almost a month as Seattle beat St. Louis. Karns (6-2) gave up four runs and five hits in five innings for his first victory since May 30, and Steve Cishek got the last three outs for his 17th save of the season. The Mariners loaded the bases against Mike Leake (5-5) in each of the first two innings. Lee had two-run single in the first and Adam Lind followed with an RBI single to make it 3-0. In the second, a hard ground ball from Cruz got away from third baseman Jhonny Peralta to drive in a run. Seager’s grounder was mishandled by Matt Carpenter as another run scored to make it 5-0 lead. Matt Holliday had an RBI single in the third and Almedys Diaz clubbed a three-run homer in the fifth for the Cardinals. — AP



Hamilton & 'Cigarette Racing 50 Marauder AMG Monaco concept'



Rosberg & ARROW460 - Granturismo.

ONE STAR - TWO WORLDS WITH NICO ROSBERG AND LEWIS HAMILTON

SPEED & STYLE: RACING PERFORMANCE MEETS MODERN LUXURY IN MONACO

MONACO: Style and speed went head to head on Monaco's coast when the MERCEDES-AMG PETRONAS Formula 1 champions, Nico Rosberg and Lewis Hamilton, took their competition off Monaco's Grand Prix tracks and onto the stunning French Riviera. Putting their skills to the test, both champions brought their own charm to the game - Hamilton's driving agility and Rosberg's modern luxury style. To cool off before the Monaco Grand Prix, the two drivers swapped their racing cars for luxury boats; Hamilton chose performance and speed with the "Cigarette Racing 50 Marauder AMG Monaco Concept", inspired by the MERCEDES-AMG PETRONAS Formula 1 car, while Rosberg brought modern luxury to life with the S-Class Cabriolet and the Mercedes-Benz Style luxury motor yacht "ARROW460 - Granturismo". With Speed & Style, Mercedes perfectly blends the worlds of modern luxury and racing performance - whether on water or land.

"The Cigarette Racing speedboat and our Mercedes-Benz Style luxury yacht 'ARROW460-Granturismo' represent a coming together of two design icons. Each of them is hot and cool as their

design is both attractive and surprisingly new, making both boats perfect embodiments of emotion and intelligence," states Gordon Wagener, Head of Design at Daimler. He adds: "The 'ARROW460-Granturismo' carries our Mercedes genes throughout. We have transferred an automotive design idiom to a yacht - and this design statement far outside the usual mainstream in the boat industry allows us to create a totally original aesthetic."

For more than a century, and with the founding fathers Gottlieb Daimler and Carl Benz philosophy in mind, "the best or nothing", Mercedes continues to strive for the best in every field. Thanks to the brand's design philosophy of modern luxury, Mercedes products embodies sensual purity and timeless appeal.

PURE PERFORMANCE AND POWER

The high-performance boat "Cigarette Racing 50 Marauder AMG Monaco Concept" is equipped with the most powerful series-production twin engines in the Cigarette portfolio. Two Mercury Racing V8 racing engines each with 1140 kW (1550 hp) take the 50 foot-long (approx. 15 metres) and eight foot-

wide (approx. 2.40 metres) powerboat to an estimated top speed of more than 228 km/h (more than 142 mph).

The characteristic design and the thoroughbred motorsport technology are inspired by the performance brand Mercedes-AMG and the current MERCEDES-AMG PETRONAS Formula 1 car. The boat is made in a new type of layup process which has been specially developed for racing and reduces weight but also ensures better handling under high loads. The Mercedes-Benz designers were responsible for the exterior design featuring black and silver tones contrasted by sporty turquoise green highlights as well as for the interior design which is inspired by the classic Cigarette Racing cockpit. Furthermore, the user interface offers state-of-the-art technologies: computer-based control, four high-resolution displays, Garmin navigation, and a Pure audio system. The price of this unique boat is approx. 1.6 million US dollars (when purchased FOB Monaco).

Mercedes-AMG and Cigarette Racing have been working in partnership since 2007. Both share racing roots and the uncompromising passion for performance plus the aim to always deliver opti-

mum achievements.

MODERN LUXURY ON THE WATER

Designed by Mercedes-Benz Style and developed together with Silver Arrow Marine, the luxury "Arrow460-Granturismo" motor yacht celebrated its world premiere in April 2016. With this model, Mercedes-Benz is developing a completely new boat concept. The 14-metre-long 706 kW (960 hp) "Silver Arrow of the Seas" combines the performance of the famous Mercedes-Benz sports cars with unique innovations from the boat industry.

The yacht has classic automobile proportions that bring the hallmark Mercedes design idiom of sensual purity onto the water in a highly emotional and dynamic form. The yacht also combines the advantages of an open boat with those of a hull cabin cruiser in unique fashion. Its crossover design offers the ultimate in variability, resulting in a boat that is equally suitable for day trips and overnight stays on board. The yacht offers room for up to ten people and is available in the fully equipped Edition 1 at a price of 2.5 million euros.

With the world premiere of the

"ARROW460 - Granturismo" the Mercedes-Benz Style designers have made Gottlieb Daimler's dream come true. 130 years after the invention of the automobile, individual mobility is now possible on land, on water and in the air. In 2011 the "Airbus Helicopters H145 Mercedes-Benz Style" lifted off as the first mobility product beyond the automobile.

MERCEDES-SPEEDBOAT 'WIENER NEUSTADT'

Speedboats of the house of Mercedes own a long tradition. Already in 1906, the Mercedes-Speedboat "Wiener Neustadt" caused sensation. Designed by the engineer Fritz Maier, it was driven by a 147 kW (200 hp) strong Daimler-eight-cylinder engine, which was built by the first Daimler-engine-company in the Neustadt of Vienna. Due to the high waves the boat threw at races in front of the Côte d'Azur, it was called by the nickname "whale".

Enjoy a sunny cruise with both Hamilton and Rosberg on the board of the Cigarette Racing speedboat and Mercedes-Benz Style luxury yacht 'ARROW460-Granturismo'.

NISSAN POWERS QATARI RALLY CHAMP ADEL ABDULLA TO WORLD RALLY CHAMPIONSHIP

DUBAI: Nissan Middle East and Saleh Al Hamad Al Mana Co., its exclusive dealer in Qatar, extended their commitment and support to Qatari rally driver, Adel Hussain Abdulla, by sponsoring him as he takes his championship-winning driving to the World Rally Championship (WRC) 2016.

The sponsorship deal, underpinned by a new Nissan Patrol XE for the WRC, also provides complete race support and covers all expenses incurred including parts and technical support. Speaking after the signing, Samir Cherfan, Nissan Middle East's Managing Director said: "Motorsport is in the DNA of Nissan, which makes it vitally important for us to support champion racers around the world. Adel is an exceptionally talented driver and a credit to the region as a whole. He has already enjoyed extensive success in Middle East championships with the Patrol, and we support his ambitious attempts to take on the World Rally Championship by continuing to drive in the 'Hero of all Terrains in Life'."

Qatar-based Abdulla has been competing in rallies as co-driver and driver for the past 26 years, taking part in more than 140 international and regional events. He has become a regular fixture on the podium, too, having taken top honours in the Kuwait International Rally, Qatar's International Baja and Saudi Arabia's Ha'il International Rally - some of the world's toughest motorsport challenges - as well as numerous top three finishes in cars and on quad bikes.

This year will see Abdulla participate for the first time in the FIA World Rally Championship with French co-driver Jean-Michel Polato, who brings a wealth of experience having competed in many WRC events. The duo will also be supported by the Qatar Motor and Motorcycle Federation (QMMF).

EXTREMELY TOUGH

The Nissan Patrol is very familiar to Abdulla, who drove it to first place in the T2 category of this year's Abu Dhabi Desert Challenge, as well as competing in it on the Sealine Cross-Country Rally in his homeland, Qatar. He is currently second place in the T2 Championship rankings and is aiming to take first, which would secure Nissan's second overall win in a row, after Denis Berezovsky's victory in 2015, also supported by Nissan Middle East. "Nissan's heritage in motorsport is long, rich and diverse," concluded Cherfan. "And rallying, while extremely tough, is what the Patrol is designed and built to cope with. It is this region's favourite all-terrain vehicle and enjoys a fiercely loyal fan base thanks, in part, to the impressive performances the model puts in each year on the world rally stages. We wish Adel every success and look forward to seeing both him and the new Patrol displaying their enormous abilities in some of the world's most challenging competitions."

During the 2016 season, Abdulla's Nissan Patrol will be prepared, maintained and supervised by the leading Turkish motorsport company, TOK Sports.



NEW YORK: Shawn Porter, right, pressures Keith Thurman during their WBA Welterweight title fight at the Barclays Center in Brooklyn borough of New York on Saturday. Thurman won via unanimous decision to retain his title. — AP

THURMAN EDGES PORTER TO RETAIN WBA TITLE

NEW YORK: Keith Thurman put his stamp on the deeply talented welterweight division Saturday, beating challenger Shawn Porter by a unanimous decision to retain his World Boxing Association title. Thurman kept his undefeated record alive and showed he deserves to be regarded as the kingpin of the welterweight division, which is moving on from the retirements of Floyd Mayweather and Manny Pacquiao. The 27-year-old Thurman landed several solid lefts that either wobbled or staggered Porter as he won the close contest at the Barclays Center arena in New York by scores of 115-113 on all three judges scorecards. "Defense, defense, defense," said Thurman who improved to 27-0 with 22 knockouts.

The clash between two Americans was supposed to be held earlier this year, but Thurman was involved in a car crash on a rain-slicked Florida street which pushed the bout back three months. Thurman, who has been on fringes of boxing celebrity, is hoping this is a breakthrough moment for him as the former champion Porter proved to be the biggest test of his career to date. "Everybody said he was going to be my toughest opponent," Thurman said. "I was unable to drop him but I did rock him." Former IBF welterweight champ Porter lost the first 12-round fight of his career.

Porter figured he had done enough to wrestle the title away and some in the crowd agreed with him, booing the scores when they were announced. "I thought I won the fight. But I am satisfied because the competitor came out. We need that rematch," Porter said.

Thurman said after the slugfest he is willing to give Porter another chance. "He's a great warrior," Thurman said. "But I knew defense would be key. "I was able to rock him at least once each round with clear effective blows and I believe that was the key to victory."

Thurman did most of his damage with his left while Porter had his jab working effectively.

Thurman buckled Porter's knees with a left hook in the fourth round and landed another left on the button in the 10th when Porter walked into a punch. Thurman suffered a cut over his left eye in the ninth, the first time he has been cut in his career.

Porter landed more jabs (59-32), but Thurman threw more power punches (203-177). — AFP

CLINICAL JOSHUA READY FOR WORLD'S ELITE HEAVYWEIGHTS

LONDON: Anthony Joshua feels ready to take on any of the world's elite heavyweights after a seventh round victory over Dominic Breazeale on Saturday.

In a first defence of his International Boxing Federation (IBF) heavyweight title, Joshua felled his American challenger twice in a comfortable victory at the O2 Arena in London. Such has been the rapid rise of Joshua, a gold medalist at the 2012 Olympics, that he is now talking about world title unification fights. And it is hard to see who else will be left to fight if 26-year-old Joshua continues his astonishing run of knockouts, with Breazeale being his 17th stoppage victory from as many bouts since turning professional in October 2013. But Joshua's next fight is likely to be against New Zealand's Joseph Parker, who is his mandatory challenger, while a fight

against fellow Briton Tyson Fury has now been cast into doubt. Fury holds the World Boxing Association (WBA) and World Boxing Organisation (WBO) titles, while American Deontay Wilder is the World Boxing Council (WBC) champion.

Fury, 27, is due to fight former world No 1 Wladimir Klitschko later in the year after he last week pulled out a scheduled fight date of July 9 due to a sprained ankle.

Fury's future was further in doubt after a report in the Sunday Mirror claimed he had allegedly tested positive for the banned anabolic steroid nandrolone in a sample taken last year before he fought Klitschko.

Fury has not fought since November in which time Joshua has registered three knockouts, won a version of the world title and defended it once. — AFP



XHAKA SAYS PENALTY MISS WILL MAKE HIM STRONGER

FAN FERVOR



ST ETIENNE: Granit Xhaka said his miss in Switzerland's penalty shootout loss to Poland at Euro 2016 would make him stronger and promised he would not back down from taking penalties in the future. The Swiss team lost 5-4 after a 1-1 draw on Saturday, their second successive heart-breaking elimination from a major tournament after they were beaten by a last-minute goal in extra time against Argentina at the 2014 World Cup.

Xhaka impressed throughout the tournament with his immaculate passing and cool elegance in possession but the usually unflappable player lost his nerve in the shootout and sent a dismal effort wide of the goal. "I'm sorry for my team mates, for the travelling fans, for Switzerland," he told Swiss television. "Anyone who knows me knows that I will make sure I come back even stronger."

"I took the penalty the way I always do. But I

didn't connect properly with the ball. I am still a young person, only 23. This just makes me stronger. And I promise I will step up at the next penalty shootout."

Switzerland ultimately paid for their lack of firepower and failure to turn possession into clearcut chances. They dominated all four of their matches in terms of possession yet rarely look dangerous.

Haris Seferovic, who started three of their matches, had the most chances but just could not get the ball to go in and suffered more misfortune on Saturday when he fired against the crossbar.

Teenager Breel Embolo started the game against France and made substitute appearances in the other three games but was not quite ready to play an important role in a major tournament.

Coach Vladimir Petkovic gave Eren Derdiyok a try in the second half of Saturday's match and the

Turkish-based player missed out on two good chances during extra time.

Overall, the technically gifted Swiss gave the impression that they could have produced more, especially with players such as full backs Stephan Lichtsteiner and Ricardo Rodriguez, goalkeeper Yann Sommer, Xhaka himself and the mercurial Xherdan Shaqiri. Often seen as dull, they did, however, leave a mark on the tournament thanks to Shaqiri's spectacular bicycle-kick goal against Poland.

That second half, and the extra time that followed, marked the only time during the tournament that Shaqiri showed his cheeky skills to their full and the Swiss looked a different side. "We have produced four very positive performances," was Petkovic's verdict. "We deserved to have stayed here but unfortunately it came down to penalties and we were beaten in the lottery." —Reuters



LENS, PAS-DE-CALAIS: Portugal's defender Pepe (3rd R) vies with Croatia's defender Domagoj Vida (2nd R) during the Euro 2016 round of sixteen football match Croatia vs Portugal, on Saturday at the Bollaert-Delelis stadium in Lens. — AFP

PORTUGAL SUBSTITUTE QUARESMA SNATCHES EXTRA-TIME WINNER

LENS: A close-range header from Portugal substitute Ricardo Quaresma secured a 1-0 win over Croatia after the game burst into life late in extra time on Saturday and set up a Euro 2016 quarter-final against Poland next week.

Quaresma struck three minutes from the end of the extra period after a Cristiano Ronaldo shot was brilliantly saved by Danijel Subasic to settle the tie just a minute after Croatia's Ivan Perisic had hit the post with a header. Croatia almost snatched an equaliser at the death but Domagoj Vida hooked the ball agonisingly wide.

"We expected Portugal to counter and we were playing really well for 120 minutes, controlling the match, not conceding any chances except the last one that was our mistake and we were punished for that," said Croatia coach Ante Cacic.

There was some lovely one-touch play from both sides but plenty of passes also went astray in a tense, cagey last 16 game in which neither side managed to register a shot on target until Ronaldo's late effort led to the winning goal.

Croatia were on top for most of the first half but Portugal had the first chance when Pepe headed Raphael Guerreiro's free kick over the bar after Ronaldo was tripped by Perisic.

Perisic, who had a patch of his hair dyed to match the red-and-white checked pattern of his shirt, then cut in from the right but he dragged his shot outside the near post. Luka Modric and Mario Mandzukic returned from injury for Croatia, with Mandzukic spurning an excellent first-half chance when he headed Dario Srna's corner wide of the target.

With Mandzukic on his own up front and Nani and Ronaldo shackled, neither side could break the deadlock and a smattering of boos and whistles were heard at the halftime whistle.

WASTEFUL FINISHING

Croatia continued to dominate possession after the break, but their wasteful finishing continued as Marcelo Brozovic narrowly failed to connect with Ivan Strinic's cross and then followed up by blazing over from the resulting corner.

Sanches registered Portugal's first shot of the second half when he broke forward and played a one-two with Joao Mario but steered the ball wide of the target. Croatia centre-back Vida then had a glorious chance to give his side the lead on the hour but headed wide with the goal at his mercy and Mandzukic lurking behind him.

Earning his 100th cap, Nani had a penalty appeal turned down when he went sprawling in the box under pressure from Strinic.

Ronaldo did not fare much better and, despite occasional flashes of skill, he was kept quiet for most of the game.

The match finished scoreless and went into extra time with Nikola Kalinic, who replaced Mandzukic, blasting a shot wide halfway through the first period.

Croatia still looked livelier and Vida was frustrated again as he headed another corner just over with

Portugal keeper Rui Patricio stranded after coming out for the cross.

Perisic flashed the ball across the goal and then saw a header come back off the post before Portugal countered and Ronaldo's shot was parried into the

path of Quaresma who scored.

Croatia poured forward in search of an equaliser and Vida made it a hat-trick of misses as he hooked the ball wide leaving Portugal to go through to face Poland in Marseille on Thursday. — Reuters

WALES EDGE CLOSER TO FIRST S-FINAL AFTER 58-YEAR WAIT

PARIS: The last time Wales reached the quarter-finals of a major soccer tournament, at the 1958 World Cup, the might of Brazil and a fledgling Pele stood between them and progress.

It has taken the best part of six decades for them to return to one of international football's major stages and, having clawed their way into the last eight of Euro 2016 where they will face Belgium or Hungary, they might fancy their chances of going one better than their heralded predecessors.

A cagey 1-0 win over a rigidly organised Northern Ireland side in Saturday's last-16 clash in Paris teed up what many Wales fans may see as a winnable quarter-final, with a first-ever place in the last four of a major tournament up for grabs.

With a spot in the country's footballing record books now within touching distance, Wales boss Chris Coleman was not going to dampen fans' hopes after Saturday's victory.

"Get carried away and keep dreaming," was his message to the jubilant supporters at the Parc de Princes. "Why not? We won't look ahead but the fans can get carried away. There's nothing wrong with that. They're enjoying every minute and they deserve to."

Many of those fans would not have been alive when Wales reached the last eight of the 1958 World Cup in Sweden but there are some notable similarities between that Wales side and the current one. Both the 1958 side and Coleman's were propelled on their way by a talismanic, internationally-renowned forward who carried the nation's hopes on his shoulders.

While Real Madrid's Gareth Bale is today's star attraction, 58 years ago it was John Charles.

Charles, a centre forward whose brute physicality was matched by pace and dazzling technique, was in his pomp in 1958, having left Leeds United to join Juventus for a British record fee the year before. The 'Gentle Giant', as he was known, scored Wales's only goal in their opening group game, a 1-1 draw against a Hungary team whose 'Magical Magyars' had reached the final four years previously. Sadly for Wales, Charles picked up an injury against the same side in a playoff after both teams finished level on points, ruling him out of the quarter-final against Brazil.

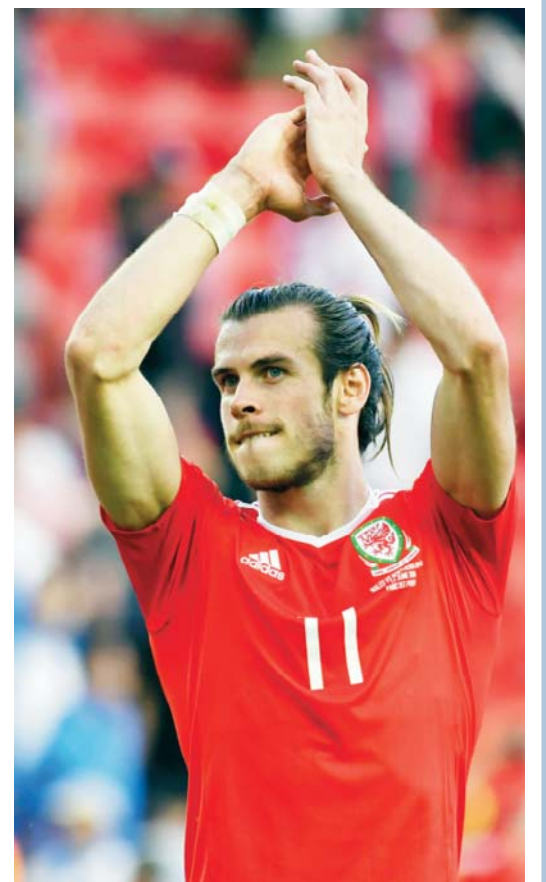
That match pitted Wales against a then largely unknown 17-year-old called Pele who scored his

first World Cup goal, a scrappy, deflected effort, to secure a 1-0 victory.

That was by far Brazil's closest match of the knockout rounds as they went on to blitz France 5-2 in the last four and Sweden in the final by the same scoreline.

Facing that Brazil side, who won three of the four World Cups played between 1958 and 1970, would have been a fearsome prospect.

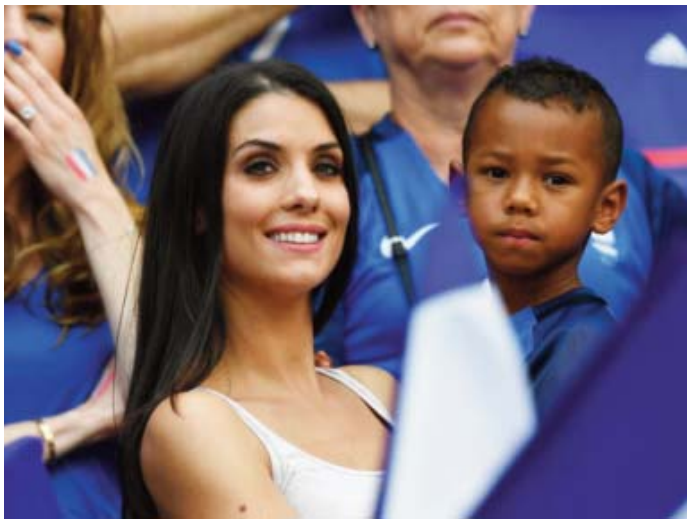
Neither the current Hungary side, who drew two of their three group-stage encounters, or Belgium, who were comfortably beaten by Italy in their opening match, are likely to hold any trepidation for Coleman's Wales. — Reuters



Gareth Bale

ICELAND TIGHTROPE BECKONS FOR HODGSON'S ENGLAND

FAN FERVOR



CHANTILLY: Opportunity knocks for Iceland and potential disaster looms for Roy Hodgson's England in their David-and-Goliath last 16 clash at Euro 2016 today. For Iceland, whose population of 330,000 makes them the smallest country to have qualified for a major tournament, the game in the Mediterranean city of Nice brings the chance to score one of the biggest upsets in football history. For England-haunted by 50 years of hurt since their 1966 World Cup triumph and their under-pressure manager Hodgson, it represents the wobbliest of tightropes. "I am not even contemplating going out to Iceland," Hodgson told reporters in Chantilly, north of Paris, prior to the game. "As far as I'm concerned, I will prepare the team for Iceland and we will do the best we can to win the game."

"Then after the game we will either be heavily criticised as we haven't won it or with any luck, if we played well and won the game, people will maybe say we did well." A quarter-final at Stade de France against the Republic of Ireland or hosts France awaits the victors, but England's group-stage travails means they cannot afford to look that far ahead.

Held 1-1 by Russia in their opening game, they edged Wales 2-1 courtesy of a stoppage-time Daniel Sturridge goal, only for a 0-0 draw with

Slovakia to condemn them to the more daunting half of the tournament draw. Roundly criticised for making six changes to his starting XI against Slovakia, Hodgson is expected to restore captain Wayne Rooney, Dele Alli, Kyle Walker and Danny Rose to his line-up.

But his attacking configuration remains problematic. Harry Kane and Raheem Sterling disappointed in England's first two games, but Sturridge and Jamie Vardy, decisive against Wales, failed to impress against Slovakia.

There is little mystery about how Iceland will set themselves up. Lars Lagerback's side secured a second-place finish in Group F with a low defensive bloc and clinical counter-attacks.

After earning the scorn of Cristiano Ronaldo by holding Portugal to a 1-1 draw, a late own goal gave away a 1-1 draw with Hungary and Iceland needed a dramatic 2-1 win over Austria to secure a last 16 place.

'NO TIME FOR SENTIMENT'

Arnor Traustason's 94th-minute winner-deliriously described by Icelandic television commentator Gudmundur Benediktsson-had the effect of tipping Iceland into the draw's thorny bottom half. But where England will see only danger in Nice, Iceland see only opportunity. "I would guess

that in the mind of the people in England, it is only a game to lose," said co-coach Heimir Hallgrimsson.

"For the people of Iceland, this game is not seen in that way. I wouldn't want to be Roy Hodgson if he lost to Iceland." Defeat for England would rank alongside their 1-0 loss to the part-timers of the United States at the 1950 World Cup in the annals of the team's most dismal failures.

Hodgson, 68, and Lagerback, 67, have been friends for close to 40 years, the former having been the manager of Swedish club Halmstad when the latter was beginning his own coaching career in the late 1970s. Lagerback says that Hodgson "meant a lot to me, both as a nice person and also as a coach".

Hodgson has been similarly complimentary, saying that Lagerback "more than deserves" any praise he receives. But with the English press corps ready to write his obituary, Hodgson is not allowing the bonds of friendship to blur his vision. "If you want me to add my voice to people saying Lars Lagerback has done a fantastic job, then I am more than happy to do so," he said. "But of course on Monday night he will be my enemy, like all coaches during the 90 minutes, as the aim is to win that game and there won't be any time for sentiment." — AFP



SAINT MARTIN DE RE: Spain's Sergio Busquets, second left, and Juanfran, second right, duel for the ball during a training session at the Sports Complex Marcel Gaillard in Saint Martin de Re in France, yesterday. Spain will face Italy in a Euro 2016 round of 16 soccer match in Paris today. —AP

SPAIN FACE CHALLENGE IN HEAVYWEIGHT TUSSLE

PARIS: A mouth-watering clash of styles between holders Spain and familiar foes Italy today for a place in the Euro 2016 quarter-finals is a tough one to call after mixed performances from both sides in the group stage.

Spain, who cruised to a 4-0 victory over Italy in the Euro 2012 final in Kiev, started their title defence in promising fashion before a 2-1 defeat by Croatia meant they must now take on their old rivals in the last 16.

"I saw that 2012 final on TV," Spain midfielder Koke said. "I really enjoyed the way Spain played that game. But against such big teams there are no favourites."

Italy, relying on a bunch of veterans with no real top name in their squad apart from goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon, had been written off by many and left for the tournament in an atmosphere of doom and gloom.

The Azzurri surprised observers with an opening 2-0 win over fancied Belgium and went on to beat Sweden 1-0 before looking their age in a 1-0 defeat by Ireland.

"We need to have the same enthusiasm to face a team like Spain that we had when we approached Belgium, who also seemed stronger than us," Italy coach Antonio Conte said.

Giorgi Chiellini, the leader of an Italian defence widely regarded as the best in the competition, echoed a general feeling by saying he would have preferred the two sides to meet later in the tournament.

"Spain have been our bogey team since 2008 which is when their winning cycle began," Chiellini said, referring to a defeat on penalties in the quarter-finals of the European championship that year, which the Spaniards went on to win.

DANGEROUS MORATA

Spain, whose dominance of the game looked to be coming to an end when they made a shock group-stage exit from the 2014 World Cup, are still the masters of possession, relying on their trademark, tiki-taka style based on short passing and movement.

Their defence, however, can show signs of nerves under pressure and they lack ruthlessness up front, even if they do have a dangerous marksman in Alvaro Morata, who has scored three goals to top the scorers' table alongside Gareth Bale of Wales.

Italy, by contrast, follow the recipe they have used over the years, shutting shop at the back and patiently waiting for their chances with plenty of discipline. They do lack firepower up front but have a record of doing just enough to win.

While Conte has kept tinkering with his squad in the group stage, Spanish counterpart Vicente Del Bosque has faced criticism for using the largely the same lineup in all three games.

"I accept it (the criticism) because it goes with my position," Del Bosque told AS newspaper. "Had I made changes and we lost, people would have said 'why change something that works?' But there

was nothing to alter."

Spain, chasing an unprecedented third successive European Championship title and looking forward to facing Germany or Slovakia in the next round, have the upper hand in recent history, having not lost a competitive match against Italy since the 1994 World Cup.

"If we were to play the match on paper, there would be no contest but luckily there's the pitch," said Conte. — Reuters

Live		Matches on TV	
		(Local Timings)	
UEFA EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP			
Italy v Spain	19:00		
beIN MAX 2 HD			
beIN MAX 3 HD EN			
beIN MAX 1 HD			
beIN MAX 4 HD FR			
England v Iceland	22:00		
beIN MAX 2 HD			
beIN MAX 3 HD EN			
beIN MAX 1 HD			
beIN MAX 4 HD FR			

Sports

Thurman edges
Porter to
retain
WBA title

16

Rain has final
say as Hales
goes from hero
to zero

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XHAKA SAYS PENALTY MISS WILL MAKE HIM STRONGER Page 18



LILLE: Germany's goalkeeper Manuel Neuer (back) eyes the ball as Germany's midfielder Joshua Kimmich challenges Slovakia's midfielder Juraj Kucka (front) during the Euro 2016 round of 16 football match between Germany and Slovakia at the Pierre-Mauroy stadium in Villeneuve-d'Ascq near Lille yesterday — AFP

SLICK GERMANY EASE INTO EURO Q-FINALS

LILLE: Jerome Boateng scored his first international goal to set Germany on their way to a 3-0 win against Slovakia at Euro 2016 yesterday as the world champions cruised into the quarter-finals.

Boateng opened his account eight minutes into his 63rd international appearance and Joachim Loew's side never looked back against outclassed opponents.

Mesut Ozil had a penalty saved soon after but Julian Draxler set up Mario Gomez to double the lead two minutes before half-time and the impressive Draxler then completed the scoring just after the hour mark.

There was never any threat of a repeat of Slovakia's 3-1 win when the teams met in a friendly just four weeks ago and Germany move on to a last-eight tie against either reigning champions Spain or old rivals Italy next weekend. Loew had been unhappy with his team's finishing during the group stage and he opted to drop the underperforming Mario Goetze as Draxler, of Wolfsburg, started in the only change from their 1-0 win against Northern Ireland.

Slovakia have a recent history of pulling off surprise results, from their defeat of Spain in qualifying to the recent friendly victory in Germany and the goalless draw with England that saw them progress from the group stage.

But their hopes of another day to remember were rapidly nipped in the bud by the world champions, who underlined their credentials and sent a clear message to their Euro rivals. Sami Khedira was first to threaten with a header from a Toni Kroos free-kick that was tipped over by Slovakian 'keeper Matus Kozacik, and from the corner that followed Germany were in front.

Kroos' delivery from the German left was headed out by Milan Skriniar but the ball fell for Boateng on the edge of the box and the Bayern Munich stopper met it on the volley, finding the bottom-left corner with the

aid of a small deflection off the unfortunate Skriniar.

OZIL SQUANDERS PENALTY

Slovakia were overwhelmed and they conceded a penalty in the 13th minute when skipper Martin Skrtel grappled with Gomez as the two went for a high ball in the box. Skrtel was booked for his intervention, but Slovakia were let off the hook as Ozil's kick was well saved by Kozacik diving to his left.

Excluding shoot-outs, it was the first penalty missed by a German player in a European Championship finals match. The miss did nothing to halt Germany's momentum, though, and it remained one-way traffic after that with Ozil fizzing a half-volley inches past as the ball dropped after Gomez and Jan Durica had gone up to contest another cross into the area.

Draxler shot wide on the turn from 18 yards before Jan Kozak's side finally worked Manuel Neuer four minutes prior to the break. Peter Pekarik's cross from the right found AC Milan midfielder Juraj Kucka six yards from goal but his header was tipped over the bar by the Germany captain.

And Germany went on to increase their lead two minutes after that as Draxler combined with Jonas Hector down the left before heading for the byline and cutting the ball back for Gomez to finish at the near post. Any hope of a contest in the second half depended on Slovakia quickly pulling a goal back but a neat 49th-minute move ended with Marek Hamsik - otherwise nullified as a threat-teeing up Kucka for a shot that went straight to Neuer.

And, if there were any lingering doubts about the outcome, Germany put the game to bed on 63 minutes, Mats Hummels heading down a corner for Draxler, who volleyed in at the back post to get the goal his performance deserved. — AFP



INES-CHARPIEU: France's midfielder Paul Pogba (3L) and Ireland's defender Shane Duffy (3R) vie for the ball during the Euro 2016 round of 16 football match between France and Republic of Ireland at the Parc Olympique Lyonnais stadium in Décines-Charpieu, near Lyon, yesterday. — AFP

GRIEZMANN DOUBLE SENDS FRANCE INTO LAST EIGHT

LYON: Antoine Griezmann scored two goals in quick succession early in the second half yesterday to give host France a 2-1 victory over a spirited Ireland and a spot in the European Championship quarter-finals.

Griezmann, who had a chance for a hat trick late in the match, equalized with a powerful header from near the penalty spot in the 58th minute following a cross from right back Bacary Sagna. Three minutes later, he collected a headed knockdown from striker Olivier Giroud, took one touch to move the ball inside the area and then composed himself before slotting the ball inside the right post. It was his third goal of the tournament and his 10th for Les Bleus. The goals came with France trailing 1-0 after Ireland midfielder Robbie Brady's second-minute penalty.

"We screamed at each other at halftime," Griezmann said. "We were chasing the game and that's the most difficult thing. But we have a strong mentality."

The goals were a boost for Griezmann, who missed a penalty for Atletico Madrid in the Champions League final loss to Real Madrid last month.

"I know myself well," Griezmann said. "I know that I show up in the big moments." Griezmann nearly got a third goal in injury time but Ireland goalkeeper Darren Randolph made the save. A few minutes later, Ireland slumped to the ground in exhaustion as France celebrated. "The fans were unbelievable and we'd have loved to have gone a bit further for them. I hope we did them proud," Ireland defender Seamus Coleman said. "We only had a little corner of the ground and they were so loud and positive at the end." The Irish finished the match with 10 men following

defender Shane Duffy's red card in the 66th minute for tripping Griezmann.

France will face either England or Iceland on Sunday in Saint-Denis. "We can relax on our sofas and see who we're playing next," France coach Didier Deschamps said. "We were a bit tense and the Irish played very well." It was the first meeting between the two sides since Ireland lost a World Cup playoff to France in November 2009 following a blatant handball by forward Thierry Henry.

Relieved French fans inside the 58,000-seat Stade de Lyon broke out into a rendition of "La Marseillaise" - the national anthem - after the match, but they were not quite so vocal in a tense first half. On Ireland's first foray forward, France center half Adil Rami was hesitant and then caught out of position, slipping as he failed to deal with a cross from the left aimed for striker Daryl Murphy. As the

loose ball caused confusion, France midfielder Paul Pogba came across striker Shane Long and knocked him over. Brady, who scored late in Ireland's win over Italy, stroked home the penalty off the inside of the right post for the second fastest goal in the history of the competition.

It was the second penalty France has conceded at Euro 2016, and the tension seemed to be getting to the players.

Midfielder N'Golo Kante picked up a yellow card for tripping midfielder James McClean, center half Laurent Koscielny collided into the back of Kante as he went for a header, and Pogba tried to rally his team but ended up catching Ireland midfielder Jeff Hendrick on the knee. — AP

COLOMBIA DOWN US TO GRAB COPA THIRD SPOT

GLENDALE: AC Milan striker Carlos Bacca scored the only goal as Colombia defeated the United States 1-0 to clinch third place in the Copa America Centenario here Saturday.

Bacca, 29, bundled home the winner on 31 minutes, nudging in from close range to settle a hard-fought contest. The US, beaten 4-0 by Argentina in the semi-finals on Tuesday, rallied desperately to get back into the game but ultimately were frustrated by some superb goalkeeping from David Ospina. It was the second time the US had been beaten by Colombia in this tournament. The Colombians also defeated them 2-0 in the tournament's opening match. US coach Jurgen Klinsmann had blamed his side for being "too nice" against Argentina in the semi-finals, when they failed to register a single shot either on or off target.

However they were unlucky not to score during an entertaining game in Arizona. Colombia had gone closest to scoring first, Real Madrid star James Rodriguez being denied by a fine Tim Howard save on 12 minutes.

Rodriguez was the architect for Colombia's goal just after the half hour mark, chipping a wonderful pass into the path of Santiago Arias, who headed across the six yard box for Bacca to score. The US responded gamely to the setback however, with Jermaine Jones almost equalising when his low shot deflected off Arias and just missed the target. Seattle Sounders veteran Clint Dempsey, arguably the best US player of the tournament, had another good game but was unable to add to his Copa tally of three goals and three assists.

Dempsey almost laid on a goal for Hamburg's Bobby Wood, but the Bundesliga-based striker was unable to get his shot away cleanly. Dempsey produced the best American chance of the second half, with his long-range curling free-kick drawing a brilliant save from Ospina, clawing the ball away one-handed as it rocketed towards the top corner. The final of the Copa America takes place on Sunday, with Argentina facing Chile in East Rutherford, New Jersey. — AFP

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Foreign investors eye UK property after Brexit fallout

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'RISKY TRINITY' REQUIRES URGENT GLOBAL POLICY ACTION

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COLON, Panama: Thousands of spectators watch as the Panama flagged COSCO Shipping Neopanamax cargo ship prepares to cross the new Agua Clara locks, part of the Panama Canal expansion project, near this port city yesterday. — AP

BULLISH PANAMA CANAL OPENS \$5BN LOCKS

CHINESE SHIP INAUGURATES WIDENED CANAL

PANAMA CITY: With a band playing and flags waving, a Chinese ship carrying more than 9,000 containers yesterday entered the newly expanded locks that will double the Panama Canal's capacity in a multibillion-dollar bet on a bright economic future despite tough times for international shipping. Several tug boats pulled "Cosco Shipping Panama" into the new locks at Agua Clara under a cloudy sky in Colon province, about 80 km north of the capital.

Thousands of Panamanians who began gathering before dawn to witness the inauguration of the canal's expansion waved the national flag as the band struck up a song. "This is the route that unites the world," said Panamanian President Juan Carlos Varela. Nearly two years late due to construction delays and labor strife, the \$5.25 billion project formally launched with the transit of the 158-foot-wide (48.2 m), 984-foot-long (300 m), Chinese-owned container ship. It's one of the modern class of mega-vessels that will now be able to use the canal.

With 30,000 people and eight foreign heads of state

expected to attend the daylong festivities, officials are bullish. "There is evidence that the Panama Canal, with this expansion, is an important player not only for regional maritime commerce but worldwide," said Oscar Bazan, the Panama Canal Authority's executive vice president for planning and commercial development. "The canal is a winning bet. (Clients) will benefit from saving not only time but also money, because the canal is a route that shortens distance."

Demand

However, the party comes amid a lull in global shipping due to the drop in oil prices, an economic slowdown in China, which is the canal's second-largest customer, and other factors that have hit the waterway's traffic and income. While authorities anticipate increasing commerce between Asia and ports on the US East Coast, doubts remain that not all those ports are ready to handle the huge New Panamax-class cargo ships. Net cargo volume through the canal from the US East Coast toward Asia fell 10.2 percent in 2015, according to offi-

cial statistics. Meanwhile the Suez Canal in Egypt recently lowered tariffs by up to 65 percent on large container carriers in an attempt to keep its traffic.

"It's important to remember that the canal does not create demand. The canal opens the route. Supply and demand on a world level is what will decide whether the Panama Canal will really bring more volume or not," said Antonio Dominguez, a general manager for global shipping leader Maersk Line, which moves about 14.2 percent of world commerce. "What is certain is that the current canal has maxed out."

Maersk was among shipping companies that have reduced passages through the Panama Canal, although Dominguez said the company is considering a return. Since the canal was handed over from US control at the end of 1999, the waterway has generated about \$10 billion in direct income for the Central American nation and is responsible for about 40 percent of its GDP, factoring in related economic activity. Some 35 to 40 vessels transit the waterway each day, and the canal is estimated to handle about 6 percent of world maritime commerce.

Panama began the expansion nearly a decade ago. Originally planned to open in late 2014 around the waterway's centennial, the new locks can accommodate ships that carry up to three times the cargo of those previously able to use the canal. Grupo Unidos por el Canal, the Italian- and Spanish-led consortium that spearheaded construction, handed the project over Friday, although a series of claims are still pending for presumed cost overruns of more than \$3 billion.

Paul Bingham, a shipping economist at Boston-based EDR Group, predicted the canal expansion's global impact will be small. "The proportion of world trade that could plausibly use the Panama Canal is constrained by the geography of the world's population, resource endowments and production regions," Bingham said. "There is very little a larger canal can influence at the margin to induce shifts in the geography of world trade, even through potential reductions in costs of shipping a variety of commodities to, from and within the Americas." — AP



DAMASCUS: Syrians display traditional sweets for sale in Damascus' Midan neighborhood, which is renowned for its sweet delicacies, as people shop prior to breaking their fast during the holy month of Ramadan on June 21, 2016. — AFP

FRUGAL RAMADAN FOR DAMASCENES

83.4 PERCENT OF SYRIANS LIVE BELOW POVERTY LINE

DAMASCUS: This Ramadan, a radio station in Syria's capital Damascus presented cash-strapped listeners with a challenge: Plan a meal to break the fast for just \$3. Dalia Hasan's cooking show on Sham FM used to feature recipes for sumptuous Ramadan feasts. But in government-held parts of Syria, where a five-year war has devastated the currency and unemployment is rife, listeners' budgets are stretched to the limit. "We decided to make a program that demonstrates thrifty recipes costing 1,500 Syrian pounds (\$3) to match peoples' incomes," Hasan, 26, told AFP as she prepared to record the show at a studio in Damascus. "We're not using lamb, expensive spices, or even almonds," she said.

Throughout the holy month, Muslims abstain from eating and drinking during daylight hours and sit down to a feast - known as iftar - once the sun goes down. But in Syria, many struggle to scrape together ingredients even for a basic meal. Salaries in areas controlled by President Bashar Al-Assad's forces have dropped dramatically with the 92 percent devaluation of the pound since the war began. A UN report published in April estimated 83.4 percent of Syrians live below the poverty line, compared with 28 percent before the war. Hasan has even changed the name of her show from "Bread and Salt" - an Arabic saying referring to friendships forged over a meal - to "Ramadan of the poor."

Handouts Double

Rida Saleh and his wife Umm Hassan are among

those whose quality of life has plummeted since 2011. On a recent evening they broke their fast around a little table in a cramped apartment where they settled after fleeing the rebel stronghold of Eastern Ghouta. They sat down to a modest meal: a few stuffed courgettes, some potatoes, a bowl of salad and a plate of beans - normally used as appetizers but now their main course. "There are so many dishes and drinks that have become for us just a distant memory," said Rida, 49. "It's the first year we don't have dessert." Umm Hassan agreed. "Even fruits are now a dream for us. We used to be able to buy apples by the kilo - today the whole family just shares two little apples," she said.

Living costs have risen so much that charities have nearly doubled the number of iftar meals they distribute to the needy during Ramadan. "We distributed 130,000 meals in 2013 compared to 230,000 in 2015. But this year, we may reach as many as 500,000," said Issam Habbal, who heads the charity "Saed" (Help). "The crisis didn't spare anyone. If even the rich have been affected, you can imagine how those that were already unfortunate have been devastated," he said.

Every Month is Ramadan

In the shade of the famous Umayyad mosque in the Old City of Damascus, about 100 Saed volunteers cooked and distributed large pots of rice with meat. Men and women were hard at work chopping cucumbers to add to a mix of lettuce and carrots. "With each additional year of war, we need more volunteers because there are more poor people," said Tareq, 24.

Desserts and syrup-covered sweets are an integral part of iftars across the Middle East and are a special delicacy in the Syrian capital. But today, they have become too expensive for many Damascenes. In Midan, a neighborhood in southern Damascus, Ahmad Qaysar tended his bakery, which sold a mix of Arabic sweets. But few customers were buying. "I inherited this trade from my father and my grandfather. We've never had a season like this," the 30-year-old said. "Our sales have dropped by half because of the rising prices for pistachios, margarine, semolina, and flour" - indispensable ingredients for delicious oriental sweets, Ahmad said.

In another shop, Shawkat Qornfola, 67, said he won't be able to buy desserts for his grandchildren this year. "My grandchildren adore sweets but I can't afford a kilogram of maamoul at 20,000 pounds," he said, referring to cornmeal pastries stuffed with pistachios, dates, and walnuts. "I'll have to just stick to barazek," he said, referring to crunchy biscuits made of pistachios and sesame seeds. The price of food also makes it hard to invite guests.

"Before the war, we used to invite everyone over each Friday, but now we don't have the means," said Riad Mahayni, who works at the national water service. He makes 30,000 pounds, which amounted to \$600 before the war but now is worth just \$65. Leaning against the wall of Damascus's citadel, Mohsen, a pistachio seller, told AFP every month is Ramadan now in Syria. "Because of the rising prices, we fast the whole year," he said. — AFP

COPPER PRICE TUMBLE HITS SCORES OF CONGOLESE

LUBUMBASHI, DR Congo: When 2016 rang in, Divin Lwamba, a street vendor with nine mouths to feed, says he was making up to \$300 a day selling samosas in Lubumbashi's main market. With meat and vegetable samosas flying off his cart almost faster than they were made, Lwamba says he could make enough cash in a single day to stock up on food for a month. But that was before the knock-on effect of the plunge in world copper and cobalt prices hit Lubumbashi, capital of the mineral-rich province once known as Katanga where DR Congo's lucrative mines are located.

"Since the price of copper tumbled, what I now earn each day only just covers our daily food expenses," says Lwamba, one of the tens of thousands hit by the crisis in the copperbelt of the Democratic Republic of Congo. "Today, unless I dig into my savings I can't live like I used to," he says, adding that since February he has struggled to make a third of what he used to earn.

Ranked in 2014 as the world's fifth biggest producer of copper and top in cobalt, the DR Congo saw strong economic growth powered by its mining industry from 2010 to 2014. But last year growth slowed sharply due to the global slump in commodity prices triggered by an economic slowdown in China. The government in Kinshasa now expects growth this year to slow to 6.6 percent. In a ripple effect, the problems currently faced by the mining companies in the vast nation's southeast region are also harming economic activity in Lubumbashi, the country's second city.

The Chamber of Mines there estimates that copper production dropped by 11.6 percent in the first quarter

of this year compared with 2015, while cobalt mining fell by 16.3 percent. Several mining firms have halted work, in some cases permanently. And there is no sign of a rebound. While other commodities are experiencing their best start since 2008, Bloomberg reports that copper ranks as the worst of the major metals in its commodity index. Copper prices have swung over the past year from 195 to 267 dollars per pound.

Chinese are Gone

The Chamber of Mines estimates that mining companies have cut 3,000 jobs, while subcontractors have laid off more than 10,000 workers. But such statistics give only limited insight into the full extent of the crisis in a country where most of the population lives in severe poverty. Analysts say one job lost in mining or linked to subcontractors affects a minimum of 10 other people. Dieudonne Kisimba Selemani, administrator of Congo Steel Mills, meanwhile said he believed that each job in the formal mining sector provides for the needs of 20 people, because of the strong tradition of family support in DR Congo. His company, which provides reinforced steel for mining facilities, has been forced to lay off a third of its employees in the past few months and now has a workforce of no more than 200. Many former clients have shut up shop and "no rush took place" when Congo Steel Mills tried to drum up more business by slashing 15 percent off prices, Kisimba said. Nowadays the industrial district of Lubumbashi is strikingly quiet, while across the street from the steel firm, the land formerly occupied by Congo Wise Mining is vacant. — AFP



LUBUMBASHI: This file photo taken on May 23, 2016 shows a child and a woman breaking rocks extracted from a cobalt mine at a copper quarry and cobalt pit. — AFP



NIORT, FRANCE: This file photo taken on March 18, 2015 shows dairymen hooking up cows to milking machines in a carousel type milking parlor on a dairy farm in eastern France. — AFP

DAIRY FARMERS SOUR AS MILK QUOTA END SEES PRICE CRASH

PRODUCTION CLIMBS EVEN AS MILK SOLD AT LOSS

RENNES, France: A surge in milk production since the EU lifted milk quotas has skimmed profits for dairy farmers, leaving them sour as authorities struggle to get to grips with the crisis. Last year the European Union finally got rid of its three-decade old milk production quotas that it had imposed to eliminate the milk lakes and butter mountains that had plagued the bloc's farmers in the 1980s. While farmers in several EU countries had been looking forward to tapping into rising demand for dairy products in developing countries, particularly in China, that growth slowed and there was soon a glut on the world market.

"Europe's responsibility is overwhelming in the surge" in milk available on the global market, said Christophe Perrot, an economist at the Livestock Institute in Paris. "Since 2013, the EU has supplied an extra 10 million tonnes on a market of 66 million tonnes," he said at a recent farmers conference in the western French city of Rennes. This has led to a slump in prices - by a fifth to a third - that has hammered farmers across the globe.

In France all farmers are now selling milk at a price lower than their costs. Meanwhile in New Zealand, the world's top exporter, 80 percent of farmers are selling at a loss according to the central bank. In March, the European Commission, the executive of the 28-nation bloc, allowed member states to temporarily cut production on a voluntary basis as an emer-

gency exception to rules guaranteeing economic competition. But milk production has continued to climb.

The issue is likely to dominate a meeting of EU agricultural ministers today and tomorrow, but EU leaders are only expected to hear pressure on the Commission, the bloc's executive body, to step up its efforts. According to a draft seen by AFP, EU leaders will call on "the Commission to urgently implement all necessary support measures including, where appropriate, financial support to assist farmers..."

Bring Back Quotas

However, farmers meeting here at a recent Peasants Confederation conference want a full return to quotas, believing voluntary measures will be insufficient. "We need mandatory production controls", as is possible under EU rules, said Laurent Pinatel, a spokesman for the Farmers Confederation. Getting rid of the over-production won't be easy. Milk production shot up 4.3 percent overall in the EU in the 2015-2016 season, the first without quotas, according to Perrot. And cooperation may also be difficult to achieve. In major producer countries like Germany, France and Britain, the milk processors may tend to adjust their purchases to market conditions, particularly their more profitable domestic markets.

But countries like the Netherlands, Ireland and Denmark "export more than two-thirds of

their output and don't want to leave any market opportunity for their international competitors," said Perrot. The result is "exacerbated competition between European countries to find non-EU markets" for their products, said Aurelie Trouve, an economist at the AgroParisTech institute. That is despite 85 percent of European dairy output being consumed at home, according to Thierry Roquefeuil, head of the National Federation of Milk Producers.

Structural or Cyclical Crisis

At the moment, each country is trying to address the most urgent problem of farmers facing the squeeze from the low prices, said the economist Christophe Perrot. At around 200 per tonne on the international market, the price of milk is about 20 percent lower than what it averaged in the 2007-2014 period in France, Germany and the United States, according to Perrot. For farmers in Ireland and New Zealand, it even represents a drop of around 33 percent.

Domestic prices can be much higher, with French farmers receiving on average 309 euros per tonne in March, according to agriculture ministry figures. That is still a 4.5 percent drop from March 2015, before quotas were lifted. Irrespective of any action or lack of action taken by European leaders, there are reasons for hope. Unlike, say, meat eating, "consumption of milk is growing faster than the world population" said Perrot. — AFP

GULF SINKS ON BREXIT BUT COMES OFF LOWS

MIDEAST MARKETS REPORT

DUBAI: Middle East stocks fell sharply yesterday because of Britain's vote to leave the European Union but Gulf bourses came well off their lows. Egypt was hardest hit because of concern that fund inflows into the country could shrink further. Most of the Gulf does not depend heavily on foreign capital or non-oil exports, so the main threat to it from Brexit is that slower growth in Europe could push down oil prices; Brent oil sank 4.9 percent to \$48.42 a barrel on Friday.

Monica Malik, chief economist at Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank, said that among the six Gulf Cooperation Council economies, she expected the greatest impact of a weak pound and euro to be felt in the United Arab Emirates, because its large tourism and real estate sectors were vulnerable to exchange rate moves. "We see a weaker private consumption and investment outlook in the UAE following Brexit," she wrote in a report.

She also noted that while Brexit was likely to deter any US interest rate hike for the time being, it could require GCC economies to tighten fiscal policy further to limit the widening of their deficits and protect financial market sentiment. "Moreover, with the fall in oil prices and elevated global market uncertainties, foreign borrowing rates for GCC entities will likely increase. This will place more pressure on domestic borrowing and potentially push up inter-bank rates further."

But so far, movements in Gulf forex forwards and sovereign debt insurance costs since the British referendum have been minor, suggesting foreign investors are not for now using Brexit as a cue to speculate heavily against GCC assets. One-year US dollar/Saudi riyal forwards, used to hedge against the risk of future currency depreciation, barely moved on Friday and yesterday, staying in the range of the past few weeks. High-grade Gulf bond prices moved little.

Five-year Saudi credit default swaps have risen 6 points to 182 points but that is a small move given the volatility in global markets, and CDS are below highs hit earlier this month. Sebastian Henin, head of asset management at Abu Dhabi's The National Investor, said further selling of stocks in the UAE and Qatar could not be ruled out if Brexit caused risk-averse global funds to cut their allocations to emerging markets in general. But he said a significant fall in demand for oil was unlikely. "I'm not so pessimistic - the markets face some headwinds, but it's manageable. I'm not expecting oil prices to dive."

Indexes

Dubai was the weakest GCC bourse yesterday because its economy is most exposed to foreign investment. Its index dropped 3.3 percent to 3,258 points in its biggest daily fall since January, as trading volume more than doubled from Thursday. But the index came off its intra-day low of 3,209 points and held technical support on the May low of 3,197 points. Real estate shares underperformed, with

Emaar Properties down 4.7 percent; banks fared relatively well.

Abu Dhabi's index sank 1.9 percent with energy firms hit hard. Abu Dhabi National Energy, which has substantial investments in Britain and Europe, sank 7.6 percent. In Saudi Arabia the index closed 1.1 percent lower at 6,479 points but bounced from an intra-day low of 6,257 points. Petrochemical blue chip Saudi Basic Industries fell 1.5 percent and National Commercial Bank was down 1.3 percent. But Arabian Pipes, which soared last week after winning a contract from oil giant Saudi Aramco, jumped its 10 percent daily limit for a fourth straight day. Utility Saudi Electric, seen as a defensive stock, rose 1.6 percent.

Egypt's stock market dropped much more sharply than Gulf bourses and closed near its intra-day low. Naeem brokerage said in a note that the economic impact on Egypt of Brexit would not be very serious, because weakness in the British pound and euro could actually benefit the current account balance of the import-driven Egyptian economy, and 16 percent of the country's external debt was denominated in euros.

But initially at least, investors focused on the risk that the global market turmoil would make it even harder for Egypt to attract fund inflows. That would worsen the hard currency shortage which is plaguing local industry, possibly making more depreciation of the Egyptian pound inevitable. Real estate developer Talaat Mostafa lost 7.4 percent. Juhayna Food Industries, which exports its products to Europe and could see that business hurt by currency weakness there, slid 4.3 percent.

Commercial International Bank, Egypt's biggest bank and a favourite of foreign investors, outperformed, falling 2.2 percent. Beltone Financial dropped 1.3 percent after it filed a lawsuit against the heads of the Cairo stock exchange and Financial Supervisory Authority over their repeated cancellation of trades in its stock.

Yesterday's highlights:

- SAUDI ARABIA**
 - The index dropped 1.1 percent to 6,479 points.
 - DUBAI**
 - The index fell 3.3 percent to 3,258 points.
 - ABU DHABI**
 - The index dropped 1.9 percent to 4,417 points.
 - QATAR**
 - The index slipped 1.2 percent to 9,843 points.
 - EGYPT**
 - The index plunged 5.5 percent to 6,852 points.
 - KUWAIT**
 - The index fell 1.1 percent to 5,348 points.
 - OMAN**
 - The index slid 0.6 percent to 5,762 points.
 - BAHRAIN**
 - The index dropped 0.7 percent to 1,111 points.
- Reuters

EXCHANGE RATES

AL-MUZAINI EXCHANGE CO.

ASIAN COUNTRIES

Japanese Yen	2.888
Indian Rupees	4.462
Pakistani Rupees	2.880
Sri Lankan Rupees	2.055
Nepali Rupees	2.797
Singapore Dollar	226.060
Hongkong Dollar	38.915
Bangladesh Taka	3.849
Philippine Peso	6.493
Thai Baht	8.570

GCC COUNTRIES

Saudi Riyal	80.550
Qatari Riyal	82.974
ani Riyal	784.563
Bahraini Dinar	802.180
UAE Dirham	82.180

ARAB COUNTRIES

Egyptian Pound - Cash	30.050
Egyptian Pound - Transfer	34.387
Yemen Riyal/for 1000	1.213
Tunisian Dinar	140.680
Jordanian Dinar	425.600
Lebanese Lira/for 1000	2.013
Syrian Lira	2.153
Morocco Dirham	31.514

EUROPEAN & AMERICAN COUNTRIES

US Dollar Transfer	301.900
Euro	341.900
Sterling Pound	445.760

Canadian dollar	237.160
Turkish lira	104.160
Swiss Franc	316.620
Australian Dollar	227.780
US Dollar Buying	300.700

GOLD

20 Gram	255.580
10 Gram	130.710
5 Gram	66.200

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 Peso	6.520
Cyprus pound	580.953
Japanese Yen	3.892
Syrian Pound	2.390
Nepalese Rupees	3.806

Malaysian Ringgit	74.623
Chinese Yuan Renminbi	46.220
Thai Bhat	9.532
Turkish Lira	0.504

BAHRAIN EXCHANGE COMPANY

CURRENCY	BUY	SELL
Europe		
British Pound	0.436329	0.446329
Czech Korune	0.004540	0.016540
Danish Krone	0.041640	0.046641
Euro	0.0334517	0.0343517
Norwegian Krone	0.032320	0.037520
Romanian Leu	0.074844	0.074844
Slovakia	0.008981	0.018981
Swedish Krona	0.032459	0.037459
Swiss Franc	0.307633	0.318633
Turkish Lira	0.098766	0.109066
Australasia		
Australian Dollar	0.217471	0.229471
New Zealand Dollar	0.209473	0.218973
America		
Canadian Dollar	0.230715	0.239715
US Dollars	0.297550	0.302250
US Dollars Mint	0.298050	0.302450
Asia		
Bangladesh Taka	0.003377	0.003961
Chinese Yuan	0.044407	0.047907
Hong Kong Dollar	0.036819	0.039569

Indian Rupee	0.004202	0.004612
Indonesian Rupiah	0.000018	0.000024
Japanese Yen	0.002800	0.002980
Kenyan Shilling	0.002977	0.002977
Korean Won	0.000251	0.000266
Malaysian Ringgit	0.070634	0.076634
Nepalese Rupee	0.002846	0.003016
Pakistan Rupee	0.002736	0.003026
Philippine Peso	0.006395	0.006695
Sierra Leone	0.000073	0.000079
Singapore Dollar	0.219471	0.229471
South African Rand	0.014484	0.022984
Sri Lankan Rupee	0.001576	0.002156
Taiwan	0.009264	0.009444
Thai Baht	0.008228	0.008778

Arab

Bahraini Dinar	0.794095	0.802595
Egyptian Pound	0.027289	0.032407
Iranian Riyal	0.000084	0.000085
Iraqi Dinar	0.000180	0.000240
Jordanian Dinar	0.421730	0.430730
Kuwaiti Dinar	1.000000	1.000000
Lebanese Pound	0.000150	0.000250
Moroccan Dirhams	0.020037	0.044037
Nigerian Naira	0.000455	0.001090
Omani Riyal	0.777606	0.783286
Qatar Riyal	0.082099	0.083549
Saudi Riyal	0.079407	0.080707
Syrian Pound	0.001279	0.001499
Tunisian Dinar	0.137556	0.145556
Turkish Lira	0.098766	0.109066
UAE Dirhams	0.080757	0.082457
Yemeni Riyal	0.001364	0.001444

BREXIT CLOUDS HORIZON FOR BRITAIN'S AIRLINES

LONDON: Britain's vote to leave the EU could open a period of turbulence for the country's airline industry, which has soared under the EU's Single European Sky system over the last two decades. Among the mass of agreements that Britain will have to renegotiate with Brussels are those governing flights between Britain and the rest of the EU. "They are not long, the days of wine and roses," whether for airlines, airports or British air travellers, said Peter Morris, chief economist at Ascend Flightglobal Consultancy.

The single sky system lifted trade restrictions on airlines controlled by EU member states or their nationals, and whose headquarters are located within the EU. Unless British negotiators manage to secure preferential conditions,

British airlines will lose this status. This will mean they no longer enjoy rights including being able to freely set airfares, and to launch any route in Europe without getting authorisation in advance. In concrete terms, passengers leaving or arriving in the United Kingdom will face new taxes, while British airlines will be slower to develop new routes. On the frontline are Britain's two main actors, EasyJet and the International Airlines Group (IAG): Their shares plummeted Friday on news of the shock Brexit vote, losing 14.35 percent and 22.54 respectively on the London market. Low-cost airline Ryanair, which campaigned vocally for Britain to remain in the EU, is a little less exposed because it is based in Ireland, even if it has a large presence in Britain.

Falling Demand

As soon as the referendum result became clear, EasyJet wrote to British and EU authorities pressing them to ensure that Britain remains in the Single European Sky. "Britain being in Europe is the best thing for Britain," EasyJet chief executive Carolyn McCall told AFP a few months before Thursday's referendum. "That is based on the fact that deregulation of aviation has been a fantastic benefit to consumers," she said, noting that it had reduced fares by 40 percent and increased routes by 170 percent.

On Friday the airline insisted that Brexit will not have a major impact on its strategy, but also said it was working on alternative options to allow it to maintain its current network and operations. According to Morris, EasyJet, currently

based at Luton airport north of London, "will doubtless already have plans under way for a head office within the EU, perhaps under a different brand." He said he also expects that IAG, which includes British Airways and which is headquartered in London, will try to widen its network using its non-British subsidiary airlines, at the expense of British Airways.

IAG also owns Spanish carriers Iberia and Vueling as well as Ireland's Aer Lingus, which it could use to strengthen its operations around hubs in Dublin and Madrid. That could harm London's role as an international hub with five airports. Also on the downside for the British capital, tides of US and Asian passengers who transit via its airports could be attracted by offers from hubs which remain in the EU. The long-debated construction of a new run-

way at Heathrow or Gatwick, Britain's two main airports, could be delayed further if "Leave" campaign figurehead Boris Johnson becomes prime minister. The former London mayor, tipped as a frontrunner to succeed Prime Minister David Cameron after the Brexit vote, has long campaigned for an alternative plan to build a new airport in the Thames estuary east of the capital. "For Heathrow and its third runway the game's up," said John Strickland of JLS Consulting. He highlighted another more immediate consequence of the Brexit vote: the collapse of sterling on exchange markets. This will lead to higher fuel and lease costs, and a likely fall in demand for flights to Europe by British travellers whose pounds aren't worth as much on the continent since Thursday's shock vote. —AFP

CHINA FINANCE MINISTER SEES RISING UNCERTAINTY

BEIJING/TIANJIN, China: China's policy-makers and leading economists yesterday voiced concerns about Britain's vote to leave the European Union, with the finance minister saying it has heightened market uncertainty, though some expect a limited impact on the Chinese economy. The "Brexit" decision "will cast a shadow over the global economy ... The repercussions and fallout will emerge in the next five to 10 years," said Lou Jiwei, China's minister of finance, at the first annual meeting of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank in Beijing. "It's difficult to predict now," he said. "The knee-jerk reaction from the market is probably a bit excessive and needs to calm down and take an objective view."

Stock markets around the world plunged in the wake of the referendum. Sterling's value also plummeted. Lou's views were echoed by the head of China's top economic planning authority and other economists at the World Economic Forum (WEF) in the northern city of Tianjin. "For Chinese firms that are going to invest or carry out mergers, entrepreneurs are smarter than me, and they will definitely wait and see," Xu Shaoshi, chairman of the National Development and Reform Commission, said at WEF on Sunday.

"The Brexit incident will affect China's economy via investment, trade and capital," he said. "But I believe the impact will not be big and relevant government departments have made contingency plans." Huang Yiping, a professor at Peking University and a member of the central bank's monetary policy committee, said it is hard to judge

the direct impact of the British referendum on China's economy. "If (Brexit) is an important landmark in terms of a reversal of globalisation, I think that's very bad for the world, it's very bad for China," Huang said. Li Daokui, a professor at Tsinghua University and a former adviser to China's central bank, was more optimistic on the referendum's effects on the world's second-largest economy. "China is perhaps one of the least impacted economies in the world by the event of Brexit," he told an audience at WEF. "The only short-term impact I can think about is the exchange rate of the renminbi ... But I do think within a few trading sessions that situation will very quickly be subdued," Li said.

Also speaking at WEF was economist Nouriel Roubini, famed for predicting the global financial crisis, who said the decision to leave the European Union "creates a whole bunch of financial, economic, political and geopolitical uncertainties."

It could be the "beginning of the disintegration" of the bloc of countries, the euro zone or the United Kingdom, said Roubini. "I don't expect a global recession or another global financial crisis," he added. "I think the impact of Brexit is significant but not of the same size and magnitude of the one we had 2007 to 2009." Michael Falcon, CEO of Global Investment Management Asia Pacific at JP Morgan, said he expects more market volatility but doubts the vote will derail a global recovery. "It is a shock, not a crisis, and so far markets seem to be handling this pretty well," Falcon said at the WEF conference.—Reuters



LONDON: This photo taken on May 24, 2016 shows the skyline of buildings in the City of London as seen from Waterloo Bridge as pedestrians walk by. — AFP

FOREIGN INVESTORS EYE BRITISH PROPERTY AFTER BREXIT FALLOUT

HOUSE PRICES COULD FALL AS POUND COLLAPSES

HONG KONG: With property prices in Britain predicted to plummet post-Brexit, foreign investors, especially in Asia, are already poised for a buying spree. It is an ironic twist to the shock referendum result - many who opted to leave the European Union saw their vote as a deterrent to outsiders looking to take advantage of economic opportunities in Britain. The aftermath of Thursday's vote to leave the EU saw the resignation of British Prime Minister David Cameron and the collapse of the pound to a 31-year low. There was pandemonium on currency, equity and oil markets.

At around 2100 GMT Friday, sterling was down about 8.8 percent against the dollar compared with Thursday night, and foreign exchange experts predicted more weakness ahead. Property prices are also expected to take a hit, with reports of buyers pulling out of transactions due to market uncertainty. But while there may be a "wait and see" approach for some, ambitious foreign investors are on the hunt for bargains while the exchange rate is so low. "Several of my opportunistic investors have said we really ought to think about this seriously, and to think whether we should take advantage of this new window in the market," said Nicholas Brooke, chairman of professional property services for the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. "Anyone who's not dealing in sterling would see an opportunity." Brooke, whose firm plays an advisory role for prospective buyers, said while many clients remained cautious, some in Hong Kong and China with "substantial" investment capabilities had voiced interest.

London-based international property agent Knight Frank also said foreign investors would be wary as they assessed the full impact of the Brexit fallout, but the drop in the pound would mean their buying power would "increase significantly." Interest would be especially strong from China, Hong Kong and Singapore, - where investors have a long history of buying up property in Britain, especially London, the firm's Asia-Pacific specialist Nicholas Holt said. Chinese international property portal Juwai.com predicted 30 percent more consumer enquiries this month than in May. The historic low of the pound against the Singapore dollar also constituted a "fantastic buying opportunity" for investors in the city, added Donald Han, executive director of Chesterton Singapore, a consultancy specializing in UK property.

'Wholehearted Embrace'

Asian investors have long sought out both commercial and residential UK property off the back of potential for capital growth and a resilient economy. London house prices are some of the most expensive in the world and have been on the rise over the past six years. But in the wake of the Brexit vote, international consultancy KPMG has forecast house prices could fall five percent nationwide and even more in the capital. Property consultancy Jones Lang LaSalle (JLL) said capital value adjustment could be down up to 10 percent in the next two years.

The International Monetary Fund has warned that the British economy could sink into recession next year and overall economic output would be 5.6 percent lower than otherwise forecast by 2019, with unemployment rising back above six percent. However, the Brexit camp

argues that the business world will adapt quickly with Britain's flexible and dynamic economy buoyed by new economic partners and selective immigration. "The UK's decision to leave the EU is an historic event and we should embrace this wholeheartedly," said Robin Paterson, joint chairman of UK Sotheby's International Realty. He predicted increased investment from Asia

as well as the US. Besides established investors into Britain, some areas might see new blood join the fray. JLL predicts more buyers from India, which is already an established source of property investment into Britain. "It is very likely that many more Indians will seek to invest there," said Anuj Puri, JLL chairman and country head for India. — AFP

LONDON FEARING EXODUS OF BANKERS, INVESTMENT

LONDON: Will Brexit threaten London's long-booming economy? The British capital fears investors and bankers could flee the city after the shock nationwide vote, threatening its coveted reputation as a global financial hub. Some 60 percent of Londoners voted to stay in the EU in Thursday's historic referendum, but the rest of the country cast their ballots overwhelmingly to leave. And the capital's 8.6 million residents, whose GDP is about the same as that of oil-rich Norway, are anxious about the impact on the city's economy.

The fear is that London will no longer be able to claim to serve as the gateway for US and Asian businesses into Europe's vast single market. "Some firms that saw London as a platform for serving the integrated EU market will relocate at least part of their headquarters' functions to other cities within the EU," said Greg Clark of the Brookings Institution. A first bank, US giant JPMorgan which employs around 16,000 staff in the United Kingdom, said Friday that it "may need to make changes to our European legal entity structure and the location of some roles".

It gave no figures, but chairman and chief executive Jamie Dimon previously said that up to 4,000 jobs could move out of the UK. According to ratings agency Standard and Poor's, a fifth of all global banking activity takes place in London. A haemorrhaging of bankers would hit the city: the financial sector provides one in three jobs, or some 1.25 million. Services overall represent 85 percent of jobs, having completely supplanted manufacturing which historically was the driving force of the capital.

'Still a Good Location'

"Although we will be outside the EU, it is crucial that we remain part of the single market," pro-EU London Mayor Sadiq Khan

said Friday. "It is crucial that London has a voice at the table during those renegotiations," added the Labour mayor, who took over in May from Conservative Boris Johnson - who went on to spearhead the "Leave" camp. A petition for London to have independence from the United Kingdom and make an application to join the EU started partly as a stunt.

But it highlighted deep concerns and had by Saturday evening garnered more than 150,000 signatures for a so-called "Lexit". Despite these fears, Clark of the Brookings Institution said that in the end "the total number of net job losses in London may not be high, as corporations will re-organise rather than leave." London will remain a good location to service global markets," he added. The city, whose GDP grew by 3.3 percent last year against 2.3 percent for the whole country, remains well-placed: it speaks English, the international language of business, as well as being cosmopolitan and culturally rich. London's successful hosting of the 2012 Olympics, which saw huge investment notably in transport infrastructure, burnished its reputation as a global capital.

Real Estate on Frontline

If well-paid bankers and other expatriates flee London for Frankfurt, Paris or Dublin, a whole swathe of the economy which depends on higher spending power will suffer, from luxury real estate agencies to select private schools. The first sector to pay the price might be bricks and mortar. "In our view the decision to leave the EU will be most keenly felt in the London housing market which is fully valued and already facing headwinds," said real estate specialists Hometrack. "History shows that external shocks have led to falls in turnover by as much as 20 percent," it added.—AFP



LONDON: Tourists look at London-themed merchandise as Union flags fly above a street vendor's stall near the Big Ben clock face and the Elizabeth Tower at the Houses of Parliament in central London yesterday. — AFP

BRITISH EXPATRIATES FEAR FOR THEIR FUTURE AFTER UK VOTE

BENIDORM, Spain: Tad Dawson's pub in this Spanish vacation town was doing a brisk business in the summer sun. The only dark clouds he saw were coming from the bar's TV, tuned to a British news channel. Inside the Yorkshire Pride were many British tourists watching the screen as their prime minister announced his resignation Friday after the UK voted to leave the European Union. Dawson, a 51-year-old Englishman who has lived in Spain since the 1990s, admits the decoupling of Britain from the EU other 27 member nations has him spooked. His future is suddenly uncertain.

"We're very scared because I've been here 23 years. I've got my house, my kids were born here, they went to a British-Spanish school, I've got a bar, I've got a lot to lose," Dawson said at his pub, which was decked out with the red-and-white English flags featuring the St. George's Cross. EU leaders are due soon to begin unprecedented - and knotty - negotiations on how to extricate the UK from the bloc. Crucially for British expatriates, EU laws stipulate that the bloc's citizens have the same rights as those nationals in any other member nation.

Nobody is saying what the rights of Britons living in the EU might be in a future outside the bloc. Dawson worries about losing his entitlements in Spain, which is part of the EU. "We don't know how we're going to be now," he said. "We might have no pension. We might have no medical. We may have to sell our properties. We've lived here for a lot of years. We don't know how it's going to affect us anymore." An estimated 1.2 million Britons live in other EU countries, many of them in France,

Spain and Portugal, according to Britain's House of Commons library. But analysts reckon the true number could be at least double that - and maybe a lot more, because many don't bother registering with their embassies or the local authorities.

Raquel Martins, an immigration lawyer at the Lisbon, Portugal, law firm of SRS Advogados, said the United Kingdom and the EU would now enter many months of negotiations to try to secure a reciprocity agreement that establishes legal guarantees for their citizens who live abroad. "Nothing will happen right now. Nobody is going to be sent home," she said. "What would make sense in my eyes is for there to be some kind of give-and-take and an agreement on reciprocal safeguards."

Shock

Across Europe, British expats reacted with alarm, dismay and sadness after Thursday's referendum on Britain's EU exit, also known as Brexit. "I am in a state of shock," said Patrick Lamb, a standup comedian who has lived in Austria for 17 years. "I am also concerned by what Brexit means for the longer-term future. The world seems very unstable."

In Berlin, Dale Carr from Sheffield in northern England said she would request German nationality. She said she, her Scottish husband and her two British-passport holding children would apply for German citizenship to keep their EU entitlements. "Otherwise, we have no rights. What am I to do with this British passport?" asked the 63-year-old who moved to Germany in 1978 and runs two British goods shops called Broken English. —AP



MADRID: In this June 24, 2016 photo, a man uses a multi-currency ATM in downtown Madrid. — AP

'RISKY TRINITY' REQUIRES URGENT GLOBAL POLICY ACTION

LONDON: Global economic policy urgently needs rebalancing, the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) said yesterday, as the world faces a "risky trinity" of high debt, low productivity growth and dwindling firepower at the world's big central banks. The BIS, an umbrella body for major central banks, said in its annual report that the global economy was highly exposed even before Thursday's vote by Britain to leave the European Union. "There are worrying developments, a sort of 'risky trinity', that bear watching," said the head of the BIS monetary and economic department, Claudio Borio.

"Productivity growth that is unusually low, casting a shadow over future improvements in

living standards; global debt levels that are historically high, raising financial stability risks; and room for policy manoeuvre that is remarkably narrow." He said the global economy cannot afford to rely any longer on the debt-fueled growth model that has brought it to the current juncture. Despite sub-zero interest rates and trillions of dollars of stimulus, Europe and Japan's central banks are struggling to lift inflation and growth. Markets have grown accustomed to that support, but they are growing concerned the firepower is mostly spent. "Should this situation be stretched to the point of shaking public confidence in policymaking, the consequences for financial markets and the

economy could be serious." In a separate speech, BIS head Jaime Caruana said major central banks would limit market turbulence as much as possible after Britain voted last week to leave the European Union. "There is likely to be a period of uncertainty and adjustment," Caruana said in the text of a speech to be delivered on Sunday. "With good cooperation at the global level, I am confident that uncertainty can be contained and that adjustments will proceed as smoothly as possible."

In an apparent nudge to the US Federal Reserve, the BIS said in its report that policymakers needed to put more focus on raising rates when they have the chance so that they

have room to cut them again when the next downturn comes. "This is especially important for large jurisdictions with international currencies, as they set the tone for monetary policy in the rest of the world," the BIS said.

More broadly, it urged a global change in attitude in both fiscal and monetary policy. Fiscal policy should be designed to cope with financial boom and bust more systematically; monetary policy needed to monitor booms and busts from a systemic risk view, to keep the financial side of the economy on an even keel. "There is an urgent need to rebalance policy in order to shift to a more robust, balanced and sustainable expansion." "We need to abandon the debt-fueled growth model that has brought us to this predicament. It is essential to relieve monetary policy, which has been overburdened for far too long."

Bank Warnings

Leaning towards Europe, the report also called for crisis-hit countries to reform their banks, via dividend cuts or even injections of tax payer money, and for a wave of mergers to reduce excess capacity. An early warning model was also flashing red for China's banks: the deficits

in the ratios of credit to gross domestic product and debt service if interest rates were to jump. Canada and Turkey were in those danger zones, too.

Separate figures showed Germany was the only country last year whose big banks saw a decline in net income as a percentage of total assets. The BIS's foreign exchange reserves data, which are considered the most accurate in the world, showed a \$668 billion decline globally last year. China accounted for \$513 billion of that, presumably as it sought to shore up the yuan. Middle East countries burnt through \$140 billion of their reserves as oil prices dropped. Japan and Malaysia which saw big currency declines last year, of \$20 billion and \$21 billion.

Another section of the report showed that while exchange rate declines could help lift growth in some countries, in others, such as emerging markets where debt is high and in a foreign currency like the dollar, it can do the opposite. "As the saying goes: It's the stocks, not the shocks," said BIS's head of research, Hyun Song Shin. "Addressing the overhang of foreign currency-denominated debt stocks would be one element of securing better macro outcomes in emerging market economies." — Reuters

Daily Kuwait Stock Exchange Report						
Sunday 26 June 2016						
Index	Change	Closing	Last Closing	High	Low	
Price index	▼ -60.07	5,347.92	5,407.99	5,407.29	5,311.76	
Weighted Index	▼ -4.48	349.73	354.21	352.57	346.98	
KSX 15	▼ -11.08	801.26	812.34	806.53	791.32	

Volume	Value (KWD)	Number of Trades
110,423,146	12,342,973	2,945

Security	High	Low	Volume	Value (KD)	Trades	Last	Change
MARIN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	96	▲ 0.0
IKARUS	40.0	39.5	212,200	8,407	10	40.0	▲ -10.0
IPG	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	335	▲ 0.0
NAPESCO	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	780	▲ 0.0
ENERGYH	48.0	44.0	5,600	260	5	47.5	▲ 1.0
GPI	40.5	39.5	6,043,617	239,762	109	40.0	▼ -2.0
ABAR	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	100	▲ 0.0
Oil & Gas			6,261,417	248,429	124	789.00	▼ -3.24
KFOUC	178	166	30,560	5,156	6	178	▲ 2.0
BPCO	490	480	281,056	136,817	19	485	▼ -10.0
ALKOUT	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	650	▲ 0.0
ALQURAIN	200	196	82,247	16,161	9	198	▼ -2.0
Basic Materials			393,863	158,134	34	948.71	▼ -5.74
KCEM	385	380	25,000	9,548	5	385	▼ -5.0
REFRI	310	300	12,590	3,782	2	300	▲ 0.0
CABLE	380	370	146,620	54,613	25	380	▼ -10.0
SHIP	148	142	80,090	11,533	8	148	▲ 0.0
PCEM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	990	▲ 0.0
PAPER	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	285	▲ 0.0
MRC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	59	▲ 0.0
ACICO	280	280	80	22	1	280	▼ -20.0
GMCM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	285	▲ 0.0
HCC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	142	▲ 0.0
KBMMC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	240	▲ 0.0
NICBM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	202	▲ 0.0
EQUIPMENT	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	62	▲ 0.0
NCCI	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	12.5	▲ 0.0
GYPSTUM	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	102	▲ 0.0
SALBOOKH	63	60	130,999	7,937	28	63	▼ -2.0
AGLTY	480	460	1,262,244	590,635	52	475	▼ -10.0
EDU	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	190	▲ 0.0
CLEANING	39.5	38.5	101,500	3,909	3	39.5	▲ 0.0
KSJL	46.5	46.5	1	0	1	46.5	▲ 1.5
KPCP	172	168	3,950	664	4	172	▼ -6.0
HUMANSOFT	1,460	1,440	40,010	58,014	7	1,460	▼ -40.0
NAFAIS	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	174	▲ 0.0
SAFWAN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	305	▲ 0.0
GFC	39.0	36.5	160,000	6,105	11	39.0	▲ 2.5
MAYADEEN	24.5	23.0	4,779,059	112,961	81	24.0	▼ -1.5
CGC	770	760	5,190	3,946	3	760	▼ -10.0
MTCC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	68	▲ 0.0
UPAC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	690	▲ 0.0
ALAFAC	208	202	12,550	2,607	5	208	▲ 2.0
MUBARRAD	59	58	144,111	8,474	10	58	▼ -1.0
LOGISTICS	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	79	▲ 0.0
SCEM	80	79	123,700	9,856	4	80	▲ 2.0
GCEM	74	72	266,000	19,344	15	73	▼ -4.0
QIC	69	67	40,000	2,720	2	69	▼ -3.0
FCEM	74	73	1,115,000	81,400	13	74	▲ 0.0
RKWC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	90	▲ 0.0
SPEC	74	69	40,050	2,789	7	69	▼ -4.0
Industrials			8,488,744	990,861	287	1061.91	▼ -11.65
KSH	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	150	▲ 0.0
NSH	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	64	▲ 0.0
PAPCO	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	100	▲ 0.0
CATTL	202	202	18	4	1	202	▲ 4.0
DANAH	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	124	▲ 0.0
POULT	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	178	▲ 0.0
FOOD	2,480	2,440	399,700	981,046	91	2,460	▼ -40.0
Consumer Goods			399,718	981,050	92	1173.30	▼ -6.53
MHC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	200	▲ 0.0
ATC	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	920	▲ 0.0
YIACO	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	210	▲ 0.0
Health Care			0	0	0	992.41	▲ 0.00
KCIN	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	1,700	▲ 0.0
KHOT	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	210	▲ 0.0
SULTAN	56	56	8,000	448	2	56	▼ -2
CABLETV	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	22.5	▲ 0.0
EYAS	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	385	▲ 0.0
IFAHR	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	198	▲ 0.0
QULAFUEL	110	110	79,114	8,703	13	110	▲ 0.0
MUNTAZAHAT	84	81	463,171	38,312	8	83	▼ -2
JAZEERA	910	880	25,061	22,554	5	900	▼ -10
SOOR	110	108	43,205	4,697	15	108	▼ -2
FUTUREKID	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	112	▲ 0.0
ALRAI	160	156	70,200	10,952	7	160	▲ 0.0
ZIMAH	41.5	39.5	1,832,634	74,120	44	41.0	▲ 0.0
UFIG	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	140	▲ 0.0
Mezzan	1,120	1,080	68,022	74,764	9	1,080	▼ -40
Consumer Services			2,689,407	234,549	103	989.08	▼ -6.93
ZAIN	345	335	3,307,639	1,122,973	84	340	▼ -5
OOREDOO	1,160	1,100	2,450	2,771	4	1,160	▲ 0.0
HITSTELEC	36.5	36.0	5,399,698	194,929	78	36.5	▼ -2
VIVA	940	920	91,701	85,261	35	930	▼ -10
Telecommunications			8,801,488	1,405,934	201	600.25	▼ -9.52
NBK	590	560	4,378,364	2,506,151	127	580	▼ -10
GBK	230	224	1,002,411	225,830	41	230	▼ -4
CBK	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	435	▲ 0.0
ABK	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	340	▲ 0.0
ALMUTAHED	400	385	165,171	63,795	11	395	▲ 0.0
KIB	182	178	2,398,154	429,389	76	182	▼ -2
BURG	325	310	896,313	283,646	50	325	▲ 5
KFIN	455	450	2,084,933	940,989	106	450	▼ -10
BOUBYAN	385	375	1,042,816	395,857	39	380	▼ -5
AHUR	188	186	799,686	149,079	32	188	▼ -2
ITMB	35.5	34.0	911,900	31,047	20	35.5	▼ -1
WARBANK	170	166	1,482,320	248,645	90	168	▼ -2
Banks			15,162,068	5,274,429	592	789.61	▼ -7.74
KINS	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	290	▲ 0.0
GINS	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	670	▲ 0.0
AINS	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	465	▲ 0.0
WINS	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	102	▲ 0.0
KUWAITRE	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	190	▲ 0.0
FTI	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	50	▲ 0.0
WETHAQ	29.5	29.5	5,291	156	2	29.5	▲ 0.0
BKIKWT	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	355	▲ 0.0
Insurance			5,291	156	2	1007.77	▲ 0.00

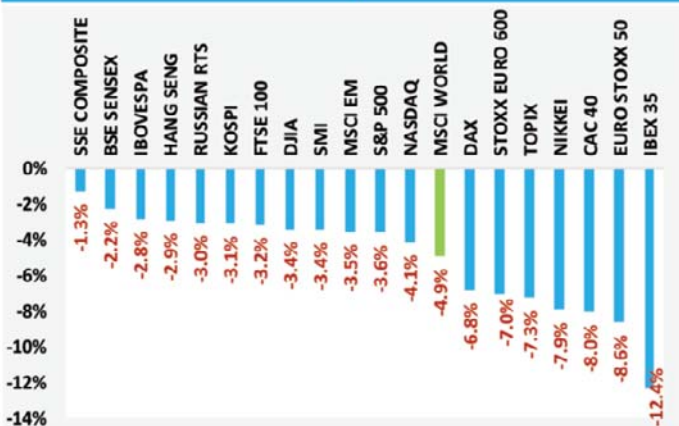
Security	High	Low	Volume	Value (KD)	Trades	Last	Change
SOKOUK	34.0	32.5	172,3550	57,266	48	34.0	▼ -1.0
KRE	53	51	2,617,154	137,252	45	53	▼ -1.0
URC	93	90	19,990	1,839	4	90	▼ -1.0
NRE	85	83	300,906	25,231	15	85	▼ -1.0
SRE	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	360	▲ 0.0
TAM	510	510	10	5	1	510	▼ -50.0
AREEC	134	134	30,000	4,020	1	134	▼ -4.0
MASSALEH	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	44.0	▲ 0.0
ARABREC	31.0	29.5	482,700	14,292	15	31.0	▲ 0.0
ERESCO	49.5	48.5	3,233,200	159,848	21	48.5	▼ -1.5
MABANEE	760	750	262,861	198,006	14	760	▲ 0.0
INJAZZAT	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	73	▲ 0.0
INVESTORS	21.0	19.0	8,607,025	170,816	143	21.0	▼ -0.5
IRC	29.5	28.0	801,050	22,499	21	29.5	▼ -1.0
ALTJARIA	76	74	1,289,730	95,851	25	75	▼ -1.0
SANAM	32.5	30.0	2,001	60	3	32.5	▲ 0.0
AAYANRE	62	60	359,396	22,083	18	62	▼ -2.0

Currency movements post Brexit -24th June



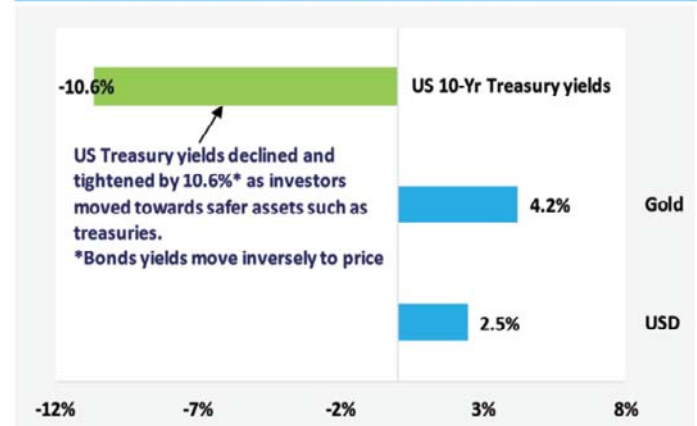
Source: Bloomberg, KAMCO Research

Global Market Declines post Brexit - 24th June



Source: Bloomberg, KAMCO Research

Key assets which gained post Brexit -24th June



Source: Bloomberg, KAMCO Research

BREXIT AND IMPACT ON THE GCC: ASYMMETRIC RISKS?

KAMCO RESEARCH

UK voted to leave EU; surprises markets & sends GBP crashing by over 8 percent:

The UK's referendum resulted in a vote to leave the EU, as votes to leave were 52 percent, compared to 48 percent for votes to remain in the EU, despite vote intention polls in the final days prior to the vote suggesting an edge for the 'remain' camp. The vote came in against the run of play, shocking markets across the globe, while the GBP lost more than 8 percent on 24th June, as investors looked to exit GBP denominated assets.

Global markets lost over USD 2 Tn as they reprice risk; USD & Gold shine in early trades:

Markets across the globe witnessed substantial declines on 24th June following the vote, as the MSCI World Index declined by 4.9 percent for the day. The FTSE 100 declined by over 3 percent, while the broader EU markets such as the STOXX EURO 600 declined by over 8.6 percent over the day. US markets also saw widespread selling pressure as the DJIA & S&P 500 were down each by over 3 percent. KAMCO Research believes that the markets were largely repricing risk, rather than anticipating another 2008 Lehman kind of collapse, as most markets recovered sizably from the lows of the day. Gold (+4.2 percent) and the USD (+2.5 percent) were key beneficiaries of the market upheaval, along with treasuries, as investors turned risk averse and chose flight to safety trades.

GCC equities could witness near-term selling pressure in 'risk-off' trade:

After remaining closed on 24th June due to the weekend, we expect GCC markets to witness similar selling pres-

sure in early trades, as global peers witnessed on Friday. We also expect Brexit related news and its impact on oil to be key focus areas for GCC markets in the near term.

Fed rate hikes unlikely soon; monetary policy to provide countervailing force post Brexit:

Post deferring on a rate hike in June, the Fed was looking at raising rates in the near future. However with the current turn of events in Europe, the USD appreciating, and weak jobs data in the US, we expect the Fed to follow a more accommodative monetary policy in the near term to counter a stronger USD. We also expect most other central banks to use monetary policy tools to provide liquidity, as and when required.

European demand fundamentals and USD pivotal for oil prices & GCC-EU trade balances:

Trade flows between the GCC and the EU remain significant, as the GCC is the EU's fifth largest export market with over \$111 billion of exports in 2015, while oil remains the largest import from the GCC accounting for more than 69 percent of the global imports. A lower euro and GBP against the USD sustaining post Brexit would mean improving trade & current account balances for the GCC, which swung into the negative, following the decline of oil prices since 2014. Nevertheless, the occurrence of a significant slowdown in Europe (including UK), similar to recession would affect oil price demand and in turn GCC oil revenue receipts and current account balances further.

European Markets plunge on Brexit day; China and India most resilient

All European key equity indices wit-

nessed significant single day declines post UK's referendum vote to leave the EU, with Spanish index IBEX 35 declining the most by 12.4 percent, followed by the CAC 40 (France) which went down by 8 percent. German DAX also lost significant ground, receding by 6.8 percent as compared to the previous day, as Banks, Real Estate came under significant selling pressure during trading hours of the day. China's SSE Composite was the most resilient declining by only 1.3 percent, followed by the BSE Sensex (India) which went down by 2.2 percent. The NIKKEI 225 index of Japan was amongst the main laggards globally, declining by over 7.9 percent, as investors sold positions in equities and moved towards safer assets such as the Japanese Yen.

GBP falls to 30 year lows (USD 1.3224); EM currencies under pressure

The GBP plunged against all major currencies, as investors look to exit GBP denominated assets and unwind GBP long positions. Yen and USD currencies rose the most against the GBP, gaining by over 10.2 percent, and 7 percent respectively, while Swiss CHF also gained 6 percent against the GBP, as all major safe haven currencies gained, as investors took the flight-to-safety route. The euro declined by 1.6 percent, significantly lower than the GBP, while overall USD strength also led to emerging market (EM) currencies witnessing significant declines.

Gold & USD thrive in flight-to-safety trades

Investors rushed to safer assets post the event, fearing larger declines going forward. Key beneficiaries were gold, as it surged by over 4.2 percent in a single day, while gold futures closed at its

highest level in nearly two years, as August expiry Gold reportedly jumped by over 4.7 percent to over USD 1320/ounce. The USD index rose by 2.5 percent over its previous close to 95.54 points. Treasury securities witnessed significant buying demand, as yields compressed to multi-year lows. The 10-year US note yield declined by 10.6 percent to 1.5599 percent, in a single day's trade as a result of the significant interest. The yield on the 10-year UK note also plummeted 26.7 basis points to 1.096 percent, its lowest yield ever, signifying trades in favor of safer assets from investors. These trades in favor of safer asset classes are expected to continue over the near term until confidence is restored to the market and outlook is more certain, which would lead to firmer prices for riskier assets.

Oil posts second highest single day declines in 2016 post Brexit

Price for Brent crude oil declined by almost 4.9 percent or over USD 2.5/bbl to around USD 48/bbl. The decline was the second largest decline for 2016, post 11 January 2016, when oil prices tumbled by over 5 percent due to concerns over China. Concerns over Europe's economy and future oil demand and a strengthening USD were key drivers behind the decline of oil, following the referendum vote.

Supply side economics have largely dominated crude oil price moves in 2016, while the price action post the Brexit, largely is attributed to concerns over Europe's demand-side fundamentals, apart from a strengthening USD, which could both prevent higher oil prices going forward, if trends were to continue.

GBP fall to have a positive impact on

GCC current account balances in 2016

The EU is the GCC's biggest trading partner, with trade flows totalling €155.5 billion, or 14.7 percent of the GCC's global trade. Nevertheless, GCC exports to the EU has declined over the years primarily due to the drop in oil prices, while exports have increased over the same period. UK's reliance on the GCC region are significantly lower, and following Brexit, the UK could potentially ink beneficial bilateral trade deals with GCC governments, similar to the Double Taxation Agreement signed with UAE in 2015. The EU has been unable to reach a Free Trade Agreement with the GCC, despite negotiations going back to 1988 which are currently stalled. Falling EUR and GBP exchange rates against the USD would also translate into a positive impact on trade balances and current account balances for the GCC, as GCC currencies are either directly or loosely pegged to the USD.

UK property to look attractive to GCC investors; hospitality to benefit

Due to the depreciation of the GBP against the USD, the UK property market is likely to look attractive for GCC investors. Moreover, short term uncertainties around the economic future of the UK is likely to put additional pressure on residential property prices, which should aid investors from the GCC region. Nevertheless, while residential markets are likely to look attractive to GCC investors, commercial markets-office and retail are likely to attract lesser degree of interest, as corporate occupiers come to terms with the business implications of UK's exit from the EU over the next few years. Hospitality into the UK would also become more affordable owing to the depreciation of the GBP against other currencies.

RISK AVERSION IGNITED AS UK VOTES FOR EU EXIT

NBK MONEY MARKET REPORT

United States
US Dollar rises amid risk aversion following the UK EU referendum

For the most part of last week, the US Dollar was subdued against most of its major counterparts as a series of polls indicated a lead for the remain camp lifted sentiments ahead of the UK EU referendum. However on Friday, the highly awaited results of the referendum showed that Britain voted to leave the EU as the leave camp secured 52 percent of the vote. The result initiated the risk-off trade and pushed the greenback dramatically higher.

Additionally, the financial market fallout has been extensive, with global risk assets under substantial pressure on the uncertainty ahead for Europe. There is uncertainty about the messy multi-year legal process that will begin now in order to unwind the UK from the EU, as well as greater uncertainty now about the potential breakup of the United Kingdom itself and the possibility for other countries to vote to leave the EU. This is as Scotland and Northern Ireland both voted to remain in the EU and have already said that they want a referendum now on whether to remain part of the UK.

The hit to investor confidence and the uncertainty the vote has ignited, could keep the Federal Reserve from raising interest rates as planned this year, and even spark a new round of emergency policy easing from major central banks. Meanwhile, investors were pricing in less chance of another hike in US interest rates given the Federal Reserve had cited a British exit from the EU as one reason to be cautious on tightening. As markets went into turmoil, efforts to calm the markets were evident in major central bank's reactions. Bank of England Governor Mark Carney said the Bank has set aside 250 billion pounds of additional liquidity and will act if necessary to help support the British economy.

After a conference call of the Governing Council, the ECB stated that it will "continue to fulfill its responsibilities to ensure price stability and financial stability in the euro area". In Japan, the Finance minister Taro Aso stated that they are ready to respond as needed to "extremely nervous" exchange rate moves. At the open of US markets, the Federal Reserve said it was "prepared to provide dollar liquidity through its existing swap lines with central banks, as necessary, to address pressures in global funding markets, which could have adverse implications for the US economy."

On the currencies side, the US dollar was one of the beneficiaries of the risk-off trade alongside the Japanese yen and the Swiss franc. The dollar started the week on a weak

note subdued by the positive sentiment in the market and a series of mixed economic data. On Friday the US Dollar Index, which measures the strength of the greenback versus a basket of six other major currencies, rose more than 2.5 percent to a three-month high at 96.703, before falling back to 95.000. The index posted its strongest one-day move in more than five years. Finally, the index closed the week at 95.536.



The euro also gained on the back of the positive sentiments at the beginning of the week that the UK is more likely to stay in the EU. The single currency opened the week at 1.1277 and reached a high of 1.1428. However, the Euro was under pressure as investors worried that the Brexit could fuel anti-establishment movements in other European countries. The currency fell to 1.0912, a level last seen in March before recovering to close at 1.1117.

The pound traded in a volatile manner across the board. It started the week on a strong footing ahead of the referendum, as the most recent polls indicated that the "remain" camp was in the lead. Cable reached a high of 1.5018 ahead of the vote. However, the one year high was short lived as the

pound lost more than 10 percent to 1.3228, its lowest level since September 1985. The currency managed to recover from those lows following comments from the Bank of England chief Mark Carney, who stated that the central bank stood ready to support the economy. The currency closed at 1.3679.

The Japanese yen has been gaining steadily over the past month in parallel with the growth of anxiety leading towards the vote on

much as 8 percent to 1,358.54. Gold then lost some its gains but managed to stay well supported as the uncertainty continued. Oil prices slumped by more than 4 percent amid fears of a broader economic slowdown that could reduce demand. US crude shed \$2.36 to \$47.77 a barrel while Brent fell 4.7 percent to \$48.50.

Mixed data from the housing market

New US single-family home sales fell in May from a more than eight-year high amid weakness in three regions. Nonetheless, the overall housing market remains intact. The Commerce Department said that new home sales dropped 6.0 percent to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 551,000 units. April's sales pace was revised down to 586,000 units, still the highest since February 2008, from the previously reported 619,000 units. Economists had forecast new home sales, which account for about 9.1 percent of the housing market, sliding to a 560,000 unit-rate last month. Meanwhile, existing-home sales sprang ahead in May to their highest pace in almost a decade, while the uptick in demand this spring amidst lagging supply levels pushed the median sales price to an all-time high. All major regions except for the Midwest saw strong sales increases last month. Total existing-home sales, which are completed transactions that include single-family homes, townhomes, condominiums and co-ops, grew 1.8 percent to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 5.53 million in May from a downwardly revised 5.43 million in April.

Claims continue to support healthier labor market

In the week ending June 18, the advance figure for seasonally adjusted initial claims was 259,000, a decrease of 18,000 from the previous week's unrevised level of 277,000. The 4-week moving average was 267,000, a decrease of 2,250 from the previous week's unrevised average of 269,250. There were no special factors impacting this week's initial claims. This marks 68 consecutive weeks of initial claims below 300,000, the longest streak since 1973.

Durable goods unexpectedly fall

Orders for business equipment unexpectedly fell in May by the most in three months, pointing to weakness in investment even before the likely damage to confidence stemming from UK voters' decision to leave the European Union. Excluding transportation equipment which is often volatile orders declined 0.3 percent after a 0.5 percent advance.

Yellen testifies

Yellen noted a few risks to lawmakers

including the highly awaited UK "Brexit" referendum. She said that "a UK vote to exit the European Union could have significant economic repercussions". Also, "mixed readings on labor market and economic growth" warranted caution together with "vulnerabilities" in the global economy. Nonetheless, she showed optimism that the headwinds will "slowly fade over time" and chances of recessions "are quite low". And overall, the "cautious approach" regarding rate hikes "remains appropriate."

Europe

Improved sentiments in Germany

Sentiments in Germany improved unexpectedly in June, reflecting investors and analyst's confidence in the resilience of Europe's largest economy despite an uncertain global backdrop. The German ZEW economic sentiments index rose to 19.2 points in June from 6.4 the previous month. Meanwhile, expectations were for the index to fall to 4.7. Additionally, German business sentiment unexpectedly improved in June as companies shrugged off the risk of Britons voting to leave the European Union. The Munich-based Ifo institute's business climate index rose to 108.7 from a revised 107.8 in May. That's the highest level since December. The market expectations were for a decline to 107.4. The UK voted to quit the 28-nation bloc, with final results published Friday showing 52 percent of the electorate was in favor of an exit.

Asia

RBA minutes indicate no hikes in the near future

The Reserve Bank of Australia refrained from hinting on potential rate hikes as per the minutes. In the minutes of its June policy meeting, the RBA remained positive about growth and employment in Australia while still underlining the risks of low inflation. Furthermore, the central bank gave no indication of potential rate cuts in the near future, easing investors' concerns that the RBA could lower rates in the next 12 months. Moreover, easing commodities' prices coupled with wavering Asian equities also cap the upside in the higher-yielding currency AUD. Further, a negative surprise from the Australian house price index data also weighs down on the AUD/USD pair. RBA House price Index for Q1 showed that prices grew y/y, but a dip to -0.2 percent q/q.

Kuwait

Kuwaiti Dinar at 0.30155

The USDKWD opened at 0.30155 yesterday

AHLI UNITED BANK ANNOUNCES WINNERS IN ITS WEEKLY DRAW

KUWAIT: Ahli United Bank held its weekly draw of the Al-Hassad Islamic Saving program on June 22, 2016. This program offers the biggest prize amount to the largest number of winners. The prize program succeeded in becoming the first prize account in Kuwait compliant with Islamic sharia principles. The program has been developed to fulfil the needs of the bank's customers and increase their opportunities in winning sizeable and attractive prizes in addition to enjoying the latest banking advantages that Ahli United Bank provides.

On this occasion, the bank issued the following press release: Al Hassad Islamic Saving program offers the highest amounts of prizes which

amount to KD 3.4 million per year. This Program also offers 26 weekly prizes, with the highest number of weekly winners. The Islamic Hassad Saving Account may be opened by the lowest amount to open an account, which is KD 100.

The winner of the weekly grand prize in the amount of KD 25,000 is: Sawzan Jawad Ahmed.

The winners of the KD 1,000 prize each: Ibrahim Mousa Qattash, Farouq Hussain Al Yahya, Wassim Ayman Hamza , Sameh Fouad Mohd, Meshal M Y Al Nasheet, Nawaf Saleh Alnaser, Atta Allah Ragheb A, Rasha Taleb Al Enezi Amer Ayedh Al Aihani, Mohammad Nadeem Abbas, Dina Mubarak Abdulla, Kausar Islam, Falah Eid Al Enezi, Faisal Mohammad Al Kandari, Abdullallah Yousef



Al Saif, Mazyad Nayef Al Mutairi, Marzoug Mubarak Al Sultan, Mariam Abbas Gholom, Hamad Ali Ibrahim, Fedhah Zaid Al Kehailan, Hasan Ebrahim Hussain, Wafa Ahmed Abdulla, Hadi Alawi Marhoon, Salahaldin A Rahim, Thomas Nicholas Wood.

The prize program of "Al Hassad Islamic

Saving" from Ahli United Bank offers a weekly grand prize worth KD 25,000 in addition to 25 weekly prizes worth a total of KD 25,000 distributed to 25 prizes, KD 1,000 for each winner.

In addition, prizes of Al Hassad Islamic saving program from Ahli United Bank offer four quarterly grand prizes announced in quarterly draws. Each is a "Salary for Life" prize which is worth KD 250,000.

In general, Ahli United Bank continues to offer innovative tools and means to meet the needs of its customers to match the Bank's long history of distinctive services which extend over 74 years during which the Bank managed to take the lead among local banks.



JOYALUKKAS OPENS SHOWROOM IN KL AT LULU HYPERMARKET

KUALA LUMPUR: The globally renowned jewellery retail chain expanded its presence in the Malaysia by opening its second showroom, located in Lulu Hypermarket, Capsquare Mall, Jalan Munshi Abdullah, Kuala Lumpur. This is as part of their mega expansion plan for this financial year as committed rapid expansion across. The showroom was inaugurated by Datin Paduka Seri Rosmah Mansor wife of YAB Dato' Sri Mohd. Najib bin Tun Haji Abdul Razak, Prime Minister of Malaysia in the presence of John Paul Alukkas, Executive Director, Joyalukkas Group, many local dignitaries and VIP's.

Joyalukkas's first foray into Malaysia was in 2014, with the opening of the biggest jewellery showroom in the country at the heart of Kuala Lumpur at Jalan Masjid India. "When we first arrived in Malaysia, the response from the public was simply overwhelming. We set out to offer the best jewellery shopping experience to the residents and they have rewarded us over and over again with their eager patronage," said Joy Alukkas, Chairman & MD, Joyalukkas Group.

"We are very grateful to the wonderful people of Malaysia and look forward to delivering more choices, better value and an even higher standard of customer service at our second showroom," said John Paul Alukkas, Executive Director, Joyalukkas Group. Joyalukkas opened at the Lulu Hypermarket and Department Store, Capsquare, Kuala Lumpur in time for the Mega Winnings cam-

paign, where customers get the chance to win four diamond necklaces and up to 2 kg gold till August 14, 2016.

Joyalukkas Jewellery is currently a 120-plus showroom chain network spread across 11 countries around the world. The brand which is one of the world's largest jewellery retail chains is a part of a multi-billion dollar global conglomerate, which has varied business interests. The Joyalukkas Group's business interests include Jewellery, Money Exchange, Fashion & Silks, Luxury Air Charter, Malls and Realty. The world's largest jewellery retail chain has presence in Singapore, London, UAE, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman and India and will soon open in two new countries. The jewellery retailer currently has a customer base of over 10 million customers worldwide and offers over one million choices in all types of jewellery at each of its showrooms.

The showroom features over one million dazzling collections and exquisite designs in gold, diamond, precious stones, platinum and pearl. The collection is a mix of traditional, ethno contemporary and international designs that have won hearts and following of customers around the world. This international jewellery retail chain is also one of few retail chains to be recognized with many awards and accolades for its exceptional standards in jewellery retailing. Joyalukkas has also been awarded the prestigious 'Superbrand' status seven years in a row.

AL TIJARI ANNOUNCES THE WINNERS OF NAJMA ACCOUNT

KUWAIT: Commercial Bank of Kuwait held the Al Najma Account daily draw on June 26, 2016. The draw was held under the supervision of the Ministry of Commerce & Industry represented by Abdulaziz Ashkanani.

The winners of the Al Najma Daily Draw are:

Mohammad Mohammad Ibrahim Naser
KD 7,000/-
Amjad Riyad Asger Asger Ali
KD 7,000/-
Noor Aldein Ali Maqled
KD 7,000/-
Omar Deen Bisha Rawtheer
KD 7,000/-
Jaber Wahab Yasein
KD 7,000/-
Al Najma awards are now brighter and bigger than ever.

With the revamped Al Najma account, all your dreams will be turned to reality. On top of offering the highest daily prize in Kuwait for KD 7,000, now our mega prize draws got bigger to reach KD 250,000.

The new prizes scheme for Al Najma account

Daily draw to win KD 7,000.
Quarterly draws to win great prizes that would start from KD 100,000 to KD 250,000

1ST QUARTER KD 100 000
2ND QUARTER KD 150 000
3RD QUARTER KD 200 000
4TH QUARTER KD 250 000

• With Al Najma you have more chances to win greater prizes
• Each KD 25 kept in your account gives you one chance to win
• Each KD 25 kept in your account for one week will give you a chance to enter the daily draw.
• Each KD 25 kept in your account for 3 months will give you chance to enter the quarterly draw.

Additional features

ATM card

Issue a credit card against your account

Obtain all CBK banking services

You deserve to win! Open an account now with just KD 500 and you will enter all draws.

BURGAN BANK ANNOUNCES NAMES OF LUCKY WINNERS OF ITS YOUTH ACCOUNT



KUWAIT: Burgan Bank recently announced the names of the three lucky winners of its Youth Account Quarterly Draw. First place winner, GHADDER YOUSEF FARAJ HAJI, took home a cash prize of KD 1,000, while second and third place winners, NAWAF FAHAD EID ALRASHIDI and AHMAD SAMRAN RUDAINI ALHARBI, each received a remarkable gift of an "unlimited access" voucher to Grand Cinemas for one year.

Customers transferring their Student allowances to the bank will automatically be enrolled into the draw and with every KD 20 in their Youth account they will get one chance to enter the quarterly draw.

The Youth Account draw was re-launched in response to the increasing market demand for highly innovative offerings which provide a higher incentive of winning for young individuals, between the ages of 15 - 25, who seek to attain a successful future. There is no KD limit to open an account, and no minimum balance required to maintain it. Furthermore, account holders will receive free prepaid MasterCard and an ATM card which entitles them to discounts at selected merchants along with an exclusive discount at Grand Cinemas Theatres in Al Hamra Mall and The Gate Mall.

ETIHAD AIRWAYS PARTNERS HELP LAUNCH AIR SERBIA'S FIRST TRANSATLANTIC ROUTE

BELGRADE: Etihad Airways' equity partner Air Serbia launched flights to the United States, a milestone achieved with the support of, and in collaboration with, several of Etihad Airways equity partner airlines. Air Serbia, in which Etihad Airways has a 49 per cent stake, launched its five-times-a-week scheduled flights between its Belgrade hub and New York JFK International Airport, marking a return of direct air links between Serbia and the USA after a 24-year absence. The route is being operated with an Airbus A330-200 aircraft.

Etihad Airways, together with three of its seven equity partners - Jet Airways, Alitalia and airberlin - played a key role over the past six months to prepare for the new route launch. From engineering, fleet planning and technical support, pilot to cabin crew training, and marketing, legal and guest service backing, the true spirit of partnership and resource sharing was evident - fundamental to group strategy to drive efficiency and create synergy.

Highlights: CABIN CREW

* 148 Air Serbia cabin crew have completed A330 aircraft type rating training at Etihad Airways' headquarters in Abu Dhabi. In total, over 450 Air Serbia crew have been trained by Etihad Airways since 2013 on narrow body A319 and A320 aircraft.

* 36 Air Serbia Cabin Seniors who will be operating the aircraft as Cabin Managers were given a 3-day Leadership training course in Abu Dhabi. They also underwent specific training in Belgrade.

* Etihad Airways provided Air Serbia with 20 cabin crew to support the first three months of the New York route launch as ambassadors and to assist with onboard service delivery.

PILOTS

* Alitalia trained 32 Air Serbia pilots for Airbus A330 certification, specifically for the Belgrade - New York route. This included classroom training, and flight simulator cockpit training at Alitalia's A330 flight simulators in Rome.

* Alitalia has seconded two A330 Captains to Air Serbia to share best practice and expertise on A330 operations with Air Serbia colleagues.

* airberlin has trained a number of Air Serbia pilots on other aircraft types over the years.

* Etihad Airways has supported Air Serbia by sending three flight instructors for the A330 introduction to New York. Three Air Serbia pilots are also seconded to Etihad Airways for flight training.

* Etihad Airways provides flight data monitoring and analysis for all Air Serbia flights.

AIRBUS A330 AIRCRAFT

* Jet Airways leased the A330 to Air Serbia with Etihad Airways providing technical and maintenance support.

* Teams from Etihad Airways and Air Serbia have worked together to design, source and certify the A330 interior refurbishment with various suppliers since the end of last year.

* Etihad Airways Engineering, a business division of Etihad Airways, repainted the A330 in Air



Serbia's new livery and reconditioned the aircraft interiors with new seat fabrics in Business and Economy Class, new carpets, new galleys, new lavatories and new partitions.

* Etihad Airways Engineering worked with inflight entertainment system supplier Panasonic to provide full wi-fi connectivity across both cabins.

* Up to 80 Etihad Airways and Air Serbia staff were involved in the transition of the A330 which was delivered to the Serbian carrier on June 7, a day ahead of schedule.

* Alitalia is now providing engineering support for the Air Serbia aircraft, while Etihad Airways Engineering will handle aircraft turnarounds at New York JFK International Airport.

* Alitalia is assisting with back office engineering support of the aircraft in service.

By working together in different areas of the business, the equity partners were able to drive benefits, achieve significant economies of scale and, most of all, show how the investment business model that Etihad Airways has successfully developed, was delivering results.

James Hogan, Etihad Aviation Group President and Chief Executive Officer, said the collaborative efforts demonstrated the strength of the partnership strategy. "Cooperation and collaboration between the equity partners has been second to none," he said. "The Etihad Aviation Group is all about driving innovation and efficiency, and as our equity investments mature, so too, will the benefits and synergies

become more apparent. By developing our unique equity strategy over the past four years, we have created a compelling alliance of partners to share business and cost synergies that are driving benefits straight to the bottom line.

"We have developed our global network significantly, and in doing so, shared massive cost synergies that demonstrate a commitment to work together to reach our goal. We invested time, effort, resource and manpower to initiate, drive and develop these relationships. Hogan, who is also Vice Chairman of the Supervisory Board of Air Serbia, added: "The introduction of non-stop services between Belgrade and the Big Apple is a terrific achievement for Air Serbia that underlines its progress so far as well as the strength of its business strategy.

"On top of that, it demonstrates the benefits of Etihad Airways Partners, whose member airlines provided support every step of the way, with Air Serbia pilots undergoing training in Rome with Alitalia, the cabin crew completing service and safety training in Abu Dhabi with Etihad Airways, and the A330 being leased from Jet Airways." The New York service has been conveniently scheduled to provide long-haul customers with easy onward connections over Belgrade to cities across Europe, working with Etihad Airways Partners to increase network reach. The aircraft is configured with 254 seats, features menus inspired by Serbian cuisine, fully lie-flat seats and inflight entertainment systems at every seat with the latest films, music and TV shows in English and Serbian.

BIGGER THAN EVER MODHESH WORLD TO GIVE FAMILIES A SUMMER TO REMEMBER

DUBAI: Modhesh World, one of the region's most popular edutainment destinations, returns in grand style this summer, offering families the opportunity to experience 62 amazing fun-filled days across eight halls of the Dubai World Trade Centre. Opening its doors on 27 June, the 17th edition of Modhesh World will be the biggest since it was launched in 2001, with the multitude of attractions and activities this year spread over an area of 34,000 sq m.

Modhesh World, which will run under the theme 'Every Step Is A New Adventure' is organized by the Dubai Festivals and Retail Establishment (DFRE), an agency of Dubai's Department of Tourism and Commerce Marketing (Dubai Tourism).

HLaila Mohammed Suhail, CEO of Dubai Festivals and Retail Establishment (DFRE), said: "As a leading family edutainment facility that helps position Dubai as a year-round family tourism destination, Modhesh World provides a fantastic way for kids to stay engaged and happy during the summer holidays through an array of attractions that are also firm family favorites.

"Over the years, Modhesh World has struck a chord with families - our key audience - to emerge as one of the most awaited annual fun attractions in Dubai. The increasing interest shown by families, especially those in the UAE and region, has made us redouble our efforts to offer visitors a truly memorable Modhesh World 2016. We expect to achieve this largely by elevating the entertainment experience with a superb range of new attractions, some of which are unique to the UAE that are



bound to spread cheer and happiness among children the moment they step into Modhesh World".

New and existing popular attractions are set to provide families and children the chance to enjoy an unforgettable summer holiday in Dubai. Brand new additions for 2016 include the Action Planet, which will include two 50m Zip lines, climbing walls and free falls, and an all new Dino Park, where kids can come face to face with pre-historic dinosaurs and experience a thrill ride with them. Back by popular demand, is the Ice Rink, which will be bigger this year, covering an area of 400 sq. m.

The completely air conditioned indoor theme park will also host stage shows that will include the much loved Modhesh Character shows, Magical Garden, and Modhesh Universal Adventures, amongst others. A special new feature at Modhesh World will be an area dedicated to toddlers and younger children with activities such as sensory

classes, "Baby Talk" designed to help toddlers learn through play, music, and multi-sensory activities, along with "Toddler Town" an all-day crèche.

Modhesh World 2016, which ends on 27 August, will also feature a diverse selection of food and beverage options with several seating areas, including signature food trucks and trolleys available at various locations in the sprawling edutainment facility.

With organisers committed to creating a value-for-money experience for visitors, starting prices for tickets to Modhesh World are as low as AED 20. Entry is free for kids under age 3. However entry is free to all visitors to Modhesh World during Ramadan, as a special gesture from the organisers on the occasion of the holy month. Tickets are available at the venue with doors opening from 10 am to 12 pm on weekdays and 10 am to 1 am on weekends (Thursday and Friday).

Laila Suhail

BROWSE FREE OR DIE? US LIBRARY AT PRIVACY FORE

LEBANON, New Hampshire: A small library in New Hampshire sits at the forefront of global efforts to promote privacy and fight government surveillance - to the consternation of law enforcement. The Kilton Public Library in Lebanon, a city of 13,000, last year became the nation's first library to use Tor, software that masks the location and identity of Internet users, in a pilot project initiated by the Cambridge, Massachusetts-based Library Freedom Project. Users the world over can - and do - have their searches randomly routed through the library.

Computers that have Tor loaded on them bounce Internet searches through a random pathway, or series of relays, of other computers equipped with Tor. This network of virtual tunnels masks the location and Internet protocol address of the person doing the search. In a feature that makes Kilton unique among US libraries, it also has a computer with a Tor exit relay, which delivers the Internet query to the destination site and becomes identified as the last-known source of the query.

Alison Macrina, founder and director of the Library Freedom Project, said her organization chose Kilton for its pilot project because it had embraced other privacy-enhancing software the project recommended and because she knew the library had the know-how take it to the complicated

exit-relay stage. Tor can protect shoppers, victims of domestic violence, whistleblowers, dissidents, undercover agents - and criminals - alike. A recent routine Internet search using Tor on one of Kilton's computers was routed through Ukraine, Germany and the Netherlands. "Libraries are bastions of freedom," said Shari Steele, executive director of the Tor Project, a nonprofit started in 2004 to promote the use of Tor worldwide. "They are a great natural ally." There are about 7,200 relays and 1,000 exit relays worldwide, with more being added steadily, Steele said. The Tor Project is funded largely by the US State Department and other federal agencies, yet the Department of Homeland Security bristles at its use by civilians because it can be used to mask criminal activity.

Local police, at the behest of Homeland Security's Boston bureau, asked the Kilton library last July to stop using Tor. Its use was suspended until the library board voted unanimously at a standing-room-only meeting in September to maintain the Tor relay. "Kilton's really committed as a library to the values of intellectual privacy," Macrina said. "In New Hampshire, there's a lot of activism fighting surveillance. It's the 'Live Free or Die' place, and they really mean it." Homeland Security agent Gregory Squire, who initiated the

crackdown at the Kilton library, said he was not able to comment on Tor or last year's investigation.

Ethics Code

Since 1938, the American Library Association has had an ethics code about protecting patrons' confidentiality. During the Cold War, librarians fought efforts by federal officials in 1953 to track and regulate patrons' reading habits by drafting the Freedom To Read statement. They opposed efforts by federal investigators in the 1970s to obtain records of patrons seeking information about explosives, and the ALA was targeted by Attorney General John Ashcroft for its "baseless hysteria" over the Patriot Act.

In 2005, a group of Connecticut librarians successfully fought an FBI demand to know who was using a computer at the Library Connection in Windsor on a particular date and time. A federal judge ruled the librarians' free speech rights were violated, and US Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg ordered release of all records in the case. And in the wake of Edward Snowden's revelations about government surveillance, librarians have increasingly spoken out about government incursion and offered themselves as havens.

"I think it's lost on most people how much of their activity online is tracked and cataloged and

can be made available on a day-to-day basis," said Mark Rumold, senior staff attorney at the San Francisco-based Electronic Frontier Foundation. "Information disclosed to Google can be as diverse as the thoughts that are in your mind." At Kilton, Tor is installed on four computers in the center of the library. The computers' home pages feature the Tor icon, and users can opt to engage it or not. The library has run Tor workshops.

Lebanon Police Chief Richard Mello said last month he still has concerns. "Once you institute the Tor network, you essentially take those computers off the radar screen, so to speak," Mello said. For Kilton library user Robert Olcott, Tor gives him peace of mind that law enforcement and corporations won't track him when he researches topics such as predatory lending or global warming. It's nobody's business why he wants to do perfectly legal reading, he argued.

"If I'm looking at how many drones are currently approved to be flying in public airspace, somebody at Homeland Security might want to know why I want to know that," said Olcott, 65, a laborer by trade. "As a private citizen, I should be entitled to privacy in that inquiry." As to the number of users of Tor at Kilton, the library doesn't even know - because they are anonymous. — AP

CAN GOOGLE GLASS HELP AUTISTIC KIDS READ FACES?

SAN JOSE, California: Like many autistic children, Julian Brown has trouble reading emotions in people's faces, one of the biggest challenges for people with the neurological disorder. Now the 10-year-old San Jose boy is getting help from "autism glass" - an experimental device that records and analyzes faces in real time and alerts him to the emotions they're expressing. The facial recognition software was developed at Stanford University and runs on Google Glass, a computerized headset with a front-facing camera and a tiny display just above the right eye.

Julian is one of about 100 autistic children participating in a Stanford study to see if "autism glass" therapy can improve their ability to interpret facial expressions. "There's not a machine that can read your mind, but this helps with the emotions, you know, recognizing them," Julian said. Julian wears the device each day for three 20-minute sessions when he interacts with family members face-to-face - talking, playing games, eating meals. The program runs on a smartphone, which records the sessions.

When the device's camera detects an emotion such as happiness or sadness, Julian sees the word "happy" or "sad" - or a corresponding "emoji" - flash on the glass display. The device also tests his ability to read facial expressions. "The autism glass program is meant to teach children with autism how to understand what a face is telling them. And we believe that when that happens they will become more socially engaged," said Dennis Wall, who directs the Stanford School of Medicine's Wall Lab, which is running the study.

Stanford student Catalin Voss and researcher Nick Haber developed the technology to track faces and detect emotions in a wide range of people and settings. "We had the idea of basically creating a behavioral aide that would recognize the expressions and faces for you and then give you social cues according to those," said Voss, who was partly inspired by a cousin who has autism. Google provided about 35 Google Glass devices to Stanford, but otherwise hasn't been involved in the project. The Silicon

Valley tech giant stopped producing the headset last year after it failed to gain traction, but the device found new life among medical researchers.

Wearable Technologies

Brain Power, a Cambridge, Mass.-based startup, is also developing Google Glass-based applications to help children with autism improve their face-reading abilities and social skills. Autism advocates are excited that researchers are developing technologies to help the estimated one in 68 American children diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder. "Glass and wearable technology are the future. They're going to play a pivotal role in how we understand, manage and diagnose disorders like autism," said Robert Ring, chief science officer at Autism Speaks.

Currently, many autistic children learn to read facial expressions by working with therapists who use flashcards with faces expressing different emotions. The Stanford team hopes autism glass can provide a convenient, affordable therapy that families can do at home. "Kids with autism are not getting enough of the care that they need for as long as they need it, and we need to fix the problem," Wall said. If the study shows positive results, the technology could become commercially available within a couple years, Wall said.

"Anything that can help this population is very welcome and very important, but even the best technology will never be enough because we are dealing with a population with often very, very profound needs," said Jill Escher, president of Autism Society San Francisco Bay Area. The study is still in its early stages, but Wall said participating children have shown gains in their face-reading abilities and family feedback has been encouraging.

"It has helped our son who's using the Google Glasses connect with the family more," said Kristen Brown, Julian's mother. "I think the glasses are a positive way to encourage a kid to look someone else in the face." Julian also gives the device positive reviews: "I really think it would help autistic people a lot." — AP



URAYASU, Japan: In this March 24, 2016 file photo, Line Corp Chief Strategy and Marketing Officer Jun Masuda speaks during a press conference of Line Conference Tokyo 2016. — AP

LINE STRUGGLES TO SHOW GROWTH PLAN CAN WORK

BIGGEST TECH IPO OF THE YEAR

TOKYO: In delaying its IPO by two years, Japanese messaging app company Line Corp bought time to correct weak financial reporting controls, work on its business plan, bolster staffing - and left billions of dollars on the table as its valuation shriveled. Line's initial public offering in the next three weeks is set to raise about \$1 billion, which given a global drought of such deals could make it the biggest tech listing this year, but sceptical fund managers point to tepid growth in Line's home market and doubts about its prospects for regional expansion. They also question whether its advertising revenue strategy will work.

In seeking to earn more from its major Asian markets of Japan, Thailand, Indonesia and Taiwan, Line will try to generate more revenue from services such as advertising and offer more localized products, its IPO filing said. The bulk of Line's revenue comes from games and sales of emojis and electronic stickers, including Brown the bear and Coby, his flutulent rabbit girlfriend. "Localization of the service, of the marketing, of the stickers that we provide - this is very important," CEO Takeshi Idezawa told Reuters in April. Fund managers who have watched Line's growth slow in a crowded global messaging app market assess the plan with caution. "I'm not interested," said Yasuo Sakuma, portfolio manager at Bayview Asset Management, which manages 270 billion yen (\$2.64 billion). "Its growth outlook is very poor." "Among the four countries that it's focusing on, only Indonesia has big room for growth in use," he added. "Even there, the business outlook is not that easy."

Growth in Line's monthly active users has tailed off after tripling across the world over the past three years. Last year, user numbers rose

just 13 million to 218 million at the end of March, the IPO filing showed. The company isn't providing much visibility about the future either - it says in its filing that limited operating history makes it "difficult" to forecast future results. Globally, Line is the seventh-most used messenger app, data from researcher Statista shows, behind the likes of Facebook's WhatsApp and Tencent's WeChat.

Earthquake Aftermath

The company will fix its IPO price range today. There is no change to the listing's schedule following Britain's vote to leave the European Union, a Line spokeswoman said on Friday. The dual New York and Tokyo listing, set for July 14-15, would value Line at about \$88 billion (\$5.75 billion) and make it the country's largest listing since Japan Post's \$12 billion offering last year. Line's likely valuation is far less than the \$10 billion-\$20 billion that was expected by investors when South Korean parent Naver Corp previously talked of a Line listing in 2013-2014, although Line may not have had much choice but to wait. Line declined to comment, citing a media blackout period ahead of the IPO.

Line's messaging app was launched as NHN Japan in the aftermath of Japan's 2011 earthquake and tsunami to overcome downed communications, growing unexpectedly to become the country's dominant mobile messaging platform over the next few years. However, in that period, it identified what it described in its IPO filing as "material weaknesses" in controls over financial reporting. Line has now tightened board and management approval for major transactions, it said in its prospectus, and crafted a strategy focusing on Japan, Thailand,

Indonesia and Taiwan, which account for more than half its users.

Line has also bolstered staff numbers by recruiting over 750 workers between December 2014 and March, its IPO filing shows, with designers and engineers among the recruits. It has around 2,540 full-time employees.

Pushed as Value Play

Idezawa, who became Line's chief executive in March last year, has been key to tightened procedures, a person familiar with the matter said. Idezawa is known for his strictness on compliance-related matters, the person added. Idezawa was previously chief executive of internet company Livedoor, joining that company a year after it was hit by a high-profile 2006 accounting scandal. "When Line was first seriously considering an IPO around 2013, the overall company was pretty disorganized," said a person involved in the IPO. "It was very much still a venture in terms of mindset. So a lot of people were hired to strengthen the company."

Line has pitched its IPO to investors in terms of value and steady returns instead of explosive growth potential. While that story has been met favorably by Japan's risk-averse retail investors - Tokyo brokerages including Daiwa Securities say retail investors have shown strong interest in Line shares - fund managers are wary of Line's ad-driven growth push. "I went to the company's meeting with investors... but nothing moved me," said a fund manager at a major Japanese asset management firm who declined to be named because of company rules against discussing individual shares. "It's not clear how it can make money out of its advertisement business." — AP



STANFORD, California: Julian Brown talks with his mother Kristen during a meeting with Jena Daniels, a clinical research coordinator at The Wall Lab, on June 22, 2016. — AP

PROGRAM LETS COMMUTERS DRIVE SOME, CYCLE THE REST

BOSTON: Traffic is crawling bumper to bumper on Soldiers Field Road, a major artery leading to Cambridge and downtown Boston, as Mark Rabinsky parks his car near the Charles River, takes out his bike and prepares to cycle the rest of the way to his job at Harvard University. "My ride is all along the river. It's such a beautiful ride every morning," said Rabinsky, one of a small but growing number of commuters who avoids the last few miles of rush hour gridlock by utilizing Park & Pedal. Launched last year and recently expanded, the program offers free parking at 19 strategically located lots near major employment centers and an opportunity for people to easily complete their commute on two wheels instead of four.

The initiative is attracting attention from other US and world cities, according to Dave Montague, the founder of a company that makes folding bikes and who first approached Massachusetts officials with the idea. Representatives from as far away as Copenhagen, Denmark, and Christchurch, New Zealand, have contacted him for information, he said. Although it has no exact count on the number of Park & Pedal users so far, benefits touted by the state include less traffic, reduced carbon dioxide emissions and healthier lifestyles. Boston, like other urban areas, has strived in recent years to become more pedal friendly, designating bike lanes on major streets and rolling out Hubway, a popular bike-sharing program. Still, bicycle commuting is

often seen as a viable option for those who live in or near the city, far less so for the typical suburbanite. "Your average American lives 12 miles from work, but we did a survey and your average Bostonian does not want to ride a bicycle 12 miles. It's too far for them in the morning to get to work," Montague said.

That's clearly true for Rabinsky, who lives about 18 miles from work in Wayland. It's also true for avid cyclist Jonathan Zarkower, who found it impractical to make the approximately 50-mile round trip entirely by bike from his Framingham home to his job at Akamai Technologies in Cambridge but is now a frequent Park & Pedal user. "I'm saving a lot of money, getting some great exercise and doing something I really enjoy doing," Zarkower said.

The program is also attractive to people who live nearer to Boston like Dan Heffernan, an attorney from Newton who used to cycle all the way to his Government Center law office but decided to curtail as he got older. "Having someplace I could go that's a little closer is great," he said, before climbing on his bike to pedal the last several miles. Beyond the added commuting option, advocates hope to entice less experienced riders who - unlike hardened urban road warriors - are more squeamish about cycling amid cars, buses and trucks on noisy and congested city streets.

Many of the designated Park & Pedal lots are situated near bike paths like the one along the river where riders need not compete with cars. Steve Taylor, communications manager

for The League of American Bicyclists, said the term "interested but concerned" is often applied to people who might consider commuting by bike but are discouraged by long distances or safety fears. The Boston model and others like it could catch on, he said, with other cities trying to lift those barriers.

The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission and the city of Columbus, Ohio, launched a program, also named Park & Pedal, last May designed specifically for commuters who now drive 5 miles or more to work. Some smaller-scale programs are also in existence, such as Park and Cycle at England's University of Cambridge, where staff members can even store their bikes and helmets overnight in personalized lockers. — AP

CHINA ON SCHEDULE FOR LAUNCH OF 2ND SPACE STATION IN 2016

BEIJING: China yesterday recovered an experimental probe launched aboard a new generation rocket, marking another milestone in its increasingly ambitious space program that envisions a mission to Mars by the end of the decade. Space program authorities said the spaceship's landing on the vast Inner Mongolian steppe keeps China on schedule to place its second space station into orbit later this year.

The launch of the spaceship aboard the newly developed Long March 7 rocket on Saturday was hailed as a breakthrough in the use of safer, more environmentally friendly fuels. The launch also marked the first use of the massive new Wenchang Satellite Launch Center on the southern island province of Hainan. Since launching its first manned mission in 2003, China has sent up an experimental space station, the Tiangong 1, staged a spacewalk and landed its Yutu rover

on the moon. Its second space station, the Tiangong 2, is due to be slung into space in September. Following that, the Shenzhou 11 spaceship with two astronauts on board is scheduled to dock with the station and remain for several days. Administrators suggest a manned landing on the moon may also be in the program's future.

A source of enormous national pride, China's military-backed space program plans a total of 20 space missions this year at a time when the US and other countries' programs are seeking new roles. China is also developing the Long March 5 heavier-lift rocket needed to launch the Tiangong 2 and other massive payloads. China plans to launch a mission to land a rover on Mars by 2020, attempting to recreate the success of the US Viking 1 mission that landed a rover on the planet four decades ago. — AP



CHINA: A woman walks with a child as they visit a park with replicas of foreign and domestic space vehicles displayed in Beijing, China, yesterday. — AP



MYANMAR: A pile of seized drugs burn after being set on fire during a ceremony to mark the UN's "International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking" in Yangon yesterday. — AFP

MYANMAR TORCHES DRUGS WORTH NEARLY \$60 MILLION

GLOBAL OPIUM PRODUCTION PLUNGED LAST YEAR

YANGON: Myanmar police yesterday torched drugs with a street value of nearly \$60 million as authorities struggle to tackle the scourge of poppy cultivation and shut down pill laboratories in lawless border zones. The impoverished nation remains the world's second biggest producer of opium from which heroin is made, according to the United Nations. Decades of corrupt military rule and continuing civil wars with ethnic rebels are blamed for fuelling the drugs trade.

To mark the UN's annual anti-drugs day, seized drugs and precursor chemicals were burnt in three places across Myanmar. Over half a ton of opium and 80 kilograms of heroin was torched along with 768 kg of methamphetamine and 10 million other stimulant pills, a police official told AFP, adding the haul was worth around \$57 million. At a ceremony in the capital Naypyidaw, Vice-President Myint

Swe conceded the battle to stem drug production was far from being won.

"Drugs control will strengthen"

"People in very remote rural areas are trafficking drugs and cultivating poppies for a living," he said urging greater development for the poor and conflict-hit border areas. "Once we have development and success in the local peace process, our drugs control process will strengthen." The government led by Aung San Suu Kyi's pro-democracy party has a massive popular mandate following elections in November.

She has promised efforts to end several simmering insurgencies. But the government's writ currently does not extend to many border areas where drug production is rampant. Both rebels and the Myanmar army are accused of buying weapons with drugs produced in the

so-called Golden Triangle, a zone around the intersection of Myanmar, Thailand and Laos.

While the heroin trade is worth billions of dollars to cross-border narcotics syndicates, opium farmers scratch a living at the bottom of the drug chain. A report released by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime said farmers in Myanmar's poppy-growing villages make less money than other rural communities. The struggle by villagers to make ends meet rather than greed was prompting the illicit cultivation, it added.

According to the UN, global opium production plunged almost 40 percent last year but the drug remains easily accessible due to a supply glut. Asia remains the world's largest market for opiates, accounting for an estimated two thirds of all users, with Myanmar producing 14 percent of the world's opium. — AFP

SCIENTISTS SEND CORAL REEF PLEA TO AUSTRALIA

HONOLULU: As the largest international gathering of coral reef experts comes to a close, scientists have sent a letter to Australian officials calling for action to save the world's reefs, which are being rapidly damaged. The letter was sent Saturday to Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull imploring his government to do more to conserve the nation's reefs and curb fossil fuel consumption.

The letter, signed by past and present presidents of the International Society for Reef Studies on behalf of the 2,000 attendees of the International Coral Reef Symposium that was held in Honolulu this week, urged the Australian government to prioritize its Great Barrier Reef. "This year has seen the worst mass bleaching in history, threatening many coral reefs around the world including the whole of the northern Great Barrier Reef, the biggest and best-known of all reefs," the letter said. "The damage to this Australian icon has already been devastating."

'Obituary'

In addition to damage from greenhouse gasses, port dredging and shipping of fossil fuels across the Great Barrier Reef contravene Australia's responsibilities for stewardship of the Reef under the World Heritage Convention. Leaders from the scientific community at the convention in Honolulu said Friday that the unprecedented letter was critical to the conservation of the fragile reef habitat. Scientists are not known for their political activism, said James Cook University professor Terry Hughes, but they felt this crisis warranted such action.

"We are not ready to write the obituary for coral reefs," said Hughes, who is also the president of the ARC Centre of Excellence for Coral Reef Studies in Australia. Messages seeking comment from the Australian prime minister

Saturday were not returned. A call to action from three Pacific island nations whose reefs are in the crosshairs of the largest and longest-lasting coral bleaching event in recorded history was presented Friday at the conclusion of the International Coral Reef Symposium.

The heads of state from Palau, Micronesia and the Marshall Islands attended the conference and provided a plan to help save their ailing coral reefs, which are major contributors to their local economies and the daily sustenance of their people. The call to action, signed by the three presidents, asked for better collaboration between the scientific community and local governments, saying there needs to be more funding and a strengthened commitment to protecting the reefs.

'Pledge'

"If our coral reefs are further degraded, then our reef-dependent communities will suffer and be displaced," the letter said. They also called for more integration of "traditional knowledge, customary practices and scientific research" in building a comprehensive coral reef policy. In response to the letter, the scientific community at the conference said: "We pledge to take up the 13th ICRS Leaders' Call to Action, and will work together with national leaders of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of Palau, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the world to curb the continued loss of coral reefs."

Bleaching is a process where corals, stressed by hot ocean waters and other environmental changes, lose their color as the symbiotic algae that lives within them is released. Severe or recurrent years of bleaching can kill coral reefs, as has been documented over the past two years in oceans around the world. Scientists expect a third year of bleaching to last through the end of 2016. — AP



AUSTRALIA: In this photo provided by XL Catlin Global Reef Record, decomposing coral is shown on the Great Barrier Reef in Australia. — AP

ROTTING TREES CAUSED HUGE, MYSTERIOUS HOLES IN DUNES

SOUTH BEND, Indiana: Mysterious holes that forced the closure of a massive dune at an Indiana national park after a 6-year-old boy fell into one and nearly died were caused by sand-covered trees that left cavities behind as they decayed over the years, researchers have found.

Fungi on the covered trees formed a sort of cement that allowed the sand to keep its hollowed out shape as the wood decayed and collapsed inward, leaving holes more than 10 feet deep in the dune known as Mount Baldy at the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, according to a study published in December by Erin Argyilan, who heads Indiana University Northwest's department of geosciences. She said the phenomenon likely explains similar holes found in migrating dunes in Oregon and Michigan.

'Decayed tree'

Although she determined the holes to be more of a nuisance than a hazard, Argyilan said they could present an unseen geological hazard in heavily visited natural places like Mount Baldy. The popular dune has been closed except for small ranger-led tours since the July 2013 rescue of the Illinois boy, who was trapped under sand for more than three hours. The question facing the National Park Service is whether to keep Mount Baldy closed to the unsupervised public

or to find a way to safely reopen it, at least partially.

Bruce Rowe, a spokesman for the park, declined to comment on Argyilan's study or an ongoing Indiana Geological Survey study that supports her findings. He said it wouldn't be appropriate to comment until the agency had the chance to review both. G. William Monaghan, a senior research scientist at the IGS, said he hopes to have its completed study to the Park Service by August 1. Monaghan said the IGS study, which Argyilan is also involved in, will include a map of potentially hazardous areas based on 1930s photos that show the location of trees before the sand buried them.

The scientists said reopening Mount Baldy would be a risk-management decision that the Park Service would have to make. Kevin Kincaid, a US Geological Survey research geologist, said he agrees with the studies' findings. "I was impressed with the work they did," he said. "I agree with them that the void the child fell into was the result of a decayed tree that had been buried." He said the studies show it takes unique conditions to create these voids.

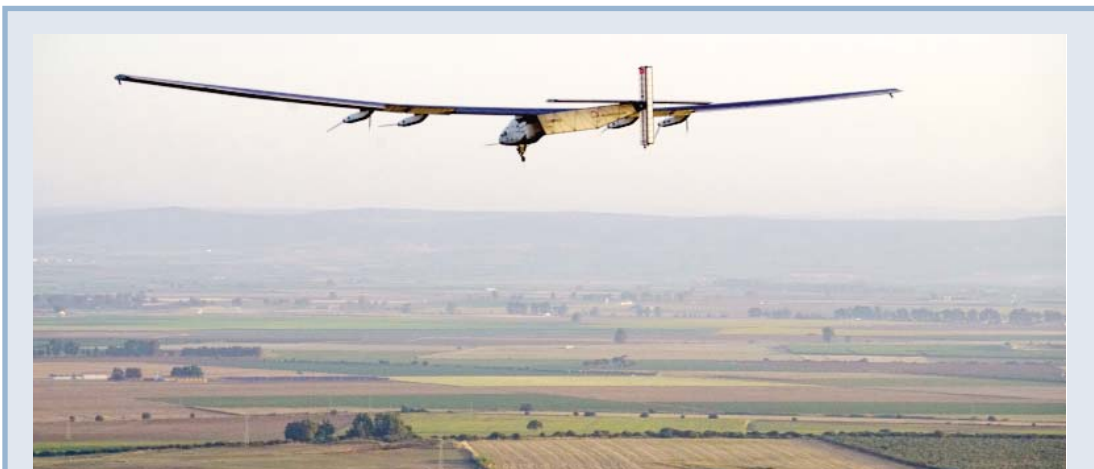
'Moving dunes'

Mount Baldy, which is a popular attraction at the national park along the Lake Michigan coast near Indiana's bor-

der with Michigan, formed about 4,000 years ago and moves faster than most coastal dunes. Monaghan said it has moved an average of about 10 to 13 feet a year since about 1930. Argyilan said similar holes have been reported in migrating dunes at the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area in Florence, Oregon, and Silver Lake State Park in Mears, Michigan, but the holes at Mount Baldy provided the first opportunity to directly study them.

Ten holes had been found in the dune when her research was published. The deepest was the 10-foot hole that the boy fell into, but most were a yard or less deep, she said. Monaghan said voids only create holes when the thickness of the dune from the hole to the surface is 20 feet or less. When it's greater than that, the void being filled doesn't create a big enough hole to present a danger. When the thickness is less than 5 feet, the hole created is so small that it's not a danger, he said.

Argyilan said there's still a lot to be learned about what is happening at Mount Baldy. "There are moving dunes all around the world. Why is this one forming holes? Why do certain ones form holes and other ones don't? Is it all about the tree? Is it the sediment itself?" she asked. "There's a lot that we need to know." — AP



SPAIN: In this photo provided by Solar Impulse 2, the solar powered plane, piloted by Swiss pioneer Bertrand Picard, prepares to land in Seville in Spain on Thursday. — AP

SOLAR-POWERED AIRPLANE LANDS IN SPAIN

SEVILLE, Spain: An experimental solar-powered airplane landed in Spain Thursday, completing an unprecedented three-day flight across the Atlantic in the latest leg of its globe-circling voyage. The Solar Impulse 2 landed in Seville in southern Spain at 0540 GMT on Thursday, ending a 71-hour, 8-minute flight which began from New York City on Monday. It was the first time a solar-powered plane has made such a journey using zero fuel and zero emissions, organizers said.

Organizers said the aircraft had flown 6,765 kilometers at a maximum height of 8,534 meters and average speed of 95 kph. It was the 15th leg of a planned around-the-world flight which began in March 2015 from Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates.

The wings of Solar Impulse 2, which stretch wider than those of a Boeing 747, are equipped with 17,000 solar cells that power propellers and charge batteries. The plane runs on stored energy at night.

The flight was piloted by Swiss men Bertrand Picard and Andre Borschberg. "Initially the aviation industry told us it was impossible to build such an airplane, but we believed we could do it thanks to all our partners' technologies," Borschberg said in a statement. The organizers said the mission will continue onward to Abu Dhabi. It said the project showed that "exploration and pioneering are no longer about conquering new territories, but about exploring new ways to have a better quality of life on earth." — AP



OHIO: This photo provided by the Columbus Zoo shows a black bear cub named Joan in the Columbus Zoo in Columbus, Ohio. — AP

BLACK BEAR CUB MAKES BRIEF ESCAPE AT ZOO

OHIO: A black bear cub scaled a 12-foot fence in its new enclosure at an Ohio zoo and escaped for about 15 minutes before being corralled and sedated. The Columbus Zoo was put on lockdown Saturday morning for a few minutes until workers could contain the 7-month-old black cub named Joan, said zoo spokeswoman Patty Peters. No one was hurt.

Two rescue cubs that had been abandoned in the wild and arrived at the zoo just a few months ago were being moved into a new habitat Saturday. The one named after rocker Joan Jett climbed the fence and managed to evade a "hot wire" that would have given her a jolt, Peters said. The cub stayed between her habitat and a wolverine exhibit before going over a wooden fence, The Columbus Dispatch reported.

Animal-care specialists were standing near the area when the cub started up the fence but were unable to stop her. "She went a lot quicker than anyone anticipated," Carrie Pratt, curator of the North America exhibit, told the newspaper. Employees then trapped her inside a building where she was sedated.

The bears' new enclosure had recently been renovated and had been home to adult bears, Peters said. The enclosure will need modifications for the cubs, she said. Just a month ago, a response team at another Ohio zoo in Cincinnati shot and killed a 400-pound gorilla after a boy got inside its enclosure and was dragged by the animal. The boy apparently climbed over a barrier and made his way through some bushes and fell into a shallow moat. — AP

BONES, COINS FOUND IN ANCIENT POMPEII SHOP

ROME: Italian and French archaeologists have discovered four skeletons and gold coins in the ruins of an ancient shop on the outskirts of Pompeii, officials said Friday. The skeletons are those of young people, including an adolescent girl, who perished in the back of the shop near the ancient Roman town when Mount Vesuvius erupted and covered it in ash in 79, said a statement from the area office of the famous archaeological site near Naples.

Three gold coins and a necklace's pendant were scattered among the bones. In the workshop was an oven which archaeologists think might have been used to make bronze objects. The excavation of that and a second ancient shop started in May near a necropolis in the Herculaneum port area. Archaeologists are puzzling over what kind of business the second shop did. It features a circular well accessible by a spiral staircase and dug out of the

terrain. Excavations continue. Officials said there was evidence the shop had been ransacked by clandestine diggers after the eruption, presumably "on the hunt for treasures buried under the ashes." The coins and the gold-leaf-foil pendant, in the shape of a flower, apparently escaped the eyes of those pillaging the shop, the archaeologists said. In another stunning discovery, the dig revealed a 4th century B.C. tomb of an adult, complete with funerary vases. The find "adds to the rare funerary testimony of the pre-Roman age," the statement said.

Inside the tomb was the skeleton of an adult, possibly male, lying on his back. Near the arms and feet were at least six vases painted black. Pompeii and nearby Herculaneum were ancient Roman towns. Much of the area is still to be excavated, including of Herculaneum, which was buried deeper, beneath as much as 80 feet of ash. — AP



ITALY: An undated picture made available by the Pompeii Archeological site Press Office, showing skeleton's bones recently discovered in Pompeii, near Naples, Italy. — AP

FIRST 'NEURO' OTICON MEDICAL COCHLEAR IMPLANT SURGERY IN MIDDLE EAST

'NEURO ZTI' MODEL IS THE SMALLEST ULTRA-THIN COCHLEAR DEVICE

KUWAIT: Hassan's Audiological Centers at Hassan's Optician Co, hosted the visit of the renowned French Ear Surgeon and Head of Otolaryngology Department at Dijon university Hospital in France, Professor Alexis Bozorg-Grayeli, on Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th, along with Clause Horneman International Sales Director at Oticon Medical, the global specialized company in cochlear implant, and Engineer Wassim Abdel Azeem, GCC Clinical Support Manager at Oticon Medical.

During his visit to Kuwait, the proficient cochlear implant surgeon, Professor Grayeli, gave a lecture last Wednesday to Otolaryngologists and audiologists, as well as specialists in cochlear implants and physicians who are interested to know more about the latest Neuro system technology which released recently by the French/Danish Co "Oticon Medical". The conference held at Marina Hotel under the patronage of Dr Basel Al-Sabah, Chairman of ENT Departments at Ministry of Health and Head of ENT Department at Zain Hospital.

Professor Grayeli also joined the cochlear implant surgery of the French "Neuro Zti" technology by Oticon Medical, the first surgery of its kind in the Middle East, which performed at Zain Hospital by the Head of Sheikh Salim Al-Ali Al-Sabah Audiology & Speech Therapy Center, Dr Mohammad Al-Hajry, along with the accompanied medical team. Hence, the new "Neuro Zti" model is the smallest ultra-thin and compact-shaped cochlear device in the world to be implanted making surgery as simple and safe as possible. The device helps reduce surgery time to 45 minutes and it features the highest global standard sever.

Moreover, the external advanced sound processing "Neuro One" helps enhance listening and speech understanding skills as a result of the integration between the sound processing technology of the French Oticon Medical and the most advanced speakers of the Danish Oticon Medical, which is one of the oldest and renowned global companies in the Audiology and medical devices industry. It is worth mentioning that Hassan's Optician Co is the sole dealer for Oticon and Oticon Medical companies in both Kuwait and Oman.



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THE SULTAN CENTER HOSTS A GHABQA EVENT



In line with its commitment to constantly recognize media efforts in supporting its business and operations, The Sultan Center in collaboration with TSC Group of Restaurants, hosted a media ghabqa event at Abu El Sid restaurant part of TSC Group of Restaurants in the presence of TSC executive management including: Victor Suarez/ TSC's

CEO for Retail and member of Board of Directors, Ahmed Yousof/ CEO Investment Group, Makram Malaeb/Group International and Non-Food Commercial Director and Rudy Morales/ Retail Operations Manager Investment Group.

In his welcome note, Makram Malaeb addressed the media and said: "It's with

utmost pleasure that we host you today in this authentic Kuwaiti tradition to celebrate together the true meaning of the Holy month of Ramadan. We wanted to express our deep gratitude for your highly appreciated efforts in supporting TSC journey of success while adding value to it." Due to your support, TSC has been at the forefront in maintaining its

quality services to customers and will continue to cater to the community not only with the high quality products we offer, but as well by securing the wellbeing of the community". The event enabled the media and guests to socialize, network and meet TSC management, while enjoying a range of traditional Egyptian dishes of Abu El Sid. The evening included

competitions and prize draws. The night was marked with a fun-filled atmosphere that enabled the media to indulge themselves in a cozy environment marked with much appreciation and recognition. Since its inception, TSC has been committed to reinforce its relations with Kuwait media as it considers them partners in success and recognizes their support.



إهداء
بيت التمويل الكويتي
Kuwait Finance House

5 MILLION USERS OF KFH QURAN APP

Kuwait Finance House (KFH) announced that the number of users of KFH's Quran application for iPhone and Android phones reached 5 million users. This growth reflects the huge turnout on this important app KFH offered to serve the public as part of its social responsibility and in line with its Islamic banking identity. The Quran app allows vocal recitation of Quran by 12 of the best reciters in the Arab world. It includes interpretations of the Quran's verses, and many other details in a high-end design and different colors. KFH's Quran app offers the option of digital searching and using different colors for search words, which allows for faster search of the required page, not to mention that the display font is clearer and compatible with various screen sizes. It has high-speed browsing, in addition to a periodical report about the pages read and the time spent on reading. It is noteworthy that KFH is keen on enhancing and upgrading its e-services and its applications on smart phones. KFH also seeks to reach high degrees of novelty of its innovation in applications and programs, which consolidate the bank's leadership in the technological field, yet meet clients' aspirations.

INDIAN DOCTORS FORUM ORGANIZES GABQA 2016

The Indian Doctors Forum (IDF) successfully organized and celebrated their GHABQA 2016 on Wednesday 22nd June, 2016 at The Regency Hotel amidst a galaxy of Kuwaiti, Indian and dignitaries from other nations. Shri Sunil Jain, Honorable Ambassador of India to Kuwait was the Chief Guest at the function. The evening commenced at 9.30 PM when the Anchor Dr Prashant Purohit (Cultural Secretary - IDF) requested all to rise in honor of the Kuwaiti and Indian National Anthems. This was followed by recitation of verses from the Holy Quran by Master Aman Ahmed. The welcome address was delivered by the IDF General Secretary Dr Surendra Nayak, wherein he welcomed the Chief Guest and officials of the Indian Embassy, Karma Phuntsho, Counsellor, Royal Bhutanese Embassy, representatives of IDF's parent organization, the Kuwait Medical Association, Kuwaiti Directors, consultants and doctors from various Ministry of Health and private sector hospitals, dignitaries from the Faculty of Medicine, Kuwait University, Dasman Diabetic Institute, Eminent Kuwaiti and Indian Business leaders, Government Officials, Presidents and Office bearers of Indian Associations, Media Personnel and last but not the least, our IDF members & their families. The welcome speech was followed by the Presidential address by Dr Abhay Patwari, President, IDF. He expressed his immense gratitude to all the attending Kuwaiti guests for being a part of this auspicious evening. Dr Abhay stated that 'Ghabqa', is a local tradition

celebrated in the month of Ramadan after Taraweeh prayers. Ghabqa helps to foster strong ties amongst families and friends. This wonderful tradition of the locals has been adopted by the IDF to strengthen the ties between Kuwaitis and Indians and to express our love and gratitude to the wonderful people of Kuwait, our host country. He was grateful for the support and messages from the Royal Family Sheikh Dr Prof Rasha Hamoud Al-Sabah and Sheikh Shaharyar Al-Sabah. He also thanked KMA President Dr Mohammed Al-Muttairi and Dr Ibrahim Al-Hadi, Secretary General KIMS for their best wishes and support for the Ghabqa. The Ramadan Message was then delivered by Dr Syed M Rahman (Secretary, Community Affairs, IDF). He emphasized the importance of fasting during the Holy month of Ramadan and receiving its rewards in the form of spiritual as well as physical well-being. Speaking on the occasion, Sunil Jain, Honorable Ambassador of India appreciated the various community welfare activities rendered by IDF. He expressed his happiness at the presence of such large number of Kuwaiti guests at the event, which reflected the acceptance, love and respect they had for the Indian people. This was followed by short speeches from Prof Farida al Awadhi, Dr Sulaiman Ahmad Al-Saad, Dr Amal Khader, and Eng Aziz Ahmad Al-Duaiji who lauded the efforts taken by IDF in carrying out all its activities. All of them had very kind and affectionate words for IDF and all appreciated the immense contribution of the Indian people to the Kuwaiti soci-



ety. Prof Renu Gupta Vice President of IDF conveyed Ramadan greeting to all and expressed deep appreciation for Dean of Faculty of Medicine Prof Adel Khader, Dean Allied health Prof Saud Al-Obaidi, Dean Graduate studies Prof Farida Al-Awadi, former Vice President Health science center Prof Abdulla Behbhani, other esteemed faculty members of Kuwait University, Kuwaiti doctors, members of Indian diasporas and members of IDF and their families who graced the occasion by their presence and support. Winners of fancy dress competition for children organized by IDF were presented prizes by the Indian Ambassador. A wonderful Ramadan song in Arabic was sung by a 5-year-old Pooja Giri which won the hearts of the Kuwaiti and Indian audience. Dr Diwakar

Chaluvaiah (Vice President of IDF) then delivered the Vote of Thanks. He thanked the Indian Ambassador, Diplomats, Royal Family members, All the Kuwaiti dignitaries, Kuwaiti and Indian businessmen for all the support and assistance rendered towards various IDF activities. He thanked all the IDF members and their families for their wholehearted participation. He expressed his gratitude to all technical staff, media personalities and staff of the Regency Hotel for all the support and hospitality. The event concluded with a sumptuous Buffet Dinner. After the dinner all the guests were gifted with traditional Gargans gifts.



DR GARGI JAIN HOSTS RAMADAN GHABQA



Dr Gargi Jain, wife of Indian Ambassador Sunil Jain hosts Ramadan Ghabqa in honor of Sheikhha Fariha Al-Jaber Al-Ahmad

Al-Sabah and to bid farewell to Anna Maria, wife of German Ambassador. Malavika Jain, daughter of Ambassador Jain expressed her heartfelt

thanks and gratitude to Sheikhha Fariha for honoring poetic talents. The event was honored by distinguished

presence of guests such as Sheikhha Lataif Al-Sabah, Sheikhha Munaim Al-Sabah, Sheikhha Shahrazad Al-Sabah and wives of ambassador of

the USA, Turkey, Nepal, Jordan, Egypt, and Serbia. Also a few IWG board members and some distinguished ladies graced the occasion.



DASMAN DIABETES INSTITUTE GIRGIAN EVENT 2016

Dasman Diabetes Institute (DDI), founded by Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences (KFAS), hosted their annual Girgian Event sponsored by Asnan Kids, for children with Type 1 diabetes. The event took place at the Institute on Thursday, June 23rd, at 9:00 PM, where the children were welcomed by DDI and Asnan's mascots, and the public gathered in the atrium to receive free health and teeth consultations by all our provided experts. Booths were set-up around the premise, manned by DDI, KidZania, Fantasy World, Saveco, and Asnan.

Fun activities for kids were offered, such as face painting and henna, as well as educational consultations with DDI's reputable dieticians.

Filling the room with a magical sound, one of the Institute's young talented patients commenced the event with a beautiful piano piece. Shortly after, Fantasy World took the lead and performed their own sketch, including a magic show where they interacted with their audience and involved the children with their various acts. Once the performance concluded, a consultation corner was formed,

where children and their caregivers were given valuable tips and advice from the Asnan dentist. He taught them the proper way to brush their teeth, and explained to them the importance of keeping their teeth in a healthy condition.

Once all the valuable advice was well-received, another talented young DDI patient took center stage to perform a couple of songs on his guitar. The acoustics of the atrium allowed for the music to resonate beautifully, sending the audience into a blissful silence. To conclude the night, the kids enjoyed an inter-

active game show, where they answered questions and had a good laugh with the clever performers. As the night came to an end, the children were given Girgian gift bags sponsored by Saveco, and giveaway bags sponsored by KidZania and Fantasy World as souvenirs.

Dasman Diabetes Institute constantly organizes events and takes the initiative to help its community to better understand the diabetes epidemic and all its related complications. Raising awareness and educating the public are two of the fundamental pillars that

make DDI a center of excellence. The Institute focuses on a multidisciplinary approach, which allows for a wider scope of knowledge to be circulated throughout the country, making its residents more health conscious of the environment they are living in. DDI continues to excel in their means of educating the youth, and public as a whole, ensuring that Kuwait keeps moving forward towards a healthier tomorrow.



AMC

05:25 Waking Up In Reno
07:00 Big Screen
07:15 Crimes And Misdemeanors
09:00 What Did You Do In The War Daddy?
10:55 The Bed Sitting Room
12:25 Geronimo: An American Legend
14:20 The People That Time Forgot
15:50 The Nurseman
17:20 Alexander The Great
19:35 The Bank Shot
21:00 Night Manager
21:50 Into The Blue
23:40 FX

ANIMAL PLANET HD

03:25 Natural World
04:15 Into The Pride
05:02 Lion Man: One World African
Safari
05:49 Cute To Kill
06:36 Treetop Cat Rescue
07:00 Treetop Cat Rescue
07:25 Dog TV
08:15 Restoration Wild
09:10 Wild Capture School
09:35 Wild Capture School
10:05 The Wild Life Of Tim Faulkner
10:30 The Wild Life Of Tim Faulkner
11:00 Dog TV
11:55 In Search Of The King Cobra
12:50 Bahama Blue
13:45 Wildest Middle East
14:40 Yankee Jungle
15:35 Biggest And Baddest
16:30 Ninja Sharks
17:25 Wildest Latin America
18:20 Restoration Wild
19:15 Wild Capture School
19:40 Wild Capture School
20:10 The Wild Life Of Tim Faulkner
20:35 The Wild Life Of Tim Faulkner
21:05 Village Vets
21:35 Village Vets
22:00 Restoration Wild
22:55 In Search Of The King Cobra
23:50 Gator Boys
00:45 Gator Boys

Discovery CHANNEL HD

03:15 Outback Truckers
04:05 Outback Truckers
05:00 Outback Truckers
06:00 Yukon Men
06:50 Wheeler Dealers: Trading Up
07:40 Fast N' Loud: Demolition Theater
08:30 Dirty Money
08:55 Storage Wars Canada
09:20 Storage Hunters UK
09:45 How Do They Do It?
10:10 How It's Made: Dream Cars
10:35 Alaskan Bush People
11:25 The Last Alaskans
12:15 Siberian Cut
13:05 Dirty Money
13:30 Storage Wars Canada
13:55 Storage Hunters UK
14:20 Alaska: The Last Frontier
15:10 Wheeler Dealers: Trading Up
16:00 Fast N' Loud: Demolition Theater
16:50 How It's Made: Dream Cars
17:15 How Do They Do It?
17:40 Fat N' Furious: Rolling Thunder
18:30 Street Outlaws: New Orleans
19:20 So You Think You'd Survive?
20:10 Storage Wars Canada
20:35 Storage Hunters UK
21:00 Impossible Engineering
21:50 Telescope
22:40 Fire In The Hole
23:30 Fast N' Loud: Demolition Theater
00:20 Wheeler Dealers: Trading Up
01:10 Impossible Engineering

Discovery Family

03:00 Through The Wormhole With Morgan Freeman
03:50 You Have Been Warned
06:20 How It's Made
07:00 Adventure & Zoo Games
07:50 Dick n' Dom Go Wild
08:40 You Have Been Warned
12:00 How It's Made
13:40 Mythbusters
17:00 Marooned With Ed Stafford
17:50 Ultimate Survival
18:40 Lost & Found With Mike & Jesse
19:30 Out Of Egypt
20:20 Ways To Save The Planet
22:00 Untamed & Uncut
00:30 Ecpolis
02:30 Through The Wormhole With Morgan Freeman

ID. INVESTIGATION DISCOVERY

03:00 Redrum
03:48 Murder Among Friends
04:36 True Crime With Aphrodite Jones
05:24 California Investigator
05:49 California Investigator
06:12 Southern Fried Homicide
07:00 Dr G: Medical Examiner
07:50 I Almost Got Away With It
12:00 The Perfect Murder
16:10 Nightmare Next Door
21:10 Deadline: Crime With Tamron Hall
22:00 Disappeared
22:50 True Crime With Aphrodite Jones
23:40 Obsession: Dark Desires
00:30 Paranormal Lockdown
01:20 The Haunted

Discovery SCIENCE

03:00 Through The Wormhole With Morgan Freeman
06:12 Food Factory USA
07:00 Food Factory
11:10 How Do They Do It?
12:00 How It's Made
15:20 Secret Space Escapes
16:10 Strip The Cosmos
17:00 Through The Wormhole With Morgan Freeman
19:30 Through The Wormhole
21:10 Capturing The Universe: In 4k
22:50 Uncovering Aliens
23:40 Food Factory USA
00:05 Capturing The Universe: In 4k
01:45 How It's Made

Disney CHANNEL

03:15 The Hive
03:20 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch

03:45 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch
04:10 Hank Zipzer
04:35 Binny And The Ghost
05:00 Violetta
05:45 The Hive
05:50 Mouk
06:00 Hank Zipzer
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
09:45 Wizards Of Waverly Place
10:35 16 Wishes
12:05 The 7D
12:15 Disney Mickey Mouse
12:20 Austin & Ally
12:45 Girl Meets World
13:10 Best Friends Whenever
13:35 Jessie
15:15 Descendants Wicked World
15:20 Jessie
17:25 Liv And Maddie
17:50 The 7D
18:00 Radio Rebel
19:30 Evermoor Chronicles
20:45 Good Luck Charlie
21:10 H2O: Just Add Water
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
01:40 Hank Zipzer
02:05 Binny And The Ghost
02:30 Violetta

Disney JUNIOR

03:10 Henry Hugglemonster
03:20 Calimero
03:35 Zou
03:45 Loopidoo
04:00 Art Attack
04:25 Henry Hugglemonster
04:35 Calimero
04:50 Zou
05:00 Loopidoo
05:15 Art Attack
05:35 Henry Hugglemonster
05:50 Calimero
06:00 Zou
06:20 Loopidoo
06:35 Art Attack
07:00 The Hive
07:10 Zou
07:25 Loopidoo
07:40 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse
08:05 Sofia The First
08:30 Miles From Tomorrow
08:45 PJ Masks
09:10 The Lion Guard
09:35 Doc McStuffins
10:00 Sofia The First
10:25 Unbungleable
10:30 Goldie & Bear
11:00 Jake And The Never Land Pirates
11:25 The Lion Guard
11:50 Miles From Tomorrow
12:15 Henry Hugglemonster
12:30 Sheriff Callie's Wild West
12:50 Unbungleable
13:00 Sofia The First
13:25 Goldie & Bear
13:50 Miles From Tomorrow
14:15 The Lion Guard
14:40 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse
15:10 Doc McStuffins
15:35 Jake And The Never Land Pirates
16:00 Sofia The First
16:25 Jungle Cubs
16:50 Aladdin
17:15 The Lion Guard
17:40 Goldie & Bear
18:05 Doc McStuffins
18:30 Sofia The First
19:00 PJ Masks
19:25 Unbungleable
19:30 The Lion Guard
20:00 Goldie & Bear
20:30 Sofia The First
21:00 Jake And The Never Land Pirates
21:25 PJ Masks
21:50 Jungle Cubs
22:20 Aladdin
22:45 Minnie's Bow-Toons
23:00 Zou
23:20 Henry Hugglemonster
23:30 Calimero
23:50 Zou
00:05 Art Attack
00:30 Henry Hugglemonster
00:45 Calimero
01:00 Zou
01:15 Loopidoo
01:30 Art Attack
02:05 Calimero
02:20 Zou
02:30 Loopidoo
02:45 Art Attack

itv CHOICE

03:00 Coronation Street
03:25 Paul O'Grady: For The Love Of Dogs
03:50 Masterpiece With Alan Titchmarsh
04:40 Masterpiece With Alan Titchmarsh
05:30 Masterpiece With Alan Titchmarsh
06:20 Midsomer Murders
08:00 Paul O'Grady: For The Love Of Dogs
08:35 The Doctor Blake Mysteries
13:15 Don't Tell The Bride
15:00 Sunday Night At The Palladium
15:55 Doctor Thorne
16:50 Lewis
17:40 Doc Martin
18:30 Paul O'Grady: For The Love Of Dogs
19:00 Sunday Night At The Palladium
19:50 Don't Tell The Bride
20:40 Don't Tell The Bride
21:30 Midsomer Murders
23:15 The Doctor Blake Mysteries
00:10 Masterpiece With Alan Titchmarsh
01:00 Emmerdale
01:30 Emmerdale
02:00 Coronation Street
02:30 The Doctor Blake Mysteries

NAT GEO people HD

03:05 Places We Go
03:30 Carnival Eats
04:20 Bangkok Airport
06:00 John Torode's Malaysian Adventure
06:50 Street Food Around The World
07:40 Miguel's Feasts
08:05 One Man & His Campervan
08:55 Carnival Eats
09:45 Jose Andres: Dinner In Haiti
10:35 World's Best Chefs
11:00 Maximum Foodie
11:25 This Is Brazil

Disney XD

06:00 Boyster
06:10 Super Matrak
07:00 Star vs The Forces Of Evil
07:25 K.C. Undercover
07:50 Supa Strikas
08:15 Annedroids
08:40 Lab Rats
09:10 Cars
09:10 Phineas And Ferb
11:20 Lab Rats
11:45 K.C. Undercover
13:30 Phineas & Ferb: The O.W.C.A. Files
14:20 Kickin' It
15:10 Disney Mickey Mouse
15:15 Rocket Monkeys
15:40 Guardians Of The Galaxy
16:05 Star vs The Forces Of Evil
16:30 Kirby Buckets
16:55 Gamer's Guide To Pretty Much Everything
17:25 K.C. Undercover
17:50 Supa Strikas
18:15 Lab Rats
18:40 K.C. Undercover
19:05 Disney Mickey Mouse
19:10 Annedroids
19:35 Star vs The Forces Of Evil
20:00 Kirby Buckets
20:25 Gamer's Guide To Pretty Much Everything
20:55 K.C. Undercover
21:20 Supa Strikas
21:45 Lab Rats
22:10 Mighty Med
22:40 Disney Mickey Mouse
23:00 Programmes Start At 6:00am

food network

03:00 Kids Baking Championships
04:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives
05:00 Chopped

06:00 Man Fire Food
07:30 Roadtrip With G. Garvin
08:00 Chopped
09:00 Amazing Wedding Cakes
10:00 The Pioneer Woman
11:00 Siba's Table: Fast Feasts
12:00 Ching's Amazing Asia
13:00 Man Finds Food
15:00 Chopped
16:00 Guy's Grocery Games
17:00 Amazing Wedding Cakes
18:00 Siba's Table: Fast Feasts
18:30 Siba's Table: Fast Feasts
19:00 Luke Nguyen's United Kingdom
19:30 Luke Nguyen's United Kingdom
20:00 Cutthroat Kitchen
21:00 Chopped South Africa
22:00 Man v Food
23:00 Mystery Diners
00:00 Cutthroat Kitchen
01:00 Chopped South Africa
02:00 Man v Food

HISTORY HD

03:40 Shipping Wars
04:05 Shipping Wars
04:30 Pawn Stars
05:00 Lost Worlds
06:00 Ax Men
06:50 Swamp People
07:40 Search For The Lost Giants
08:30 Shipping Wars
08:55 American Restoration
09:20 American Restoration
09:45 Counting Cars: Best Of
10:10 Counting Cars
10:35 Counting Cars
11:00 Counting Cars
11:25 Grave Trade
12:15 American Pickers
13:05 Storage Wars
13:30 Storage Wars
13:55 Shark Wranglers
14:45 The Curse Of Oak Island
15:35 Counting Cars
16:00 Ax Men
16:50 Search For The Lost Giants
17:40 Swamp People
18:30 Grave Trade
19:20 American Pickers
20:10 Pawn Stars
20:35 Pawn Stars
21:00 Pawn Stars
21:50 Pawn Stars
22:15 Pawn Stars
22:40 Officers And Gentlemen
23:30 Pawn Stars
00:20 Pawn Stars
00:45 Pawn Stars
01:10 American Restoration
02:00 Swamp People
02:50 Search For The Lost Giants

NAT GEO WILD HD

03:45 Animal Fight Club
04:40 Fish Tank Kings
05:35 Unlikely Animal Friends
06:30 Monster Fish
07:25 Salmon Wars
08:20 1000 Days For The Planet
09:15 Mission Critical
10:10 My Dog Ate What?
11:05 Bandit Patrol
12:00 That Shouldn't Fly
12:55 Ultimate Animal Countdown
13:50 Mission Critical
14:45 Animal Fight Club
15:40 Incredible Diggers
16:35 Hunting The Hammerhead
17:30 World's Deadliest Snakes
18:25 Swamp Men
19:20 Animal Fight Club
20:10 Incredible Diggers
21:00 Hunting The Hammerhead
21:50 World's Deadliest Snakes
22:40 Swamp Men
23:30 That Shouldn't Fly
00:20 Ultimate Animal Countdown
01:10 Mission Critical
02:00 Raptor Force
02:50 Lion Ranger

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC CHANNEL HD

03:20 Brain Games
03:50 Locked Up Abroad
04:45 Megacities
05:40 X: The Generation That Changed The World
06:35 Genius By Stephen Hawking
07:30 Brain Games
07:55 Brain Games
08:25 Wicked Tuna
09:20 Alaska Fish Wars
10:15 Megacities
11:10 Building Wild
12:05 Cesar To The Rescue
13:00 Cesar To The Rescue
14:00 Outsiders: Living Off The Edge
15:00 The Great Human Race
16:00 Wicked Tuna
17:00 Genius By Stephen Hawking
18:00 Nazi Megastructures
19:00 Nazi Underworld
20:00 Wicked Tuna
20:50 Genius By Stephen Hawking
21:40 Nazi Megastructures
22:30 Nazi Underworld
23:20 Alaska Fish Wars
00:10 Wicked Tuna
01:00 Genius By Stephen Hawking
02:00 Nazi Megastructures
02:55 Nazi Underworld

NAT GEO ACTION

03:45 Age Of Dinosaurs
05:45 The League Of Extraordinary Gentlemen
07:45 The Berlin File
10:00 Jack The Giant Killer
12:00 Edge Of Tomorrow
14:15 Pearl Harbor
17:45 The League Of Extraordinary Gentlemen
19:45 Battleship
22:00 Zombie Night
00:00 The Gauntlet
02:00 Pearl Harbor

COMEDY

04:00 Planet 51
06:00 Cas & Dylan
08:00 The Misadventures Of The

12:15 My Sri Lanka With Peter Kuruvita
12:40 A Marriage Of Flavours
13:05 Lyndey Milan - Taste Of Australia
13:35 Testing The Menu With Nic Watt
14:00 Meat v Veg
14:30 American Food Battle
14:55 Places We Go
15:25 Carnival Eats
15:50 Carnival Eats
16:20 Bangkok Airport
17:15 Bangkok Airport
18:10 City Chase Marrakech
19:05 Places We Go
19:30 Carnival Eats
20:00 Carnival Eats
20:25 Bangkok Airport
22:00 Man v Food
22:05 City Chase Marrakech
22:55 A Marriage Of Flavours
23:20 Lyndey Milan - Taste Of Australia
23:45 Testing The Menu With Nic Watt
00:10 Meat v Veg
00:35 American Food Battle
01:00 One Man & His Campervan
01:25 One Man & His Campervan
01:50 Poh & Co
02:15 World's Best Chefs
02:40 Testing The Menu With Nic Watt

NAT GEO WILD HD

03:45 Animal Fight Club
04:40 Fish Tank Kings
05:35 Unlikely Animal Friends
06:30 Monster Fish
07:25 Salmon Wars
08:20 1000 Days For The Planet
09:15 Mission Critical
10:10 My Dog Ate What?
11:05 Bandit Patrol
12:00 That Shouldn't Fly
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17:30 World's Deadliest Snakes
18:25 Swamp Men
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20:10 Incredible Diggers
21:00 Hunting The Hammerhead
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23:30 That Shouldn't Fly
00:20 Ultimate Animal Countdown
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NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC CHANNEL HD

03:20 Brain Games
03:50 Locked Up Abroad
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19:00 Nazi Underworld
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20:50 Genius By Stephen Hawking
21:40 Nazi Megastructures
22:30 Nazi Underworld
23:20 Alaska Fish Wars
00:10 Wicked Tuna
01:00 Genius By Stephen Hawking
02:00 Nazi Megastructures
02:55 Nazi Underworld

COMEDY

03:15 D2: The Mighty Ducks
05:15 A Bug's Life
07:00 A Far Off Place
09:00 The Never Trap
11:15 Tinker Bell And The Legend Of The NeverBeast 3D
13:00 Atlantis: The Lost Empire
15:00 National Treasure
17:15 Treasure Planet
19:00 Beverly Hills Chihuahua
21:00 Blank Check
23:00 National Treasure
01:15 Beverly Hills Chihuahua



HALF OF A YELLOW SUN ON OSN MOVIES ACTION HD

OSN MOVIES HD FESTIVAL
03:00 Begin Again
05:00 United Passions
07:00 Middle Of Nowhere
09:00 The Railway Man
11:00 Sunshine On Leith
13:00 The Doctor
15:00 Atlas Shrugged Part 2: The Strike
17:00 The Railway Man
19:00 Philomena
21:00 We Gotta Get Out Of This Place
23:00 What Maisie Knew
01:00 Masaan

OSN MOVIES HD DRAMA

03:00 The Disappearance Of Eleanor Rigby: Her
05:00 Foreverland
07:00 A Valentine's Date
09:00 Shanghai Calling
11:00 Foreverland
13:00 Viktor
15:00 Half Of A Yellow Sun
17:00 Shanghai Calling
19:00 Scenic Route
21:00 Goodbye World
23:00 Foxcatcher
01:15 Shanghai Calling

OSN MOVIES HD FAMILY

03:15 D2: The Mighty Ducks
05:15 A Bug's Life
07:00 A Far Off Place
09:00 The Never Trap
11:15 Tinker Bell And The Legend Of The NeverBeast 3D
13:00 Atlantis: The Lost Empire
15:00 National Treasure
17:15 Treasure Planet
19:00 Beverly Hills Chihuahua
21:00 Blank Check
23:00 National Treasure
01:15 Beverly Hills Chihuahua

OSN MOVIES HD PREMIERE
04:00 A Gift Of Miracles
06:00 Stoneheast Asylum
08:00 The Single Moms Club
10:00 Make Your Move
12:00 Marvel's Hulk vs. Thor & Wolverine
14:00 The Mark
16:00 The Single Moms Club
18:00 Paul Blart: Mall Cop 2
20:00 The End Of The Tour
22:00 Unbroken
00:30 Penthouse North
02:15 The Single Moms Club

OSN MOVIES HD MORE

03:00 American Crime Story: The People vs O.J. Simpson
04:00 Lewis Black: Black On Broadway
05:00 Daybreak
07:00 Witness Protection
08:45 61*
11:00 Confirmation
13:00 For Love Or Country: The Arturo Sandoval Story
15:00 Mistrial
17:00 Confirmation
19:00 HBO Comedy Half-Hour

OSN MOVIES HD KIDS

04:30 Marco Macaco
06:00 Tom And Jerry: Spy Quest
07:45 Columbus In The Last Journey
09:45 Gladiators Of Rome
11:30 Daddy I'm A Zombie
13:00 The Olsen Gang In Deep Trouble
14:30 Memory Loss

16:00 Dixie And The Zombie Rebellion
18:00 Gladiators Of Rome
19:45 The Tale Of The Princess Kaguya
22:00 Memory Loss
23:30 Dixie And The Zombie Rebellion
01:00 Columbus In The Last Journey
02:15 The Tale Of The Princess Kaguya

OSN MOVIES HD PREMIERE

04:00 A Gift Of Miracles
06:00 Stoneheast Asylum
08:00 The Single Moms Club
10:00 Make Your Move
12:00 Marvel's Hulk vs. Thor & Wolverine
14:00 The Mark
16:00 The Single Moms Club
18:00 Paul Blart: Mall Cop 2
20:00 The End Of The Tour
22:00 Unbroken
00:30 Penthouse North
02:15 The Single Moms Club

OSN MOVIES HD MORE

03:00 American Crime Story: The People vs O.J. Simpson
04:00 Lewis Black: Black On Broadway
05:00 Daybreak
07:00 Witness Protection
08:45 61*
11:00 Confirmation
13:00 For Love Or Country: The Arturo Sandoval Story
15:00 Mistrial
17:00 Confirmation
19:00 HBO Comedy Half-Hour

19:30 Def Poetry Jam
20:00 From The Earth To The Moon
21:00 Last Week Tonight With John Oliver
21:30 Veep
22:00 Game Of Thrones
23:15 Silicon Valley
00:00 How To Make It In America
00:30 HBO Comedy Half-Hour
01:00 From The Earth To The Moon
02:00 Last Week Tonight With John Oliver
02:30 Veep

OSN FIRST HD

03:00 Damien
04:00 Bones
05:00 Good Morning America
06:00 Marvel's Agents Of S.H.I.E.L.D.
08:00 Prison Break
10:00 Bones
11:00 Rosewood
12:00 Prison Break
13:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show
14:00 Live Good Morning America
17:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show
18:00 Prison Break
19:00 Criminal Minds: Beyond Borders
20:00 Marvel's Agents Of S.H.I.E.L.D.
21:00 Stitches
22:00 Code Black
23:00 Dominion
00:00 Rosewood
01:00 Stitches
02:00 Code Black

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
07:00 SpongeBob SquarePants
Turtles
07:24 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
07:48 Winx Club
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
11:24 SpongeBob SquarePants
11:48 SpongeBob SquarePants
12:12 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
12:36 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
18:36 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn
19:00 100 Things To Do Before High School
19:24 Game Shakers
19:48 SpongeBob SquarePants
20:12 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
21:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
21:24 Breadwinners



PAUL BLART- MALL COP 2 ON OSN MOVIES PREMIERE HD



Flight Schedule

Directorate General of Civil Aviation Home Page (www.kuwait-airport.com.kw)

Arrival Flights on Monday 27/6/2016		Time	Airlines	Fit	Route	Time	Airlines	Fit	Route	
THY	772	00:10	JZR	777	Jeddah	17:50	IRA	666	Esfahan	10:15
JZR	239	00:20	QTR	1080	Doha	17:55	ETD	920	Abu Dhabi	10:20
JZR	267	00:30	SYR	341	Damascus	18:00	QTR	1071	Doha	10:35
KKK	6508	00:45	MSR	620	Cairo	18:30	FDB	056	Dubai	10:40
FDB	069	00:55	KAC	786	Jeddah	18:35	KAC	501	Beirut	11:00
DLH	635	01:00	KAC	774	Riyadh	18:35	KAC	153	Istanbul	11:00
QTR	1086	01:15	KAC	502	Beirut	18:35	CCE	346	Sohag	11:10
JZR	539	01:20	KAC	542	Cairo	18:55	KAC	561	Amman	11:20
KAC	1802	01:30	KAC	618	Doha	18:55	KAC	165	Rome/Paris	11:25
PGT	858	01:40	KAC	104	London	19:00	KAC	741	Dammam	11:35
RJA	642	01:45	GFA	217	Bahrain	19:05	GFA	214	Bahrain	11:35
MSC	501	02:00	UAE	875	Dubai	19:05	AXB	890	Mangalore	11:55
KKK	6506	02:05	FDB	063	Dubai	19:10	MEA	405	Beirut	12:00
MSC	403	02:10	KAC	614	Bahrain	19:10	KAC	541	Cairo	12:05
GFA	211	02:15	ABY	123	Sharjah	19:15	KAC	103	London	12:10
CEB	018	02:20	JAI	572	Mumbai	19:35	UAE	874	Dubai	12:10
UAE	853	02:25	KAC	674	Dubai	19:45	JZR	776	Jeddah	12:15
OMA	643	03:05	KAC	154	Istanbul	19:45	KAC	785	Jeddah	13:00
MSC	415	03:10	FDB	059	Dubai	19:50	FDB	076	Dubai	13:10
RJA	644	03:10	DLH	634	Frankfurt	20:05	MSC	402	Alexandria	13:30
MSR	612	03:15	KNE	381	Taif	20:10	FEQ	934	Sohag	13:55
ETD	305	03:15	MEA	402	Beirut	20:15	MSR	611	Cairo	14:00
FDB	067	03:15	OMA	647	Muscat	20:20	PAL	669	Dubai/Manila	14:45
QTR	1076	03:25	MSR	618	Alexandria	20:30	KNE	382	Taif	14:55
PGT	860	03:30	QTR	1088	Doha	20:35	KAC	773	Riyadh	15:00
KAC	544	03:40	FDB	5053	Dubai	20:55	FDB	058	Dubai	15:05
JZR	555	04:15	ETD	307	Abu Dhabi	21:05	KAC	673	Dubai	15:05
FEQ	933	05:00	UAE	859	Dubai	21:15	KAC	617	Doha	15:15
DHX	170	05:10	ALK	229	Colombo	21:20	QTR	1079	Doha	15:15
JZR	529	06:00	THY	764	Istanbul	21:30	SVA	501	Jeddah	15:45
PAL	668	06:25	QTR	1082	Doha	21:55	KAC	613	Bahrain	16:00
KAC	412	06:30	GFA	219	Bahrain	22:00	OMA	646	Muscat	16:10
BAW	157	06:40	ETD	309	Abu Dhabi	22:10	ABY	128	Sharjah	16:15
FDB	5061	07:15	AIC	975	Chennai/Goa	22:25	ETD	304	Abu Dhabi	16:20
KAC	382	07:30	RBG	551	Alexandria	22:30	RJA	641	Amman	16:55
KAC	206	07:40	BBC	143	Dhaka	22:40	FDB	052	Dubai	17:00
FDB	053	07:50	RBG	555	Alexandria	23:15	JZR	266	Beirut	17:10
KAC	302	07:50	JAI	574	Mumbai	23:20	QTR	1073	Doha	17:25
KAC	156	08:00	MSR	614	Cairo	23:30	UAE	858	Dubai	17:40
KAC	354	08:00	FDB	071	Dubai	23:35	NIA	252	Alexandria	17:50
ETD	919	08:20	KLM	411	Amsterdam/Dammam	23:40	SVA	511	Riyadh	18:15
KAC	362	08:20	Departure Flights on Monday 27/6/2016				SAW	706	Damascus	18:20
KAC	352	08:20	Airlines	Fit	Route	Time	GFA	216	Bahrain	18:20
UAE	855	08:25	AIC	982	Ahmedabad/Chennai	00:05	JZR	538	Cairo	18:30
KAC	284	09:00	BBC	044	Dhaka	00:10	CCE	342	Alexandria	18:35
ABY	125	09:05	JAI	573	Mumbai	00:25	JZR	238	Amman	18:45
ETD	301	09:05	MSR	615	Cairo	00:30	KAC	1801	Cairo	18:55
IRA	667	09:15	FDB	072	Dubai	00:30	SYR	342	Damascus	19:00
QTR	1070	09:20	PIA	206	Lahore	00:40	QTR	1081	Doha	19:05
FDB	055	09:40	THY	773	Istanbul	01:40	MSR	621	Cairo	19:30
CCE	341	10:00	KKK	6509	Istanbul	01:45	GFA	218	Bahrain	19:50
UAE	873	10:40	DLH	635	Frankfurt	02:00	FDB	064	Dubai	19:50
GFA	213	10:40	THY	765	Istanbul	02:45	ABY	124	Sharjah	19:55
AXB	890	10:55	PGT	859	Istanbul	02:55	KAC	361	Colombo	19:55
MEA	404	11:00	MSC	502	Alexandria	03:05	FDB	060	Dubai	20:30
JZR	561	11:25	MSC	404	Asyut	03:10	KAC	283	Dhaka	20:30
FDB	075	12:25	UAE	854	Dubai	03:45	UAE	876	Dubai	20:35
MSC	401	12:30	KAC	417	Manila	03:55	JAI	571	Mumbai	20:35
FEQ	953	12:55	RJA	645	Amman	03:55	KAC	331	Trivandrum	20:45
MSR	610	13:00	OMA	644	Muscat	04:05	DLH	634	Doha	20:50
KNE	231	14:00	MSC	416	Sohag	04:05	KAC	353	BLR	20:55
KAC	672	14:00	FDB	068	Dubai	04:05	KAC	543	Cairo	21:00
QTR	1078	14:05	ETD	306	Abu Dhabi	04:10	KAC	351	Kochi	21:00
JZR	1771	14:15	MSR	613	Cairo	04:15	KNE	232	Riyadh	21:10
FDB	057	14:20	KKK	6505	Istanbul	04:20	MEA	403	Beirut	21:15
SVA	500	14:30	PGT	861	Istanbul	04:30	OMA	648	Muscat	21:15
KAC	540	14:50	QTR	1077	Doha	04:35	JZR	554	Alexandria	21:15
KAC	742	14:55	CEB	019	Manila	04:50	MSR	619	Alexandria	21:30
KAC	788	15:00	JZR	560	Sohag	05:00	QTR	1089	Doha	21:45
OMA	645	15:10	FEQ	954	Asyut	06:00	DHX	171	Bahrain	21:50
ETD	303	15:10	RJA	643	Amman	06:25	ETD	308	Abu Dhabi	21:55
ABY	127	15:35	QTR	1087	Doha	06:30	ALK	230	Colombo	22:20
UAE	857	15:45	GFA	212	Bahrain	06:50	FDB	5054	Dubai	22:25
RJA	640	16:00	FDB	070	Dubai	07:05	UAE	860	Dubai	22:25
FDB	051	16:10	BAW	156	London	08:25	KAC	381	Delhi	22:25
QTR	1072	16:15	FDB	5062	Dubai	07:55	KAC	301	Mumbai	22:30
JZR	535	16:20	MSR	614	Cairo	08:30	KAC	345	Ahmedabad	22:55
NIA	251	16:50	JZR	1770	Jeddah	08:40	KAC	345	Bahrain	23:00
KAC	562	16:55	KAC	539	Sharm el-Sheikh	08:50	GFA	220	Islamabad	23:00
KAC	118	17:00	KAC	671	Dubai	09:15	KAC	205	Alexandria	23:05
SAW	705	17:05	JZR	534	Cairo	09:25	ETD	310	Abu Dhabi	23:10
SVA	510	17:15	KAC	787	Jeddah	09:30	RBG	552	Doha	23:20
GFA	215	17:30	ABY	126	Sharjah	09:45	QTR	1083	Doha	23:20
CCE	345	17:35	UAE	856	Dubai	09:50	KAC	411	Bangkok/Manila	23:25
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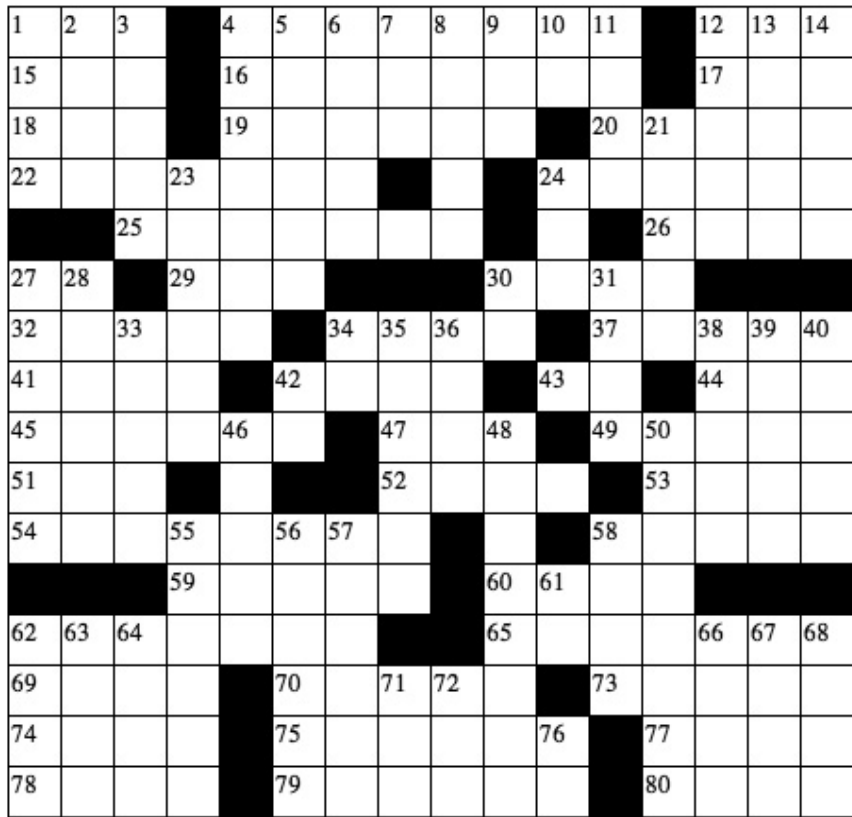
DIAL161 FOR AIRPORT INFORMATION

INTERNATIONAL CALLS



Afghanistan	0093	Lithuania	00370
Albania	00355	Luxembourg	00352
Algeria	00213	Macau	00853
Andorra	00376	Macedonia	00389
Angola	00244	Madagascar	00261
Anguilla	001264	Majorca	0034
Antiga	001268	Malawi	00265
Argentina	0054	Malaysia	0060
Armenia	00374	Maldives	00960
Australia	0061	Mali	00223
Austria	0043	Malta	00356
Azerbaijan	00994	Marshall Islands	00692
Bahamas	001242	Martinique	00596
Bahrain	00973	Mauritania	00222
Bangladesh	00880	Mauritius	00230
Barbados	001246	Mayotte	00269
Belarus	00375	Mexico	0052
Belgium	0032	Micronesia	00691
Belize	00501	Moldova	00373
Benin	00229	Monaco	00377
Bermuda	001441	Mongolia	00976
Bhutan	00975	Montserrat	001664
Bolivia	00591	Morocco	00212
Bosnia	00387	Mozambique	00258
Botswana	00267	Myanmar (Burma)	0095
Brazil	0055	Namibia	00264
Brunei	00673	Nepal	00977
Bulgaria	00359	Netherlands	0031
Burkina	00226	Netherlands Antilles	00599
Burundi	00257	New Caledonia	00687
Cambodia	00855	New Zealand	0064
Cameroon	00237	Nicaragua	00505
Canada	001	Niger	00227
Cape Verde	00238	Nigeria	00234
Cayman Islands	001345	Niue	00683
Central African	00236	Norfolk Island	00672
Chad	00235	N. Ireland (UK)	0044
Chile	0056	North Korea	00850
China	0086	Norway	0047
Colombia	0057	Oman	00968
Comoros	00269	Pakistan	0092
Congo	00242	Palau	00680
Cook Islands	00682	Panama	00507
Costa Rica	00506	Papua New Guinea	00675
Croatia	00385	Paraguay	00595
Cuba	0053	Peru	0051
Cyprus	00357	Philippines	0063
Cyprus (Northern)	0090392	Poland	0048
Czech Republic	00420	Portugal	00351
Denmark	0045	Puerto Rico	001787
Diego Garcia	00246	Qatar	00974
Djibouti	00253	Romania	0040
Dominica	001767	Russian Federation	007
Dominican Republic	001809	Rwanda	00250
Ecuador	00593	Saint Helena	00290
Egypt	0020	Saint Kitts	001869
El Salvador	00503	Saint Lucia	001758
England (UK)	0044	Saint Pierre	00508
Equatorial Guinea	00240	Saint Vincent	001784
Eritrea	00291	Samoa US	00684
Estonia	00372	Samoa West	00685
Ethiopia	00251	San Marino	00378
Falkland Islands	00500	Sao Tome	00239
Faroe Islands	00298	Saudi Arabia	00966
Fiji	00679	Scotland (UK)	0044
Finland	00358	Senegal	00221
France	0033	Seychelles	00284
French Guiana	00594	Sierra Leone	00232
French Polynesia	00689	Singapore	0065
Gabon	00241	Slovakia	00421
Gambia	00220	Slovenia	00386
Georgia	00995	Solomon Islands	00677
Germany	0049	Somalia	00252
Ghana	00233	South Africa	0027
Gibraltar	00350	South Korea	0082
Greece	0030	Spain	0034
Greenland	00299	Sri Lanka	0094
Grenada	001473	Sudan	00249
Guadeloupe	00590	Suriname	00597
Guam	001671	Swaziland	00268
Guatemala	00502	Sweden	0046
Guinea	00224	Switzerland	0041
Guyana	00592	Syria	00963
Haiti	00509	Serbia	00381
Holland (Netherlands)	0031	Taiwan	00886
Honduras	00504	Tanzania	00255
Hong Kong	00852	Thailand	0066
Hungary	0036	Togo	00228
Ibiza (Spain)	0034	Tonga	00676
Iceland	00354	Tokelau	00690
India	0091	Trinidad	001868
Indian Ocean	00873	Tunisia	00216
Indonesia	0062	Turkey	0090
Iran	0098	Tuvalu	00688
Iraq	00964	Uganda	00256
Ireland			

CROSSWORD 1297



ACROSS

1. An association of countries in the western hemisphere.
4. A literary language of Chinese Turkestan (named for one of the sons of Genghis Khan).
12. The smallest multiple that is exactly divisible by every member of a set of numbers.
15. Hormone released by the hypothalamus that controls the release of thyroid-stimulating hormone from the anterior pituitary.
16. Someone guided more by ideals than by practical considerations.
17. Leaf or strip from a leaf of the talipot palm used in India for writing paper.
18. One of the most common of the five major classes of immunoglobulins.
19. Dark brownish to purplish red.
20. A state of extreme confusion and disorder.
22. The body of faculty and students of a college.
25. A cord with an attached hook that is used to fire certain types of cannon.
26. A member of an extinct North American Indian people who lived in the Pit river valley in northern California.
27. Before noon.
29. The corporate executive responsible for the operations of the firm.
32. The capital and largest city of Liechtenstein.
37. Apprehended with certainty.
41. The seventh month of the Hindu calendar.
43. A gonadotropic hormone that is secreted by the anterior pituitary.
44. A unit of conductance equal to the reciprocal of an ohm.
45. A shot or scene that is photographed again v 1.
47. A rotating disk shaped to convert circular into linear motion.
49. An independent ruler or chieftain (especially in Africa or Arabia).
51. Electrical conduction through a gas in an applied electric field.
52. (Old Testament) In Judeo-Christian mythology.
53. Large sweet juicy hybrid between tangerine and grapefruit having a thick wrinkled skin.
54. Leader of Black Muslims who campaigned for independence for Black Americans (1897-1975).
59. 'cease' is a noun only in the phrase 'without cease' End v 1.
60. The United Nations agency concerned with civil aviation.
62. Inflammation of the nose and throat with increased production of mucus.
65. Tall palm of southern India and Sri Lanka with gigantic leaves used as umbrellas and fans or cut into strips for writing paper.
69. Surpassing the ordinary especially in size or scale.
70. The mission in San Antonio where in 1836 Mexican forces under Santa Anna besieged and massacred American rebels who were fighting to make Texas independent of Mexico.
73. (Babylonian) A demigod or first man.
74. An island in Indonesia east of Java.
75. West Indian tree having racemes of fragrant white flowers and yielding a durable timber and resinous juice.
77. An open vessel with a handle and a spout for pouring.
78. The chief solid component of mammalian urine.
79. A member of a widespread group of Amerindians living in northeastern South America.
80. Type genus of the Alcidae comprising solely the razorbill.

DOWN

1. Of or relating to near the ear.
2. Formerly a large constellation in the southern hemisphere between Canis Major and the Southern Cross.
3. Be going to.
4. Spanish lyric poet (1881-1958).
5. (of tempo) Leisurely n.
6. Small genus of hairy herbs with yellow flowers.
7. 10 hao equal 1 dong.
8. Using the voice.
9. A silvery malleable metallic element that resists corrosion.
10. A very poisonous metallic element that has three allotropes forms.
11. A contagious skin infection caused by the itch mite.
12. Any of various perennial South American plants of the genus *Loasa* having stinging hairs and showy white or yellow or reddish-orange flowers.
13. Artifact made by weaving or felting or knitting or crocheting natural or synthetic fibers.
14. A Nilotic language.
21. Austrian composer who influenced the classical form of the symphony (1732-1809).
23. A blank gap or missing part.
24. The compass point that is one point east of due south.
28. The capital of Lesotho.
30. A nonmetallic largely pentavalent heavy volatile corrosive dark brown liquid element belonging to the halogens.
31. A Lolish language.
33. A long narrow excavation in the earth.
34. A radioactive element of the actinide series.
35. The face or front of a building.
36. (Babylonian) God of storms and wind.
38. The ending of a series or sequence.
39. Overcome, as with emotions or perceptual stimuli.
40. A water wheel with buckets attached to the rim.
42. A toxic nonmetallic element related to sulfur and tellurium.
46. The Mon-Khmer language spoken in Cambodia.
48. One of the three prairie provinces in central Canada.
50. Essential equal to suborder Myomorpha with the Dipodidae excluded.
55. Any of various spiny trees or shrubs of the genus *Acacia*.
56. A percussion instrument consisting of a pair of hollow pieces of wood or bone (usually held between the thumb and fingers) that are made to click together (as by Spanish dancers) in rhythm with the dance.
57. A rectangular block of hewn stone used for building purposes.
58. Offering fun and gaiety.
61. A white metallic element that burns with a brilliant light.
63. South American armadillo with three bands of bony plates.
64. A flat thin rectangular slab (as of fired clay or rubber or linoleum) used to cover surfaces.
66. A hinged catch that fits into a notch of a ratchet to move a wheel forward or prevent it from moving backward.
67. An organization of countries formed in 1961 to agree on a common policy for the sale of petroleum.
68. A village in eastern Ireland (northwest of Dublin).
71. A flat wing-shaped process or winglike part of an organism.
72. Informal terms for the mouth.
76. A state in northwestern North America.

STAR TRACK



Aries (March 21-April 19)

As a natural peacemaker, sometimes you try to avoid all harsh and crude actions. With direct drive, you always head straight to the heart of a matter. You are candid, even blunt or brusque in manner at times. You will tend to get much accomplished for others today, however. Continued hard work with no time out may make stress a bit much for now. There are no bells or whistles needed with you and what other's see is what they get. You enjoy simple living and could enjoy making your living out-of-doors. Invite a friend or family member to enjoy the out-of-doors with you this afternoon-perhaps some outdoor sports or cooking on the grill. Emotional security, a sense of belonging and nurturing are issues that are felt instinctively now.



Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Your burning enthusiasm for the ideal world and your need to be part of a group of likeminded souls are major factors in your makeup. You learn and grow through your efforts to help others and to make your inner vision into a reality. This could be a time when everything around you and your living situation seems to be in flux and even turmoil. You may feel opposed and challenged by others. Conflict will often times create the opportunity that is needed to change some activity or state of being from negative to positive. Working through problems acted out with others could be hard to avoid. You have a high degree of motivation and ability to understand and be understood. Good for you, others could benefit from your positive attitude.



Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You benefit from investigative insights-getting to the heart of a matter. This could be a very good day for all sorts of projects. You will also find your way through just about any problem you may discover. You feel more personal and direct and find that you waste less time with your schedule. You feel successful and able to cope with whatever comes your way. Good advice from a guide or older person may be available. Much is accomplished today. Others may find you especially witty this afternoon. Combined efforts with others will bring insights and breakthroughs. This afternoon there is much passion for some life changes you want to make, possibly some transformation with talent. This evening you enjoy music and dancing.



Cancer (June 21-July 22)

Your tendency to compromise and settle for less than you dreamed can be a problem. The world is at your fingers and your mind will perceive whatever it dreams. Given the opportunity, you may choose the path of least resistance, willing to bypass some of the things you always wanted in favor of expediency. Career moves or advances within your present job must be given special attention. Use your time later today, away from work, to reassess where you want to go and even, perhaps, where you want to live. Spread that world map out and dream a little dream. If you have family members for which you are responsible, they may surprise you with amazing ideas of their own.



Leo (July 23-August 22)

You have an enchanting way of working and communicating with others, especially with music and the arts. You may find that you are happiest if you can secure a position in some art or historical site. You may want to continue your education in hopes of working with a museum or in doing research with historic digs in your own country. Hidden treasures are possible and the anticipation is the thrill of it all. One of the ways to find out who is conducting an adventure or how to find a mission is by checking out some of the camping equipment companies. New paths to world or personal unity are a major interest and you have a very practical sense of how to make your dreams real.



Virgo (August 23-September 22)

You will have opportunities now to improve your earning potential and family security. This may mean you have heard of a new job opening or it could be you have found a way to create work for yourself, perhaps part-time. This urge to increase your income and to express yourself propels you into many interesting situations. Friends or family may attempt to sway your decision. Considering that this new work may be part-time, you can stick by what you need to do. Do not overextend your energies. You may enjoy some form of physical and creative expression this evening: sports, theatrics, arts and crafts, whatever creates the opportunity to enjoy those closest to you now. A romantic relationship is enjoyed this evening.



Libra (September 23-October 22)

You are never happier than when fully engaged in some sort of teamwork. This could mean some long-term project is about to end or a presentation of some product will go to a buyer today. Whatever the case, all is powerful and successful. You will find today a very busy, decision making, organizational, as well as teamwork sort of day. You will tend to respond to others quite often. You can always put your ideas into words and describe or analyze situations for yourself and others. Your mind and caring attitude are what people find attractive in you. At home this afternoon there are plenty of things to keep you busy. You may even find that a neighbor needs your attention. Later there will be time to rest.



Scorpio (October 23-November 21)

Always going beyond the usual routine, you enjoy reading or involving yourself in whatever is new, exciting and spicy; you are happy when caught up in the variety and complexity of life. If you are not able to excel and expand in the workplace, you will probably date or marry someone that enjoys thinking outside-the-box, so to speak. Education, advertising and travel could play a part in this. You are fond of law, philosophy and religion. You enjoy deliberation and have a very methodical mind. Able to develop sound logic and good arguments, you are practical, and seldom vague. You manage to end up in the limelight this afternoon with much support from your co-workers. You are expressive of your ideas and enjoy just-suppose conversations.



Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)

This is a time to take risks and dare to be a little unconventional. You have new insights and although you are not particularly inventive, there are new ideas leading to some technical operation. This may mean that you have created some new computer software that solves a computer problem people have had lately. This afternoon, a cycle of nostalgia and domesticity begins-emphasizing the family, home, relatives and real estate. This is a great time to reflect and understand your own life choices and to make future plans. Your emotions and feelings may be very clear. You enjoy serving and guiding someone younger than you in matters of importance this evening. You are in control and what you say matters.



Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

Your very organized self tends to hide behind duties and responsibilities. This nonsense approach manages to push aside many opportunities for others to reach out to you and get close. You could resist getting personal and may avoid touchy subjects. Fortunately, this is only temporary and you will have a better understanding of goals and environment issues soon enough. Nothing slows you from your personal projects and you will find enthusiasm for your projects or hobbies are strong. By the end of the day, you will be proud of the results. A new type of creative environment calls your name tonight and you may have fun with clay, painting pictures or learning a new musical instrument.



Aquarius (January 20- February 18)

How you manage difficulties, find that diplomatic solution or come up with the right approach is just where your talents are at this time. Your outward charm and ability to be all things to all people is most central to your personality. This ability to solve problems, to counsel and always to put others at ease may be the key to meeting and coming to know you. Your mind cuts right through all the window dressing and gets right down to the quick. You might consider some legal profession, perhaps as law enforcement officer, a lawyer or a guard. This evening is a good time for solving puzzles or mysteries and thinking about the future. If you are a detective, today is the day you discover the answer to some mystery. Later-follow your hunches regarding money.



Pisces (February 19-March 20)

Emotional security is on your mind and bringing home the bacon has never been as important as it is now. Your ideas may not agree with the direction your career is taking, however. The price of success could mean that the ideas and methods of communication you are happy with become ignored or set aside. A part-time job in doing something you really like could eventually replace your regular job; it is worth the contemplation. You will find easy answers to finding that part-time job as you list ideas and work to remove any roadblocks. You may find a business of your own will benefit you best. A slow move toward this direction is best as you will become more encouraged and focused. Relations with family and friends are positive this evening.

WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

Comedy Movies 3 - Word Search
Find the words hidden in the grid of letters.

A X U V X U R E P E E L S O L L O
N K X T H O N E A C J L S I A B N
N O F O A O N C A B A Q F G N S U
I F S N E N T P L P U E H O B I J
E T T I A R S S S E O A I U T H M
H Z O X D E O H H F B T H D H T E
A S O O C A O M B O C U J U G E A
L R N I T T M R H E T N C C I Z T
L G F I F S I Y L S F S S K N Y B
V F X Q W A I E L Z U O P S E L A
O O M G N T T E G L M R I O T A L
S L L A B E C A P S I Q Z U A N L
O R E A L G E N I U S B X P D A S
R U H T R A M A L L R A T S X C X

- | | | |
|---------------|---------------|------------|
| ANALYZE THIS | HOT SHOTS | SLAP SHOT |
| ANNIE HALL | JUNO | SLEEPER |
| ANTZ | LIFE OF BRIAN | SPACEBALLS |
| ARTHUR | MALLRATS | TOOTSIE |
| BILLY MADISON | MEATBALLS | TWINS |
| DATE NIGHT | OFFICE SPACE | UNCLE BUCK |
| DUCK SOUP | REAL GENIUS | |
| ELECTION | ROXANNE | |
| | RUSHMORE | |

Yesterday's Solution

Large Print Word Search Puzzles
Comedy Movies 2 - Solution

R C L U E E L S S D D H E T T W P
E R E M U A D T O Q A X C S H P B
K R A V A F N O W P M H I T E U
C L E A T S H H I P I C R U I N R L
A N O G A T R Y R T N H J R A E W
L K T C N T G U E B M S E C K H O
S G X E A I O L D X A J L R E T R
P Q R B L L E U C L T S T A D G T
S A A M P U H W I M L R E Z G N H
P B O R D S D E O L E U E Y U I S
E R U O H H S U R B L V B H N E C
E I G R Z B O B R O B E R T S B H
F H E G H O S T B U S T E R S T G
O K I N V F P M U G T S E R R O P

BABE	FORREST GUMP	SABRINA
BEEF JUICE	GHOSTBUSTERS	SHREK
BEING THERE	HAPPY GILMORE	SLACKER
BOB ROBERTS	LOCAL HERO	STIR CRAZY
BOWFINGER	OH GOD	THE NAKED GUN
BULL DURHAM	PARENTHOOD	TWINS
BULWORTH	RATATOUILLE	
CLUELESS	RUSH HOUR	
FLETC		

Yesterday's Solution

G O B G A M E B A G M A M A
A P R A V E R A G E I R A K
T A I R O S I D A E N A R K
T H E C A S E A M T I B I A
F A N C Y G I B B S
G U C D D A D A U L N A
U T A H C E O T I B I A L
L I B E R A T E D A S P U B
A C E A L A D D R A I S E
G A D A B A I S L A N D E R
A B B E S S A E N E A S
O T A R I A I C I C L E
M A T E F E R N Y A G A R
E C T M A R R E D A L A M O
G C A S P A R E R I B F A T
A A R H E P A T I C A F H A

Daily SuDoku

	8		5		9
6			4	2	
9			1		6
		8			1
2	1	6		4	8
5				9	
8		3			9
		9	6		7
	2		1		3

hard

Yesterday's Solution

6	4	8	1	7	2	5	9	3
1	5	9	3	8	6	7	2	4
3	2	7	4	5	9	1	8	6
9	7	6	2	4	5	3	1	8
5	8	3	6	9	1	2	4	7
4	1	2	7	3	8	9	6	5
2	3	5	9	6	4	8	7	1
8	6	1	5	2	7	4	3	9
7	9	4	8	1	3	6	5	2

easy



Iguazu Falls

Iguazu Falls are waterfalls of the Iguazu River on the border of the Argentine province of Misiones and the Brazilian state of Parana. The falls divide the river into the upper and lower Iguazu. The Iguazu River rises near the city of Curitiba. For most of its course, the river flows through Brazil, however, most of the falls are on the Argentine side. Below its confluence with the

kilometre-long edge divide the falls into many separate waterfalls and cataracts, varying between 60 to 82 meters high.

The number of these smaller waterfalls fluctuates from 150 to 300, depending on the water level. Approximately half of the river's flow falls into a long and narrow chasm called the Devil's Throat. The Devil's Throat is U-shaped, 82

a canyon that drains into the Parana River, a short distance downstream from the Itaipu Dam. The junction of the water flows marks the border between Brazil, Argentina, and Paraguay. There are points in the cities of Foz do Iguazu, Brazil, Puerto Iguazu, Argentina, and Ciudad del Este, Paraguay, which have access to the Iguazu River, where the borders of all three nations may be seen, a popular tourist attraction for visitors to the three cities.

Distribution of the falls between Argentina and Brazil

The Iguazu Falls are arranged in a way that resembles a reversed letter "J". The border between Brazil and Argentina runs through the Devil's Throat. On the right bank is the Brazilian territory, which has just over 20% of the jumps of these falls, and the left side jumps are Argentine, which make up almost 80% of the falls.

Climate

Iguazu Falls experiences a humid subtropical climate with abundant precipitation and high temperatures year-round. During the summer of 2006, a severe drought caused the Iguazu River to become diminished, reducing the amount of water flowing over the falls to 300 cubic meters per second until early December. This was unusual, as dry periods normally last only a few weeks.



San Antonio River, the Iguazu River forms the boundary between Argentina and Brazil.

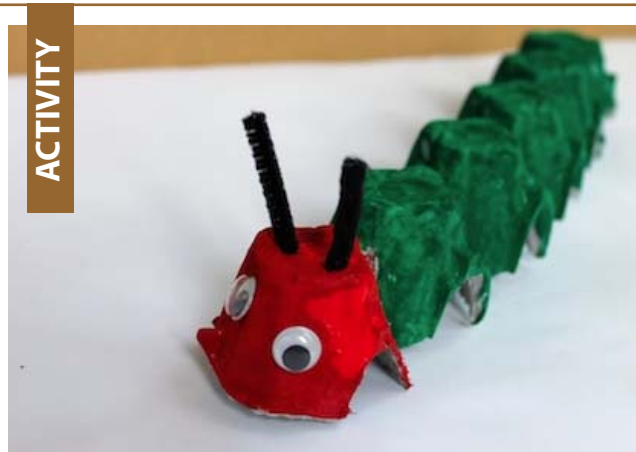
Geography

Iguazu Falls are located where the Iguazu River tumbles over the edge of the Parana Plateau, 23 kilometers upriver from the Iguazu's confluence with the Parana River. Numerous islands along the 2.7-

meters high, 150 m wide, and 700 m long. Place names have been given also to many other smaller falls, such as San Martin Falls, Bossetti Falls, and many others.

About 900 meters of the 2.7-kilometre length does not have water flowing over it.

The edge of the basalt cap recedes by 3 mm per year. The water of the lower Iguazu collects in



ACTIVITY

Egg carton Very Hungry Caterpillar

What you need:

- * 1 x row of egg cups from an egg carton
- * red paint
- * green paint
- * 2 x googly craft eyes
- * 1 x small piece black pipe cleaner
- * glue

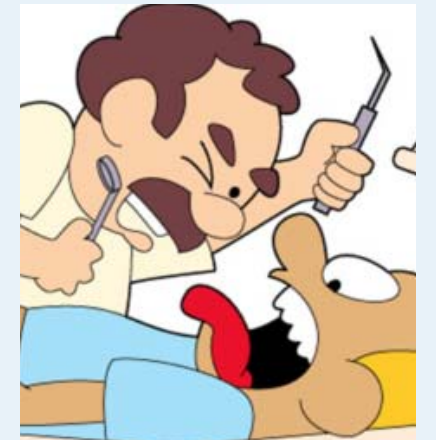
Activity:

1. Cut a row of six egg cups from the carton. Trim and tidy the cups using a craft knife so you get a nice caterpillar shape.
2. Now let your toddler loose with green paint for the body and red paint for the head.
3. Glue on the googly eyes.
4. Now pierce two holes in the top of the caterpillar's head. Form a small piece of pipe cleaner into a 'V' shape and thread it through the holes, so it pokes up as antennae.
5. All done!

JOKES

Q: What does a dentist do during an earthquake?
A: She braces herself!

Q: What did the tooth say to the dentist as she was leaving?
A: Fill me in when you get back



Q: What is a dentist's favorite animal?
A: A molar bear!

Q: Has your tooth stopped hurting yet?
A: I don't know, the dentist kept it.

Q: What did the dentist get for an award?
A: A little plaque

DID YOU KNOW?

CLOUD FACTS

- A cloud is a large group of tiny water droplets that we can see in the air.
- Clouds are formed when water on Earth evaporates into the sky and condenses high up in the cooler air. Learn more about the water cycle.
- Rain, snow, sleet and hail falling from clouds is called precipitation.
- Most clouds form in the troposphere (the lowest part of Earth's atmosphere) but occasionally they are observed as high as the stratosphere or mesosphere.
- Clouds can contain millions of tons of water.
- There are a range of different types



of clouds, the main types include stratus, cumulus and cirrus.

altocumulus, cirrostratus and cirrocumulus.

• Stratus clouds are flat and featureless, appearing as layered sheets.

• Fog is stratus type of cloud that appears very close to the ground.

• Cumulus clouds are puffy, like cotton floating in the sky.

• Clouds can also be made of other chemicals.

• Cirrus clouds are thin and wispy, appearing high in the sky.

• Other planets in our Solar System have clouds. Venus has thick clouds of sulfur-dioxide while Jupiter and Saturn have clouds of ammonia.

• There are many variations of these 3 main cloud types including stratocumulus, altostratus,

WORD SEARCH

GIANT PANDA



DDIETPADAYS
TAEGNARCBNN
AMTREWCSLIO
TPAHESHFAAW
IEMTIGITCRW
BMILCLNXKJG
AHLMOUAAPBC
HNCLOUDYDOU
RUFMLMAELNT
BAMBOOCDNOE
ETIHWTSEROF

Word List

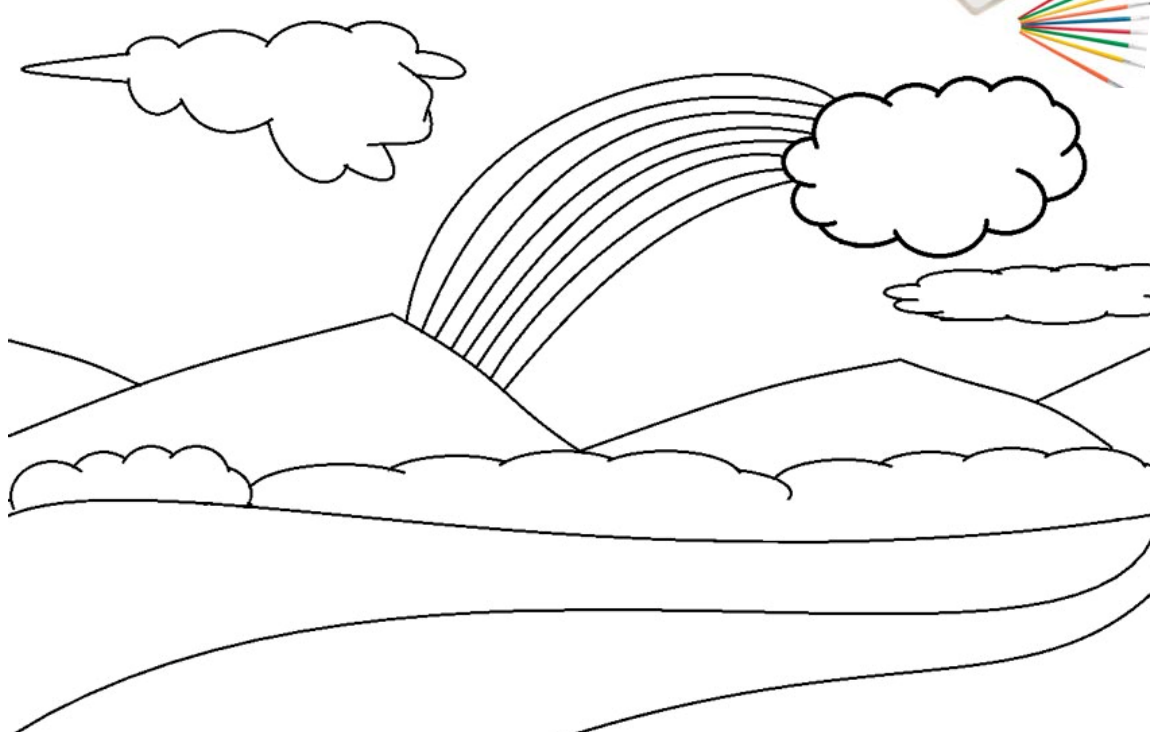
- | | |
|---------|------------|
| ADAPT | DAMP |
| BAMBOO | DEN |
| BEAR | DIET |
| BLACK | ENDANGERED |
| CHINA | FOREST |
| CLAW | FUR |
| CLIMATE | HABITAT |
| CLIMB | PAWS |
| CLOUDY | RAINY |
| COLD | RANGE |
| COOL | SNOW |
| CUB | WHITE |
| CUTE | |

SUDOKU

9	3	7			1	4	6	
	8		2	7		5		
				9		7	3	
			6	4			1	3
		2						
4	9		7				2	
5					2			7
1		9		8			4	
		6	1					

9	3	7	8	5	1	4	6	2
6	8	4	2	7	3	5	9	1
2	1	5	4	9	6	7	3	8
7	5	8	6	2	4	9	1	3
3	6	2	5	1	9	8	7	4
4	9	1	7	3	8	6	2	5
5	4	3	9	6	2	1	8	7
1	7	9	3	8	5	2	4	6
8	2	6	1	4	7	3	5	9

Color me!



KIDS RECIPE

PIZZADILLAS WITH RED SAUCE

What you need:

- * 1 cup quinoa
- * 2 cups low-sodium chicken broth
- * 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- * 2 tablespoons vinegar
- * 1 teaspoon fresh chopped garlic
- * 1 1/2 tablespoons olive oil
- * 1 teaspoon salt
- * 1/4 teaspoon white pepper
- * 1/2 cup chopped sweet red pepper
- * 2 tablespoons chopped parsley
- * 1/4 cup chopped green onion
- * 2 tablespoons chopped red onion
- * 1/2 cup halved cherry tomatoes
- * 2 tablespoons sliced black olives
- * 1 tablespoon feta cheese, crumbled

What to do:

1. Place quinoa in strainer. Rinse under running water.
2. Put quinoa and chicken broth in saucepan over high heat.
3. Bring quinoa to a boil. Cover and reduce to a simmer.
4. Cook quinoa for 10-15 minutes or until all liquid is absorbed. Set aside to cool.
5. In a small bowl, combine lemon juice, vinegar, garlic, oil, salt, and white pepper. Set aside.
6. Combine red pepper, parsley, green and red onions, tomatoes, and olives in a bowl. Stir in cooled quinoa, feta, and dressing.
7. Serve at room temperature or chilled.





Hello965 is a travel blog run by Fatima, a female Kuwaiti traveler who is curious to explore the world. In Hello965, Fatima aims to shed light on untraditional or new destinations, hotels, resorts, adventures and even events around the world. Fatima loves diversity, from luxurious to low-budget travel, group to solo traveling, and aspires to convey a diverse style of traveling to all her readers and followers through all her social media channels, blog, and newly in Kuwait Times.

Summer Destination:

CINQUE TERRE, ITALY

How to get there?

There are airports at Genoa and at Pisa. It takes around an hour to an hour and 30 minutes by car to Cinque Terre. My flight was to Florence, as I was planning a road trip and Cinque Terre was one of the stops. So we rented a car and drove to multiple places from Florence. (Florence to Cinque Terre is around a 2-hour drive.)
I do not recommend staying at a hotel in Cinque Terre - find a place nearby and go back and forth. Somewhere you could look to reserve a hotel and drive from is either Portofino or Santa Margherita.

Other options as a base to see Cinque Terre:

- * A day trip from Milan
- * A day trip from Florence
- * A day trip from Siena

Keep in mind, a car is a good option to travel, but not so great option to drive within Cinque Terre. So renting a car would make sense if you're stopping at other places too. Additionally, make sure you check with your hotel if they have private parking spaces where you could park your car for the time you're there.

Best time to visit - April to October

The best months for walking are May, June, September, and the first half of October. July and August are best avoided if you don't like the heat. The villages are starting from the northernmost one, Monterosso al Mare, Vernazza, Corniglia, Manarola, and Riomaggiore.
Monterosso is about 1.5 hours from Genoa by train, and the closest city of any size to the Cinque Terre is La Spezia, just south of Riomaggiore, at about 15 minutes by train. You could also 'hike' from town to town. In order for you to do this, you have to carefully read about the trails and how to prepare for the hike and purchase the pass. There are three kinds of passes (trail only, trail + trains, trail + trains and ferries).
For just a taste of the trails, I would suggest you do the section from Monterosso to Vernazza. It is 3.5 km long and takes a little under two hours.

Monterosso

Monterosso is the biggest village between the five villages (cars driving in the village!) and the landscape isn't vertical unlike the rest of the villages. Monterosso is made up of an old town, a new town, lots of sandy beaches, some larger

hotels and a long seaside promenade suitable for strollers too. If you want to avoid stairs and have a more "resort" feel to your vacation, then you should stay here.

Vernazza

Vernazza is the jewel of the Cinque Terre. Its action is at the harbor, where you'll find restaurants, a bar hanging off the edge of the castle, a breakwater with a promenade, and a tailgate-party street market every Tuesday morning. For dinner, eat at a recommended seaside restaurant down at the marina. Ask to seat on the lower balcony. If the sea is rough you'll be cooled off with sea spray.
Ristorante Belforte, Via Guidoni, 42, Vernazza. Phone + 39 0187 812222

Corniglia

Perched on a rocky spur above the waves, Corniglia is the only village of the five not on the water and the least touristy of the Cinque Terres.

Manarola

In Manarola, go to "Punta Buonfiglio" which is a view point on a rocky promontory on the path towards Corniglia (Sentiero Azzurro). For

dinner, you should eat at 'Da Billy'. Bring your walking legs because it's up the hill with a great view. They serve seafood. After dinner, head down to the local's hangout with live music most nights.

Cantina dello Zio Bramante, Via Renato Birilli 110, Manarola. Phone: +39 0187 920442
Train home, or if it's open, take the walking path called Via dell'Amore. Walking the moonlit path above the swirling ocean is AMAZING.

Riomaggiore

The most southern village of the five Cinque Terre. Have lunch or dinner at 'La Lanterna'. If you're staying for long maybe you could head to the beach for a morning swim. Finally, be sure to "validate" your train tickets by inserting it into the yellow machine on your day of travel or you could risk a fine.
To be honest, this is one of the few trips where I just hopped on a train, got out, walked randomly, back on a train and onto the next destination! It wasn't planned at all. Everything we saw was beautiful, and everywhere we ate was delicious! Feel free to share your Cinque Terre experience with us!



'Saq Al Bambo' and 'Been Galbin': Episodes 18, 19 and 20

By Nawara Fattahova

The Kuwait Times is publishing daily recaps of two Kuwaiti soap operas airing on Al Rai TV and MBC Drama. Here are the recaps of the 18th, 19th and 20th episodes:

'Saq Al Bambo' (Bamboo Stalk)

Khawla tells Noor that Jaber said that he will propose after he returns

Khawla goes to Eisa crying and blaming herself for what happened with her cousin. She asks Eisa why doesn't he have photos of their father in his room, as she talks to his photos when she is sad. Eisa sits in his father's office. Luzviminda comes and he asks her to stop following him. She says that she only wants to be near him, but he tells her that he loves another girl. She asks if it is Noor, but he denies this, so

difference between her and Eisa, who is a Kuwaiti and she is just a maid.

Been Galbin (Between Two Hearts)

Aryam's uncle calls her to meet. He blames her for getting married without telling him and that her husband is not on their social level, but she assures him that he is not interested in her wealth. Dana starts working at her father's company. He tells her that she has to forget Bashar, especially after he got married. Bashar calls Dana's father telling him that he divorced her as this was her wish.
Mihsen is still sad for losing Yasmin. His wife leaves the house and wants to get divorced. Bashar asks Noora to come and live with him in Aryam's villa, but she refuses as she doesn't like her, especially because Dana was her best friend. Marzouq refuses to let Aryam see their son Rashid, so she tells him she will file a case in court to see him. Noora visits Mihsen's house to stay with her nieces and nephew. His son gets sick, so his mother calls Noora to take the kid to the hospital as Mihsen is also sick.

Dana's father is facing problems in his company and his assistant Masoud goes with Dana to Farida, the ex-wife of her father to support their company, as she owns one of the biggest companies for marble, which they need for their projects. Dana and Masoud meet Farida, who agrees to help them just for Dana.
Bashar and Aryam travel for their honeymoon. Bashar is not feeling comfortable as Aryam is paying for everything on this trip. Noora feels lonely, especially that she is now living alone in the house. The director of the institute where she teaches proposes to her, but she is hesitant.

from his vacation. Noor calls Jaber asking if he was telling the truth, but he said he didn't speak to Khawla.
Awatef and Nooriya fight in front of Ghanima and she sends the kids outside. At the restaurant, the two cousins fight over Khawla. They all come to Ghanima's house except Eisa, Noor's brother. So Ghanima calls him to come and solve the problem and while talking to her, he meets with an accident. Eisa tells Ghasan about Luzviminda, and Ghasan advises him to stay away from her.
Eisa tells Khawla he needs to have friends and she says it's still early and it shouldn't be Jaber as he is their neighbor. Noor tells Eisa about Khawla and Jaber. Khawla and her cousins go to visit Eisa, Noor's brother in the hospital, and he tells Khawla he will not open this issue with her again. Ramadan comes, and they teach Eisa to fast. He goes to the mosque to pray. Hind then talks to Luzviminda explaining her the



Prince guitar, Bowie's hair sold for more than \$150k

Bidders paid a combined total of more than \$150,000 for a lock of David Bowie's hair and Prince's iconic "Yellow Cloud" guitar Saturday at a Beverly Hills auction. Heritage Auctions, which prompted legal action by offering Whitney Houston's Emmy Award as part of a separate sale, said the snippet of Bowie's pale blond hair went for \$18,750. It came from a former employee of the Madame Tussauds Wax Museum in London who was tasked with recreating the music icon's 1983-era hairdo for his wax figure.
Prince's instrument of choice during the late 1980s attracted a winning bid of \$137,500, with unconfirmed reports saying it had gone to Indianapolis Colts owner Jim Irsay. The auctioneer was forced to abandon plans to sell Houston's Emmy as part of a separate auction of her dresses and other belongings after the US Television Academy argued it owned the rights to the statuette. US District Judge Percy Anderson issued a temporary restraining order on Friday forbidding the auction house from selling the trophy, won in 1986 for Houston's performance of "Saving All My Love for You" at the Grammys. "We fought the good fight, but we respect the court's decision," Heritage spokesman Eric Bradley said. The 48-year-old diva was found drowned in a



This photo provided by Heritage Auctions shows Prince playing his Yellow Cloud electric guitar. — AP

bathub at the Beverly Hilton in 2012.
Bowie and Prince, two of the most influential artists in pop history, died within months earlier this year—the so-called "Thin White Duke" after a battle with cancer and the reclusive "Purple Rain" singer of an opioid overdose. He was rarely photographed during the late 1980s without his bright yellow maple wood instrument, complete with a distinctive elongated upper horn. "As celebrity stage-used instruments go, this piece is as unique as Beethoven's piano or John Coltrane's saxophone," Garry Shrum, Heritage's director of music memorabilia said when it was put up for sale. The Yellow Cloud was used in the studio, in videos and at gigs until the neck broke on a French TV show in 1994. It was repaired, but confined to the recording studio and eventually made way for the "Symbol" guitar identified with Prince's later work. — AFP



US vocalist Gregory Porter performs at the Glastonbury music festival at Worthy Farm, in Somerset, England, yesterday. — AP

Indian historical epic sweeps 'Bollywood Oscars'



Bollywood actor Ranveer Singh poses for photographers.

Indian historical epic "Bajirao Mastani" swept the "Bollywood Oscars" yesterday, taking home awards for best director, best supporting actress and best male actor for leading man Ranveer Singh. The movie, which sees Singh play an 18th century Maratha warrior, picked up nine other technical awards at the International Indian Film Academy awards, including for choreography and best cinematography.

"I am quite overwhelmed by all of this," the movie's director, Sanjay Leela Bhansali, said as he picked up his prize at the International Film Academy awards being held this year in Spain for the first time. "I don't want to thank anyone for this film. I think thank you is just not enough for this film," he added to applause from the 5,000-strong crowd gathered at Madrid's IFEMA congress centre for the event. "Bajirao Mastani" made around 3.5 billion rupees (\$52 million) according to industry estimates, and it has already picked up a number of Indian film awards this year.

Singh in turn said he learned "how to be singleminded and uncompromising in the pursuit of excellence" by working with Bhansali on the film. "I hope we will continue to make magic together," the 30-year-old actor, who impressed audiences in his 2010 debut as a street-smart Delhi wedding planner in the romantic comedy "Band Baaja Baaraat". The best picture award went to "Bajrangi Bhaijaan" starring Salman Khan, whose character embarks on a journey to reunite a mute six-year-old Pakistani girl stuck in India with her parents in Pakistan.

The movie was the biggest-grossing Bollywood film of 2015, earning around 6.26 billion rupees. Sridevi Kapoor, considered by many to be the first female superstar of Hindi cinema, was honored with a



Bollywood actress Deepika Padukone poses for photographers at the International Indian Film Academy (IIFA) Rocks Green Carpet for the 17th Edition of IIFA Weekend & Awards in Madrid, Spain, Saturday. — AP photos

lifetime achievement award. The award show, which celebrates the Hindi language film industry known as Bollywood, takes place in a different city outside of India every year in the hope of luring new audiences to the genre.

Donkeys and footballers

The co-hosts of the show, Bollywood stars Farhan Akhtar and Shahid Kapoor, arrived on the stage for the start of ceremony which got underway two hours behind schedule-riding donkeys. They were followed by young men wearing football jerseys who did tricks with a ball with their heads and a mariachi band in white suits. In

the opening ceremony Bollywood superstar Hrithik Roshan, accompanied by dozens of dancers, performed the flamenco-themed song "Senorita" from his 2011 film "Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara", a road movie shot largely in Spain. Spanish tourism promotion agency Turespana worked closely on the production of the film and it was one of the sponsors of the awards ceremony, which is expected to bring 15,000 extra visitors to Madrid.

Spain is seeking to diversify its tourism base beyond the traditional northern European sunseekers that account for the bulk of its visitors and officials hope hosting the awards will draw more Indian visi-

tors. Madrid city hall was illuminated with the colors of the Indian flag over the weekend in honor of the awards.

"Dear friends it is so nice to have you here. I am really, really pleased and at the same time very proud of your choice," Madrid mayor Manuela Carmena said at the start of the awards ceremony.

The broadcast of the awards attracts approximately 800 million viewers worldwide. Launched in 2000 at the Millennium Dome in London, other cities to have hosted the glitzy event include Dubai, Bangkok, Singapore and Toronto. It was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia last year. — APF



Bollywood actor Anil Kapoor poses for photographers.



Bollywood actress Shilpa Shetty.



Bollywood actress Shriya Saran.



Bollywood actress Elli Avram poses for photographers.



Bollywood actress Athiya Shetty.



Bollywood actress Sonakshi Sinha.

Rakshesh Brahmanandan: In pursuit of music

Rakshesh Brahmanandan is a well-known and a distinguished voice among young play back singers of Malayalam music industry. He proudly shoulders the legacy of his father KP Brahmanandan - the legendary singer of Malayalam. He worked for great maestros such as Dakshinamoorthy Swami, Ilayaraja, Ravindran and more. He also shared stages with legends like Yesudas, Jayachandran, Hariharan and duet with P Susheela, B Vasantha, Madhuri, Chithra, Sujatha and many more. He was privileged to performed in UK, Russia, Singapore, UAE, Qatar,

Bahrain, Kuwait and Indonesia. Malayalam film director Jayaraj offered Rakshesh's debut song in the movie 'Anachantham' (Arikil varoo) after listening to his voice in a live music show at Kozhikode. Later crooned into many movies for music directors like Alex Paul, Bijibal and aspiring talents. Rakshesh was lucky enough to sing for Mammooty - the legendary actor of Indian cinema for the movie 'Jawan of Vellimala' which was the actor's first production venture. The song 'Pora niranjoru pathira' was an instant hit. Songs in Tamil and Kannada movies are

also in his credit line. Rakshesh has anchored and performed in prominent TV channels like Flowers TV, Asianet and Kairali. In a span of ten years, Rakshesh sang almost 700 songs, falling in different genres like devotional, albums and folk songs which iconized his remarkable presence. Rakshesh, now is in pursuit of his own voco - fusion multi genre band from Cochin embracing Indian music culture in an international outfit. He wishes to launch his band shortly in Bangalore or Dubai. He believes that he can commu-

nicate in a broader perspective with the music lovers around the world through his band named RB LIVE. Moreover he has surprise performance packages for music lovers, suiting different interests and occasions - old Indian movie songs show, North Indian flavored Mehfilis and South Indian Classical concerts. Brahmanandan had made Rakshesh understand the taste of classical music at an early age, now trained under legendary violinist B Sasikumar and other gurus like Ambalapuzha Vijayan and Vazahmattom Chandrababu.



Dior tough guys hot on Paris catwalk



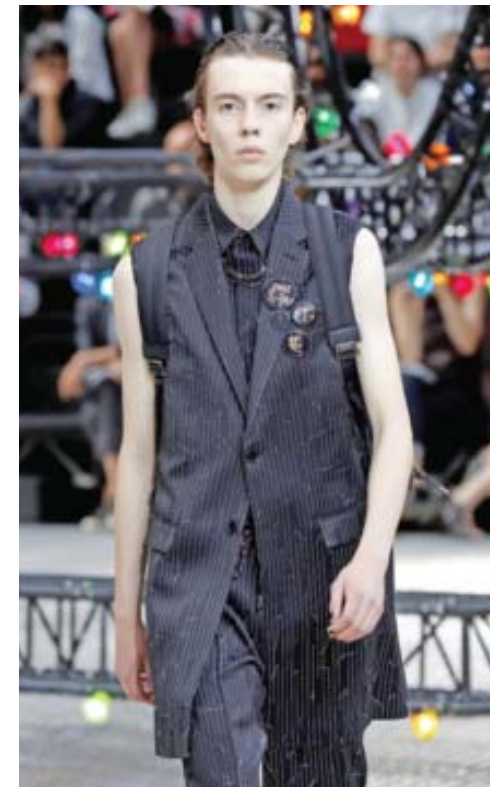
The boot boys are back. And they have never looked so elegant. Dior, the French fashion house known for the dreamy beauty of its clothes, showed a new much tougher side in its Paris menswear show Saturday. It wasn't quite skinhead chic but it wasn't far from it with every trope in the punk wardrobe from string vests to dangling trouser braces referenced, invariably set off by big Dr Marten-style boots. These Dior boys meant business and you wouldn't want to get on the wrong side of them.

Watched by 'Twilight' star

Dark, moody and menacing, there was even something slightly S&M in the way that Dior's Belgium-born designer Kris Van Assche man-

ing back to late 1980s rave culture, bathing in the big beat nostalgia of House music, with a collection made for staying up all night partying. "Nightlife is the soul of any city. Growing up in LA we had West Coast club life, but New York nightlife was what we craved," they said in their notes to the collection. Short-sleeved shirts and super short shorts, lots of playful acid blues, yellows and lime greens and two-tone black and

spilling into Kenzo's Women Resort line, which was shown alongside the men's clothes. Dresses edged with curtain hole rings set into the fabric caught the eye, a detail that was picked up in the more street T-shirts/shirts. As did a series of short dresses and miniskirts and tops with lines of horizontal folds held together with a bow. — AP



Models present creations by Kenzo during the men Spring summer 2017 collection fashion show.



aged to turn the braces into chest armour-cum-jewelry. There were still more echoes of punk in the check shirts and evocations of the ghost of Johnny Rotten's tartan in the clever red stitching against the collection's predominantly black core. "Twilight" star Robert Pattinson, "The Wire" actor Michael B Jordan and US rapper ASAP Rocky seemed to be lapping it up in the star-studded front row that also included Sean Penn's son Hopper Jack.

The show's two stand-out pieces were pure punk fantasy, a blouson and a sleeveless jacket and trousers completely covered in boot eyelets, with laces hanging from each one. Van Assche, however, played down the punkiness, preferring to cite "New Wave romanticism" as its inspiration, as well as his own "very good memories of New Wave music" from such cult goth bands as The Cure and The Sisters of Mercy. Another venerable Paris house, Givenchy, also took on a more hard-edged swagger in its show. Leather donkey jacket shoulder patches, pockets picked out in different colors and greenback money patterned bomber jackets gave it a very no-nonsense streetwise look.

Rave culture

The pop culture nostalgia continued at Kenzo, where American designers Carol Lim and Humberto Leon took the Japanese brand danc-



white combinations all summoned up the "Second Summer of Love" of 1988.

Boxer shorts too made a comeback, pulled up high above the waist so they almost look like cummerbunds above trousers, or simply worn as shorts with socks and sandals or colorful two-tone shoes. Trousers were invariably loose and worn way above the ankles, and loose cardigans were everywhere, some covered with canary yellow feathers. Acid House motifs from the chemical sweetshop that gave the era's clubbers their staying power ran through the collection,



Models present creations by Kenzo during the men Spring summer 2017 collection fashion show.





Models present creations by Kenzo during the men Spring summer 2017 collection fashion show.

Five top trends at Paris men's fashion week

With Paris men's fashion week coming to a climax over the weekend, we pick out five of the main trends so far on the spring-summer catwalks:

Gorilla sleeves

They may give their wearer something of the look of Lurch from "The Addams Family", but nothing is more on trend at the moment than sleeves that dangle to the knees. Super-long "gorilla sleeves" now have global reach after making early Paris appearances in shows by Raf Simons and Demna Gvasalia's hugely influential

Vetements brand over the past year. While Gvasalia resisted his own trope in his show for Balenciaga Wednesday, there were no shortage of others following in his oversized wake.

Very long sleeves were prominent in Los Angeles avant-gardist Rick Owens' show and the Korean label Juun.j went almost Mr Gadget length in its hoodies Friday, adding trailing cords to make them look even longer. Are they practical? Certainly not. But are they likely to filter down to stroppy teenager street fashion. You bet.

Djellabas

Maybe it's because it is Ramadan, or more likely there is some other sort of strange kismet at work. Whatever the reason, it's hard to ignore to all the clothes with something of an Islamic air. While we're still a long way from a male equivalent of "modest fashion", Lemaire alone featured four djellabas-including one which would not look out of place on an imam. Designer Christophe Lemaire insisted he had not consciously set out to create a specific Muslim-influenced style, but was just "picking up influences from people I live around in Paris". Another trendy Paris label OAMC had a rethought djellaba raincoat as well as a lighter tunic shirt. And the Japanese brand Issey Miyake got in on the act with sublime kameez tunics and blanket shawls inspired by a trip designer Yusuke Takahashi took to India.

Boiler suits

Workwear has been in for some time and now the humble boiler suit has got its day in the sun. The one-piece overall was thoroughly deconstructed and reassembled by Andrea Crews into a whole wardrobe, from biker suit to dungarees, while Comme des Garçons protege Junya Watanabe nattily matched them with Panama and pork pie hats. Lemaire added a topical twist, with one-pieces resembling the battle-dress of peshmerga Kurdish fighters, the heroes of the fight against the Islamic State group.

Tartan

Maybe not in Brigadoon proportions, but tartan-used sparingly-is a recurring theme across several collections for spring-summer 2017. Louis Vuitton and Japanese labels Kolor and Facetasm made striking use of it in their shows, while OAMC went "Trainspotting" meets the Edinburgh Tattoo with check Crombie-style coats and trousers.

Boys will be girls

Unisex and androgynous looks have been the big men's meta-trend for some time. This week we have seen both men and women modeling men's clothes as well as boys in miniskirts (Maison Margiela) and in ever so effete pastels (Pigalle). The never less than wonderful Walter Van Beirendonck dressed his models in gorgeous trailing ribbons, inspired by English Morris men folk dancers. Juun.j's models trailed cords in their wake as they walked down the runway and at least one of the big houses showing over the weekend has apparently had the same idea. — AFP



Models present creations by Balmain, during the men's Spring/Summer 2017 collection fashion show.

The festive season at ICONIC embodies major trends this season. For men who like subtlety and make a simple yet classic statement, the Urban Adventurer theme is what you are looking for. With earthy hues like warm beige, sand, chocolate and cool tones of navy and indigo for that pop of color. A touch of extravagance can be seen in pieces inspired by equestrian art pieces to heritage paisley prints. Get this look with carousel print shirts, jacquard joggers and outerwear. The Victorious trend is flamboyant and regal with Zardozi embroidered regal badges on tees and polos to cotton tuxedo shirts and luxurious jackets.

The iconic women can choose from an array of trends this festive season. First up is the 60's Mod trend, classic and chic. Modern silhouettes with an edgy appeal covers details like stones, floral prints with a monochrome color palette on long dresses, jumpsuits and skirts.

Ornamental opulence as the name suggests is a collection imbibing the glamour of the 70's with embellishments and statement pieces. Details like embroidery on mesh, rhinestones, sequins can be seen on floor length dresses and tops. The Enchanting garden trend takes its inspiration from the 50's bring into the forefront sophistication and feminine silhouettes. Use of 3D florals in pastel shades bring out the cheerfulness of the collection which features key pieces like A-line dresses, pants and tops. For a sportier, casual element to you look this festive season, the Sports Grandeur trend provides an easy edge to your look with the right amount of street appeal incorporating the fun sporty elements. The silhouettes are modern with pieces featuring chemical lace, nylon

ICONIC festive season collection



chord applique embroidery and sequins.

To bring to action the Studio 54 vibe, high shine, soft metallic will do the trick. This trend is glittery and feminine and the pieces adds the right amount of glamour for your Iftar or suhour evenings. Get this look with pleat-

ed dresses, fitted top with chain and eyelet detailing and gold metal trims.

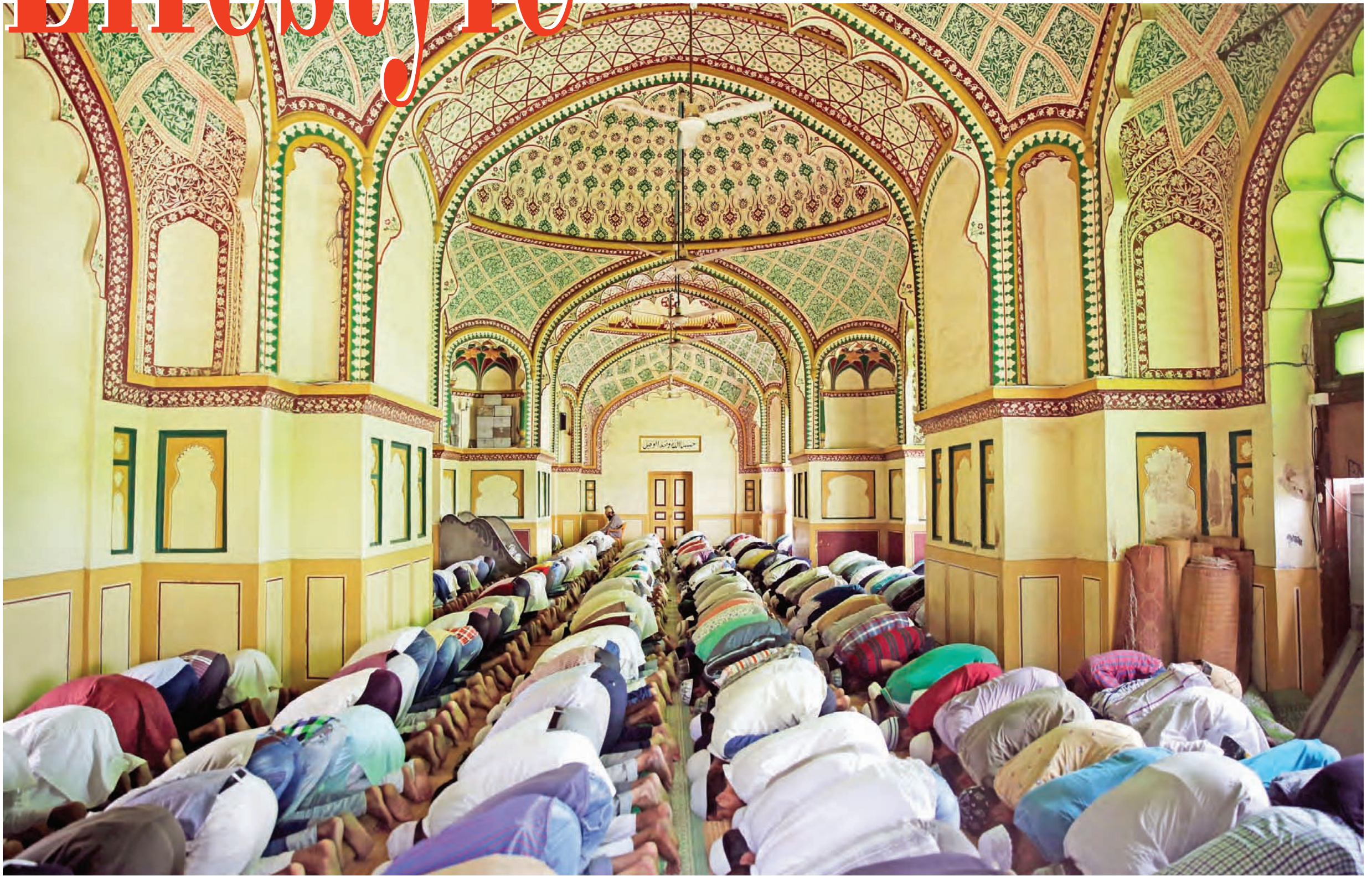
Head over to ICONIC and shop our latest festive collection available at The Avenues, The Mall, Level 1 and at Salam Mall in Salmiya and Sama Mall Fintas.

Lifestyle

MONDAY, JUNE 27, 2016

Indian historical epic sweeps 'Bollywood Oscars'

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Indian Muslims offer prayers on the third Friday of the holy fasting month of Ramadan in Lucknow, India. — AP

Master of street fashion photography Bill Cunningham dead at 87

Legendary New York Times fashion photographer Bill Cunningham died Saturday, according to the paper where he worked for nearly 40 years. He was 87. Cunningham, whose watchful eye brought images of New Yorkers from the well-heeled to unsuspecting trendsetters to the public, had been hospitalized recently after a stroke, the Times reported. Credited with creating the genre of street fashion photography, Cunningham held a passion for capturing a subject or trend's look, whatever it may be.

He was, as the Times called him, an "unlikely cultural anthropologist." Cunningham, who plied New York in his trademark blue workman's jacket with a camera slung around his neck and traveled on his bicycle, had an uncanny talent in unearthing major, even avant-garde trends on the street, on the catwalk or at glittering parties. In a 2010 docu-

mentary about Cunningham, Anna Wintour—the powerful editor of American Vogue and one of the photographer's muses—marveled at his ability to "see something, on the street or on the runway, that completely missed all of us. And in six months' time, that will be a trend!" Frank Rich, a former New York Times columnist and executive producer of the HBO series "Veep," tweeted: "Bill Cunningham was as delightful and fascinating a person and colleague as he was as artist. An independent mind, big heart, no airs."

A 'Living Landmark'

A 2008 recipient of France's Legion of Honor, Cunningham was also named a living landmark by the New York Landmarks Conservancy in 2009. "Today we lost a Living Landmark, not that he ever stood still. Let's all be more fabulous in Bill's memory," New York

Mayor Bill de Blasio's office wrote on Twitter. De Blasio added: "We will remember Bill's blue jacket and bicycle. But most of all we will remember the vivid, vivacious New York he captured in his photos." Cunningham's "wealth of knowledge is absolutely staggering and he is self-effacing," one of the founding editors of InStyle magazine, Hal Rubenstein, told AFP in 2014.

Times publisher and chairman Arthur Sulzberger Jr added: "His company was sought after by the fashion world's rich and powerful, yet he remained one of the kindest, most gentle and humble people I have ever met." Cunningham, born in Boston in 1929, "used his camera like a note pad, keeping careful tabs on every genus, phylum and species of stylish bird," the Hollywood Reporter wrote. Former CNN correspondent Alina Cho, an editor at large at Ballantine



Bantam Dell who was often photographed by Cunningham, first met the photographer "many, many years ago" on a cold February day during New York Fashion Week.

"I didn't yet know him and he certainly didn't know me, but he did notice that I was inappropriately dressed for the blizzard-like conditions," Cho told The Hollywood Reporter. "And, so, he just quietly walked over and put his big blue parka over my shoulders and said something to the effect of, 'Child, wear this—you're cold.' I'll never forget it," Cho said. — AFP

In this file photo, New York Times photographer Bill Cunningham waits for the arrival of the annual Rockefeller Center Christmas tree, in New York. — AP

Rocky future for Somalia's ancient cave art

Centuries have passed since Neolithic artists swirled red and white colour on the cliffs of northern Somalia, painting antelopes, cattle, giraffes and hunters carrying bows and arrows. Today, the paintings at Laas Geel in the self-declared state of Somaliland retain their fresh brilliance, providing vivid depictions of a pastoralist history dating back some 5,000 years or more. "These paintings are unique. This style cannot be found anywhere in Africa," said Abdissalam Shabelleh, the site manager from Somaliland's Ministry of Tourism.

Then he points to a corner, where the paint fades and peels off the rocks. "If nothing is done now, in 20 years it could all have disappeared," he

added. The site is in dire need of protection. "We don't have the knowledge, the experience or the financial resources. We need support," Shabelleh said. The paintings, some 50 kilometers (30 miles) from Hargeisa, capital of Somaliland, are considered among the oldest and best preserved rock art sites in Africa but are protected only by a few guards who ask visitors not to touch the paintings.

Diplomatic donor legal limbo

Applications for assistance by Somaliland's government have gone unheeded. A former British protectorate, Somaliland declared independence from the rest of Somalia when war erupted following the overthrow of president

Mohamed Siad Barre in 1991, but it is not recognized by the international community. The "lack of recognition" of the country blocks the cave's protection, said Xavier Guthertz, the former head of the French archaeology team that discovered the site in 2002. Amazed by the remarkable condition of the paintings as well as their previously unknown style, the archaeologist asked for the cave's listing as a UNESCO world heritage site.

But that request was refused because Somaliland is not recognized as a separate nation. "Only state parties to the World Heritage Convention can nominate sites for World Heritage status," said a UNESCO spokeswoman. Requests for funding from donor countries face the same legal and diplomatic headache. Centuries of isolation and local beliefs that the site was haunted and the art the work of evil spirits may have contributed to Laas Geel's protection. But since their discovery, the cave paintings have become one of the main attractions for visitors to Somaliland.

'Part of our blood'

Around a thousand visitors each year endure long stretches of rugged terrain and travel with armed escorts to reach Laas Geel, and numbers are growing. "The concerns of Somaliland are legitimate," said Guthertz, who has identified key areas to tackle to help protect the site. "We have to secure the site, arrange access paths, strengthen the rocks that could collapse, divert rainwater runoff and improve the training of guards," he said. With a major development planned for Somaliland's main port at Berbera, the number of visitors is expected to increase. —AFP



Photo shows a primitive rock painting.



This file photo shows a primitive rock painting.



This file photo shows a soldier walking near the entrance of a primitive rock painting.



A primitive rock painting, one of a galaxy of colorful animal and human sketches to adorn the caves in the rocky hills of this arid wilderness in northern Somalia, near Hargeisa, home to Africa's earliest known and most pristine rock art. —AFP photos